

Chairman Ron's "going out" (Virtual AGM) Message

Well Gentleman - a very different year than we, perhaps, expected at the last AGM and ending in a virtual AGM conducted by e mail!!!

Can I record my thanks to the great team who have supported my year : Sec Paul C - wise counsel and efficiency personified; VC Richard ready to stand in when required and Treas Vic and his magic box o'cash. While their reward, for the time being, due to social distancing, will be in heaven I will mark my thanks, in due course, in the usual way. Thanks guys 👍.

A sad year in ways other than the Virus. The Club lost a staunch and long serving member and ex Chairman in Ken Nobles. A huge loss and our thoughts have been with his wife Jean. Roger Quirk sold up, resigned and has permanently moved back to UK. We have lost the regular attendance of two loyal members due to illness - Gareth and Bob C. I wish them well and a speedy recovery. Finally we have lost members who, simply, seem to have drifted away. The end result has been a crisis of membership and on occasions low attendance making it difficult to plan higher profile meetings as attendances would vary between 10 and zero.

In May we tried the "Pink Venta" again but their response left mixed views. In June Aloha did us proud and the Chairman's "at home" was marked by chaotic croquet on the lawn, protests from the Irish and general hilarity and for Hugh's bara brith.

July's Beach Party had to be cancelled as only two members could attend and in September the Proms were called off for the second year due to torrential rain. Later in Sept saw us at Layla Playa for crazy golf which your Chairman won with a suspiciously low score. Thanks IPC Peter. Oct was at Treasurer Vic's "home from home" Enrique's. This was marked by a growing trend of your new VC/Sec Sylvain having to be found and rescued and guided in. November was a small meeting enlivened by watching Hugh traversing the whole of the coast road trying to find us. December was the trip to Malaga for the absolutely fabulous lights and my apologies to Sec Paul, Hugh and Johnathon for the most expensive steak dinner any of us had ever had!!! They were brave soldiers and didn't flinch.

After that the Jan & Feb meetings had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers.

The March meeting was difficult for all of us as we reviewed the current position of the Club and the real danger of it ceasing to exist. There were strong views expressed from long serving members with a view, positively, to try and secure the Club's future. Eventually, after much discussion, the momentous decision was unanimously taken by the Members present, to open the Club to non ex Tablets. I am sure that there are those present and not present who have concerns about the decision but the view of the 9 members present (with input from many non attending) was clear that Something had to be done and so let's get behind our new team of Chair Richard, VC/Sec Sylvain and Treasurer Michael and make sure it works for the benefit of current and future members.

I have now "virtually" handed over the chain of office to Richard Wigg with all best wishes.

Can I thank you for the privilege of being your Chairman and hope to see you all soon in good health.

Stay Safe Your Club Needs You!!!

YICF. May the Hinges of our friendship never rust

Ron Trenchard Chair 2019/2020