And lastly…… Janice looks ahead!

So what will I do when my Tangent Year ends? As IPP I will take on the role of IRO with my first Tangent Club International AGM in Cyprus the week after Harrogate, 24-26 April. It would be wonderful if there were other Tangent members who could join me. Look out for details @ www.agm2015limassol.com or www.tangentclubinternational.org.

Then it’s the RT/Circle Conference in Aviemore in May followed by LCI in Iceland, just before ………………

The Wedding of my wonderful daughter Lucy to her fabulous fiancé Mark in September. So, what a year, what a position to hold. What next? I’ll keep you posted.

Editor: Good Luck Lucy and Mark; - and Janice – we look forward to more of your jottings!
The candle of Friendship...

Tangent traditions include the Candle of Friendship, signing off mail “yours in continued friendship” and our pledge ‘Let Friendship Continue’ so here are a few quotes about how some people think about friendship…….

Walking with a friend in the dark is better than walking alone in the light.
Helen Keller

Friendship …… is not something you learn in school. But if you haven’t learned the meaning of friendship, you really haven’t learned anything.
Muhammad Ali

A real friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out.
Walter Winchell

Sometimes being a friend means mastering the art of timing. There is a time for silence.
Dr. Ralph Waldo Emerson

The only way to have a friend is to be one.
Ralph Waldo Emerson

The candle of friendship…

Tangent members who have sadly passed away.

Christine Aston – Banbury 84
Enid Brocklesby – Brigg & District 649
Barbara Hargreaves – Cross Hill & District 638
Shirley Hart – Brigg & District 649
Moira Hutchinson – Cross Hill & District 638
Jane Robinson – Brigg & District 649
Joan Rowley – Brigg 188
Valerie Trundle – Kidderminster 108
Irene Turnbull – Banbury 84
Eve White – Bilston 188
Hazel Zwager – Kidderminster 317
Janice shows her skills at a Beetle Drive!!!

Bury St Edmunds Chairman, Pat Brega and Shepperton Tangent & District Chairman Chris Shemming with Janice O’Neill

For the last 12 years Stowmarket and District 913 and Bury St Edmunds 187 Tangent Clubs have held an annual Challenge Evening. The challenge is usually some silly game but this year it was a quiz. Tom, Gary and Mike are not downhearted - they can see all the benefits of belonging to Tangent and are very willing to swap their allegiance from Shepperton Tangent to any other club who may be interested. The ‘Norra Bathy’ lookalikes are also willing to appear at birthdays, weddings or funerals etc... in fact they’ll take any gig offered!!!

Spurred them that have lost their music;
Restore them that need extra note bashing and are without pencil;
Pardon our mistakes and have faith that hereafter we will follow thy direction and sing together in perfect harmony

To the glory of thy choir’s Name.

Amen.

Contributed by Melodie Brookes

Presidents’

I can’t believe this is my last missive for Tangent News as National President. Where did the time go? So here we go….

I attended the Breast Cancer Care Fashion Show at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London in October with Jilly King, our National Treasurer. We were privileged to take our daughters. The event was so moving, with all the models, including 2 men, having had breast cancer and some of them had mastectomies. The Women of the Year lunch was truly inspiring!

Since the last Tangent News I have attended 22 Club events including Clacton on Sea’s Round Table Family Ball, Friendship evenings in Downend, Pinner, Altrincham, Stowmarket, Davenant, Amersham, Anniversary celebrations in Petersfield, Kenilworth, Gillingham and Shaftesbury. Spalding where there have been several club represented. I have been made welcome in so many places, Winchester, Blandford, Wallington and Cashalston, Burham on Sea, Rushden, Harpenden, Lewchwr, Chester, Mumbles and Trombridge. I do hope I haven’t left anyone out. There has been so much laughter but I think Mumbles win on having too much fun. And thank you to Lewchwr Tangent, you know why!!

I attended a Ladies Circle Council Meeting in Newquay and the National President of Circle’s Ball (Claire Wevell wowed us all right from the beginning with a stunning table firework display). There have been 2 more Regional Lunches, thank you Aberdeen and Fareham and apologies for not shortening my speech.

