

CONSERVATIVE CLUBS MAGAZINE



September 2024 75p



St Marychurch and Babbacombe Raises Funds

Sky Sport Business Launches Sky Sports+

**Altrincham Conservative Club Holds Ivan Carter Memorial
Snooker Tournament**



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Message From The Chief Executive

From time to time we like to say “thank you” to all Magazine contributors and to thank, in advance, all those club officers and members who will supply material to the Magazine in the coming months.

A regular ‘army’ of reporters and photographers, up and down the country, keep us in touch with club news. It goes without saying that without them there could be no Magazine.

We number among our contributors many ‘old friends’ but we are always pleased to welcome newcomers. We want to reflect every side of club life - and there are many.

You might not think that what your club does is worthy of reporting nationally but it is. Clubs are often huge supporter of charity endeavours and raise huge amounts of money for good causes.

So, thank you for all the

reports and pictures - and for all those yet to come.

Please choose pictures that are as clear as possible; our printers can work with unpromising material but very dark or out of focus pictures cannot be used.

Also, please supply as many details as possible of an event using full names (not just initials or no initials at all). Club members know who “Mike” or “Joan” is, and what position he or she holds, but we cannot always work out who they are.

We always want to hear your news, how your club is coping and your ideas for improving trade and attracting new members which can sometimes be picked up by other clubs and used to their advantage.

As we have said many times: remember this is YOUR magazine and your contributions play a vital part in keeping it going. Thanks again.

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CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

Types of Clubs

Clubs fall into two main categories – those in which the management of the club is in the hands of the members themselves (referred to as ‘members’ clubs’) and those controlled by a proprietor (referred to as ‘proprietary clubs’). For the purposes of ACC Clubs all such Clubs are classed as members clubs.

Members’ clubs do not carry on a business in their ordinary transactions among members. The supply of drink, food or any other item to members does not constitute a sale, since members are paying for a share of stock which they already collectively own.

Therefore, any financial surplus created from the activities of members is not regarded as a profit and is not subject to corporation tax. It is for this reason that members’ clubs are sometimes referred to as ‘non-profit making clubs’. Such a reference should not be interpreted literally. Clubs must maximise their ‘surplus/profits’ like any commercial business in order to sustain and develop their activities. The ‘non-profit making’ reference merely indicates the Mutual Trading activities described above.

Members’ clubs may be subdivided into a number of different categories according to their constitution. These include

unincorporated members’ clubs, clubs incorporated under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts which became the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014, clubs registered under the Friendly Societies Acts and clubs incorporated under the Companies Acts.

This article explains the differences between the different types of Clubs.

Unincorporated Clubs

The most common type of members’ club is the unincorporated members’ club. These are clubs in which the club’s property, both real and personal, is vested in a number of trustees elected or appointed in accordance with the club’s rules.

Once they have been selected, trustees must formally be appointed to a club’s Trust Deed. Without this act of conveyance taking place, a club’s property will not be legally held by trustees. The expense of frequently appointing new trustees to a club’s Trust Deed, together with finding suitable or willing candidates to take on this office has made a number of unincorporated clubs seek to utilise the ACC’s free of charge Trusteeship Service. Trustees must now also register with HMRC’s Trust Registration Service

Unincorporated clubs do not achieve corporate status and therefore cannot take, or be subject to legal proceedings in the name of the club. Such proceedings can only be made in the names of the trustees acting on behalf of a club.

It is important for trustees not to act on behalf of a club without proper instruction from a club’s committee, or by resolution of the members, or outside the terms of a club’s Trust Deed.

Industrial and Provident Societies, subsequently Co-operative Societies Act.

Registration of a club under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965, now the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014, gives a club the status of a corporate body with the advantages that this status brings: to take or defend legal proceedings in the name of the club; to hold property, both real and personal, as a perpetual corporation instead of through trustees; and to authenticate its acts with a common seal. Clubs previously registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act are now simply known as Registered Clubs under the new Act.

The responsibility and authority for administering this Act is vested in the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), Mutual Societies Registration Department.

A club registered under this Act is required to include the word ‘Limited’ at the end of its name in order to indicate the limited financial liability of the club. Members are required to purchase a share in the club which represents the members’ sole liability of the club. The value of a share can be as low as 5p.

Unlike a company, shares in clubs registered under the Act are usually restricted to one per member. This single

shareholding should not be transferable or withdrawable. This ensures that shares cannot be held outside the membership of the club.

Such clubs must also pay an annual fee, make annual returns and register all rule amendments with the FCA.

