



The Cartier Chronicle

The One to watch!



**Bumper supplement for VE Day memories and
41 Club AGM papers
Tuesday May 19th 4.30 pm on Zoom**

I have been asked to remind you that our club AGM is being held next week and Steve Wyatt has already emailed to you the formal notice. And don't forget that our new National President Peter Good will be joining us. This special supplement provides you with the necessary reports from Council members as well as Gordon's final remarks. You may have seen these before but for the sake of procedure I am including them again. This will negate the need to read them out on May 19th when the Zoom meeting will be held and hopefully the AGM can quickly proceed as more of a required formality and we can socialise. (Ed)



Our AGM, even though on Zoom, is a formal occasion and a number of us will be wearing jacket, tie, badge, medals/jewels and probably trousers. I should stress that this not a requirement (the trousers would be good as we plan to have the Loyal Toast) and dress code is an individual decision. You are welcome to wear medals as we normally would for an AGM.

The Zoom meeting details are below and I will send out a reminder the day before the meeting. In April we had a very informal drop in/drop out meeting and as this is more formal I would ask you to join as close to 4.30pm as you can so that we can open the meeting after a bit of the usual banter. I will enable you to join the meeting from 4.20pm but the meeting won't start until after 4.30pm.

I look forward to seeing you then.

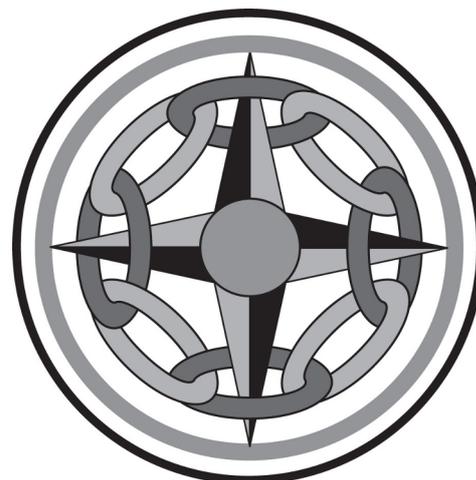
Yours in Continued Fellowship,

Richard

RINGWOOD & DISTRICT EX TABLERS CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday 19 May at 4.30 p.m. on Zoom

Welcome and Introduction
Grace
Apologies
Introduction of Guests
Loyal Toast
Notice Convening the Meeting
Minutes of the last AGM (circulated in March 2019)
Business to Conclude Year 2019/2020
National AGM
Council Reports
Treasurer's Report
Immediate Past Chairman's Report
Introduction of Our Chairman
Remarks by New Chairman
Election of Vice Chairman
Election of New Council
Any other Business
Dates of Next Meetings
Cocktail Story
Final Toast



RINGWOOD & DISTRICT EX-TABLERS CLUB

Income & Expenditure Account & Balance Sheet for year to 02/03/2020

2018/19 <u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual 2019/20</u>	£	<u>2019/20 Budget</u>	<u>Proposed Budget 2020/21</u>	£
1708.00	INCOME				
	Total Income (Subscriptions)	1860.00	1891.00	2100.00	<u>60 @ £35.00</u>
	EXPENDITURE				
913.50	Capitation	884.50	945.00	884.50	61 at £14.50
88.25	Speaker Meals - Club Meetings	136.50	130.50	120.00	
351.95	Speaker Fees - Club Meetings	407.00	500.00	350.00	
-83.00	Meals Account - Surplus	-154.00	0.00	0.00	
99.11	Social Events - Expense	238.92	150.00	150.00	
96.70	Ladies Night - Expense	244.73	300.00	300.00	
21.00	Greyfriaras Affiliation Fee	25.00	22.00	27.00	
53.22	Chairman's Jewel	53.22	65.00	55.00	
190.00	Chairman's Honararium	190.00	190.00	190.00	
20.00	Secretary's Expenses	20.00	20.00	20.00	
10.00	Treasurer Expenses	10.00	10.00	10.00	
15.00	Welfare & Mem expenses	20.00	20.00	20.00	
0.00	Newsletter Exps	0.00	10.00	10.00	
0.00	Website	172.80	0.00	114.00	
0.00	Website Pre Payment	-114.00	0.00	-57.00	
59.43	Directory	44.59	65.00	50.00	
43.25	Flowers	51.29	60.00	60.00	
22.00	Poppy Wreath	22.00	23.00	23.00	
27.99	Miscellaneous Exps	85.65	50.00	50.00	
0.00	Donation from Fanfare	-750.00			
0.00	Donation to Air Ambulance	750.00			
-1039.00	Xmas Card Inc (incl xs on raffle)	-945.87			
39.00	Xmas card Expenses	30.00			
100.00	Xmas card Donations	100.00			
900.00	Xmas Card Dons not Yet Paid	815.87			
	Round Table set up & help	307.00			
	Raffle Income for Round Table	-200.00			
1928.40	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	2445.20	2560.50	2376.50	
-220.40	Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	-585.20	-669.50	-276.50	

