

International Relations Report May 2008.

Yet another busy, successful and fulfilling year dealing with the “family” of 41 Club and now to try and tell you all what has been happening;

Last year we were in the process of setting up International Consuls to represent us at 41 International meetings and had Michael Pederson as one and were trying to get Peter Poech but he has been taken by Denmark so we now have Beat Berger from Switzerland as our 2nd Consul. Both of these are good blokes who have taken great lengths to find out what we want said and done.

Many of you met Dieter and Lydia Straka while they were here last AGM and during their tour around NZ, a lovely couple who we keep in touch with regularly. I have found Dieter a ready source of information and a great sounding board particularly on matters international.

It was a real pleasure to be able to introduce the Perth 41 Club members to our tour of Western Australia in August and from what I have heard since we would be welcome back again; this was the first time they had had a 41 Club Tour pass through.

In February Eberhard and Betty Reiniger from Darmstadt Germany came and stayed with us at the beginning of their tour around New Zealand and had a dinner with the Christchurch 41 Club. They had hosted Kiwi's on a Round Table Tour of Germany 25 years ago and visited them again while here, it's a great family this 41 Club!!!

March had a group from Estonia visiting, not all of them were 41er's but they travel to go tramping together. Tina and I plus Sue Ironside went up to Hanmer Springs to meet them as they came through from West Coast to Kaikoura. Another lovely day.

At this stage the new International President Randolph Riedlinger from Italy is hoping to tour around NZ in January 09 and wants to visit as many 41 Clubs as possible, I will keep you informed as soon as I have more to tell.

Vice President John Bellwood has said he wants to come to Blenheim AGM 09; his wife is a Kiwi from the Rakia Gorge.

I have had people from Denmark, England, Germany and Austria etc asking for help with their itineraries; we are well known on the 41 International scene and it's a pleasure to be able to help them as we have been looked after by them.

These are the ones we really enjoy as they all have the common background of Round Table, similar interests and are of our age group. It's never difficult to find hosts for them when I need to.

Thank you all for all the help and support over the year and rest assured I will keep you informed of things as they develop.

Yours In 41
Derek Johns

“Promoting and furthering friendships at Local, National and International levels”.

