



The Cartier Chronicle

The One to watch!



We had snow up here in the Forest which made for an invigorating walk and a change from the generally wet and gloomy weather which makes this lockdown seem tougher than the others. However, birdsong is starting, the days extending, daffodils appearing, and other buds bring the expectation of warmer days and colour in the garden.

A good number of members have had their first vaccine jab, our unwell members all seem to be in recovery mode and we are all no doubt thinking ahead to a life more ordinary! This edition (page 4) includes the notice for our AGM on 16th March and we all hope that our next Club year will be rather different.



The diary for the next couple of months is included below and I hope there is something for you to enjoy. Our February Club meeting is traditionally our Fellowship Night when we have a speaking competition, this year a debate, for Melvyn's Mug. So please join us on 16th February when our judge will be 41 Club National Fellowship Officer, Steve James. (see page 3)

I am sure we were all saddened to hear of the death of Captain Sir Tom Moore. As an ex-Round Tabler he continued to exemplify our desire to "improve in thought, in word and deed" into and beyond his 100th year. His positivity and determination inspired us all and we will remember him with great admiration and affection.

Yours in Continued Friendship



Richard



DIARY

FEBRUARY

- Thursday 4th : 7.30pm : 41 Club Connects with Jonathan Agnew and Geoff Miller
- Monday 8th : Club Film Night : Dirty Rotten Scoundrels 7.15pm on Zoom. We will be watching a recording from Freeview made some weeks ago.
- Tuesday 9th : Tangent Birthday Afternoon : 3pm on Zoom. See page 2.
- Thursday 11th : 7.00pm : 41 Club Connects Chinese New Year Cookalong
- Tuesday 16th : Club Fellowship meeting. Debate for Melvyn's Mug. Zoom from 7.30pm. See page 3
- Thursday 18th : 7.30pm : 41 Club Connects : North Yorkshire Moors Railway
- Monday 22nd : Concert Night from 7pm on Zoom. Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 (Choral Symphony) YouTube. Page 6
- Wednesday 24th : What's your Background? : Joint social event on Zoom from 7.30pm. See page 3.

MARCH

- Tuesday 2nd : 4.30pm : Council Meeting
- Wednesday 3rd : Tangent's Hollywood Proms via YouTube and Zoom from 7.15pm: See page 6
- Monday 8th : Club Film Night. 'Blues Brothers' from 7.15pm on Zoom. We will be watching a recording from Freeview made last week.
- Wednesday 10th : Tangent Business meeting and speaker : 7.30 pm via Zoom. Details to follow.
- Tuesday 16th : Club AGM via Zoom at 7.30pm. See Notice of AGM and nomination form on Page 4.

APRIL

- Wednesday 14th: Tangent AGM : 7.30pm via Zoom



Caroline's Corner



What a start to 2021! Not quite what we had wished for but nevertheless plenty to be hopeful about, many of you will have had your jobs by now and, its getting lighter in the evenings! (a bit).

After some wonderful Christmas events organised by both clubs there is still much to come including Tangent's 40th Birthday tea celebrations. See the promo flyer below.
But what lesser events also happened in our inaugural year, 1981? Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer were married, Bucks Fizz won the Eurovision song contest, the Ford Cortina was the best selling car, Chariots of Fire, Raiders of the Lost Ark and For Your Eyes Only were released, The Police, Queen and Adam and the Ants (my favourites) all topped the charts, John McEnroe won Wimbledon, Only Fools and Horses, Cagney and Lacey, Tenko, Bergerac and Dynasty were all popular shows. Who remembers all that if it were yesterday?! I do!
(We can all remember those but you can't remember Dixon of Dock Green, Double your Money and Z Cars!! Ed)

Looking forward to seeing you all again at our Zoom meetings – Don't forget, if you haven't yet taken the plunge with Zoom but would like to join the meetings, please let me know; there are lots of members who would be very willing to talk you through setting it up and how to use it.

Yours in continued friendship.

Caroline

TANGENT BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS !!!





