

# CONSERVATIVE CLUBS MAGAZINE



December 2018 50p



*Happy Christmas To All Our Readers*

**Morning Advertiser Interview with Philip Smith**

**West End Conservative Club Welcomes Scunthorpe Football Fans**

**Christmas Lotteries: Best Practice Guide For Clubs**

# Tudor House Conservative Club Raises Funds for Green Bus Company

*CONSERVATIVE  
CLUBS  
MAGAZINE*

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The Members of Tudor House Conservative Club, Bristol, have been fundraising hard in order to support the Green Bus Charity. Green Bus provides safe, affordable and accessible travel for individuals and groups who are unable to use public transport and would otherwise have no means of transportation.

Club Chairman Martyn Radnedge organised the cheque presentation evening where a cheque for £1,500 was presented to Jenny Bright from the Charity. The Club has held fundraising occasions throughout the year to support this charity and the Club's Committee are working hard on selecting the next local charity that the Club can support.



The Cheque Presentation Ceremony.

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# West End Conservative Club Welcomes Visiting Scunthorpe Football Fans (and had the last laugh)

At the start of the current football season, the West End Conservative Club, Sunderland, welcomed IA Ticket holders from North Lincolnshire to visit the Club to enjoy pre-match drinks ahead of the English Football

League One encounter between Sunderland AFC and Scunthorpe United FC. More than forty of the travelling supporters enjoyed the social gathering with the West End Conservative Club members giving a warm reception to their

visiting friends. With food, drink and social activities on offer, the ladies and gentlemen in attendance had a great laugh with one another. The jovial Scunthorpe fans left the Club feeling hopeful but The Irons did not get the result they were hoping for with Sunderland running out 3-0 winners.

**The bus organised to transport the Scunthorpe fans.**



The West End Conservative Club.



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Matthew Clark

# CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

## Lotteries – Best Practice Guide for Clubs

We understand that particularly at Christmas Lotteries are popular within Clubs. We hope the information below will assist Clubs with holding the different types of lotteries which are available to Clubs.

A Lottery is defined as a scheme for distributing prizes by

lot or chance. All raffles, draws, sweepstakes, totes, or other lotteries by any other name, are declared illegal with the exception of Small Lotteries (incidental to exempt entertainments), Private Society Lotteries, Small Society Lotteries and the National Lottery.

### Small Lotteries (Incidental to Exempt Entertainments)

To promote such lotteries the following conditions must be observed–

- The entertainments concerned are bazaars, sales of work, fetes, dinners, dances, sporting or athletic events and other entertainments of a similar character
- The whole proceeds of the entertainment (including the proceeds of the lottery) shall be devoted to purposes other than private gain, however, the following may be deducted–
  - The expenses of the entertainment, excluding expenses incurred in connection with the lottery
    - The expenses incurred in printing tickets in the lottery
    - A sum not exceeding £250 that the promoters of the lottery think fit to spend in purchasing prizes in the lottery
- None of the prizes in the lottery shall be money prizes
- Tickets or chances in the lottery shall not be sold or issued, nor shall the result of the lottery be declared, except on the premises on which the entertainment takes place and during the progress of the entertainment
- The facilities afforded for participating in lotteries shall not be the only inducement to persons to attend the entertainment

### Private Society Lotteries

To promote such lotteries the following conditions must be observed–

- The sale of tickets or chances must be confined to members of one society established and conducted for purposes not connected with gaming, betting or lotteries
- The expression ‘society’ includes a club, institution, organisation or other association of persons by whatever name called and each society is regarded as separate and distinct; thus two or more clubs cannot combine to hold a joint lottery, which would preclude a federation of clubs from running such a lottery
- The word ‘ticket’ includes any document issued which entitles the holder to participate in the lottery
- The lottery must be promoted for the club, and the sale of tickets or chances must be confined solely to its members, and to any other persons on the club’s premises i.e. members’ guests, visitors admitted in accordance with the approved rules, and affiliation ticket holders
- The lottery must be authorised in writing by the club committee, and duly recorded in the Minute book
- The committee must appoint the Secretary or a member of the club to act as ‘promoter’
- After deducting only expenses for printing and stationary, the whole of the proceeds must be devoted to either the provision of prizes or to the purposes of the club, or both
- The only notice or advertisement of the lottery is permitted–
  - On the club premises
  - On the face of the tickets
- The price of every ticket or chance must be the same and if tickets are used the price must be stated on the ticket
- It is illegal to allot free tickets to sellers or to purchasers of complete books of tickets

- The full price of the ticket must be paid on purchase, and no money is returnable to the purchaser
- No ticket in the lottery may be sent through the post
- Prizes in the lottery may be in cash or kind
- ‘Printing’ includes writing or other modes of reproducing words in visible form; thus a rubber stamp could be utilised to stamp on the tickets the particulars required by the Act
- Each ticket must have printed on it–
  - The name and address of the promoter
  - To whom it may be sold i.e. members of the club only
  - A statement that no prize will be paid or delivered except to the purchaser of winning tickets

### Society Lotteries

A society is defined as including any club, institution, organisation, association or persons, by whatever name called, and any separate branch or section of such a club, institution, organisation or association.

