

# *CONSERVATIVE CLUBS MAGAZINE*



July 2024 75p



**Newark Conservative Club Install Defibrillator**

**Acomb Fundraises For York Against Cancer**

**Guidebridge Hosts Fundraiser For Alzheimer's Society**



July 2024  
75p



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## CONSERVATIVE CLUBS MAGAZINE

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# CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

## Temporary Event Notices (TENs)

Temporary Event Notices (TENs) are a method of obtaining, under the Act, the authority to sell alcohol and provide regulated entertainment at an event of short duration (e.g. a dance, or a private party) where the organiser wishes to avoid going through the more complicated procedure of applying for a Premises Licence.

The method of obtaining a TEN must be submitted by the premises user (must be over 18 years of age) and must be copied to the relevant Chief Officer of Police at least ten working days before the event. The TEN (in a prescribed form) must contain the following information–

- The licensable activities to be carried out
- The total length of the event (not to exceed ninety-six hours)
- The times during which the licensable activities are to be carried out
- The maximum number of people to be allowed onto the premises at any one time (not to exceed 500)
- Whether any alcohol sales are to be made for consumption on or off the premises (or both)

The Act requires that alcohol sales must be made under the authority of the premises user. Further requirements are that there must be an interval of at least twenty-four hours between events and no premises may be used for more than twenty six days per year in total (i.e. the total amount of time used by the TENs must not exceed 624 hours – an unlikely scenario!) Any club wishing to exceed the limit of twenty events a year at the same premises would have to apply for a premises licence.

Licensing Authority Officials are required to acknowledge receipt of the TEN, and provided they do not issue a counter notice and the Police do not object (they can only do so, or insist on conditions in keeping with the crime and disorder objectives of the Act), the event can go ahead.

If the Police object, Licensing Authorities are required to hold a hearing at which the Police and premises user may put their case. The exceptional use of ‘Police Powers’ does not arise in the case of small-scale events.

The TEN procedure can also be applied to increase a

club’s normal Permitted Hours granted under the CPC, for the event in question. Applications for such events must be made by an individual rather than the club. The number of applications made in any one year, by any one individual, is five. Therefore, club officers can divide the applications in order to take full advantage of these events, e.g. the Secretary makes the first five applications, the Treasurer the next five and the Chairman the remaining two.

### Summary:

#### Temporary Event Notice

##### Process

The premises user must send the TEN to the relevant licensing authority and copy it to:

- The police, and
- The environmental health authority.

### Types of TEN

There are two types of TEN: a standard TEN and a late TEN.

#### Standard TEN

A standard notice must be given no later than ten clear working days before the event to which it relates.

The police and environmental health have three working days from the date of receipt to object to the notice on any of the licensing objectives.

If there is an objection, a hearing must be held unless all parties agree it is not necessary.

There is a right of appeal following a hearing.

#### Late TEN

A late notice must be given not before nine and not later than five clear working days the event.

The police and environmental health have three working days from the date of receipt to object to the notice on any of the licensing objectives.

If there is an objection, the event cannot take place.

There is no right to a hearing or appeal.


### Limitations

Both types of notice are subject to the following restrictions:

- Maximum occupancy 499 persons at any one time (including staff and any performers)
- Maximum 15 events per calendar year for the same premises
- Maximum total period 21 days per calendar year for the same premises
- Maximum 168 hours for each event
- Minimum of 24 hours between events at the same premises only if the notice is given by the same user or their associate (as defined).

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## Questions and Answers

**Q** Our Annual General Meeting is due to be held soon and we have not had any nominations for the position of Chairman. The nominations period has now passed and we are not sure what we should do regarding this vacant position.

**A** I suggest that at the AGM, nominations are taken from the floor for the position of Chairman. This will give the Members present at the AGM the opportunity to propose candidates for the position. As no one has currently proposed anyone for the position it will be completely in order to take nominations from the floor. If only one person is nominated then they will be elected unopposed, if two or more persons are nominated at the AGM then a ballot will need to be held.

Should no nominations be forthcoming at the AGM then it would be in order for the meeting to agree that the Committee co-opt suitable Members to fill the vacant positions as and when such candidates become available.

**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** For the election of Committee and Officers, are we legally obliged to send ballot papers out to the Members through the post? We have always operated in this way but with the increase in postage costs it is becoming a considerable expense.

**A** It is not a requirement under the terms of the Club's Rules for ballot papers to be sent out to Club Members but since this has been the practice for some time it would be sensible for an Annual General Meeting to agree for this practice to cease if this is what the Committee wish to propose.

**Q** Due to falling membership levels a new member of our Committee has suggested that we try to 'recruit' new members from several new housing complexes that have been built in and around our area. Another member of Committee has advised that our rule book states that any new member joining needs to be known by and proposed and seconded by two current members. Is there a way that we can work around this rule?

**A** Technically the member in question is correct in stating that Candidates for membership must be known to their proposers and seconders. However, if members are unwilling to recruit new members then the club will not survive in the long term. The club may promote the occasional Open Day during which members of the Public could be invited in to view the club and at such events could be meet members and in particular members of the Committee who may feel able to get to propose them as Candidates. I am sure that

in most cases a bit of common sense is all that is required and if the occasional unsuitable member slips through the net, they can soon be dealt with under the rules. If an Open Day is arranged, it will need to have a Temporary Event Notice in place.

