



Main RTI Events

RTI Half Yearly Meeting
Hungary, 18-21 February 2016

Round Table Day
Worldwide, 14 March 2016

Africa Meeting
Kenya, 21-24 April 2016

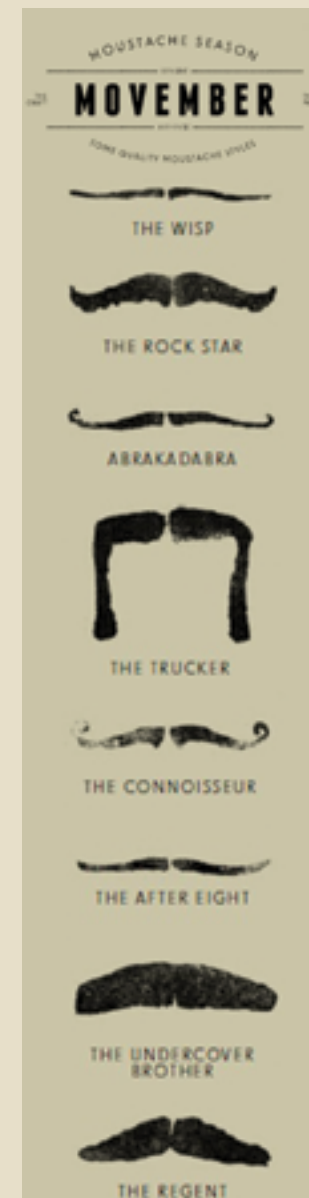
ASPA Meeting
Sri Lanka, 27-29 May 2016

EMA Meeting
Tunisia, 14-17 July 2016

RTI World Meeting
Nepal, 31 Aug - 4 Sept 2016

To view the full list of submitted events, visit the RTI Website www.rtiinternational.org. To have your event published on the website, submit the information to pro@rtinternational.org

Deadline for submission of articles is the **10th** of **each month**. Please send articles in the format of a News release (in MS word) together with relevant pictures separately (max. 4 per article) to publish.





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ROUND TABLE DAY 14TH MARCH

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Discussion Members Events Photos Files

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Add Information about your group.

RECENT ACTIVITY

Irshad Paurobally
Just now

MOVEMBER

MEMBERS 7,871 Members (12 new)

Add People to Group

Invite by Email

DESCRIPTION
This is the official ROUND TABLE INTERNA...
See More

REQUESTS (2)

Marina Ziegler
Muhammad Irfan

CREATE NEW GROUPS
Groups make it easier than

PK's MESSAGE



PEACE N HARMONY - What is happening to our Mother earth today?

a Peace and harmony r fading away from our planet. Paris and Syria are in divesting condition today. It is where world peace is taken for a toll. An eye for eye only ends up the world blind. Intolerance and the will to probe oneself right bring in violence and destruction to the world.

Global peace is at all time low. Restlessness and violence had enveloped our globe. It is time we collectively slowly and steadily increase our acceptance towards each other to encourage peace to sip in us. When the power of love overcomes love for power the world will be at peace. Tablers let's all pray and invoke peace in our hearts and on our planet.

Prayer for peace...

Lord make me an instrument of thy peace.

Where there is hatred. Let me sow love.

Where there is injury ...pardon

Where there is error. Truth

Where there is doubt...The faith

Where there is despair ...hope

Where there is darkness. Light

Where there is sadness. Joy

FOR IT IS IN GIVING SHALL WE RECIEVE.

MAY PEACE. LOVE N LIGHT BE TO ALL !!!

Pls send your articles to reach mailbox: pro@rtinternational.org by 10th of every month. Please send articles in the format of a News release (in MS word) together with relevant pictures separately (max. 4 per article) to publish.

Yours in Tabling,

Tr.Prakash Kapadia: RTI PRO



#PRAYFORPARIS

Irshad Paurobally > TABLE RONDE FRANCAISE -
FRENCH ROUND TABLE
November 14 at 9:18pm · 🌐

Chers amis, nous sommes tous avec vous et nous partageons votre souffrance.

Vive la France et vive la liberté!

Tablement,
Irshad Paurobally
Africa Region Chairman



PRAY FOR PARIS

Dear friends

I'm sure that, like me, you have responded with a mix of shock and horror to the tragic events in Paris a few weeks back, and that your thoughts would have quickly turned to the innocent victims, and to their families and friends. On behalf of Africa Region, I would like to express our sincere condolences and sympathy to everyone so grievously affected by these terrible attacks. Many of us contacted our tabling friends in Paris and across France to ensure that they are safe.

This tragedy touched a very deep part of our hearts and every single one of us can relate to the sufferings of our friends in France. As a tabler, I thought deeply on how I could support my friends in such difficult times. First, by recognising all those tablers who were present on the ground supporting family, friends and strangers alike in this time of tragedy. Second, I believe we must be able to transcend man-made barriers through fellowship which is something our movement has always believed in.

The fellowship among fellow men might not be as strong as it could be but we are different because we are tablers. We were not born tablers - we chose to become tablers. We chose to live in accordance to certain values and principles - we chose the path of fellowship in making a difference to the world to make it a better and more beautiful place.

I came across an article which I would like to share with you. It's written by Gianpiero Petriglieri, an Associate Professor at INSEAD and the article appeared in the Harvard Business Review. I've sought his kind permission to publish his article because I believe that there is a parallel between his insight on fellowship reinforces my opinion that our values, our bonds and the aims of our movement can only act as a force for good in the world we live in.



