FROM CATWALK TO COVER: How proud NATC is to have not just one of our members walking the catwalk at the annual Breast Cancer Care Fashion Show in association with Comfort…but three! Sheila Hatchwell of Crowborough Tangent, Ruth Ingrem of Wallingford Tangent and Carol Newman from Goring & Streatley Tangent are all taking part in the event that takes place on 28th September. Each of these ladies has her own unique breast cancer story but is stepping out to show that you can still look and feel amazing after breast cancer. To quote Vice President Jill Harris “Well done to all of you. A very proud day it will be for our Association and for the 3 of you. It shows we can all get through what we feel at the time is the worst of things and enhance our lives through adversity.
Dear Ladies

It has been a great delight to get to meet more of you during my visits this summer during your special celebrations, regular meetings and outdoor events.

You have all made me, my car with logos, and my travelling companions so welcome. Thank you.

Some of the highlights were Chartering Widnes and District Tangle 954, at 50 Shades of Cake!, and inducting new members there and also at Whitchurch, Ticester and Wotton under Edge.

You have mostly had glorious sunshine for the events I have shared, but the President’s yellow umbrellas have made an early appearance at Derby Merlin and Wokingham.

Other exciting events that I have been fortunate to be able to attend as your President (but not at the expense of Tangent! are the 41 Club Past National Presidents’ gala dinner here in Salisbury, the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, and the Ladies Circle International AGM in Sønderborg, Denmark.

It has been wonderful to have four more verses added for my President’s Charity Lunch. Thank you all for entering into the spirit of the idea and singing along with me too, but have been working hard answering your emails, processing your Directory, Capitation and Affiliation forms, organising the shop, liaising with Regional Lunch organisers, Ladies Circle, Round Table and 41 Club, and Tangent International, updating spreadsheets and the website, and producing this great magazine. All in their own time, in their own homes. They are all a most supportive and dedicated group and a pleasure to work with.

Looking forward to catching up with you soon! Yours in continued friendship, Melodie

A few words from the Editor...

As I was looking through the last Tangent News it struck me just how many pictures had been included that involved ladies with cakes in the celebration of a charter. I wondered whether or not it was time to look at including not so many cake photos. With that in mind I then started to think about the adage that “every picture tells a story”.

I looked at the photographs again; this time I noticed not only the happiness but the pride in peoples’ faces at having reached their club birthday milestone; I saw that everyone had taken the opportunity to dress up (and isn’t it lovely to see your friends all decked in their finery)? Behind the picture I saw the hard work that had taken place putting the day together; the baking of the cake; the time spent in decorating it; the plans and arrangements; the emails and messages that passed between everyone and the evenings spent in on another’s homes making up menus and packing gifts. Most of all I saw the years and decades of friendships, through good times and bad, which had led to that one moment and that deserves a celebration and a picture in the magazine…Plus everyone loves a piece of cake.

This, my penultimate magazine, is the “every picture tells a story” issue. I hope you enjoy it.

This is my picture. This is a photo of myself and my partners in crime! It was taken on a Gin Tour on a weekend away. These are friends I made in Ladies Circle. Over the years that friendship has deepened. I am blessed to have their continued friendship and their unconventional approach to gin mixers – why bother with tonic when you can have prosecco!.

Enjoy the coming months Morag x

Although National Association of Tangent Clubs makes every effort to ensure accuracy, we can accept no responsibility for errors or omissions.

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I am Melodie Brookes. My home city was Birmingham where I grew up, went to school, qualified as a Primary School Teacher, and met and married Nigel.

We moved to the Forest of Dean where our Tabling and Circulating began. After a few years we moved to Salisbury, Wiltshire and transferred our memberships. Following many happy years, when we had three daughters, I became LC Area 36 Chairman. Moving on into Tangent I eventually became National Secretary at the Jersey Conference, and National Vice-President at the Birmingham Conference. My Presidential year was launched at the Blackpool Conference and I am continuing to enjoy lots of ‘fresh air and fun’!

