As I write this article ready for you to read in March the National Executive and the Conference Team in Ipswich are busy preparing for Tangent Day and the NAGM. Our day is a special day, the end of another Tangent year in which we have enjoyed the company of our friends in Tangent, some new and some we have known for a very long time.

As I write this I have attended Regional Luncheons and many Tangent events far and wide and I never cease to be amazed by the Tangent spirit captured at each and every one. Our Tangent Day is the same so I hope you have booked to make another Tangent Day a success. If not, it’s still not too late.

Our National AGM is important, as it is an opportunity for our members to have their say on the Executive recommendations and resolutions put forward by our clubs. I hope you have found time as a club to discuss these and have made your thoughts known through your voting delegate or through your proxy voting delegate.

Throughout the year I have been asked a lot of questions as I have travelled round clubs and I hope I have been able to answer them and help with problems that have faced you - or at least prompted discussions as to how you may move forward on such topics as discretionary membership and not having a Chairman. All important topics in the future of Tangent.

Following the South East Regional Lunch I joined Round Table President John Kilshaw and other members of the Round Table Family at the Cenotaph in London on Remembrance Sunday. I would like to thank John for inviting me to join him for this very humbling experience.

Don’t forget, whilst the event at the Cenotaph is restricted, we now have our own opportunity to remember at Alrewas, the National Arboretum.

We may be nearing the end of the Tangent year but our work continues. I still have many visits ahead of me to enjoy and many Tangent friends to meet. So far my last event is my Charity Masked Ball on 2 April organised by members of Market Harborough Tangent and 41 Club. Hopefully you will have seen the flyer and be able to join us for an evening of ‘Friendship and Fun’ whilst helping others. Thank you for the contributions to my charity which so far total over £7000.

Thank you to Hyundai for sponsoring the Tangent car for another year. I can certainly recommend the IX35 especially for its comfort after many miles of driving.

For me it has been an honour to be Tangent National President this year and Tangent Day will be a mixed bag of emotions. I would like to thank you all for allowing me to have a magical experience. I look forward to welcoming as many ladies as possible for the last time in my year as President. So arrive early and join me for a chat over coffee before the rest of this special day unfolds.

Let the candles of friendship continue to burn for many years to come.

Yours in Continued Friendship,

Gill Preston - Tangent National President 2010-2011.

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**Vice President Jan’s Report**

The passage of time really seems to have speeded up with the passing months and it is hard to believe that we are now in the last quarter of the Tangent year. It has been a most enjoyable time for me, getting to know you though your regalia orders and meeting many of you at lunches it has been my pleasure to attend around the regions. I have also been able to deputise for President Gill on several occasions when she had a clash of engagements. A great opportunity for me and I am thankful for your warm welcomes and excellent hospitality which were a great confidence booster for me and I hope you may invite me again!

By the time you are reading this I hope you will have already placed all your regalia orders for this year but if you have left it until the last minute please hurry and I will do my best to expedite your order to ensure despatch in time for your AGM.

I must now really start to look ahead and prepare for our next Tangent year. Thank you to all Tangents who have already been in touch with dates which are now in my diary and I am really looking forward to joining you. Whether it is to celebrate a special occasion, a charity function or a regular meeting, I know we will have fun and share friendship. There is still plenty of room in my diary so please do keep the invitations coming and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

YICF - Jan Dowling
We are now coming to the end of the Tangent year and my first year as National Secretary. It has been busy but great to hear from so many members and hopefully being able to help with most queries. Thank you for allowing me to be part of the National Executive, it is fun as well as an honour to be at the centre of this great organisation.

The biggest task after the NAGM is compiling the directory. Thank you in advance to everyone who sends their Directory Details Form back as soon as they know who their officers will be, and before the deadline of 10 May 2011. I would be most grateful if all clubs could aim for that date, please. Please confirm your club contact. Although we ask for it to remain the same for 3 years, to reduce the inputting, please change it if the person nominated is no longer attending meetings regularly and has not been passing on information promptly. It is our main way of communicating with clubs and therefore a vital role. We also need the details of your Chairman and Secretary. At least one email address per club is very useful, even if it is not that of an officer. Please write these clearly as a dot missing or extra dots stops an email arriving! The Directory Details Form is in this mailing.

At times we get enquiries from non ex-Circlers who have heard what a friendly club Tangent is and are interested in visiting a club with a view to joining. As these members are discretionary some clubs would be interested in meeting prospective members and others have decided they will not consider it yet. There is absolutely no pressure to accept anyone but it would save time if we knew which clubs are considering “outside” members and those who don’t, before referring someone to you. I have therefore added a question to the Directory Details form, “Do you accept or are you willing to consider Discretionary Members?” You can also complete the form on line any time at www.tangent-clubs.org.

I would like to thank all the clubs who have hosted Regional Lunches and home hosts involved in the past. I would like to thank all the clubs who have hosted Regional Lunches and home hosts involved in the past. I know who their officers will be, and before the deadline of 10 May 2011. I would be most grateful if all clubs could aim for that date, please. Please confirm your club contact. Although we ask for it to remain the same for 3 years, to reduce the inputting, please change it if the person nominated is no longer attending meetings regularly and has not been passing on information promptly. It is our main way of communicating with clubs and therefore a vital role. We also need the details of your Chairman and Secretary. At least one email address per club is very useful, even if it is not that of an officer. Please write these clearly as a dot missing or extra dots stops an email arriving! The Directory Details Form is in this mailing.

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I would like to thank all the clubs who have hosted Regional Lunches and home hosts involved in the past. If you would like to consider hosting a Regional Lunch please get in touch, especially if you are in Wales. It is enormous fun planning and a sense of achievement on the day - you will not regret the decision.

This year the NAGM to be held in Ipswich on Saturday 16 April 2011. Lin Cammiss the Tangent Day Chairman is eagerly awaiting your completed Tangent Day Luncheon form, circulated with the last Tangent News or on the Tangent website www.tangent-clubs.org. If you want to book the two day package please book using the 41 Club website www.41club.org.