Whilst the administrative burden of this Act may appear to be greater than that of an unincorporated club, the benefits of corporate status, with the resulting removal of the need for trustees, and the creation of limited liability of members, is a matter which many clubs find attractive.

It is, however, relatively difficult for Trustees Clubs to convert to Clubs Registered under the Act and vice versa, hence most Clubs retain their original registration method.

Friendly Societies

Since 1992, it has not been possible for clubs to register under the Friendly Societies Act 1974, although many previously registered clubs continue to operate under this Act. The Friendly Societies Acts are administered by the FCA, Mutual Societies Department.

Clubs operating under this Act are required to elect trustees in whom the property of the club is automatically vested. The need to formally register property in the names of trustees is not required. Like clubs registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, clubs registered as Friendly Societies are required to submit annual returns, register rules and amendments, and pay an annual fee to the FCA.

However, the ability to invest funds and pursue certain objects is too restrictive for the purposes of most clubs. We advise clubs registered as Friendly Societies to consider immediate incorporation under the Co-Operative Act. It is relatively simple for such clubs

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Trade Management Services

◀ From page 3

to transfer their registration in this way although it is not obligatory to do so.

Limited Companies

We would not advise clubs to seek incorporation under the Companies Acts. Whether limited by share or guarantee, the constitution of a company is mostly consistent with that of a club which, as we have described above, operates as a mutual trading association.

A company's memorandum and articles of association are too cumbersome for the purposes of a club's rule book and the administration required by Companies House to operate a company is often too time-consuming for most Club Secretaries.

A club registered under the Companies Acts may, by special resolution, determine to register under the Industrial

and Provident Societies Act. The powers to make such a conversion are contained in Section 141 of the Companies Act 1948 and in Section 53 of the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965.

A small number of clubs have a situation where their land and buildings are held by companies, which in turn are owned by the club. Such scenarios are usually the result of historic accident and can be the source of confusion caused by share registers not being kept up-to-date, shares not being properly recorded and Directors not being registered or removed from registration.

Clubs in this situation should seek advice on how to convert both the company and club to registration under the Co-Operative Act. Such conversion would provide one consolidating constitution that would properly serve the objects of the club.

Deductions From Employee Pay

By law (Employment Rights Act 1996), an employer can only make a deduction from someone's wages if:

- it's required by law – for example tax
- the employment contract specifically allows the deduction
- they overpaid the employee by mistake
- it's something the employee agreed to in writing beforehand – for example paying a trade union subscription
- the employee missed work because they were on strike or taking industrial action
- it's a result of a court ordering the employer to make debt payments from an employee's wages to a third party
- it's a result of a court ordering an employee to make a payment to their employer – the employee must have agreed in writing that the employer can make the deduction

Before making deductions that an employee does not expect, an employer should notify the

employee as soon as possible. Check any written agreements to see if a deduction is allowed. For example, an employer can deduct money for training costs from their employee's wages if it's agreed in the contract or in writing beforehand. If the employer is deducting money for mandatory training, the deduction must not take the employee's wages below the National Minimum Wage.

An employer can make deductions from someone's wages. This includes their:

- monthly, weekly or hourly pay
- holiday pay
- statutory payments – for example statutory sick pay (SSP) or statutory maternity pay
- bonuses or commission

An employer cannot deduct money from payments that are not part of someone's wages. This includes:

- loans – for example a pay advance for a season ticket
- expenses
- pension payments
- redundancy pay
- tips and other gratuities

Sky Introduces Increased English Football League (EFL) Coverage

• New Sky Business data shows that 73% of fans agree that the increased number of EFL games on television from next season will give them more reasons to visit pubs

• This comes on the back of Sky's announcement of the launch of Sky Sports+, which will allow venues to show over 1,000 EFL games a season

• Clubs will be able to enjoy four times more matches from the EFL with every team featured over 20 times a season

Sky Business have released new data which shows that 73% of fans say that the increased number of EFL games on television from next season will give them more reasons to visit clubs and pubs. The research also found that over 8 in 10 fans viewers say that they are interested in the EFL, showing that it has widespread appeal among sports fans.

Sky Sports+ comes at the start of a new long-term and landmark partnership with the EFL, with over 1,000 EFL games a season featuring every team more than 20 times and every Championship club on

at least 24 occasions. The scale of Sky Sports+ will be evident from the opening weekend of the 2024/25 season with every game from the Championship, League One and League Two streamed live – a first in broadcasting history.

Sky Sports+ will make it easier for venues to browse, discover and show the sport that matters most to their customers. Venues with a connected Sky Q box will have the ability to choose up to 100 live events via concurrent streams, giving more opportunity to drive footfall, spend and dwell time than ever before. And the new dedicated Sky Sports+ TV channel will showcase a selection of the best live sport.