When did you join the Round Table family?
I joined Forest of Dean Ladies Circle just after giving up work to have our first baby, and Salisbury Tangent 389 straight from Salisbury Ladies Circle 818.

What has been your happiest moment within the Round Table family?
Difficult to pick out one, there have been so many!
In LC, my year as Area Chairman as one of ‘Buckie’s Belle’ was one of the highlights; in Tangent, being installed as National President surrounded by friends and family, and now it’s whatever the last event I have just been privileged to attend. All my visits are a joy.

What are your hopes for the future of the Round Table family?
Greater awareness of the existence and value of what all our clubs offer.

If you had to appear on Strictly which dance would you do?
Probably now the quickstep as I can actually get my feet round.

What Round Table family event would you recommend people attend and why?
The most exciting trip ever, organised by Burntisland & District 888. The National Exec visit 2013. A RIB trip under the Forth Bridge James Bond style!

What is your best attribute and your worst fault?
It’s probably better for someone else to answer this but here goes. Best attribute is I’m fairly organised. My worst fault has to be I like peanut butter and marmite sandwiches.

What would be your ideal holiday destination?
Sardinia - sun, warm sea, Italian food, historical links.

What is your (a) best attribute and your (b) worst fault?
(a) Best attribute is I'm fairly organised. My worst fault has to be I like peanut butter and marmite sandwiches.
(b) I am a bit of a hoarder.

What is your best attribute and your worst fault?
I left school at 15 and joined the GPO as a trainee apprentice. Whilst training, I was attended technical college and achieved qualifications in Electrical & Electronic Engineering. I worked in the GPO tower and did shift work in the TV switching centre.

Initially, I worked on the Saturday afternoon programme “World of Sport”, travelling around the world, working on numerous sporting events. I also worked as studio Production Manager on programmes such as Blind Date, Surprise-Surprise and Aspel & Co. (To name a few). When the breakfast company TVAM lost their franchise, I was involved in setting up the technical facilities for the replacement company, GMTV who were based in the ITV studios at Waterloo.

I was promoted to Technical Director and was responsible for the day to day running of the show. (This subsequently became Daybreak and then Good Morning Britain.). I retired from ITV last year. I am happily married to Pauline, we have 2 daughters and 3 grandchildren.

When did you join the Round Table family?
1985

What has been your happiest moment within the Round Table family?
Attaining the Post of National President.

What are your hopes for the future of the Round Table family?
I hope that we can work as a team to help each other and make our organisations more attractive to potential members.

What Round Table family event would you recommend people attend and why?
Anywhere warm and friendly to make loads of new friends.

What is your (a) best attribute and your (b) worst fault?
(a) Good social skills & communicator.
(b) I am a bit of a hoarder.

What would be your ideal holiday destination?
Anywhere warm and friendly.

What Round Table family event would you recommend people attend and why?

Chocolate or crisps?
Crisps (along with a nice pint of real ale)

What’s the story behind your photo?
Right now I’d love to be anywhere with sun, a pool and quite an amazing sight and a fantastic experience.

What Round Table family event would you recommend people attend and why?
Any, just go along and try it, I promise you won’t regret it!

Chocolate or crisps?
Why am I restricted to one or the other, I love both!

What’s the story behind your photo?
This photo was taken this year in August at the LCI meeting in Sunder burg during nations parade. We all dressed up in our national dress and took to the streets. I was delighted to be able to lead LC GB13 as we took over the streets, was quite an amazing sight and a fantastic experience.
I am Gerd-Inger; I originally come from the northern part of Norway, but I have spent most of my life in Oslo. I have two girls; both left home, but of course, still my “babies”. By education, I am an accountant, working for a Shipping business in Oslo. Outside work I like to do things; I am quite active and I like to think of myself as a handy-woman.

What are some of your interests outside the Round Table family?
As I said above, I am an active person; I like mountain hiking or being out in the woods picking berries or mushrooms. However, I can also sit still in my home knitting, sewing or reading. In addition, if something need to be repaired or painted, I do as much as I can myself.