As you will see from the agenda we have nominations this year for all three vacant posts and two ladies standing for Vice-President. Perhaps a healthy sign that interest in the Association is growing, after the struggle for volunteer candidates in recent years. We wish them all well and ask that you read their biographies in this Tangent News and advise your delegate on the way she should vote.

The NAGM is of course free for members to attend, so there is no need to book. Come along and air your opinions! The NAGM commences at 1.45pm to allow extra time for discussion. If you are a Voting Delegate you must complete the Voting Delegate & Proxy Delegate Form included in this mailing. Please bring this completed form with you to the Registration desk on Saturday 16 April and you will be given your delegate pack. The Proxy Voting Delegate Authority Form is also enclosed. Please read Rule 7.4 if you would like to nominate another club to vote on your behalf.

It only remains for me to thank you for your communications over the last year. I look forward to seeing you all in Ipswich on 16 April 2011.

Terrie Hewitt

Advance Notice
The NAGM in 2012 is to be held in Jersey. There is no affiliated Tangent Club in Jersey to organise the Tangent Day. We have venues booked for the Luncheon and AGM and menus chosen. Some of the advance tasks have been delegated already (thanks ladies) but we will need help on the day especially with Stewards, Registering delegates etc. If you will be going to Jersey and are willing to help in any way please let me know as soon as possible on secretary@tangent-clubs.org or any other contact method in the directory.

As you can see in the photograph, National Secretary Terrie has a very, very close working relationship with David the man who looks after our website, but don’t worry as they are man and wife, which puts an altogether new meaning on “Taking your work home with you.”

Terrie Hewitt
On Wednesday 20 October, Northampton Nene Tangent held their Friendship Evening. Our special guest was National President Gill. Our Chairman, Issy Lambley, said she would ‘like something different’ for the speaker, and booked a beekeeper who spoke on, obviously, beekeeping. There is a lot more to this than I appreciated, and how the different tastes of honey come about, as well as dealing with swarms and the general public seeking help of bee-infested locations. It was different and very interesting.

NORTHAMPTON NENE 519

Our special guest was National President Gill. Our Chairman, Issy Lambley, said she would ‘like something different’ for the speaker, and booked a beekeeper who spoke on, obviously, beekeeping. There is a lot more to this than I appreciated, and how the different tastes of honey come about, as well as dealing with swarms and the general public seeking help of bee-infested locations. It was different and very interesting.

TANGENT DENMARK

Tangent Denmark National President Aase Boegh presented a welcome yellow rose to President Gill, Immediate Past President Jan and Karen Past President of LC Germany who is now in Tangent Germany. A lot of the Scandinavian Tangent members wear a yellow sash/scarf to show they are members of Tangent when they have social meetings and AGMs as often they are joint meetings with Ladies Circle, R.T. and 41 Club. It is amazing to see the different ways they are worn and tied.

HESWALL 308

NORTHWICH 426

Fellowship Evening (from left to right) Jill Pargeter, Chairman, Northwich Ladies Circle Gill Preston, National President Anne Moran, Chairman, Northwich Tangent

Northwich Tangent No. 426 were delighted to welcome President Gill to their Fellowship Evening on Thursday, 14 October 2010 held at Nunsmere Hall Hotel, Cheshire. Over 70 ladies attended and we were able to present the proceeds raised from the raffle of £250 towards Gill’s charity, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers. Peter Slack, a Peak District Hill Farmer was our speaker and he kept us all amused with his talk entitled “I’m not really lost but …”.

TANGENT DENMARK

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Hello again

I am now settling into the role of Treasurer. The troubles with the bank and building society are now long behind me, but the problems of getting a decent rate of interest on our funds remain. However, most of our members will be well aware of these problems from their own personal experiences.

Many people may not be aware that our capitations are subject to VAT, though not at the full rate, our status is that of partially exempt. It’s a complicated formula which I won’t bore you with. It’s based on the fact that part of your capitations “buys” the magazine and AGM which are exempt from VAT, as well as other services which are not. You will appreciate that not only will the increase in the rate of VAT affect us, but also of course our suppliers will see an increase in their base costs, such as paper and distribution costs.

I have been disappointed in the large number of clubs that I have had to chase for overdue subscriptions. This takes time but also costs money in terms of postage and stationery, none of which gets any cheaper. For those Clubs that still have to pay their capitation fees please do so as soon as possible. If you can’t lay your hands on the appropriate form you can download it from our website which is www.tangentclubs.org. Can I make a plea for more prompt payment in 2011?

On the subject of paying capitations, I did investigate whether on the forms it would be possible to ask you to make cheques payable to “NATC”, instead of the full name. However, once again, the bank could not accommodate me, though they did say that our accounts had been flagged to have any cheques payable to “NATC” accepted by the branch. I pointed out that this had been happening for a long time and none had ever been rejected by the bank! So officially, I must continue to ask you to make cheques payable to “National Association of Tangent Clubs”. Enough said.

I am sure that by now most people know that the cost of postage depends not only on the weight of a letter but also the size. If you do send your capitations in an oversized envelope, please check with the Post Office that you have paid the correct postage, otherwise we have to pay the excess postage and a fine. A return address on the back of the envelope is always a good idea.

As always, brief details of our insurance cover are on the Tangent web site but should you have any queries on that, I am only a phone call away.

What has been encouraging is the huge amount that has been given to charities by our clubs. Although it isn’t one of our aims, it’s obvious that many clubs enjoy fund raising just as they did in Circle days.

When you have read through the accounts, that have been included with this mailing, you will only have to look after the plants for a few weeks or risk being disappointed if you delay any longer. As always, a contribution from the sale of each rose goes to the National President’s Charity so let’s make it a worthwhile contribution this year.

It is unlikely that there will be any new products launched before the AGM now as I want to let the new Sales & Regalia Officer choose her own products but I am still considering a couple of items. We do have one nomination for a new Sales & Regalia Officer so I look forward to handing over the baton in April.

I would like to say one last big thank you to all those who have home hosted me or helped with ‘The Shop’ at Regional Lunches and other events and to all the current and past members of the National Executive who have supported me in my role. It really is only possible to manage the whole show with your help.

I will be sorry to finish my term in April but am looking forward to getting my house back to normal and putting my feet up for a while. I am also hoping to stand for another position on the Executive at some point in the future so please remember me!