James Tweddle, Director of Hospitality at Sky Business said:

“With all 72 teams from across the EFL shown at least 20 times throughout the season - plus every game from the entirety of the Carabao Cup and EFL Trophy – venues can now offer a more localised, personalised sports viewing experience to help boost trade throughout the week.”

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Questions and Answers

Q We have local Trustees who are convinced that they are not personally liable for any of the Club's debts and that the Club has an insurance policy in place protecting them. The Committee, however, have not been able to find any evidence of such a policy. Is there a policy we should have in place to protect our local Trustees from debts?

A You can certainly investigate with your insurance supplier if they can provide such a policy although most of the time policies are not available to cover Trustees from every type of eventuality. Losses arising purely from trading losses, for example, are seldom protected by general Club insurance policies although hopefully the Club has in place typical public liability policies which offer some protection to the Trustees in the event of one off injuries and financial events. If in doubt, please discuss with your insurance provider what policies you have in place and what protections these provide to your local Trustees and what situations the Trustees will not be protected for. It is important that the Club's Trustees fully understand what they are signing up for.

As mentioned, losses and debts associated with typical trading are seldom covered under general insurance policies and so trustees should always be made aware that they could be personally liable for Club debts which occur. Whilst the ACC can assist the Trustees by reviewing insurance policies in place, ultimately the Club's Trustees must satisfy themselves that they are willing to take on the responsibility of being Club Trustees and understand the specific financial risks which they may be exposed to.

If a Club is unable to locate

willing local Trustees then the ACC offer a free of charge ACC Trusteeship Service to such Clubs.

Q A few years ago the Committee expelled a Club Member. It has now been raised that this person may wish to rejoin the Club. Is this acceptable?

A An expelled Member can put in a request to the Committee to be allowed to submit a new application for membership. It is up to the Committee to decide whether or not to allow such a person to put in a new application. If the Committee decides to allow the person to apply for membership then the usual membership application procedure will then apply.

Q We have a Committee Member take use to receive an honorarium for helping the Club but for a few reasons has not been transferred to them since 2023 even though they have continued to assist the Club. Are we legally required to make up the missing payments and if so would be a lump sum or can we provide it over a period of time? They were receiving £400 a month, is this usual?

A An honorarium is a voluntary payment for a voluntary service. Therefore, there is no legal obligation or commitment to pay an honorarium of any kind.

If the Committee wishes to award an honorarium it can provide a lump sum or it can provide honorarium payments over a period of time.

£400 per month is just under £5,000 per year. It depends on the amount of work undertaken but it is within the realms of what is normal, perhaps towards the higher end. That said, you have to consider the cost if the person who

was provided the honorarium was not willing to continue and the Club had to employ someone instead – the cost would likely be much higher. Equally, the amount of work a Secretary does can vary from Club to Club – for some it is almost a full time job whilst others have administrative staff, accountants, an active Committee etc. which takes a lot of the pressure off. It is therefore not an exact science to simply compare the headline figures without looking individually at how much time a specific Club Secretary is expected to dedicate to the role in their specific Club.

Q Our subscription rate is set at £25. Can you tell us if this is broadly similar to the subscription levels set by other ACC Clubs?

A Broadly speaking, a subscription fee of around £25 is in line with many ACC Clubs. The key point is that, for any Club, the subscription fee is unlikely to be a huge revenue driver. It is the number of members and how frequently they use the Club which provides the majority of the Club's revenue. There is therefore no point in pursuing a policy of higher subscription fees if the result of such a policy is a reduction of active Club members.

Q We have been asked by a member if he were to hire out our hall for a private function whether the club could increase the drink prices for that function and for that increase to go to the member hiring out the hall. My first reaction is no, but I would appreciate any comments you may have.

A You are absolutely right to say no. The club would be in breach of the Licensing Act

2003 if it permitted a member to benefit personally from the supply of alcohol. Such benefits may only be received by the club.

I think the member in question will need to find a different method of creating income for himself. There is, however, nothing to prevent the club from charging higher prices for drinks at a private function, many clubs have different prices for drinks in function rooms compared with normal bars.

Q The Club has installed a defibrillator in the Club's premises. This machine is designed so that it can be used by a Member of the Public if a person is not breathing or breathing erratically. Our employees were, however, provided training when the machine was installed. Should we keep this training up to date and do we need to provide an employee with specific first aid training?

A It is likely that as you have less than 25 employees that you will not need a properly trained First Aider but simply an employee responsible for dealing with any first aid related incidents.