Ladies --- please join us for

Afternoon Tea (with surprises)

Tuesday 9 February at 3pm






**Tea Cake Bunting Hat White Gloves Sparkle
Pen & Paper Serviettes Flowers Fizz**

Our next Club Meeting is on
Tuesday 16th February

4.30pm on Zoom. No need to book in, just click on the
Zoom link that will be emailed to you.

Debating competition for Melvyn's Mug

The motion is that.....

*This House agrees it would be good to be famous,
as Celebrities are ruling the World.*



- ★ For the motion: Mr Colin Read, Mr Derek Scott.
- ★ Against the motion: Mr Richard Sheerin, Mr Chris Treleaven.
- ★ Each team are allotted 10 minutes to put their case (5 minutes each)
- ★ After both teams have spoken, each team are allowed a further 6 minutes (or 3 minutes each) to ask questions of the other team before their closing address.
- ★ To be judged on the night by Mr Steve James from National 41 Club and to award Melvyn's Mug to the winning team (virtually!).

What's Your Background ?



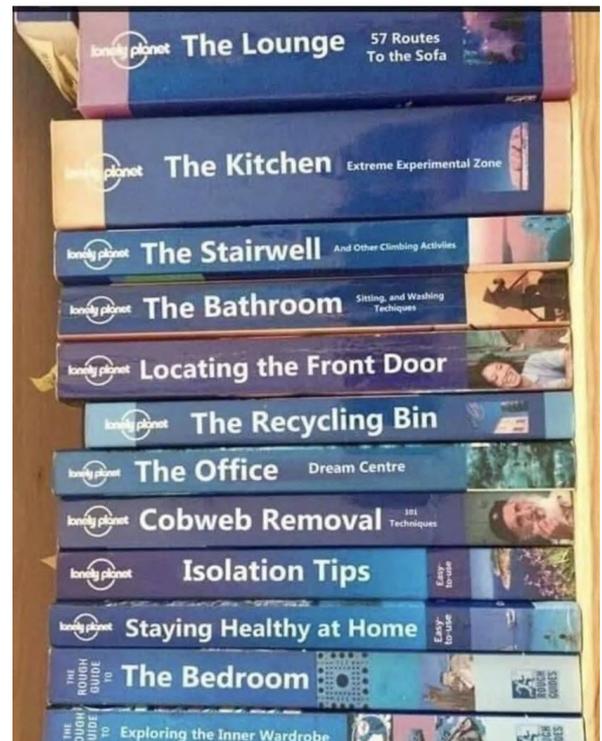
We are blessed with some amazing members in our clubs but have you ever wondered about their background ? Now you have the opportunity to find out more and you will be enthralled - but not in the way you might expect!

All will be revealed at the joint social event on
Wednesday 24th Feb 7.30 on Zoom

Watch out for the link from Richard Carter.

All welcome to join in.

Ann and I have been redecorating the study and sorting out the huge amount of books in there. We came across a number of excellent Lonely Planet travel guides. Not sure whether you have ever used these but we decided that another read was very worthwhile. Take a look at this wide range of recommended guide books.





NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Ringwood and District Ex-Tablers Club will take place over Zoom on Tuesday 16 March 2021 at 4.30 pm.

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Guests
3. Notice of Meeting
4. Minutes of last AGM
5. Council Reports (including budget proposals for 2021/22)
6. Chairman's Report (including Chairman's Choice Award)
7. Election and induction of Chairman for 2021/22
8. Incoming Chairman's Remarks
9. Election of Officers
10. Any Other Business
11. Final Toast

Nominations for Officers 2021/22

Nominations for the following Club positions, duly proposed and seconded and signed by the nominee (*in the present circumstances email confirmations will be accepted*), should be forwarded to the Hon Sec, Chris Kean, by 2 March 2021.

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Secunder	Signature of Nominee
Chairman				
Vice-Chairman				
Secretary				
Treasurer				
Social				
Meals Secretary				
Welfare				
Membership and Press and Publicity				
Speakers' Secretary				
Editor				
Lay Member/ Health and Safety Officer				
Webmaster				



Now it's my turn to recall my Tabling days. Thank you to all previous contributors to this page. I now realise and appreciate just how much research and time goes into compiling these pieces! Ed.