YICF

Karen

Ladies, I need HELP...!

The Tangent 40th Anniversary Luncheon was a truly superb do and I felt privileged as one of the few men in attendance to get a first hand experience of the whole event. This event also had another great spin-off and that was because many of the attending Past National Officers had very kindly loaned me pictures from their time on the National Executive so they could be scanned and added to the slide shows that were displayed around the venue. Those same images enabled me to add a huge number of pictures to the gallery of Past National Officers that is displayed on the Tangent web-site. We now have 85% of Past National Presidents, the same for Past National Secretaries and Past National Treasurers and we now have all Past Sales and Regalia Officers displayed at www.tangentclubs.org. This is why I am writing in your magazine, I would love to beg, borrow or steal pictures of the Past National Officers that are missing, particularly the Founder Officers, Sybil White (President) and Midge Jefferies (Treasurer).

I’m looking for a total of 10 ladies..! I know some of their Clubs will have closed but I’m sure there are pictures of them all out there somewhere. If you have pictures or know of someone who has pictures of any of these ‘Missing 10’ then please contact me at webmaster@tangentclubs.org or contact Terrie, the National Secretary at secretary@tangentclubs.org. If you can get the pictures scanned at a high resolution that would be great, just send them to either of the e-mail addresses above. If not, then please allow me to borrow them for as long as it takes for me to scan them. Please post them to the National Secretary’s home address and don’t forget to enclose your name and address so I can safely return them to you.

All these ladies are an important part of the history and heritage of the National Association of Tangent Clubs, please help to give them the recognition they deserve.

One other thing, when scanning and adding the pictures I had, I was forced, on occasion, to make assumptions as to who was in a particular picture, its quite possible that some of my assumptions are wrong, so please visit the Past National Officers page on the Tangent web site and if you spot any mistakes let me know and I’ll rectify things.

Thank you for your help, David Hewitt (Webmaster)
KINGS LYNN TANGENT

At our monthly meeting on Tuesday 16 Nov, 16 members of Kings Lynn Tangent Club were captivated by Paramedic Carl Smith’s account of the Cycle Response Unit.

Carl Smith founded the unit in Kings Lynn which is a 2 wheeled emergency service helping ease the pressure on ambulances and cutting response times to 999 calls.

He explained to us how he had established the service, raised funds to provide the bikes and equipment which can deal with almost all emergencies in the town centre, a bike can respond much quicker than an ambulance as it is not liable to be caught in traffic, and how the service is run on a day to day basis.

The bikes used are specialised mountain bikes equipped with all the same equipment as a standard ambulance, some of it, such as oxygen cylinders being on a smaller scale.

Carl had brought along one of the two bikes in service in Kings Lynn and showed members all the equipment packed on the bike plus the usual blue lights and explained that the bikes are stationed in the town’s CCTV centre ready to respond often doing so before the 999 call has been made.

Margaret Fox thanked Carl for coming and presented a donation on behalf of KL Tangent Club.

WELLINGBOROUGH 371 received their charter in 1975. In the beginning, members took it in turn to host the monthly meetings at their home. In our Tangent we decided that we wanted to meet for fun, friendship and fellowship and we were not going to be a fund raising organisation. Any money we do collect along the way is donated to charity at our AGM. When Tangent grew it was decided that we would follow an alphabetical list. Now we have 42 members.

Our fellowship evening, AGM and Christmas meal are organised by the Secretary. Our Chairman will generally host one event per year and the other eight months are hosted by a different Tangent member. It takes a good five years to work our way through the list. As we all have many and varied interests we have a great variety of events. It can vary from a meal at home or at a restaurant, a trip to the theatre, a walk and talk at a country park, a beetle drive, bowling, a garden tour or a champagne afternoon tea.

This photograph shows us displaying our Christmas crackers which we made after our meal in December.

Lyn Redman
Secretary
Wellingborough Tangent.

Small is beautiful

Four and a half years ago City of Edinburgh Tangent Club was down to eight members and when our founder chairman and still enthusiastic attendee died aged 91, the heart seemed to go out of the group. The four still-working members decided to call it a day but the three retirees, having known each other for several decades, thought we could still stick together and continue to be a Tangent. In fact, HQ assured me that even one sole member could still be part of the organisation.

Joan, Elspeth and I were greatly heartened when we were joined by Karen who had been valiantly trying to keep Circle going, despite its flagging numbers. They have since officially disbanded but see each other from time to time, thanks to Karen’s efforts. So the four of us have jogged along, meeting every month and even reviving old practices of community service and charity fundraising.

Karen and I got very wet but had a good giggle standing in a dark field on Bonfire Night, selling glo-wands as people gathered for a fireworks display provided by our neighbouring 41 Club who no longer have a ladies’ group. With two other ex-Circles on a stall at the other end of the field we raised, amazingly, more than £750 towards the total of £1160 profit for the evening and, even more amazingly, the rain stopped just before the fireworks began.

The four of us had an evening perusing and purchasing Christmas cards and gifts on behalf of our local hospice and, with some additional sales to friends and neighbours, we hope to reach the same total of £200 that we sold last year for the same good cause. The next proposed project before Christmas is to raise money by wrapping parcels in a shopping centre.

Once a year we have a re-union lunch with as many Tangent “Old Girls” as we can muster – up to twenty on occasion. As our most dynamic member, Karen is still actively involved with National events and keeps the rest of us up to date with the larger Circle/Tangent picture. We find opportunities in the summer months to go for walks and outings and to support the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. In the winter we go to the theatre or sample some of the city’s wide range of restaurants. Sometimes we have an at-home and cook supper for each other. So, Fellow Tangent groups across the country, don’t give up, if your numbers are less than they were. Small is beautiful!

From Evelyn Whitfield - City of Edinburgh

YELOVIL TANGENT enjoying their Christmas Lunch at New Farm Inn, Over Stratton. They are delighted to have been able to make donations to their chosen charities this year, funds being raised from their Cream Teas Garden Party and smaller interclub events. The beneficiaries are Help for Heroes, Fiveways Yeovil, minibus appeal and Somerset and Dorset Air Ambulance.

