

CONSERVATIVE CLUBS MAGAZINE



March 2023 75p



North West Weekend Conference

**Leigh on Sea Constitutional Club
Fundraising Success**

MPLC Update

AGM Announcement



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Message From The Chief Executive

As Spring approaches, I am sure I am not alone in looking forward to the warmer weather. For many clubs, it will not just be about encouraging members to visit the club for a catch-up with friends or to be thinking about making outside areas tidy and accommodating but importantly it will be helpful in reducing energy consumption; which has increasingly become a costly expense over the past few months.

The good news is that wholesale prices are on the way down and combined with the move into Spring weather, this should hopefully provide some natural respite for clubs suffering from the increased energy costs. It is still worthwhile carrying out an energy 'health check' to see whether further savings can be made. If you are running old appliances or using old equipment, then these can be energy hungry. Sometimes it might be more efficient and cost effective to replace very old items. For example, make sure that door seals on fridges or freezers are up to standard and not leaking cool air. Keep cellar doors closed between

visits and ensure cellars are well insulated to prevent the overuse of cooling systems, especially when the weather is warmer. Right-sizing the cellar for your bar and stock ensures empty spaces are not being unnecessarily chilled.

Some clubs may already have a 'switch off' policy in place for light switches and other electrical appliances but make sure have signage above switches and on doors to help remind everyone. Also, consider when different areas are in use and set thermostats independently, so spaces like function rooms and similar accommodation are only heated when needed. Finally, for a relatively low upfront cost, fitting an AMR meter creates a connection between a business and its energy supplier to ensure accurate usage measurement and billing. Data from the AMR meter can help inform your energy reduction decisions, allowing you to identify areas of highest use – usually in the kitchen, bar and cellar – and therefore opportunities for greatest savings as well as see the impact your changes are making.

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CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

National Minimum Wage and National Living Wage Reminder

The rates which will apply from 1 April 2023 are as follows:

	Rate from April 2023	Annual increase (£)	Annual increase (per cent)
National Living Wage	£10.42	0.92	9.7
21-22 Year Old Rate	£10.18	1.00	10.9
18-20 Year Old Rate	£7.49	0.66	9.7
16-17 Year Old Rate	£5.28	0.47	9.7
Apprentice Rate	£5.28	0.47	9.7

MPLC Reminder

We have been contacted by a number of Clubs who have received letters, emails and phone calls from the MPLC - the Motion Picture Licensing Company Ltd. We can confirm that MPLC is a legitimate organisation but that Clubs only need to obtain a licence from them under specific circumstances.

Crucially, Clubs do not tend to need an MPLC licence to show content such as sports, music channels or Sky News. Therefore, for most Clubs the only licence that is required is a Television Licence. In the ACC's experience it is rare that a Club would need to obtain an MPLC licence as most Clubs do not screen films or drama series.

MPLC itself represents licence holders such as film studios and television production companies which produce content such as dramas or comedies. If a Club showed any of this content then an MPLC licence may need to be obtained.

However, Clubs which only show channels such as Sky Sports, BT Sports, Sky News, sports shown on free to view channels such as BBC One or Channel 4 or a music channel are unlikely to be required to obtain an MPLC licence.

If you are unsure of what licence you require please let us know and we will try to assist.

Examples of programmes that

do and do not require a licence are below:

Six Nations – No licence
Match of the Day – No licence
Euros – No licence
World Cup – No licence
Sky Sports – No licence
Eastenders – MPLC Licence
BT Sports – No licence
Sky News - No licence
Sky Atlantic - No licence
Sky Movies - No licence

The ACC contacted Sky UK regarding MPLC. Sky provided us with the following statement:

The showing of Sky's own paid for channels and partner channels does not require an MPLC licence because the Sky Subscription Agreement covers this license directly from the licensor (by virtue of Sky's underlying rights agreements with the rights owners).

MPLC should be explaining to Clubs that an MPLC licence is not required should the Club just wish to show channels such as Sky Sports, Sky News, Music channels and sports shown on terrestrial television such as Six Nations, Match of the Day, Euros, World Cup etc.

If Clubs are concerned at the information they have been provided by MPLC please let us know. Clubs can also raise their concerns directly by emailing MPLC Head of Licencing Tyrone Samuel at TSamuel@mplc.com.

