



Merretttable



Times



I am writing this still recovering from the physical efforts of the Village Hall Olympics. It seemed to me like a great event, but as it was Caroline and my "At Home" I am a little bit biased. Organising anything can sometimes get in the way of enjoying the occasion but I can truly say that Sara and I really had fun and that was due to all those from 41 and Tangent who helped in so many ways. Thank you all for your support but a special thank-you to Caroline, Andrew and Amy who did so much to make it really special; it wouldn't have been the same without you. I should say that Caroline always knew the weather was going to be very kind and so it turned out. I hope she can be persuaded to let us into the secret.



Prior to the At Home, Ringwood 41 entered two teams in the Area Quiz that took place at the Hoburne Holiday Park, Christchurch. Ten rounds of questions on subjects ranging from Sport to Science saw Ringwood perform well. The 'A' Team of Dick Sheerin, Richard Dyson, Will Parke & Chris Treleven did their best but Ringwood 'B' with Richard Carter, Derek Scott, David Brown (Chairman of Wellington 41 and former National Councillor for Region 23 who was guesting) and myself, wizzed up the leader board to overtake them and finished joint third. A fun night but we were still some way behind this year's winners, Wareham. Obviously we have other things to do in our lives and wouldn't want to be thought of as nerds. Not that we are suggesting that Wareham 41 are anything other than normal egg-heads.



The Big Weekend took place in Nottingham at the beginning of the month and Sara & I and Richard and Anne Dyson took part. Richard and I sat through the SGM on the Saturday morning when a number of relatively straightforward motions were debated in an effort to ease the agenda for next year's Cardiff National Conference. Look out for the full report and voting results in this month's National 41 magazine. The final night party, something I have to say I had my doubts over, was just brilliant with a superb 11 piece band, which kept us going till they chucked us out. Here we are mid evening in the Photo-Booth.

The Zoom Concert Night of the new season has started with those familiar pieces The Planets and Scheherazade. Great music and thanks to Keith and Sue. Look out for the next concert details on page 5, The Nutcracker, which traditionally we will see nearer to Christmas.

So we moved into the week of the October Club meeting and this time we managed to eat before we invited our guest, Robbie Forrester, to make his presentation on his life as a civil servant, but with a difference as a MOD photographer. It was his first speaking engagement to a live audience and we enjoyed learning about the use of aerial photography in testing planes and equipment.

We end the month thinking about those in 41 and Tangent who are not well at the moment and, sadly, we were at Mike Fraser's funeral in Bournemouth. In a packed chapel we remembered the good times many of us shared with Mike. Our thoughts are with Liz, Stuart and Alison.

However, the half term holiday is now here and that means little sleep and general exhaustion as the human dynamo that is our 6 year old grand-daughter Annabel has been staying with us. I hope I can survive to see you all in November. Take care.

Bob



The Tangent Telegraph



After a false start in September, we finally met again at St Leonards for our October meeting. We were down on numbers but it was good to have a normal meeting and it was, in fact, the first one I have chaired in person since becoming chairman nearly 2 years ago! It was also an appropriate time to present Anne Dyson with her past chairman's badge and bar (*photo below*). At this point, I must apologise to Sian Elen and future chairmen for my appalling sewing skills. I thought that sewing the bar to the chain would be a simple job, I was soon proved wrong when I realised the bar won't attach to the ribbon unless the clasp is removed. Lets just say its done but it ain't pretty!

Something that did go well was the joint chairman's at home, our Village Hall Olympics. Bob and I have lots of people to thank, Sara, Andrew and Amy, Ann L, David for serving the welcome drinks, Juliette for taking the money (and lots of other things during the afternoon), Ian for music and decoration and everyone else who helped set up, clear away, prepare food etc, it couldn't be done without your support. The weather was perfect and enabled many of us to sit outside and cheer on the athletes on the Olympic stage. Sue T showed great poise and balance in the dressage with perfect control of her steed throughout the routine. Dick S demonstrated his architectural prowess with his jenga building with Derek S equally skilled in demolition. The nutritionally balanced meal containing the most important food groups, chips and wine, along with a healthy slice of lemon for added vitamins, seemed to go down well. All in all a great afternoon in true Tangent/41 Club spirit. More photos of the event are on the next page.



