

# *CONSERVATIVE CLUBS MAGAZINE*



August 2021 75p



## **Waltham Holy Cross Conservative Club**

**Working Safely During Covid Guide**

**Biddulph Member Celebrates 100th Birthday**

**Premier League Fixtures**

# Message From The Chief Executive

CONSERVATIVE  
CLUBS  
MAGAZINE



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It is with great pleasure that I write the words that for clubs in England, all 'legal' Covid restrictions have now been removed and that we hope similar moves will follow for Welsh clubs in early August. No one reading this will underestimate the difficulty and turmoil that Covid and the related restrictions has caused the Hospitality Industry over the past 18 months.

The efforts and commitment of all Club Officers and Committee Members have been tested during this period with difficult decisions stemming from furlough, to not knowing when the Club might reopen to working out how to pay a bill that has come in during a closure period. Of the last 18 months there is not one month where Clubs would have been trading normally. For a large amount of that time clubs would have been closed, for the rest of that time clubs would have been operating under an ever changing framework of rules, restrictions and guidance.

But what comes next is arguably

the greatest challenge of all. We must all now entice members and guests to return to clubs. To be reminded of the pleasure they had visiting their local clubs and chatting to their longstanding friends. As a nation we have been forced to be self-contained for so long that it is hard to remember a time when to meet up with friends and have a drink, one did not need to first check the latest section of legislation or brush up on your GCSE (O Level) maths to ensure you were within the legal limits for numbers. We are now however at this point and I hope clubs will be encouraging all their members to return. As I have often commented, ACC Clubs are primarily 'a safe environment where people who broadly have the same outlook on life can come together'. Perhaps in this new 'living with covid' era there is emphasis on different words in that sentence but the overall sentiment certainly remains the same. A society which socialises together, is a stronger society and our clubs will continue to put that into practice.

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## Are you ready for safe reopening?

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# CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

## England Covid Update

It has been announced that in England, Covid regulations for Clubs will be relaxed from the 19th July. Restrictions on events such as weddings and wakes will also be removed.

This means that masks to move around the Club, table service, and maximum sizes on groups will no longer be legally required.

Clubs are no longer required to collect customer contact details, but doing so will support NHS Test and Trace to contact those who may have been exposed to Covid so that they can book a test. You can enable people to check in to your venue by displaying an NHS QR code poster. You do not have to ask people to check in or turn people away if they refuse. If you choose to display a QR code, you should also have a system in place to record contact details for people who want to check in but do not have the app.

Staff members or customers should still self-isolate if they or someone in their household has a persistent cough, a high temperature or has lost their sense of taste or smell. They must also self-isolate if they or a close contact has had a positive Covid result, or if they have been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace. If you know that a worker is self-isolating, you must not allow them to come to work. It's an offence to do this.

Full guidance is available here and it is worth reading the applicable sections: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-covid-19/restaurants-pubs-bars-nightclubs-and-takeaway-services>

Clubs are still encouraged to offer table service where this has been available and we are recommending the Creventa App solution to assist with taking table service orders. <https://creventa.com/offer>

It is still advised that people wear masks in busy indoor places and, as such, Members and guests can be advised to continue to wear masks when moving around the Club. Clubs are encouraged to provide as much ventilation as possible inside the Club – this means opening doors and windows where and when possible. Committees can continue to request that employees wear masks whilst working.

The legislation is moving towards making people responsible for their own health as well as the health of those around them. Therefore, Clubs can encourage Members to think about their own health and the health of their fellow Members by wearing masks where appropriate and using table ordering solutions when possible.

The current Government guidance does allow Clubs to

ask for either vaccination status or negative Covid result upon a person's entry to the Club. The NHS COVID Pass will be available through the NHS App, the NHS website, or as a letter that can be requested by ringing NHS 119. Visitors will also be able to show text or email confirmation of test results. If you use the NHS COVID Pass to admit entry, you should ensure that you comply with all relevant legal obligations and guidance, including on equalities. The government will publish more guidance on using the NHS COVID Pass shortly.

Club Committees will have to

think carefully about how they would manage this system from a practical perspective if it was put into operation. We would not recommend storing health details (such as vaccination status) of Club Members so a check would likely have to be undertaken every time a person enters the Club if the Committee wanted to pursue such a system. We would also recommend an addition is made to the Rule Book if this is to be the policy since essentially the Committee would be barring entry to any person unwilling to display a vaccination certificate or a negative covid test.

## Wales Covid Update

**From Saturday 17 July**

Moved to Alert Level 1:

- up to 6 people can meet indoors in private homes and holiday accommodation
- organised indoor events for up to 1,000 seated or 200 standing can take place, subject to a risk assessment and taking reasonable measures
- remove the legal restrictions on the number of people who can gather outdoors
- allow up to 30 children from organisations, such as the Brownies and Scouts, to attend residential centres over the summer holidays

**From Saturday 7 August (if conditions allow)**

Complete the move to alert level 0:

- remove legal restrictions on the number of people who can meet indoors, including in private homes, public places or at events
- all businesses and premises can open, including nightclubs
- people should still work from home wherever possible
- face coverings will remain a legal requirement indoors, with the exception of hospitality premises. This will be kept under review

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## Questions and Answers

**Q** Post the English Covid relaxations on the 19th July, can we now allow Members to once again sit at the bar?

**A** We can confirm that you are able to legally locate bar stools at the bar again. That being said, from the health perspective of your employees, it may be prudent not to for the time being. The final decision is likely to be made on a Club by Club basis and based on the local covid case rates, feedback from employees and if the employees have been vaccinated.