A society lottery means a lottery promoted on behalf of a society which is established and conducted wholly or mainly for one of the following purposes–

- Charitable purposes
- Participation in or support of athletic sports or games, or cultural activities
- Purposes which are not described in the previous two points but are purposes neither of private gain, nor of any commercial undertaking

Society lottery tickets must also state the name and address of the promoter. The proceeds of a society’s lottery, after the deduction of amounts for expenses and prizes, must be applied to the purposes of the society.

### Registration Procedure

Once the decision has been taken to promote a lottery, a society must first establish whether it needs to register with its local authority or the Gambling Commission. This will depend on whether the value of tickets that the society i.e. the club intends to put on sale in the lottery will exceed £20,000 or whether, taken together with sales from previous lotteries in the same year, it will exceed £250,000. In either case, such a lottery must be registered with the Gambling Commission. Once it has been decided that commission registration is needed, application forms and further details can be obtained from the commission’s lotteries section. No tickets or chances may be offered for sale before the society is registered.

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◀ From page 5

## Frequency and Dates of Lotteries

There are no restrictions on either the number or frequency of lotteries which may be held by a society. The date of a lottery must be specified on the tickets.

## Proceeds Limits

All lotteries promoted by societies under Commission registration are subject to the following limitations—

- The total value of the tickets or chances sold in a single lottery may not exceed £1,000,000
- The total value of the tickets or chances sold in all lotteries held in any one calendar year and promoted on behalf of the same society may not exceed £5,000,000

## Prizes

Prizes in a society lottery may not exceed £25,000 in amount or value, or 10% of the total value of tickets or chances sold, whichever is greater. Not more than 55% of the actual proceeds of a lottery may be used to provide prizes. Where the proceeds of a lottery do not exceed £20,000, up to 35% of the proceeds may be used to meet expenses without referral to the Commission. If the proceeds exceed £20,000, the permitted percentage reduces to 15% but a higher level (up to a maximum of 35%) can be authorised by the Commission in the case of a particular lottery.

## Donated Expenses

In maintaining a record of the expenses of a lottery, it is important that societies take care to ensure that all expenses incurred are included. The records must show whether any expenses were paid by funds other than out of the proceeds of the lottery and, if so, the amount and source of such sums.

## Ticket Requirements

The maximum permitted price of a ticket in a lottery is £1 and the price of every ticket or chance in a lottery must be the same. A person cannot participate in a lottery unless the whole price of the ticket or chance has been paid to the society. In addition, once money has been received for, or on account of, a ticket or chance it cannot be refunded to the participant. No ticket or chance in a lottery may be sold by or to a person under the age of sixteen.

Every ticket must specify—

- Its price
- The name of the society promoting the lottery
- The date of the lottery
- The fact that the society is registered with the Gambling Commission (NB societies promoting lotteries under local authority registration must specify on the ticket the name of the local authority).

## Budget: Business Rates Cut

In the Budget, the Chancellor promised to help small shops by cutting business rates by a third for all retailers in England with a rateable value of £51,000 or less.

That will mean an annual saving of “up to £8,000 for up to 90% of all independent shops, pubs, clubs, restaurants and cafes”.

The Chancellor also announced

£675m of co-funding to create a “Future High Streets Fund” to support councils to draw up plans for the transformation of their High Streets.

The Chancellor says this will allow them to invest in the improvements they need and to facilitate redevelopment of under-used retail and commercial areas into residential.

## Index to Club Law & Management MAGAZINE ARTICLES 2018

**JANUARY** – Dates for your Diary, Audits, TEN information, Insurance Best Practice and Questions and Answers.

**FEBRUARY** – Preparing for an Annual General Meeting, AGM Questions and Answers.

**MARCH** – Committee Elections, GDPR Preparation, Committee Elections Questions and Answers.

**APRIL** – Financial Control Management, Questions and Answers.

**MAY** – Confidentiality of Committee Meetings, CRB checks for Children’s Parties, Questions and Answers.

**JUNE** – GDPR Special, Preventing Noise Complaints, Purchasing Local Beer.

**JULY** – MPLC Information, Reduce the risk of Gaming Machine theft, Outside Signage Information, Asbestos information, Employee Holiday Case Study, Questions and Answers.