It seemed almost inevitable that I would join Round Table. My Welsh uncle was a tabler in Tredegar, my brother joined Newmarket RT in the mid 70's and my brother in law was a member in Billericay. It was something that always appealed to me and with a young but growing family Anna and I were keen to expand our social activities but it was not until 1978 that the opportunity came along to join Ruislip RT. A work colleague had just joined Willesden RT and kindly offered to make an introduction. Ruislip met at the restaurant alongside the Lido and had around 40 members from all walks of life. I remember having fish at the first meal I attended but was a little surprised that it was accompanied by gravy! We didn't have many more meetings at the Lido !!

Ruislip RT 124 was a very active club (around 40 members) and yes we took part in all the usual activities that you've read from these pages over the last 11 months, but we also did a few other different things too, such as fundraising at local fairs and schools with our miniature Triang railway, lucky numbers board and inflatable bouncy castle. Just about every Saturday in the summer months saw us at local events typically raising around £150 in an afternoon.....that was a good sum in the early 80's.

Another major fundraiser was taking part in the annual Beaujolais Nouveau day. We soon realised that the logistics were against us participating on the Thursday of 'BN' day so we just conned our friends and families to purchase a case or two of this wine (loosely referred to as wine!) which we had bought in large quantities upfront for delivery during the following week. We applied a small margin and given that we were making money for charity we had little problem selling the cases. Our wives understood that we would need to go across the Channel to collect all this wine but little did they know that it was already in a warehouse in Dover waiting for the duty to be paid before release! About a dozen of us had a jolly overnight stay in Boulogne where we also bought (and consumed) some more wine. The success of that fundraiser meant a similar event the following year when we also sold white wine. On this occasion we travelled to Paris where we were royally entertained overnight by our French RT 124 in St Germaine en Laye, a wealthy district. The evening meal was sumptuous and extremely well accompanied by many, many grape varieties! As a gift we took our hosts a yard of ale which their Chairman did his very best to consume. The boot was on the other foot when he promptly filled it with red wine which our Chairman then had to drink down. Let's just say that his white shirt wasn't white by the end of the evening! From Paris we drove south to the Loire valley where we were hosted overnight by Tours RT and the following day they took us wine tasting. That year (1983) we raised in excess of £5000.



I was Chairman in 1986/7 when the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow appeal through National was at its peak and Ruislip took part in the nationwide effort to find 100,000 donors in a matter of weeks. With the help of Ladies Circle we merged a number of ideas together which worked well. At a local supermarket we sold raffle tickets over two weekends to customers as they loaded their trolleys at the checkout. One lucky winner would then have the opportunity to do a five minute trolley dash. The supermarket donated the food so the raffle proceeds were used to buy apnoea mattresses, a project that we jointly fulfilled with Ladies Circle. At the same time as selling tickets we successfully encouraged shoppers to sign the volunteer blood donor list. I guess we must have collected around 100 names. I persuaded the local GP practice to open its doors on a Saturday to take blood samples from these donors and my garage was full to the brim with cardboard boxes containing all the blood testing kit sent from the Nolan appeal! Such a worthwhile project and from Ruislip alone we found six matching donors (including one of our Tablers)

On the social side Ruislip always participated in International weekends hosted every year in turn by Ruislip, St Germaine, Culembourg (Holland), Schweinfurt (Germany), Velje (Denmark), Norrtalje (Sweden) and Rothervale RT (number 1124). I never managed the Sweden or Denmark trips but those I did attend provided much fun with a cramped itinerary over nearly four days. I had the honour to organise the Ruislip weekend in the summer of 1987 when nearly 100 members and wives took part. Ruislip members acted as hosts with a dinner party for around a dozen on the Thursday night, and then on



