

The Cartier Chronicle

The One to watch!



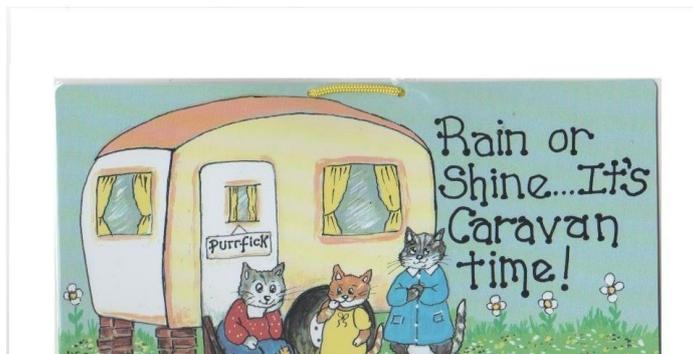
This has been an active month for the cyclists at Keyhaven, the walkers at Hengistbury, the golfers at Bramshaw and the caravanners at Semley. It is a sobering (possibly the wrong word) thought that while many of us were sheltering indoors watching the rain bounce off the patio, some of our friends were in caravans near Shaftesbury. Regrettably, the normal invitation to join them for their "AGM" had to be curtailed this year so Susie and I were privileged to be there and can confirm that it seemed to be business as usual with everyone enjoying themselves which was great to see, and good to see the real people!

The month ahead sees more action for the walkers, cyclists and golfers, the return of the Club Film and Club Concerts after a break and no doubt a queue for the flu jab. The diary seems to have

plenty going on. We have a long planned trip to Northumberland for the last week of September which, is still on Covid permitting.

Susie and I have managed to walk everyday of August and on 31st passed the halfway 250 mile mark of our 500+500.

Google maps inform us that the walking route from our home to Aviemore (where the 41 Club National AGM is due to be held next year and the basis of the original challenge) is 520 miles so we will aim to reach that rather than take a bus for the last 20 miles! It's a challenge which we are enjoying with the bonus of fundraising for a very worthy cause.



*(Our Chairman is too modest to remind you of his fundraising page which is as follows:
Google "VirginMoneyGiving Peter Good" You will see 2 donation sites. Select the 500 + 500 site.*

In the message box when making a donation put "Carterwalk"

Any donation would be good. The National President's target is £30,000 and so far £9500 has been raised. To remind you, our President is raising money for Dementia UK.....Ed)



Thoughts are with those members who are coming to terms with new adverse circumstances in their lives and best wishes go to them especially as well as to all of you.

Yours in Continued Friendship,

Richard

Please put these dates in your **DIARY** now.

Loads of dates!! The 'New Normal'? Almost.

Monday 7th September : Club Film, "A Room with a View". Chat first at 7.15pm on Zoom.

Tuesday 8th September : Club Council 4.30pm on Zoom.

Wednesday 9th September : Tangent committee meeting 7.30pm on Zoom

Monday 14th September : Club Concert, Sibelius and Rachmaninoff. Zoom details to follow.

Tuesday 15th September : Club Meeting on Zoom, 4.30pm.

Tuesday 22nd September : Tangent Treasure Hunt, 2pm Burley.

Monday 5th October : Club Film, "6 Days 7 Nights".

Wednesday 7th October : Boules with Christchurch, 3 Tuns Bransgore 6pm (Chris Kean coordinating).

Wednesday 14th October : Club Regional Quiz (Will Parke coordinating our team).

Wednesday 14th October : Tangent Musical Quiz via Zoom. 41 Club invited.

Tuesday 15th October : Club meeting. Details to follow in due course.

Sunday 18th October : Greyfriars lunch time drinks and Nibbles (details to be revealed).

Monday 19th October : Club Concert, Saint-Saens and Tchaikovsky.

Thursday 5th November : Bonfire Night at the Parke's home in Alderholt. More details next month.

Wednesday 11th November : Tangent meeting at Greyfriars with speaker.....Connock Oil & products. Bring your own drinks and nibbles



Caroline's Corner



Last time I wrote, the summer holidays were just beginning, as I write now there is a definite cooling which not only traditionally evokes that 'back to school' feeling and the smell of polish on the shiny hall floor, but also the arrival of spiders! My neighbour has literally just been climbing on my table trying to get a whopper out for me!

I am sure most of you would agree that it's been a funny sort of summer, lots of staycations and day trips and certainly lots more people on holiday here, but who can blame them? With the lovely weather we have enjoyed our little bit of the world which has looked amazing and I am certainly grateful to live so close to the sea and forest!