ACC Sale and Leaseback Service Update

Last year the ACC was extremely busy progressing agreed Sale and Leasebacks, please accept our apologies if your Club had been affected by these minor delays. The demand for this service

during 2022 was unprecedented. We have now worked through the previous backlog and all Clubs which have requested this service should now be in receipt of the agreed funds.

Questions and Answers

QThe Club hosts a poker evening each week. One of the participants is asking that the stakes limit for the game is raised. Is there a maximum stakes limit that we cannot exceed?

AClubs may provide facilities for equal chance card games for their members under the exempt gaming provisions contained in Part 12 of the Gambling Act. There is a stakes limit of £10 per player per game—the limit applies to a game, not a single hand—as well as aggregate stakes limits of £250 per day and £1000 per week for each individual club. For example, the club could run a poker game for twenty-five players paying £10 each four times per week. The maximum prize in a game is £250 and the maximum charge that a club may make for participating in card games is £1 per player per day. No deductions or levies are permitted from either stakes or prizes. Where a club holds a Club Gaming Permit, the maximum participation fee is £3. Where a Club Gaming Permit is held there are no statutory limits on stakes or prizes.

QOur Club runs a free membership draw every Saturday night for a prize of £10. To win, the member must be in the Club. If they are not, the draw gets carried over until the following Saturday whereby a further £10 is added. This has on occasion accumulated to hundreds of pounds. Is this legal?

AI can confirm that there is nothing wrong with a draw of this nature.

As a Private Members' Club you are entitled to run free lotteries of this type as often as you wish. As this is a free draw it does not encounter the usual problem with snowball prizes in that they may break the 'equal chance' gaming rule. This 'equal chance' gaming rule is concerned with persons who may have contributed to the earlier games but may have no chance of winning the subsequent games. As, in this case, the whole membership list is used every time and no member has risked any money then this rule is not breached as all members have an equal chance of winning.

The fact that a member may not be present in the Club when the draw is called does not affect the fairness of the draw. The conditions of the draw make it clear that the person must be present to win a prize and if these conditions are not fulfilled then they forfeit the prize and it is carried over to the next week.

QA neighbouring ACC Club has recently entered into a sale and leaseback arrangement with the ACC and are pleased with the outcome. Is this a service which is offered to all ACC Clubs?

AI can confirm that the ACC operates a sale and leaseback service which has proved popular with over 200 Clubs. We accept that whilst there are some Clubs that would benefit greatly from the scheme, in other cases it would not be the correct solution

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for a Club's particular situation. In some cases Clubs require assistance by way of a low interest loan from the ACC and such a straight forward help will be more appropriate than a sale and leaseback. All ACC Clubs are, however, welcome to approach us regarding the sale and leaseback service.

Any Club wishing to know more information about the sale and leaseback service can email assistance@toryclubs.co.uk or phone 0207 222 0843.

Q Following a recent VAT inspection, HMRC questioned our practice of not applying VAT on room hire to members or on income from the snooker and pool tables. Can you confirm if we are correct in not applying VAT to these sources of income?

A The Club is correct in not applying VAT on these two specific sources of income. The hire of the Club's rooms to members is exempt from VAT and Section 10 of Notice 701/5 Clubs and Associations refers to this particular matter. The income from snooker and pool tables is also exempt from VAT and Section 3.5.7 of Notice 701/45 Sport refers to this matter. I suggest you reply to HMRC giving details of the above Notice references and state that the club is not in breach of any VAT payment requirements. Please let us know if you have any problems with HMRC and we will contact HMRC on your behalf.

Q The club has three new Trustees who are taking a much more active part in the club's management than the previous Trustees had done. In fact, they want to change everything so far as the management procedures are concerned and continuously remind the committee that they 'own the club'. What are the club trustees' duties?

A You will find the main reference to the club trustees' duties within the club's rules. The trustees are officers of the club and as such may attend and vote at committee meetings. However, the club is managed by the elective committee acting as a whole and each member's vote has the same value.

If the trustees are required to sign any document on behalf of the club then they can only do so on the instruction of the committee. Whilst the property of the club is vested in the names of the trustees, this does not in any way mean that they 'own' the club. They simply hold it on behalf of the club.

You will appreciate that the club is an unincorporated association and as such has no legal identity. The club cannot hold property in the name of the club but must do so in the names of trustees acting on behalf of the club. Ultimately, the club is managed by the club's management committee, which is elected by the members. No single officer, or officers, has the authority under the rules to overturn decisions of the committee, or to amend club policy without the committee's agreement.

