



Royal
Forest of Dean

41
**INTERNATIONAL
AGM 2009
23-26 April**

Conference Convenor

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24th March 2009

Advance Welcome to 41 International AGM 23rd – 26th April 2009

We are now only 4 weeks away from welcoming you personally to our Conference and, as Conference Convenor, thank-you so much for booking in such numbers. We will have around 200 for our Gala Dinner and with your support I am sure we are going to have a great time together making some new and rekindling old friendships.

On arrival at the Conference Hotel please go to the registration desk where Dick Stanley will give you a joining pack and a badge with your name and events that you are attending. Please wear this at all times bearing in mind that not every one knows who you are!! (if you arrive and it is shut please seek out Dick as soon as possible afterwards).

I do need to refer you to our Conference website <http://www.club41.org> which gives you details of who is attending (and have paid) and other useful information. In addition, I highlight below some of the key events and timings:-

Thursday 23rd

Nothing formal is organised but we are meeting at the Harvester Restaurant/Bar (5 minute walk from Conference Hotel) from 19.00 onwards where food can be purchased up until 22.00. There is no start time here and a staggered arrival would be appreciated.

Friday 24th

- The Forest of Dean Tour departs from the Conference Hotel at 10.00 returning at 16.00. We will have 2 full coaches manned by Forest of Dean 41 Club Members who will show you some highlights of our Club area. Lunch is included.
- The Welcome Party in the Conference Hotel is from 19.30 with a buffet supper with at least two servings to accommodate later arrivals. This is an informal event with entertainment.

Saturday 25th

- Coach 1 with AGM delegates only departs from the Conference Hotel at 8.30 bound for the AGM venue and coach 2 with Gloucester Walking Tour delegates only departs at 9.00 for Gloucester Docks where the walks start.
- **AGM** – commences at 9.00 with formal opening at 9.30 and ends at 13.15 after which delegates walk to the Vinings restaurant for lunch.
- **Gloucester Walking Tour** – commences at 9.30 and is run by the Gloucester Civic Trust who will give an informative tour in groups of 15, one of which will be a FOD helper. This ends at Gloucester historic Cathedral for coffee in the Parliament Rooms. Delegates walk to the Vinings restaurant for lunch starting at 12.30 prompt.

- There are separate coach departures after the separate lunches from Gloucester Docks for the walking tour group at 13.15 & AGM group at 14.15 bound for **Highnam Court Spring Fair**. (Highnam Court is owned by a 41 Club Member and he has agreed to show us part of the house. There is an additional charge of £10 for this charity event to be collected at Registration – please look at above website for further details). Coaches depart at 16.30 & 16.45 and return to the Conference Hotel for around 17.00 – 17.15.
- **Gala Dinner** is a formal ‘black tie’ event, commencing with pre-dinner drinks at 6.50 and continues through to 12.30 incorporating a Banner Exchange (quick), Handover and entertainment. We are asking for a maximum of two delegates from each Association or Country to be involved in the Banner Exchange which is being run by Ken Boden who is under instructions to keep it short, so no speeches!!

Sunday 26th

Farewell breakfast from 8.00-10.00 is in the Conference Hotel and is included in the Hotel rate. Those not staying at the Hotel are welcome but will be charged by the Hotel as non residents if eating.

Some Useful Information.

- Local currency is Sterling and credit cards are widely accepted. There are two cash machines close to the hotel which make a small charge but many of the banks in Cheltenham and Gloucester have 24 hour machines that do not.
- The Hotel is on a main bus route to Cheltenham & Gloucester (Route 94 & the hotel stop is Arle Court).
- Weather in late April is generally good with showers. (temp in range of 7 – 16, with recorded minimums of 0 & maximum of 26!
- None of the walking will be difficult – bring some comfortable footwear & a waterproof.
- If you want to smoke in the UK you will need to be outside!!

Please contact me direct if you have any questions on the event. (critical & relevant ones only as I have a full time job as well!)

Yours in friendship



David Green
Conference Convenor
24th March 2009