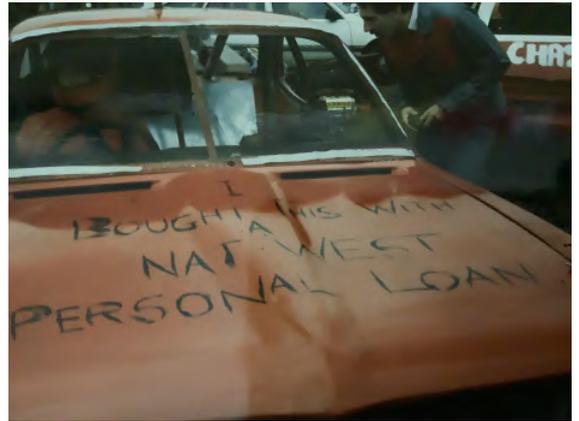
Friday a trip to Windsor on two London buses followed by a river cruise along the Thames with a jazz band on the deck. Back home around 5pm before a party in a village hall with dancing and a cabaret performed by each Table. Saturday was a 'free' day where hosts would check their guests' hangovers before suggesting either a sleep in the garden, a visit to see the sights of London or maybe a quiet walk in the woods! Saturday night was a black tie event which we held at the Rose Room Function Suite at Twickenham Rugby Ground. Sunday brunch was available at a local theatre from around 11am where we said our goodbyes and nursed our hangovers (although some members were volunteer taxi drivers to take our guests back to Heathrow, Stansted and even East Midlands airports!).

Sporting events were fun too. We heard about the Rowlock Rally from Gordon Knott and that event featured in my early RT days as did the Ascot Grand Prix.

This was a glorified soapbox derby around the car park of Ascot Racecourse. Ruislip took this very seriously indeed with extra fitness training for the team of drivers. There was one cart to pedal and a team of around ten drivers. As a new member I was not included as a driver but asked by the team coordinator to act as a 'motivator' for our drivers as they headed up a long uphill stretch just before the final bend. My job was to run alongside and 'encourage' some harder pedalling! I wasn't popular with the drivers! The Ascot Grand Prix attracted clubs from a fair distance including the Isle of Wight. Indeed, Ryde RT (where John Warne was a member) were regular attendees and Ann tells me that we were quite possibly (and unknowingly) at the very same venue back in 1979! (and I actually took part in a race! Sub - Ed)



The Ascot Grand Prix was a regular on our radar for a few years until Banger Racing in Stourport on Severn replaced it. Brilliantly organised by the local table and scrutineered by the local Banger Racing Club to ensure proper safety regulations were followed. We purchased an old Vauxhall Viva (with some money I 'solicited' from NatWest as 'sponsorship') and then we went to work strengthening the interior with scaffold poles, putting the radiator in the boot and other 'reinforcements'. We towed the car to Stourport on the Friday night together with a caravan which slept five of us.



We raced Saturday and Sunday with regular repairs between each race. The car we took there bore no resemblance to the one we came home with! But what a great weekend. Other memories include my Founders Night dinner with Ken Livingstone as our speaker (we saw his other side!) and being in Germany on a RT International trip on November 9th 1989 when the Berlin Wall came down. We were just a few miles from the old East German border and were shocked by the poverty shown by some East Germans who came to see what life was like in the west. Yes, joining Round Table was one of the best things I have ever done. It helped my career to give me confidence, team and organisational skills, fun, laughter and of course my second wife, Ann! Thank you Round Table. PWL

Monthly Raffle



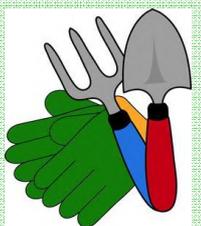
The winner in the December draw was Gerald Carter and the January winner was Jeff Wickens. We have two more draws in our current Club year and perhaps you could ponder if we wish to carry on next year as I cannot see us being able to meet in person for a few more months yet. Thank you to everybody who joined this year. Chancellor Andrew will no doubt keep us informed on how much we have raised shortly in his forthcoming Budget.

David Phelps



DIRTY DIBBER GOES DIGITAL!!