Recently we have enjoyed a juicing demonstration from our latest speaker. I have made the orange and carrot juice, it was delicious although a few seconds of juicing led to 20 minutes trying to clean the juicer! Worth it though!

I am looking forward to meeting with the committee soon to arrange some autumn events, so until we meet up again, virtually or otherwise, enjoy the rest of the summer and stay well.

YICF

Caroline

P.S. Our Christmas meeting will hopefully take place at Greyfriars on Wednesday 9th December with entertainment to be confirmed.

We are also planning Christmas Carols via Zoom (jointly with 41 Club) in December. Details to follow.

As a former bank manager I received many humorous letters from customers but fortunately not one quite like this !! Ed

Dear Sir,

I am writing to thank you for bouncing my cheque with which I endeavoured to pay my plumber last month. By my calculations, three nanoseconds must have elapsed between his presenting the cheque and the arrival in my account of the funds needed to honour it. I refer, of course, to the automatic monthly deposit of my Pension, an arrangement, which, I admit, has been in place for only thirty eight years. You are to be commended for seizing that brief window of opportunity, and also for debiting my account £30 by way of penalty for the inconvenience caused to your bank. My thankfulness springs from the manner in which this incident has caused me to rethink my errant financial ways. I noticed that whereas I personally attend to your telephone calls and letters, but when I try to contact you, I am confronted by the impersonal, overcharging, pre-recorded, faceless entity which your bank has become. From now on, I, like you, choose only to deal with a flesh-and-blood person. My mortgage and loan payments will therefore and hereafter no longer be automatic, but will arrive at your bank by cheque, addressed personally and confidentially to an employee at your bank whom you must nominate. Be aware that it is an offence under the Postal Act for any other person to open such an envelope. Please find attached an Application Contact Status which I require your chosen employee to complete. I am sorry it runs to eight pages, but in order that I know as much about him or her as your bank knows about me, there is no alternative. Please note that all copies of his or her medical history must be countersigned by a Solicitor, and the mandatory details of his/her financial situation (income, debts, assets and liabilities) must be accompanied by documented proof. In due course, I will issue your employee with PIN number which he/she must quote in dealings with me. I regret that it cannot be shorter than 28 digits but, again, I have modelled it on the number of button presses required of me to access my account balance on your phone bank service. As they say, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. Let me level the playing field even further. When you call me, press buttons as follows:

1. To make an appointment to see me. 2. To query a missing payment. 3. To transfer the call to my living room in case I am there. 4. To transfer the call to my bedroom in case I am sleeping. 5. To transfer the call to my toilet in case I am attending to nature. 6. To transfer the call to my mobile phone if I am not at home. 7. To leave a message on my computer (a password to access my computer is required. A password will be communicated to you at a later date to the Authorised Contact.) 8. To return to the main menu and to listen to options 1 through to 8. 9. To make a general complaint or inquiry, the contact will then be put on hold, pending the attention of my automated answering service. While this may, on occasion, involve a lengthy wait, uplifting music will play for the duration of the call.

Regrettably, but again following your example, I must also levy an establishment fee to cover the setting up of this new arrangement.

May I wish you a happy, if ever so slightly less prosperous, New Year.

Your Humble Client

Life in Round Table

Wokingham 831 – Paul Thackray

I discovered Round Table in 1969 when we moved to Wokingham. We knew no one in the town but a neighbour Ian Siffre invited me to a meeting of the recently formed RT 831 which had spun out of the neighbouring Bracknell table. It had a full membership at the time and a waiting list of potential members due to the rapidly growing commuter population of the town.

Membership ranged across the whole range of professions and comprised locals, commuters and international travellers. I was lucky and jumped the queue as the only member of the profession of Chartered Secretary to apply. We were a very active table meeting fortnightly in the Bush Hotel in the town centre.

Occasionally we had a guest speaker but usually we were entertained by a member giving a talk about his job many of which were worthy of a stand up comedy act. Ladies Circle was very active and in the summer months they organised progressive suppers when we moved between selected members homes each hosting one course of a meal. For this we paid 10 shillings (50p) a head to participate. They were a great way to get to know our spouses.

The highlight of the year was the town carnival which we organised with some thirty or so floats parading through the town, followed by a fair with many trade stalls and amusements on the Jubilee fields (now built on) just out of the town centre. It was always a great success and raised several thousand pound for charity as I can testify from my years as treasurer and later auditor.

We were a table of many talents and each year put on a music hall comedy show for

the entertainment of members. We were fortunate in having some very talented script writers. They could get a bit smutty, but would be regarded as tame by today's standards.

Area were very active and we competed in best comedy act competitions and debating competitions in both of which we were winners. We didn't do so well in 7 a side soccer, 7 a side hockey or a rowing race on the Thames when our boat almost sank.