What is your best attribute and your worst fault?
I hate this question! I think I am able to show concern and compassion to my friends, I think I am efficient when something need to be done, and I am trustworthy. On the other hand, I can be very direct, which I know may hurt (working on it), and I know that when I am engaged, I have a tendency to interrupt people.

What would be your ideal holiday destination?
Naxos, Greece

What Round Table family event would you recommend people attend and why?
Join an International conference! Doing so you really will get to know the Round Table family and you will get friends from all over the world.

Chocolate or crisps?
Crisps

What’s the story behind your photo?
It is a very short story, it was taken yesterday.

What is your best attribute and your worst fault?
My best attribute is being able to show concern and compassion to my friends, I think I am efficient when something need to be repaired or painted, I do as much as I can myself. My worst attribute is that I tend to overthink things but mainly because I want things to be right. My best attribute is being able to remain calm in most situations, except when I’m asked to jump off a pier dressed as a unicorn (pictures are available).

What would be your ideal holiday destination?
My ideal holiday destination would be on safari and that is why I’m looking forward to the Round Table World meeting 2018 in Kenya.

What Round Table family event would you recommend people attend and why?
I’m going to use this question as a shameless plug for my presidential ball in Nottingham on Saturday 10th March, and of course as always both National Conferences are always great fun and I would encourage everyone to attend.

Chocolate or crisps?
Chocolate or Crisps - crisps every time but I’d rather have a pork pie.

What’s the story behind your photo?
This photo epitomises what Round Table means to me – making memories for Paige is something that I’m very passionate about and is what we do best.

What are your hopes for the future of the Round Table family?
My hopes for the future of Round Table is that the association grows and is around for a long time to come for future generations to enjoy. This is why the Board and I are working hard to make the right and sometimes difficult decisions to ensure sustainability.
President’s Charity Luncheon

President Melodie hosted a Charity Luncheon at the White Hart Hotel in Salisbury on Saturday 9th September assisted by members of her own club, Salisbury Tangent Club.

Around one hundred members of NATC travelled from all parts of the UK to help Melodie raise an astonishing £2,000 for her chosen charity, the British Association for Music Therapy. Grace Watts, representing BAMT spoke with passion about the organisation’s aims which are to provide training and support to professional music therapists and raise awareness of the benefits of music therapy to people of all ages whose lives have been affected by injury, illness or disability. She told those present that 100% of all money raised by the Association would be used to help fund music therapy sessions for those who would otherwise not have access. In keeping with the musical theme, guests were also treated to a wonderful talk by Kate Edgar, actress, musician, musical director, composer and lyricist, punctuated with anecdotes and tales from her time in West End theatre and television. Kate continues to inspire people of all ages as a peripatetic director, composer and lyricist, punctuated with anecdotes.

Kate continued to inspire people of all ages as a peripatetic director, composer and lyricist, punctuated with anecdotes.

President’s Charity Luncheon

Jo Daves Chairman Salisbury Tangent

Can I just congratulate Salisbury Tangent on their organisation of such a lovely, enjoyable lunch and thank them for the raffle prize which I won - Editor

Northern Regional Lunch

17th June 2017 - Hosted by Warrington Tangent

The Planning of the 2017 Northern Regional Lunch started on a return car journey from a Fellowship Evening hosted by Northwich Tangent in October 2015. Warrington Tangent member, Heather Martin, who became Chairman of the Luncheon Committee said she thought it would be fun for us to host the event. We were off!

After many months of planning the week-end of 16th/17th June finally arrived. Members of our National Executive enjoyed a lunch at Heather’s house on the Friday followed by their usual meeting. Some members of our Committee and our National Executive guests spent a very pleasant and chatty evening for dinner and drinks at a local Hostelry. Early night for all (mostly) as we had an early start the following morning.

