

Of the Spectator Club Key Facts

Writer: Richard Steele | Generated: Jan 26, 2026

Full Title: The Spectator Club

Essayist: Sir Richard Steele

Famous For: Introducing the main fictional members of The Spectator periodical

Literary Type: Periodical Essay, Character Sketch

Published In: The Spectator, No. 2

First Published: March 2, 1711

Main Characters: Sir Roger de Coverley, The Templar, Sir Andrew Freeport, Captain Sentry, Will Honeycomb, The Clergyman, and the silent Mr. Spectator (narrator)

Setting: London and the English countryside, early 18th century

Genre: Nonfiction, Observational Essay, Social Satire

Point of View: First Person (Mr. Spectator as observer and narrator)

Main Theme: Social variety; understanding English daily life through a range of characters

Historical Context: Early 18th-century England, rise of periodicals and middle-class influence

Purpose: To introduce the Spectator Club and show how different kinds of people give balance, humour, and wisdom to the magazine's essays