

# *CONSERVATIVE CLUBS MAGAZINE*



May 2019 50p



**ACC Annual General Meeting Announcement**

**Tiverton Conservative Club Hosts Charity Pool Match**

**Kearsley and Ringley Hold Family Fun Day**

**Preston Conservative Club Raises Funds For Defibrillator**

# Annual General Meeting 2019

CONSERVATIVE  
CLUBS  
MAGAZINE

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The Annual General Meeting of the Association of Conservative Clubs Ltd shall be held on Saturday 1st June 2019 at the Carlton Club, London.

The Rt Hon Brandon Lewis MP, Conservative Party Chairman, is the ACC's President and will be in attendance at the Meeting.

Notice of the Annual General Meeting has been sent to all ACC Clubs.

Clubs wishing to attend should ensure a prompt return of the invitation since space is limited.



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# Liskeard Celebrates Year of Fundraising Success

The Liskeard's Constitutional Club has celebrated a year of successful fundraising - and is extending a warm welcome to prospective new members. Committee members gathered to present a cheque for £4,600 to the Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust, and heard that after a vote among the Club's 300 members, the Air Ambulance would be the chosen charity once again for the coming year. The Club's existing building in Market Street was built by Liskeard builder Sampson Trehane in 1910-11. An older property that stood on the site previously had been an eyesore



**Cornwall Air Ambulance fundraising manager Becky Wise, third from right, after receiving a cheque for £4,600 from the Liskeard Constitutional Club committee comprising, from left, vice president M Higman, Q Charge, V Pote, vice chairman D Billing, chairman S Rowe, steward C Billing, president J Scott and secretary J Williams**



**Club president John Scott presenting the cheque to Cornwall Air Ambulance's Becky Wise.**

for many years; the new building, however, was described as being a credit to the town and it remains so to the present day. In 2019 the Club remains a popular meeting place, with members enjoying entertainment each Saturday night, as well as quiz nights, raffles and weekly Bingo nights each Wednesday evening. Men's and ladies' darts, euchre, pool, snooker and whist are all played regularly at the Club. Over the last 12 months the Club has raised a fantastic £4,600 for the Cornwall Air Ambulance through a variety of activities. Six Club members

undertook the Eden Zip Wire challenge, there was a moustache shave-off, a walk took place from Polperro to Looe, there were bar collections and an auction was held in September last year, which raised £700, along with coffee mornings and a monthly draw. Liskeard Constitutional Club secretary Jane Williams said: 'We're a really friendly Club and we always welcome new members of any age. 'We're delighted to be supporting the Cornwall Air Ambulance once again for the coming year, as voted for by our members.'

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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, Seconder.

## 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.

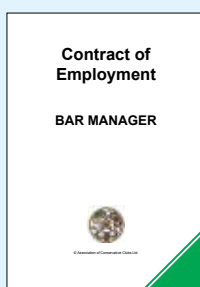
The contracts which are offered by the ACC are as follows:



**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  
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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.**



# CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

## Recent Employment Changes

In April the National Living Wage for persons aged over 25 was increased. It from £7.83 to £8.21 per hour, while the national minimum wage will increase as follows:

- 21 to 24 year old rate from £7.38 to £7.70 per hour;
- 18 to 20 year old rate from £5.90 to £6.15 per hour;
- 16 to 17 year old rate from £4.20 to 4.35 per hour; and
- apprentice rate from £3.70 to £3.90 per hour.

Annual increases to the following statutory payments/limits take place from 6 April 2019:

- statutory maternity/paternity/adoption/shared parental pay will increase to £148.68 per week;
- statutory sick pay will increase to £94.25 per week;
- a week's pay will increase to £525 (for the purposes of calculating a basic award or a statutory redundancy payment);
- maximum compensatory award for unfair dismissal (provided this is lower than the separate cap on the compensatory award of 52 weeks' pay) increases to £86,444.

Introduced as a result of The Good Work Plan, the Employment Rights (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2019 increase the maximum level of penalty available from £5,000 to £20,000 for aggravated breach of a worker's employment rights.