My own Presidential Ball was a huge success raising an extraordinary amount for Breast Cancer Care. It was a complete sell out before the closing date and I must thank the teams from Bushey and Keswick Tangent and Take Two, Berkshire staged who organised the event, a massive act of Jubilating to accommodate everyone!

There have been lots of meetings in preparation for my Charity Lunch in London which also sold out before the Early Bird deadline! I am looking forward to recreating the Regional Lunches we used to attend where we celebrated on the train before the event even started. I’m not so sure about standing on chairs through this event! A little more difficult climbing up and down! Hopefully there will be lots of photos!

I went to the first Half Year Meeting for Tangent Club International in Sweden where I really did jump into a freezing cold lake after the outdoor Jacuzzi. Why did I do that? Goodness only knows, Karen Durie our RO is the current Tangent Club International Treasurer, a less tense position after her busy year as National President, but exciting as it is so new.

I did some washing up at the Harpenden Circle Christmas Fayre with the Circle VP Zoe Gastill. I drank far too much (as did many others) at the Lymington Christmas party in Lymington Market with 79 41ers and a sprinkling of Tangent ladies. My poor husband had to take me home in a ‘poorly’ state for the 2nd year running. Never again she says!

I’ve been touched by the donations sent to me for my chosen Charity, Breast Cancer Care. If we can take anything from our partnership with Breast Care, it is the hope that we are more aware of the importance of having a mammogram even if we are outside the 50-70 age group. Please ladies, get yourselves checked out, it is your right to be tested. Chester Tangent sent me a cheque for BCC and even met me at short notice so I could say thank you personally. Fingers crossed they might even organise a Welsh Regional Lunch – please?

Hallowe’en with Wallington and Cashalston was amazing, the food was spectacular and we discovered one lady went to school with my brother and played in our front room! Small world Lesley!

Thank you to the clubs who also looked after my husband so royally. Gillingham and Shaftesbury and Clacton to name but a few. John loved the bulbs from Spalding, I think they are beginning to pop up now.

Now I’m into the final stage and I’ve joined up with Saltburn and also Beverley Westwood this week. The home hosting was superb.

I have been invited to a further 32 Tangent clubs, a Round Table Council meeting and President’s Ball, more AGM planning tips to Harrogate, 2 more Regional Lunches, in Malvern Hills and Northern Ireland, a Circle Regional Lunch and a trip to Highclere Castle (Downton Abbey fame).

We have just held the National Exec AGM planning weekend – grateful thanks to Melodie, our lovely secretary who has worked tirelessly to prepare everything! The conference will be held in Harrogate this year, have YOU booked yet? Bookings are doing well and there are lots of exciting things to do while you are there – and it is a beautiful part of the country.

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The Exec have met several times during the year. Historically we’ve met on the Friday before the Regional Luncheons, but we have tested the option of Sundays to help working ladies. This will obviously change to suit each Exec group but it shows our flexibility. We’ve had a myriad of subjects to discuss, the most exciting being the new website which is due to go live soon. We’ve listened to what the membership need from a website so you will all be proud of the efforts put in by Pauline Campbell and the rest of our team. For Facebook aficionados, we are building up the membership on our Tangent Group page; we must increasingly embrace social networks as a communication tool just as businesses use LinkedIn.

We have also discussed the option of an additional meeting for extra contact with our members. In October we are hosting the Half Year Meeting for Tangent Club International in October. We hope to trial a Half Year Meeting for Tangent GB, to give members the opportunity to share and discuss issues.

We have worked very hard behind the scenes with the 4 Club Family and especially on membership. Alex Volier, our VP has been in contact regularly with the Circle Membership Officer and we are looking at more ways of building the bridge into our Tangent clubs. Sue Hill has had a health issue recently but is recovering and getting ready to return to work. However, top marks for continuing to place Regalia orders and liaise with Luncheon committees.

After all that I look forward to getting along to my 3 clubs.

Aside from Tangent I have continued singing in the Rock Choir and have even recorded at Abbey Road Studios! I’ve managed to carry out my monthly ‘Dinner Lady’ duty at the local Hospice In-Patient Unit and enjoyed my monthly network club called Business Buzz. I’ve even managed to make the monthly meetings for NLP. I am a Practitioner in Neuro Linguistic Programming and looking forward to studying for my Masters Certificate. I also have a new ‘grand-dog’ which I walk regularly for my daughter (or should I say grand-dog takes me for a walk).

