



# The Cartier Chronicle

*Timeless luxury reading for those with  
taste....or for those where time just stands still!*



Welcome to this emergency special edition of The Cartier Chronicle. I hope you like the title which reflects our new Chairman Richard's unique email address:

the**one**richardcarter@btopenworld.com.

This newsletter will only work with your contributions and given our current situation we will be doing plenty of reading over the coming weeks! So please submit suitable articles and photos by the 4th of each month. Yes, there will be another newsletter in early April and maybe even more often for the coming months.

Thank you. Peter L

pwlomax@btinternet.com



## Thanks to Gordon.

On behalf of all of us I must thank Gordon for all his excellent leadership as Chairman in the past year.

We can look back on a momentous year. The re-formation of Round Table in Ringwood is fantastic. We were in Carnival once again. We enjoyed an active social year with BBQs and the Irish Night which very sadly after doing all the organisation Gordon was unable to attend because of the passing of Angela's mother.

We have had walks, cycle rides, continuing strong sectional groups including caravanning, kippers and golf, not to mention Keith's film and concert nights.

Gordon has also developed contacts with other local 41 Clubs and has varied the structure and presentation of our monthly Club meetings. He has also progressed the development of our website.

Quite a year. Gordon thank you very much for all your efforts.

## Moving forward.

We are living in unprecedented, worrying and difficult times. Our Club is an important part of our lives but at the moment we all have other priorities and concerns, not least the wellbeing of ourselves and our families. Continuing to get our medication and shopping are also rather more in mind than normally.

Nevertheless, I'm sure we all look forward to the day when we can meet up again and enjoy the fellowship and fun which are the hallmarks of Round Table and Ex-Table Clubs. For that reason we have decided to take the Club forward as if the AGM had happened. These are exceptional times and of course it remains our intention to complete the usual formalities as soon as we are able.

I must therefore on behalf of all of us, thank those members of Council who have stepped down this year, Keith Anderson, John Quint, Paul Thackray and Steve Wyatt who will kindly stay in office until the AGM formalities have been completed. A warm welcome to those who are joining Council this year, Chris Kean, Jeff Wickens, Peter Lomax, Richard Blackiston and Steve Mursell.

Jeff has agreed to coordinate this year's social activity and has a team to help him to whom I am very grateful. The team includes Will Parke, Mike Fraser and Mike Edwards.

What about the year ahead? Who knows? As soon as we are able to resume more normal activities I know that John and Richard are already lining up good speakers for us. I would want to continue the contacts with local 41 Clubs and of course we will support Richard Dyson in his Regional role when he is once again able to circulate the Clubs in our region.

This time a year ago the Ringwood Round Table family consisted of two Clubs, ourselves and Tangent. We are now a four Club family with the addition of Ringwood and Verwood Round Table and a new Ringwood & District Ladies Circle. Maybe this year we will have a four Club meeting.

Our approach with the new Round Table has been to launch it and to stay at arms length while they establish their own identity and way forward. They now have their charter and I hope that progressively we will be able to develop closer relationships without cramping their style, as I'm sure there are things we can work on together.

Another highlight of Gordon's year has been the arrival of new members. I am delighted that Steve Mursell and Mike Edwards will be involved in what we do this year and Jim Stride as well who is doing so much with the new Clubs. We have a couple of additional prospective new members in the pipeline which confirms the healthy state of our Club and long may that continue.

Stay well; stay positive; stay in touch.

Yours in Continued Friendship,  
Richard

## A message from Past Chairman Gordon.....a review of the past 12 months



Remember a time when we could smoke in pubs. Now, we can't even drink in them! My year in the Chair has 'Flash Gordoned by', a new Council is in place but wait, we've not had an AGM. That's a bit-about-face, but it's challenging times. Twelve months ago, we were planning the Club's Social Calendar, getting everyone together. How Coronavirus has changed things. Now it's all about keeping everyone apart and we've given it a name "Social Isolation". It's a topsy-turvy world. Thank goodness to continued friendship, may it never rust.