In relation to pension auto enrolment, new contribution requirements apply. The minimum employer contribution is 3% and the overall contribution should be 8%. If an employer only contributes 3% then the employee will have to contribute 5%, but if an employer contributes more than 3%, then an employee will have to make up the difference.

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## Questions and Answers

**Q** We have a candidate for Membership who has twice been refused in the past and it is likely his present application will also be refused. We are concerned though that a future Committee may admit this person as a Member. Can we create a Bye-Law preventing a person from applying for Membership if they have been refused twice in the past?

**A** You would not be able to introduce such a Bye-Law since it would be in conflict with the Rule which states that persons can reapply again after the twelve month period has elapsed. You can, of course, alter the rule in question but you would need the Members' approval.

Our advice is not to worry too much about this situation. Ultimately there is an argument that if a future elected Committee wishes for this person to become a Member then the current elected Committee should not be attempting to take steps to prevent such a decision from being made. We must always be open to the Club's Members electing a new Committee and going in a new direction and I would advise the current Committee not to unduly spend too much time trying to prevent a possible future Committee from making certain decisions.

**Q** At the moment our Stewardess attends Committee Meetings however since the AGM a new Committee Member is saying this is illegal. Could you clarify this?

**A** There is nothing unlawful about employees attending board or Committee Meetings. The ACC holds three Council Meetings each year at which ACC employees are requested to attend in order to provide assistance to the Council as and when required. You will find in most businesses that employees will be part of Board Meetings to differing degrees.

It is therefore for the Committee to determine if they wish to invite the Stewardess to attend Committee Meetings. If the Committee decide to invite her to attend then this fine and is completely lawful. A person invited to a Committee Meeting can also be asked to leave the meeting at any point, particularly if a matter for discussion would be a sensitive subject or a conflict of interest.

**Q** Each month our Treasurer explains in detail the club financial situation including staff wages. A newly elected Committee Member has pointed out that detailed financial details of members of staff could be breaching new data protection laws – please could you advise?

**A** The Committee are considered to be the Employers in the Club's employer/employee set up. It is therefore completely fine for the Committee to be aware of salary details and this is not a breach of Data Protection Regulations in any way.

Of course, such information should not be shared with persons outside of the Committee or the Club's financial advisors/accountants.

**Q** During our refurbishment, we considered if we could create space for disabled toilet facilities. We do not have enough space for a full disabled toilet but we can create enough space to enable us to construct an Ambulant Toilet which would meet the needs of those who have mobility issues but are not fully confined to a wheelchair. Would this be sufficient to discharge our legal obligations?

**A** If the Club is able to provide disabled facilities then you should do so although you are not expected to do so if presently the cost would be too high or if it would be physically difficult to find space to install such facilities. If this is the case then you can simply make a note to refer to this case

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# CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

## ◀ From page 5

every so often to see if anything has changed. As and when the Club is in a position to provide disabled facilities then you should aim to do so.

We would therefore suggest that you do what you can, even if you cannot currently offer a complete package of disabled facilities. At least if you are showing that you have considered the situation affecting disabled persons and you have done what you can at this time, this will prove that the Club is taking its responsibilities seriously and hopefully in the future further improvements can be made.

**Q** We only have one candidate for the position of Chairman so we understand that they will be elected automatically without a contest. Several Members have asked if they can be allowed to vote for or against this person. Is this permissible?

**A** If there is only one candidate for the position of Chairman then they will be automatically elected at the AGM. There is no way to challenge such an appointment and the Members are unable to vote against this person's election if they are the sole person standing for the position. The Members can, of course, remove the Chairman at any time by calling for a SGM. We would also encourage Members to stand for positions to ensure a contest is created to allow Members to vote for their preferred candidate.

**Q** We have received a petition of 30 Members requesting a SGM to vote on removing the Committee from Office. Since we have received the petition several Members who are on the petition have said they do not support it and did not know what they were signing. Should the SGM still go ahead if these Members formally withdraw their support?

**A** Most Clubs have a mechanism where 30 or more Members can sign a petition which will mean a SGM will be held and a vote taken on whether to remove the Committee.

If it became apparent that some of the names of the list had requested that their names be removed and this caused the number of names on the list to fall below 30 then a new petition would

have to be circulated and submitted to the Committee. An SGM can only be held if a valid petition of at least 30 names has been submitted and if those named on the petition objectively support the petition.