Quote

After Paris, We Need More Fellowship, Not More Leadership

Gianpiero Petriglieri - November 14, 2015

I was waiting to be let in for our first university exam when the machine gun went off outside. My classmates and I rushed to the windows and saw the killers escaping while pedestrians hovered around the victims' car.

When the police arrived we were already sitting our test, in silence. All I remember thinking was, I want to get out of here. Of Sicily, that is, not school. The scene was horrific, but it was not new where I grew up. When the bombs went off, later that summer, the government sent down the army.

Unsafe as we always felt, however, middle class teenagers like me never felt quite like targets. Criminals killed each other, and the most honest businesspeople, magistrates, and police. And yet going to school, or out at night, or to the beach, felt like an act of defiance. Some of my friends, back then, bravely resolved to become judges. I was much less brave and kept wanting out.

I dreamt of living in a place where liberties like a football match, a concert, or a late night out didn't involve anxiety or imply civil protest. A place like Paris.

I have been lucky to live and work and raise my children next to that gorgeous city for a decade now. We were at home, asleep, at the time of the attacks. Waking up to concerned messages from those old friends asking "are you safe?" was shocking and somewhat surreal. Thankfully, we are. Or are we?

I wonder if my parents felt just as lost for words as I did this morning when my seven-year-old asked, "Why did they shoot people? Is there a war here, too?" I told my children what every parent does. "We are safe, don't worry, it will be

ok." We are still very fortunate: I seldom have to say that and know that it's a lie.

We are alive. We are defiant. But we are not safe. This time, we are targets.

As I looked at the news and scrolled through social media, I realized like many that the terrorists did not hit traditional symbols of French money and power. They hit the up-and-coming, diverse neighborhoods where my friends and colleagues live, the clubs and restaurants where young people mix and hang out.

Freedom was wounded, without a doubt, but these were attacks on tolerance. On the French ideal that Liber-té and Égalité are not enough. We need Fraternité too, lest a diverse society fragment and crumble.

I thought of my MBA students, too, out on a Friday night, likely in Paris. I have been wondering what I will tell them, after our minute of silence in class next week. Only one thing comes to mind.

I don't quietly want out, this time. We need to talk. And we had better not lie. I wish I would not have to call them brave, for choosing to go to school with people whose origins and values are so different from their own. Given how embattled that kind of commitment now seems, however, I must. Curiosity is what every fundamentalism despises.

I also wish we were better at cultivating that curiosity. Far too often, we praise it but do not honor it enough. We often say that the purpose of education is to prepare the leaders of tomorrow. The question is how we prepare them, and for what.

Today it is obvious once more that making leaders effective is hardly enough. Giving them the confidence and tools to claim the values and pursue the goals of those like them,

in fact, will only make things worse. We rather need more space to question our own values and goals, and learn about others'—whether we are leaders or not.

The purpose of education, ultimately, is to look after civilization. That does not mean helping defend and propagate one group's culture, be it a fiercely local or a globally dispersed one. Doing so cultivates tribalism, if only in disguise.

Fostering civilization means cultivating our curiosity to recognize substantive differences, and our commitment to respect them—within and between groups. For that, we need not more effective but more humane leaders. More conflicted, less conflicting ones. Leaders who can hold on to their voice, and help others find theirs, when it feels riskier to do so.

There are plenty of good tribal leaders already. We need more civilized leaders instead. And come to think of it, what we really need is not more leadership as much as more fellowship. The senti-ment, that is, of sharing a common predicament even if we don't share the same history, experience, or fate. A sentiment most necessary precisely when fragmentation and fundamentalism are far more common. Fellowship is an antidote to both, an alternative to otherness that does not imply sameness.

It is easy to remain speechless, scream, or strike when words do not suffice. But talking is what we need now, especially about what might be hard to hear. We cannot win a war on intolerance. We can only respect each other out of it."

Unquote

This essay originally appeared on hbr.org and has a link to the original. HBR holds the copyright.

Yours in Tabling

Irshad Paurobally:

Africa Region Chairman & RTI Secretary 2015/16



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ASPA CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Fellow Tablers,

May I start by wishing each of you and your families a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The service project I would like to highlight this month is by INDIA's MADRAS AMIGOS ROUND TABLE (MART) 260 organised a first of its kind - Free Osteoporosis Camp for the Chennai

Police Personnel. This unique event was conducted at CB-CID Head Quarters, Egmore in Chennai and was spread across 2 days - 4th and 5th August, 2015. At the camp, 350 personnel of various ranks of the police department were screened and subjected to a bone density check. An instant report was generated and handed over to each person. The report confirmed the presence or absence of osteoporosis and also the stage of the ailment if found positive. Based on the report, free medication was provided to the personnel. The volunteers of MART 260 were present in full enthusiasm and interacted with each person who underwent the test, distributed medicines and shared information on good lifestyle to prevent the disease. The cost of the tests and the medicines at the camp was about INR 5,00,000/- (Five Lakhs). This effort by MART 260 was well appreciated by IG, Mr Mahesh Agarwal and all the CB CID department. We should be proud of the Tablers at MART260 for championing this noble cause.