BALANCE SHEET		at 7/3/20	at 7/3/19
Balance at Bank		3477.22	5846.50
Cheqs & Dons not yet paid		-2151.62	-3821.70
Website Pre Payment		114.00	
Cash Float		60.00	60.00
Total		1499.60	2084.80
Balance at 7/3/19	b/fwd	2084.80	2305.20
Surplus/Deficit		-585.20	-220.40
New Balance		1499.60	2084.80

Continued overleaf

I Propose that Subscriptions for 2020/21 be £42.00 Discounted by £7.00 to £35.00 if paid by 30th June 2020

Bank Account: I propose the following: - That we continue to bank with Natwest Ringwood and the account to be operated by any one of the following officers once it is practicable to change:

"Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer"

Signed

Andrew G Green

Andrew Green, Hon Treasurer

Date: 07/04/2020

I have examined the financial records of the Club and confirm that the above Income and Exp Account together with the Balance Sheet are in accordance therewith

Signed *Paul Thackray*

Paul Thackray, Appointed Examiner Date: 09/03/2020

COUNCIL NOMINATIONS			
POSITION	NOMINEE	PROPOSER	SECONDER
CHAIRMAN	RICHARD CARTER	GORDON KNOTT	BOB MERRETT
VICE CHAIRMAN	BOB MERRETT	RICHARD CARTER	GORDON KNOTT
SECRETARY	CHRIS KEAN	RICHARD CARTER	RICHARD BLACKISTON
TREASURER	ANDREW GREEN	IAN STOCKDALE	PAUL THACKRAY
SOCIAL	JEFF WICKENS	RICHARD CARTER	RICHARD BLACKISTON
MEALS SECRETARY	DAVID PHELPS	IAN STOCKDALE	DAVID HIRST
WELFARE	DAVID HIRST	RICHARD CARTER	PAUL THACKRAY
MEMBERSHIP AND PRESS & PUBLICITY	IAN STOCKDALE	DAVID PHELPS	DAVID HIRST
SPEAKERS SECRETARY	JOHN ADAMS RICHARD BLACKISTON	RICHARD CARTER JEFF WICKENS	ANDREW GREEN IAN STOCKDALE
EDITOR	PETER LOMAX	RICHARD CARTER	RICHARD BLACKISTON
LAY MEMBER/ HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER	STEVE MURSELL	RICHARD CARTER	STEVE WYATT
WEBMASTER	GORDON KNOTT	RICHARD CARTER	BOB MERRETT



"I move that we debate whether to vote to decide whether to discuss bringing this meeting to an end."

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS 2019-20

SECRETARY.....Steve Wyatt

Until sometime after Ladies Night everything was normal. Very active for the secretary around meeting times with agendas and minutes and more paperwork to deal with nowadays than there used to be. Then coronavirus struck. We were all in uncharted territory and with social distancing and self isolation it looked as if Ex Table would grind to a halt. However, modern technology and programs such as Zoom have meant that there has actually been a great deal of contact between Club members and for the first, and hopefully the last, time the postponed AGM will be conducted via Zoom.

I have enjoyed working with Gordon and the rest of Council and wish my successor as secretary the best of luck.

MEMBERSHIP & WELFARE.....David Hirst

Membership

During the year three new members have been enrolled in the club, Mike Edwards, Steve Mursell and Jim Stride, and one other is at the application stage. Sadly though Peter Walker and John Green have died and Mike Williams has resigned.

The membership of the club is, therefore, at 60, almost the same as at the start of the year. The club has always attracted members moving into the area from elsewhere, and it is to be hoped that some of the members of the nascent Ringwood, Verwood and District Round Table will also be minded to join us when they have to relinquish Table life. We all know what a good Ex-Tablers Club we are but to maintain that we have to continue to advertise our club and seek out new members.

Despite the high membership, the attendance at meetings is rarely above half our number and it would be great to see more members at the monthly speaker meetings. So I appeal to those of you we rarely see to come along more often – or start coming again like you probably did a few years ago.

Welfare

The deaths of Peter Walker and John Green have been keenly felt by members who remember them for their respective involvements in the club and Ringwood Round Table for many years. Our sympathies go to Annie Walker and family and John's family.