**Q** We have Bingo held in the Club once a week that is being run by two Club Members. A Committee Member has now stated that it is a requirement for any such activity in the Club to be managed by the Committee and as such that Committee Members must run these sessions. Is this correct?

**A** Provided these Members are promoting the activity of Bingo on behalf of the Committee then this will be sufficient to bring this game under the purview of the Club's legitimate managed activity. Clearly it would be unacceptable for Members of the Club to hold bingo sessions inside the Club without the authorisation of the Committee but this does not mean actual Committee Members have to run such activities.

**Q** We wish to remove the Sky TV in the club as it is too expensive. However, we have a vocal minority of members who are intent on keeping the Sky TV service. Could they call an SGM to reverse a Committee decision?

**A** Whilst the rules do allow a Special General Meeting to be called by the members, it is fair to say that typically such items as opening hours and the provision of Sky Television are left to the purview of the Committee. It is understandably difficult to run a club if such decisions are constantly being debated among the members with

a view to holding an SGM every time a decision without universal approval is taken. Clubs which engage in this sort of activity ultimately find it difficult to find members who are willing to stand for the Committee.

If there is a section of the membership who are unhappy with the direction that the Committee is taking the club then we would recommend that such members stand for election onto the Committee at the next available opportunity. This is ultimately the most effective way for members to influence the running of the club. To coin an old phrase "put up or shut up".

**Q** The Club operates a tote each week and all the proceeds from the tote are spent on the prizes. Are we able to deduct a portion of the proceeds from the tote in order to assist the Club generally?

**A** Just for the sake of clarity a tote is, under the terms of the Gambling Act 2005, regarded as a lottery. If the tote is run as either a small lottery or a private lottery then proceeds can be donated to the Club. It is not a requirement for all the proceeds to be used for the provision of prizes. The main prohibition is that the proceeds can never be used for private gain.

It would therefore be entirely in order for the Club to retain some of the proceeds of the tote for the purposes of the Club to benefit the Members. The advice I would give however, would be to make it clear to all the participants that in future a percentage of the proceeds would be devoted to some specified Club activity. In the event of any change in the usual way in which a game is being played or in how the proceeds of a game are to be used, it is important that everyone is fully aware of such a change so there can be



# CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

no accusation of changing the rules in the middle of a game.

**Q** We recently introduced a new till system which deducts our own card carrying members a discount “Golf club” style.

Under the terms of the affiliation arrangements are we obliged to charge affiliate members and visiting games teams the same prices or is that at our discretion?

**A** A strict interpretation of the Rules governing the ACC’s Inter-Affiliation scheme would suggest that visiting IA Ticket holders should be treated as members and enjoy the same privileges when visiting a host club.

However, Regulation 8 of the scheme permits the Committee of every Inter-Affiliated Club to reserve the right to make special regulations as to the admission of IA Ticket holders (subject to the approval of the ACC Council) and whilst I think it is entirely reasonable for your Committee to agree that the discounts on drinks should only be available for actual members.

**Q** We are considering joining the local Pubwatch.

Our Rules seem far more stringent than theirs so we cannot see any reason why we should not be able to join. Do you have a view on this option?

**A** Regarding Pubwatch, the problems tend to emerge when Pubwatch and the Club have differing views when it comes to a person’s punishment.

You would usually think that if a person’s actions are so bad that they are banned from one venue that it is obvious they would also be banned from the Club. We are not saying this is not true but the Club still has to go through its internal disciplinary procedure which results in the Club’s Committee making their own

decision. It is not uncommon for a Committee of a Club to reach a different decision than a Pubwatch decision, perhaps opting for a suspension of the Member rather than expulsion.

Committees may also have particular personal connections with an individual which results in a different decision being reached or place lower importance on a Member’s behaviour in other establishments than how they conduct themselves inside the Club.

We are certainly not saying that you should not be part of Pubwatch, just reminding the Committee that the rules of Membership means you still have to conduct your own disciplinary procedure (since essentially you have a legal contract with a Club Member and need to go through the proper procedure to amend or end that contract) even if a person is banned by Pubwatch and that if the Committee reach a different decision than Pubwatch this invariably means that the Club’s participation in Pubwatch cannot continue.

**Q** Life Membership and the criteria which may allow such an honour are varied. Are there any guidelines, benchmarks or precedents which you can advise?

I appreciate that there will be various opinions on what should be required for this facility to be given to a member and I am also wary of allowing the “floodgates” to open so that every “Tom, Dick, and Harry” can be put forward for this desirable position.

**A** The problem which you have raised is not uncommon. In most clubs the qualification for life membership was set probably before the First World War and in a great number of clubs the rules for this type of membership have not been changed since the late 1800s.

It is not that long ago

when a man who reached sixty five was considered to be elderly and to have done quite well. Therefore it is not uncommon to see a life membership qualification of, perhaps, twenty years continuous membership and to have attained the age of sixty. Whilst I am not saying this is not an achievement many clubs no longer regard this as a qualification to warrant Life Membership.