As a matter of course, we would suggest that any Member leading such an operation obtains at least 30 names and ensures that all the persons signing the petition are aware of the nature of the petition and that by signing the petition they are calling for an SGM to be held in order to vote on removing the Committee. If an SGM is successfully called then 75% of those Members who attend the SGM are required to vote in favour of the motion removing the Committee from Office in order for it to succeed.

**Q** Our club has always welcomed IA Ticket holders from other clubs but recently a group of members from a neighbouring club have been using our club four or five times a week. The committee wish to impose a ban on all IA Ticket holders who live within five miles of the club. Is this acceptable?

**A** Regulation 8 of the Rules and Regulations governing the IA Ticket Scheme reads as follows – 'The committee of every Inter-Affiliated club reserves to itself the right to make Special Regulations (subject to permission of the ACC Council) as to the admission of Inter-Affiliated members, in which case, a copy of the same shall be exhibited on the club notice board. Such permission shall not be required for the exclusion of Inter-Affiliation Ticket holders whose permanent habitation is within a radius of ten miles of club premises. The holder of an Inter-Affiliation Ticket is reminded that admission to an Inter-Affiliated club is an act of courtesy which can be withheld in the interests of the club, on any occasion, or in respect of any individual at the discretion of the club committee of any Inter-Affiliated club.'

The object of this regulation is to prevent members of one club, with possibly a low annual subscription, from using the facilities of a neighbouring club that has a higher rate of annual subscription on a regular, if not daily, basis. Therefore, the committee of any Inter-Affiliated club reserves the right to impose a radius restriction on IA Ticket holders.

Due to the fact that Regulation 8 also provides committees of Inter-Affiliated clubs with the authority to refuse the admission of any IA Ticket holder—if this is considered to be in the interests of the club—we suggest that overall radius restrictions are not imposed. Club committees should instead rely on the authority provided by Regulation 8 to simply restrict those IA Ticket holders who seek to use the IA Ticket Scheme as a method of regularly enjoying the facilities of a club which, for whatever reason, they have chosen not to join.

In short, therefore, committees are advised not to permit a few 'bad apples' jeopardising the enjoyment of neighbouring IA Ticket holders who do not wish to abuse the Scheme but who would like to occasionally visit other local clubs.

**Q** A Committee Member has offered to help out behind the bar when help may be required. They do not want to be paid for this and would just consider it as volunteering. Our Chairman has said that this will cause a "conflict of interest" and that other staff would feel "threatened" by a committee member working behind the bar. Does the ACC have a view?

**A** There is no legal reason that a Committee Member cannot volunteer behind the Club's bar. Some Clubs operate exclusively with volunteers, others utilise a mixed approach. I am not sure I agree that employees would feel threatened by working with a Committee Member but if there is any reason to think this would be the case it should certainly be

considered and discussions held with the Club's employees.

Whilst we respect the view of the Club's Chairman, this is ultimately a Committee decision to make. I therefore suggest that this proposal is put to a vote at the next Committee Meeting. With any employee or volunteer it is, of course, always necessary to ensure some formality is adhered to when anyone is responsible for handling cash and this can be a consideration regarding how and when the Committee might allow volunteers to assist behind the bar.

**Q** 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.

**A** 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.

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## Recruiting a Steward or Bar Manager

Before you place an advertisement to recruit a new Steward or Bar Manager, you need to look at one or two issues about why you have a vacancy at all and in particular why your last steward left. People sometimes leave their jobs for good reasons but a little detective work might reveal that your conditions of employment do not encourage people to give you long-term commitment.

You might even find that the way you recruited last time fell short of the mark and you lost the last steward because they were the wrong choice in the first place. If this is the case, regard the current vacancy as a chance to get the recruitment procedure right.

Examine in detail exactly what the job of steward entails. This might be a good time to restructure the job if necessary. Write a list of all the duties required. They will fall quite naturally into four or five main areas such as customer service, cleaning and maintenance, stock control or staff management. Finer detail can then be recorded under these headings.