Kate Harper
Yeovil Tangent Chairman.

They do it differently in Windermere

Windermere and Ambleside Tangent take it in turns to organise their meetings this ensures an interesting programme and shares the work load.

At the beginning of the Tangent year, using an alphabetical membership list, groups of three members take responsibility for a meeting. This involves them in organising it, informing other members and collecting any money.
I have been busy since the last edition of Tangent News. With my International hat on I have been to Denmark for their NAGM and to visit two of our affiliated clubs in Holland. The home hosting and hospitality I received has been second to none. Everyone I have met has been delighted to see a representative of what they perceive to be ‘the Mother’ Tangent and to find out what we are doing here in GB. Contacts with all other Tangents are ongoing and with email and telephone it is so much easier than in days gone by.

Regularly I have been contacted by Clubs asking what rules we have regarding discretionary members. That is the beauty of Tangent we have so few rules only guide lines and I will be putting these on the website in the near future. Please remember they are only guidelines, if you need any extra information please contact us.

As Editor and Website Liaison this has been the most frustrating and yet the most rewarding part of my year as Immediate Past President, I hope you have enjoyed the new look Tangent News but ladies this is your magazine and the Editor needs your feedback and articles to make it interesting. PLEASE give the new Editor your full support by sending her your articles. As the job will now be for 3 years she will have the opportunity to develop the magazine and website which is our ‘shop window’ to the world.

It’s not goodbye just yet but this is the last opportunity I have to say Au Revoir to you all as I know that most of you will not be at the AGM and won’t see the NAGM minutes. When I stood for the post of President I said “That I would do my best and that I would try to do three things, if possible”. The first was to find out where all the ex Circlers who have not joined Tangent have gone to, then let them know that Tangent could be for them. Letting them know that they could tailor Tangent for themselves to make it relevant to their lives in 2010. New Clubs are being chartered and I hope that past Circlers will see Tangent as a way to continue meeting their friends on a regular basis not just in their own towns/cities but nationally and internationally. Without younger members joining what does the future hold?

The second was to encourage all of you to think about taking the Officers jobs in your own Clubs and on the National Executive. This year we have nominees for all of the vacant positions so it seems to have worked. If you are finding it difficult to get a committee/chairman think of alternative ways to run your Tangents. You will have seen in the magazine how other Clubs are doing it their way and thriving, I have a saying from my Circle days “just because it has always been done that way it doesn’t mean it is right for now”. We hate to see Clubs folding because they can’t get a chairman or committee. Also for you to think about hosting a Regional lunch so that they are booked for at least 2 or 3 years in advance. They are for a lot of us the only opportunity we have of seeing each other on a regular basis and keeping the friendships alive that we have had since our Circle days.

Lastly it was to find out how much Tangent gives to charity each year, this is still one of our biggest secrets. For the first time we have been able to find out approximately how much money Tangent Clubs give to charity. To date, as we have not had information from all Clubs, in 2009-10 we know that Tangent Clubs in GB gave over £167,028 to charity. For an Association that I am told so often “doesn’t do fundraising” it is a fantastic sum of money and is something we should all be proud of.

The last 3 years have been the most magical time of my life and I have you to thank for that. Each and every one of you has made it so special for me, whether it has been at a luncheon, AGM, friendship night or a meeting over a cup of coffee, you have given me your time, made me laugh, educated me, shown me wonderful hospitality but most of all given me your friendship which I will always treasure.

I would like to say a big thank you to David Hewitt our webmaster, David Podd and his staff our printer, Eddie, my husband and family at home plus the ‘Girls’ on the Executive for their patience with me on the computer, and for their continued encouragement. I really do look forward to seeing you again either at Conference or when I am a ‘Past It’ please come up and say hello.

Yours in continued friendship, with a big hug.

Jan

WALTON AND WEYBRIDGE TANGENT

One of our members and her husband had been on holiday in Jersey and in the same hotel were men and women from Hedley Court. They were so impressed by their incredible attitude to their, often terrible, injuries they wanted to do something.

Jan, we read your article in Tangent News and therefore decided that is what we would do, we would hold a lunch for Help 4 Heroes. We thought for about 40-50 people but news spread and within a few days we had sold some 140 tickets so we had two lunches for 70 people at each.

One wonderful thing was that when two of our members volunteered to obtain raffle prizes for these events they received an incredible result. Over 33 shops donating prizes and vouchers some with a value of over £50.

Tangent Members from Shepperton, Sunbury and Esher were able to join us and everyone had a lovely time. We managed to raise just over £2,500 and a cheque for this amount has been paid into the Help 4 Heroes account.

IF LIZ HAD NOT TELEPHONED ME TO SAY SHE WAS SORRY NOT TO HAVE SEEN THIS ARTICLE IN TANGENT NEWS I WOULD NOT HAVE KNOWN THAT A FURTHER £2,500 HAD BEEN GIVEN TO H4H. THIS TAKES THE TOTAL GIVEN BY TANGENT DURING 2009-10 TO HELP 4 HEROES TO OVER £30,000. THANK YOU ALL SO SO MUCH FOR YOUR MAGNIFICENT EFFORTS - JAN

BISHOP’S STORTFORD LADIES

TANGENT GO UNDER THE HAMMER

On Wednesday 10th November, Bishop’s Stortford Ladies Tangent held a ‘Flog It’ Evening in the Day Centre at Crafston Green, Stansted. All proceeds go to the Prostate Cancer Charity. Auctioneer for the evening was Sue Hitchmount, one of Tangent’s longest serving members with a wicked sense of humour. The auction drew in over fifty people which turned out to be very profitable, in excess of £500. Chairman, Jeanne Bailes said that if caught quickly the prognosis is excellent for sufferers but the charity is still very much under funded; so the amount raised will hopefully help in research. Thanks to all who attended for their support and generosity.

As an aside four ladies from Tangent did a short walk in Stortford in the summer for the same charity, raising another £300.