Many clubs are now changing their rules in order to either raise the bar for Life Membership or to convert this class of membership to be determined by the Committee for some recognised service to the Club. Ultimately, it is up to each individual club to determine whether to continue with Life Membership, to alter the qualification for Life Membership or to leave the qualification as it is.

Importantly, if the Rules are amended then all existing Life Members and future candidates for Life Membership are bound by the new terms. You will appreciate that a person who has enjoyed free subscription for a length of time may not be particularly pleased about any change which involves becoming liable for subscription again. As such, some clubs have altered the qualification for Life Membership but have only applied this to future candidates.

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

**A** Regulation 8 of the Rules and Regulations governing the IA Ticket Scheme reads as follows –

*‘The committee of every Inter-Affiliated club reserves*

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

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

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

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

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# Club Chairman Leon Tamcken Travels With His IA Ticket

Waterloo and Taunton Conservative Club, Ashton-under-Lyne, Club Chairman, Leon Tamcken, has been making good use of the 2024 Association of Conservative Clubs (ACC) Inter-Affiliation Ticket.

The ticket permits access to all ACC Member Clubs, including

Conservative, Salisbury, Beaconsfield, and Unionist clubs throughout the United Kingdom.

On his recent travels, Leon met up with Leigh-on-Sea's Constitutional club secretary, Jeff Springfield, in the seaside city of Southend-on-Sea. The 2 clubs are located 237 miles apart.

Jeff said, "It was great to host Leon and some of his club members from the North West of England area and to swap ideas."

Leon said, "The Inter-

Affiliation ticket is an invaluable item to have when travelling around the UK and means you will always get a warm welcome when visiting ACC Clubs. The team at Leigh-on-Sea were very hospitable, and it was a pleasure to visit their club".

Leon has also recently visited the Romiley Conservative Club in Stockport, the Billericay Constitutional Club in Essex, and the Top Club Mountain Street Conservative Club in Mossley, Lancashire.



Leon Tamcken and Phil Skrynski from Waterloo and Taunton Conservative Club with Jeff Springfield, Leigh-on-Sea (centre).



# 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 put an extra £61.6m through operators' tills in 2023

Soft drinks are playing a vital role in driving revenues and profitability for the UK's licensed operators, reports Britvic, growing by +1.3% and putting an extra £61.6m through outlet tills last year alone.

The report reveals that despite the difficulties of the past few years, the UK's clubs, pubs, bars and restaurants still play a crucial role in our national culture, with 70% of people saying that going out for food and drinks is the treat they look forward to most.

Operators are having to juggle a lot of consumer demands: one in three visits to the on-trade is now alcohol-free, and three in four people (75%) describe themselves as "value-conscious", a year-on-year rise of 4% pts. Combined with the growing demands for indulgence, as well as healthier and more sustainable ways of living, and 'you've got yourself a perfect storm', says the report.

Despite these challenges, there are huge opportunities for licensed venues who are able to tap into those insights and re-evaluate their approach to soft drinks and the way they serve alcohol-free options.

Britvic's commercial director for hospitality in GB, Dino Labbate, said: "Some might see the falling numbers of people who drink alcohol and the high proportion of people that identify as "value conscious" as a challenge to long-term prospects of the licensed trade. Not us. We see these trends as opportunities to drive growth for our business and those of our part-



ners, while encouraging healthier and more sustainable habits for society."

The good news is that more people are eating and drinking in the UK's licensed venues during the day, with breakfast, brunch and lunch occasions all increasing over the past year. This presents a wealth

of opportunities for operators to increase spend and encourage repeat visits by offering a wider range of low and no alcohol alternatives throughout the day and paying closer attention to how they are served.

Serving snacks with drinks throughout the day is another key opportunity for operators, particularly as many are still feeling the pinch financially. Almost half of people (47%) who say they spend under £20 when they visit a pub, say they would be interested in seeing a snack menu.

### Top tips to tap into key trends shaping the sector

- **Staff knowledge:** Make sure your staff know your soft drinks range inside out like they would your wine selection.
- **Quality matters:** Opt for premium brands to create drinks that cause a stir, whether they contain alcohol or not – everything from coffees and sodas to milkshakes and non-alcoholic cocktails can be elevated by adding exciting new flavours and dialling up the pizzazz in their presentation.
  - Elevating hot drinks with shots of Teisseire flavoured syrups and toppings can boost margins by around 50p per serve.
  - Making house sodas more sophisticated with garnishes and quality glassware can add around £1 per serve.
  - Giving your cocktails a makeover could add a further £2 per serve.[9] Head to Mix with Britvic for inspiration for serves such as the Pink Grapefruit Paloma – a heady blend of tequila, pink grapefruit and lime juice, agave and London Essence Pink Grapefruit Crafted Soda.
- **Crowd-pulling drinks and events:** Attract younger drinkers and increase soft drinks revenues by hosting sober events such as Dry Disco and Club Soda.
- **Provide attractive alternatives to tap water to avoid losing sales:** Still and sparkling water solutions from Aqua Libra and cordials and flavoured syrups from Robinsons and Teisseire help encourage tap water drinkers to trade up, as does developing a range of house sodas (soda and cordial served in attractive glassware and garnished).

