

RINGWOOD & DISTRICT EX TABLERS CLUB

MINUTES OF MEETING

Held on 16 April 2019 at St Leonards Hotel, Ringwood

Prior to the meeting a cheque for £450 was presented to representatives of the Parkinson's UK Ferndown & District Support Group. This was one of the donations we were making from the Christmas card collection. They were very grateful and it was clear that the money would be put to good use. They now have 150 members and our donation will be used towards one or more of speech therapy, physiotherapy and monthly speaker meetings. Ian Stockdale took photos of the presentation with all other Club members who were at the meeting in the background. Hopefully these photos can be used for publicity.

1 Speaker

Ian Stockdale introduced our guest speaker, Alex Douglas, who works for Barclays UK and is a cyber security specialist. He gave his talk early as he needed to get home to see his six year old daughter. Alex gave details of how criminals operate and the steps which should be taken to avoid getting caught out. It is very important to install updates promptly, have a different and not obvious password for each application and not to click any links you are not sure about. His talk was very informative and the vote of thanks was given by Colin Read, who is a neighbour of Alex.

2 Guests

Richard Carter introduced prospective member Chris Saltrick who was the only guest and the usual toast was given.

3 Apologies

There were apologies from Brian Kinch, Bob Merrett, David Phelps and Peter Walker.

4 Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 19 February were taken as read.

5 Matters Arising

None.

6 Correspondence

Gordon gave brief details of a charity golf day in aid of Round Table Children's Wish. This will be on 16 August at Dudsbury Golf Club and the cost is £230 for a team of four. If people are interested Richard Carter is happy to organise. This could be good publicity in relation to the efforts to restart Ringwood & District Round Table.

7 Chairman's Comments

Gordon is attending a meeting of Club Chairmen from Region 23 on Monday to discuss fellowship between Clubs in our region.

Gordon had attended Steve Bolter's funeral along with Mike Callaghan, Steve Wyatt and Richard and Anne Dyson. The current National President and some former ones were also there.

Gordon had a booklet giving a brief Ringwood & District Table history from 1959 to 1984. Table Charter Night was 3 May 1960 so next year will be the 60th anniversary. Gordon would like to have something similar for Ex-Table, to be kept in electronic form, and he is willing to start this. Our memorabilia is not in one place and will need to be supplied by members. Graham Hoyle told us that Jimmy Gordon has loads going back to foundation. Andrew Green mentioned that memorabilia had been stored with Alan Franklin. It is thought that that memorabilia is now held by John Kennedy.

As we know, Dorset Knobs will be on 19 November. Gordon wanted views on whether it should revert to March next year as it always used to be. So far no Club has volunteered to organise this. Our view was that March was too soon and too close to Ladies Night so November would be better.

8 Vice Chairman

Richard Carter wanted to discuss the date and venue for Ladies Night. His investigations showed that the facilities at the Miramar suited us better than other Bournemouth hotels. The hotels are already booked up in November for early Christmas parties. Richard has therefore provisionally booked 14 and 15 February at the Miramar. Rooms available on 14 February would be slightly more expensive and would need to be booked early. Council preferred 15 February and Club members went along with this.

9 Treasurer.

Andrew Green said the bank account was healthy, but subs were coming in rather slowly. He will start chasing in a month's time and reminded us that the discount finishes at the end of June.

10 Sports & Social

There is still no Sports & Social Secretary and Richard Carter was standing in for this evening. He asked Jeff Wickens to speak on several forthcoming events. Jeff mentioned that Fanfare for Spring could still do with some stewards, but it is a good event and well worth attending even if not stewarding.

If anyone else wishes to go to the talk by Professor Alice Roberts let John Kennedy know and he will obtain additional tickets.

Jeff also informed us that there were thoughts that we should have a float at Ringwood Carnival on 21 September. On a show of hands several members were willing to take part. Ben Salisbury is Chairman of the Carnival Committee this year.

Richard told us there will probably be some impromptu barbecues in the summer.

Keith Anderson reported that there were eight cabins available for the mini cruise to St Malo. Four of them are already booked. Anyone else wishing to go should contact Keith.