**AUGUST** – Importance of ‘Keep Off’ signs on Club land, Questions and Answers

**SEPTEMBER** – Matthew Clark Deal Update, MPLC Special

**OCTOBER** – Winter Weather – Preparing your Club, EU Food Allergen Information, Making Tax Digital Update

**NOVEMBER** – Employment Problem – Have you contacted the Club’s Insurers, Employee Holiday Entitlement, Questions and Answers.

**DECEMBER** – Lottery Guidance, Questions and Answers

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## Questions and Answers

Each year our club holds one or two events, the admissions to which have, in recent years, been by 'ticket only.' We have some members who question this and say that they must be allowed to enter the club, even if they do not wish to buy a ticket. We would appreciate your clarification of this matter.

I confirm that it is in order for an event to be promoted at the club, the admission to which is by ticket only. A member of a club does not have an automatic legal right of entry to their club. Consequently, if a ticket only event is organised and promoted then members who do not wish to purchase a ticket may not enter a club at such an occasion. Ticket events are few and far between and in most clubs only take place on New Year's Eve. By selling tickets for such an event the committee will at least be able to manage the number of staff required and levels of entertainment and refreshments required etc., which otherwise they may not be able to do on what can be either a very busy or a very quiet night.

On New Year's Eve we hold a ticket only event and charge VAT on the price of the tickets. During the event we provide bands and singers as entertainment. We have been informed that we may not need to pay VAT on the sale of New Year's Eve tickets as it is defined as a 'Cultural Event'. Is this correct?

Room Hire charges and event tickets will attract VAT unless the reason for the room hire is a cultural event. There is no specific definition of a 'cultural entertainment' within VAT legislation, but it is taken to mean any live performance of a theatrical, musical or choreographed nature. In our experience this covers anything from bands, singers, comedians, dancers or similar. It is important to note that one person's idea of culture may not meet another person's view on this issue but it doesn't need to, as long as the performance is live and involves music, dancing or might be seen in a theatre (or similar) then it is likely

to be cultural in nature. Typically the biggest VAT savings come from not applying VAT on ticket sales for Cultural Events although you should also be able to use the same argument regarding charging for room hire for Cultural Events.

Although Clubs need to apply for this exemption on a case by case basis, there is no reason why your Club would be unable to benefit from the exemption as we have had other Clubs who have succeeded in this matter and now no longer apply VAT on the revenue from ticket sales on cultural events. There is a small chance of reclaiming VAT on past payments although most Clubs are focusing on making sure that VAT is not paid going forwards on cultural events.

I would therefore suggest that it is worth seeking to exempt any cultural events that the Club holds from VAT on ticket sales or room hire.

In advance of our AGM next month, we've been presented with a proposed rule change which requests that 2 members be allowed to sit in on Committee meetings as observers.

I seem to recall quite clearly a piece you wrote in the magazine regarding the importance of confidentiality this appears to increase the danger of loose tongues.

Does the proposal have to go to the AGM, or can it be refused on the grounds of confidentiality beforehand?

I can confirm that a Rule Change can only be voted upon and approved at a Special General Meeting. It cannot be discussed or voted on at an Annual General Meeting. Therefore, you can refuse this motion and direct this Member to call for a Special General Meeting if they wish for their rule change proposal to be discussed and voted on. A 75% majority of those Members present at an SGM is required to approve a rule change.

You are correct that it is important that Committee Meetings remain confidential and we would advise your Members not to vote for this proposal if a Special General Meeting is ever convened to discuss and vote on it. Ultimately, it would be for

the Club's Members to make the final decision on such a rule amendment although I hope they would appreciate that it would be difficult to ensure that Committee Meeting matters, such as employee information, is kept confidential if the Committee Meeting is attended by non-Committee Members.

### Philip Smith Interview, Pages 8, 9 and 10

We are delighted to reproduce on the following pages a recent interview that the leading drinks industry magazine the Publican and Morning Advertising conducted

In summary, you can prevent this from going to the AGM since it can only be dealt with at an SGM but ultimately, if an SGM was called and the change was approved by more than 75% of the Members present then it would be a valid rule amendment under those circumstances.

with ACC Chief Executive Philip Smith. We hope our readers will enjoy reading this interview and we thank Ed Bedington for allowing us to reuse the interview

### GDPR Reminder

The ACC has prepared a package of GDPR documentation which is available free of charge to all ACC

Clubs. To obtain this information package please email [Charles@toryclubs.co.uk](mailto:Charles@toryclubs.co.uk)

### IA Ticket Returns

This is a reminder that Clubs holding unsold 2018 IA Tickets can return up to 100 unsold tickets to the ACC for a full refund. If you do

still hold unsold tickets then please return them to the ACC and the refund will be applied to the Club's account.

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# Ace in the pack



Being elevated to the status of peer might be enough for some people, but for Lord Smith of Hindhead, he'd rather be known as the king of clubs

ED BEDINGTON REPORTS

**T**rying to conduct an interview in a bar where interviews, work, notepads and recording devices are expressly forbidden – as I was told upon entry to the prestigious Carlton Club – presents something of a challenge.