Our event was held at the Haydock Mercure, a Georgian Mansion style Hotel which boasts a large marquee where our lunch was served. We hosted 154 ladies in total. Now all we needed to complete our theme of a Garden Party was some sunshine, and it certainly did not disappoint.

With balloons fixed, tables decorated and stall holders and photographer installed we waited for our guests to arrive.

After registration and purchasing raffle tickets from our 41 Club gentlemen, ladies enjoyed a glass of fizz sitting in the gardens in the sunshine, listening to music beautifully presented by harpist, Katherine Jankinson.

National President Melodie had asked if Warrington Tangent was up for continuing her tradition of signing her Tangent song - we absolutely were so with Melodie’s first verse and a ‘Warrington’ second verse we were all in full song.

We were entertained by BBC Radio 4 comedy presenter Christine Marshall who, after a few amusing anecdotes presented one of her short plays ‘Cissy and Nora’. Christine asked for 2 volunteers and in true ‘Tangent style there was no shortage! The play was expertly and amusingly delivered by fellow Horwich and Westhoughton Tangent members Agnes Russell-Metcalf in the role of Cissy and Liz North in the role her cantankerous neighbour Nora.

All members of our committee had donated exceptionally high quality raffle prizes and our 41 Club members dressed in their Dinner Jackets and bow ties did a fantastic job of selling tickets, raising a total of £867. In addition to this, the money given by retailers, and with our speaker having waved her fee in favour of her chosen charities we were able to give £350 to BAMT, the British Association for Music Therapy - President’s charity, £200 to Bloodwise, the blood cancer research charity (Warrington Tangent’s chosen charity) £250 to CANsupport UK, a cancer support fundraising group established by volunteers at Halton Hospital in Runcorn, Cheshire and £150 to Water Aid (Speaker’s chosen charities).

All in all, and as so many comments we have received have confirmed, it was a very happy day and totally worth all the effort of our Luncheon Committee. We would say to any group who has not hosted a large event like this - “GO FOR IT” - It is very rewarding and you will be contributing to the continued celebration of our wonderful Association.

Catherine Tate
Warrington Tangent
Secretary - 2017 Northern Regional Luncheon Committee
**Leeds Tangle**

This year, Leeds Tangle are supporting Leeds Women’s Aid and so decided to go and help them out in their charity shop. That gave them a great idea which led to the invention of a new pastime…Bar-ity Shopping. Meeting at Leeds Station, they took the train to Ilkley and began…bar, charity shop, bar, charity shop and so on and on and on! On the way they had a great meal, grabbed some bargains and drank gin at a few local bars. Such was the success that the next one will be at York!

Leeds Tangle also joined some of Halifax Tangent to watch Menopause the Musical in Bradford. After stuffing their faces with curry, they sat and laughed and watched was it is to come or indeed what has come to their group. Halifax Tangent even got on the stage at the end!

Some of their members also supported Epilepsy Action. Past President Alex’s charity by completing the Bradford 10k, the first ever one for Sarah Mackenzie Briggs and Alison Goodspeed.

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**Farnborough (Hants)**

In August Farnborough Tangent Club and members of 41 Club wished our Founder Chairman, Audrey Walker, a very happy 90th Birthday at a Garden Tea Party in Chairman Maureen’s garden. The arrangements were all made with tables and chairs in place in the garden and the food ready to go when it was all change as the weather let us down and we had to move indoors. It was a little coy but great fun and enjoyed by everyone especially Audrey. The picture shows Audrey with the enormous bouquet of flowers given to her from the Club.

*Many Happy Returns Audrey!* – The Editor

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**Teignmouth**

Teignmouth Tangent recently celebrated their 30th Charter at their Chairman’s Strawberries and Cream Evening with Pimm’s and cake!

The lady cutting the cake is one of their founder members, Dorothy Mitchell, with another founder member, Lesley Tickell, on the far right. Their current Chairman, Margaret Williams, is in the centre.

With their membership currently standing at 25 they are looking forward to future charter celebrations.