• [britvic.com/soft-drinks-review](https://britvic.com/soft-drinks-review)

## Heineken UK puts Ross Kemp behind bars

Actor, journalist and documentary maker, Ross Kemp, has joined forces with HEINEKEN UK to showcase the company's SmartDispense® cellar technology in a video series.

The campaign, Ross Kemp Behind Bars, follows the former EastEnders star as he visits bars up and down the country to find out how SmartDispense® helps venues save over 20,000 pints per year of beer, cider, water and gas, and well as delivering a quality pint.

It comes in response to new research (Taluna Panel) showing the importance of serving great quality beer, with 60% of Brits admitting they have left a bar after one drink because they were unsatisfied with the quality of the serve.

As part of the campaign, clubs and bars across the UK will get the chance to win a shift from Ross who will visit the winning venue to serve their customers.

Anyone signing up to install a SmartDispense® draught system by July 31 will be entered into the prize draw.

• [smartdispense.heineken.co.uk](https://smartdispense.heineken.co.uk)



## How to succeed in a polarised mixed drinks market

There is growing demand for experimentation within the cocktail market, according to CGA by NIQ's Mixed Drinks Report.

Alongside this, the market is increasingly polarised between the desire for premium, high quality serves and a demand for lower priced, good-value cocktails.

The report reveals that consumers remain attached to tried-and-trusted cocktails, and nearly half (47%) say they prefer classic combinations. However, this number has declined in the last year as more consumers experiment with their cocktail choices.

A fifth (21%) prefer signature cocktails (i.e. a cocktail that is unique to the venue they are in) — up by 3 percentage points year-on-year—while 16% favour modern cocktails (i.e. a cocktail that is new to the market). While consumers also have a larger range of 'go-to' cocktail serves, on average cocktail drinkers have 4.5 cocktail serves in their repertoire—0.6 more than a year ago.

Moreover, a third (33%) of consumers select a signature cocktail serve every time or almost every time when drinking cocktails, showing there is a sizeable core of experimental mixed drinks consumers for venues and suppliers to target.

The last year has seen more polarisation between

those seeking premium (34%) (i.e. high-quality cocktails made with top-shelf ingredients, offering a sophisticated drinking experience) and value cocktails (29%) (affordable cocktails that provide a satisfactory taste at a low cost), with the number in the middle ground who choose both (37%) falling by 10 percentage points since early 2023.

The shift highlights a growing divide between those focused on high-quality, sophisticated drinking experiences and those with limited budgets, who are prioritising affordability.

This highlights the increasing importance for operators to have a wide range of cocktail options available, both in terms of the spirits, flavour profiles and ingredients, and in their range of pricing, to cater to the growing demand for premium and value cocktails.

There have been some important shifts towards midweek and early-evening purchases, when guests are more focused on promotions and discounts. CGA's sales measurement data in the report meanwhile points to growth in the share of cocktails like Sex on the Beach, Iced Tea and Espresso Martini, and the rising popularity of tequila, rum and specialities within mixed drinks. Read more at the link below.

• [cgastrategy.com](https://cgastrategy.com)

## Lights and... action



New for summer 2024, Industville are growing their existing glass range of pendants, clusters and wall lights. The collection is expanding to include two new finishes, clear and mocha smoked, crafted from premium European glass with traditional hand-blown techniques. The new finishes will be available across the brand's most popular shapes of Dome, Globe and Schoolhouse.

• [industville.co.uk](https://industville.co.uk)

## Top 10 trends revealed by industry forum

The Foodservice Equipment Association's (FEA's) Light Equipment and Tableware Forum sees suppliers sharing latest industry trends, as operators continue to seek points of difference, both on the club tables and in the club kitchen.

Here are the 2024 Forum's top 10 trends, including colours and finishes:

**Colour:** White is taking a back seat, but as we all know it's a cyclic thing. Meanwhile, colour is everywhere FOH – from cutlery to buffet displays, from server ware to glassware. (But come 2025 white may be back!)

**Sustainability:** Just about every exhibitor was showing products designed to save energy or reduce waste. Reusable labels for plastic containers, induction hobs, hot air chafers, portioners, cutlery with recycled plastic handles, multiple alternatives to single use plastic. And it's not just the products: companies are investing in sustainable and recyclable packaging and looking for ways to reduce the carbon footprint of their distribution systems, too.

**Matt:** Gloss may be more practical, but matt is absolutely bang on trend, especially when it comes to tableware. It's everywhere and everyone seems to love it... for now...

**Stonewash:** We all thought it would be a brief fad, but it's becoming a long term trend. Cutlery with a stonewash finish (there's that matt again!) is set to stay, at least for a while. It comes in all sorts of colours, such as black, copper, stainless steel, champagne, etc.. Alongside stonewash there's sandblasting for a slightly

different matt effect (generally smoother and lighter), while brushed cutlery gives a satin-like finish. They all look cool, but there's a practical element to this trend, too, which may explain its longevity: the finish doesn't show scratches, so it lasts longer, which saves money, and it doesn't show fingerprints, so there's no need to polish it, which saves staff time – and that's a big plus at a time of staff shortages.