**Q** Our Committee have recently had to invite a member to a disciplinary meeting after some poor behaviour. We are a small club and don't often have to officially deal with such problems, could you let us know how we should conduct a disciplinary procedure?

**A** You cannot expel or suspend a member from the club without first inviting them to a Committee meeting. A suspension or permanent expulsion can only take place once a disciplinary meeting has been held. You can also only suspend a member for a maximum of twelve months.

If the Committee are of the opinion that this individual's behaviour has either broken specific club rules/Bye-Laws or could be judged to be prejudicial to the Conservative cause or the interests of the club then they can summon this member to appear before the Committee. The Committee should inform them of the allegations that have been made against when asking them to attend the disciplinary meeting.

The Committee can also instruct this member to withdraw from the facilities of membership until he appears before the disciplinary meeting. It is normal that once the withdrawal takes place that a disciplinary meeting is held within two months and that at least seven days' notice of the meeting must be given to the member, in accordance with the club's rules. If this is how the Committee wishes to proceed

you should write to the member and inform them that due to their conduct he has been requested to appear in front of the Committee. You should also include the precise details of the complaint and alleged conduct which has forced the Committee to summon the member to them.

You should then hold the disciplinary meeting and, after reviewing any points this member has to make in their defence, the Committee should decide if their conduct requires a suspension of membership up to one year in length, permanent expulsion from the club or no action taken against them.

If you decide to withdraw the facilities of membership from the member until the Committee has heard the disciplinary meeting then this means that they will be unable to enter the club until the disciplinary meeting has been heard.

**Q** Our Club has a pull tab lottery machine which is very popular and delivers a healthy profit to the Club. We are also looking into installing a B3A gaming machine inside the Club as they are also free from taxation and we think such a machine could prove to be popular amongst our Members. There is some concern though that a B3A machine may cannibalise the sales of the pull tab lottery machine and simply split the revenue received and increase our costs. Do you know if this is ever the case?

**A** Whilst I do not have any statistical evidence which I can send you regarding the change of usage of pull tab machines following the introduction of a B3A, I can safely say that I have rarely been into a Club with a B3A machine which does not also have a familiar pull tab ticket vending machine in some other part of the Club. I do think that the pull tab tickets have a following from part of the membership which is not particularly interested in playing any form of gaming machine even though I accept that the B3A machine is a very simple one to use compared with the more complex B4 machine features. The ACC's Recommended

Machine Supplier, Dransfields, will be able to provide you with some ideas for B3A machines which may appeal to the Club's Members. Dransfields can be reached on 0845 094 3063.

**Q** Can you confirm what Gaming Machines the Club is able to have? We understand that there is one machine which is completely free of taxation and that these machines have recently had their stakes and prizes increased.

**A** We can confirm that the Club is entitled to 1 x B3A Gaming Machine and that this machine is free of taxation. Any other Gaming Machines that the Club have, such as the B4 machine, will have Machines Games Duty applied to the machine's profits. It is only the B3A gaming machine which is free of tax and the Club can only have one of these machines in situ.

The stakes and prizes for a B3A machine are set at a maximum stake of £2 and a maximum prize of £500. B4 machines can also now offer a prize of up to £400 and a stake of up to £2. You may have an old B4 machine with the £1 stake and £250 limit. These machines can now be updated to allow the revised maximum stakes and prizes.

If you are about to change or update some of your machines you may wish to contact Dransfields for a quotation to see if they can save you money. They are our recommended suppliers and I do know they have some exciting machine innovations in the pipeline.

**Q** We are trying to set up an account regarding potential investments and are having difficulty in describing the set up of our Club. We have Trustees but do not issue shares to members.

**A** The Club is an Unincorporated Association. The property of the Club, both real and personal, is vested in the names of elected Trustees who hold this on behalf of the Club and its objects.

The constitution of the Club is the Club Rule book. As an Unincorporated Association, an

investment cannot be made in the name of 'Conservative Club' since the Club has no legal identity. The investment shall have to be made in the names of the Trustees acting on behalf of the Conservative Club.

We have found in recent years that a number of investment companies and even high street banks will not accept business from this type of Constituted Association.

The refusal to carry out this business is normally, of course, a result of ignorance of the legal position. In other words, if a box cannot be ticked the system cannot work.

Legally there is no reason why a Club cannot invest surplus funds in a way that will be beneficial for the objects of the Club.

There are some types of investments which are not open to the Club. For example Premium Bonds and ISAs, however there is certainly no restrictions on placing the money in a high interest account or a guaranteed investment bond which may be offered by a High Street Bank. Naturally the Club would not wish to risk money and most Clubs do not have share portfolios. You will just need to find a financial services provider which is willing to work with an Unincorporated Association.

**Q** Our Committee are having a disagreement regarding how the Accounts are approved. Should the Committee be required to approve the accounts before asking the Members to receive the Accounts or is approving the accounts purely a matter for the Members and the Committee has no power to reject the accounts?

**A** The Committee should accept the accounts as presented to them by the accountants/auditor. The accounts are then put to the Members at the AGM and the Members are asked to receive them.

Clearly if the Committee are concerned over any aspect of the accounts then we would encourage you to discuss this with your accountants prior to approving them or asking the Members to receive them.

# CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

## Premier League August and September Fixtures

3pm start time unless otherwise stated

### Friday 13 August

20:00 Brentford v Arsenal

### Saturday 14 August

12:30 Man Utd v Leeds

Burnley v Brighton

Chelsea v Crystal Palace

Everton v Southampton

Leicester v Wolves

Watford v Aston Villa

17:30 Norwich v Liverpool

### Sunday 15 August

14:00 Newcastle v West Ham

16:30 Spurs v Man City

### Saturday 21 August

12:30 Liverpool v Burnley

Aston Villa v Newcastle

Crystal Palace v Brentford

Leeds v Everton

Man City v Norwich

17:30 Brighton v Watford

### Sunday 22 August

14:00 Southampton v Man Utd

14:00 Wolves v Spurs

16:30 Arsenal v Chelsea

### Monday 23 August

20:00 West Ham v Leicester

### Saturday 28 August

12:30 Man City v Arsenal

Aston Villa v Brentford

Brighton v Everton

Newcastle v Southampton

Norwich v Leicester

West Ham v Crystal Palace

17:30 Liverpool v Chelsea

### Sunday 29 August

14:00 Burnley v Leeds

14:00 Spurs v Watford

16:30 Wolves v Man Utd

### Saturday 11 September

12:30 Crystal Palace v Spurs

Arsenal v Norwich

Brentford v Brighton

Leicester v Man City

Man Utd v Newcastle

Southampton v West Ham

Watford v Wolves

17:30 Chelsea v Aston Villa\*\*

### Sunday 12 September

16:30 Leeds v Liverpool\*\*

### Monday 13 September

20:00 Everton v Burnley

### Friday 17 September

20:00 Newcastle v Leeds

### Saturday 18 September

12:30 Wolves v Brentford

Burnley v Arsenal

Liverpool v Crystal Palace

Man City v Southampton

Norwich v Watford

17:30 Aston Villa v Everton

### Sunday 19 September

14:00 Brighton v Leicester

14:00 West Ham v Man Utd\*

16:30 Spurs v Chelsea\*

### Saturday 25 September

12:30 Chelsea v Man City

Everton v Norwich

Leeds v West Ham

Leicester v Burnley

Man Utd v Aston Villa

Watford v Newcastle

17:30 Brentford v Liverpool

### Sunday 26 September

14:00 Southampton v Wolves

16:30 Arsenal v Spurs

### Monday 27 September

20:00 Crystal Palace v

Brighton

*\*Matches that could be affected by clubs' participation in UEFA competitions the preceding midweek*

*\*\*Matches subject to change depending on the participation of clubs in the UEFA Champions League the following Tuesday*

## 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.**

## Working safely during coronavirus – Government Guidance Extract

As an employer, by law you must protect workers and others from risks to their health and safety. This include risks from COVID-19. COVID-19 is a workplace hazard. You should manage it in the same way as other workplace hazards. This includes:

- completing a suitable and sufficient assessment of the risks of COVID-19 in the workplace
- identifying control measures to manage that risk

Covid Risk Assessment is available here: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/simple-health-safety/risk/index.htm>

You do not have to write anything down as part of your risk assessment if you:

- have fewer than 5 workers

However, you may still find it useful to do so.

### Consult your workers

As an employer, you have a legal duty to consult workers on health and safety matters. You can do this by listening and talking to them about the work they do and how you will manage the risks from COVID-19.

You may do this by consulting with any recognised trade union health and safety representatives.

If you do not have any, you can consult with a representative chosen by workers. As an employer, you cannot decide who the representative will be.

Employers and workers should always come together to resolve issues. If you cannot do this, see below for other steps you can take.

### Managing risk

How COVID-19 is spread - The main way of spreading COVID-19 is through close contact with an infected person. When someone with COVID-19 breathes, speaks, coughs or sneezes, they release particles (droplets and aerosols) containing the virus that causes COVID-19. These particles can be breathed in by another person.

To reduce the risk of the virus spreading through aerosols, consider:

1. Providing adequate ventilation:
  - through doors, windows and vents
  - by mechanical ventilation using fans and ducts

This is because fresh air helps to dilute the virus in occupied spaces.

2. Encouraging use of outside space where practical. Identifying any areas of congestion in your venue and considering if any reasonable steps could be taken to avoid this. Encourage the use of face coverings by workers or customers in enclosed and crowded spaces.

## **Supporting NHS Test and Trace**

Hospitality venues are encouraged to display an official NHS QR code poster.

Consider the use of the NHS COVID Pass to reduce the risk of transmission at your venue or event.

The NHS COVID Pass is a method of COVID-status certification. The NHS COVID Pass allows people to demonstrate that they're at a lower risk of carrying COVID-19 and transmitting it to others, through vaccination, testing or natural immunity. It can help organisations to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19.

If you use the NHS COVID Pass, you should ensure that you comply with all relevant legal obligations and guidance, including on equalities. The government will publish more guidance on using the NHS COVID Pass shortly.

## **Managing service of food and drink at a venue**

### **Consider:**

1. Cleaning non-disposable condiment containers after each use, or providing only disposable condiments.
2. Reducing the number of surfaces touched by both staff and customers. For example, ask customers not to lean on counters when placing orders.
3. Encouraging contactless payments where possible. Encouraging customers to use contactless ordering from tables where available. For example, through an ordering app.
4. Using screens at points of service, for example at tills and counters, to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spreading between front of house workers and customers.

