

CONSERVATIVE CLUBS MAGAZINE



July 2018 50p



**The Full Report
From**

**The ACC's 124th
Annual General
Meeting**

**ACC Launches
Matthew Clark Deal
and a Third Off Sky**



ACC Launches Matthew Clark Deal and a Third Off Sky

The ACC is pleased to announce the launch of our new Clubs Drinks Purchasing Group. We have partnered with Matthew Clark, the UK's leading wholesale supplier to Pubs and Clubs, and we are confident that it will deliver immediate benefits to Clubs. As a special launch offer, Clubs will receive £1,000 of free stock and an ongoing 30% discount on their Sky Sports Subscription if they agree to join the Clubs Purchasing Group and be supplied directly by Matthew Clark.

For many years Clubs have requested that the ACC to consider if it was viable to create a collective purchasing group in order to benefit from discounted pricing due to large scale purchasing. The creation of such a group has been a priority for the ACC for quite some time although it has been hampered by logistical difficulties relating to the products that individual Clubs wish to purchase. JD Wetherspoons for example, a customer of Matthew Clark, can obtain discounted pricing since they can instantly place in each one of their establishments a line of beer. This, of course, is not a strategy that could be adapted for ACC Clubs who, rightly, wish to maintain their independence and choose their own beer lines to offer.

This deal therefore allows Clubs

to maintain their independence whilst providing the best possible purchasing price for all Clubs. Along with the price advantage of the Clubs Drinks Purchasing Group, Clubs will also benefit from a wider range of beers, ciders, wines, spirits and soft drink products. As Matthew Clark are a national wholesaler they can source product from every brewery in the UK and Clubs can choose exactly which products they want to stock.

As a special launch offer for the ACC Matthew Clark Deal, Clubs which sign up to be supplied primarily by Matthew Clark will receive a credit of £1,000 to their Matthew Clark trading account. Clubs with Sky will also automatically benefit from a 30% discount that will be paid directly by the ACC to each participating Club. This generous offer will also be available to Clubs wishing to sign up to Sky.

Further details are on the opposite page and Clubs will be receiving direct contact from Matthew Clark in the near future, Clubs can also now make direct contact with Matthew Clark to enter the ACC deal. We are confident that this new purchasing group will deliver unparalleled benefits to Clubs in the form of discounted drinks pricing and much greater product freedom for Clubs to benefit from.

Published by The Association of Conservative Clubs, Ltd
24 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9HP
Tel: 020 7222 0843
Sales: 020 7222 0868
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www.toryclubs.co.uk

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Chief Executive:
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Printed by: Snell Print Ltd,
Brympton Way, Yeovil,
Somerset BA20 2HP

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Matthew Clark



ACC Services

Loans

Loans can be arranged from as little as £1,000 to £500,000. We provide loans at competitive simple interest rates, currently 4.75%, and all loans commence with a three year period of fixed interest. Loans are repaid over a term to be agreed on an individual basis with each Club in order to create a manageable and sensible time frame for repayment.

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 70 Clubs have entered into this arrangement with the ACC.

Under what circumstances would a Sale and Leaseback be appropriate? The most successful examples of ACC Sale and Leasebacks are Clubs which have a dedicated Committee and Membership and want to secure their Club's future. By unlocking the Club's freehold, Clubs can be provided the means of repaying debt, often undertaking refurbishments and providing a significant cash sum. The rent payable to the ACC following the completion of a Sale and Leaseback can often be less than a Club was paying for servicing debt.

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.

CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

Motion Picture Licensing Company (MPLC)

It has come to the ACC's attention that Clubs may have received, or are about to receive, correspondence from the MPLC which indicates that they are required to pay for an 'Umbrella Licence'. This is an annual licence from MPLC which allows commercial premises to broadcast copyrighted material such as film DVD's to the public.

Clubs do not need an MPLC

licence to show channels such as rolling news, sports, or music channels. Therefore, for most Clubs the only licence that is required is a Television Licence. In the ACC's experience it is rare that a Conservative Club would need to obtain the aforementioned licence as most Conservative Clubs do screen films or drama series inside the Club.

GDPR Reminder

The ACC has prepared a package of GDPR documentation which is available free of charge to all ACC

Clubs. To obtain this information package please email Charles@toryclubs.co.uk

How to reduce the risk of Gaming Machine theft

The number of thefts from gaming machines appears to be on the rise again in recent months and clubs are advised to be vigilant.

Organised gangs are targeting gaming machines with a view to stealing cash from them.

A method used by the gangs is to have a group of three to six people standing around the machine, appearing to use it in the normal way. They then block the view of the machine from staff whilst the theft is occurring.

Another tactic could be to have one member of the gang distract the bar staff or door staff whilst the theft is performed.

In many cases, it is not apparent that a robbery has occurred until well after the gang has left the premises, as they also conceal all

visible signs of forced entry and take care to act like an ordinary customer.

In May, it was reported that a gang of 4 males had targeted a pub in Ross-on-Wye. One of the gang went over to the machine, inputted notes and took out coins. They then walked away and the remaining three gang members walked over to the machine. An alarm was heard briefly & then all four men left the pub. The slot where you put notes into the machine had been removed and money had been taken from the cash box.