But a healthy disregard for such stuffy nonsense is perhaps what sets Lord Smith of Hindhead apart from some of his fellow peers in the House of Lords, and certainly he's keen for people to see past the title and recognise the operator within.

"I would say that I'm an operator within the leisure sector who has an interest in politics, I'm not a politician that's suddenly developed an interest in licensing," he clarifies.

And as chief executive of the Association of Conservative Clubs (ACC), responsible for about 800 licensed operations, as well as a role as chairman of the Committee of Registered Clubs Association (CORCA), which represents 15,000 private members' clubs and, of course, not forgetting his further position as chair of Best Bar None, it's fair to say that Philip Smith, as he prefers to be known, is an operator.

His connection to the trade stretches back more than three decades, and while the deceptively youthful peer (yes, he paid me to write that) is a champion for the licensed sector, his passion is clear: "Clubs are my main thing, and now that Peter Stringfellow is gone, I'm the king of clubs!"

## Clubs and pubs share battle

Despite this, he's keen to draw parallels with the pub sector, and with a shared DNA between the two sectors, he feels we should all be working together, particularly on the political stage, to fight for common causes. "It would be useful, instead of just talking about pubs, if we talked about pubs and clubs. We have to try and get that marriage together."

The club sector is certainly not immune from the kind of pressures pubs are facing, he points out. "Clubs are closing without a doubt, and new established private members' clubs are not reopening because it's very difficult today to establish a private members' club, of that social club nature, from scratch."

However, much like the pub and bar sector, while numbers are falling, the best operations are fighting hard to survive. He explains: "Yes, numbers are going down, but the ones that are left are the goods ones, the ones that are better managed, are better resourced, have more loyal membership, have better properties that have been invested in over many years and are very







## THE POSITIVES OF BREXIT

"Don't talk to me about the dreaded B word," laughs Smith. "As a Conservative whip in the House of Lords, you can imagine I've had some late nights."

It's a tough topic, particularly for someone who voted to remain in the EU, but he's determined to look for the good points. "If we're going to be positive about Brexit and think of the benefits, then post 29 March next year, we're going to be able to look at things like VAT. We're going to be able to look at other areas of how we run our economic affairs."

"Personally, I voted to remain in the EU, but I'm a democrat, and the outcome was to leave, so, therefore, I want a successful exit, and I'm working hard to make sure that we get that. It wasn't what I voted for. But that doesn't mean you can't support it."

While the ramifications of the exit still remain unclear, he's hopeful that pubs will weather any storm: "There's an awful lot of unknowns for everyone. But people will still want to go to the pub and have a drink. I don't think things will change with that."

"But they're only going to go to the pub and have a drink if there's a pub there and they're only going to go if that pub looks nice and it's smart with a great selection of drinks, great food and it's got great service."

much part of their local communities."

In some ways, clubs have prospered at the expense of pubs, he admits, but it's a two-way street. "We have many towns and villages now, where pubs have decreased, if you're a stand-up drinker, often the only place to go to is a club. Now, if that's a Conservative club, I'm very happy for somebody to have a road to Damascus conversion to Conservatism, but if they just want to go and have a good pint with good company, I'm happy with that too."

"Some clubs have done well because the number of local pubs have closed down, but equally, some pubs have done well because clubs have closed down."

The challenges are shared, he says: "The problems pubs have are exactly the same as clubs – it's a change of social attitude. There's been a fundamental change in our attitude to alcohol consumption and our attitude to how alcohol is purchased, and where it is consumed."

He points out that in the past 10 years, there's been a 14% reduction in alcohol consumption across the board. "Among young people particularly, since 2004, the numbers drinking has fallen by 41%."

"Seventy per cent of all alcohol, wines, beers and spirits, across the board is purchased through the off-trade, through supermarkets and off-licences. So you've got 70% of alcohol being consumed at home, rather than out. And finally 40% of all alcohol consumed in the UK, is consumed by only 10% of the population."

He points out that clubs, just like pubs, are facing the same factors, a decline in consumption, the challenge of purchasing behaviour and the fact a significant

proportion is being purchased by quite a small percentage of the population.

The entire sector needs to adapt to meet those challenges, he points out. "You've got to be offering what people want, and you've got to try and work out what they're going to want in the future."

"Politics is a bit like a business and vice versa, if you're going to win, you're going to have to see slightly further into the future than the man standing next to you."

He also feels there needs to be a more positive approach from the sector, particularly when talking to politicians.

"My view is that industry has got so much to be proud of, and so much to be really positive about. I can't think of any other sector that is investing in the high street like the leisure industry."