If anyone was headed down to NEW ZEALAND would have not missed their Blues Brews @ BBQs event being organized on the 28th of November by BLENHEIM RT. It's their 21st anniversary and I'm sure it was a real spectacle of fun and frolic for the whole family. More info at www.bluesbrewsbbqs.co.nz and make sure you plan to be their next year! A great way to engage with the community and increase publicity about Round Table... good on you mates!

I hope you all enjoy the holidays and look forward to seeing you all in true Tabling spirit in 2016!

Yours in Tabling

Ibrahim Saleem: ASPA Region Chairman & RTI Treasurer 2015/16





VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Tablers,

The original idea of the Round Table, Adopt – Adapt – Improve, is now more relevant than ever. We are more than 30 000 Tablers in some 60 countries. We are willing to grow younger and stronger. We are all doing extraordinary things locally

and regionally in our Tables and Associations, from which others could learn. Our challenge is how to communicate these things to others. How to learn from each other. Therefore I challenge you all to share your best practices so that others can adopt them, adapt them to their own Round Tables and maybe even improve them and share them back.

To open the game, I share here two good practices of which I learned about in the Nordic Tablers' Meeting in Iceland. The first one is the Swedish model to increase membership in cooperation with the 41 Club. They have made a deal that if a Tabler, before graduating to the 41 Club, introduces two new Tablers to Round Table, he gets first year free in the 41 Club. This is real side-by-side cooperation to grow stronger!

I wonder if this practice could be improved to also grow the Round Table younger at the same time by giving similar opportunity to under 30 years old new Tablers? If a new young Tabler introduces two new under 30 years old members during his first year, he would get his second year free. Just an idea, which you can adopt, adapt and improve if you find it relevant.

Another fine practice comes from Luxemburg and its purpose is to make new members more active from year



one. They have made a "commitments list" in their handbook which contains the most important things a Tabler should do or events to attend during the season. This helps the Tablers to identify what's going on, and also activates them to collect as many checks to their list as possible. You can find the RT Luxemburg list below. Again, you are free to adopt this idea, adapt the list into your own Club or Association and improve if possible.

Now it is your turn: Please send your best practices, no matter how simple or complicated, to pro@rtinternational.org to be published in the News Flashes every month. You can also send stories how you adopted, adapted and maybe even improved some practice you learned from others.

Yours in improving Tabling,

Kaj Kostlander:
RTI Vice President 2015/16





WHAT IS ROUNDTABLE? – WHAT DOES ROUNDTABLE DO FOR ME?



The answer to those questions here above have been given a new meaning for me those recent months and so I decided to put it into words so all my RT and OT friends can know how powerful and impressive our movement is.

Here is a small prehistory. As many of you Icelandic RT members know, me and my wife Margrét Gjetarsdóttir have a 6 year old chronically sick daughter named Brynhildur Lára.

At the age of one she was diagnosed with a disease called NF1. A description on this disease is that a non-malignant tumor grows slowly on neural system and these tumors can grow to become malignant. In her case there is a tumor on her optic nerve. The progress is carefully monitored with MRI and blood tests. At the age of two a tumor is discovered that has begun to pressure the optic nerve so much that her sight had reduced significantly. At this stage the decision was to put her in chemotherapy to try to stop the growth of the tumor and recover the rest of the vision she had. It should be noted that this disease is incurable but it is possible to keep it in remission with drugs and radiotherapy. During the winter of 2011-2012 Brynhildur Lára was in chemotherapy at a pediatric - hospital Hringurinn in Iceland. All of a sudden the therapy was canceled over the course of summer 2012 because she had formed a life-threatening allergy to one of the cancer drug that she had been taken. The doctors in Iceland decided that the best thing would be to stop the medication treatment as



the tumor was reducing but the battle of retaining full vision was lost. Brynhildur Lára was completely blind on one eye and the other had 2 % vision. The next two years were stable and Brynhildur Lára was recovering from the chemotherapy. Most of our time goes into the process of adapting her and us to the world of blind as we try to create the best environment for her under these circumstances.

In a routine monitoring in May 2014 there are some changes detected on pictures from the MRI. The doctors decide to wait until September to take another MRI, to be able to diagnose if the tumor has become malignant. Around mid-summer 2014 we the parents became aware that her vision had deteriorated in a short time and in August 2014 she was identified as completely blind on both eyes. We are at this point waiting to get her to a MRI, which for some reason was delayed until October, but was previously on schedule early September. The result reveals a new tumor on the optic nerve that covers a

so-called cross and they are starting to push on the brain. Later the doctors (in Iceland) inform us that they are in a dilemma because they did not know what to do next. It would not be possible to remove the tumor with surgery and medication would hardly be possible because no drugs existed that could replace the medicine she had formed allergy. They also didn't want to take the risk on taking some samples because of the location of the tumor and possible internal bleeding. However, they believed, according to MRI pictures, that the tumor was non-malignant.

This was a great shock. We the parents decided to contact a pediatric hospital connected with Harvard University in Boston and used our family connection to do so. The doctor there got us in contact with specialized professionals in this specific disease (Iceland does not have doctor with a specialization on this disease, but they have familiarized themselves as a side subject along with their expertise). The doctors at this hospital felt that immediate action needed to be taken and there were ways and drugs for that.

At this point we as parents thought that we would need to send her to Boston for examination and treatment. However that was not the case as the Icelandic doctors wanted to wait and see!!! The reason for that was because the treatments available for her requested that it would be better for her to wait a little, she would be so weak from the treatment, and felt that she was not that sufficiently and seriously ill that it would be worth trying. Boston is not an option for us, as it requires quite a lot of capital. This result from the Icelandic doctors came early 2015. Wait and see.