## **Keeping the venue clean**

### **Consider:**

1. Wedging doors open, where appropriate, to reduce touchpoints. This does not apply to fire doors.
2. Frequently cleaning objects and surfaces that people touch regularly. This includes counters and tills. Make sure there are adequate disposal arrangements for cleaning products.
3. Cleaning surfaces and objects between each customer use. For example, clean tables, card machines, chairs, trays and laminated menus in view of customers before customer use.
4. If you're cleaning after a known or suspected case of COVID-19, referring to the guidance on cleaning in non-healthcare settings - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings>

**Full Guidance** - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-covid-19/restaurants-pubs-bars-nightclubs-and-takeaway-services>

# Industry Insights

**Industry Insights aims to provide a whirlwind tour of who's doing what in the club sector, from latest launches and new products to business acquisitions and market research into the hospitality sector at large.**

## Spread booking customers result in no-show surge

Food-centric clubs be warned. According to recent research almost one-in-five (19%) of UK consumers who eat out have admitted to failing to turn up for a reservation since indoor dining returned earlier this year.

**T**heFork [sic], a Trip Advisor company, has measured a 237% rise in bookings across its site since May 17's re-opening of indoor dining. Research commissioned by the restaurant booking platform, however, has found that 30% of respondents who failed to show up for a recent booking did so because they were 'spread booking', making reservations at multiple outlets to ensure they have options to choose from while only intending to honour one of them.

This 30% who had made more than one reservation at the exact same time slot, 'to avoid having nowhere to go', put their spread booking tactic down to hospitality venues filling up so quickly under COVID-19 restrictions.

TheFork has also revealed which parts of the UK have the worst no show offenders, with diners in the Capital most guilty of failing to show up for their bookings. Patrons planning to eat out in both Glasgow and Manchester have also made a habit of

failing to honour bookings, coming in second and third of the UK's restaurant no-show league. In comparison, the most loyal and devoted diners with the least amount of no-shows, have been revealed as Liverpoolians and Edinburgh residents.

Patrick Hooykaas, Managing Director at TheFork said: "When diners no-show for a booking, it results in a loss of revenue that outlets can ill afford. In the UK, it is costing businesses millions. Of course, there are times when diners have to change their plans and can't fulfil a reservation, but when that happens our advice is to always give as much notice as possible so they can offer the table to another customer. It is also important that booking platforms play their part by not facilitating unfair behaviours such as spread booking.

"The message from us is simple. If you do not plan to attend your booking, cancel. We can all do our bit to help get this important industry back on its feet."



### UK's Top 10 Flakiest No-Show Hotspots

1. London
2. Glasgow
3. Manchester
4. Plymouth
5. Birmingham
6. Norwich
7. Newcastle
8. Belfast
9. Bristol
10. Cardiff

## Happy, engaged employees key to business

Providing people with the right tools to do their job is a major step forward in empowering your workforce to do well, says SmartTask CEO, Paul Ridden.

According to Gallup, disengaged employees are a drain on any business. On average, they have 37% higher absenteeism, 18% lower productivity and 15% lower profitability. When the impact to the bottom line is calculated, you're looking at the cost of 34% of a disengaged employee's annual salary.

Conversely, highly engaged staff show a 40% reduction in absenteeism, and almost 60% less staff turnover.

Employee engagement is determined



by factors such as feeling clear about your role at work, and having the right tools to enable you to do your job to the best of your ability. Being recognised for your hard work and diligence is also a key factor.

Good workforce management can make a significant difference to all of these factors, all helping to foster an engaged workforce.

• [www.smarttask.co.uk](http://www.smarttask.co.uk)



## Together again – it's good to be back

**L**ow2NoBev was one of the first major trade events to be held 'in real life' for over a year, with exhibitors and visitors alike celebrating a further step towards normality.

Having been postponed twice, the Low2NoBev show finally opened its doors to an enthusiastic reception from producers exhibiting a range of over 150 low and no alcohol brands and the visitors who had come to discover them.

With demand expected to drive volume growth by 22% from 2019 to 2024, the No-Low sector has inspired a wave of innovation, from an organic Naughty Rosé alcohol-free vegan sparkling wine to alcohol-free IPA.

The show also included a programme of expert analysis and discussion in partnership with BrewDog and hosted the release of the latest research findings from Lumina Intelligence, *The Low2No Alcohol Report 2021*.

Ellie Webb, founder of Caleno, said: "I think virtual is great and it's been a great stop gap, but it's not a



substitute for actual face-to-face interaction. It's important for buyers to actually get to taste everything in the category and being able to sample with someone in person, tell them our story and get them to try our drink has been incredible."

Aaron Goldrup, Founder of Fizz Republic, said: "It's really interesting to come to a show like this, to find new innovative products. Ultimately, unless you're scouring the internet, this is the best place to come to find a ton of products in one small place over the course of a few hours. So we can do a week's-worth of hunting in one day."

## The Spritz gets a shake up

**T**he Spritz is getting a shake up. The new Something & Nothing Spritz elevates the RTD, blending quality dry wines from a small family run estate in the heart of the Côtes de Gascogne with Something & Nothing's award-winning seltzers, to create a modern Spritz described as 'both deeply refreshing and lip-smackingly delicious'.

Something & Nothing always put flavour first, says the company, a commitment that's earned the brand a Great Taste Award for every drink in their Seltzer range, and now they're ready to do the same with the Spritz. Together with a team of talented mixologists, who host bars at many of the best festivals and parties in the world, they've created an evolution of the Spritz, blending quality French wines with the refreshing, balanced botani-



cal, juices and extracts in Something & Nothing Seltzers.

