



THE HINGE

The magazine for 4I INTERNATIONAL

International Association of Former Members of Round Table

May 2007

3rd Edition

**"ONCE ONLY IN A LIFE TIME"
YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO MISS
THIS HYM MEETING IN
LIVINGSTONE ZAMBIA**

**COME AND JOIN US
24 - 26 AUGUST 2007**

Due to the enormous
demand for THE HINGE
it is recommended not to
leave your copy lying
around



Continuing the fun in 4I



MAY THE HINGES OF FRIENDSHIP NEVER RUST

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Bob Parton (D) Editor waiting his turn to speak at the local Ladies Circle Meeting

We have decided not to publish the Minutes or the Balance Sheets of the Southend-on-Sea HYM in this magazine. If you wish to read them, they can be found on the International Homepage. Please go into the World Wide Webwork at <http://www.club41.org>

If you cannot get into the Net please contact John Bellwood for copies.

In October The Hinge, we reported the news about the terrible seaplane crash in Hamburg Harbour last year. We were delighted to have received a thank you letter from Jürgen Zwiebel who survived the crash on the 2nd of July 2006. (see report *The Hinge* October-2nd Edition) He was the only survivor, a Round Tabler from RT 84 St. Pauli.

The other 5 passengers were killed including Aaron the 12 year old son of Jürgen. It will be a long healing process but he is fighting with all his will. Over 100000€ has been collected for his family through the German RT/OT Club 41 Active Help organisation to date. We have the letter and if anybody would like a copy we can forward it to you through the



Was this the start of the fall of the Iron Curtain ?

“Place of Solidarity” at the entrance to the shipyards where Lech Walesa started his campaign in Gdańsk, Poland.

See Page 21 report on Charter Gdańsk

Email network.

It is with deepest regret that we report the tragic news that Georg Joas, Past National President of 41 Club Germany, is no longer with us. He died, much too soon at 57, peacefully in his sleep on Sunday 25 March having lost his fight against the terrible illness that beset him. He will be deeply missed by us all. The International response has been very moving. Special thoughts go out to Monika and his family at this time.

Bob Parton in May 2007 Editor



Fred Astaire was great, but do not forget that Ginger Rogers did everything he did, backwards and in high heels!

Partonoku, Medium, (for some)

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Foreword from Uwe Kerstan 4I Intl.President

Dear Friends,

It is only a few days that separate us until the 4I INTERNATIONAL AGM 2007 in Graz where I hope to meet many of you. Looking back one finds it difficult to believe that a year can pass so fast, but of course the time elapses particularly fast due to the variety of events in our Calendar.

During the last few months I have visited a variety of countries; for me, it has certainly been the most impressive year in my own life with a wealth of wonderful meetings with friends, and once again, I would like to thank quite cordially everyone for everything, who has welcomed, taken care of or accompanied me.

My year of office is now almost completed but please do not think it only consisted of pleasure trips. There were also many working meetings and AGMs to attend. To this end I would like to thank all participants at these meetings for their support and work which they have all put into our movement. A big "thank you" in which my special gratitude goes to the other members of my committee who stood beside me and always assisted with good advice and help.

The new version of our rules which will hopefully be approved in Graz in the form suggested by the committee has been deci-

sive for me during the last 12 months.

We want to be able to make future Presidents' work more flexible and easier by customization of the membership subscriptions with the aims, making it better to tackle new



tasks and to intensify the previous efforts. Endeavours, for example, in starting new member organisations, can only be realized successfully if they can be visited and provided with information on the spot and to do this we have to accept costs for such journeys.

We simply do not have the money available with our present small budget, for this important development work.

On this financial point, all of us should, in any case, consider whether we are correct, with

all of our aims and targets that we have, in asking our International committee to work on such a small budget.

Reputation and success of an organisation surely do not depend solely upon financial strengths, but we do have to be attractive to attract new members and this representative work is not available free of charge.

Our target must be to offer state-of-the-art situation and be attractive to all Tablers leaving Round Table, offering an acceptable club into which they would be proud to enter.

We certainly must not forget the competition that we have from Rotary and Lions, both of whom intensively solicit a Round Tabler because they know what they will get for an active person.