Q A member is questioning the refusal of the Committee to allow him to read the minutes of the meeting. Our AGM is this Sunday and certain members appear to want to propose that the club pass a ruling at the AGM to allow members to read the minutes of all and any meeting.

A Thank you for your email. I confirm that Committee Meetings are confidential and members do not have a right to inspect minutes of such meetings. May I suggest that any member who is desperate to read Committee Minutes to consider standing for election to Office.

Q Our President is retiring this year and we have not had any nominations to fill the position. Are we able to take nominations for this position from the floor of the AGM? Additionally, once the President steps down at the AGM who will continue to chair the Meeting?

A If no one is proposed for this position then nominations can be taken from the floor. If there are no nominations taken from the floor then the Committee can fill this position at the first Committee Meeting after the AGM using the Club's Casual Vacancies Rule. The Committee can also choose to leave it unfilled until the next AGM.

Once your current President has stepped down then another Member of the Committee, likely to be the Chairman, can chair the AGM until a new President has been elected.

The Club can continue with the position of President vacant. Unlike roles such as Secretary and Treasurer whilst the President is an important figurehead they do not have too many specific functions assigned to them so if this position remains vacant until a suitable candidate is found then it is unlikely to cause immediate day to day problems regarding the running of the Club.

Q We have received a letter of complaint from a Member who would like it read out at our AGM. We do not consider that this constitutes a valid agenda item. Do you agree?

A You are correct that this request is not a legitimate motion and therefore cannot be included on the agenda of the AGM.

I suggest that you treat this complaint as a letter to the Committee and put the letter before the Committee at the Committee Meeting. The Committee can then decide how they wish to reply. The Committee could decide to reference the points raised in one of the reports given by the Committee at the AGM.

Q One of our members has put a motion in for inclusion at the AGM that the Committee detail the individual salaries of all Club employers. Do we have to disclose this information to the Members at an AGM?

A The request for salary details to be revealed at the Annual General Meeting cannot be included as it is not a proper motion. A motion is something which can be voted on by the members by giving a yes or no answer. A request for information is not a motion and so cannot be included as an item in the AGM.

The Rules will normally state that internal management, such as employment, of the Club's affairs is exclusively a matter for the Club's Committee. The appointment and dismissal of the Steward and all the Club employees shall be vested solely in the Committee.

If this member has questions about the wages then it would be appropriate to raise this as a question during the financial report at the AGM. It is important to ascertain why this information is required by the member. As with all sensitive and confidential financial information there must be a legitimate reason to disclose this information. If this member would like to have a say in the internal running of the Club and have access to this information then they are free to be nominated to the Committee and agree to abide by the usual Committee confidentiality.

Wage information is sensitive information and is kept confidentially for important reasons. Unless there is a legitimate need to breakdown the amount paid to each employee then the Committee should not feel obligated to provide this information.

Q Our Rules state that the Club's Annual General Meeting should be held in the month of April although our Audit will not be ready until May. Should we delay the AGM?

A If the Audit is not going to be ready until May then in these circumstances it would be logical to delay the AGM. A notice to this effect should be posted on the Club's Notice Board. In future I suggest that significant time is given to the Audit to allow the Annual General Meeting to proceed as usual in April or the Committee holds a SGM to ask the Members to change the month of the AGM to a later month in the year.

Under the terms of the old 1964 Licensing Act, it was a specific requirement that 15 months must not elapse between the dates of each AGM. The Licensing Act 2003 does not include this provision but specifically requires a General Meeting of Members to be held each year.

If you wanted to hold the AGM in April, for instance if you felt that Members may complain if the Meeting was not held in April, then the Meeting could be held in April and all other agenda items dealt with apart from the Accounts. The Meeting could then be adjourned until a specific date in May and then resumed to solely deal with the approval of the Club's Accounts.

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 5.5%, 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.

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



Sale and Leaseback

Since launching the ACC Sale and Leaseback service, over 150 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.

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.

To obtain any of the documentation packages please email 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 or phone 0207 222 0843.

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North West Area Weekend Conference

The 52nd North West Area Conservative Clubs Conference was held at the Cumbria Grand Hotel in Grange Over Sands, last month, following a two year break during the pandemic and resulting lockdowns.

The weekend included a Gala dinner attended by Baroness Foster of Oxtou DBE, Hon. President and Lord Smith of Hindhead CBE, CEO of the ACC.