When you have completed this job description, you can write down what knowledge and skills are required for someone to do the job well. Examples of this might be knowledge of bar stock control procedures or the skill of handling customers or members. What you will be creating is a list of the abilities you should be looking for in the ideal candidate. You might also add to this list some of the other things that you should be looking for which are more specific, such as availability to work the hours required.

Devising a concise advertisement based on your specifications will make it clear what the job entails and can indicate the attributes which are considered essential for success in the post. Be careful not to fall foul of discrimination law. You cannot state that you do or do not want a particular sex or racial group for the job. Put a closing date on applications so that you can compare all your candidates and arrange to see the best ones.

Advertising by word of mouth and using personal recommendations can be very effective and it is certainly cheap. However, this approach does have its problems. It can be tempting to compromise for convenience sake when a reasonable candidate is introduced to you by a personal

contact. It can also cause offence if you decide to reject someone recommended to you. Even worse, taking on someone's friend or relative, only to have to dismiss them later because they turned out to be unsuitable, can be damaging to staff or personal relationships.

When you have received application forms and CVs, compare what each of the candidates has to offer to the specification you had put together at the outset of this recruitment campaign. If you want customer relations skills, what evidence is there in the application of experience of this in previous employment? If you want a good organiser, where can evidence of this be seen in the type of work that the applicant has been doing?

Remember to look for obvious problems such as gaps in employment history or changes of job which seem hard to explain (for example, giving up a lucrative landlordship or club steward position somewhere else).

Never leave the interview itself just to one person from a club. Convene an interviewing panel from the committee. Alternatively, have one person interview the applicants and then pass them on to a second stage interviewer. Two opinions will help to obviate personal bias and maximise the possibility of an objective decision.

The application or CV can only provide prompts for in depth investigation; it cannot give you a comprehensive picture on its own. Do not miss the opportunity to find out about what the candidate is capable of by enquiring thoroughly about the way they are doing their present job or their experience in any other employment. Every interviewee should be asked to demonstrate that they have the skills and abilities that you require and question how their past experience relates to your specific requirements. How, for example, have they dealt with running a profitable bar, handling difficult staff issues, building relationships with customers or members, and dealing with contractors? You should be able to find out in the interview if the applicant matches your requirements.

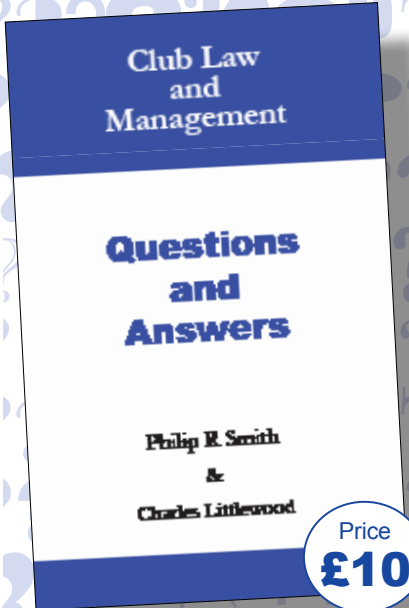
Check the provenance of any referees you are given. Former employers are best and you can check that they do in fact exist as bona fide sources of information. Personal referees have limited value as they would hardly have

been offered if they were not expected to give glowing praise.

Ask the referee questions which help them tell you what you need to know about reliability, efficiency, customer relations and trustworthiness. Referees have a duty of care to give you truthful facts about your candidate. If they find it hard to give you constructive feedback, they might decline to write anything or keep to the barest of facts, such as dates of employment. Make sure you telephone all referees in order to validate their references. When you offer employment, remember

to make it conditional on any checks you have to make. You may need to make such a conditional offer in order to approach a current employer. Never approach referees without the candidate's express permission.

The process comes full circle at the decision stage. Compare what your most promising candidate has to offer against what you say that you require in your specification. If you do not find that person this time around, you would be better to start again rather than make an appointment that is only second best.



**A follow up to the popular Club Law and Management hardback comes a book dedicated to frequently asked Questions and Answers**

From our day to day experience of assisting Clubs we have compiled the essential reference guide to the many questions that Clubs find themselves asking. With sections of Membership issues, Committees and Committee Meetings, Licensing issues, Finance and Taxation, Employment, Gambling and General Meetings we hope this will prove an invaluable reference guide to Club Committees throughout the UK. Each question is one that has been genuinely raised by a Club and we hope that the answers which are set out within this book, grouped together in specific subject areas, prove to be a valuable addition to any Club Committee and as an aide to hard working Officers and Committee Members.