A number of joint events were held with other tables of which there were several in the surrounding area. The table was active in the local community with regular visits to the local disabled children's hospital as volunteer helpers, organising the annual bonfire for Barnardos and taking pensioners Christmas shopping.

Another innovation was a visit to the Weize beer festival in Belgium. While it would be nice to say we had happy memories of the visit, most of us could not remember very much except that we drank a lot of beer.

Our member waiting list grew to such an extent that we had sufficient applicants to form a new table and so West Forest Table was born with thirty members at the outset.

In line with the general decline in Table membership the two tables have now amalgamated to become Wokingham and West Forest Round Table.

Long may they flourish and carry on the legacy of fellowship.

On behalf of all readers, thank you Paul for yet another insight into our former RT days. Ed

Ringwood & District Ex-Tablers Club Ladies Night 12 February 2021 The Miramar, Bournemouth



The Ladies are getting ready
So get the date in your diaries.
It's going to be a great night



Letters to the Editor

I would like to say how grateful I was for all the letters that you have submitted. However, you may have realised that last month I received absolutely NONE! I therefore decided to write to myself!

I have now received two contributions! Spot the real ones!

Some of the 'subscribers' names are in the form of an anagram.

Sir,

I was delighted when the kind people at the Inland Revenue wrote to me recently telling me that my tax return was 'outstanding', particularly since I can't even remember sending it in.

Alias Dock Net

Sir, I wonder if any of your readers has any advice for dealing with rude caravan drivers. About a week ago I was driving back to Ringwood from the Shaftesbury area behind three caravans that, quite frankly, shouldn't have been on the road. I consider it usual to follow the dotted white line marking on a road just to the right of my offside front wheel. I understand that is normal. However, these three drivers (I use that word in the loosest sense) chose to weave in and out of the gaps in the white line as if they were on a slalom ski slope. Was this bad eyesight, loose steering wheels or the effects of large intakes of alcohol over a number of days? The drivers all appeared to be well into their seventies and totally oblivious to the long trail of traffic behind them. When I did eventually pass them (due to enforced toilet breaks for the drivers) I scowled at them only to receive abusive remarks such as "b***er off, we do this every year" and "haven't you ever seen Froghammers before?" I don't know what a Froghammer is but I certainly don't want to meet them again. Your advice would be appreciated.

Mr Tale Expo
EditorA Froghammer is a dangerous breed of caravaner seen around this part of Dorset every August. Not a lot you can do about them. I suggest stay well clear.

Dear Sir,
As an ageing Ex-Tabler reflecting on my past in these serious times I came across the picture below. I thought your readers would be interested to know that I have spent a lifetime looking for this in a whole variety of different ways and was very surprised at my age to discover that it has been on a roundabout not far away all this time.

Yours faithfully,
Dr Rich A Crater



Sir
Never in a thousand years did I ever believe I'd walk into a bank wearing a mask and ask for money.

Scaly Drinker

Dear Sir,
I have read enthusiastically all the pieces from the Dirty Dibber and followed the instructions diligently. Sadly, the results have not been as promised and before writing to complain to Boris I wondered if the Dirty Dibber could offer an explanation.

Yours faithfully,
Dr Notomato

Ed.
The Dirty Dibber was unavailable for comment.

Typical, eh?



Sir
Is it me but these wind farms are ridiculous. As if this country doesn't have enough wind of its own without wasting electricity making more of it running those big fans. It's a waste of tax payers money.

Randy Orchids

Dear Editor
Was Cilla Black?
Was Barry White?
Was Marvin Gay?

Its just that Stevie Wonders.
Just asking.

Jay Oilcheek

Did you spot the six names of the letter writers?
(Ignore Dr Notomato)

Send me an email with your answers or ask me for clues!

A Film Buff who shall remain nameless (but there is no prize for guessing who it is!) has donated the attached list of DVDs to the Club. As the darker nights are approaching and many of us are not gallivanting as much as we normally would do these DVDs are available for you to borrow or buy. To do so please contact Chairman Richard and he will arrange distribution.

It is suggested that any payment is entirely discretionary and would best be added to the Christmas Card donation when we come to that later this year.

There is also a Camera Tripod available to buy on the same basis.