"The money that pub companies and breweries are investing into their pubs, bars or whatever it might be, is a huge amount each year, as is the amount they're investing in staff training, in apprenticeships, etc. The leisure industry is the third largest private sec-

### POLITICS ASIDE

**Calverley Conservative Club is one such venue Smith is happy for people simply to have a pint in**

**70%**  
OF ALL ALCOHOL,  
WINES AND  
SPIRITS IS  
PURCHASED  
THROUGH THE  
OFF-TRADE, AND

**40%**  
OF ALL ALCOHOL  
IN THE UK IS  
CONSUMED BY  
JUST

**10%**  
OF THE  
POPULATION

## MY FAVOURITE PUB

"If we're talking about a club, it's probably the club we're sitting in now, the Carlton Club, but I'm also a member of many other Conservative clubs, so I'm very happy to put them collectively into my top 10."

"But my favourite pub is called the Noah's Ark, which is in Lurgashall, West Sussex. It's a pub my father used to take my brothers and I to when we were young, and we'd have a bottle of Coke and sit under the conker tree and watch the cricket. It's a great pub, offering great food, great service. It's one with some very happy memories."

tor employer. But it's not just about the fact we employ people and pay lots of revenue – in many places we're keeping the high street alive."

He points out that despite all these great stories, we seem to struggle to get those messages across: "The thing that frustrates me sometimes, is that we're not very good at talking about any of that, and tend, instead, to focus on just asking, or moaning about business rates, or duty or whatever it might be."

He says we need to change the record: "If we spent 11 months of every year talking about things like the amount we're spending on infrastructure, the amount we're investing in the high street, the amount we're spending on training and education, the amount we're spending on product development – all the different things we can do, and which we do really, really well, we can spend the last month saying, oh, by the way do you think we might have a look at A, B and C, which would really help our industry?"

He understands the frustration the sector feels, and why the issues tend to be at the forefront of operators' minds: "It is unfair and unjust when a business is going to invest £250,000 on refurbishing its operation, and making it state of the art, and then it gets hammered by business rates. You're being penalised for success, and that doesn't seem right."

"We should look at the overall picture, and start to work as a combined industry, to talk about all of the positives, and make the argument that we do this in order for our businesses to be successful – we do this so that we can make a profit at the end of the year. Just think ►►"



about how much more we could do, if we were just given a break, in one or two key areas. It could make a big difference. And if that difference means the numbers of pubs and clubs that are closing slows down then that's good for the industry, it's good for our communities and, bottom line, it's good for the Chancellor of the Exchequer."

Lord Smith entered the trade at a young age, joining the ACC at the age of just 21. "I was quite young, at a loose end, and the opportunity came up, so I applied, and for some unknown reason they gave me the job, and here we are several years later.

"I fell into it. It was initially the political aspect that interested me but in actual fact – over a very short space of time – I have to say the politics did go to one side and I was focused massively on the industry we're in."

Now 52, Lord Smith climbed the ranks and took on the chief executive role about 19 years ago, and quickly made his mark. "We've transformed the association, offering so much more than we did in the past, and hopefully really supporting our clubs, which are mainly run by volunteers, with the best professional service and support that's available.

"It's essential to me that, with everything we do as an association, the primary beneficiary must always be the club. If it's right for the club, it's right for us."

The ACC effectively acts as a trade association, providing all-round support for the 800 associated clubs, but one that is closely involved in supporting its members.

A recent innovation has seen the association do a deal with drinks supplier Matthew Clarke, offering individual clubs better buying power, some free

## NONE BUT THE BEST

Lord Smith took on the role of chairman of Best Bar None a couple of years ago, and is helping to steer through changes to the organisation, which could see an explosion in membership.

"We've launched a central membership team that will enable any licensed establishment to receive Best Bar None accreditation without there being a local scheme in place."

Prior to this, the only way bars could apply for accreditation with the project, which seeks to raise professional standards and reduce alcohol-related crime, was if a scheme was in place in the area the pub or bar operated in.

"That was fine," says Lord Smith. "But it has limitations because you had to wait until you'd got the local police licensing officer, the licensing officer from the council, and one or two forward-thinking publicans or groups to get involved to start the scheme. So it was very much a top-down approach."

Now any licensed operation can apply to the central organisation that will then carry out the necessary checks and audits to give it the accreditation to be part of the scheme.

"The premises will have that sticker on the window to say it is part of Best Bar None, which, in many parts of the UK, means a lot.

That logo, that stamp, does go a long way in order for people to say this is a good place to go and have a drink."

He says that schemes like Best Bar None are an important tool in the fight against pubs, bars and clubs being held responsible for poor alcohol retailing. "What I've always found to be fundamentally unfair, is that so often, the very few individuals that spoil an evening out for everyone else, haven't actually purchased all of their alcohol in the establishment where they've caused the trouble, or the establishment that they're standing outside.