At the beginning of the year, our biggest issue was the failure of the turntable on Vinyl Night. At our April Meeting we heard about Cyber Crime and Security Awareness. We had concerns about going on-line and staying safe. Today, we are concerned about going out and staying safe. Back in April the solution was if you go on-line be careful. Today the solution is don't go out but if you must, be careful. Similar solutions, but the consequences, a world apart. Thank goodness fellowship is as strong as ever.

We live in challenging times, but Ex-Tablers rise to these challenges. Take Tabling in Ringwood, it had disappeared but today Ringwood, Verwood & District Round Table is back and this month they received their Charter, in the year of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the original formation of Tabling in Ringwood. The challenge of reforming Ringwood Table was taken on and beaten with hard work from David Phelps, Richard Blackiston, Mike Fraser, Jim Stride and Facebook. Jim joining us gave renewed energy to the group and before you could say Round Table, 10<sup>th</sup> September had been set as the date for the inaugural meeting. Congratulations to the group plus Phil Hoyle and Ben Salsbury, Chairman and Vice of the newly reformed Table.

We have Social Distancing and the scourge, Social Isolation. Our Social Calendar gave us our Irish Night while Social Isolation cancelled St Patrick's Day. We had three impromptu BBQs drinking with friends while Social Distancing closed pubs. But it's not all bad now when I'm out running and not keeping up..... I'm practicing Social Distancing!

But the year has not been about Coronavirus. I've had a wonderfully enjoyable year. I visited Bournemouth 5, Christchurch and Wareham. We were in the press on numerous occasions thanks to the reports John Adams submitted. We made the front cover of the 41 Club's National Mag, a photo of Richard C and Phil Hoyle and the title, "Meet Ringwood Round Table". Angela and I had a lovely time with friends from The Frogham Adventure Group. We met the Golf Society and had a wonderful evening of fellowship at their Presentation Night. We sailed into the Ringwood Carnival with our float, the Sandbanks Ferry and we won 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize. Our Club supported Fanfare For Spring, a great afternoon of fellowship and it was John Harper not John Humphries who got stuck marshalling with me at the corner of Star Lane.

During the year, our own Richard Dyson (yes, Alfie's granddad) was voted National Councillor for Area 23. I believe the first Ringwood Ex-Tabler to be on National. Angela and I attend the Ringwood Remembrance Service. It was an honour to lay the Ringwood & District Ex-Tablers' wreath at the Memorial Cross. And during the year, we published our website, [www.ringwood-extablers.org](http://www.ringwood-extablers.org).

Throughout the year fellowship was in abundance. Arthur organised theatre trips and the annual BSO's Proms in the Park, an evening with friends, picnic, wine and enjoyable music finishing with a light show. John K took us to Lashings Friday for a day of drinking, lunch and there was also some cricket. Then he arranged an audience with Professor Alice Roberts, an evening of fellowship and book signing.

Throughout the year, Keith, last year's Immediate Past and now a Past Chairman or as I see him, Elder Statesmen Keith, organised Cycle Rides, Film Nights with fish & chips followed by ice cream and let's not forget the M&Ms. On a cold November evening Will and Julie held an outdoor party. Well, it was firework night. Fellowship and the bonfire kept us warm. It does not get any better, great company and food with fireworks.

Area 23 has many thriving Clubs, none more than Ringwood & District Ex-Tablers Club. It was great to see them at Dorset Knobs. A fantastic evening of fellowship meeting old friends from other clubs. In December, I attended the Lambs Christmas Lunch at Leadenhall Market and again met old friends as 80 Ex-Tablers and Tangent members from many clubs attended Christmas Lunch. Fellowship in abundance, the pub crawl after, wonderful. (*Ed...why wasn't I invited? So much for fellowship*) The Round Table Family is special.