Best served chilled in the can or over ice in a glass, the range comprises two flavours.

The French Rosé + Hibiscus & Rose Seltzer is made with a pale French Rosé to complement the 'dry' yet refreshing flavour of the Hibiscus & Rose seltzer.

The Sauvignon Blanc + Cucumber Seltzer comprises fresh green, citrusy French Sauvignon Blanc blended with Something & Nothing's crisp Cucumber Seltzer.

The Spritz products are vegan, gluten-free, low in calories (under 100 calories per 330ml can), and 4% ABV.

• [www.somethingandnothing.co](http://www.somethingandnothing.co)

## In the pink with Smirnoff

**S**mirnoff Raspberry Crush Flavoured Vodka is a vodka with the natural flavours of pink raspberries. Made with Smirnoff No. 21 vodka, triple distilled from a blend of the finest grains and filtered 10 times through seven columns of charcoal, the new addition has an exceptionally smooth taste and sweet juicy raspberry flavours, says the company.



Smirnoff Raspberry Crush is best served over ice and garnished with raspberries.

• [www.smirnoff.com](http://www.smirnoff.com)



## Fleabag gin launches in fundraising effort

**E**dinburgh Gin and award-winning actress and writer Phoebe Waller-Bridge have joined forces to launch Fleabag gin in a bid to help the next generation of Edinburgh Festival Fringe performers.

Waller-Bridge created Fleabag as a one-woman show eight years ago, and the limited edition gin celebrates her character's connections with the city.

The collaboration hopes to raise more than £150,000 for Fringe hopefuls.

• [www.edinburghgin.com/news](http://www.edinburghgin.com/news)

## BBG powers up

**B**udweiser Brewing Group (BBG) UK&I donated almost 5 million kwh of renewable electricity certificates to power Cornwall during the recent G7 Summit, matching the power used during the three day event.

The brewer used a social media campaign to acknowledge G7 leaders and delegates in their fight against climate change and said that by commending those who are taking positive action, it hopes to bring more people into the fight for climate action ahead of November's UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow.

Paula Lindenberg, President, Budweiser Brewing Group UK&I said that BBG was delighted to support the G7 participants for their actions to tackle climate change.

"We've worked hard to be able to be in a position to not only power all our UK brewing operations with 100% renewable electricity, but now to produce a surplus for the nation," she said.

BBG's UK-produced portfolio of beers, including Budweiser, Stella Artois, Corona, Bud Light and Beck's are brewed with 100% renewable electricity.

• [www.budweiserbrewinggroup.co.uk](http://www.budweiserbrewinggroup.co.uk)

# The Speciality & Fine Food Fair

London's Speciality & Fine Food Fair is set to take place on September 6-7 at London's Olympia.

The Speciality & Fine Food Fair, described as 'the home of fine food and drink discovery', will showcase over 700 producers and suppliers of artisan food and drink, unveil more than 200 new products and run 50 knowledge sessions.

This year's edition welcomes producers from over 30 countries including first-time exhibitors Denmark, Lebanon and The Ivory Coast.

Returning for 2021 will be the event's Discovery Zone for new, up-and-coming producers in their first three years of trading, and The Drinks Cabinet, featuring new-to-market drinks products and businesses.

Event Manager Phillipa Christer said: "We're so excited to be opening registration for the 2021 edition of Speciality & Fine Food Fair and bringing our fine food community together once again. The past two years have seen an explosion in new products, new business and exciting individuals making their mark on the industry and we can't wait to give them a chance to connect face-to-face and do business."

• [www.specialityandfinefoodfairs.co.uk](http://www.specialityandfinefoodfairs.co.uk)



## Lighter treats seen as route forward

Brioche Pasquier has seen sales of its French macarons increase with a year-on-year lift of 49.7% since May 2020.

"We believe that this is down to people choosing smaller, lighter cakes and treats for health reasons," said Matthew Greuter, Foodservice Sales Manager. "It is clear from our figures that people wanted to treat themselves, but were choosing a lighter style of sweet treat."

Now that the hospitality industry as a whole is opening up, the company is expecting this trend to grow.

The company's individual tartelettes have also shown 2.36% growth over what has undoubtedly been a difficult year.

The products require no kitchen skills, and, says the company, 'any member of the kitchen team can assemble and present one of our desserts, with a simple sprinkle of icing sugar and a summer berry or two'.

• [www.briochepasquier.co.uk/foodservice](http://www.briochepasquier.co.uk/foodservice)



## Blue Seas and Salty Sea Dogs – Dorset Seafood Festival

The Nyetimber Dorset Seafood Festival returns on 11-12 September, 2021 at Weymouth Peninsula.

The festival brings together talented chefs, English sparkling wine and an educational programme. River Cottage favourite, John Wright (pictured) will be demoing and talking about what he forages from the sea and Mike Naidoo brings his Michelin experience from London to a new Weymouth seafood eatery.



Partners of the Festival include The Blue Marine Foundation (BLUE) which brings together fishermen, conservationists, scientists and regulators to protect reefs and marine life whilst supporting sustainable low-impact fisheries to continue within the marine protected area.

Tickets cost £10 (children free of charge).