Kingsbridge Tangent Club Chairman Pauline Rainsbury and Immediate Past Chairman Val Lovatt presenting a cheque for £100 to Help The Heroes to Clare Sutton representing the charity who gave an interesting and informative talk at their September meeting.
With many guests including our National President Gill, speaker Elaine Thomas, the Mayor of Tenby, ladies from Inner Wheel, Soroptimists, Ladies’ Circle and guests, members of Tenby Tangent celebrated their 10th birthday since they were re-affiliated back in November 2000. They were also celebrating 40 years of National Tangent. Former member Mary Rowell and member Ruth Webb, who got the ball rolling in 2000, lit the candles of friendship. After an excellent meal, thanks to Julia and Simon Sharpe and their staff of the Broadmead, Elaine Thomas, a former “Doris” dancer of the Moulin Rouge, spoke about her life in Paris and shared some of her wonderful and interesting experiences as a dancer. Ruth Webb then gave a witty vote of thanks followed by our National President Gill Preston, who thanked the girls for the warm welcome and enjoyable evening.

A luncheon held by Shepton Mallet Tangent Club to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the formation of the club. The event was attended by members of the club together with members of Shepton Mallet 41 Club.

The picture shows the birthday cake being cut by Shirley Neale, Chairman of Shepton Mallet Tangent, and Humphrey Henry, President of Shepton Mallet 41 Club, surrounded by some of the members of Shepton Mallet Tangent Club.

Monifieth Tangent held a fundraising Think Pink dinner for our 25th Anniversary. This was held on 22nd Oct at Panmure Hotel in Monifieth. More than 100 people including National President Gill Preston attended the event. We managed to raise £1,750, the money will be split between Breakthrough Breast Cancer, Dundee Maggie’s Centre and Carers UK.

We had great support from local business and our 41 Club for our raffle.

Wednesday night is Towcester’s usual Tangent night but our National President Gill had a very busy week the week we were celebrating our 25th anniversary - Wednesday October 6th. Not wanting to miss the opportunity of a 2nd visit from Gill, we changed the date to Monday 4th. Our chosen venue, The Saracen’s Head Towcester was happy to accommodate the change. So it was we and our guests enjoyed an evening with Gill who was happy to help chairman Enid to cut the delicious cake baked and iced by member Caphine Wreford. I can only assume Gill was not breathalysed on her way home as I rather think Caph lost count how many days she fed the cake with alcohol.

Monifieth Tangent 675

Shepton Mallet 673

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We had great support from local business and our 41 Club for our raffle.

Towcester Tangent 679
Congleton Tangent Club recently celebrated their 30th birthday with a charity fundraising dinner. 126 ladies from across the region enjoyed a fantastic meal prepared by member, Chef Annette Kanauros of Illucinis and her team who all gave their services free.

Guests, including the Tangent National President, Gill Preston, were greeted with a champagne reception, 3 course meal and an after dinner speaker who entertained with stories of her life as a lady pawnbroker.

A raffle raised £715, and the total amount raised from the night was £3064.00 which was split between The Christie Hospital and East Cheshire Hospice. £100 was also donated to The National Presidents chosen charity, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers.

The 2 cheques were presented to Brian Spencer from The Christie, and Midge Barber from East Cheshire Hospice by Tangent Chairman Julie Hurley.

West Forest 553

Gill presenting her gift to West Forest chairman at their 30th celebration. Pearls were the theme for the evening with the speaker telling us about and showing us different pearls.

Gill with chairman of Hagley Tangent, Sandra Trewin with their founder chairman and speaker at their 30th anniversary.

Hagley Tangent 515

Sudbury Tangent 209 celebrated their 40th Anniversary in October 2010.

Sudbury’s Chairman, Sandy Maynard, welcomed our National President, Gill, along with Founder Chairman, Audrey Wardman and members of Halstead Tangent. 31 members, past and present together with guests enjoyed good food and company and appreciated Gill giving up her time to help celebrate the milestone.

Photo Members, guests and National President Gill.

Sudbury 209

30th

Photo (from left) Brian Spencer (The Christie), Dorothy Ramsbottom, Julie Hurley (Tangent Chairman), Jo Loughlin (Treasurer), Annette Kanauros, Gill Irving (secretary) and Midge Barber (East Cheshire Hospice).

West Forest 553

Bury St Edmunds 187 40th

Bury St Edmunds Tangent Club, No. 187, celebrated its 40th Anniversary in December. President Gill, Past Nat, President Jose’ Wilkinson, four Tangent Chairmen and ladies from six clubs in Suffolk had an evening of Fun and Friendship and lovely food.

During the welcome drink, Gill presented Daphne Smith with her Founder Chairman’s badge. Daphne had to leave early, she had had a new hip only three weeks earlier and could not sit down for a whole evening. Also during the evening Gill inducted a new member, Val Legg.

Chairman Carol gave some fascinating insights into past activities of Bury St Ed. Tangent. The question, why had 24 ladies climbed out of a window and over a wall, dressed in their finery and in high heels was intriguing, answer there was a fire in the hotel, where they had dinner! We only had 5 weeks to organise this event, the age of the club suddenly having been pointed out to Carol. We are so pleased that everything went without a hitch and all the ladies enjoyed themselves greatly. Gill kept saying, that it was such a friendly and relaxed evening, and we are so grateful, that she could attend at such short notice. It is an evening, which will live on in our memories. Fun and Friendship indeed!
NOMINEES FOR NATIONAL EXECUTIVE 2011

Vice President Nominee
Sue Marlow

Hello. My name is Sue Marlow and I am a member of Fareham Tangent. I am delighted to be standing for the position of National Vice-President. I’m told I have a very happy, bubbly personality and I love meeting and chatting to people from all walks of life. I have always had an ambition to progress to National level. I was interested in National when I was in Circle but alas the years seemed to run out. When I joined Tangent I thought this would be an alternative opportunity to realise my ambition and serve on the National Exec.