I understand that these types of defibrillators are designed to be used by persons who have no experience of them. Whilst the designs of these machines do vary, most of them include spoken instructions with the machine to assist with use. Having said that, a simple refresher course for the Club's employees on how and when to use the machine is a sound idea. You may wish to contact the organisation which installed the defibrillator and ask if they have any written guidance which can be given to the Club's employees and placed with the machine inside the Club.

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St Marychurch and Babbacombe Raises Funds for Purple Angels

The St Marychurch and Babbacombe Conservative Club have raised funds for local charity Purple Angels Torbay. The charity work by raising awareness of dementia, also helping in any way they can for the person and their family.

The Club's Members raised a grand total of £2,500 by having different events throughout the year.

The Purple Angel was born on 12th January 2012. It was formed as a steering group to try and make Torbay the first Dementia Friendly resort in the country.

Norman McNamara a resident of Torbay, Devon, UK was diagnosed with dementia at only 50 years of age. Whilst out shopping one day he was rudely spoken to by a shopkeeper and decided to change the way people see dementia and treat others.

Norrm began by asking his local shop staff to read 2 pieces of information so that they could better support people with dementia and their carers. He wrote the "Guide to Understanding Dementia" and put that together with "What is Dementia" written by our Alzheimer's Society. Two weeks later he returned and, if staff had read, awarded a Purple Angel Logo for their window.

Through Facebook Norrm met many who wanted to join in. The purple angel was named because



Norrm fondly refers to his wife Elaine as "his angel"!

On the 16th November, 2013, the first 50 world wide ambassadors were inaugurated in Paignton, Devon, UK. There are now well over 1000 ambassadors, all with their own teams of volunteers.

Many towns in the UK began raising awareness with The Purple Angel, taking the information to their local shops and businesses. On a facebook "Dementia Aware" page many others began to form dementia friendly communities

and were inspired by the success of the project. Many Purple Angel Dementia Action Alliances now have their own steering groups and the word is spreading to other areas. It became apparent that many other organisations were needed to be included such as hospitals, first responders, rescue services, schools, scouts, etc. and resources were developed to address different situations. A book was written for young school children by Max Wallack in the USA and is being translated into

other languages by purple angel ambassadors and talks held in schools in order that our young can grow up understanding dementia.

In places new memory cafes were organised and events took place across the world for the new Dementia Awareness Day fundraising for dementia charities all year.

Many countries across the globe joined in the campaign and Dementia Friendly Communities started up together with Memory Cafes and other initiatives.

Altrincham Conservative Club Holds Ivan Carter Memorial Snooker Tournament



Steve Harrison, winner of the Stuart Wilson Golf Tournament

The Altrincham Conservative Club hosts an annual snooker memorial in memory of Ivan Carter who over 20 years ago passed away at a young age and was a committed and brilliant snooker player.

Originally the memorial was set up in memory of Ivan by his father, David Carter. This year Daniel Carter, nephew of Ivan, made it to the final of the tournament along with Phil Maddocks.

Phil Maddocks took the honours by winning the match.

In addition, the Club recently participated in the Annual Stuart Wilson Golf Tournament which was held at Altrincham Golf Club and was won by Steve Harrison. Following the gold tournament a dinner followed at the Altrincham Conservative Club along with a presentation.



Phil Maddocks Alongside Daniel Carter.

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.

Hospitality sales growth shows positive outlook

Britain's top hospitality groups recorded year-on-year sales growth of 2.9% in June 2024, the latest CGA RSM Hospitality Business Tracker reveals.

While the 2.9% year-on-year sales growth figure is down slightly from May's rate of 3.6%, it is ahead of the current rate of inflation, as measured by the Consumer Prices Index, and is the eighth period of growth in the last nine months.

The Tracker—produced by CGA by NIQ in partnership with RSM UK—shows restaurants were the best-performing channel in June, with year-on-year sales growth of 4.7%. While the Euros brought sports fans into licensed premises for matchdays involving England and Scotland the damp weather kept people away from beer gardens and terraces, and sales in this channel rose only 2.7% above June 2023. The on-the-go segment achieved 4.0% growth, but bars were down by 4.0%.

Trading was notably stronger in London, where the Tracker recorded sales growth of 4.4%, compared to 2.5% outside the M25. The capital has outpaced Britain as a whole for all but one month in 2024.

Karl Chessell, director – hospitality operators and food, EMEA at CGA by NIQ, said: “June's solid if unspectacular growth capped a decent first half of the year for Britain's hospitality groups. The weather has been far from ideal for pubs and drinks suppliers, but England's progress in the Euros has been a very welcome lift for venues screening games. A good month for restaurants shows consumers remain eager to eat out, and we can be optimistic that people will loosen their



spending as some cost pressures ease. Nevertheless, with the Tracker hovering only just above inflation, groups will have to work hard to achieve meaningful sales growth in the second half of 2024.”