My wife and I had discussed the possibility of going to Sweden to seek help, because we had received tips that if the disease could somewhere be treatable in Europe it would be in Sweden. We addressed this to her supervising doctor in Iceland got the answer if we had a chance of going it could be a very good choice for her. There in the beginning of 2015 after a serious



consideration and according to recommendations of doctors and others, the best option for Brynhildur Lára would be Stockholm. And the best possibility for the child would be at Astrid Lindgren barnsjukhus (Karolinska Hospital) in Stockholm. To make this work we would need to move to Sweden and register into the country because the Icelandic government would not assist in this case. At this point we decided that I would go to prepare and try to search for work to earn a living. When this was decided there were still some hurdles such as where should I live and go about with all sorts of things.

Here is where the importance of RT and OT kicks in, which has given me a new vision of what that movement stands for. I would still like to underline that Roundtable Iceland and especially my friends in RT12 were always firmly supporting me all this time.

In mid-February my brother in law and a RT member Svanur Karl Grjetarsson (RT6) suggested that I would contact RT in Sweden and tell them about this situation and if they could somehow help me. I did not see it completely how that would



work as I didn't know anyone in Roundtable Sweden and had just briefly met some Swedes on a Euro-meeting in 2013. Svanur reiterated that I should still make the try and make the contact. It took me a week to think about this and write a letter. Whom should I then send it to? After some thought I decided to send a letter to John Thorsson IRO-RT Sweden, and the Regional District 6 - the Stockholm region for RT Sweden. The letter was sent and then nothing could be done except to wait for an answer. After half an hour I received a reply from John. He had assigned me as a task to a certain person within RT Sweden and I would hear him soon.

The next day I get a message through Facebook, a man who many are familiar with, Mikael Schvili. He told me that he had taken this matter into his own hands in helping me getting to Sweden - he had distributed my letter to all clubs and to the Facebook page of RT- Sweden, with a request for assistance and ideas. I received a message from soon again stating that two RT members in Västerås had approached him and told him that they had an apartment in the center of Stockholm. They were willing to lend me the apartment free of charge



as I needed - they use the apartment occasionally when they needed to stay in the city and the only requirement was that they could still do so. These fine men are Hans Kindhag and Fredrik Århed, geniuses from Västerås. Soon after another member contacted me directly, a man by the name of Pierre Lundqvist who is an OT man and he said that he would register me in OT in Stockholm and see to it that I would get to know people within the movement. I found out an event here called Sthlm onsdagsöl that I have attended to, this is a cross clubs companionship that covers both RT, OT and LC. The purpose-meet, chat and drink beer.

When this was all clicking together it was time to book flights and announce my arrival - which was March 15 but turned out to be March 16 because of flight cancellations. When I arrived Pierre picked me up from the airport and escorted me into the city, and to the apartment, which then turned out to be empty. He told me not to worry because they, Hans and Fredrik, were coming by car from Västerås with furniture and household equipment. They arrived then few hours later. They refurnished the apartment and helped me out with my stuff.



The internet was not working and so Hans told me that he would fix that, which he did. Hans asked his wife, Johanna Funquist to bring the roudier to the city the next week, as she needed to make the trip anyway (this was the LC effect as she is a LC woman from Västerås). The next few days passed and I had settled in and started the job hunt. By the end of the week John Thorsson contacted me and invited me to a District meeting in Västerås, a meeting of all clubs in the area of 7, if I recall correctly, Västerås and vicinity. This session was as crowded as our representative meetings in Iceland but a bit more informal. So weeks past and I was still on the job hunt and also learning the Swedish language. I was also in regular contact with my colleagues in RT and OT in Sweden and formed a network of contacts.

Mikael informed me, once when we had a meeting, that the members of Sweden had decided to support my family and had collected donation to a fund from which we would receive when we would finally move to Sweden as a family. They had decided that this was one of two charity projects of that year that was aimed directly to a RT member.

Time passed and the month that was the original plan was all of a sudden six weeks and no job in sight. I was studying Swedish full time but my concern was that I could not move here with my family as I did not have a job. In early May when I met with Hans, in one of his journeys to the city, I went to discuss this with him, that this would probably not work out as I didn't have a job. He looked at me for a while and asked me if that was what really mattered. That I was moving to help my daughter, the work would come etc. There I got a good kick in the butt, which made me see the whole picture in a different light. It was certainly important to have a job, but something had to be done for my girl that was the most important thing!! He was sure that this would be possible without the work for the moment, it would be difficult but possible - the most important thing was that my daughter would get appropriate help.

After this conversation we decided to go for it and move. I started looking for housing for us that went surprisingly well. I completed the lease of the house we now live in. Since I did



not have a personal number in Sweden I had to find a guarantor or pay the guarantee amount, so the treasurer for RT Sweden offered to lend me the guarantee amount for the house if needed. However I was able to arrange that in other way. In late May I was back in Iceland and had a month to prepare the move, rent out our accommodations in Iceland, sell the car, etc. That all went smoothly with the help of a good people. On July 5th we were united in Sweden as a family.