**Allergens:** The hospitality industry is still coming to grips with the issue of allergens, and lots of companies are developing products to assist in this important work. Purple is the colour, and there was a huge range of utensils, storage systems, boards and suchlike on show at the Forum.

**Melamine:** You might think that it's only a matter of time before melamine tableware gets accepted in even top class restaurants, but you'd only be half-right, as it already is. Maybe not generally, but at least one exhibitor had a special piece of server ware, made of melamine, that had been developed for a top chef. In the USA it's already big in the upscale and casual dining sectors, so it's probably a matter of time till it becomes more accepted here. Meanwhile there was a huge range of different melamine products on display, including quite a few with a matt finish.

**Cost cutting:** In today's economic climate, it's no surprise that operators are looking more keenly than ever at prices. It means the search for that elusive point of difference is relying more and more on buying clever. Suppliers are well aware of the issue and are trying to

find lower cost solutions to the conundrum. Sadly shipping and transport costs are rising, so it's likely that product prices will rise again towards the end of the year.

**Retro:** There's always a touch of retro in the air and the 2024 Forum's take on it had a distinct whiff of the 70s about it... specifically sizzle 'n cheese. Sizzle platters, fondu sets and raclette are all reported to be making comebacks. It's table theatre to enhance the dining experience and grab that elusive point of difference.

**Equipment that does the job:** This is all about saving staff time by finding kitchen gadgets that can either do the job by themselves, or at least help staff do it more quickly. For example, as ice cream and gelato become more popular, machines that make them automatically are on the rise. Fill them up, turn them on and let them do their job while you go off and get on with other tasks.

**Sharing:** Covid may have briefly halted the trend for sharing platters, but it's back with a bang now. It's not just about the social thing, there's also the fact that consumers want to try new foods and, by sharing it, they spread the risk – if they don't like a dish, hopefully their friends will.

The FEA is the independent, authoritative voice of the foodservice equipment industry, representing nearly 200 companies who supply, service and maintain all types of commercial catering equipment.

• [fea.org.uk](https://fea.org.uk)



## Zubrowka Biala hits new heights

**P**olish vodka, Żubrówka Biala, has become the UK's second biggest imported vodka, according to Nielsen data.

According to the figures released this week, the world-famous vodka reported an increased sale value of 92.4% for 200ml bottles, and 39.4% for one-litre bottles, second only to Absolut.

The portfolio of premium quality vodkas includes the original Żubrówka Biala, signature Polish Bison Grass, and flavoured varieties Vanilla and Rose.

**Chris Jones, Managing Director at Paragon Brands who distributes Żubrówka in the UK, said:** "We're thrilled to announce that Żubrówka Biala is officially the second biggest imported vodka in the UK. In such a competitive market this is a massive achievement, and we're very proud that the product has received this recognition."

"We look forward to continuing our mission to make Żubrówka the number-one Vodka in the UK."

With a heritage spanning over 500 years, Żubrówka Vodka is the third-largest vodka brand in the world.

• [paragonbrands.co.uk](http://paragonbrands.co.uk)



## Belfast-born brewery releases new single malt whiskey

**I**ndependent distillery Dingle has announced the launch of a new limited-edition single malt whiskey.

Cónocht an Earraigh is the sixth release in Dingle's Celtic Wheel of the Year series, a limited edition run of whiskeys which pay homage to Ireland's cultural heritage of equinoxes and solstices.

The whiskey is triple distilled in Dingle's Kerry-based distillery and matured in first-filled bourbon casks, before a long finish in Cabernet Sauvignon wine casks. The result is a flavourful single malt whiskey with notes of rich red fruits, subtle spice and gingerbread, along with delicate hints of roasted almonds, muscovado sugar and spice provide a lingering finish in the mouth.

With only 5,500 bottles available worldwide, the whiskey recently garnered international acclaim with a gold medal win at this year's San Francisco World Spirits Competition.

Dingle's Wheel of the Year series comprises eight limited-edition whiskeys, released to coincide with the equinoxes, solstices, Ireland's ancient solar calendar and a final release for the celebration of Wren's Day.



The first edition, Samhain Single Malt, launched in October 2022.

**Chris Jones, Managing Director of distributor Paragon Brands, said:** "We're proud to bring Cónocht an Earraigh to the UK, the latest chapter in a masterful series of finely crafted whiskeys from Dingle."

"The Wheel Series is a testament to Dingle's deep-rooted connection to its cultural heritage, celebrating the ever-changing seasons and beautiful landscapes of Ireland, which continue to inspire the distillery's craft to this day."

• [paragonbrands.co.uk](http://paragonbrands.co.uk)

## Winterhalter's new conveyor dishwashers



**W**interhalter's new MT high volume conveyor or dishwasher systems are designed to set new benchmarks in terms of performance, sustainability and adaptability.

Their high performance washing system minimise running costs by lowering water use and thus reducing the energy needed to heat it. Heat pumps and exchangers recycle the energy from waste water and water vapour, while minimising the heat and steam emitted by the machine, enhancing the work environment and reducing the workload on ventilation systems.