Club Nights, everyone a gem and maybe I should have closed some meetings a little earlier. Our Speaker Secretaries, Ian S and David P excelled. We had variety, from entertainer Wayne the Weird to our own Colin Williams sharing the history of his family's business, Williams Shipping. We had an OBE telling us about running the Royal International Air Tattoo. Table layouts were changed to what I called the "Fellowship Layout" so we had one meeting and I could see faces rather than the back of heads. A raffle was introduced and at some meetings we had a Master at Arms. Thanks gentlemen for humouring me. National President Andrew Mackereth joined us at our June meeting, one of the first club meetings he attended during his year. Also, with us that night was our newest married member, Peter Lomax. It took Ann to make an honest man of our retired Banker. (*Ed....No comment!*) The talk was about the history of Poole Harbour. Then there was our ambitious joint meeting, the Antique Road Show. Two local experts valued our treasured collectable objects. They pulled it off, but it took a little blackmailing in Council, I say no more.

Amongst all the socialising, we still managed to donate to worthy causes. We visited Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance to present them with a cheque of £750, we presented £450 to The Parkinson's UK East Dorset Branch and £450 to The Dorset Children's Foundation. Not bad for a Club not actively raising money for charity.

We had Christmas Drinks and our New Year's Eve Party. The theme was Pantomimes but my lasting memory was Colin with long dark hair and wearing a long flowing dress. Colin and David C organised a wonderful evening for us as we saw out the old and celebrated in the new year. The social event of the year, Ladies Night was special. Richard organised a wonderful evening. Top table was bristling with VIPs. We had National President Andrew, Tangent's National President Sue Hill, Tangent Chairman Anne, National Councillor Richard, Paul and Cathie C, my favourite daughter Caroline and hubby Alex and all the way from Ireland, Angela. (*Ed.....here's a tip Gordon. Next time put her at the top of the list!*) The interruption was a polished performance of, you guessed, Flash Gordon. Wonderfully entertaining and in these challenging times I've kept one speech bubble, "Gordon's Alive".

Our Council this year has been superb, every Council member has made a positive contribution and helped me in my year as Chairman. To Council I thank you but must mention in despatches our Secretary Steve W for his sound advice and keeping me on track. To Club, I thank you for your support. I've enjoyed my year and it is due to you and the fellowship within our wonderful Club.

We are now moving into a challenging year but I know we have a safe pair of hands at the helm. Chairman Richard and his Council have challenges to face but in true Ex-Tablers fashion will meet them head on and succeed. I look forward to the year ahead. It's been an honour to be your Chairman. I wish Richard every success and an enjoyable year. Gentlemen, stay safe and To Continued Friendship.

Gordon

*Ed.....On behalf of all of the Club. An enormous thank you. A truly outstanding year.*



## TANGENT – IN PARALLEL

Little did I think a few weeks ago that I would be writing this piece. I think we are all stunned at how quickly life has turned from optimism looking forward to Spring and a new year of Tangent/41 Club social activities, to planning how to keep ourselves occupied at home!! Over the next few weeks, we all need to help each other to ‘keep smiling and keep safe’!!



I was so pleased to be able to celebrate Tangent’s Birthday last week before we all hunkered down at home. Caroline and her team decorated the Hall beautifully, Amy serenaded us with her amazing guitar playing, and Young cooked us a spectacular Asian banquet. Thank you all. I’m looking forward to celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday next year!

The most important thing for Tangent and 41 Club members over the next few weeks, as we learn how to adjust to life with Covid-19, is to remember that we continue to be one large extended ‘family’ and not to become hermits behind our closed doors. We must all support and look after each other, whilst keeping ourselves and our families safe. Don’t hesitate to let one of us know straight away if you need help.

Sending texts, phone calls, WhatsApp, emails with photos of happy times past, present and future all helps to reduce a feeling of isolation. Sometimes we want to see the faces of friends as well as read their messages and hear their voices – this may be the time to try your first WhatsApp video phone call.

Richard and I have been thinking up activities to keep us occupied and to share with family and friends. Our favourite is to raid the toy cupboard we keep for grandchildren visits. Dust off the lego/duplo, build a model, and share a photo of it with your grandchildren. Perhaps a competition with your grandchildren – who can build the best castle/garage/plane? If you submit a photo to our Editor, I’m sure that he’ll include them in the newsletter.