• [www.dorsetseafood.co.uk/book](http://www.dorsetseafood.co.uk/book)

# Limited-edition whisky

**B**erry Bros. & Rudd has released an exclusive bottling from The Glenrothes distillery in commemoration of Chairman John Rudd who passed in January 2021.

The limited-edition single-cask whisky has been created to celebrate the life of a truly extraordinary man, and honours the 72 years he spent as part of the 323-year-old business.

Only 72 special bottles of The Glenrothes Single Malt Scotch Whisky have been created, all auctioned on the company's website with proceeds going to The Queen's Commonwealth Trust.

The Glenrothes was one of John's favourite whiskies and a key constituent part of the blended whisky Cutty Sark, a brand which he was personally responsible for building into a top international brand during his 72 year career.

Lizzy Rudd, Chair of Berry Bros. & Rudd and John Rudd's daughter, said: "By selecting The Queen's Commonwealth Trust to receive the proceeds I know he would have seen the parallels with his beloved Cutty Sark Tall Ships Races. Dad was a keen sailor and this annual event that was sponsored by Cutty Sark Scotch Whisky, brought young people together from countries all over the world, bridging cultures, nationalities, and backgrounds, and building international understanding.

"The Queen's Commonwealth Trust supports young leaders across the Commonwealth who are driving transformation in their communities, and we are incredibly proud to be supporting them with this fundraising initiative."

• [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com)



## Two heavy hitters join Portman Group

**T**he Portman Group, the social responsibility and regulatory body for alcohol in the UK, has welcomed two new members, C&C Group plc and Mark Anthony Brands International. This brings the total Group membership to 14.

C&C Group is a leading brand owner and drinks distributor, manufacturing, supplying and marketing cider, beer, wine, spirits and soft drinks. In the UK, its portfolio of owned/exclusive brands include Tennent's and Magners as well as a range of fast-growing, super-premium and craft cider and beers.

David Forde, C&C Group's Chief Executive and a previous CEO of Heineken UK and Ireland, said: "Now more than ever, as we see the ramifications of COVID-19, the sector needs to come together to demonstrate that the UK alcohol industry takes its self-regulatory and social responsibility obligations very seriously.

"As a regulator, the Portman Group actively helps the industry to avoid breaches of the code through guidance and training, holds the industry to account when necessary and represents the positive work of the sector to government."

Davin Nugent, Chief Executive at Mark Anthony Brands International which represents hard seltzer brand White Claw, said: "Becoming a member of the



Portman Group affirms our commitment to responsible self-regulation of the alcohol industry. Our support of the Portman Group means we are becoming a part of the gold-standard of responsibility and regulation.

"We have long been dedicated to promoting the responsible serving and consumption of our products in all settings and are pleased to have this formalised."

• [www.portmangroup.org.uk](http://www.portmangroup.org.uk)

## VIEWPOINT

### THE FIGHT AGAINST COURIER AND DELIVERY SCAMS

*Toby Carlin, Senior Director of Fraud Consulting at FICO warns that more reporting and better collaboration is needed in the fight against delivery scams*

The 'courier scam' is a global issue that intensified late last year and presented another worrying trend in the new world of digital payments and card scams, warns Carlin.

"The threat has gathered momentum in recent months as fraudsters have found a lot of success and they will continue the 'winning' formula while they still can find a victim that will fall to their schemes," he says.

#### The attack

"The attack is simple. An SMS or email comes out of the blue from an unknown number or address, notifying the target that they have missed a delivery and that it will need to be re-arranged. When the victim follows the link to re-arrange their fake delivery, they are asked for a host of information along with a fee for redelivery.

"Creating a multi-layered and extremely convincing web page to mimic genuine services is easier than ever before. Mass communication methods by SMS or email are commonplace and often incredibly low cost – a service that is enjoyed by fraudsters and genuine companies alike. It is also quicker and easier than ever to purchase and design a high-quality web domain and even more troublesome is that in many instances, the design includes an offering for fraudulent mobile applications. All these schemes are low-cost, but highly effective."

Fraudsters can publish these scam web pages and send mass communications incredibly quickly with little to no checks completed prior to their onboarding.

"The fraudulent services run as legitimate businesses until the point a customer reports the illegitimate service to law enforcement and industry groups in an attempt to stop the unlawful service. The enforcement activity is then to block access to those web domains, which requires a collaboration between ISPs," says Carlin. "To get ahead of these attacks, we must encourage more reporting and better collaboration in the fight against such frauds along with continuing to strengthen controls around data compromise detection which forms the basis of targeting these threats. As with all types of fraud, combining intelligence and fraud prevention efforts will always win out against the fraudster."

Carlin, who's company is investing heavily in the global fight against fraud scams, points to <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk> as a particularly valuable reporting mechanism, as well as individual delivery companies.

• [www.fico.com](http://www.fico.com)

# Biddulph Conservative Club Member Celebrates 100th Birthday

Biddulph Conservative club oldest member Mrs Eveline Machin celebrated her 100th birthday in early May 2021. Mrs Machin who still enjoys the occasional social evening at the club received congratulations from Her Majesty The Queen.

The Major of Biddulph along with the town Crier, on behalf of the town council presented Mrs Machin with a beautiful bouquet of flowers. The Club Members and Committee wished her well. The Chairman Mr Gary Miller and Mike Robinson, Club Secretary, presented Mrs Machin with plaque to commemorate her hundredth birthday along with a bouquet of flowers on behalf of fellow members the Committee Club Members.