So what will I do when my Tangent Year ends? As IP I will take on the role of RO with my first Tangent Club International AGM in Cyprus the week after Harrogate, 24-26 April. It would be wonderful if there were other Tangent members who could join me. Look out for details at: www.agm2015limassol.com or www.tangentclubinternational.org.

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Janice O’Neill
National President

Working together - The ROUND TABLE Family in Derry

The Round Table Family – Ireland, came together to have a stand to give awareness at the City of Derry walled City Tattoo.

The Walled City Tattoo showcases the best of local and international talent. Now in its 2nd year, the Tattoo will see over 15,000 people flock to the Walled City of Derry Londonderry in late August. As well as the traditional favourites including the Massed Pipes & Drums, Highland & Irish Dancers, The Walled City Tattoo 2014 will be a fast-paced show, featuring the world famous motorcycle display team, ‘The Imps’, as well as rhythmic comedy from Swiss group ‘Starbugs’.

In Attendance at the event were members from Tangent, Ladies Circle, Round Table and 41 Club all to promote the awareness of the 4 clubs and recruit potential donors to sign a register for Anthony Nolan. The local Round Table and 41 along with Joan Henderson of Londonderry Tangent manned the stand and mingled with the crowds when we could. The event was a much older group than we would have liked but the organizers, security, volunteers and public created plenty of individuals to talk to about RTF. Our biggest problem was the rain although the stand kept us and equipment along with some band members dry, the need for rain coats gives me an idea. Why don’t we get some rain coats printed with logo’s and contact details? The rain caused people to come late to the event and hang about less; the event running from 7:30 – 10:45/11.00 then fireworks. This meant that individuals would tend to rush away. In a positive note, we are now part of this event and it will get better with tweaks from ourselves will make our presence much better used.

The guys from Foyle & District along with the Tangent and 41 Club supported the event well and proved that to be in the community is the best way we can forward our own cause and that of the particular charity’s we represent. We were successful in obtaining a quantity of good quality interest for Circle, Table and Tangent but received a “blank” when men of age were told 41 clubs can only recruit from ex-Round Tablers.

Phillip Ellis
NCLO
41 Club
On 4th December 2014, Colchester Tangle visited their local KwikFit to experience a new initiative ‘Ladies in the Driving Seat’. KwikFit established these evenings to encourage ladies to learn general maintenance for their vehicles, in a non-intimida-
ting environment. We had heard rumours about the evenings and decided to contact them to see if it was true. It certainly was, and following a short email to the contact address on the website http://www.kwik-fit.com/ladies-
car-care-home.asp proved incredibly easy to arrange. We had fantastic communication from them, arranging a convenient start time for us (they usually start at 6.30pm but moved it without hesitation to 7.30pm, as several of our members commute from London) and numbers attending.

We were promised a relaxed, welcoming evening where we would be shown various aspects of car care, from ‘under the bonnet’, to tyres, wiper blades and lights. Refreshments would be provided, and we would all get a small goody bag to take home. The cost of this evening? Absolutely free! It sounded too good to be true but proved to be just that, we got exactly what they promised. Hot and cold drinks, biscuits and small cakes (one member was very excited by the pink fondant fingers!) and a team of mechanics who took us through the different aspects. We even had the pleasure of meeting the Regional Marketing Executive Polly Cooper who had arranged it all for us, as she liked to attend the evenings personally to welcome the ladies.

On arrival, we were introduced to the mechanics, all of whom looked slightly nervous of being accosted by a bunch of rather chatty, excitable women, and informed of how the evening would run.

We split into three groups, one to learn about ‘under the bonnet’, wiper blades and lights, another to learn about tyres and the last to learn how to change a tyre. The groups rotated so that we experienced all three.

We learned about topping up oil, screen wash, brake fluid, and the reasons for choosing different products for these, how to read the dipstick accurately, cleaning wiper blades and changing bulbs.

The difference between winter and summer tyres was explained, how to know the size of tyres and the importance of pressures, tread and general condition, and the difference between winter and summer tyres was explained, how to know the size of tyres and the importance of pressures, tread and general condition.