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\*Matthew Clark must be the Club's main supplier and have a significant proportion of supply

the experience matters

Matthew Clark



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## Why not take advantage of some of these exclusive offers?





# Kearsley and Ringley Conservative Club Host Family Fun Day For Charity

The force was with the Members of the Kearsley and Ringley Conservative Club when the Club held one of their most successful family fun days to date. Official Star Wars troops attended the Club's family fun day. Each Stormtrooper suit had been handmade as an exact copy of the originals. Raffles, tombolas, barbecued sausages and more were on the menu as residents gathered at the Stoneclough venue to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Club Secretary Pat Kirkham said: "We raised a massive £3,536. The children absolutely loved it and it was fantastic to get all the families together. We want to thank our members for their constant support. The weather was atrocious on the day, yet the conservative club members still



**Pictures From The Day.**

came out in force. We also had the official Stormtroopers from Star Wars. We also want to say a huge thank you to Tesco in Farnworth

and Walkden who have been fantastic supporters year on year, and also to Slattery's. There were many others who helped us run the event, including several local businesses that donated raffle prizes. Without these people we would not be able to run this event or raise this much money. It turned

**Picture and Story Credit: The Bolton News**

out to be a very successful day."

Each year, Kearsley and Ringley Conservative Club holds family fun days to help raise awareness and funds for charity. In previous years, the club has fundraised for Help for Heroes, the Alzheimer's Society and Bolton Lads And Girls Club.

## Waterloo and Taunton Award Distinguished Service Award to Club Treasurer



The Waterloo and Taunton Conservative Club in Ashton-under-Lyne have presented the Association of Conservative Clubs 'Distinguished Service Award' to club treasurer, Brian Higgins.

Presented by chairman - Leon Tamcken and president - Gary Tunstall, the award recognises

Brian's long and loyal service to Waterloo and Taunton Conservative Club, serving 11 years on the club's committee, joining back in 2008.

On receiving his award, Brian said 'I have loved my time on the committee, but one thing I'm always glad to see the back of is the end of year accounts. Here's to the next 11 years!'





# Preston Conservative Club Raises Funds For Defibrillator Installations

Preston Conservative Club Committee Member Martin Copeman has spearheaded the Preston Community Defibrillator Project which aims to install public access defibrillators in and around Preston, Torbay. Preston Conservative Club was keen to help in raising funds with a plethora of raffles, auctions and other activities, with all items donated by Club members and local businesses. Martin's project is a wonderful example of how a man's mission, with support from friends, can transform communities for the better.

Martin, who has worked in the NHS for 30 years as an anaesthetist found himself unsuccessfully trying to resuscitate his own brother 10 years ago. His experience in the NHS enabled him to realise the huge difference early treatment can make.

Without early treatment 90-95% of cardiac arrest victims will die. If a defibrillator is used with effective CPR within 3-5 minutes the survival rate rises from around 6% to approximately 74%. On average emergency services take 11 minutes to attend in an urban



Club Secretary Wendy Holmes with Torbay MP Kevin Foster. Directly behind are Martin Copeman and partner Jan Wood. They are surrounded by Committee and Members of Preston Conservative Club.

area. If a victim is defibrillated within 1 minute of collapse the survival rate can be as high as 90%.

The project was picked up

with enthusiasm by Preston area businesses including the local Lions Club, Masons and BMAD. Originally Martin planned to raise sufficient funds for 3 units,

but such was his energy and persuasiveness, this has now risen to 11. The ACC sends it congratulations to Martin and all who made this possible.



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# The value of live sport



**“Being able to show top-quality sporting action is an excellent way of driving business..”**

Mike Reed, Sky Sports customer and licensee of Griffin Belle, Vauxhall

## SHOW MORE UNMISSABLE MOMENTS IN 2019

The Griffin Belle is situated in Vauxhall, southwest London, close to the Oval, one of the world's most famous cricket grounds and scene of many memorable and historic sporting moments down the years.