The container with all our stuff was supposed to come a few days later. There was one more headache, a truck would arrive with the container and just stop in the street (end of the street) and the container would not be put down. I had an hour to unload. I needed help as I knew that I would not be able to do this on my own with the assistance of my 16 years old daughter and wife. So I call up my friends in RT Sweden and ask if they know of any ways to get help with unloading, in the middle of the week, during lunch and in the middle of the Swedish summer holiday. With few answers at first, except that Pierre announced a call on District 6 fb page – i.e. RT Stockholm area. One volunteered, a man I had never

met before and said he was ready to come. This was Mikael Hellsvik, another taibler that just appears and ready to help out a total stranger (me) that happened to be a former taibler. We unload the container within an hour while it rained... and I was missing word over all of this assistance.

Going back to my daughter illness. Shortly after we arrived in Stockholm we had a meeting with Icelandic cancer physician, Trausti, at Astrid Lindgren Children's Hospital at the Karolinska Hospital. We go through the case and he informs us that he will process all the data that we took with us from Iceland including MRI photos of her head that were taken on June 23 and the information that the tumor was stable and no significant change from the previous MRI in March. Trausti would take pictures on a large specialist meeting along with other documents and there would be a detailed discussion on the case. We were informed that we might expect to receive a summary regarding the outcome of the meeting. Then our daughter would be called in for a new MRI in October. Two weeks later our doctor Trausti phones us and ask us to come to the hospital and meet up with two other doctors. They wanted to discuss with us the results of the meeting and what they saw out the latest pictures taken in Iceland on June 23. It turns out that they have a different opinion than the Icelandic doctors on the MRI taken in Iceland. The tumor had grown significantly from previous pictures and it is in a really bad place in her head. They showed us a perspective of her brain that we had not seen before and the enlargement was clear. This was a perspective we had never seen in Iceland. They inform us that she needs treatment as soon as possible if it's not too late already. In order to know what could be done and how the treatment would be selected, then they would need to undergo a brain surgery to achieve a sample of the tumor. From this they could see the nature of the tumor, malignant or not, etc. On August 6th, she was operated on which was originally planned for 4-6 hours but ended up being 9 hours, as it was difficult to access the tumor. The tumor is place in a way that it is impossible to surgically remove it, it sits deep in the brain close to the pituitary gland. Our daughter recovered remarkable well after this difficult operation. She had come home on the fourth day after the operation, absolutely incredible.



Two weeks later the results were in, the tumor was fortunately non malignant and grew slowly. The doctors will do anything to conquer this tumor and they agreed to put her on a new drug that had proven successful in Toronto in Canada. Now Brynhildur Lara has begun her cancer chemotherapy. It is expected that she will be in treatment until October, then undergo a new research, and if that research shows a success she will continue the treatment unchanged once a week as before, otherwise the dosage will be increased or the treatment will be changed in some other manner.

I am therefore convinced that to move with the family to Stockholm was one of the best decisions ever made for my daughter. Of course it is hard to leave everything we have at home and the oldest daughter who did not come with us, and jump out into the unknown, but we are doing everything we can for our daughter, apart from other issues like jobs and money etc. Because if we were still in Iceland, we would still be in an uncertainty and no decisions had been taken. Just wait and see... and we as parents would remain in the strait-jacket. Now we have got a treatment that hopefully gives her a better quality of life and better life.

It is quite clear that the participation of RT in Sweden is very important when it came to the final decision. This move to Sweden would probably not have been realized if we had not received the encouragement and so we must ask what

it would have mean for health and life Brynhildur Lára if this decision had not been made. If my conversation with Hans and other RT members, had not had the effect it had.

It does not matter that much that I do not have a job still today, even though it effects our lives - but what does matter is that something is being done for my daughter. Work comes later, when things slowdown. The dedication and strength that our RT members in Sweden have shown comes well in handy, and makes our life as a family a little bit easier. This gift is such a great help. We'll have a roof over our head for a while and hopefully things will get up and running here- all takes time, such as: applications, registration and administrative burden. Then I will hopefully get a job- otherwise it is just porridge every day.

The encouragement and support that RT has shown me has proven the movement's purpose. The amazing friendship and goodwill when difficulties arises- This is what Roundtable stands for- This is what Roundtable did for me.

With regards to all the tablers in Iceland

Hrafn Óttarsson
Former chairman of RT 12 in Iceland
Current OT member in Sweden





THE WHOLE AREA 16 READY FOR THE HALF YEAR MEETING OF RT FRANCE !



The next HYM of RT France will take place from 15-17 Jan. 2016 in Chablis (Burgundy) and organized by the Area 16 Tablers

As usual, 1500 tablers will share a great deal of friendship through tasting food and beverages from the 22 areas of RT France. This year International guests from several countries are expected and you will experience an amazing Chablis Wine Tour with good wine tasting in cellars!

All the information on : www.cnrchablis2016.fr (click on the English flag "RTI link") and feel free to contact the RT France National IRO Lény Hénou : iro@tablerondefrancaise.com

RT 172 CHOLET HAS BIG HEART!

On October 25th, 20 tablers from RT 172 and Area 7 participated to the Foulées Choletaises (10 kilometers running race in Cholet) among 2500 runners.

They promoted the association Mecenat Chirurgie Cardiaque (Heart Surgery) that helps children with heart problems and diseases.

Thanks to sponsors and products on sale, they collected 2000 €. Congrats to RT 172!