The largest MTF (flight type conveyor) can handle 8,000 plates per hour, while the equivalent MTR (rack conveyor) has a capacity of 355 racks per hour.

Using a versatile modular system, machines can be configured to precise specifications and designed

to match the shape and size of the room it is intended for.

The basic structure of the machine consists of the pre-wash, main wash and rinse zones, plus an inlet zone, positioned upstream, and loading and unloading zones. Additional zones, such as extra wash zones, allow the machine to be tailored exactly to individual requirements.

Winterhalter provides a total solution for dishwashing and glasswashing, from pre-sales advice to after-sales service, training and maintenance, with sustainability fitted as standard. The company's range also includes utensil washers, advanced water treatment machines, and cleaning detergents and rinse aids.

The new warewash system can be seen on Stand H2-54 at the LACA Main Event 2024, 3-4 July 2024, Hilton Metropole Birmingham.

• [winterhalter.com](http://winterhalter.com)





## World Duty Free One Water incentive

**E**thical Hydration brand One Water has launched a sales incentive with travel retailer, World Duty Free.

The decade-long relationship between One Water and World Duty Free is based on a shared vision of a world in which everyone has access to clean water and has seen the travel retailer contribute £2.7m to projects around the world. To date, The One Foundation has raised over £30m through partners such as World Duty Free, Bidfood and Starbucks.

This year's incentive builds on the success of a road trip undertaken by Duncan Goose in 2023, and will see the eight top-sellers of One's bottled water earning a place on a trip to Malawi to see first-hand the impact of donations made through One Water sales.

The campaign runs until the end of July and kicked off with One Water Founder Duncan Goose visiting 14 World Duty Free stores, covering a distance of

2,000 miles on his Honda Africa Twin Motorcycle.

Funds from The One Foundation are donated to rehabilitate water points and to bring water access back into communities. Donations also fund the provision of gravity-fed and solar pumping systems, so that clean water can be readily available in schools and health clinics.

**Duncan Goose, Founder of One Water and The One Foundation said:** "Water is essential for life, yet 703 million people globally still do not have access to safe drinking water. Over 1.7 billion people lack access to a decent toilet and 3.4 million people die every year from waterborne diseases – and sadly many are children under the age of five years old. Around the world, women and children often bear the responsibility of collecting water for their families and can walk up to four hours a day just to find water."

• [www.onewater.org](http://www.onewater.org)

## Time to shine! Awards deadline approaches

**T**he Club Awards celebrate clubs of all types and sizes, from Conservative Clubs and Working Men's Clubs to Golf Clubs and Sports Clubs and everything in between.

Conservative Clubs can be rightly proud of their success at these Awards, representing their clubs, committees and members in the best possible light. Waterloo & Taunton Conservative Club is just one example, winning 2023's prestigious Charity Club of the Year.

As well as recognising the collective commitment of clubs to their members, the Awards also applaud the professionalism of individuals, as well as the dedication of long-serving club officials and young ambassadors.

To nominate, your club, your colleagues or to enter yourself, visit [clubawards.co.uk](http://clubawards.co.uk) or scan this QR code.



## Time to 'wine' down with Sirman Wine Coolers

**F**EM are now supplying the new range of wine coolers from Sirman, designed to be an elegant and practical wine storage solution.

The wine coolers feature a stylish black powder finish and a full length double tempered, UV protected glass door with bright, energy saving LEDs to deliver maximum product visibility. All units are fitted with a key lock for additional security.

The range offers options from compact in-counter units, counter units and full-size cabinets. The smallest, Pantelleria, holds 16 bottles while the largest, Monferrato, can hold up to 182 on removable wooden shelves.

Smaller units can be optionally built-in or semi built-in to counters if required. The 24-bottle capacity, Conero (565mm h x 540mm w x 450mm d) is designed specifically to be built-in and features a forward opening door to make access easy. A reversible door hinge kit is included with side mounted units allowing for customisation according to requirements.

Features include simple-to-use touch controls with a digital display, auto defrost, an interior fan and an active carbon filter to maintain ideal storage conditions within. The system only produces 40 decibels of noise making it ideal for use in front of house situations, says the company.

List prices for Sirman wine coolers start from £710.00 for the compact Pantelleria model.

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

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# Guidebridge Conservative Club Holds Fundraising Evening For The Alzheimer's Society

Club members at the Guidebridge Conservative Club, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, remembered the 80s at a special fundraising event for the Alzheimer's Society.

DJ Jason D Luis gave up his time and took everyone back to the fabulous 80s, playing tunes from Wham, Kagagoo and Erasare.

Organiser Angie Wild said: "It

was great to see everyone having a great time and the dance floor was packed. We raised a fantastic amount of £540 which will be added to the fund-raising pot and now smashed £251,000 for various worthy causes.

"Dementia is very close to my heart as I have family living with this cruel disease, I want to continue to make a difference and help as much as possible."



## Club Bar Manager - Vacancy

The Priory Conservative Club in Belvedere, Kent is a small intimate and traditional club with a membership of approx. 240. We are currently seeking an experienced Bar Manager to work a minimum of 35 hours per week.