Licensee Mike Reed is an experienced hospitality operator and self-confessed

sports fanatic, overseeing a number of pubs across the capital as part of the Belle Pubs group. The site of the Griffin Belle has served the community as a pub for over 150 years and its current sports-focused offer has proved a hit.

Mike is clear about the value that Sky Sports continues to provide his business. “The value of Sky Sports to this pub is absolutely critical; to be able to attract customers through the variety of different sports is priceless from a commercial point of view.

“Previously, this pub didn't cater for sports fans, so being able to show top-quality sporting action is an excellent way of driving business. The way we show sport is far removed from the old, traditional manner with a dusty TV screen over the door that no one can really see. We use state-of-the-art technology and all our screens are the best UHD screens, along with a giant

multi-screen wall and three sound zones. We try and offer customers a perfect way to watch sport.”

Given the pub's location, Mike's top sporting memory relates to a historic moment during the 2018 Test series vs India. “Alastair Cook's farewell ton in last summer's final Test at The Oval, just 10 minutes down the road, was so special. You couldn't have written the script any better.

“Our customers were willing him to get to that milestone hundred. From a trading perspective, we couldn't have asked for better timing as he was batting at lunchtime and we had a good crowd in, as well as about 50 builders from the local site trying to squeeze into the pub.

“The cheer that went up when he reached three figures was amazing – although we didn't allow any beer showers though like we saw during last summer's World Cup! Then after the day's play had finished, we had lots of people who had been in the ground come back to the pub and continue the celebrations, watching the replay on Sky Sports. It was an absolutely fantastic moment.”

**“The value of Sky Sports to this pub is absolutely critical; to be able to attract customers through the variety of different sports is priceless”**





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We've got a fantastic all-day menu and when it comes to a specific event, we look to feature a sports-related special dish, like an all-American burger or Jack Daniels wings on NFL nights.

"Sky Sports is a great tool for driving footfall into our pub and attracting new customers to watch the sport of their choice. The more that we can build our reputation as a great venue to watch the big matches and the full range of sport then that will benefit us."

The sporting year ahead promises to be jam-packed full of great action for The Griffin Belle and Mike can't wait. "Every week there is something on for us - it's almost a full-time job planning and preparing for all the sporting events!"

## UNMISSABLE MOMENTS IN 2019

11th - 14th April  
The Masters, Golf Major

19th May  
Last day of the Premier League

25th - 27th May  
Sky Bet Play-off Finals

30th May - 14th July  
Cricket World Cup

5th -9th June  
UEFA Nations League Finals

1st August - 16th September  
The Ashes

Mike says the cricketing year ahead promises to be really exciting and offers plenty of televised action to keep the pub's tills ringing.

"Of course, we're fortunate being on the doorstep of The Oval, but cricket drives footfall for our pub. We know that it's a popular sport among the local community and they have, in turn, supported the pub.

Our customers know they can come in and watch their team, or their country, in a great environment and with a great atmosphere.

"In the past cricket would have perhaps been perceived as boring to watch but Sky's fantastic coverage has really helped boost interest. This year we've got the Cricket World Cup, the T20 Blast and then of course The Ashes. We dedicate screens to it - our customers know it won't just be on a small screen in the corner - we will put it on our main screen and that is a draw for people."

And there is plenty of opportunity too. On average, almost half a million people per day watched The Ashes series in a pub when it was hosted in the UK in

2015. There are other international tests that also draw in the crowds. In August 2018, over 720,000 people watched day two of the England vs India Test match in a pub.<sup>1</sup>

Although cricket is a major draw for the local community, Mike is keen that the pub showcases the full range of sport to help drive sales and repeat visits for his business.

"We don't just stick to one sport, we cater for all. There is such variety on Sky Sports, from Premier League, to golf, to darts and now US sports. To make the most of what's being broadcast, we look to identify and work with local sports teams - and cater to their requests by showing what sport is important for them.

We are building our relationship with those teams and dedicate space in the pub through zoning and using specific screens in different areas so they can watch what they want.

"It means we get to showcase our excellent food and drink offer and it enhances our attractiveness for groups and corporate bookings.