RT 269 Sainte Maxime/Saint Tropez (Area 18) organized its first edition of "Art DiVin" on August 23rd. The goal was to gather artists and wine producers to collect money for improving living environment of children from 3 to 12 with social problems.

During this event, tablers welcomed 250 people and 800 € were collected. Despite bad weather, normally it is always sunny in South of France ;-), the second edition is planned!

TABLING, JUST DO IT!



Dear fellow Tablers,

As I reflected about what could be the motto of my presidential year, I had to notice that a lot of mostly younger tablers don't know the whole dimension of Round table because they often limit their commitment to local statutory meetings. Even if local tabling is the important basis of our movement, Round table has a lot more to offer.

Worldwide friendship and exchange between young men sharing the same values and committed to realise social projects is what Round table is about. To live the table spirit gives every tabler the opportunity to collect lots of unforgettable moments.

So I decided to choose this motto and set a main focus of my year as National President of Round table Luxembourg to motivate tablers and favorize their commitment on national and more important on international level.

In this context we organized on national level a Young Tablers Evening in order to help connecting recent tablers who joined RT Luxembourg during the last 12 months. In February usually takes place our National Joint Statutory Meeting which brings together all the tablers from the whole country. These two events help us to maintain and enforce the strong relationships between our six local tables which is certainly an advantage of a small country. Besides we try to initiate on local level meetings with tables of other countries in the border regions with Belgium, France and Germany.

In addition Round table Luxembourg created on last AGM in May a special diligence reward to encourage the tablers to travel and participate in international meetings.



Finally on of the goals in this issue also was to get a large national delegation to one international event. At best this delegation should have been composed of tablers of all of our six tables. In the end we managed to attend Southern Tablers' Meeting in Geneva in September with more than twenty people out of four tables which was the biggest delegation of the event. I'm proud and I have to specially thank my local table RT 2 Esch/Alzette for supporting this initiative with an attendance of 14 members.

Besides there are some other important issues of RT Luxembourg that I want to mention. One of them is the integration of our families in the activities and the spirit of Round table. Living Round table is a lot more fulfilling when you are supported by those you care the most of. One main event in this context is our National Family Day which helps us connecting not only our partners but also our children who are representing the next generation of Tablers or Ladies.

For a couple of years RT Luxembourg is also organizing a side by side community service event with national Ladies' Circle. This year we recently invited over 80 young people of different childrens' homes from our country offering them to spend a carefree and exceptional morning at a Magic Show with an all in all attendance of about 240 persons, tablers, ladies and friends.

As the community service as another priority issue of RT Luxembourg, I first have to talk about the Duck Race, our main fundraising event, that we are organizing since 2002. Currently the preparations of the 15th anniversary edition for April 2016 are in full swing. The selection of the projects will be made until the end of the year. Generally alternating between national and international projects, we are focussing in 2016 more on national projects. Recently we inaugurated a Day School in Bucarest that was financed with funds of the this year's edition and realised together with the commitment of RT 10 Bucarest, RT1 Brasov and RT 2 Esch/Alzette. Over the last years this event grew bigger and bigger and has

reached a huge reputation in our country and even beyond the borders. Next April there will be 15'000 ducks to take part in the main competition. In addition we will organise a new kids run to underline the strong family character of the event corresponding to our slogan « We care for kids » who also represents the main criteria in the selection of the projects to be supported.

In addition to all smaller initiatives on local level RT Luxembourg is also engaged in a joint service initiative with all the service clubs of the country following the recent evolutions in Europe where thousands of refugees are heading north. The goal of this project is to finance and partly help to exploit a national office collecting and sorting clothes and other things to be handed out to the refugees arriving. There will also be a combined action to prepare christmas gifts for refugee children.

Last but definitely not least, it's a great honour as National President of RT Luxembourg to invite you to next Central Tablers' Meeting being held from 22nd to 24th January 2016 and about which you get lots of information of our convenors Pierre-Yves Etienne and Olivier Genco here next. I already like to thank them together with National IRO Christian Schock for their great job in preparing this event.

I hope you got an overall impression of RT Luxembourg's main issues and activities. I hope to see you all very soon somewhere in the Tablers' world and hopefully at the CTM in January.

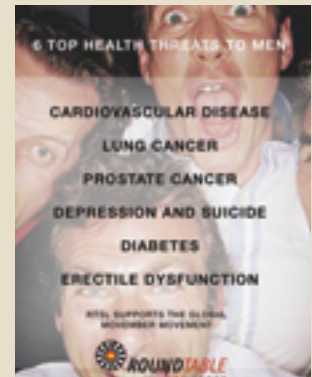
Yiit
Thierry Hirtz
National President RT Luxembourg 2015-2016

www.trl.lu

NEWS FROM RT SRI LANKA

RT Sri Lanka Movember Awareness via Social Media Campaign

In support of the Movember movement, RTSL carried out a series of posters making the followers aware of the various health issues for men and how to avoid it.



Colombo Round Table1 continues the Professional Training Scene

CRT1 carried out the 3rd program in its professional training series titled Digital 2016 where all members of tables who attended it were given the chance to be enlightened on the web trends & online marketing sphere expected in 2016. Subject matter experts from other tables too were invited to carry out presentations.



Colombo Serendib RT 2 donates to the home for the blind

Round Table 2, a fellowship and community service organisation part of Round Table Sri Lanka, makes a contribution towards the Makola Blind Home project. The funds contributed are to be made towards the upgrading of the building facilities.