Richard gave details of the photo competition for this year. See the attached sheet for the rules. Tangent members can enter this year.

The Christmas card scheme started 26 years ago and was David Curle's idea. Gerald Carter has produced the Christmas card in 23 of those years including the last 19

consecutively. He would like someone to take over. Gerald is willing to help and details will be in Not the 9 O'Clock News.

Gordon said he is starting a voluntary raffle at meetings. Tickets cost £1 and the prize is a bottle of Black Stump. Surplus funds will be added to the Christmas card fund.

11 **Membership & Welfare**

Colin Williams introduced Chris Saltrick who was then inducted into the Club by Chairman Gordon. Chris reminisced on the many events during his Table career and said that his time with Ringwood & District Round Table had been life changing.

On Welfare David Hirst told us that Bob Merrett's son's partner had had a serious heart attack yesterday and had died today. David will send a condolences card.

Roger Bettle is taking longer to recuperate from his operation than he had expected.

Gordon would like badges to be worn on Club nights. We have a supply of pin badges at £3 each.

12 **Editor**

For obvious reasons Bob Merrett was not at the meeting but has said that he is happy to produce next month's magazine. The copy date is 1 May.

13 **Speaker's Secretary**

Ian Stockdale told us the talk at the next meeting would be on the Russell-Cotes museum and family, particularly their foreign trips obtaining antiques etc.

14 **Meals Secretary**

John Quint has signed us up for another year at St Leonards Hotel with no price increase. Allergies are not a problem. There is no other suitable venue.

15 **Press & Publicity**

John Adams is on holiday in Greece. The photo of the interruption at the AGM has appeared in several local papers.

16 **Lay Member/Health & Safety**

Paul Thackray reminded us that risk assessments are required for events we have organised.

17 **Immediate Past Chairman**

Keith Anderson reported that the concert nights are fully booked and film nights will recommence in October. The first film will probably be the latest in the Mission Impossible series. Film nights are open to everyone and if necessary Keith will run them on more evenings.

18 **National Councillor**

Due to the untimely death of Steve Bolter there is a vacancy for National Councillor for

Region 23. Richard Dyson is thinking of standing and has given an expression of interest. The next stage is to give details of his Table and Ex-Table career but before doing so he needs Club support. The post is a three year term which can be extended to five. His commitment would be to attend four National Council Meetings per year and to visit every Club in the Region (there are 39) at least once. He felt this would be an opportunity for fellowship and more recognition for Ringwood. Gordon confirmed Council supported Richard in this. The meeting gave Club support.

If there is more than one candidate there will be a vote by Region 23.

19 Ringwood & District Round Table

Mike Fraser gave an update on restarting Ringwood & District Round Table. There is a committee comprising Mike Fraser, David Phelps and Richard Blackiston. David spoke to Phil Ellis (National President) at our February meeting and he was very supportive. David has also spoken to Ben Salisbury who is very interested. Table is different from when we were members and they want to cherry pick the best aspects of local Tables. We have a stall at Fanfare for Spring which they intend to have manned by current Tablers. National are willing to support both financially and in other ways to get this off the ground. Nationally the number of Tablers is very low, but is increasing. Nine applications to launch new Tables are pending.

20 Any Other Business

The report on the National Caravan Rally, which 180 people had attended, congratulated Richard Dyson and Ian Stockdale for excellent organisation and the Ringwood ladies for an excellent meal. Richard had been given a plaque which he had held for a while and he now passed this to Ian. Apparently the plaque has to be taken to the next Rally which is in Yorkshire!

Ian distributed outstanding prizes from the Christmas meeting.

Gordon has obtained special pin badges, with the office held on them, for the Treasurer, Past Chairman and Secretary. He handed the badges to the relevant officers to be worn at Club meetings.

The raffle was drawn by Chris Saltrick and the winner was Richard Dyson.

21 Date of Next Council Meeting

14 May 2019 at Richard Carter's – 7.30 pm.

22 Date of Next Club Meeting

21 May 2019 at St Leonards Hotel – 7.30 pm.

23 The Meeting Closed at 11 pm.