NW Area Chairman, John Hudson OBE, Vice Chairman, Charles (Charlie) White and Treasurer, Jeff Simpson were also present; along with guests and visitors from beyond the North West, including Jim Prescott and Keith Bibby from the Northern Area and David Thomas from the Wales Conservative Clubs Council.

Guests enjoyed live entertainment and a raffle (which included a top prize of 52 inch television donated by Dransfields). The weekend also saw guests taken on a coach excursion to Kendal and Windermere.

Grateful thanks are extended to Julia Simpson and Sheila White for all their hard work and support in making this occasion such a fun event and to Leon Tamcken, Chairman of the Waterloo & Taunton Conservative Club for undertaking the unofficial and, of course, unpaid role of photographer.



Photos From The Event.



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.

Soft drinks and mixers – five trends to watch

A new report from CGA by NielsenIQ and Fentimans highlights the big sales opportunities offered by the soft drinks market in 2023.

Despite pressure on consumer spending, the 2023 Fentimans Premium Soft Drinks and Mixers Market Report shows the category is set to increase its value from the £4.4bn recorded in 2022. Here are five identified key trends to track.

1. More premiumisation

The premium soft drinks and mixers market was worth £445m in 2022—10% of total soft drinks and mixers sales. With many consumers now buying fewer drinks on nights out, but opting for high quality ones when they do so, the premium category is likely to grow again in 2023. Analysis for the report reveals notable target demographics for premium drinks as women and suburban residents, both groups over-indexing for purchases. They will be looking in particular for brands that can prove their quality through provenance and heritage as well as taste.

2. Opportunities in delivery

Delivery platforms have transformed the food sector during the COVID-19 crisis, and they could start to do the same for drinks. CGA's *Hospitality at Home Tracker* shows around 25 pence in every pound spent with managed restaurant groups now goes on takeaways and deliveries, and while drinks only account for 10% of that cash, there is plenty of scope to increase share. Premium brands that meet the demand for both quality and value can grow sales if they can persuade consumers that drinks should be part of their orders.

3. Experience-led occasions

Immersive and competitive socialising venues are soaring in popularity - Fentimans consumers are particularly engaged with sites like games rooms. Many of these consumers are looking for premium drinks brands that complement the quality and specialness of their experiences, and match-



ing range to the unique set of demands in this dynamic segment of the market is crucial.

4. Healthy and sustainable lifestyles

COVID-19 has sharpened people's focus on health, with important implications for soft drinks. More than two thirds (70%) of consumers now try to lead a healthy lifestyle.

As reported in last month's issue, there is growing interest in both no or low alcohol brands and soft drinks with health benefits like boosting energy, improving digestion and aiding relaxation. There has been a similar surge in interest in the health of the planet, which means consumers are looking carefully at the sustainability aspects of the brands they buy.

5. Citrus, herb and flower flavours

Three emerging trends in the taste profiles of soft drinks and mixers in 2023 are also highlighted. Citrus fruits like lime, lemon, grapefruit and yuzu are attractive for health benefits, while interest in aromas will increase the appeal of herbs like basil, rosemary, lemongrass and ginseng. Floral notes that improve perceptions of quality—like cherry blossom, lavender, jasmine and hibiscus—are likely to feature prominently as well.

Use this QR code to download the free report, or visit the website below.



• [fentimans.com](https://www.fentimans.com)

Meet Servi, your new recruit

Robotics is launching Servi, an innovative new robot aimed at venues serving food and drink.

Servi helps staff by using Artificial Intelligence (AI) and autonomous robot technology to serve drinks and food and clear tables. This is designed to allow waiting staff to focus on spending quality service time with customers.

Servi can be programmed to learn different table locations and is self-driving. Built with an advanced LiDAR sensor and multiple cameras, Servi navigates space intelligently and safely with ease, says the company. Once the food and beverages have been delivered, Servi automatically knows to return to its post through internal weight sensors and the robot can be used in conjunction with other Servi models in multi-robot mode.

Malachy Ryan, Head of Sales EMEA with Bear Robotics, said: "Bear Robotics is responding to what businesses need. What we do is solve problems and Robotics help people in their jobs.

"We don't replace people, we give them a chance to be redeployed. We want to bring the best service possible to businesses and to elevate their customers' experiences. There is a fear that staff will be replaced by robots but they are there to lend an extra helping hand."