The club has 2 bars and a large snooker room containing 3 full size tables and a private car park. We do not have a function room but hire out our main bar for private functions to a maximum capacity of 70 people, reserving our other bar for our members on these occasions. We hold regular events ranging from musical entertainment; quizzes; cocktail afternoons and games evenings.

The job involves the day to day management of the bar and staff, under the general direction of the Secretary and duties include

- overall management of the bar including staff management
- cellar management including pipe cleaning etc.;
- ordering stock;
- counting & banking weekly takings;
- managing private function bookings;
- such other tasks to ensure the smooth running of the club.

The ideal candidate will:

- have at least 2 years experience in Bar management;
- be familiar with EPOS till system;
- be well presented with excellent interpersonal skills;
- be pro-active and prepared to work flexibly as and when required.

Our Bar Manager left in March and we are keen to fill the position. We currently have one full time Bar Steward and a pool of 4 "bank staff."

Salary will be negotiable and we are hoping to fill the position in the near future on a mutually agreed date.

Full Job description can be requested. Written applications enclosing current CV and names of 2 referees can be emailed to [palliston@googlemail.com](mailto:palliston@googlemail.com). or posted to the Secretary, The Priory Club, 169 Picardy Road, Belvedere, Kent DA17 5QL.

# Businesses support Newark Conservative Club to buy a community defibrillator



Joanne, secretary with Darren Willson, chairman.

Story and Picture Credit Newark Advertiser

Over 23 businesses supported the Newark Conservative Club to buy medical equipment to save lives in the community.

The Newark Conservative Club has joined forces with businesses across the district to buy a £1,900 defibrillator and required accessories.

The defibrillator is at the club, inside the open accessible porch, available to anyone in the community

A spokesman from the club said: "Having the community defibrillator means that the community and town can be supported at a time when most needed in a medical emergency because it could save a life if someone is having a cardiac arrest.

It was felt that the importance of having a community defibrillator was high on the agenda to address, cardiac arrest

does not discriminate on age, race or gender."

Gifts and raffle prizes were donated by businesses in the area.

People can use the defibrillator after ringing 999 and an access code will be given to use the equipment.

They added: "We would like to express heartfelt gratitude to the local businesses who supported the fundraising for the community defibrillator, without the kind donations of the mentioned business this would not have been the success that it became, a thank you to all of the Clubs members, guests, staff and committee members who supported the raffle draw and the coffee and cake morning last year. It is all very much appreciated."

The Club was established over 100 years ago and is a focal point for the local community in the town.

# Acomb & District Conservative Club Raise £4760.25 For York Against Cancer

The Acomb & District Conservative Club located on Front Street, Acomb in York chose York Against Cancer as their nominated Charity for 2023. Throughout the year, fund raising events were held, supported by members, friends, the Committee and Stewards. Events held included a Games Night, a fantastic afternoon of music and entertainment by Shepherd's Concert Brass Band.

Tunes were sponsored and then played by the Band. The Band are well known to the Club and play quite often throughout the year, giving their time to support the Charities. York Against Cancer is an independent local Charity who offer a wide range of local cancer services and improve the lives of local people affected by this life-changing disease.

The Final event and Presentation evening was held in December with entertainment by THE GUM TREE PROJECT - a local Band who gave their time to support the Club's fund raising efforts. At the end of the evening a cheque totalling £4760.25 - the amount

raised throughout the year - was presented by the Club Chairman Mr David Lane to Mr Ian Surgenor who accepted this on behalf of York Against Cancer. Thanks were expressed by the Committee to all who helped in any way to raise this incredible amount for such a worthwhile cause. The generosity of the members and friends is greatly appreciated.

This year, the Club will be supporting MARTIN HOUSE HOSPICE. A fun "Pig Racing" evening has already taken place and raised £1651.00. Martin House Hospice is in Boston Spa, Wetherby, North Yorkshire and provide family led care for children with life-limiting illnesses. It is a place where children, young people and their families can go to stay from time to time along their journey and find support, rest and practical help. In September The McMillan Coffee Morning held at the Club raised £656.50.

Further events are planned including another Games Night and Presentation Evening towards the end of 2024.



## Pages From The Past

In this month's Pages From The Past we go back to September 1933 for an interesting article on Playing Cards.

As the article points out, playing cards are one of the common objects you will see but an incredibly complex invention leading to an almost unimaginable number of different uses and games which can be played with just a pack of 52 cards. Indeed, the article mentions

that when playing a game of Whist, there are a total number of 635,013,559,600 possible hands.

At the time of the article the ACC were the main supplier of playing cards to member clubs, at the price of 9/- per dozen playing card packs. Whilst this may no longer be an area of business the ACC is involved in, there is no doubt about the continued popularity of card based games within Clubs.



## THE ROMANCE OF PLAYING CARDS.

### HOW THE CRUSADERS BROUGHT THEM TO ENGLAND FROM THE EAST.

Familiar objects, institutions of our every-day life, are taken for granted. They have no further interest for us except in so far as they serve a purpose of utility or amusement. What more prosaic than a Playing Card? Yet, if cards had tongues, even they could tell a tale of romance.