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<sup>1</sup>Ipsos MORI Out of Home Viewing Panel. Sky Sports requires a Sky subscription equipment and installation. Scheduling may be subject to change. Further terms apply. Calls to Sky cost 7p per minute plus your provider's access. Correct at time of supply - 29/03/19. All rights reserved.

# Conservative Club's harvest auction benefits Camelford branch of Cancer Research

The Camelford branch of Cancer Research UK has extended thanks to the Camelford Conservative Club, following a recent donation of £1,000. The funds were raised from the Club's annual harvest auction and continues a yearly tradition of the Club supporting Cancer Research UK.

On behalf of the Club, Tim Pitt presented two cheques for £1,000 each to both the Camelford branch of Cancer Research UK, and another good cause — the Cornwall Air Ambulance, which was gratefully received by Janet Cox. The Club Members each

year vote on where the funds will be donated to.

Madge Walkey, from the Camelford Cancer Research UK Committee, said: "Each year the club gives half of their proceeds from the annual harvest auction to our branch of Cancer Research UK, and the other half goes to another organisation — this year being the Cornwall Air Ambulance.

"Over the last 32 years, the club has donated a total of £19,513 to the Cancer Research UK Camelford committee, as a result of their annual harvest auction."



The Cheque Presentation Ceremony.

Photo: Bude and Stratton Post

## Obituary

### Ernie Edwards, Cathays Conservative Club

The Cathays Conservative Club are sad to report the death of there long standing Trustee and President Ernie Edwards who sadly passed away on 31 March 2019. Ernie had been a Member of the Club for several decades and served as a

Club Trustee for many years until his death. He was loyal, honest and well respected by all members and he spent many hours ensuring that the club was a success and that it ran smoothly. He will be missed by all the Club's Members.

# Tiverton Conservative Club Hosts Charity Pool Match

The Tiverton Conservative Club, Devon, has hosted a pool match between service veterans and a Tiverton Community team. The fundraising exercise aims to raise awareness of the help and support that Boots on the Ground offers to all service veterans. Boots on the Ground is a veterans charity founded by veterans, with the simple mission statement of supporting soldiers, veterans and family members whenever help is required.

The charity match raised £1,250 for the charity. Adam Benbow from the Charity said: "We had a pool tournament and then the raffle, the funds have now gone to an ex-vet who has lost his wife and kids. Now Boots on the Ground are paying for him to go and carry on his diving courses which will make him a qualified diving instructor in Berkshire. Boots on the Ground will help him have a carried to fall back on when he leaves the armed forces."



The Cheque Presentation Ceremony.

Photo: Devon Live

## Pages From The Past

In this month's Pages From The Past feature we go back to June 1908 where the Conservative Clubs Magazine featured a report on the ACC's 14th Annual General Meeting. Sir Herbert Praed chaired the meeting which was held at the Portman Rooms in Baker Street, London. The ACC's then Secretary was Frank Solbe.

During Sir Herbert's Chairman's speech he touched upon the increased attendance of the AGM compared to previous years with the number of delegates attending over 600 and also commented on

some of the licensing changes which were occurring and how the ACC were fighting on behalf of Clubs to prevent any negative measures from being introduced. The speeches of the AGM were described as 'uniformly excellent' and 'commendably brief' although it is unclear if the positive reaction to the speeches was solely down to their brevity. Nevertheless, the tradition of excellent and also brief speeches is one we shall try to suitably honour at the ACC's 125th AGM taking place on the 1st June.



## ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATIVE CLUBS.

### The Fourteenth Annual Conference and Meeting.

OVER A THOUSAND DELEGATES PRESENT.

IMPORTANT DISCUSSION ON THE POLITICAL SIDE OF CLUB LIFE.

THE A.C.C. OFFERS A CHALLENGE BANNER.

The Annual Conference and Meeting of the Association of Conservative Clubs took place at the Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W., on Friday, May 22nd, both gatherings being attended by a record number of delegates. At the Conference some 600 were present, while at the Prize Distribution and Concert in the evening the attendance exceeded a thousand.



SIR HERBERT PRAED,  
Chairman of the A.C.C.