Servi can be rented for a monthly fee or bought directly from Bear Robotics.

View Servi in action at youtube.com/channel/UCTqwfnfNQCCeRu3hT66ljDw

• bearrobotics.ai

New strategy for alcohol charity

Alcohol charity Drinkaware's new strategy, launched in February, aims to reduce alcohol harm in the UK.

Announcing the latest steps to achieve Drinkaware's vision **CEO Karen Tyrell** said: "This is an exciting time for Drinkaware with a new Chair, new Chief Executive and new trustees, all with a shared sense of purpose.

"We believe that we have a shared responsibility for the culture of the society we want to live in. The world around us matters. As such, real partnership is vital to achieve the scale of change that we want to make.

"Working together with the alcohol industry, government, researchers, academics, charities and others will allow us to make tangible change to the UK's drinking culture so more people can lead healthy, happy lives."

• drinkaware.co.uk

BrewDog - Black Heart Stout launches



Black Heart Stout, has an ABV of 4.1% and is described as a dry Irish-style stout.

Alex Dullard, Head of Customer Marketing at BrewDog PLC, said: "We believe drinking beer is about discovery and experimentation, with a mountain of different types and styles available. However, when it comes to stout, there really is only one choice available in most pubs and bars and has been for many years.

"Consumer testing and insight indicates Black Heart has the potential to drive further growth into the category and deliver profit for our customers, by attracting younger more affluent consumers that have all but given up on the chance of an alternative to the category leader."

The new stout is being supported by assets including fonts, glassware and PoS.

• brewdog.com



UEFA Champions League with BT Sport

Midweek nights see the return of football's club cup competition, the UEFA Champions League.

"We have everything you need to promote your favourite sports and upcoming fixtures in venue with free PoS," says BT Sport. "Create your own posters and social assets to download, share and print and use the Point of Sale Shop to buy extra items for the club."

UEFA Champions League Fixtures – March

• *Tuesday, 7 March 2023*

Chelsea v Borussia Dortmund 8:00 PM

• *Wednesday, 8 March 2023*

Tottenham Hotspur v AC Milan 8:00 PM

• *Tuesday, 14 March 2023*

Man City v RB Leipzig 8:00 PM

• *Wednesday, 15 March 2023*

Real Madrid v Liverpool 8:00 PM

Use these QR codes for full details of fixtures visit and to access the Point of Sale Shop, or call 0800 0778323.



Scan here for fixtures



Scan here for PoS

• btsportbusiness.com



Five food trends to watch out for

The Chocolate Academy offers this round up of the top five most adventurous food trends topping the flavour charts for 2023.

Seaweed

Seaweed has been on the up for a while, but in 2023 this trend's set to get even bigger, with everything from seaweed crisps to seaweed butter.

Salted Maple

Move over salted caramel. This latest sweet-salty pairing will offer consumers that vibrant, complex flavour they crave, in all things from pancakes to ice cream.

Pear

Often overlooked in favour of the apple, the far from humble pear is tangy, sweet and makes a great addition to any menu.

Lemongrass

Traditionally used in many East Asian dishes, its versatility in both sweet and savoury dishes will see it go mainstream in 2023.

Spicy Tomato

Spices will get a new lease of life in 2023. Combine spices with seasonal tomatoes in the summer months for a trailblazing take on dishes such as shakshuka, jambalaya and arrabbiata.

• chocolate-academy.com



Partnership working and tackling violence

The importance of partnership working, dealing with violence in and around licensed premises and using digital technology for age verification, are just some of the issues to be discussed at the National Pubwatch Conference this year.

The annual event, taking place in Swindon, on Tuesday, 7 March 2023, boasts a raft of industry speakers. Topics include:

- Current issues affecting the trade and how partnership working with pubwatches are helping licensed premises – BII CEO Steve Alton.

- Legal update – a focus on the challenges facing the trade including the new Section 182 guidance for the Licensing Act and other topical issues.

- Insight into the latest ID and digital technology that can help combat the issues around age verification – representative from the Home Office.

- 'Ask for Angela' – Inspector Hayley Crawford from Nottinghamshire Police, who founded the scheme, on what the future holds, including the launch of a new website and marketing materials.

National Pubwatch Chairman Steve Baker said: "This conference will look at some of the major issues affecting the trade and provide practical advice to operators on how they can ensure they have safe venues for people to enjoy their night out."