Here is a little bit about me. I was born and have lived most of my life in Fareham although moved 8 miles away to Bishops Waltham when I was first married. My husband Derek and I married in 1976. In 1981 he joined Fareham Round Table and 3 years later I joined Ladies Circle. I wasn’t quite sure whether Circle was really for me. I soon learned otherwise. Where would I be today without all the life-long friends I have made not just locally but nationally and internationally. In 1992/93 I was Circle Chairman during which time Fareham Circle celebrated its 40th Anniversary. I then progressed to Area and held office as Sales Officer and Secretary before becoming Area Chairman in 1994/95. I joined Fareham Tangent in 2001 and was soon Secretary. In 2007/8 I was Tangent Chairman and hosted their 40th Anniversary. I have also chaired the organising committee for the South East Area Lunch in Circle and then the Tangent South East Regional Luncheon in 2002.

Derek and I have two beautiful daughters Julia aged 30 and Melissa 23, but no grandchildren yet! They are no longer at home but both live locally and visit frequently. My jobs over the years have always involved working with people, both in office administration and retail. I initially trained as a Secretary/PA so I am well organised, conscientious and hard working. At the moment I am self-employed as a cleaner in private houses, for a client base that I have built up by myself. I regularly attend classes at the gym and love it. I’ve been trying over the past few years to master golf. I’m not brilliant but I have been told that I have the potential! I also enjoy cooking and travelling.

I know that opportunities like this do not come along every day. I have the same passion for Tangent now as I had when I was Area Chairman back in my Circle days. It was the best experience of my life and taught me an awful lot. I would very much hope that if I were to become your National Vice-President then it would be an even bigger and better experience. I would be extremely proud to be elected your National Vice President and fly the national flag for Tangent.

National Sales and Regalia Officer
Jenny Bevan

I am a long standing member of several Ladies Circles and Tangent clubs - having held several positions and Chairman of both Circle and Tangent clubs. I am semi-retired - working 3 afternoons at Lloyds Bank to ensure I keep my spending power!!

I have 2 children - Emma and her husband living in the depths of Aberdeenshire and Carl, with Kate and our 2 granddaughters living in East Yorkshire - travelling between the two is quite a hobby!

The majority of my working life has been in the finance industry although my first career was as a chiropodist. I am also a qualified Aromatherapist - so can turn my hand to many things!! My hobbies are regularly attending the gym (to work off the g&t and wine) also golf which I play badly but sometimes manage to beat Keith!! (my husband)

I will enjoy travelling and meeting all old friends and making new ones in the role if I am lucky to be voted the National Sales and Regalia Officer.

Editor/Website Co-ordinator
Sue Hill

Greetings fellow Tangent members! I am Sue Hill from Northwich Tangent 426. Northwich is a small town in Cheshire known for salt and the birthplace of ICI. I have been in Tangent since 2002 when I left Northwich Ladies Circle under the age rule, and have been actively involved ever since. My husband, Ray, is in Northwich 41 Club and involved as a National Councillor and producer of the National newsletter. Whilst in Ladies Circle I held a number of offices including Circle Chairman, Area Secretary (twice) and Area Circle Chairman. In Tangent I have done various “jobs” including club Secretary and Chairman. As a couple we have always enjoyed meeting people from other clubs nationally and internationally, the Round Table Family is such a great fellowship organisation!

In my working life I have had a number of roles, starting as a nurse, then midwife. I went to work for NHS Direct in 2001 and moved into Training and Development. I now work for a private company, running their recruitment and training of nursing staff for call centre based work. In these roles I have to produce training materials for staff and customers that are easy to use and understand, and in a variety of different electronic and paper formats. Over the years I have also assisted Ray as proof reader and “sub editor” of carnival programmes for Round Table, RT Area 22 magazine, and currently the 41 Club newsletter.

I hope that you will agree that I have the enthusiasm and necessary skills for the role of Editor and Web liaison and elect me to the office in April at Ipswich.

Vice President Nominee
Gill Young

Hello Tangent Members

My name is Gill Young and I would like to stand for election at the NAGM to become Vice President of the National Association. Assembling the information for this report has been a great pleasure. What a joy it has been looking back over my Circle and Tangent years and remembering all the good friends, new and old, that I have made along the way.

I joined Southend-on-Sea Tangent No. 5 in 1989 when my husband left Round Table. In those days it was thought to be the norm to have dual membership of Tangent and Ladies Circle. I was Southend 101 LC Chairman in 1989, Area 30 Secretary in 1990 and Area 30 Chairman in 1992 when Tonia Fulford was National President. I still look out for the Eddie Stobart lorry named Tonia!

I left LC in 1996 and became an active Tangent member; Secretary twice, Chairman 2008 and National Secretary 2007-2010. I have always thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship and fun when planning social activities, fund raising and being a council member. My club were a great strength to me when my husband died. He had been an active 41er and my support of his international activities whetted my appetite for making friends nationally and internationally. Indeed, I stood for National Secretary with one of his sayings ringing in my ears: “you will never get elected if you don’t put yourself forward”.

So here I am, putting myself forward! I am young at heart (as well as young in name) and have the time and energy to devote to the Association if I am elected. I look forward to seeing you in Ipswich on April 16 where the theme is “Full of Eastern promise”. May be a good omen - I live in the East of the UK and I promise you I would love to be your Vice President!!

TOP TIP Celebration Candles

If you want the Candle to last a lot longer then let it burn down enough to be able to place a tee light inside of it, then at each meeting just light the tee light and the candle itself will not burn down.

Remember:

‘Good friends are like stars, you don’t always see them but you know they are there.’

‘Let friendship continue’
The Candles continued

As some Clubs did not have a chance to send me the photographs of their lighting the Celebration Candle before the last Tangent News went to publication here are some that were sent to me. As you can see all are different. I have been amazed at how many ways Clubs decided to celebrate this special year.

Beaconsfield Tangent Club
Beaconsfield Tangent Club celebrated their 40th Anniversary candle lighting ceremony on October 12 at our dinner meeting at Hazlemere Golf Club. After the meal we had a fascinating talk from 2 local residents about their post retirement charity work in Sierra Leone. Proceeds from the raffle were donated to their charity. One of our members made the delicious chocolate cake and after the cake cutting ceremony it was enjoyed by us all.

Right of picture is Adrienne Britton the first Tangent chairman with Anne Hurst 2010-11 chairman on the left.

Blackpool Progress 397
Blackpool Progress would like to thank the National Executive for taking the time and trouble to send every club a candle, a huge task and a lovely idea.