A Dirty Dibber Gardeners What's App Group (DDGWAG and no it doesn't stand for Dirty Dibber Gardeners wags!!) has been launched with DD himself coming out (**) from the garden shed and into the 21st century to administer it!! Open to all recipients of Dirty Dibber, it will be a closed group for members of Ringwood Table, ex Tablers, Circle and Tangent.



Not intended as a source of constant chatter. Instead it is aimed at urgent contact and advice (such as weather warnings!!), timely reminders of things that must be done, photos and videos of successes (and disasters!!), online competitions and much more, including anything a member thinks might be of interest to the rest of the group.



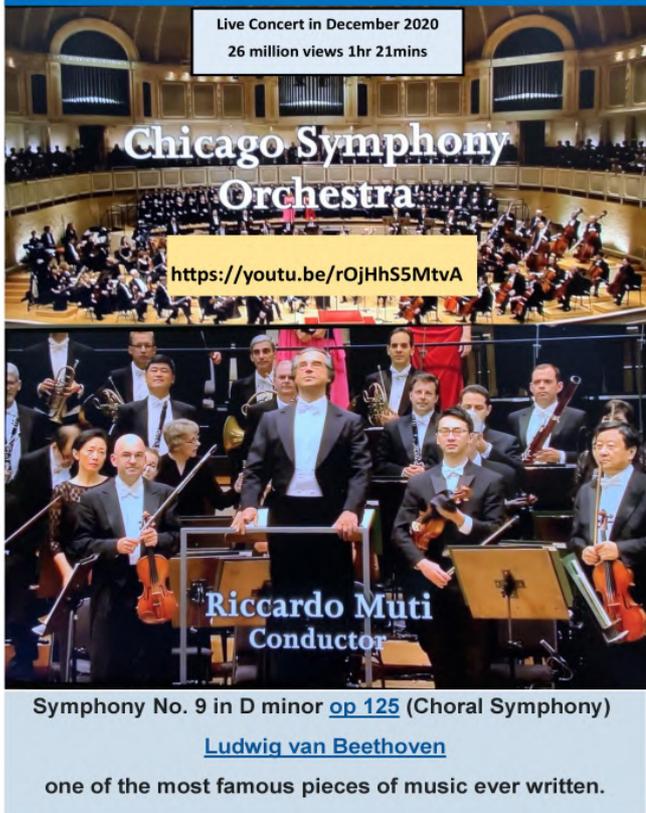
Anyone interested in joining please
What's App Dirty Dibber Mike on 07780-474897

*** I think it is very brave of our Dirty Dibber to 'come out' after all these years. We wish him (and especially Monica) our best wishes in his new found existence. Ed*

CONCERTS GALORE!!

From a grand choral piece to a much lighter sing a long concert with a massive orchestra.....the choice is yours!

MUSIC NIGHT CONCERT Monday 22nd February 2021 :
Beginning at 7.00pm on ZOOM with Richard, Keith and Sue



Live Concert in December 2020
26 million views 1hr 21mins

Chicago Symphony Orchestra

<https://youtu.be/rOjHhS5MtvA>

Riccardo Muti
Conductor

Symphony No. 9 in D minor [op 125](#) (Choral Symphony)
Ludwig van Beethoven
one of the most famous pieces of music ever written.



SUE'S HOLLYWOOD MUSICAL FEATURETTE
BBC 2013 PROM with John Williams Orchestra
Joining ZOOM at 7.15pm Wednesday 3rd March 2021

From an idea by Peter & Ann

BBC Proms
Hooray for Hollywood

<https://youtu.be/i8KC-ZmwtOQ>

A message from Will and Julie

Dear Friends

Julie and I have been deeply touched by all your good wishes, cards, emails and phone calls. The offers of help have been tremendous and much appreciated. It would be invidious to name anyone but Mike and Lynne Callaghan, Keith and Sue Anderson, Julie's sister Alison and Chairman Richard have been most kind. We intend to reply to each and every message when my energy levels and concentration have improved sufficiently.