(Ed...I sure will!) On a practical level, we will run our AGM this year using email. This will allow the new committee to take the baton and think about organising the forthcoming year of support, and for when we all emerge from our homes. I will email all Tangent members directly with details. If you know of a Tangent member that is a reluctant email user would you please let me know. We want to minimise the

cost to the Club of posting materials, but also want to ensure that we are being inclusive. Therefore, we’ll post out where necessary. The National AGM has been cancelled. I’ll let you know how the new National Executive will be elected.

In these strange days I’m certain of one thing; the situation will pass eventually. Once we see the ‘light at the end of the tunnel’ we can start to plan a wonderful Ringwood & District Tangent/41 Club get-together to celebrate our continued friendship. Hopefully, it won’t be long before we can be holding impromptu BBQs, beach parties, guided walks, pub lunches. We just need to be patient, look after each other, and keep smiling and laughing.

Anne

*And here are some more ideas from Anne.....*

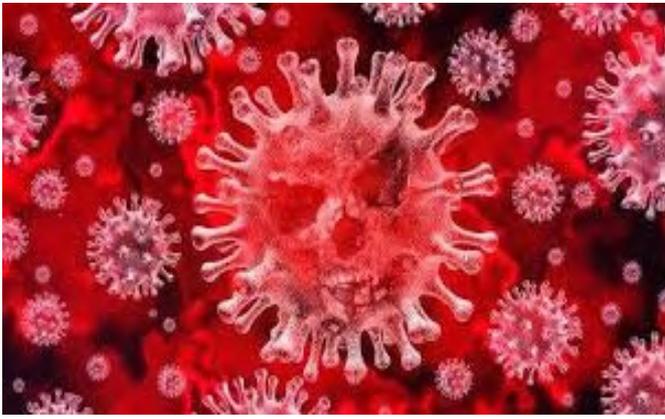
### MAKE THE MOST OF THIS TIME AT HOME

- Dust off the lego/duplo from the toy cupboard that you have ready for grandchildren visits, build a model, share a photo with your grandchildren. Have a competition with them – who can build the best castle/garage/aeroplane?
- YouTube has numerous Pilates Exercise videos – get those mats out in your lounge. Photos for the Newsletter editor of your virtual class please
- Book-club at a distance – facetime the group
- Painting/Drawing efforts – to be shared through the newsletter.
- Time to catch up on sorting out the thousands of digital photos that we all have and create photobooks of family and holiday
- Walks on the beach, in the New Forest, or at Kingston Lacey. You can keep a distance from all other walkers and take a picnic to enjoy in the fresh air. National Trust have free entry to their gardens during this ‘social distancing’ period.
- As a young child I had an Uncle living in Singapore and postal ‘snail-mail that took 6 weeks to arrive. We would play chess together!! We each had a chess board set up at home and would include our next move in our regular letters. Ok, it took a year to complete a game, but I still remember it with a smile. Easily done these days with phone/text/email/facetime contact. Chess, Scrabble, Draughts, Monopoly... – all at a distance. Involve your grandchildren as they sit at home bored!

If you are looking for the normal Diary of Events page then I am sorry to advise you that there is nothing to tell you apart from

**EVERYTHING IS CANCELLED!**

But watch out for the April edition for ‘distanced’ walks and bike rides and hopefully plenty more.



## The 'Covid' Section (otherwise known as Cut Off, Verging Into Despair)

So what are we going to do for the next few months? We may be stuck at home or going out for a walk away from others.....or just what? Ian Stockdale has said he will be spending plenty of time in his garden and that is something Ann and I plan to do. So when it is safe to do so,

should we have an Open Garden weekend or more? Not a competition, just socialising. Should we set up our own **Club Facebook group**? We could exchange ideas, show what we've been doing, get ideas from others. We can phone each other!

