

The Cartier Chronicle

The One to watch!



“Always laugh when you can. It is cheap medicine.” – Lord Byron

Dr Robins has been providing the best medicine for all of us for 100 days. It has been a magnum opus for him and a joy for all of us. Many thanks Arthur, it has been well worth it.

It has been a busy month. Hay Festival events recommended through John Kennedy with the Zoom chat about what we had heard afterwards; Keith Anderson's Club Concert on two Mondays plus the Club Film Night; a Club meeting entertained by Ian Stockdale and John Adams; Keith's Bike Ride at Keyhaven; enjoyable weekly POD Zooms; 41 Club National events, and a Council meeting. Thank you to all involved in organising and for participating.



For those of us willing and able to benefit from the easing of lockdown there have also been opportunities for some face to face meetings in the sunshine with family and friends. We await developments on further easing of lockdown and so are planning our July and August Club meetings on Zoom. When things are a bit clearer we will consult you all on when and how we should begin getting together again, whether for Social activity or for Club meetings.

The June highlight of course was being able to celebrate Jimmie Gordon's 100th birthday with him. The weather threatened to spoil the plan but the morning stayed fine and led by piper John we were able to see and talk to Jimmie in the garden at his Care Home. Ian Stockdale had the camera in hand and has provided great publicity of the day.

Congratulations and our best wishes to Jimmie.



Yours in Continued Friendship,
Richard

Put these dates in your **DIARY** now..... (I bet there's plenty of room!)

Monday 6th July : Club Concert Night : Tchaikovsky's 'Swan Lake' : 7.15pm meeting on Zoom then see the ballet on YouTube before reconvening. Zoom details to be announced.

Tuesday 14th July : Tangent Zoom Speaker event 4.30pmFlower Arranging demonstration. See page 2.

Tuesday 21st July : Club Meeting : 4.30pm on Zoom : Speaker Gez Mellers on Criminal Forensics.

Monday 27th July : Club Film Night : The Odessa File : 7.15pm meeting on Zoom then watch our own recording before reconvening on Zoom. Zoom details to be announced.

Monday 3rd August : Club Concert night on Zoom. Details to follow.

Tuesday 4th August : Club council meeting on Zoom 4.30pm.

Tuesday 11th August : Tangent Zoom Speaker event : 4.30pm. Topic 'Juicing'.

Tuesday 18th August : Club Meeting : 4.30pm on Zoom.

Sunday 23rd August : Frogham BBQ and AGM. All members invited. See page 8.



Caroline's Corner



Well, here we are again, another month on and no sign yet of us being able to meet as a Club any time soon, (inside at least) but, on the positive side, there may now be some options to meet outside so I am hopeful that we may be able to meet in person at some point over the summer. Meanwhile we have our 2 summer zoom meetings with speakers to look forward to. July 14 at 4.30 is our first one, a talk and flower arranging demonstration, followed on August 11 at 4.30pm with a talk on 'Juicing'. Just the thing for summer drinks! More details to follow. Anne has offered

'Zoom lessons' to anyone struggling with new technology and I am sure will be happy to run another session in advance of our speaker presentations if anyone needs a helping hand. (Thanks Anne)

Has anyone looked at the Tangent website recently? National have decided to run the 20/21 year with a Coalition of Executive members continuing in their roles of the previous year. President, Sue Hill discusses this in her AGM report where she also mentions coming to Poole RNL and driving the simulator! This year National has chosen the British Red Cross as their charity. A cause I hope we can support in some way during the year. One good way to start would be to donate any good quality items we have dug out over the lockdown to the Ringwood shop when it reopens. I suspect they will be inundated!

Until next time, enjoy your quarantinis, bored-eaux and furlough merlot during loctkail hour whilst you zoom with your nearest and dearest arranging which family members you are going to bubble with at the weekend before going back to working from home and skyping your quaranteams until we are finally rid of the miley cyrus!!

Yours in continued friendship
Caroline

Did you attend Ladies Night 2020?

Keith took a video of the evening and the band are keen to use some clips as promotional material. Council are aware that there might be Data Protection issues and if you object (maybe you appear drunk!) then please speak to our Chairman who will provide more details.