Saxon Moseley, head of leisure and hospitality at RSM UK, said: “Pub operators will be disappointed with the modest increase in sales generated by the early stages of the Euros. However, a second month of inflation beating growth for restaurants offers further evidence, and hope, that consumer purse strings are loosening against a backdrop of real wage

increases and anticipated interest rate cuts. There was positive news for the industry in the King's Speech around the apprenticeship levy amendments and nighttime safety, but significant headwinds remain with confirmation of zero hours contracts reform and proposed increases to the national minimum wage. Combined with a lack of clarity around business rates, operators will be looking for further certainty from the new government in the second half of the year.”

• cgastrategy.com

Fresh Direct stands up for vertical farming

Fresh produce provider Fresh Direct has teamed up with GrowUp Farms. This is the company's third British vertical farming partner, providing year-round access to crops, helping to address food security concerns and weather-related issues with harvests that have caused significant challenges for conventional growers in recent years.

GrowUp Farms is a certified B Corp, producing salad leaves at its modern vertical farm, which is powered by renewable energy,



aims to use 90% less water when fully operational and requires no pesticides, fungicides or weedkiller. By producing long-lasting products year-round in the UK, food waste and lorry miles are also cut down.

• www.sysco.com

Adventurous diners seek dishes inspired by flavours from across the globe

Diners are enjoying more diverse flavours than ever before, as more and more people choose world cuisine when eating out, according to a survey from AAK Foodservice.

The survey of over 650 people from across the UK, US and Europe sought to find out how consumers are dining this summer, with some surprising results.

Across the three regions, 80% of those surveyed said they were either likely or very likely to try new cuisines when dining out, meaning there is space on menus to experiment with world flavours and to ensure there's something exciting to entice new customers.

The survey also revealed half of all diners enjoyed eating hot and spicy foods either 'a lot' or 'a great deal', which tied in with other AAK Foodservice research which suggested that hot sauces have grown in popularity significantly.

Rachel Neale, Marketing Director at AAK Foodservice, said: "The popularity of street food has hugely influenced the kinds of food enjoyed by diners. At street food events and markets, people can all pick and choose from very varied kinds of cuisines, and increasingly customers are looking for this kind of diverse taste experience when they eat out.

"This includes dishes inspired by world flavours, as well as foods from different places across the world in starters and desserts, as well as main dishes. The preferences of diners have become really varied – everyone loves something different, and diverse menus can help to cater for more varied tastes and dietary needs."

Diners said that they were very interested in trying Caribbean or Greek cuisine the next time



they ate out, but the most popular food types they currently enjoy eating are Asian flavours.

While Chinese and Indian foods were very popular, newer cuisines such as Thai and Korean were also noted as favourites, with the research suggesting that Southeast flavours will be big on menus across the summer and beyond.

As well as Asian flavours, other trends to look out for are hot and spicy foods and barbecue foods, says the company, with regional variations, as well as applying the sauces in different ways, for example Korean fried chicken.

• aakfoodservice.com

CAMRA Regional Winners announced

CAMRA and Club Mirror's Club Awards have announced the 16 clubs going through as Regional Winners in 2024's CAMRA Club of the Year.

The Regional Winners are:

SUPER REGION 1

1. West Pennines – Whitworth Vale and Healey Band Club, Whitworth
2. Greater Manchester – Dobcross Band Social Club, Dobcross
3. Wales – Esplanade, Rhyl
4. Merseyside/Cheshire – Haydock Reading Room, St Helens

SUPER REGION 2

1. Scotland – Ravenswood British Legion Club, Banchory
2. North East – Mid Boldon Club, East Boldon
3. Yorkshire – Wortley Club, Wortley
4. East Midlands – Midland Band Club, Kettering

SUPER REGION 3

1. East Anglia – Wethersfield Club, Wethersfield
2. Kent – Marden Village Club, Marden
3. London – Orpington Liberal Club, Orpington
4. Surrey/Sussex – United Services Club, Egham

SUPER REGION 4

1. West Midlands – Firs Club, Codsall
2. South West – Cheltenham Motor Club, Cheltenham
3. Central Southern – Hungerford Club, Hungerford
4. Wessex – Corfe Castle Club, Corfe

The 16 Regional Winners will be whittled down to four Super Regional Finalists, announced at the 2024 Club Awards. The clubs will then be mystery judged for the ultimate accolade – the CAMRA Club of the Year.