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**Northampton Nene**

For our July meeting we thought we had better keep the English wine trade in business—so we visited a local Vineyard. As it also included sampling wine we invited the men to join us. (To drive I hope! – the Editor.) The Vineyard is family run growing four different types of grape for white and rose wines. After a talk and tour of the vines the serious business of sampling the wine followed.

We ended the evening, as we often do, with a meal at a nearby pub.

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**Shirley Tangent**

Shirley Tangent 86 along with their IPC Maggie Whittaker raised £1,350 for the West Midlands, Warwickshire and Solihull Blood Bikers. The Blood Bikers are volunteers who ride backwards and forwards delivering blood samples, baby milk and other medical items to most hospitals in the West Midlands every night from 7 till 7 and all weekends.

The Ladies held various events, including a fabulous fashion show at John Lewis. Maggie is pictured giving the cheque to Martin Williams who started riding since 2012. Martin is a member of Shirley 41 club and just happens to be married to Jayne Williams Shirley Tangent’s Social Media Officer.

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**Clacton-on-Sea**

Clacton on sea Tangent 558 welcomed NALC National president Ginette May to speak at their meeting. Ginette spoke about her national charity ‘The Brain Tumour Charity’ and bought items from her shop. A lovely evening of friendship was shared by all.
Lymington & District

‘Lymington ‘girls’ enjoyed a day out travelling on the New Forest Open Top Bus. Their first stop was coffee in Beaulieu (but not with Lord Montagu at Beaulieu House!), next stop the National Motor Museum, a quick peek at de Rothchild’s beautiful Exbury Gardens (world renowned for azaleas and rhododendrons). Then onto Hyde and lunch at a delightful restaurant over-looking Southampton Water.

From their window table they watched the shipping up and down the mouth of the river, and spied a couple of liners preparing to sail to foreign parts later that evening. Next stop was Lyndhurst where they took on the guise of holidaymakers and savoured a locally made ice cream cone! Then back to Lymington where they all declared it a lovely day, and put it in the diary for a return trip next year.’

Whitchurch

Whitchurch celebrated its 40th Charter with a dinner at Tern Hill Hall Hotel. Chairman Gill Rich welcomed President Melodie along with the chairs of neighbouring clubs in Telford, Newport, Market Drayton and Wemm to the event. Members and guests were entertained by Kath Reynolds who took everyone through an amusing journey back to their schooldays.

News from National

Friday 5th January 2018 is a very important date!!
It is the date when your Nomination form needs to be in to National Secretary Glynis for any of the three Executive positions becoming vacant at the NATC in Belfast April 2018. The three positions are:

- National Vice President (a 3-year commitment including President and IPP)
- National Secretary (a 3-year commitment)
- National Editor and Website Co-ordinator (a 3-year commitment)

Also, it is the date when you should send in any Propositions to go onto the agenda for the NATC AGM in Belfast April 2018, so please do have a think about if there is anything you would like to propose.

Nomination and Proposition forms will be sent to your club contacts by email during October so please look out for these; they will also be available on the Tangent website under Members Information. Please speak with any of the Exec members holding these positions about the role, we can also supply job descriptions if needed.

Please do consider going onto the 2018-19 Executive – it’s a lot of work but you know what they say ‘the more you put in the more you get out’.

Club contacts should by now have received the 2017-18 Directory with its bright yellow cover. Any amendments or corrections to contact information should be forwarded to Jilly, our Executive Administrator; admin@tangent-clubs.org

And the results are in….

Hopefully you will all now have seen the results of the membership survey. A whopping 770 of you took the time to complete the survey. The response was more that anyone could have hoped for when the survey was first mooted. A big THANKS to everyone who took part.

As you can see we seem to be in good shape at present with most of our membership being members of good sized Tangent Clubs and meeting regularly.

Glynis is very pleased that her regular emailings are reaching the majority of members. We were aware that the contact ladies were very good at opening their inboxes, but the more you put in the more you get out.