SPEAKER'S CORNER (not Caroline's!)



**Zoom Speaker 21st July
4.30pm
Gez Mellers**

Gez has now retired after working for Hampshire Police as a Forensic Resources Manager for

25 years. He will talk about Forensic and DNA gathering crime scene investigations for the Police, also anecdotes he has gathered along the way. This will be followed by a Q and A session.

Our first Zoom Speaker, so please come and take part.
Richard B

Steve Mursell has offered to speak at another meeting and this led Council to consider that maybe there are other members who might consider giving us a brief talk, on any subject of your choosing. Think about it and let either

John Adams
or Richard
Blackiston
know if you
are interested.



Last year we had a go at playing some favourite music but for one reason or another it did not quite work. Not to be defeated we thought we would have another go but this time based on the theme of Desert Island Discs – **So we are asking everyone to choose;-**

- **one disc** (OK, I know they chose 8 but that would clog up the works) - it could be music or poetry or a speech
 - **one book** (you already get the works of Shakespeare and the Bible)
 - **a luxury item** (it cannot be a lifeboat or a luxury caravan!!)
- Please add a line why you have chosen each one.

We will collate the responses and see if there is anything in common. The aim is to work these up into an Ex Table social event – you could arrive suitably dressed for the desert island. We may also send out a resume of the responses (we won't say who they are from).

Please have a think about it – no rush as venues may not be available anytime soon. Please send your responses to Will Parke will.rosella@btinternet.com

Jeff W

JIMMIE GORDON



FOUNDER MEMBER OF RINGWOOD & DISTRICT ROUND TABLE AND FIRST VICE CHAIRMAN OF RINGWOOD & DISTRICT EX-TABLERS CLUB OF WHICH HE REMAINS AN HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

Jimmie celebrated his 100th birthday on 12th June 2020. Born in Hillington, Scotland he was stationed at Ringwood in 1942 during the Second World War where he met his wife to be Elsie and they remained permanently in the Ringwood area. They had two children, Paul (1945) and Neil (1950).

A prime mover in the first Ringwood Carnival in 1955 Jimmie was Carnival President for four years. He was a member of New Milton Round Table and then in 1959 helped to create Ringwood and District Round Table of which he was the first Chairman. The new Round Table was chartered in 1960. The Ex-Tablers' Club in Ringwood was founded in 1964 and Jimmie was its first Vice Chairman and then Chairman the next year. The Club thrives today with over 60 members and Jimmie was made an Honorary Life Member in 2009. He has also been an active member of Ringwood Rotary Club. Jimmie's personal activity for Charity is legendary, raising hundreds of thousands of pounds for Cancer Charities, particularly Cancer Research UK.

All members of the local Round Table family of Clubs congratulate Jimmie and a small number were able to celebrate with him on the day singing Happy Birthday and acknowledging his huge contribution to community life in Ringwood.

Led by Ringwood Ex-Tabler John Adams playing the bagpipes, five other Ex-Tablers made their way into the Care Home garden where Jimmie was seated with a carer.

Ringwood Ex-Table Chairman Richard Carter read to Jimmie an email received from National 41 Club President Peter Good and then presented him with the email.

David Phelps, who joined Ringwood & District Round Table in 1962, and Derek Matthews who joined shortly afterwards, then stepped forward to greet him. Graham Hoyle, who has done a huge amount with his wife Jackie to look after Jimmie in recent years, was there together with Ian Stockdale who took photographs of the occasion and masterminded publicity afterwards. This included a piece on local ITV Meridian News on Monday 15th June.

John Adams stepped forward to greet Jimmie and then played out to the bagpipes once again. Jimmie's present from Ex-Table was a bottle of a favourite single malt whisky together with another favourite; dark chocolates.

Jimmie was excited to be receiving a card from the Queen who he has met on two occasions, once at Windsor in recognition of all his fundraising for Cancer Charities. He said he is most proud of the fundraising he has done and reaching such a great age he put down to keeping busy and active all his life.