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Hi everyone, I am Jill Harris, and I am standing for the post of National Treasurer. Many of you will have known my Husband and it is due to everyone’s kindness to me throughout the 4 Clubs that I am standing in order to personally give something back. I am a Chartered Surveyor by profession, still working part time and I prepare the company accounts. I am not a trained accountant but I have drive and determination and am not afraid to ask those that have done it before for advice as I am not here to reinvent the wheel.

I have been married to Andy for 36 years after we met at Reading pop-festival. I was a child bride obviously!

I joined Chesham Circle in 1996, enjoyed years of fun and friendship, and was LC Area Chairman 1998-99. Such fabulous memories, co-ordinating area balls, ladies nights, old folk lunches and charity events. Progressed on to Tangent and enjoying continued friendship. I’m currently heading the Tangent Charity Lunch committee, keeping Janice our President in line, not an easy task! My day job is Office and Communications Manager, am involved in spreadsheets, databases, campaign planning, and co-ordinating events. I believe all these experiences would be beneficial to the exciting new position of Executive Administrator. I’m confident I can be a useful member of the National Executive. Once the work is done, I’m very keen on G&T’s and wine – essential for every Tangent experience! It would be an honour to be the new Executive Administrator.


Bye for now,


Editor’s Note: We will miss you Jilly – our very special treasure!
Whatever your age, size or shape, it’s important to take care of your breasts.

Breast Cancer is the most common cancer in the UK, so it’s important to look after your breasts by being breast aware. This means getting to know how your breasts look and feel so you know what is normal for you. You can then feel more confident about noticing any unusual changes.

Most changes won’t turn out to be breast cancer but if they are, the sooner this is diagnosed the more effective treatment may be.

Usually changes in your breasts are not accompanied by any other symptoms, such as feeling tired or having less energy. So even if you feel well, it’s still important to visit your GP.

Although it’s less common, men can also get breast cancer so be sure to ask the man in your life to look at the check list below as well.

If you’d like to find out more just go to www.breastcancercare.org.uk/check

The Breast Cancer Care checklist

- Look at and feel your breasts so you know what’s normal for you.
- Do this regularly to check for changes.
- Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you notice anything.

Visit the Forum.
http://forum.breastcancercare.org.uk/

Need someone to talk to?

Whether you’re worried about breast cancer, wondering how you’ll cope with treatment or concerned about a friend, our online Forum is a welcoming community of understanding people who will offer you support at any time, day or night, whatever the stage of your breast cancer.
A message from the Vice President of 41 Club

As I sit in our kitchen in January thinking about April I can’t believe how fast this year has gone and the fact that I’m just three short months away from starting my Presidential year. Then I think to myself ‘am I ready for this?’ and the answer is a huge YES, bring it on! The 2015-16 year is an important one for 41 Club as we have two significant events happening in the UK Association. For a start 41 Club is 70 years old and to celebrate that momentous event we are holding a Charter Lunch at the Armories in Leeds on Saturday 12th September. This is going to be a grand affair with a Brass Band, the broadcaster Martin Lewis as our guest speaker and a great meal served in magnificent surroundings. I hope we do the Association proud and that 500 plus 41’ers have a great time I know I will just being part of this occasion. The Celebration continues in the 41 Club Regions with at least one 70th Charter event scheduled during the year. To make the year extra special any new 41 Club member joining during our 70th year will receive a unique lapel badge to commemorate their membership.

The second big event of this coming 41 Club year is that the UK Association are holding the International Half Yearly meeting in Birmingham on the 23rd to 25th October. Dave Campbell, our International Officer (someone your Editor Pauline knows well!), and his committee have organised a fantastic weekend for our International visitors. Based at Jury’s Hotel on Broad Street in the heart of the city and close to the entertainment area of Brindley Place and the Canal district, there will be a Welcome Party on the Friday evening then we have the formal International Half Yearly Meeting during the day on Saturday followed by a Ball on the Saturday night. To make this international visit extra special we’ve combined the 41 Club National Council Weekend with this event so everyone can have a great time. Like all international events and our own Council Weekends this event is with our partners.

So what of my other thoughts, it seems to me that the best way I can promote our Association is to get out into our Regions and talk to our members. The President should have a visibility and an approachability second to none – a rare virtue. I would like to complement Jim Smith on this for his year. Jim certainly has been out there, visiting Clubs and talking to members, and I want to do the same. I know it’s going to be a lot of travelling but I have the full support of my wife Lin and together we’ll cover the miles smiling all the way as this is such a wonderful opportunity to have fun and fellowship. My own Club Clevedon 41 Club together with Clevedon Tangent are also involved and I hope many of them will be able to attend events with us.