The 2024 Club Awards take place on 27 November in Leicester.

• www.clubawards.co.uk

Noughty drives alcohol-free wine

Thompson & Scott's premium non-alcoholic wine brand Noughty aims to revolutionise wine drinking with its portfolio of alcohol-free wines.

Noughty Sparkling Chardonnay and Sparkling Rosé are made in Germany from organic grapes grown in La Mancha in Southern Spain. The wines are produced as alcoholic wines and then dealcoholized, aiming to retain all the notes and taste consumers would expect from an organic sparkling wine alternative to Champagne.



The still wines, Noughty Rouge, Blanc and Rosé, are made on the Western Cape of South Africa from grapes harvested from dryland farmed vineyards in Darling. The grapes are grown in strategically selected sites, which get both the warm sun and cooling effect of the Atlantic Ocean. Deep soils from decomposed granite and rich clay help to provide good drainage.

Amanda Thomson, CEO and Founder of B Corp Certified Thomson & Scott, said: "I've added premium wine to the mix now. We have become a top seller at many stylish bars, hotels and restaurants, alongside household name drinks brands, very quickly which proves that the consumers love it and keep coming back for more."

• Noughtyaf.com

Hoshizaki launches innovative Virtual Showroom

Commercial refrigeration and ice-making equipment company Hoshizaki has announced the relaunch of its virtual showroom.

The virtual showroom is an innovative platform that allows customers to explore Hoshizaki's range of products in a fully immersive and interactive environment, direct from mobiles or tablets thanks to quicker loading times and an improved user interface.

A key feature is the ability to interact with the products in a way that is not possible in a physical showroom, with customers able to explore the different features of the products, zoom in on specific details or view the products in operation.

• hoshizaki-europe.com





Sky Sports campaign marks start of new football season

Sky Sports has released a new campaign to celebrate the domestic football season, featuring a fan from each of the 92 Premier League and English Football League (EFL) clubs offering their messages of hope and pride ahead of the new football season.

Among the 92 supporters is die-hard West Ham United fan, Danny Dyer (pictured), whose submission is an inspirational message to new manager, Julen Lopetegui – including a cheeky request for the Spaniard to build the team around his soon-to-be son-in-law, Jarrod Bowen.

Other stars to share their hopes for the new domestic season include comedian Josh Widdicombe, darts star Nathan Aspinall and boxer Joshua Buatsi, an offering rallying cries to Plymouth Argyle, Stockport County and Crystal Palace respectively.

The campaign follows new research of over 5,000 fans of the 92 clubs which reveals an overwhelming sense of optimism across the leagues, with 65% of fans feeling hopeful going into the 2024/25 season. Supporters of Accrington Stanley (88%), Wrexham (81%) and Stevenage (80%) are among the most positive about this season, feeling optimistic for a promotion push.

The research also shows the huge range of emotions football elicits for fans with excitement (56%), anticipation (40%) and hope (36%) topping the list. A quarter of fans surveyed feel that the sport gives them happiness, with a further 21% stating it gives them a sense of community.

• skyforbusiness.sky.com

Greene King triumphs at World Beer Awards 2024

Greene King Brewery is celebrating multiple wins at this year's World Beer Awards, securing seven awards across its beer portfolio, including Country Winner and a Gold award in the Session IPA category with Prior Life.

Prior Life is a 3.4% easy-drinking IPA. Launched earlier this year, the sessionable ale is a tribute to the original Bury St Edmunds master brewers, the Benedictine monks. Prior Life was only one of two English beers to secure gold in the Session IPA category. The brewer's Level Head secured bronze in the same category.

Old Speckled Hen secured two silver awards while Belhaven Brewery secured bronze for both Belhaven Best and Belhaven Black. The brewery has been a part of Greene King since 2005 and has been brewing beer for over 300 years.

Matt Starbuck, Managing Director for Brewing and Brands at Greene King, said: "Greene King and Belhaven are passionate about making great beers, and these results are a testament to our brewers and teams that work hard to create the port-



folio that we have. We are incredibly proud of our beers, and we continue to invest and develop in all areas of our portfolio, providing consumers with a wide range of quality styles and flavours to enjoy."

• greeneking.co.uk

Drinks wholesaler LWC now listing James Gin, James May's gin brand

James May, well known as a co-presenter of Top Gear and for The Grand Tour, turned his hand to gin-making back in 2021.

"Any reasonably conceited TV presenter or Hollywood actor will eventually have a go at making a gin," said May. "It's easier than whisky (no need to hang around for 10 years) and more interesting than vodka (which has no flavour, and is pointless)."