The visiting rota for John Green and Jimmy Gordon began the year as it had been running previously with seventeen members taking part. Members continued to make their visits when John had to go into hospital and then to a Nursing Home, and to Jimmy when he had to move into Oak Mount Care Home in January – where he is now well settled in. My thanks to those of you on the rota. What effect the current Corona Virus outbreak will have on visits is yet to be established but they are likely to be curtailed.

Many other members of the club will have had medical problems during the year with the most serious being a severe stroke to Hugh Edwards. Although still badly affected Hugh is making progress.

In January, following a comment by Jimmy Gordon about his liking for Scottish bag-piping, we were able to satisfy Jimmy's wish when our resident piper John Adams played for Jimmy, and provided a taste of Haggis and Scotch Whisky, at his Care Home. The piping had to be done partly outside to allay the fears of the Care Home manager that it would be too loud for, and upset other residents! Not a bit of it though, the other residents didn't mind at all and John had to do a reprise inside the home and through into other parts of the residents lounges. So all in all it was a resounding success, and John was a magnificent sight in his full highland regalia. Thank you John.

EDITOR.....Bob Merrett

It has been a privilege being your editor again this year and you have provided me with reports, photos and announcements that has allowed me produce what I hope you felt were 12 entertaining editions of Knott the 9 O'Clock News. I have tried to ensure members of both Clubs have been kept in touch with events and even if you were not able to attend you could read about what had happened.

I hope it fulfilled the (unwritten) remit of the Club's magazine and you found it an enjoyable and useful read.

Special thanks to the two Club Chairs, Anne and Gordon for their regular Copy which rarely required amendment by me.

Last year saw the presentation for the first time of the Editor's Award. As I said then there are no explicit rules for this prize, it's down to the Editor to determine the winner based upon the quality and or quantity of contributions. I have to say these have been excellent and again has made this task quite difficult.

I would like to repeat my thanks to the Chairs of 41 Club and Tangent, as their copy consisted mostly of joined up writing and sentences which sometimes included words of four and even five letters and only a few spelling mistakes. However, I have decided that they are not eligible for the Award as I have to include their copy like it or not. But given there are no rules future Editors may well wish to do things differently and that is entirely appropriate.

We have had some great contributions. In the category of witty photo captions can I say to John Kennedy, very well done. Last year's winner Arthur Robins also provided some brilliant witticisms and IPC Keith Anderson's photos were brilliant. There were so many that I am sorry that I wasn't able to use them all.

But I am pleased to say that the winner of the Editor's Award 2019/20, for his excellent reports, photos, captions and being the willing butt of others jokes, goes to Ian Stockdale. I hope to be able to present the trophy to Ian in person at some point this year.

MEALS SECRETARY.....John Quint

The Hotel St Leonards continues to be the only viable meeting place for our club in the Ringwood area and whilst it sometimes has it's shortcomings, overall it's not bad value, although I believe an increase in costs were hinted at. We don't pay for the room and they are very flexible on numbers being changed right up until the same day as the meeting, although contractually they could be more rigid. Plus they cope with numbers of anything between 20 and 100 which no other hotels or restaurants were willing or able to do. I complained about bar staffing and also a couple of times only one waitress to serve and clear the tables and was advised it was a result of absenteeism at short notice due to illness, a problem for any hotel! The management promised to address this but now Covid 19 has struck so not so sure about the future. I hope your new meals officer, David Phelps, enjoys a trouble free year, and as with the Golf Society, the Corona virus has rather simplified the task for now!

A few statistics for you:

Total meals booked for 2019/20 (10 meetings as July 2019 and March 2020 cancelled)	337
Average attendance for Permanent Diners per meeting is	27
Average attendance for Occasional diners and Guests per Meeting is	11
Therefore average attendance per meeting is	38

LAY MEMBER (HEALTH & SAFETY).....Paul Thackray

The club enjoyed a busy year of activities including Parties, BBQs, Walks, Cycle rides and other Social events. Risk Assessments were undertaken by the organisers and Health and Safety rules observed. Appropriate Risk Assessment templates have been developed and are available for organisers to use when required.

Covid 19 provided the greatest challenge and prompted a lively debate at the final council meeting of the year. It was decided to go ahead with the AGM but to leave it to individual members to decide whether to attend. However it was also decided to request the St Leonards hotel to take extra precautions to protect the safety of our members. Due to further developments nationally, the Chairman subsequently decided to postpone the meeting.