The weather forecast had not been good but the rain held off and with the help of the Care Home, Jimmie's birthday was celebrated and we were all delighted to see him in good form and enjoying the occasion. The day concluded in the evening with the recently re-formed Ringwood Round Table Chairman; Phil Hoyle, proposing a toast to Jimmie with many current members of the Ringwood Clubs joining in.

A very special day for a very special Tabler.



Honorary Life Member Jimmie Gordon born 12th June 1920
Remember what we have enjoyed in Round Table and now in 41 Club, all stemmed from Jimmie being the Founder Chairman of Ringwood Round Table in 1959. What a man! Thank you.



Chairman Richard extends the Club's best wishes to Jimmie Gordon at his Care Home on the occasion of his 100th birthday.



Representatives of the club (socially distanced) were with Jimmie as well as piper John Adams and photographer Ian Stockdale.



Round Tabling away from Ringwood.....this time it is Bob Merrett's memories we share.

Forest of Dean RT 1975-1979

I worked in local government and moved jobs and house in 1974 to the then newly created Forest of Dean District Council. My brother had been a Tabler in Norwich and suggested that I consider joining and when a new work colleague invited me to the Speech House Hotel where the Table met, I joined Forest of Dean RT in 1975. We did the usual daft things to have fun and raise money. From repairing a river wall to keep out the River Severn, being the back legs of a Loch Ness Monster, spending freezing cold nights in the Forest running RAC Rally car parks, to spending a wonderful week-end paddling down the River Wye raising money for the Severn and Wye Rescue service and having to rescue the rescue service when it ran aground. I learned all about fellowship while running a Table Wellie Boot throwing contest at the first Forest Show when the very first contestant threw the wellie, hit a lady in the crowd full in the face and when the blood started to really pour, my GP colleague immediately disappeared. I often ferried the afore mentioned GP home at about 3am, our usual finishing time, with him hanging out the car window getting rid of the contents of his stomach only to see him back at his surgery at 8.00am bright as a button. He never told me the secret.

Churchdown RT 1979-1989 including Hugo King - My part in his Downfall

In 1979 I moved jobs to Tewkesbury and transferred from Forest to Churchdown RT. Churchdown was a little village between Gloucester and Cheltenham and I'd met quite a few of the members when in the Forest. They had a reputation for having fun and so it turned out - sort of.

We had Medieval Fayres, a regular charity bicycle pub crawl, Father Christmas did an annual sleigh ride round the village, often the worse for drink and we had a brilliant debating team, which became the core of the Area team which won the National competition at the Birmingham conference in the mid 80's.

However, the night I became Chairman of this rabble in 1986 things started to get even more exciting. I was an Environmental Health Officer and Circle decided to amend my role to something else as the photo shows. I was still sober at this point of the Handover but that wasn't the Churchdown way as you can see and became clear later in the evening.



National Conference was at Great Yarmouth, Norfolk that year hence the Turkey references on our T-shirts which read 'Have you been gobbled?'
(I was there too and I still have the Area 23 sticker! Ed)



We had a certain notoriety in Area 23 and probably still hold the record for the number of members in prison at any one time. The two in the picture with me at my Handover went in for various fraud and sadly a corporate manslaughter charge and one more not in these photos spent several years inside for spending his client account monies. Never trust a solicitor!



So whilst on the theme of notoriety the highlight of my year in the Chair was the visit of the National President of Round Table, Hugo King. On the night Churchdown hosted the President, the Area 23 glitterati and my old Forest Table all turned out to meet him. In the picture I am exchanging banners with Harry Kear, Forest Chair and National President Hugo. Sadly our reputation was further embellished when we became famous as one of the last places Hugo King visited before he stood down from his role and spent some time at Her Majesty's pleasure for mortgage fraud.



Ringwood RT 1989-1991

Just before I moved to Hampshire I was the Area 23 Severnvalle Secretary. The links to Ringwood started then as at my last meeting as Area Sec in 1988, when I was already working for New Forest DC, I met a visiting Area Chairman, by the name of Andrew Johnson, who told me I had to come and live in Fordingbridge and join Ringwood Round Table. So what could I do. Sara and I eventually moved in to Whitsbury Road in 1990 after I joined Ringwood RT. I think some members of Ringwood were a little taken aback when a few of the more unruly members of Churchdown arrived at the David Lloyd Club to see me off. I don't think the more cultured Ringwood members knew how they managed to drink so much and still steal the Club Regalia. Ringwood also enjoyed having fun. I think the gold lamé bow tie really suits Colin Williams.