"They've purchased large amounts of alcohol very cheaply from supermarkets and other outlets, got completely tanked up at home then come out and caused difficulty, leaving those of us at the coalface and the front line to pick up the pieces... and usually the blame.

"Best Bar None not only seeks a practical way to try to make sure that any outlet that is a member reduces any possibility of having that difficulty, but can also be a mouthpiece for defending our pubs, clubs and bars and ensuring it is made clear that any difficulties that are caused are not primarily the responsibility of those establishments."

stock and also providing deals like a third off a Sky Sports subscription.

His political ambitions, while dormant, had never gone away. In 2001, he stood for parliament as the MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne North. "You'll be pleased to know that I maintained the Conservatives' second place in that constituency," he jokes. "But I did get a small swing for some reason – must have been my Geordie accent."

Over the years, he's been heavily involved with the Conservative party, becoming the treasurer of the party and playing an active fundraising role. All of

which resulted in him being asked, by then Prime Minister David Cameron, in 2015, if he would accept a role in the House of Lords.

"So that dragged me back into the political scene again." And he's keen to use his position to champion the licensed sector. "It has been good. It has enabled me to do more within my specialist field of licensing and gambling and specialist clubs. But I can also campaign on the concerns that our industry has voiced and highlighted.

"I'm not a lone voice – there are many others in my house and the House of Commons, who have a very clear recognition of what we do. So, no, I'm not a lone voice, but I would say a unique voice as one of the few people in politics who is also an active operator."

But all these roles ensure that Lord Smith is certainly a busy man. "I have no spare time – there have been times when leaving the Lords at one in the morning would not be unusual. But I don't find that a difficulty, because, for me, leaving a bar at one in the morning is nothing new either!"

And, of course, his role as chairman of CORCA certainly reinforces his role as the king of clubs, but does that mean he can spend what little spare time he has, swanning from club to club?

"I'd like to think I'd be welcome in most clubs, and I've always been made welcome, but," and he leans forward with a twinkle in his eye, "I rarely swan." ■





# Ruthin Celebrates Flower Show Success and Donates Funds to Charity



The Ruthin Conservative Club, Clwyd, has won first prize at the Ruthin Flower Show for the best 'business section' award. The photograph depicts the Club's Chairman Ursula Harrington who planted up the pots with Club Steward Gary Coleman and Club President David Thomas who kept them watered.

The Club also held a successful late summer BBQ which raised £650 for the Ruthin Hospital League of Friends charity. The picture depicts Club Chairman Ursula Harrington together with David Thomas presenting a cheque for £650. Dave McGeough and Sylvia Hughes from the Ruthin Hospital League of Friends.

# Cullingworth Installs Defibrillator for Local Community

Cullingworth Conservative Club, West Yorkshire, has recently installed a defibrillator outside the Club which can be used by anyone in the local community. ACC Clubs have been leading the charge on installing these lifesaving machines on the exterior of Club's buildings and we are pleased that Cullingworth is continuing this amazing project.

The Club's Secretary, Terry Key, said that this project was about the Committee realising that the Club is ultimately a community

organisation and that by becoming part of the local community this also benefits the Club. In the last three years alone, the Club has received 729 new membership applications. Projects such as the defibrillator are all about promoting the Club in the local community and by consequence ensuring that the local community is aware of the Club and the amazing facilities which the Club offers as part of membership.

The ACC congregates Cullingworth on their fantastic success in recent years.



Terry Key, Secretary (left) and Danny Helstrip, Committee Member (right) officially open the defibrillator.

# Langley Ward Conservative Club Organises Fundraiser to Raise Money for Parkinson's Disease Research



The Langley Ward Conservative Club.

Billy Dakin was attending the Langley Ward Conservative Club, West Midlands, discussing fundraising opportunity to assist Parkinson's research.

The Club suggested that the Billy's group which is a troupe including local choirs who sing, sign, dance and entertainers who perform to raise funds for

charity, attend the local Orchard special need school and perform for the children and it was agreed that this would be an excellent opportunity to raise funds and awareness.

Billy Dakin said 'We had a great time then Terry from the Club gave us half of a night's takings for our Parkinson's fund'.

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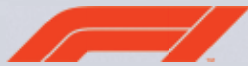
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# ACC Services

## Loans

Loans can be arranged from as little as £1,000 to £500,000. We provide loans at competitive simple interest rates, currently 4.75%, and all loans commence with a three year period of fixed interest. Loans are repaid over a term to be agreed on an individual basis with each Club in order to create a manageable and sensible time frame for repayment.

## Documentation Available Free Of Charge

**ACC Room Hire Agreement** - The room hire agreement is designed to be completed at the time a booking and includes space for a deposit to be taken to secure the room is applicable.