Our next meeting in November will be slightly different. Instead of a speaker we are having a beetle drive night. It's a chance to chat and catch up with people with a bit of fun thrown in for those who wish to play. Our social team has planned a trip to Winchester for December – more details in the newsletter on page 4 and of course Sian Elen has been busy planning our Christmas Meal which this year will be at the Vitality Stadium in Bournemouth. Not sure if the football team will be on waiter duties but you never know girls, we might be lucky. (*It's a football club, not a night club!! Ed*)



YICF

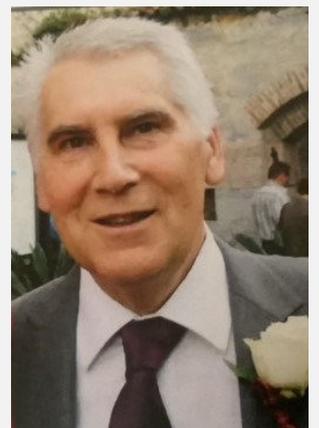
Caroline

To everyone in 41 club and Tangent

Thank you so much for all the phone calls and visits to Mike over the last few months. I know it was really good for him to still feel included in the clubs. Also thank you for all the messages and flowers I received after he passed away and for so many of you attending his funeral and the many donations.

He would have been very humbled by it all.

Liz



The Village Hall Olympics



You have to be impressed that he can still get into his school rugby kit.



After much deliberation, Roger Bettle decided that his pole vaulting days were over.



And our Olympic champion is.....

Derek Scott



The Medal Ceremony..... Podium not used due to Health and Safety Regulations.



Nasty scar after Chris Treleven's new brain implant.



And a jolly good time was had by all. Even Lottie the dog enjoyed it. Thank you Bob and Caroline.





IT'S LESS THAN 50 DAYS TO CHRISTMAS!!



Chairman's Christmas Drinks
Saturday 4 December
Greyfriars

Please join Bob for some drinks and nibbles from
 12 noon to 2pm £TBC

Let's start Christmas

RSVP

Tangent Winchester Christmas Market **And Tour of The Cathedral** **Thursday December 16th**



COME ALONG and join the pre-Christmas activities of Winchester including the remarkable Christmas Market, the elegant High Street shops and a festive decorated Winchester Cathedral plus a chance to have a relaxing lunch with friends.

A professional guided tour of the cathedral has been organised as an option by Barbara. Starting at 12.00 noon, for an hour, and costing £8.00. If you are interested in the tour, please contact BARBARA by MONDAY 28TH NOVEMBER to book your place.

Winchester is just bursting with excellent places for lunch from The Chesil Rectory, Rick Stein's, The Bishop on the Bridge and The Ivy to a great range of high-quality pubs and cafes.

Why not get a group of friends together and book early for lunch??
Bookings will be essential in December

To get to Winchester you can fill a car and drive using the Park and Ride which will drop you off by the statue of King Alfred or you can take the National Express that runs coaches directly to Winchester from Ringwood.

Men are invited so you can take along your husband or partner or anyone you fancy!!

If you would like to join us for this pre-Christmas trip to Winchester, please let Barbara know by email, even if not taking the tour.

WANTED

YOUR PHOTOGRAPHIC MASTERPIECE

To adorn our 2021

Club Christmas Card

Any format to..

mike_callaghan@talktalk.net

Be quick though because Mike is already starting to put the card together!
Watch out for an email telling you how you can support this charity Christmas Card.

Thought for the month

Do you know the best thing about the "Good Old Days"?

We weren't good and we weren't old!

November Meeting with Speaker

David Phelps, Meals Monitor writes.....

Personally I feel St Leonards are beginning to get their act together. I know the Manager is under extreme pressure so we may have to bear with them for a while.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 16th November and I am waiting to receive some menu choices. but I will make sure it is not complicated!!

The usual booking arrangements and please cash on the night.

And John Harper, Speaker's Secretary adds.....

Fasten your seat belts, for our November meeting we have a real high flyer to talk to us about the ups and downs of an airline pilot.

Capt Richard Hartley (Rtd) worked for BA from 1968 to 2012 and has experience of many aircraft from the infamous DC10 to the Boeing 747.



Richard will be telling us all the things you want to know and perhaps some you don't.