Please do not misunderstand me: it is not that future committees should want to live in any luxury but exclusively; more about (financial) scope of action to tackle any new tasks. A positive exterior effect can be obtained or strengthened only in such a way. I therefore appeal now to open up these possibilities for my successors to all member organisations. I look forward to seeing you in Graz! Sincerely yours

Yours in 4I

Uwe Kerstan

President, 4I INTERNATIONAL

Incoming 4I INTERNATIONAL

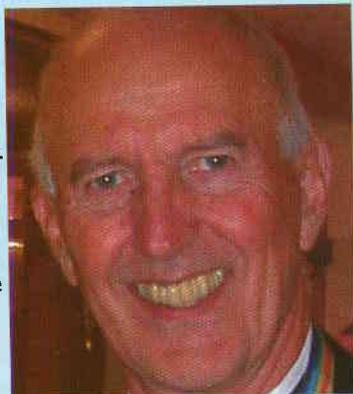
President Dieter Straka talks to us

Dear friends,

Time is passing quickly and I'll soon have the honour of serving you and our organisation as International President during this short period of eleven months between the AGMs 2007 and 2008.

My intention is to encourage all of our members to put more effort into supporting our sources, into Round Table. There is a deep truth in the words "RT is our past and our future". It is the past of our members but the future of our organisation.

We should work for this solid basis we need for our future. We should make 4I or OT a logical consequence for every



Tabler leaving RT.

We'll have to prove that age is the only division between us. This is a challenge for our club life and our activities.

This raises of course the question of community service, too. It is not necessary to start a discussion about our objects but to strengthen the spirit of Round Table.

In this spirit of Round Table I want to inform you about my presidential service project for

which I will ask your support. During the visit to the AGM of Club 4I Romania I visited an orphanage for disabled and handicapped children. This project has already been supported by some Ex-Tablers from GB+I, Club 4I Denmark and Club 4I Austria. The orphanage needs almost everything from clothes, diapers, construction, toys to equipment for ther-

apies, etc... Most of it could be bought right there, if.....they had the money for it. The Romanian Past President lives right there and his wife is working for that very institution. (see Page 12 Appeal-Letter) Thus every control is guaranteed. So I'll ask our Treasurer to provide for a trunk into which you are kindly asked to deposit donations – maybe together with the yearly fees.

There are many talks about the name of our organisation and some member associations. Sometimes it is pretty hard to explain what the name 4I really means. For some, every name with "old" or "senior" sounds rather discriminating. I've heard "RT Plus" which seems to be a possible solution. If this is an important question for many, we could make it a topic at our Half-Yearly Meeting.

Yours in friendship
Dieter Straka

Pictures from Finland 2007



Ken Boden (GB) repairs the boat



HaDe Gesch (D) fights with the Fish



John "Scott of the Antarctic" Bellwood returns from the Pole



"Thank God they did not insure this with me", Ken Boden tells John Bellwood (GB)



John Bellwood (GB) asking what he should do with the Sausage



Ken Boden (GB) and Fredi Krenn (A) bringing home the beer

The Hinge-
Reading the Hinge is stronger than
going on a drinking binge!
The Hinge, Bob Parton's dearest child,
Ought to be despatched "world wide"
To all those 41er friends
Spread over many foreign lands,
Waiting for a hint out there
Where fun and friendship members
share
Of the unique 41ers tribe
Do not hesitate, come on, SUBSCRIBE

Lydia Schaumann
(A)



And now a grovelling note to the Editor.....

Hallo lieber Bob,
Are the pictures where I am to be seen
dancing closely with the naked girl
anywhere on the Internet or could you
send them to me through the Email so
that I can prepare my Wife accordingly
Na ja, we are all still jung...
See you soon, beste Grüße,
YIT

Mathias Kühl (name changed by the Editor after receiving a relatively large amount of money from the sender for the German Round Table National Service Project)

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Dear Bob,

Many congratulations on the production of The Hinge magazine. It is first class. I read it from cover to cover, which is not something that happens very often.

I particularly liked the "Guide to the English" which was hilarious because it was so true! I also appreciated the inclusion of the partonoku game which bears a striking resemblance to another game to which I am totally addicted. You might be interested to know



that I taught this game to your magazine "Proof-reader" who now curses me because he says he wastes so much time every day completing these puzzles.

In fact he told me that when he was proof-reading (checking for mistakes) this edition, he was tempted to fill in the answers and send it back to you fully completed! (he, having doubted that

I could divide 24 by 8, I would have liked to have seen the result.Ed.)

Keep up the good work. Don't worry about getting old. It beats the alternative.

Best wishes,
June Boden, GB&I

Hallo Bob,

Congratulations on your presentation of "The Hinge". I will inform all of our Swiss members and present it on our Homepage.

Stefan Harder, IRO & Past President Club 41 Switzerland

Hallo Bob

Excuse me that it has taken so long to write to you. I do not open my Lap-Top too often nowadays.

Firstly many congratulations for your engagement to 41 Club, for publishing "The Hinge". I downloaded the first edition immediately. First Class work, I wish you a lot of success as Editor.
Wolfgang Roesel&,
Past President 41 INTERNATIONAL
Founding Member SET