A brief summary of our Covid experience may help you and us to understand what actually happened. On the Sunday before Christmas we had a family bubble get together here and it is probable that we were infected then by one of the party. By Christmas itself, Julie and I were very much under the weather. We went to the Test Centre near Old Sarum on Sunday 27th Dec. Julie was positive; I was negative.

Thereafter I went downhill rapidly and on Wednesday evening 6th, the ambulance medics took readings for oxygen. Very low (92-93). Off to Salisbury Hospital; Pitton Ward was my home for the next 6 or 7 days.

A shifting population of 4-5 elderly men, all suffering from Covid. How many, if any, actually survived and were discharged, I do not know. It was very distressing to hear and see their difficulties.

The nursing staff were absolutely brilliant; run off their feet all day but amazingly cheerful and helpful throughout. No praise is too high for them.

My oxygen returned to normal (97-98) so late on Wednesday evening 13th I was taken home. Since then I have been extremely tired and listless; no concentration or ambition to do anything socially useful. Julie has suffered a continuous cough but she also is gradually recovering.

My oxygen levels have stabilised at 97-98 so I imagine the worst is over. Just a question of taking things gently over the next few months.

We are aware that other members of the family have been similarly affected and we can only hope that no one has had the bother that we experienced.

Here's looking forward to the broad sunlit uplands of the summer. It will take more than a Chinese pox to carry me off.....

Best wishes to you all and many thanks from Will and Julie.

(And on behalf of all Cartier readers, get well soon!! Ed)

Some light relief in these darker times



Everyone who received the first smallpox vaccine in 1798 has died. Makes you think.

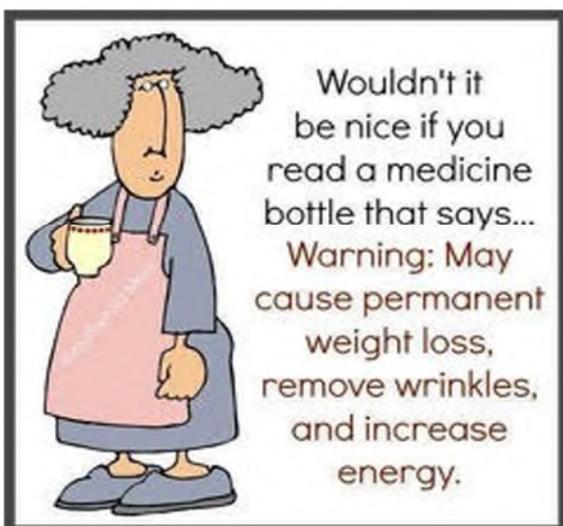


First day of homeschooling.... we're having an inset day for staff training 😊

If you see my kids locked outside today, mind your business. We are having a fire drill. #HomeSchool

When we go into another lock down just train all the Amazon delivery drivers to give the vaccine. Entire population immunised by Saturday. Wednesday if you've got Prime.

Another Smile for Another Month



An important COVID message

Medical experts in London today were asked if it is time to ease the COVID lockdowns. Allergists were in favour of scratching it, but Dermatologists advised not to make any rash moves. Gastroenterologists had a sort of a gut feeling about it, but Neurologists thought the government had a lot of nerve. Obstetricians felt certain everyone was labouring under a misconception, while Ophthalmologists considered the idea short-sighted. Many Pathologists yelled, "Over my dead body!" while Paediatricians said, "Oh, grow up!" Psychiatrists thought the whole idea was madness, while Radiologists could see right through it. Surgeons decided to wash their hands of the whole thing and pharmacists claimed it would be a bitter pill to swallow. Plastic Surgeons opined that this proposal would "put a whole new face on the matter." Podiatrists thought it was a step forward, but Urologists were pissed off by the whole idea. Anaesthetists thought the whole idea was a gas, and Cardiologists didn't have the heart to say no. In the end, the Proctologists won out, leaving the entire decision up to the assholes in politics.

COPY DATE

The next edition will be published in early March. Please continue to forward suitable material, BEFORE 4th March.