SPEAKERS SECRETARY.....Ian Stockdale & David Phelps

We commenced our year in April with a talk about Cyber Security from Alex Douglas from Barclays. It is not a very nice world out there.!

In May we were entertained by David Beardsley on the exotic and somewhat bizarre history attached to the Russell Coates family and their fantastic cliff side villa in Bournemouth.

In June we had Kevin Patience talking about Aviation in Poole Harbour.

It was quite some centre for flying in wartime and immediate post war days with Sunderland Flying Boats.

In July instead of our usual monthly meeting we attended an impromptu BBQ at the kind invitation of John and Barbara Kennedy. Stockers sadly missed that one!!!

At our August meeting we heard about the fascinating history of Williams Shipping presented by our very own Colin Williams. Who said watercress was boring? In September we were entertained by Tom Amery from the Watercress Company near Dorchester. Another very informative meeting being told how watercress is grown and how the Watercress Company has grown in size with farms not only in Dorset and Hampshire but in Spain and Florida and to make the evening we were all presented with a bunch of watercress. Delicious and so good for us.

The famous Green Carrier bag with name Harrods used by us all to impress. In October Robin Cook told us about the history of Harrods and its workings and with its old-time customs.

Tim Price OBE gave us a fascinating insight into the annual Royal Air Show Tattoo for our November meeting.

Here was a man who never took no for an answer and with his negotiating powers seemed to be able to persuade anybody or country to attend the Show with many types of military aircraft.

Our Christmas meeting; who will forget Wayne the Weird or to give him his full name Wayne Shakespeare who entertained us with zany magic. We hated those staple guns!!!!

Our turn in January to entertain the Ladies of Tangent. Our own version of the Antiques Road Show with two expert presenters and at least two of our ladies went home with big smiles. Will Parke is still distressed by his truncheon review!!

To conclude our year the annual competition for Melvyn's Mug. This year it was a step down memory lane with stories about events and happenings in early Ringwood Round Table days. Jeff Wickens with his Carnival memories won the Mug and this year it was presented by Naomi Heseltine the original donator of the Mug.

Something for everyone in 2019/2020. We hope you enjoyed the speakers.

VICE CHAIRMAN.....Richard Carter

All my predecessors as Vice-Chairman will know that the key tasks are the organisation and arrangements for Ladies' Night and the formation of a Council for the next year, and particularly the selection of a willing successor as Vice-Chairman.

I have to say that I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to plan Ladies' Night, which is rightly regarded as an important event in the Club calendar. I had excellent help and advice along the way. Long may this annual black tie/posh frock occasion continue bringing together Club and Tangent members and their guests. This year's event ended up a rather special one with the presence of both the 41 Club and Tangent National Presidents.

Formation and development of a new Council is no less important. The main and first objective is to find the next Vice-Chairman. Then, who wishes to continue on Council, who would like a break, and the involvement of some new blood if possible. The latter has been made easier for me by the very welcome addition of three new members in the early part of 2020. During the year I have enjoyed supporting Gordon with everything he has achieved for the Club. Not least of course are the formation of the new Round Table, a reappearance at the Carnival and a good number of social events, not least the Irish Night which Gordon arranged and was then sadly unable to attend because of the passing of Angela's mother.

In addition, Gordon has developed the Club website and the Book & Pen was revived by Steve Wyatt and now sits with Gordon to continue.

In conclusion it has been a pleasure to work with Gordon and his Council to continue and develop the fun, fellowship and friendship which he championed in his opening remarks as Chairman at the March 2019 AGM.

(The following appeared in the first Cartier Chronicle and served as Gordon's Report of the Year. Ed)

CHAIRMAN.....Gordon Knott

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 60th 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, 10th September had been set as the date for the inaugural meeting. Congratulations to Phil Hoyle, Chairman 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 3rd 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.

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. 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. 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. 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