Sadly my time in Table came to an end in 1991 when quite a few of us were thrown out and we had a great farewell at Hangersley Hut where we had a memorable farewell Karaoke. One interesting coincidence in my Tabling career was that a good friend back in the Forest moved down to Salisbury in the late 70's. It wasn't until I joined Ringwood and got to know Andrew Johnson better, that I realised that Andrew's partner in Salisbury was Nigel Brookes, who many in Ringwood will know and was the Tabler friend from the Forest of Dean. A small world.



(Thank you Bob. Next month we read about David Hirst's Tabling days in Whitley Bay)

HAIR TODAY GONE TOMORROW.

Thank you to those of you brave enough to send me photos. Shame on those who haven't!! Below are some results!



Phil Hoyle has vowed not to cut his hair until lockdown is lifted!

Stephen Butterfield sent us this one from Devon and tells me that his hair hasn't been this long since 1976!



Chris has been going to Sue and judging by the above, maybe more of us should!

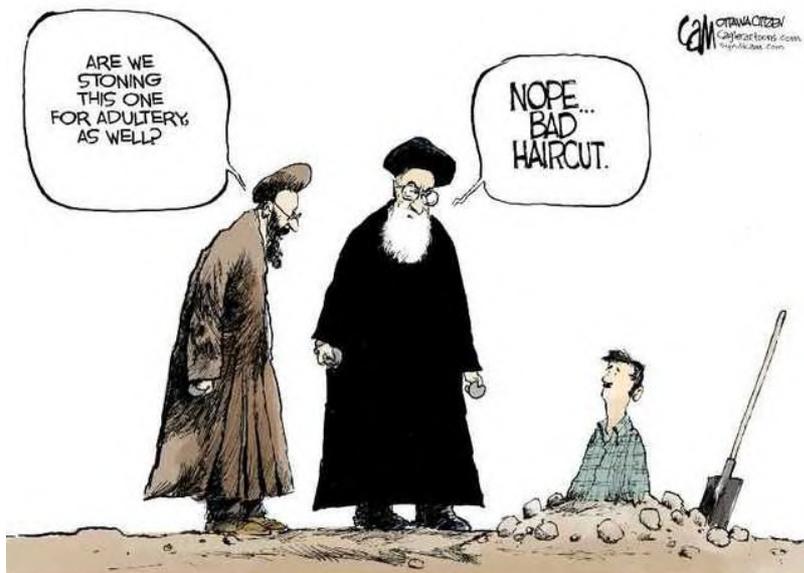


Well, it is better than that beard he once had!

I worry about our Regional Councillor!



Our Vice Chairman is quite scary!





FROGHAM SUNDAY AUGUST 23rd A real non-Zoom day out for all members.

Lunch, chat, drink and revel in the post Covid levity that will be the 2020 Frogham Sunday BBQ and AGM. Who will win the Innovation Trophy this year??

Kamp Kommandant Phelps invites you to come and join our Chairpeople Caroline and Richard at our Frogham campsite near Shaftesbury for a fun and relaxing Sunday in the countryside. Plan to arrive late morning and to leave whenever!!

Lower Liston Farm is on the main Warminster Road, just north of Shaftesbury at SP7 9AG. The difficult to see signpost is on the left just before the railway bridge in Semley Bottom.

If you plan to attend, you will need a code for the gate so please book in with Ian on 07930 340624 or ian@isosco.com.

Just bring some food for the BBQ lunch and a drink or two. Please bring your own chairs.

Sorry but no children.....it's an adult only site.

Any questions please give me a call.

Ian Stockdale
FAG Secretary in car net

Naturally, the above is still subject to Covid restrictions at the time and your own common sense.

It's a mess out there now. Hard to discern between what's a real threat and what is just simple panic and hysteria. For a small amount of perspective at this moment, imagine you were born in 1900.