May teamed up with Hugh Anderson of Downton Distillery to create his first gin, originally intending to make just enough to sell in his pub.

"But since then, like most things involving gin, it's all got a bit out of hand and now everyone wants some. Thanks to LWC for helping us bring the Gin of the People to The People," he said.



"My gin really is mine, not a cynical branding exercise," said May. "I came up with the idea of blending the flavour of parsnip (because it reminds me of England and its dampness) with Asian spices (because they add excitement). We eventually

arrived at the unequivocally named Asian Parsnip Gin."

Since then he has added American Mustard ("The ideal accompaniment to burgers and hot-dogs, obviously") and London Drizzle, a 2024 Great Taste Award winner ("Everyone else has a London Dry and London generally isn't, so this gin is designed to recreate the smell of a wet London pavement on a hot day").

• lwc-drinks.co.uk

Paralympics airing free via Channel 4



Up to 1,300 hours of live sport from the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games are being aired for free across Channel 4, More4, Channel 4 Streaming and Channel 4 Sport's YouTube until the closing ceremony on Sunday, September 8.

Channel 4's team of presenters, pundits, reporters and commentators sees Ade Adepitan return for Paris 2024, joined by Claire Balding, five-time Paralympic swimming champion and BAFTA-winner Ellie

Simmonds and actress, producer and activist Rose Ayling-Ellis.

Alex Mahon, CEO at Channel 4, said: "We're incredibly proud that these will be the most accessible Games yet and that we will make the sport available across even more platforms.

"We've seen how previous Games have challenged attitudes and in 2024 we will do even more to show sports stars at their peak."

• skyforbusiness.sky.com

New sauces and pickles join Brakes

Fresh Kitchen, which hand prepares high quality products including pickles, sauces and condiments, is launching a range of 18 new products into Brakes.

The range aims to help alleviate the pressure on professional kitchens which face challenges around recruiting and retaining skilled chefs.

Paul Nieduszynski, CEO of Sysco GB, said: "We felt there was a gap in the market for a range of high-quality sauces and pickles that chefs can serve without needing to spend time creating them. We follow the same process as any chef would, using top quality products from Fresh Direct, creating some wonderfully individual products and flavours.

"The expertise and experience that our operatives have, creating these products day in and day out, means that chefs are guaranteed to receive a great product every time."

The list of products being launched includes Great Taste award-winning Fresh Kitchen products Pickled Watermelon, described as an unusual and delicate pickle; Comeback Sauce, a spicy dipping



sauce, inspired by Mississippi and for pairing with seafood cocktails, burgers, chicken and BBQs; and Golden Beetroot Piccalilli, an award-winning blend of golden beetroot, sultanas and diced vegetables with a thick, sweet yet sharp dressing infused with mustard seeds.

Other visually impactful products in the range include Pickled Chilli Pineapple, Pickled Pear, Makhani Curry Sauce and Hot Honey Sauce.

Fresh Kitchen products do not use artificial colours, flavours, or preservatives.

• www.sysco.com

New Heligan Artisan tableware collection

Lockhart Catering Equipment has expanded its Artisan tableware portfolio to include a new collection named Heligan.

Combining the look of handcrafted pottery with durability and strength, the new pieces are made with vitrified stoneware, featuring a distinctive meadow green glaze, with reactive highlights of lilac and turquoise.

Simon Britten, Head of Marketing at Lockhart Catering Equipment, said: "In an industry where presentation is almost as important as the quality of food and drink, choosing the right tableware that emulates your establishment's ethos is essential. The Heligan collection perfectly bridges the gap between rustic, naturalistic countryside [clubs and pubs] and sleek, sophisticated eco-urban venues to suit any establishment. This latest addition, alongside Artisan's Tempest blue and Lagoon lilac-ochre-blue, gives operators an even wider range of choice when



it comes to colours, textures, and styles."

The range is available in an assortment of different sized plates and bowls and includes cups, saucers, jugs, and teapots.

• lockhart.co.uk

Potato perfection with Signature Chef's Chunky Fries

Country Range's premium Signature collection has been strengthened with the arrival of its frozen Chef's Chunky Fries.

Signature by Country Range Triple Cooked Chef's Chunky Fries (4 x 2.27kg bags) provide a rustic, homemade finish with a soft centre. The chunky fries are coated in an extra crispy batter coating and triple-cooked to offer a crunch that holds for at least 40 minutes, says the company.



Country Range Group Marketing Manager Rachel Porter said: "Fries are a vital component across snacking, sides and main menus offering caterers fantastic opportunities for up-sell, especially when loaded, so the correct choice of chip is definitely something caterers need to get right.