ACC Chairman, Rt Hon Alistair Burt, drops into the newly refurbished Concert Room at Biggleswade Con Club meeting President Melvyn Bryant, Chairman Simon Bryant and Mandy Setterfield.

Pictures From The Day.

# Waterloo and Taunton Car Wash Follow Up

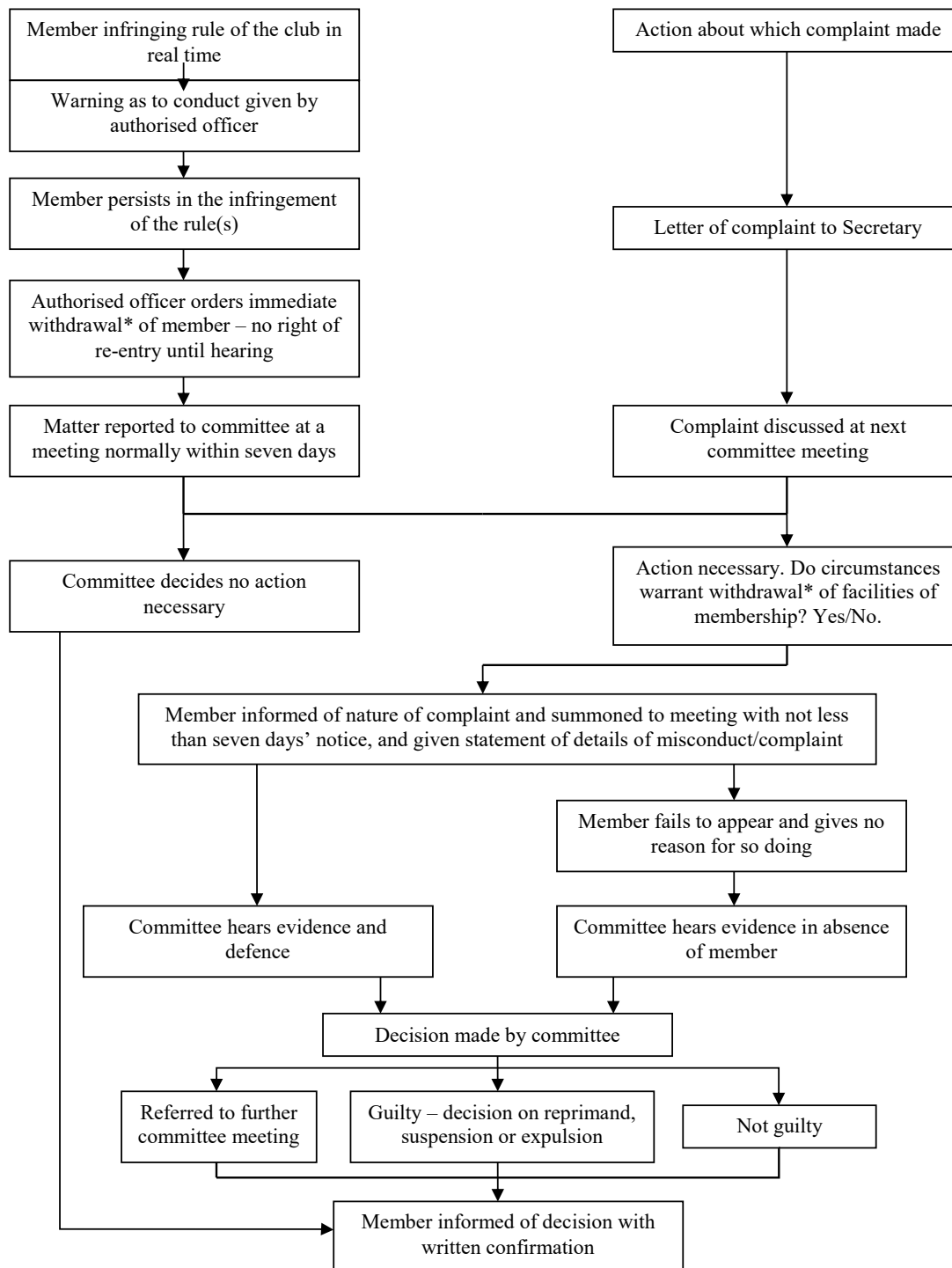


A follow up from last month's article where the Members of Waterloo and Taunton Conservative Club raised £175.00 for Men's mental health charity, Mentell, we hope the ACC Magazine readers enjoy pictures from the event.



# CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT SPOTLIGHT

## Discipline and Misconduct Flowchart



This flow chart is for explanatory purposes only and is not a substitute for the rules. For all formal purposes the rules should be consulted.

\*Withdrawal: Pending a Member's appearance at the disciplinary meeting, they can be prevented from using the Club until the meeting has taken place. Alternatively, the Committee can invite a Member to a disciplinary meeting but can permit them to use the Club until the disciplinary meeting has taken place.

## Privileges of M.P.'s.

### "More blessed to give."

Many are the privileges of a member of Parliament. He is permitted to subscribe freely to summer outings, bun feeds, or muffin struggles. He is allowed to attend bazaars to be fleeced by fascinating females, or to stand as godfather—for a consideration—to children of his constituents. He is the honoured president or vice-president of countless cricket and football clubs.

No doubt these are advantages which the M.P. properly appreciates; but they certainly do not figure prominently among "the ancient and undoubted rights and privileges" which the Speaker so impressively claims from the Crown at the opening of each new Parliament, and which His Majesty, by the mouth of his Lord Chancellor, so "readily confirms." The chief of these ancient rights on which the House of Commons so rigidly insists are: "freedom of speech in debate, freedom of arrest to their persons and servants, and free access to His Majesty when occasion shall occur."