Not to be missed!

A RIMBURY STUDIOS PRESENTATION by Bob Sue & Keith

TCHAIKOVSKY -The Nutcracker Ballet

With the fabulous Marinsky Theatre St Petersburg



<https://youtu.be/xtLoaMfinbU>



ZOOM & YouTube 2021 MONDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 7.00pm



Fordingbridge POD still going strong!

Photos of a tea party hosted by Richard and Susie Carter. How good to see Hugh and Lorna Edwards and Peter and Margaret Daughtrey.

Your Editor apologises for omitting to publish these photos last month but time and space were limited!!



RISK ASSESSMENT FOR THE BURNING OF GUY FAWKES WITH FIREWORKS.

Date of this event: Friday 5th November 2021

Place: 58 Ringwood Road, Alderholt, Fordingbridge, Hants. SP6 3DF

Who is the H&S Co-ordinator for this event: That scourge of his neighbours, Will Parke.

Has he done this sort of thing before? Yes; many, many times. Just ask the Fire Brigade. Bonfires and the resulting conflagrations are his speciality. Nothing stops him.

How long ago / date: Weekly, sometimes daily

Any problems on those occasions ? Yes, but far too numerous to mention.

Weather conditions at the time ? Rain or shine, wind or calm, he still lights up.

Participants will be advised in writing by Recorded Delivery in advance and at the start of this event of its incendiary, noisy and hot nature. The only successful way of avoiding burning, being scared and suffering other traumas is by not attending.

On arrival, all participants will sign a disclaimer absolving the person responsible for all this mayhem and Ex-Table Club (including all its past, present and future Officers and members) from all claims, liabilities and inconveniences.

This essential procedure may delay the start of the event until dawn the following day.

The organiser will have only sufficient First Aid supplies, blankets, emergency rations and spare clothing for a couple of the attendees.

The rest of them if, or more likely, when they are injured, are 'on their own'.

Bear in mind this event is in Deepest Dorset, so police, ambulances, first aiders and the like often arrive far too late to be of any use.

If the worst happens, just get used to it.

Hazard	Risk	To Whom	HML*	Action	Review
Slips trips falls and misc. items	Injury	All	H	The event is being held in a domestic back garden with all the usual trip & other hazards. eg: children's toys, bikes, garden rakes and forks, hostile plants and savage wildlife.	Only sane, healthy and fit adults willing to accept their own responsibility are to be allowed to attend
Weather	Injury Overheating Hypothermia Getting wet Lightning strikes	All	H	If cold, hot, wet or dry, the event will be held indoors. If there is a danger of lightning, all attendees will carry long metal poles so that every one else is protected from injury.	Cancellation is not an option
Animals & Plants	Injury by trampling & mauling, Insects that bite & sting.	All	H	Bulls/cows/horses/sheep should all be in the adjacent farmer's field. Offer insect-attracting creams & lotions to everyone else.	These are large enough to be seen and avoided. Insects will then go elsewhere.
Dogs	Biting and licking			These are particularly nasty & vicious. They should be avoided at all costs.	If all goes according to plan, all of these will have fled to the next county after the first firework.
Their owners				Ditto	
Bonfire	Heat and sparks	All	H	A large structure that clears the neighbourhood of flammable rubbish, branches, petrol cans and unwanted final demands. The final resting place of home-made 'Guys' each containing unknown fillings	Large enough to warn of approaching Spanish Armadas. Wear thick insulating clothes to avoid over heating. Drink plenty of beer and wine to maintain fluid levels.
Fireworks & Sparklers	Burning, Noise	All	H	The adjacent thatched cottages have experienced many losses of their roofs over the years, particularly in early November. Bring your own ear defenders and safety goggles.	They should know better than re-roofing annually in straw. Try not to set fire to my own house.
Missing people	multi	All	H	Count numbers in and out. One should not be wandering about off site in Alderholt at this time of night. You are on your own	Who cares
Trees	Falling branches	All	H	Most of these will be on the bonfire	Tricky things trees; Avoid them like the plague.
Food	Delhi Belly and other assorted culinary ailments.	All	H	Prepared by the hostess and her several helpers. The organiser will have his own special food brought in by courier for his own personal consumption. The worst that can happen is that insufficient fluids are available for all attendees.	Only eat after tasting small samples. This a wise precaution.
Drinks					Ensure that emergency supplies are readily to hand.
Neighbours	Disturbance by them.	Only the organiser is at risk	Very High	The Police Benevolent Fund has been enhanced with a generous donation..	Police will not attend even if requested by neighbours.