**ACC Catering Franchise Pack** - The ACC Catering Franchise pack can be used by Clubs which have a franchisee who uses the Club's facilities to prepare and serve food within the Club. The Franchisee Contract permits the Committee to decide if the franchisee shall pay a set fee per month to the Club for use of the Club's facilities, shall pay to the Club a percentage of the profits from the sale of food or that a combination of both methods of remuneration shall be utilised.

**Health and Safety and Risk Assessment Documentation** - The ACC has extensive documentation to assist a Club in creating a Health and Safety policy and conducting regular risk assessments. This documentation is available free of charge. Examples include template health and safety documentation, risk assessment forms and practical advice on completing a Club risk assessment and first aid information.

**Candidates for Admission Sheets** - The admission sheets can be posted on the Club's Notice Board to detail prospective new Members and have spaces for: Date, Candidate Name, Address, Occupation, Proposer, Secunder.

## Sale and Leaseback

Since launching the ACC Sale and Leaseback service, over 70 Clubs have entered into this arrangement with the ACC.

Under what circumstances would a Sale and Leaseback be appropriate? The most successful examples of ACC Sale and Leasebacks are Clubs which have a dedicated Committee and Membership and want to secure their Club's future. By unlocking the Club's freehold, Clubs can be provided the means of repaying debt, often undertaking refurbishments and providing a significant cash sum. The rent payable to the ACC following the completion of a Sale and Leaseback can often be less than a Club was paying for servicing debt.

## Trusteeship

The ACC Trusteeship Service is a free facility offered by the ACC. The transfer of Trusteeship to the ACC has increasingly become popular amongst unincorporated clubs and there are two main benefits for the Club. The first is that the ACC will pay for all legal expenses involved with the transfer of Trusteeship. The second is that the Association's financial and legal resources are such that the Club's position will be greatly strengthened when negotiating loans or defending itself against legal action taken by a third party.

The ACC do not become involved with the day to day business of any Club for which we act as Trustee. The Club will continue to be able to call upon the ACC for advice on any matter without needing to make reference to our Trusteeship. We will only act on behalf of the Club in accordance with the lawful instructions of the Committee and Members. The Club Committee will therefore continue to run the Club's affairs and will only refer matters to the ACC as and when they consider it appropriate to do so.

**To obtain any of the documentation packages please email [charles@toryclubs.co.uk](mailto:charles@toryclubs.co.uk) or phone 0207 222 0843. To enquire about any of the ACC's financial assistance packages please email [assistance@toryclubs.co.uk](mailto:assistance@toryclubs.co.uk) or phone 0207 222 0843.**

# ACC Contracts of Employment

The ACC are pleased to supply a range of Employment Contracts. These contracts are designed specifically to comply with the needs of ACC Clubs and are produced to a high quality with a glossy finish. All Contracts were fully revised and updated in 2015, with minor revisions made in 2016, and are compliant with all current UK legislation. We recommend that all Clubs use our current contracts of employment for their employees.

All Contract Packs now include a high quality and durable employee disciplinary and grievance policy handbook which should assist both Clubs and employees when these issues arise. Contracts for use with employees who live on the Club's premises now come with a specifically drafted Service Occupancy Agreement for the employees, and their partners if applicable, to sign in relation to their accommodation.

Our newest introduction to our contracts range is a contract of employment for use by Clubs which employ Bar Managers. We know that many Clubs employ Bar Managers as opposed to Club Stewards and we are pleased to now supply a specific contract pack for Bar Managers.

The contracts which are offered by the ACC are as follows:



**Club Club Secretary/ Administrator Contract**  
Appropriate for Clubs which employ, rather than elect, a Club Secretary. Each contract pack costs £20 and includes:  
2 x Club Secretary Contract  
2 x Club Employee  
Disciplinary and Grievance  
Policy Handbook.



**Steward Contract**  
Appropriate for a Club employing a Steward with or without accommodation included. Each contract pack costs £25 and includes:  
2 x Club Steward Contract  
2 x Service Occupancy Agreement  
2 x Club Employee  
Disciplinary and Grievance  
Policy Handbook.



**Bar Manager Contract**  
Appropriate for a Club employing a Bar Manager without accommodation. Each contract pack costs £20 and includes:  
2 x Bar Manager Contract  
2 x Club Employee  
Disciplinary and Grievance  
Policy Handbook.



**Standard Terms and Conditions of Employment**  
Appropriate for a wide range of Club Employees (bar employees, cleaners, general part time employees etc.). Each contract pack costs £15 and includes:  
2 x Standard Terms and Conditions of Employment Contract  
2 x Club Employee  
Disciplinary and Grievance  
Policy Handbook.



**Steward and Stewardess Joint Contract**  
Appropriate for a Club employing a Steward and Stewardess on a joint contract of employment with or without accommodation included. Each contract pack costs £25 and includes:  
2 x Club Steward and Stewardess Contract  
2 x Service Occupancy Agreement  
2 x Club Employee  
Disciplinary and Grievance  
Policy Handbook.