### The Good Old Days.

In the "good old days," when a man who could not or would not pay his debts was promptly lodged in the Fleet Prison, freedom from arrest was a privilege much to be desired; and many a prodigal or impecunious man has found it much more agreeable to snap his fingers in the face of his creditors, on the strength of a seat in the Commons, than to languish within prison walls. It was an economical exchange, too, for it was much cheaper for a debtor to pay £1,000 for a seat for a rotten borough than to satisfy his creditors by paying ten or twenty times that amount.

There are numerous cases on record in which unprincipled men successfully evaded imprisonment by this simple expedient. Thus one prodigal squire, after squandering his patrimony and running over £100,000 into debt, purchased a seat for £1,500 after the warrant for his arrest had been made out, and, by repeating the process, was able to defy his creditors to the end of his life. And in another case (one of many) an Irishman who was actually in prison for debt procured his release by being elected for a constituency in his native country, and took advantage of his liberty by shaking the dust of England off his feet. This immunity from arrest not only covered the whole time Parliament was actually sitting, but a period of 40 days before and after each session.

### Exempt from Jury Service.

And not only was a member thus free from arrest in civil suits, but his servants enjoyed the same immunity—a privilege which was frequently abused; for when a man was in danger of imprisonment, it was not very difficult for him to induce a member of Parliament to take him nominally into his service, and thus

protect him effectually from the sheriff's officers. This latter privilege, however, was abolished as long ago as 1770; and as imprisonment for debt no longer exists, our legislator of to-day is really in no better position than his constituents in this respect. He is under just the same liability for arrest on a criminal charge; and if he is convicted of a felony, or even if he is declared a bankrupt, his seat is forfeited. He is, however, if he represents an English or a Welsh constituency, exempt from service on juries while Parliament is sitting—an exemption which, curiously enough, is denied to Irish and Scotch members.

The House of Commons also enjoys free access to the Sovereign, but only collectively, not individually, and only when an Address is presented to the Throne. On such an occasion a member is free from the dictates of etiquette which prescribes regulation Court dress, and is at liberty to present himself before his Sovereign in a suit of "dittoes" and a bowler hat if he is so minded, while he may approach Buckingham Palace by the section of the Mall reserved for royal personages.

### "Sanctuary!"

A more valuable privilege which the member of Parliament enjoys is the right to speak his mind freely and frankly in the House without any fear of legal consequences. He may, in the discharge of what he considers to be his duty, make personal comments and charges which, if uttered outside Parliament, would probably lead to an action for slander and the payment of heavy damages. But if he circulates his speech in any form outside the House, he does so at his own personal risk, and cannot claim privilege.

In one memorable case an M.P. introduced into a speech charges against a certain individual, and indiscreetly sent a report of his speech for publication to a newspaper. This action was held to deprive him of the protection of privilege, and it cost him £100 in the form of damages. In another case, where Lord Abingdon published a speech which he had delivered in the House of Lords, and in which he accused an attorney of unprofessional conduct, he was fined £100 and sent to prison for three months.

### A One-Legged Minister.

Lord Lucas, the new Parliamentary Secretary to the War Office, is probably the only Minister who has ever carried out his duties at Westminster on one leg. His lordship, who only quite recently successfully sustained his right to a seat in the Upper Chamber, had the misfortune to have his leg badly shattered in South Africa, and on his return to this country it was decided that amputation was necessary. Now the marvels of mechanical science render it almost impossible to say exactly which is and which is not the artificial leg. Lord Lucas, who makes a special study of ornithology—in which his father, the Hon. Auberon Herbert, was also greatly interested—has rowed upon two occasions in the Oxford and Cambridge boat-race, a distinction which he enjoys with Mr. Reginald McKenna, the new First Lord of the Admiralty.

# Bonzoline Balls

In this month's Pages From The Past we go back to May 1908 for an article on the privileges of being an MP, a noteworthy example being an exemption from Jury Service if serving an English or Welsh constituency but not if the MP was serving a Scottish or Northern Ireland constituency. The article references the right of MP to

## Pages From The Past

speaking in Parliament and be protected from defamation claims due to Parliamentary Privilege or, as the article puts it 'to speak his mind freely and frankly in the house'. It is possible that past and present PMs may not have been so thrilled with the ability

of backbench MPs to speak their minds 'freely and frankly'.

Finally the page refers to a One-Legged Minister (not to be confused with a 'legless' minister) who needed an amputation upon their return from South Africa. Lord Lucas later as a captain in the

Royal Flying Corps in the First World War. On 3 November 1916, whilst flying over German lines in the vicinity of Bapaume, his aircraft was attacked and brought down by a German fighter-aeroplane, and Lord Lucas died of wounds the same day at the age of 40. His body was buried in a war grave at the village of Ecoust-Saint-Mein.

## STANDING BY YOUR CLUB WHATEVER COMES YOUR WAY

This has been an unimaginably challenging time for people up and down the country, but none more so than for clubs like yours. We've worked with organisations like yours for over 20 years, so we understand the pressure you're under.

That's why we've been working tirelessly behind the scenes to support you, and fight for the best solutions to the issues you're facing. From legal challenges against insurers, to advice, guidance and support. Doing everything we can to keep you protected, until things return to normal.

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