The proceedings throughout were characterised by marked enthusiasm. Everyone present instinctively realised that the political tide had turned, and that once again we were on the winning side. The mottoes which depended from the walls of the spacious hall served as an additional reminder. The words, "Mid-Devon," "Peckham," "N.W. Manchester," told their own story, and every reference to these Party victories and each allusion to Tariff Reform was received with rounds of whole-hearted applause.

The speeches, both at the Conference and at the evening meeting, were commendably brief, and uniformly excellent. Many useful suggestions were thrown out, and the announcement made by Sir Herbert Praed that the Association had decided to award an A.C.C. Challenge Banner to the Club doing the best political work each year was enthusiastically received.

His Grace the Duke of Rutland made an ideal Chairman for the mass Meeting in the evening. He immediately got on the best of terms with his audience, and the reception accorded him at the termination of the proceedings was a splendid tribute to his popularity with Conservative and Unionist Clubmen.

#### THE CONFERENCE.

##### Sir Herbert Praed's Address to the Delegates.

The Conference was timed to commence at 3.30 p.m., but half-an-hour earlier delegates commenced to arrive, and when Sir Herbert Praed took the chair, the spacious room was well filled. The attendance exceeded 600, many of those present representing Clubs as far removed as Northumberland and the Isle of Wight.

Supporting Sir Herbert Mackworth-Praed (Chairman of the Association) were the Earl of Londesborough (President of the Scarborough Constitutional Club), Lord Edmund Talbot, M.P. (ex-Lord of the Treasury), Colonel W. J.

Alt, C.B., V.D. (St. Stephen's), Mr. Arnold Statham (St. Stephen's), and Hon. Counsel to the Association), Mr. Edward Symons (Hon. Counsel to the Association), Mr. C. de la Chapelle (Hon. Solicitor to the Association), Mr. R. B. Mann (Hon. Architect to the Association), the Rev. Egerton Tapp (Junior Constitutional), Mr. H. Crouch Batchelor (Junior Constitutional), Mr. Hugh Thornton, Mr. Frank Solbé (Secretary), and Mr. E. J. Moyle (Asst. Secretary).

SIR HERBERT PRAED, whose rising was the signal for a hearty burst of applause, expressed his pleasure at seeing before him such a magnificent gathering of delegates. Never before in the history of the Association had so many attended, and their presence there was an indication of the keen interest which they, and those whom they represented, took in the serious side of Club work. The Governing Body attached the greatest importance to such gatherings, for they afforded a means for them to hear at first hand the progress made by affiliated Clubs, and to ascertain what further steps could be taken to make them yet more useful to the Party. (Cheers.)

#### The Licensing Bill.

They were meeting at a critical time politically, and particularly so far as the Club movement was concerned. The Licensing Bill, as presented by Mr. Asquith, contained proposals which, if carried into law, would seriously hamper the good work which properly-conducted Clubs were performing. The A.C.C. had not been slow in realising this, and had set to work systematically to defeat the measure. (Cheers.) It was too early to state definitely what would be the outcome of their opposition, but he (the Chairman) had reason to believe that, supported as they had been by well-nigh every affiliated Club in the country, they would succeed in getting Part IV. of the Bill materially modified. (Cheers.) With regard to the management of the Clubs, there was little or no complaint to make. Only three had paid the penalty of lax control, and had, in consequence, been removed from the Register. It was these badly-managed institutions which, by losing sight of the objects for which they were founded, became the curse of the legitimate Club movement—(cheers)—and provided weapons for detractors to use against them. It made the task of resisting further impositions very difficult if each individual clubman failed to realise his responsibilities, and act up to them. (Cheers.)

#### The Union Jack Club.

During the year an increasing number of Clubs had made use of the A.C.C. Stocktaking and Auditing Departments, thus ensuring efficient and careful management. He (the Chairman) had pointed out the necessity of this to the promoters of the Union Jack Club, and as his contribution towards that splendid institution he had presented the Club with six months' stocktaking and auditing. (Cheers.) This he had placed in the hands of the A.C.C. Stocktaking Department, and those responsible for the

THE A.C.C. "CLUB MANAGEMENT" SERIES OF HANDBOOKS. See Page 146.





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