**Please contact the ACC with any questions regarding the new contracts of employment.**

**To order any of the above contract packs please place an order online at [www.toryclubs.co.uk](http://www.toryclubs.co.uk), email [charles@toryclubs.co.uk](mailto:charles@toryclubs.co.uk) or phone 0207 222 0868.**

# Buxton Conservative Club Hosts Macmillan Coffee Morning

The Buxton Conservative Club, Derbyshire, has hosted a Coffee Morning to raise funds for Macmillan. The event was well supported and raised over £800 for this worthy cause. Fresh coffee along with homemade cakes and a tombola stall were among the many attractions of the morning. There was a large attendance of both members and the general public and an incredible amount of over £800 was raised for this

worthy cause.

The Club would like to thank everyone for the kind donations of cakes and tombola items. A Macmillan Coffee Morning is Macmillan Cancer Support's flagship fundraising event. Each year, members of the general public host their own coffee morning to collect money. The donations received go towards Macmillan services and to support those suffering from cancer.

## Pages From The Past

In this month's Pages From The Past we go back to May 1929 where there was an article regarding possible recent Police 'entrapment' to Club Members to drink beyond the Club's licensable hours. We sense that the article is either written slightly tongue in cheek or was in fact written after several beverages had been consumed by the anonymous author, quite possibly after their the elapse of their own Club's licensable hours. Either way, it is an entertaining article expressing the outrage not that Club Members may be found drinking after hours but

that for some unimaginable reason the local constabulary would seek to prosecute them as a result. It is interesting to recall that it is only as recently as 1995 when Clubs and Pubs were first permitted to trade throughout the day on Sundays, with them previously having to close between 3pm and 7pm. We hope that all of our readers enjoy a Happy Christmas and New Year and during this season of good will we encourage all Club Members to support their local Clubs by purchasing drinks up until the Club's closing time and not a minute after....



Club Chairman Paul Bayman along with his three grandchildren present a cheque to Sue Ball from Macmillan Cancer Support.

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**A PERIL TO GOOD CITIZENS.**

**Police Agents who lure Clubmen into breaking the Law to obtain convictions.**

[BY A LOOKER-ON.]

Momentary failure to observe the passage of time; the acceptance of proffered hospitality in all good faith and you and I might conceivably be ruined for life!

This conclusion is arrived at after due consideration of the consequences to myself had I been amongst the victims of a recent Club prosecution in the area in which I reside.

According to the published evidence of the proceedings, reputable citizens, amongst them respected holders of responsible public positions, partook of dutiable refreshments in their Club a little beyond the absurdly early time-limit placed on such private institutions. The law-breakers included police officers—men sworn to uphold observance of the law—who, after due observance of all formalities, had been admitted to membership of the Club, which they joined solely to obtain a conviction by trapping members, if possible, into drinking after hours.

It is unnecessary to express what every decent-minded Englishman thinks of such tactics. Apart from the demerits of the case, I want to point out what reflection has shown me might readily be my own position—or yours—any day we were "off our guard."

I have never been summoned in my life: the mere idea of being prosecuted in a police court is abhorrent to me. My occupation requires that no such stain shall besmirch my escutcheon. But I am not an abstainer and enjoy a convivial hour as much as anyone. If I had been a member of, or a

guest at, the Club in question then, like a criminal I should have been dragged to court, there to suffer public trial, conviction, fine and the subsequent scandal attendant on the inevitable publicity given to "offences." If I could not pay a fine I should—like anyone else—have to go to prison.

With a certain type of employer—such as my own, for example—my mere association with a Court case as a "culprit" might readily result in my dismissal. Imprisonment, although only through inability to pay a fine out of all proportion to the legally-manufactured "offence," certainly would have that outcome.

Thus, at a stroke, and for no offence against peace and order, person or property, and in fact for doing only what, until recent years, it was a normal and rightful thing for a Clubman to do—and still would be had Ministerial pledges been kept—I should be transformed from being a respectable and employed citizen, a ratepayer, and a taxpayer, and an asset to the country in purse and person, into a workless man who, with his family, would be a debit charge on the community and possibly, in these difficult days, ruined for life.

Such are the logically possible consequences of Mr. Lloyd George's breach of faith with the Clubs to any good citizen who takes a glass of our national beverage in what is the equivalent of a private house, a few minutes after "time." And to this "crime," as all too many cases have shown, that good citizen might actually have been lured by agents *procurateur* of the law acting under false pretences.

The recent report of the Police Commission showed with what repugnance this method of crime-creation is regarded. "The procedure," says the Commissioners, "seems to us wholly objectionable." It is this and a good deal more, and the sooner it is ended and the cause which gives rise to it is removed, the better for the country and its Clubmen citizens.

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