CTM2016

CENTRAL TABLERS MEETING

LUXEMBOURG

22/01 > 24/01



I cannot say that CTM is my first Round Table International event I went to. But I can remember the first CTM I attended. I shared my room with Olivier who was a friend of mine long before Tabling. And I exactly remember our discussion in the hotel room saying that we have to organize a CTM in our country, in Luxembourg, in 2016; that's where all began and we decided to become, once, co-convenor for such an event.

Organizing a CTM is not only hard work to do (phone calls, visits, budget, decisions, late meetings...). It is mostly welcoming friends from around the world. Friends you met once and left with a little twinge of sadness but happy to meet again as if you have never been separated. CTM is above all a story of building and maintaining friendship.

For this edition in Luxembourg we will be glad to share a little bit of our lives, a little bit of our daily experiences, a little bit of our country. All guests will be lodged in a 4 star superior hotel in the European area of the capital with a magnificent view on the old city.

For the pretour, on Thursday the 21st of January, we are organising a visit of the south part of the Luxembourg Country, Esch-Belval, a brand new part of town that's being built on the remainings of an enormous steel factory. A city where Luxembourg is building its University. In the evening, dinner will be held in an historic building in Luxembourg City. On Friday the 22nd, the East of the Luxembourg Country will be in the spotlight. We will have the opportunity to visit the

Institute Vitivinicole. An Institution built in 1925 to save vineyard from phylloxera and to bring Luxembourgish viticulture out of a crisis and modernize the wine production along the years. We will also have a lunch in a well known cellar and a tasting of the local wine production.

In the evening, the Get Together Party (a.k.a. Welcome Party) will take place in Luxembourg City. In a place well known for its night-life and surrounded with bars, located in a former industrial site of a main Luxembourgish brewery.

On Saturday, the official delegates are attending the Central Tablers' Meeting followed by the traditional banner lunch. The alternative program for non-delegates offers free access to all museums and different attractions in the entire country. Free public transport in the country will also be included for that day. Guided tours of the city will be proposed and for our female guests there will be a special tour with the topic "Destiny of Women". You will also have the opportunity to visit a part of the famous Casemates which are normally closed to the public and a little local distillery/brewery which produces beer in limited quantities and is distilling the only Luxembourgish Vodka and Gin. Besides vouchers will be handed out to have lunch in agreed restaurants in the surroundings of the Palais Grand-Ducal.

The Gala Dinner in the evening will take place at walking distance from the Hotel, in a vintage building called "l'Hémicycle" which houses the first plenary room of the CECA which later became the European Union. On Sunday, for the late sleepers, brunch will be served at the hotel to share our recent souvenirs.

For further information about the CTM please have a look at our website www.ctm2016.lu. For registration connect to: <http://www.ctm2016.lu/register>.

Looking forward seeing you in January 2016.
Convenors: Pierre-Yves Etienne, Olivier Genco
National IRO: Christian Schock

LUXEMBOURG TITBIT

The world's only Grand Duchy, Luxembourg is a constitutional monarchy neighboring Belgium, France, and Germany. Covering less than 2.500 square km, Luxembourg is home to 562.000 residents, with about a fifth of these individuals residing in or near Luxembourg City. The country is marked by a large multicultural population as foreign residents represent more than 40 % of Luxembourg's population.

Luxembourg is a founding member of the European Union, and home to several EU institutions, like the European Court of Justice, European Investment Bank, European Court of Auditors, Eurostat offices, and several Directorates of the European Commission.



CTM TITBIT

The Central Tablers' Meeting or CTM regroups all its Member Clubs of Central Europe during this annual meeting in order to improve communication and cooperation between its membership associations, such as RT Austria, RT Belgium, RT Germany, RT Great Britain & Ireland, RT Hungary, RT Italy, RT Luxembourg, RT Netherlands and RT Romania.

During the weekend of 22/24 of January, the CTM 2016 will be held in Luxembourg. As a theme for the meeting RT Luxembourg chose "cycling" in recognition of the great achievements in the history of cycling Luxembourg has gained until today.



AN EXPERIENCE I WILL NEVER FORGET

Dear fellow tablers,

I was very fortunate to be selected as one of the Mandela Washington Young African leaders to represent Mauritius in the US from June to August 2015 & attend a summit with Barack Obama in Washington. It was a life changing and truly inspiring trip that I would love to share with you & hopefully inspire you, Round table fellows around the world. Being selected as a young African leader came as a great surprise but definitely helped me to discover so much about myself & about the potential each of us has to lead & bring positive change around us! I was first anxious to leave my office for 2 months but it was a blessing in disguise as whilst I was away, my team grew a lot & new leaders emerged!

Following a State of Mauritius scholarship in 1997, I studied & graduated from Architecture in Sydney 11 years ago. After subsequently working a bit in Paris, then Mauritius & Marrakech, I founded my own firm, DH Architecture in 2012. Through my passion for Architecture & hard work, we have been very blessed to be the architects of some very interesting projects in Mauritius such as the renovation of the 5 Star

Royal Palm Hotelin 2014 as well as a few other interesting projects such as the Carlos Bay RES or the Domaine St Louis project. I was part of a group of 25 fellows in the Business & Entrepreneurship track, from around 20 different countries in the Sub Saharan region based at the prestigious Ivy league Dartmouth College, in Hanover for 6 weeks.