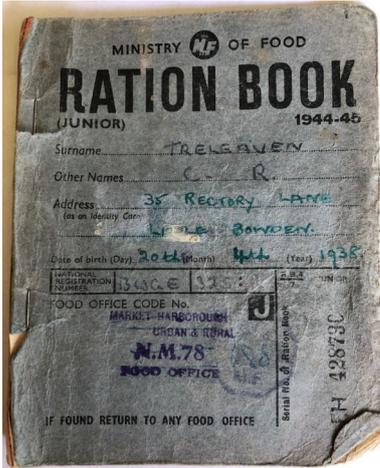
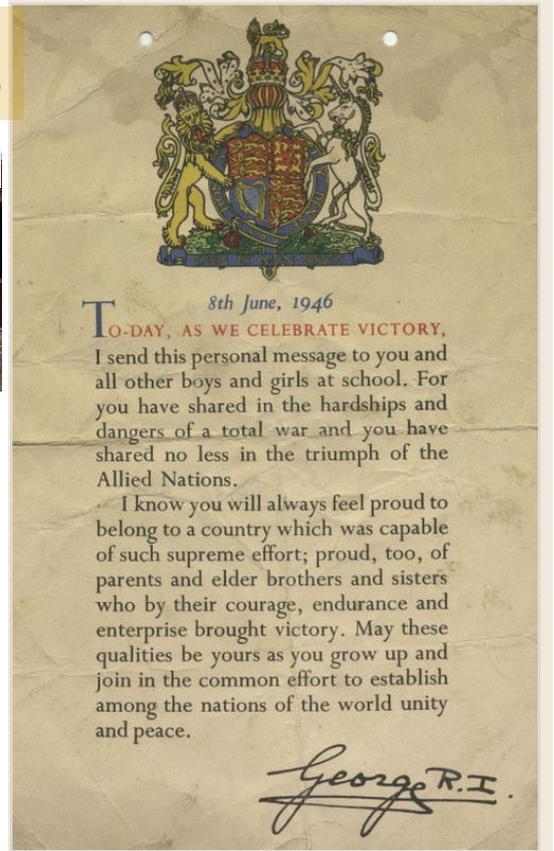


VE Day.....your memories from 1945 and recollections of the 75th anniversary celebrations.

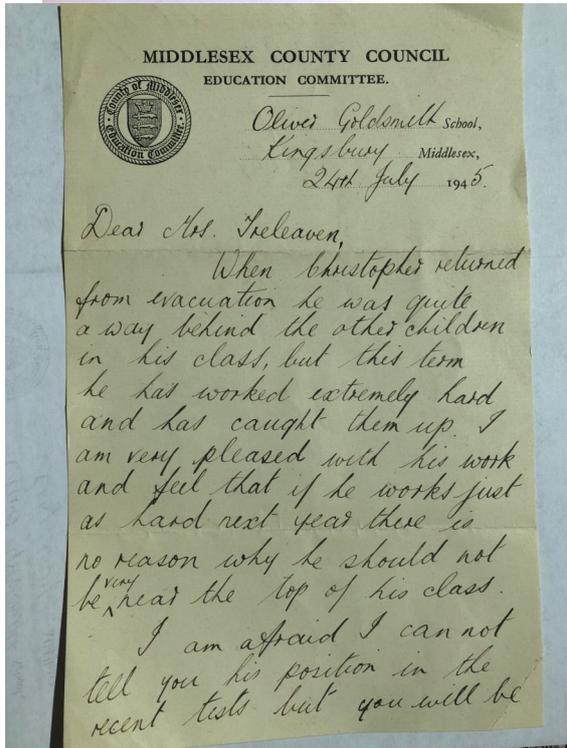
Paul Thackray writes.....I remember vividly where I was when the announcement was made on the radio by the BBC. It was 8pm in the evening and as a seven year old I was in bed. When my dad told me the war in Europe was over I jumped up and down on my bed at the joyous news. The trouble was my bed was a camp bed and it collapsed in a heap of canvas fabric and what was left of the wooden frame. I can't remember where I slept after that or if we managed to repair the bed.

This is Derrick Lynas' letter (on the right) from the King (although it wasn't personally addressed to him!)

The Blackiston's put up their bunting



Chris Treleven sent me this....On May 8th 1945, I - aged 7 - had just returned from evacuation from Market Harborough back to home in Kingsbury, NW London. My Mother and I had gone there during the V1 and then V2 rocket attacks - one of which had destroyed Woolworths in Kingsbury a few months beforehand. On return, I had to settle quickly back to the local Primary School, which is where I was on VE Day. Of possible interest are attached my then Ration Book (still has a few coupons in it now!) and a helpful letter written from the Education Office about how well I was catching up on School work from the VE Day return!



John and Barbara really got into the mood!
Our Chairman's comment was 'Love it!'
Eloping or just married?



David Darts didn't dare go out to celebrate with hair that long!



Bill Field and his patriotic flagpole

David Curle recalls VE Day.....As I am one of the few who were around on VE Day! I remember my Mother and Father taking me to the gates of Buckingham Palace, how we got so close I do not know. There were thousands of people there. We saw the King and Queen and Elizabeth and Margaret and a little later Winston Churchill joined them on the balcony. When his car drove through the gates we were very close to the car and we could see Winston clearly.



Can you spot David in the crowd? Ed.

And finally, keep sane.....