FILM SELECTION

James bond movies: (individual dvds)

The World is Not Enough (Pierce Brosnan)
The Living Daylights (Timothy Dalton)
From Russia With Love (Sean Connery)
Goldfinger (Sean Connery)
You Only Live Twice (Sean Connery)
Diamonds are Forever (Sean Connery)
Dr No (Sean Connery)
Licence to Kill (Timothy Dalton)
On Her Majesty's Secret Service (George Lazenby)
The Man with the Golden Gun (Roger Moore)
Quantum of Solace (Daniel Craig)



Sean Connery James Bond Set: (containing)

From Russia With Love
Goldfinger
You Only Live Twice
Diamonds are Forever
Thunderball
Dr No

The Dark Knight (Christian Bale as Batman; 2 disc special edition with the Movie and a Special Features disc)

Hama Profil 70 Camera tripod (for purchase)

Frogham 2020 goes ahead

Under the powerful leadership of Kommandant Phelps the Frogham annual camp went ahead for 6 days in August at Lower Liston Farm just north of Shaftesbury. Frogham has been going now for just shy of 50 years!!!

A great turnout with 9 vans, almost like a combined Ex Table/Tangent social breakout from the blasted "lock down" imposed by Covid 19. Set up by the Phelps and Dysons then swiftly joined by the Stockers, Lynne the Sals, the Carters, Parkes, Blackistons, Wyatts and the neonatal Smethers. The Curlies came along with us for three days from the relative safety of the Bennett Arms in Semley. Did Gilly ever find those sausages??

We missed the Matthews and Moreys but look forward to them joining us in 2021.

Our caravans and mobile homes provided safe islands from which we socialised in the open air or under cover in a selection of canvas shelters. This allowed us to maintain sensible social distancing in moving fresh air. Sensible ...a word not often associated with Froghammer gatherings. We didn't share cars or go inside each other's caravans but we did eat and drink together as a full group of up to 23. It was great to be together in person and not via Zoom.

Rotten, wet and windy "hold onto that awning Dierdre" weather did not deter us. We played much boules, managed daily G&T sessions, loads of BBQs, visited the home of Blue Vinney, explored local antique dealers, organised our own caravan boot sale, gathered sloes and blackberries as well as much chat, repairing and drinking. Vast quantities of alcohol based gel were consumed.

To take full advantage of the fresh breeze Will Parke and Ian maintained a competitive flag duel all weekend sporting many country and county flags plus the historical Ringwood Ex Tablers Cruising Club (RECC) Battle Flag that was plundered from the roof of the Horlicks building in Slough back in 1968.

On Sunday our outrageous AGM was conducted under cover with a fresh breeze in the capable hands of Phelps assisted by Treasurer Gerald and Hon Sec Ian. Guests unfortunately had to be limited to four and we welcomed Chairman Richard and Susie with Mike and Liz Fraser. Separate cars!!!

The 2020 Innovation Trophy Challenge of a Self Portrait was won by the incorrigible Helen Blackiston with a close runner up from Ann "HB" Dyson. It was great to induct new FAG (Frogham Adventure Group) members Richard and Helen Blackiston and Steve and Maureen Wyatt. The latter have yet to purchase a caravan so received a colourful and incessant flow of advice!!! They still seem keen. We were also able to welcome for their first Frogham Sue and Martin Smethers sporting an enormous Satellite dish that could provide TV for the whole of Shaftesbury.

As usual everyone pitched in to make Frogham 2020 what it always has been....a great time in great company.

Roll on 2021

Plenty of pictures on the next page!!

Ian Hon Sec FAG (Frogham Adventure Group)

FROGHAMMERS 2020



This picture on the right looks as if it needs a caption!

What about David saying "I think its easier to pull it rather than push it" or.....

"Yours is bigger than mine" or.....

"I haven't pulled for a long time"



Another Smile for Another Month

Apparently it's no longer politically-correct to direct a joke at any racial or ethnic minority, so:

An Englishman, a Scotsman, an Irishman, a Welshman, a Ghurkha, a Latvian, a Turk, an Aussie, two Kiwis, a German, an American, a South African, a Cypriot, an Egyptian, a Japanese, a Mexican, a Spaniard, a Russian, a Pole, a Lithuanian, a Swede, a Finn, an Israeli, a Dane, a Romanian, a Bulgarian, a Serb, a Swiss, a Greek, a Singaporean, an Italian, a Norwegian, a Libyan, a Muslim, a Hindu, a Buddhist and an Ethiopian went to a night club.

The bouncer said, "Sorry, I can't let you in without a Thai.



My friend said that a hanging basket would look good in the garden. Personally I can't see the attraction

I hate that feeling after surgery when you're not sure if you're awake or asleep...

Or if you operated on the right patient?

Our intrepid bikers take on the salt marshes around Pennington and Keyhaven on August 18th. I am told it was sunny, but blowy!



And not to be outdone, a small but select band of walkers went to Hengistbury Head just before the storm blew in!

Ian tells me that he must try and improve his 'selfie' skills!!