• nationalpubwatch.org.uk

Cornish brewer salutes Six Nations

St Austell Brewery is celebrating the return of the Six Nations Championships with the launch of its rugby-themed cask beer, Conversion (4% ABV). Conversion is described as 'a robust and sessionable pale ale that strikes a moreish balance of malt and hops'.

Georgina Young, Brewing Director, St Austell Brewery, said: "St Austell and rugby are a winning match, as we've sponsored the sport at both a grassroots and national level for many years."

The brewer's flagship pale ale, Tribute, is the official beer of Bath Rugby and South West Rugby, and also has a long-standing partnership with the



Cornish Pirates. Tribute also sponsors 14 leagues and a variety of local teams in communities throughout the West Country.

• staustellbrewery.co.uk



Belgian chocolate specialist Callebaut presents timely recipes for the Easter Bank Holiday with Easter Bunny and Spring Lamb Cupcakes.

• callebaut.com

Carpigiani launches 'Delight' range

The new 'Delight' Professional Display Cabinets from Carpigiani are condensation free, with no need to defrost and with maximum product visibility.

Paul Ingram, Managing Director at Carpigiani UK said: "Offering excellent ergonomics for the operator, this range of professional displays will be extremely competitively priced, though with no compromise in first-class aesthetics and technical design.

"As experienced operators know, the humid UK climate requires frequent manual defrosting even with the auto-defrost functionality that all professional displays carry. A key feature of the Delight range is the reduction or even total elimination of this requirement due to the unique hybrid ventilated refrigeration design and auto-defrost capability."

The energy-efficient units run from a 13amp plug



and use propane natural refrigerant (R290), enhancing their green credentials.

• carpigiani.co.uk



Bertizarana DOP Idiazabal cheese has been awarded a bronze medal at the World Cheese Awards 2022-2023. The cheese, made from unpasteurised sheep's milk, is covered by a natural mould rind that forms during aging. The mould, particular to the region, imparts a distinct flavour and creaminess to the cheese, says the maker.

• kamiku.es

Mechline exhibiting at HRC

Mechline is presenting its state-of-the-art HyGenix System at hospitality show HRC, taking place on 20-22 March at London's ExCeL.

Hygenix is designed to reduce the risk of cross-contamination, food spoilage and odours in kitchens, cold rooms and preparation areas.

Able to extend the shelf-life of perishable food by on average 58%, the HyGenix is perfect for industrial and commercial kitchens, says the company, helping to combat food waste and thereby saving money.

"We're simply thrilled with the response we've had from customers about our HyGenix system," said



Nick Falco, Product and Technical Director at Mechline Development, who believes the system is the future of food preparation.

"It's really making a difference to the life of kitchen produce and ingredients, which in turn saves significantly on wastage, which we all know can be a huge money pit otherwise."

• mechline.com



Introducing the ready-to-fill 'Kon'

Pidy's Kon, a cone shaped bread, is suitable to enjoy hot or cold, and is compatible with a range of sweet or savoury fillings. Suggestions include, salads, classic sandwich fillers, chilli, and curry.

Fabien Levet, Commercial Manager at Pidy UK said: "The great thing about Kon is just how versatile it is. We understand that one style does not fit all, so our products are compatible with a range of amazing flavour combinations that our creative customers come up with. It works well with sweet and savoury fillings, and it's even sturdy enough to fill with liquids like soup."

Vegetarian-friendly, Kon arrives frozen and can be defrosted and ready to fill as required, avoiding unnecessary waste.

• pidy.co.uk

Small addition with a big impact



Hoshizaki has unveiled its improved range of Compact refrigeration units.

The Compact has one of the smallest footprints of any commercial refrigerator, says the company, making it an ideal undercounter model for small kitchens not needing heavy duty gastronomy refrigeration.

Simon Frost, Managing Director UK & Ireland, said: "They say good things come in small packages, and this is certainly true of the newly updated Compact range. High-quality refrigeration should be available to any business, regardless of their venue size. The space-saving and modularity design of the Compact offers exactly that, with all the features you would expect of our larger Hoshizaki refrigerators."

The Compact has a Climate Class 4 rating, capable of operating in ambient temperatures of +30C. Features include automatic defrost, smart air distribution, anti-tilting shelves, stainless steel exteriors and fully removable gaskets for speedy cleaning.