Also, it is the date when you should send in any amendments or corrections to contact details. Please do consider going onto the 2018-19 Executive – it’s a lot of work but you know what they say ‘the more you put in the more you get out’.

The age profile question has confirmed the majority of our membership as being in the 65 - 74 category. Whilst this was expected, it was useful to have it confirmed.

The results of the survey bring to the fore the future of our organisation. We can expect a fall in our membership due to the reduction in the membership of Ladies Circle and the natural consequences of aging on our membership. This brings forward the challenge of “future proofing” our organisation. The future of the organisation affects us all. So join in the discussion and let us have your ideas.

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Q1. Which age group are you?

Q2. How many Tangent Clubs are you a member of?

Q3. How many members are in your Tangent Club?

Q4. What are the sources of new members? (Select all that apply)
Q5. What are your Club activities (Please select all that apply)

- Regular meetings in varying venues
- Additional social meetings
- Fund raising or community service events
- Joint meetings with Ladies Circle
- Joint meetings with other Round Table Family Clubs
- It keeps me informed of what is happening in the Association
- The e-mailing is passed to all members in my club
- It should be discontinued
- Regular meetings in members’ homes
- I have never received an e-mailing
- I have received all the e-mailings rarely
- I have received all the e-mailings occasionally
- I have received all the e-mailings regularly

Q6. I consider my national capitation is good value

- Yes
- No

Q7. Does your club regularly attend the National AGM

- Yes
- No

Q8. Regional Lunches (Please select all that apply)

- My club regularly attends the regional lunch for our region
- The regional lunch in our region represents value for money
- My club regularly attends the regional lunch for other regions
- I have no interest outside my club
- The regional lunch in our region is too much effort to host
- I have no support from my members to host the regional lunch
- I have met a member of the National Board at a regional lunch in the last 5 years
- I have bought an item from the Tangent sales shop at the regional lunch in the last 5 years
- It is too much effort to host a regional lunch

Q9. The National E-Mailings (please select all that apply)

- I read all the e-mailings
- It is passed to all members in my club
- It keeps me informed of what is happening in the Association
- The e-mailing is too much of a burden
- The e-mailing is not part of the way it should be
- The e-mailing is not part of the way it is passed to the Club

Q10. Your views on the future of Tangent

- I think that Tangent needs to change
- I think that Tangent should remain the same
- I think that Tangent should change
- I think that Tangent needs to change and evolve
- I think that Tangent needs to change and adapt
- I think that Tangent needs to change and improve
- I think that Tangent needs to change and develop
- I think that Tangent needs to change and modernise
- I think that Tangent needs to change and innovate
- I think that Tangent needs to change and progress

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16
All bookings are subject to Fred. Olsen’s (FOCL) standard terms & conditions, available on our website & on request. All prices quoted under the Tangent members discount offer are exclusive to qualifying members & their travelling companions only, members must quote their discount code at time of booking. Membership discounts cannot be applied retrospectively. Bookings must be made via the booking hotline number 0800 035 5108. Proof of membership will be required at the time of booking. Offers cannot be extended to any unrelated third party, are subject to availability & may be withdrawn or amended at any time without prior notice. From time to time FOCL may run special offers which cannot be combined with this discount, including selected group travel deals. All guests booked under this scheme are requested to refrain from disclosing the fare paid whilst on board. Offer is for first-time cruisers with Fred. Olsen only. Fred. Olsen Oceans members are entitled to a 5% Tangent discount subject to the same terms & conditions, to be applied after the standard Oceans discount, where applicable. In this instance, Oceans Terms & Conditions apply. This offer expires on the 31st December 2017. E&OE.

To book using your discount code TANGEN10 call the Tangent booking hotline 0800 0355 108 or visit www.fredolsencruises.com/tangent

The National Association of Tangent Clubs have teamed up with award-winning Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines to give you a very tempting 10% membership discount* on your first sailing with them – and that’s on top of any current offers. Existing Fred. Olsen customers can save 5%, in addition to their 5% Loyalty Club discount.