To Royalty Playing Cards owe their existence. They have provided balm for the souls of many monarchs. Harrassed statesmen have temporarily forgotten the cares of office, the poor their empty stomachs, in the diversion which cards afford. They are immortal, for they have survived the epoch-making changes, and events, of 1,500 years, and still retain their ancient popularity. The secret of their charm is a simple one. It lies in man's inherent gambling instinct, his willingness to risk much if there be a chance of acquiring more.

Playing Cards are the direct descendants of the original chessmen. About the 5th century, chess was played by living figures, in battle array, in a black and white tiled courtyard—of which the modern chessboard is a survival—for the amusement of an Indian potentate and his guests who looked down on the scene from the surrounding galleries. At a word of command, the figures moved from one square to another. This cumbersome procedure, however, was soon superseded, and carved figures, easy to handle, made of wood or ivory, were moved from square to square by the combatants.

#### Painted on Ivory Discs.

In due course, the artist, unable, or unwilling, to carve the figures, painted them on ivory discs, and from this the custom arose of transferring them, by painting, to the material then used in place of our modern paper, or cardboard, the game being materially improved by including more than two participants. Through many changes in the shapes and colours of the figures depicted, the artistic gems of the modern English Playing Cards have emerged. The chequered backs of early specimens have been supplanted by picturesque, or futuristic, designs.

Playing Cards appeared in Europe almost simultaneously in Italy, France, Germany and England, and this has led to the belief that they were brought from the East by returning Crusaders. In those high and far-off times, each pack consisted of 78 cards composed of four suits of 14 cards and 22 picture cards called Atouts—"above all"—possessing the same significance as trumps. These packs were commonly known as Tarot Cards. The four suits were distinguished by Swords, Cups, Stocks and Money, and represented the four classes into which the community was then divided. The Churchman was represented by the cup, or chalice; the Knight by the sword; the Merchant by the coin, and the Workman by the stick or bludgeon. The earliest known specimens of these Tarot Cards are still preserved in the Bibliotheque National in Paris, and are believed to date back as far as 1393.

It was not long before a further, and decisive, step in the evolution of the modern Playing Card took place. Etienne Vignoles, or La Hire, a celebrated French knight,

excellently versed in the arts of war, rearranged and still further simplified the Tarot Cards during the latter part of the 14th century. The Atouts were abolished and the present-day symbols of hearts, spades, clubs and diamonds adopted to replace their predecessors. These cards were the first specimens of the French Suit Cards, and, with a brief interregnum which came to an end in 1813, during which time the Royal symbols were replaced by soi-disant sages or philosophers, have remained in use until to-day.

The earliest mention of Playing Cards in England was in 1465, although they are believed to have been introduced into the country soon after the second Crusade. The dress worn by the Kings depicted in the English Playing Card is a conventionalised copy of that worn by Henry VIII and a likeness can be traced to the features of that bluff, much-married monarch. The Queen of the Playing Cards is the beautiful Elizabeth of York, who, by her marriage to the Lancastrian victor of Bosworth, ended the century-old feud between the white and red roses. In the subsequent rejoicings which took place, she was chosen to reign over Cardland, and to this day her face, dress and attributes, including the White Rose of York, are cherished. The Knave was originally regarded as the son of the King and Queen, the word's original meaning being "boy."

#### A Protest against "Dumping."

With the increasing popularity of cards, great difficulty arose in producing them in quantities sufficient to satisfy the demand. No modern printing facilities were available, and makers were obliged to fall back on wood engraving—a slow and tedious process. In 1463 the card-makers of England successfully appealed for Protection against the dumping of foreign Playing Cards. Some 160 years later, however, they again appear to have been the victims of foreign competition, for the Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards was incorporated by Royal Charter, under the great Seal of England, in the reign of Charles I. The necessity for the incorporation arose from the fact that

"the Art and Trade of making of Playing Cards by the King's loving subjects which had been used and put in practice for divers years last past" was becoming seriously influenced with "by reason of the continued importing of great quantities of foreign Playing Cards made in the parts beyond the seas unto this Realm, and the public selling of the same here without restraint."

Little progress was made in the manufacture of Playing Cards until the beginning of the 19th century. After much time and study, the ideal paper from which the required kind of cardboard could be made was found, and the perfect Playing Card of to-day is the result of many years of experiment. The services of well-known artists were employed to render the figures reversible, while retaining all their ancient attributes. The universal popularity of Playing Cards is proof that the labour was not in vain.

#### VARIATIONS OF A PACK OF CARDS.

Every Clubman, when he takes up his cards at a game of whist holds one out of 635,013,559,600 possible hands. As for the total number of variations possible among all the players it is so enormous as almost to exceed belief. It has been calculated that if 1,000,000 men were engaged to deal cards at the rate of one deal per minute, day and night for 100,000,000 years, they would not have exhausted all the possible variations of the cards, but only 100,000th part of them.

THE A.C.C. FOR PLAYING CARDS: 9/- PER DOZ. PACKS. BEST FOR CLUB USE.



# 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 6.75%, 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.

## 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](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.**