• hoshizaki.com



Annual General Meeting 2023

The Annual General Meeting of the Association of Conservative Clubs Ltd shall be held on Saturday 20th May 2023 at the Carlton Club, London.

Formal notice of the Annual General Meeting will be 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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CLUB REFURBISHMENT LTD

Leigh on Sea Constitutional Club Raises £22,000 For Good Causes

During 2022, the Committee and Members of the Leigh on Sea Constitutional Club, Essex, raised almost £22,000 during the course of the year. A simply amazing amount raised for various good causes.

The fundraising started promptly in January with the Club adopting a monthly quiz night, each one raising funds for a different good cause. January raised £500 for St Luke's Hospice, February raised £540 for Motor Neurone Disease, in March they raised money for Ukraine with a total of £1,000, this was followed by £800 in April for Leigh Library Gardens and £1000 in May for Southend MENCAP. June and July saw £700 and £500 raised for Southend Cystic Fibrosis



Association and Breast Cancer UK respectively. August raised £500 for the Samaritans and in

September it was £600 for the NSPCC. Following in October with £700 for Cardiac Risk In The Young and finally raising £900 for the British Legion in November which included exotic animals becoming temporary members of the Club for the duration of the fundraising effort.

In addition to the Quiz evenings, Committee Member Andy Cook raised £1700 for

charity by completing his first bungee jump and Club Members June and Cornish raised over £1,000 which was split between Operation Smile and Macmillan Cancer Support.

The Club's Committee would like to thank all of the Club's Members who took part in the fundraising events and they are already hoping to beat the total raised this year.



Pictures From The Year.



Pages From The Past

In this month's Pages From The Past we go back to July 1937 which was the first in the series of cheery magazine articles about why Clubs fail. It is, however, an important subject to address both then and now and the role of the Committee is crucial to a successful Club. Clubs have faced difficulties throughout their life spans, with the current difficulties primarily being the dramatic increase of energy and stock prices. A good Committee is not able to avoid these problems but can prepare for them and can make the tough decisions such as when it is time to raise the Club's bar prices. A good Committee can also look beyond these immediate

difficulties and try to focus on the big picture items – does the Club have a good web presence, is it easy to apply for Membership through the Club's website for example. Does the Club make a good first impression on entry to the Club and is it a welcoming place to visit. Does the Club have a suitable function room space which is advertised for external events held by non-members which can be crucial in bringing in important revenue for the Club. Whilst energy prices and stock cost increases will rightly feature on the agenda of a Committee Meeting, do not forget to focus on other profit making areas that the Club may not be utilising to the maximum extent.

East Belgrave Conservative Club Limited

Steward/Stewardess

Full Time permanent position
Successful applicants must be well presented
Bar experience essential

Cellar management an advantage but not essential
Stock control and till management preferred but not essential

Management of staff preferred
All relevant training on the job provided

Team spirited with good time management skills
Friendly and amiable personality

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Steward Bond applicable
Salary and Contract negotiable dependent upon experience

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Enclosing current CV and two referees

Applications to be addressed to:

The Secretary
East Belgrave Conservative Club Ltd
306 – 308 Gipsy Lane
Leicester
LE4 9BX
eastbelgravecons@btconnect.com

Hunstanton Conservative Club members present £400 cheque to Hunstanton Lifeboat Station

Hunstanton Conservative Club members visited the Hunstanton Lifeboat Station and presented a cheque for £400.

Mrs E Hamilton (chairperson)

presented the cheque to Charles Le Strange Meakin, chairman of the station.

Members of the club and crew members are pictured.



Story and picture credit: Jeremy Ransome, Lynn News.

OBITUARY

Aberdare Conservative Club announces with the deepest regret the passing of Allan Jarvis after a long illness.

Allan served the Club with distinction as Committee Member, Secretary and then Chairman. He will be sadly missed

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WHY SOME CLUBS FAIL.

WEAKNESSES IN MANAGEMENT AND HOW THEY ARISE.

I.—THE COMMITTEE.

The member who can tell the best tale, or who spends most in the Club, does not, necessarily, make the best Committeeman. Other attributes are essential, for a Club is a highly complicated *business* which, to be successful, must be run on business lines.

Far too frequently insufficient thought and care are exercised when electing members to serve on the Committee. In every case those in whose hands the choice rests should, before recording their votes, be quite satisfied that the candidates who have been nominated either possess the necessary qualifications or are of the type who will take pains to fit themselves for the important duties it will fall to their lot to perform. In short, they must be men of *knowledge* and *decision*.