We had a games night in September, no not hurdles, sprinting or long jump just Connect 4, Boules etc. where we drank a toast to NATC and we all appreciated the continued friendship that being a member of Tangent has nurtured over the years.

Photo shows Chairman Judy with members.

Northampton Nene
At this particular meeting we were on a Blue Badge Walk around part of the town of Northampton. This included the Sessions Court, a medieval cellar, history of the external architecture of one of the Churches, and inside another Church in the town where they were having bell ringing practice so it was difficult to hear our guide. There is so much history around the town and these Blue Badge Walks are ideal to finding out more.

As you can see by the photo, Isy Lambley, our Chairman, actually lit the candle on a lamp post in the street outside the Sessions Court. There were ten members present that night.

Chelmsford Tangent 96
Chelmsford Tangent had a speaker from the Red Cross giving a demonstration at their September meeting when they lift their Candle of friendship. Chairman Pat Clarke did quite well to light the candle under the circumstances.

Bootle Crosby and District 148
We invited members of Formby Tangent to join us for a Hot Pot supper followed by a quiz organised by Hilary Williams. Chairman Di Goodwin lit the 40th Anniversary candle and as you can see from the photo everyone enjoyed themselves.
**C**

**Complete set of Encyclopedia Britannica, 45 volumes. Excellent condition. £200 or best offer. No longer needed, got married last month, husband knows everything.**

**And the best one: FOR SALE BY OWNER.**

**8 years old. Hateful little beggar. Bites! Worn once by mistake. Call Stephanie.**

**FREE YORKSHIRE TERRIER. WEDDING DRESS FOR SALE.**

**These classifieds were really put in the newspaper.**

**er...er...er...?**

A group of girlfriends, all age 40, discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the waiters there had tight trousers and nice bums.

Ten years later, at age 50, the friends once again discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the food was good and the wine selection was excellent.

Ten years later, at age 60, the friends again discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because they could dine in peace and quiet and the restaurant had a beautiful view of the ocean.

Ten years later, at age 70, the friends once again discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the restaurant was wheelchair accessible and had a lift.

Ten years later, at age 80, the friends once again discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because they had never been there before.

**Here’s to lifelong, understanding friends and wonderful lunches.**

**CARROT AND GIN SOUP**

**Serves Four**

**Preparation time: 15 minutes**

**Cooking time: 30 minutes**

**Ingredients**

2 tbsp oil  
1 onion, peeled and finely chopped  
1 large clove of garlic, crushed  
4 large carrots, chopped  
2 pints/1.1 litre of vegetable stock  
4 tbsp of gin (or to taste!)  
3 tbsp double cream, plus a little to garnish  
Salt and freshly ground pepper, fresh parsley to garnish

**Method**

Heat oil in a pan and fry the onion and garlic until softened. Add the carrots and cook for a further 2 minutes. Pour over the stock and bring to the boil. Cover and simmer until the carrots are soft. Transfer soup to a blender and puree until smooth. Return to a clean pan and stir in the gin by the tablespoon, tasting as you go – you may like a little more – or less. Add cream and season to taste. Re-heat gently.

Serve soup in warmed bowls with a swirl of cream and some parsley sprinkled on top.

**DUBLIN CODDLE (Sausage hotpot)**

This is a traditional Irish dish, often eaten after a night out.

**Ingredients**

900g potatoes peeled and sliced into slices the thickness of a £1. coin  
500 ml chicken stock  
450g sausages (suggest pork or pork and herb) cut into large chunks  
225g lean bacon or cooked ham cut into thick strips  
Large onion, peeled and thinly sliced  
2 or 3 large carrots, peeled and thinly sliced  
Salt and black pepper, 2 tablespoons of chopped parsley, Plus a little butter

**Method**

Brown the sausages and bacon in a frying pan for a few minutes. Place half of the sausages and bacon in the bottom of a large oven proof casserole dish. Add half the onions, potatoes, carrots, season with salt, pepper and parsley. Add another layer of meat and vegetables season to taste. Cover with a lid and cook in a slow oven (180 deg). Gas mark 3 for about 2 hours. Remove the lid for the last 30 minutes and dot the top layer with butter, (this allows the top layer to colour and crisp up)

Serve with green vegetables and bread to soak up the gravy.

**ROUND TABLE**

**41 Club**

**Hello**

Where has the year gone? No sooner do we take Office than it seems we are preparing for the next AGM when we hand over to our successors! And if the Tangent year has been anything like ours in 41 Club, you will have been busy. We have been looking at where we might be headed over the next five years and asking ourselves what kind of organisational structure do we need to set in place in order to meet our stated Objectives. One of the things we have been considering over the last two years and shall be bringing to our Ipswich AGM, is the establishment of a new Executive post – that of Community Service and Welfare Officer. There is a growing interest within 41 Club in being actively involved in community service initiatives and if this is agreed by the AGM, then the new Officer will be able to facilitate this aspect of our life and work.

As we are an increasingly aging Association, we feel that there is also a need to provide help and support to members and their families at times of personal crisis. 41 Club in France have been doing this for years and we feel that we need to do something similar for our own members and so this will be the other element of the job. It might be worth noting that the new Officer – if appointed and wearing his ‘welfare hat’ will be available to Tangent members who might want practical advice and support at anxious moments.

In spite of the fact that a certain Icelandic volcano decided to erupt just as many of us were setting off to Finland for the Club 41 International AGM and some of us couldn’t get there, we have nevertheless been active on the international scene. We in GB&I have tabled a resolution that we hope will encourage all member Associations of 41 International to look at ways in which we can work together to provide practical aid and assistance at times of natural disaster or other humanitarian crisis – in much the same was as Rotary does. Working and playing with international friends adds a whole new and enriching dimension to 41 Club life. It’s good to be reminded that we are part of a world-wide ‘Round Table Family’ and we look forward to many international friends being with us in Ipswich.

It has been a joy to share the year with President Gill, to be with you all at your wonderful 40th Anniversary and to have Gill join some of our Past Presidents and other invited guests at a small luncheon I arranged in London to mark our 65th Anniversary. It was also a huge privilege to be one of the four National President’s at the Cenotaph in London on Remembrance Sunday. I look forward to all four National Presidents representing the Round Table family being together in Ipswich for our conference and AGMs. I do hope that you will be joining us.