Even though Mauritius is part of Africa, I came to realise that I knew very little of the African continent which is so rich in natural & Human resources. It was incredible & so inspiring to meet such great African fellows & bond together for the 6 weeks. I learnt so much from them & also shared so much about my country. This cultural exchange was definitely one of the most interesting aspects of this fellowship as in the end we all became very close, all inspired by each other & learning so much about our different cultures.

The Academic course itself, though very intensive, was divided into 3 main different topics; Leadership, Entrepreneurship & Community works. The leadership course was amazing as we had the opportunity to reflect on ourselves & be aware of our strengths and weaknesses. A lot of emphasis was put on how

to lead & empower people as well as the importance of always bringing positive change around us.

The Business & entrepreneurship course was the main core subject & a lot of emphasis was put on innovation. We got to meet many successful entrepreneurs & innovators, visited a lot of local companies who are all at the forefront of innovation like Timberland, Ben & Jerry ice cream of the Mass challenge in Boston, an incubation centre that attracts so many talented young startups around the world. We also had design driven entrepreneurship classes and had to come up with our own project which we had to pitch in the end to entrepreneurs & professors of the Tuck Business school. The Story telling classes & pitching skills proved to be very useful in that exercise!

The community works part was very interesting as well as we learnt about the importance of giving back to the society. We came to realise that although the US is a first world country, there is still a lot of poverty & social inequalities around. The private sector is therefore very active & innovative in providing support & care to the most disadvantaged members of the





community. I was myself part of the Cover group which is a privately funded NGO that helps in repairing or building new roofs or ramps etc for disabled, poor or elderly people who cannot afford it. It was very interesting to see how these NGO's can raise funds so quickly & implement projects so efficiently.

The final part of the trip was the last week in Washington. It was great to meet all the 500 fellows across the US for the first time. We were very lucky to be able to attend a summit with Barack Obama, such a charismatic & inspiring leader. I must say that when he entered the room, the atmosphere was extremely electrical & surreal & there are really no words to describe such an emotional feel. Thank you Mr Obama for having launched such an interesting network of Young African leaders & for giving us the chance to learn so much from the US. For sure, we will take a lot back home & use those new skills to bring positive changes around us & to inspire the people! Fellow round tablers, let's ADOPT, ADAPT & INNOVATE!

Yours in table,
Didier Ho - didierho@intnet.mu



News from RT Arabian Gulf



Following their hosting of the Africa AGM, Round Table Dubai are keeping busy and once again promoting fellowship amongst its Tablers, with its efforts to build a flying machine for the Red Bull Flugtag event which is taking place at Dubai Creek on the 27th of November.

Back in 2007, Round Table Dubai won the prestigious creative design prize with 'Team Obelix' which built an over sized flying machine in the

form of Obelix and graciously flew it across the Dubai Creek for all of a few seconds.

So for this year's Flugtag event, participating tablers have used the same approach as they thought why change a winning strategy? To quote Chairman of RT Dubai No.1, Willem Clappaert "Think crazy, think big, paint it yellow and stick some wings on it!"

With the use of local lobster pots, it is creating an over sized Minion which will stand 3m tall and 1.5m wide. Their Tablers are currently meeting in the early hours of every Saturday morning with sore heads pondering how they will build their flying machine.

We'll be looking forward to seeing how far their fly Minion will travel in next month's RTI newflash...

Yours in International Table

Jonathan Warmington
RTAG Vice President 2015-16





MY 30 000 HOLIDAY HOMES

In Southern Africa, we always talk about how we get more out of Table than what we put in. Over my years in Table, I have realized how true that is, not from the financial point of view, but more from the friendships and the fellowship point of view. It got me thinking one day, about what do I get out of Round Table, and one of the aspects that I have seen, is home hosting, both hosting people, and being hosted in someone else's house.

I have home hosted people from Britain, Zambia, Israel, Germany, Belgium, Italy, France, Namibia, Madagascar, and more recently from Denmark.

It is always great to have someone staying over and my wife and I always go out of our way to look after them. Often when we are home hosting, we have other Tablers come over for a meal, and then we end up sitting around till the early hours in the morning discussing different things, and great friendships are formed.

I am always amazed at how blessed we are in Round Table, when we are able to travel to almost any country in the world, and we know that a Tabler will be able to assist us with almost anything. There have been many stories about how extraordinary circumstances have led to Tablers assisting other Tablers with car trouble in a foreign country, helping with accommodation when a Tabler has been stranded at the airport, even assisting with guys moving to another country.

When I was in Sweden, I was amazed at the generosity of a Tabler named Hans Kindhag. This Tabler gave me the keys to his apartment that was located in Stockholm, so that the Southern Africa Tablers could use it while we toured before the World Meeting. What other organisation in the world would hand over their keys to their apartment to a complete stranger? It is times like these, that I realize that being a Tabler is one of the best experiences that you could have.

I have always enjoyed having people staying at my house, it is

always a pleasure to meet new people, and learn more about the things that they do in their Table. It is also great to stay at another Tablers house, and learn their cultures and see their way of life. So if you are able to, open your house to other Tablers from around the world, you will meet more friends that you know what to do with. There are no strangers in Table, just Tablers that I have not met yet.

I hope to see many of you at our AGM in April next year.

From a very warm Southern Africa.

Yours in International Tabling.

David Costine
Round Table Southern Africa IRO