How Knowledge is Obtainable.

Quite possibly, at the time of their nomination and election, some of the candidates do not possess the specialised knowledge which is necessary if they are to see that the affairs of the Club are properly, and successfully, conducted. Some may be disposed to say (mentally), "I shall leave things to the Secretary: it is his job to run the show." To adopt this attitude, while it may be flattering to the Secretary is, in reality, unfair to him, for it saddles him with responsibilities which, properly, should be shared by the Committee as a whole. Moreover, a Club conducted as a "one-man concern," sooner or later, invariably comes to grief.

Let us first see what knowledge it is desirable for a Committeeman to possess and where it can be obtained.

Knowledge of the Rules.—Every Club is governed by its Rules and there is an implied obligation on every member to conform with the Rules, so long as his membership continues. It is the duty of the Committee to see that the Rules—which have the force of the law—are obeyed, both in spirit and letter, and in this matter officials of the Club should be the first to set the example.

Now, unless they themselves are thoroughly familiar with the Rules, how can they know whether they are being observed or broken? The bounden duty of every Committeeman is to *master the Rules*: his next, to obey them himself, and then see that every other member does likewise. It is laxity with regard to this which results in Clubs coming into conflict with the police and being struck off the register.

BOOKS FOR CLUB USE.

(Specially recommended by the A.C.C.)

- | | |
|---|-----|
| Subscription Receipt Book.
(200 Forms, with counterfoil, numbered) .. | 2/6 |
| Order Book.
(150 Forms, numbered, carbon duplicate) .. | 2/- |
| Visitors' Book.
(500 tickets, with counterfoils, numbered) .. | 4/- |

Specimen pages on application.

A.C.C., Palace Chambers, Westminster, S.W.1.

Knowledge of Club Law.—The second essential is knowledge of Club law. To some extent the law relating to Clubs is embodied in their Rules. There are, however, many legal matters appertaining to members in their relation to the Club which are not included in the Rules. All about these can be ascertained from the excellent "A.C.C. Club Law Guide," a copy of which is obtainable from Headquarters for 1/- (post free). This handbook makes fascinating study and it may well surprise many Committeemen to know what members of Clubs can, and *cannot*, do without getting into trouble. Some of the laws which to-day are put into operation—notably with regard to automatic machines, betting and gambling—have been on the Statute Book for well-nigh a hundred years!

Knowledge of Club Management.—Running a Club is a complicated business—far more complicated than many suppose. For this reason it is found advisable to divide up the work involved, and allot it to various Sub-Committees, putting upon them members who are known to specialise in the particular matters dealt with—finance, bar management, entertainments, etc. Here again, A.C.C. handbooks such as "How to Manage a Club Bar" (6d., post free) will be found to contain a wealth of expert advice on a highly technical subject, expressed in simple language. If expert guidance is required on any specific matter—measures, cost and selling prices, allowances, etc.—the A.C.C. will afford it.

Knowledge of Stock Sheets.—The main source of a Club's revenue is the bar and to obtain the best results therefrom, the stock should be taken at intervals of 28 days. This enables the Committee to know how the Club stands month by month and is an effective safeguard against leakage.

In view of their supreme importance, the Stocktaker's report and stock sheet should be examined with meticulous care and be thoroughly understood by members of the Committee. Sad to relate, evidence frequently comes to hand proving that, clear and simple though the stock sheet may be, many officials never get near understanding it, yet, sooner or later, they may be called upon to cast their vote on some vital matter—deficiencies and the like—arising out of it!

Does not this go to establish the sorry fact, that the constitution of many Committees leaves much to be desired and that the wrong persons have been chosen to serve on them? How can they properly sit in judgment on a negligent, or dishonest, Steward if they do not understand the facts and figures disclosed in the stock sheet?

This lack of knowledge and understanding largely accounts for a failing far too frequently revealed in the working of a Club—the *inability of the Committee to reach decisions on facts*. Even when these are "clear as day" to the well informed, those who are not so hesitate to take appropriate action. They procrastinate, thus giving time for further complications to develop and losses to accumulate instead of dealing promptly and courageously with the situation. This is the price which members of Clubs pay for electing unsuitable and unqualified persons to serve on the Committee: where such weakness exists it should be rectified at the earliest possible moment.

(Next month—The Treasurer.)

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