This Risk Assessment does not cover driving to and from the venue. Rural roads in Dorset are a hazard in themselves, never mind the users of them. Beware of trees, wild animals and potholes en route. Demented locals are often about at night. If seen, aim at them. You are on your own so far as that goes.

IN SPITE OF THE ABOVE, HAVE AN ENJOYABLE EXPERIENCE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.



Safe Return after Seaweed and Bracken

Car Treasure Hunt Sunday October 24th

Despite doubtful weather, a large gang of adventurers met on Highcliffe cliffs for pre hunt nibbles (some with custard and cake) health and safety run through and details of the three public toilet facilities en route.

The excitement was palpable and first out of the stalls at 1.25pm was Jeff Wickens with Marion, Dick and Derrick Lynas as crew.



28 hunters set off along the coast to Barton espying the Needles and home of the Sea Eagles before heading for the fleshpots of New Milton, Bashley, Tiptoe and Wootton eventually bursting out on the A35 near Holmsley. More wooded lanes and traffic calming challenges followed through Neacroft and Braggers Lane before arriving at the New Forest Cider site in Burley.

Our hosts had set up a brilliant warm open sided barn for us with roaring log fire, lashings of cake and thick hot chocolate .

You could feel the tension as the hunt results were being calculated. Winners turned out to be a combo of Parkes and Wyatts by just one point clear of joint runners up Wickens et al and a Dyson/Kean combo.

Prizes included a New Forest OS map, flagons of New Forest cider, a New Forest globe with snow in water and for third placed Tim and Julie Airey acquired a desirable jar of genuine 2019 Stockers Home Made Little Plum Jam. All participants received bags of chocolate pieces of eight for the journey home at dusk and they were allowed to keep their IKEA pencils.

Maureen Wyatt carried home her bouquet of dried kelp and bracken with a spring in her step.

All left the car park in a timely fashion except Chris Kean and his team. They were delayed by a very large Gloucester Old Spot sow using his latest Jag as a scratching post. The earth and vehicle moved.

Something to add to the Risk Assessment next time: Bristle Burn!!!

Ian and Jennyx



NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

It's all coming together well with 5 full tables so far and space for just a few more people if you are quick. Current table hosts are Arthur, Ian, Roger, Dick and Bob. Join a table (if there is room) or maybe host another?
Book in with Mike Edwards who is coordinating.

The theme is '**Staycation**' so get your thinking hats on for the outfits and cabaret!!



Regional Councillor Richard Dyson inducts new members Malcolm Lee (left) and Tim Airey (right).

We warmly welcome them both to our club.



Poulner Freefall cyclists were unable to take their usual Sunday ride due to the flooding so a local walk was substituted only to be thwarted again. Ian has decided to join the local sub aqua club instead!!

***COPY DATE FOR THE
NEXT EDITION OF THE
MERRETTABLE TIMES***

**SUNDAY
5TH DECEMBER**

DIARY OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- Friday 5th.....Will & Julie Parke invite you to their Bonfire Party in Alderholt. See the Risk Assessment on page 6.
- Tuesday 9th.....Tangent Meeting. Beetle Drive.
- Friday 12th.....Golf Society Presentation Dinner at Ferndown Golf Club 7pm.
- Tuesday 16th.....Club Meeting at St Leonard's. See page 5.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE IBSLEY PARK RACE NIGHT (Nov 13th) HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL SPRING 2022

DECEMBER

- Saturday 4th.....Chairman's Xmas Drinks at Greyfriars from midday. See page 5.
- Wednesday 8th.....Tangent Xmas meal at the Vitality Stadium Bournemouth.
- Thursday 16th.....Tangent trip (with partners) to Winchester Christmas Market and optional Cathedral tour. See page 4.
- Tuesday 21st.....Club Xmas meeting at St Leonard's with entertainment (details next month).
- Friday 31st.....'Staycation' NYE Party at Greyfriars. See above.