On your 14th birthday, World War I starts, and ends on your 18th birthday. 22 million people perish in that war. Later in the year, a Spanish Flu epidemic hits the planet and runs until your 20th birthday. 50 million people die from it in those two years. Yes, 50 million. On your 29th birthday, the Great Depression begins. Unemployment hits 25%, the World GDP drops 27%. That runs until you are 33. The country nearly collapses along with the world economy.

When you turn 39, World War II starts. You aren't even over the hill yet. And don't try to catch your breath. On your 41st birthday, the United States is fully pulled into WWII. Between your 39th and 45th birthday, 75 million people perish in the war.

Smallpox was epidemic until you were in your 40's, as it killed 300 million people during your lifetime.

At 50, the Korean War starts. 5 million perish. From your birth, until you were 55, you dealt with the fear of polio epidemics each summer. You experience friends and family contracting polio and being paralyzed and/or dying.

At 55 the Vietnam War begins and doesn't end for 20 years. 4 million people perish in that conflict. During the Cold War, you lived each day with the fear of nuclear annihilation. On your 62nd birthday you have the Cuban Missile Crisis, a tipping point in the Cold War. Life on our planet, as we know it, almost ended. When you turn 75, the Vietnam War finally ends.

Think of everyone on the planet born in 1900. How did they endure all of that? When you were a kid in 1985 and didn't think your 85 year old grandparent understood how hard school was. And how mean that kid in your class was. Yet they survived through everything listed above. Perspective is an amazing art. Refined and enlightening as time goes on. Let's try and keep things in perspective. Your parents and/or grandparents were called to endure all of the above – you are called to stay home and sit on your couch.

The Andersons led a socially distanced bike ride around the salt marshes at Keyhaven. Keith writes "9 bikers ; Keith Sue, Mike, Lynne, Jeff, John A, JQ, Chris K and Chairman Richard. Brilliant weather and perfect route could not have been better.



Maybe another ride in Sept/Oct when Bournemouth Prom is ok for bikers after the July/Aug restrictions end again!





What is the chicken saying? *Suggestions to the Editor*



Blimey, he needs a haircut!

More Lockdown Lingo

'Coughin' dodger'

Someone so alarmed by an innocuous splutter or throat-clear that they back away in terror.

'Mask-ara'

Extra make-up applied to "make one's eyes pop" before venturing out in public wearing a face mask.

'Quentin Quarantino'

An attention-seeker using their time in lockdown to make amateur films which they're convinced are funnier and cleverer than they actually are.

Dear Athletes

We met to celebrate the first Covid gathering of the Poulner Freefall Cycling Team since early March. Eric offered us an extensive range of fine ales and one packet of crisps (between us) on his front lawn today.

John Harper was unable to join us as he was having trouble with his parsnips and the new neighbours who had turned up with caravans on the North Poulner Road Green.

The event was very jolly with many problems solved but somewhat disturbing that Dick and Mike didn't realise the bench was only 4 foot long!! Photos attached to prove it happened chaps. Thanks Eric.



I am a Seenager – a senior teenager

I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 60 years later. I don't have to go to school or work. I get an allowance every month. I have my own pad. I don't have a curfew. I have a driver's license and my own car. I have ID that gets me into bars and the whisky store. The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant. And I don't have acne. Life is Good! Also, you will feel much more intelligent after reading this. Brains of older people are slow because they know so much. People do not decline mentally with age, it just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more information in their brains, scientists believe. Much like a computer struggles as the hard drive gets full, so too, do humans take longer to access information when their brains are full. Researchers say this slowing down process is not the same as cognitive decline. The human brain works slower in old age, said Dr. Michael Ramscar, but only because we have stored more information over time. The brains of older people do not get weak. On the contrary, they simply know more. Also, older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is NOT a memory problem, it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise. I have more friends I should share this with, but right now I can't remember their names. So, please pass this on to your friends; they may be my friends, too!

Richard Blackiston sent me these photos of Round Table Chairman Phil Hoyle's London Tavern which now proudly advertises the new Round Table of Ringwood and Verwood. I can't wait to get down there and have a pint of draught beer! Facebook user? Check out their page and 'share' as much content as you can so that RT becomes strong again in our locality.

