

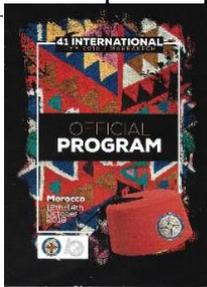


Hi All,

Melodie recently attended the TCI Half yearly meeting in Marrakesh She has compiled this report to keep us all up to date I hope you enjoy reading this as much as I did

Half Yearly Meeting Marrakech, Morocco 13 October 2018

After pre-Conference tour by coach through the Middle Atlas Mountains visiting gardens, mosques, palaces, medinas, and souks in the Imperial cities of Casablanca, Rabat, and Fez, and roman remains in Volubilis, we returned to Marrakech after a thirteen-hour journey, via Chez Ali with a Moroccan horse display, for the HYM weekend. All the arrangements had been made by just five Moroccan 41ers Aziz, Kamal, Mohamed, Said, and especially Bachir who had accompanied our coach and kept us supplied with refreshments!



Friday night saw us dressed in a red or black Burnous (cloak) for a special party night and show of spectacular musicians and dancers at Dar Sukkar, with a traditional Moroccan banquet. Saturday morning was the Tangent International meeting led by TCI President Paula, with 26 members from GB&I attending, including President Jill, V-P Sue, and National Editor Kate, many contributing to the discussions, and Pauline and Barbara taking the Minutes. Alex lit the Candle of Friendship. Greetings were given from the Presidents of 41 Club International, Round Table International, Agora International and Ladies Circle Morocco. Maltese 41ers kindly supplied us with liqueur and nougat to advertise the next HYM in Malta in 2019.



The Board reports were given by Paula, telling us about her visits and meetings and encouraging us to support the LCI Charity by buying raffle tickets or ‘buying a brick’ to help build a ‘Ronald MacDonald’ house for children suffering from cancer and their parents to stay in Botswana, and Treasurer Inger-Lise who confirmed all capitations had been paid. Councillors’ reports: Cyprus – 3 Clubs 40 members; Denmark – 39 Clubs 320 members with 500 Ladies Circlers becoming 45 in the next 5 years; Finland gave a slide presentation - 304 members; and my GB&I report is attached and on our website - 560 clubs and 10,400 members; India – 375 members, not all clubs linked with 41 Clubs so they are encouraging their growth too; Israel – 11 clubs and 150 members, all since forming two and half years ago; Norway – 4 clubs, 45 members; Sweden – 17 clubs 190 members. None of the Associate members, Belgium, Netherlands, Lithuania, Sri Lanka, Ukraine, Zambia were present.

Items for Discussion:

- I. **Treasurer and Secretary roles 2020 onwards** – the International euro account is in Finland and will stay there for ease of use. Agreed that posts should change in different years for continuity. Suggested Secretary’s job should go with that of the V-P.
- II. **Website** – resounding yes, we need our own, kept up to date. A Danish member has been doing this for no cost up until now, with items sent through the Danish Board. Many helpful comments – ways to get good value, efficient website, need for continuity of web lady, Paula to find out possible costings. Need for generic emails for TCI Board.
- III. **Capitation** - this was taken together with our submissions re **Board Member Funding iv** and **President’s Travel Funding v** – Paula gave us some costings for 5 Board members (2021 onwards) for meetings. To cover these TCI would need an extra 10,000 €. Do we want to raise Capitation? Asking every member for 1€ would cover it? Denmark have a reduced Capitation for pensioners. Assume there will be little/no financial support for TCI posts advertised in the next couple of years – VP, Treasurer and Secretary.
- VI. **Facebook** – set up by Janette Korch and needs to stay with her. NB Facebook groups will no longer run and will be closed, therefore need to be ‘pages’ – groups can go off these pages. Agreed on two – TCI members only and an Open page.
- VII. **Future HYM/AGM meetings** – agreed already covered by existing rules, with the addition of ‘where possible on a year by year basis’.

Any other business: Denmark raised the issue of Paula as TCI President, attending, speaking and contributing to the Agora International Conference booklet, without informing her Board beforehand and getting their approval. Mixed feelings on this, but all agreed that Paula as TCI President should join in any 5 Club meetings/discussions in the spirit of continued friendship.

Next meetings:

AGM 26-28 April 2019 – Brussels, Belgium

HYM 31 October to 3 November 2019 – Malta
?? AGM 26-28 June 2020 – Verona, Italy ??

Afterwards we were all bussed to Golf Assoufid for an enjoyable lunch in the sunshine.



Neither Jill nor I were invited to the Banner Exchange, so we had plenty of time to change for the magnificent Gala Dinner. This was held at Ali Mahal's – a spectacular entertainment complex used in the film Aladdin. The theme was International Music and Dance. Greeted with bubbly and canapés, followed by a traditional banquet and plenty of wine. A wonderful evening for meeting, sharing and catching up with friends. Thanks to those of you who have posted photos on Facebook.

Many of us left early on Sunday and others were able to stay on and enjoy such sights as the Yves St Laurent exhibition and garden and explore the souks of Marrakech in a more leisurely fashion. We all have a feast of memories of exciting times spent with lovely people. Congratulations and thanks go to the Moroccan 41ers!

If you have not experienced an International event since Circle and Table days, why not give it a try - after all Brussels is only just across the Channel.

Melodie Brookes, IPP and IRO 2018-19

Yours in Continued Friendship

Heather Parry

National Secretary 2018-2020

 Let friendship continue