"Our new Signature Chef's Chunky Fries provide a more rustic and homemade style with an unmistakable long-lasting crunch and fine flavour, which provides caterers with a quality alternative to fresh chips, without the waste. We're confident they will prove to be a big hit with consumers and caterers alike over the coming months and beyond."

• countryrangepicker.com

Taking the Cocktail Bar to where it's needed

The new Pujadas compact cocktail trolley introduced by Foodservice Equipment Marketing (FEM) allows the cocktail bar to be taken anywhere that drinks need to be served. It can act as a temporary bar for events, for outside catering or in special function rooms.

The mobile compact cocktail trolley has multiple storage spaces and a generous work area. It features a solid anti-humidity board with an oak finish, three rails for hanging glasses, an area for 'on-the-rocks' glasses and strategically placed shelves for mixers.

The carbon steel structure has an anti-rust coating and a stylish satin black finish. The trolley is easy to move with heavy-duty swivel wheels, two of which are braked. The overall dimensions of the compact



trolley are 915mm (w) x 630mm (d) x 980mm (h).

For those requiring more storage, Pujadas has also produced a bigger trolley measuring 985mm (w) x 630mm (d) x 1325mm (h). It features a drawer with

metal guides, five rails for hanging glasses and a side rail which allows for three additional bottle racks to be hung, thus increasing capacity. This model includes a stainless-steel worktop comprising a six-compartment condiment box, an internal drainage area and two 1/3 GN trays specially designed for perforated ice.

Pujadas stainless steel conical ice buckets complement the trollies and are available in copper, black, gold and hammered silver finish.

Both cocktail trollies are covered by a one-year back-to-base warranty.

List price for the compact cocktail trolley is £2,397.00 and £21.00 for the ice buckets.

• www.fem.co.uk

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ACC Services

Loans

Loans can be arranged from as little as £1,000 to £500,000. We provide loans at competitive simple interest rates, currently 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 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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OUR CLUBS — XX
LITTLE HULTON CONSERVATIVE CLUB

In this month's Pages From The Past we go back to August 1951 for a lovely look at the Little Hulton Conservative Club which featured on the front page that month. Featured further inside the magazine was an in depth look at the Club along with profiles of its Chairman, President and Secretary.

As is sometimes the case, the magazine states that the actual birthday of the Club is unknown although present day records suggest it was formed prior to 1898. The Club is still going strong and has been developed since the article in 1951 but still maintains several of its identifying features of the building (see picture insert).



OUR CLUBS—XX**The Little Hulton Conservative Club**

Manchester Road, Little Hulton, near Bolton, Lancashire



Edward Harper, Esq.
Chairman



James C. Kay, Esq.
President



Henry W. Swift, Esq.
Secretary.

THE exact birthday of the Little Hulton Conservative Club is lost in the mists of antiquity, but it is known that prior to 1870 Club activities were carried on in the premises now used as the County Library, and also at 16 Manchester Road West, where a bagatelle table was installed. Membership grew in those early days, and in 1886 a fund was launched for the purpose of acquiring suitable accommodation. This was found by the purchase of three shops in Manchester Road West, and these were converted to meet the requirements of the Club.

Then followed a demand for the supply of intoxicants and a Bar was added to the Billiard Room, accounting in a large measure for those who subsequently "missed the last bus home". These premises were occupied until 1924, when the present building was built, giving ample accommodation for all normal requirements, and a Bowling Green and Croquet Lawn were added. In its beautiful setting, some eight miles from Manchester, the Club offers a strong attraction to visitors and teams from other Clubs.

All our readers will join with the three hundred members of the Club in offering congratulations and good wishes to the "Father" of the Club, if not of all Clubs, Mr. Robert Eckersley who has been a member for seventy years. At the age of eighty-seven he provides a good example to the many younger generations by visiting the Club every day.

In this predominantly Socialist district, the Club provides a stronghold of Conservative faith and principle, of which its members can be justly proud. Among other activities and help, the Club pays the expenses of candidates at all the local elections. For this fine political record much credit is due to the President, Mr. James C. Kay, who before becoming President was Chairman for eight years after twenty years service on the Committee, and as Trustee.

Mr. Edward Harper is now in his first year of office as Chairman after eighteen years of membership, and two periods of service on the Committee. He also takes an active interest in local politics.

The Club is fortunate in having as its Secretary, Mr. Henry W. Swift, who after serving four years on the Committee, became Secretary six years ago. Apart from taking an active interest in the political side of the Club life, and acting as agent at local elections, Mr. Swift is very keen on all games and no mean opponent at billiards.

We will end by wishing the Club continued prosperity and good fortune, and offering it our congratulations on its great record.



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