### **WE MUSN'T STAGNATE!**

**Technology** is surely an outlet to pursue. What about online Scrabble or Bridge? Has anybody considered writing a short story or even their memoirs? Why not clear out the loft or that cupboard that has bits and pieces in it that you'd forgotten all about. I really ought to sort out my CD's into alphabetical order. I've been meaning to do that for years!

**Exercise** is paramount not only for the body but also for the mind. We've been told that we can go out as long as we don't get too close to others, so a walk in the New Forest would be ok but not necessarily along the prom at Bournemouth. Golf will be tricky unless I play on my own and my Pilates class has been suspended but Ann and I will be creating a regular routine to maintain our fitness. We could share it with you to try?.

**Do you use Facetime?** Group Facetime or WhatsApp calls could bring a smile to our faces. We may soon be undertaking important Council business in this way?

Please pass on your ideas to me so that I can share them around.

And finally, some wise words from Piglet:

*"Where are we going Piglet?" asked Pooh.*

*"We need to get supplies," said Piglet. "For the Coronavirus"*

*"Ahh," said Pooh, nodding in understanding. "Things like bread, milk, cough mixture, tissues and cat litter even though we don't have a cat?"*

*Piglet did a little laugh, and a sort of leap and bit of a cough. "No," said Piglet. "No, those aren't the sort of supplies we need at all! What we need are family sized bags of chocolate buttons, massive toberone, jelly babies and crunchies and a freezer full of stuffed crust pizzas, and all of the Prosecco and Kombucha that we can possibly carry, so that when we get quarantined we won't mind it even slightly. THOSE are supplies."*

*All of a sudden, Pooh thought that the idea of coronavirus didn't seem quite so bad, and actually, getting quarantined with Piglet and their supplies really didn't sound such a terrible thing after all. "Oh Piglet," said Pooh. "I really do think you are a very wise animal."*





**It can't all be doom and gloom. Come on, have a smile!!**



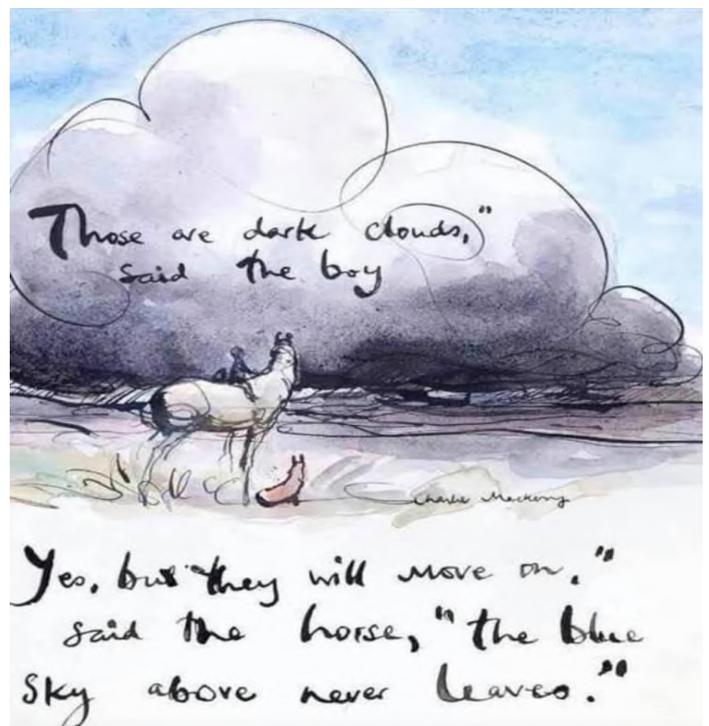
The local chemist has run out of face masks and recommended that I try Boots. I'm not keen.



**IM WORRIED ABOUT MY MATE  
HE JUST CANT STOP BUYING CARS!**



**I THINK HE MAY HAVE  
CAR OWNER VIRUS!**



Today's drink special:  
**The Quarantini.**



It's just a regular martini, but you drink it alone in your house.

**Diane Abbott has called for the BBC to stop filming Casualty and Holby City so the staff can help out with the coronavirus outbreak**



**NOW WASH YOUR HANDS**