The other thing I’m looking forward to is sharing my year with your lovely Vice President Alex Voller. Alex and I have already found we like similar things and both intend to go out for our special year. Doing joint events is going to be fun and I might even learn to ride a skateboard if Alex does! I’m going to have to close now as Pauline will be eating me back! I expect she will do that anyway! I look forward to meeting many of you as I attend joint events around the UK.

Yours in continued friendship,
Terry

Editor’s note: The floor’s all yours Terry… enjoy!

Kenilworth celebrate with President Janice

Kenilworth Tangent Chairman, Helen Franklin welcomed National President Janice O’Neill, to their 30th Anniversary Dinner on 21st October. 56 members, old and new, attended a fun evening of good food and great company. Some of the members had been part of the club from the beginning! Everyone wore their pearls and there was a cake also decorated with pearls.

Janice made a point of being introduced to all the members and chatting to them about her role. The after dinner speaker was Rod Chater, a freelance national journalist, who entertained us with stories from his many years in the newspaper industry. The evening was completed by Janice who made us really think about the future of Tangent and what we can all do to ensure its success.

Farnborough (Kent) Tangent lets friendship continue …

At a ‘Let Friendship Continue’ evening, organised by Farnborough (Kent) Tangent on 30th October there were plenty of friends from Bromley Tangent, ex-Farnborough Circle and Tangent members who have moved away, plus groups of ex-Circlers from Petts Wood and Beckenham.

Forty-six ladies enjoyed a wonderful evening of friendship, good food and fun. They were entertained by the brilliant magic of Colin Perrotton, a member of the Magic Circle.

Chairman, Penny Dentby, welcomed the guests and said she hoped this would be the first of many similar get-togethers – and before the evening was over ex-Circlers from Petts Wood had offered to organise another gathering in Bromley early in 2015.

Following the event Penny, Ann Cummings, Farnborough’s Secretary, and member Jackie Mason met up with Louise Sodler, Chairman of Bromley Tangent, and members Jane Waldeck and Lindsey Hinds at the South East Regional Luncheon in Southampton and as if that wasn’t enough they spent the evening at the Bugle Inn in Horley – well, there is never enough time to catch up on everything, is there?

Farnborough (Kent) Tangent has 18 members and meets twice a month. They go away, together with partners, for a long weekend twice a year – in the spring to Europe and the autumn in England.

Editor’s note… a very special group. I spent my Circling days with them and look where it has got me. Farnborough, may you long continue to enjoy your very special friendships!

President Janice … Let the friendship continue …

Since the last Tangent News I have attended 22 Club events including Danlon on Sea’s Round Table Family Ball. Friendship evenings in Downham Market, Northampton, Swindon, Dartford, American Anniversary celebrations in Peterfield, Kenilworth, Gillingham and Shaftesbury. Spalding where there have been several clubs represented. I have been made welcome in so many places, Winchester, Retford, Wollaston and Carlston, Burnham on Sea, Rusthven, Herpenden, Lichfield, Chepstow, Mumbles and Thornbury. I do hope I haven’t left anyone out. There has been so much laughter but I think Mumbles win on having too much fun. And thank you to Lichfield Tangent, you know why!!

Halloween with Wollaston and Carlston was amazing, the food was spectacular and we discovered one lady went to school with my brother and played in our front recent small world Lesley. Thank you to the clubs who also looked after my husband so royally, Gillingham and Shaftesbury and Danlon to name but a few. John loved the nuts from Spalding, I think they are beginning to pop up now.

Now I’m into the final stage and I’ve joined up with Saltburn and also Beverly Westwood this week. The home hosting was superb.
What a wonderful year it has been internationally for Tangent. The Charter of Tangent Club International (TCI) was a significant event in May 2014 and Tangent GB is proud to be a founder member alongside the Tangents from Cyprus, Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

More countries are now in the process of joining TCI with the Charter of Finland Tangent taking place in April 2015, just a week before our own National AGM. If you would like to come along and support the Finland charter then full details are on their website www.cofagm.fi. I am also in discussions with a lady in the Ukraine with a view to starting the first Tangent club there and you will have already heard about the possibility of Tangent starting in Zambia from the last magazine so let’s hope that this is the year it gets off the ground. With new clubs forming both at home and abroad there is still lots of life left in Tangent yet!