With warmest good wishes from all of us in 41.

**Malcolm Lockley**

It is a little weird writing what will be my last article for your magazine as President of Round Table some 4 months before our AGM. Can I say though, what a great year this has been, not only for Tangent but also the relationship between the four Associations. At the beginning of the year all four Presidents made a commitment to work together, moving forward to try to ensure the longevity of our respectful Associations and the Round Table family.

As I write this article Round Table is continuing to move forward with the appointment of a new Chief Executive who will be taking over in March. We have made a commitment to strategy and a long term plan moving away from one yearisms and we are beginning to see some return from our investment. The new public facing website is generating enquiries and the new member’s website is due to be launched late March.

There is a PR campaign linked with RNLI, my chosen Presidential charity, which involves Tablers and RNLI crew working together to raise Round Tables’ profile and funds for charity. Those funds will go to offset the training costs for 100 volunteer crew members, it will run until May and the Round Table AGM, any support will be greatly appreciated.

On a personal note I would like to thank you all for your support, especially President Gill and Immediate Past President Jan. Ladies, it has been a pleasure and an honour to work alongside your President and the members of Tangent, I look forward to seeing some you between now and May, I will be attending your joint conference with 41 Club in Ipswich please come up and say hello.

I wish you good luck for the future, enjoy yourselves

Yours in Table
Scottish Luncheon

C.A.T.S. (Central Area Tangent Scotland is a cluster Tangent club) hosted the Scottish Luncheon at the Grange Manor Hotel in Grangemouth on October 16th.

The night before the lunch members of CATS and the Executive were having a meal at Dunblane Golf Club enjoying the chance to get to know each other when a large group of men walked past. These men were going to a meeting and had left their women at home, Dunblane 41 Club were more than surprised that they were sharing their venue with us, be it in a separate room. President Gill along with Jan, Jan, Terrie, Karen and CATS took greetings to their meeting and they were thrilled we were able to join them for a few minutes.

Next morning 70 ladies were greeted by a young lady Scottish piper and waiters holding a glass of sparkling wine or juice for each of us, a really good start to a wonderful lunch. As a reminder of the day we were all given a handmade cake and bookmark. I can personally vouch for the fruit cake it was wonderful and the cat bookmark is so useful.

Turriff and District will be the hosts for next year in Aberdeenshire, please keep 17th September 2011 free it is sure to be a good day.

Just a reminder as a Tangent member you are able to visit any of the regional lunches, how about having a ‘Girls Weekend Away’. I know of one club in the South East Region who do this every year, flying over to Ireland for the Irish lunch.

National Executive Update

We have been pleased to see so many of you during the year at Tangent events.

Ladies, please remember that the Tangent Executive are volunteers. We may not always get things right but we will have done our best, with the intention of doing what is right for the Association.

We have been working hard this year to bring a number of recommendations to the National AGM. We know you will read the NAGM agenda and recommendations and discuss within your clubs. If you are unable to send a voting delegate to the AGM we are sure you will make every effort to use your proxy vote.

Details of proxy voting rule 7.4 are on page 10 of the Directory.

Without expressing a view we have been asked to make you aware that independent membership of Agora Club International is available.

The Sundial, as yet we do not have a date for the rededication service of the 41 Club garden at the National Arboretum, as soon as we have a date and time we will put it onto our website.

We hope to see many of you at Tangent events during 2011-2012.
PASSING FRIENDS

Tangent is very grateful for all that they have done for the Association during their lifetime, and our thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends at this difficult time.

Individual tributes to the ladies mentioned above can be found on our website www.tangent-clubs.org.

SOUTH EAST LUNCHEON

A marquee in the gardens of the Uplands Conference Centre in High Wycombe was the venue for this years’ South East Regional Luncheon. Great Missendens Tangent were the host Club and Luncheon Chairman Rosalind Aspinall and the team were pleased to welcome us all. We had an interruption from the men of Great Missendens 41 Club who came in wearing overalls and carrying ladders. They checked all of the chandeliers (a reminder of the windy conditions as last years’ SE Lunch) as part of their routine, they finished off doing the Full Monty to the delight of us all, taking off just the overalls.

The South East Lunch is one of the largest of the year and it is lovely to see old friends catching up with one another, many for the first time in years. As you can see from the photos everyone had a fantastic time. Next year Southend on Sea will be our host Club on 12th November, why not put the date in your diary now.

HELLO FROM THE IPSWICH 2011 CONFERENCE TEAM

Tangent Day is very much part of National Conference we have a lovely venue, a great lunch planned and of course our N.A.G.M. all at the same venue. This is your chance to join in the fun and fellowship and you have a choice of options:

1. Come for the afternoon and play a part in the N.A.G.M. it starts at 1.45 prompt and is free to attend. This is an excellent way for you to see your National Executive working on your behalf.

2. Come for the day and join us for Tangent Day Lunch It is a wonderful opportunity to meet up with old friends, booking forms can be found on www.tangent-clubs.org

3. Book one or more of the packages offered. Friday night is a black tie dinner. Saturday night is the Final Night Party, a much more informal night where the dress code now usually consists of tee shirt and shorts/trousers customized to the theme of the weekend this year it is “Full of Eastern Promise” if you want some inspiration then look on the Tangent or 41 Club websites. For those of you who would like to join us but are worried about not having a partner don’t worry as tables for Tangent Ladies Only are being arranged on both nights, just put on your booking form ‘Tangent Table’ and the committee will do their best to accommodate you.

Any of the above options will be a wonderful way to finish off this our 40th Anniversary year but you will need to book soon as we may well sell out and you could be disappointed. Why not make this a Girls Weekend Away?

Ipswich is a lovely historic town and we have plenty to do, so come on join us at the great party and we promise it will be “Full of Eastern Promise”.

Lin Cammiss - Ipswich 2011 Tangent Co-ordinator
Inspired savings for members of Round Table, 41 Club, Ladies Circle and Tangent.

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