The 1st AGM of TCI will take place in Cyprus over the weekend following our AGM and again if you would like to support TCI the website is www.agm2015limassol.com. A number of UK members are already registered and some are making a holiday of it so why not join them – it will be a fantastic experience and an opportunity to meet like-minded ladies from other countries.

We will also be hosting the Half Yearly Meeting (HYM) for TCI on 24 October 2015 in Birmingham and may hold our own HYM or a Tangent GB get together on the same day. The website for bookings is not available just yet but all will be revealed in ample time for you to join in.

I have had a fantastic year as IPP and IRO and will be sorry to leave the National Executive in April but it is time for some new faces and I wish all the candidates standing for posts this year every success, though it is a shame they can’t all win as they are all so enthusiastic. I know I will still catch up with many of you at Regional Lunches and hopefully at some international events in future so until then.....

Karen xx
Immediate Past President – NATC
International Relations Officer
Editor’s Note: It has been lovely to receive feedback about the article in last edition of Tangent News from Mulenga. Supporting clubs across the world is a wonderful experience and now we have Tangent Clubs International we have more opportunities to do so....

Editor’s note: In the last magazine we featured an article from Mulenga Tembo from Zambia. Mulenga’s article attracted several emails and offers of support. Supporting clubs across the world is a wonderful experience and now we have Tangent Clubs International we have more opportunities to do so....
International clubbing in New Zealand

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The flight is long and not for the faint-hearted but so worth the effort. New Zealand is an amazing country and the experience of those who we spoke to before our visit was ‘you won’t be disappointed’ and we weren’t! Time constraints meant that we were only able to visit part of the island, but we enjoyed every moment. We overdosed on amazing sites; round each bend was another breathtaking view and in a country where if you see a couple of cars ahead on the road you are free to explore without the stresses of grid-locked roads and parking night.

We giggled our way through the living arrangements with Dave and I clambering a ladder each night to sleep over the driving cabin! However, exploring the country in a camping van is a great experience. Sites are well situated and appointed. They provided good facilities and we discovered that other campers often donate goods to you as they finish their tours.

We booked a few visits; including whale watching and swimming with the dolphins. The former was extremely moving as we got up very close to a sperm whale and then experienced a pod of dolphins laying on a side show under and around our boat! When we went to swim with dolphins we donned our wet suits with good humour. Chris as ever looked great, the rest of us looked less than glamourous and regrettably despite us getting in the sea the Hector’s dolphins immediately took off! At Franz Josef we stayed in a rainforest area campsite, took in a hot tub under the trees and then walked up to the Glacier only a few miles away – a really awesome experience!

Many of the little towns we visited were very quiet and quite remote, so it was a bit of a shock all round when we came upon 3 good friends who were on the Pre-Conference Tour, only to find the rest of the gang eating lunch in a bar! It really doesn’t matter where you are in the world, with the 4 Clubs, you are always with friends and it was lovely to see Beth and Arnold Allen and John and Rosemary Livingstone amongst the group!

Despite the distance there were about 200 people attending the 41 Club International Half Yearly Conference. There were contingents from many of the European countries and a substantial group from India and we enjoyed renewing old friendships and making new ones. There were members from all 4 of the clubs, despite this being a 41 Club event and we enjoyed an evening chatting to an ex-pat who is trying to establish Round Table and Ladies Circle in New Zealand. The New Zealanders were lovely hosts; they were laid back, friendly and entertaining. Blenheim is in the heart of Marlborough country so there were plenty of opportunities to sample the famous wines from the region… especially the Sauvignon Blanc which Chris and I voted our favourite. We were treated to some traditional Maori singing and dancing as well as to a less formal, but highly entertaining rendition by the local 41ers.

Business conducted, banners exchanged and the banter kept going. The essence of our organisations transcended the differences in cultures, backgrounds and languages. Where else could you strike up a conversation with a complete stranger, and find that you have so much in common? May the fun and friendship ever continue to flow …

Pauline Campbell