There are a couple of simple but very effective ways to protect gaming machines on your premises from theft:

- Vigilance when there are three or more people appearing to

be playing on a gaming machine. If you are in any doubt about their intentions, ask them to finish playing any games they've already paid for, and then switch the machine off until they have moved on.

- Consider the location of the gaming machine(s). Although the proximity of the machine to the bar will not necessarily deter the thieves, active engagement from staff will. The best way to deter thieves is to make sure they cannot crowd around your machines and obstruct members of staff's view.

- Consider installing CCTV or ensuring your gaming machines are covered by existing cameras. If your premises are not covered by

CCTV, try to ensure the machines are actively monitored. You need to be aware that thieves will try to work out where cameras are, and will attempt to block the view of any recording of their activities.

Local police forces can offer guidance and support on wider crime prevention initiatives.

Many Insurance policies limit the amount of money held in gaming machines to £500 unless you have specifically requested an increase in this cover. Please check your policy schedule and contact your insurance provider if the cover provided requires review.

ACC Recommended Insurance Provider Club Insure have assisted with this article.

Outside Signage

As Club Members and their guests may be using the outside area of the Club more during the summer, it is a good idea to check that any necessary signage is displayed in outside areas which may be used by Members. The Occupiers Liability Act 1957 and 1984 impose an obligation that outside areas have proper signage. The main purpose is providing information to users for the purposes of reporting accidents and damage.

Licensed premises often have signage requirements for external areas; these conditions may also be expressed as conditions on your Premises licence or Club Premises Certificate. Clubs are advised to make sure you:

- Check your premise licence/Club Premises Certificate

conditions, you may have particular signs that you are required to display in your external areas.

- This may include signs informing your customers regarding quietly exciting the premises and respecting the local area.

- Signs informing them that glass containers or drinks are excluded from a certain area.

- You may also wish to inform Members and their guests of the times the external areas can be used, under the terms of your licence, it may make managing these areas easier for you.

- If you have CCTV externally you must let people know that they are in an area where CCTV surveillance is being carried out.

- Signs should be visible and readable by members of the public.

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Asbestos – A Duty to Manage

Club Committees have a general duty to protect any person, staff or member of the public, from exposure to asbestos. It's important that you understand the risks and how to manage them.

What exactly is asbestos?

Asbestos, contrary to popular belief, isn't one single harmful material. The term itself covers a number of fibrous materials that can cause serious health problems.

To be dangerous, the fibres have to a) be disturbed and b) be inhaled. But if these things happen, the results can be fatal. The airborne fibres become lodged in the lungs and digestive system, causing complications and diseases like lung cancer.

Figures show that around 4500 people die each year from breathing in fibrous materials. That makes it the biggest single cause of work-related deaths in the UK.

Where do you find asbestos?

Asbestos could be found anywhere in building built before

the turn of the millennium. Common locations within clubs and bars include:

- Loose fill insulation
- Toilet seat and cistern
- Vinyl floor tiles
- Textiles such as fire blankets
- AIB ceiling tiles.

Asbestos was in many of the common materials used in the building trade before its harmful nature was discovered, so there is a possibility it could be lurking anywhere in your Club.

What is the law surrounding the management of Asbestos?

The control of Asbestos regulations 2012 require whoever is responsible for maintenance of your property to arrange a survey from a qualified company if they believe there may be ACMs (asbestos materials) in the building. If you haven't organised a survey and your building is more than 18 years old, we would advise that you arrange one as soon as you can. Aside from the obvious health risks to you, your staff and

your customers, there are heavy legal penalties for negligence. Below, we've recapped on some recent Court Cases involving asbestos. The first shows the potential outcomes of not having a survey. The second shows the ramifications of not having the proper qualifications to remove asbestos.

• Two family run companies have appeared in court after the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) carried out an unannounced visit on a basement conversion and found that neither firm had undertaken an asbestos survey. The work involved the refurbishment of the basement, a former restaurant unit, as a bar. The HSE arrived unannounced to inspect the work, inspectors discovered that an asbestos survey had not been carried out before the tradesmen had started stripping

out the space. The two companies received fines totalling £34,000. It was also ordered to pay the combined costs for both defendants of £10,232.

• In June 2015, Brian Roberts, a builder, was sentenced to imprisonment for exposing workers to asbestos. Roberts received a 26-week custodial sentence for a breach of regulation 8(1) of the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012, for undertaking work with asbestos without a licence. Roberts was engaged to remove asbestos from a commercial unit on an industrial estate in Colwyn Bay. He removed asbestos insulating board (AIB) from the unit, despite not holding a licence to work with this material.

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/faq.htm> has further information regarding managing Asbestos.

Employee Holiday Allowance – Casual Employee Case Study

All employees are entitled to 5.6 weeks paid holiday per year. This applies to full time, part time or casual employees. Employees who do not work on bank holidays but are paid for bank holidays can have these days deducted against their annual holiday allowance.

It can, however, be difficult to work out the entitlement that an employee who works on a casual basis or simply works irregular hours has accrued. As such it is often easiest to calculate holiday entitlement on the simple basis of how many hours the employee has worked in the holiday year. The holiday entitlement of 5.6 weeks is equivalent to 12.07% of hours worked over the holiday year. This means that per hour of paid employment, an employee will

receive 7.24 minutes of holiday.

Therefore, if an employee has worked for 100 hours, they are entitled to 12.07 hours paid holiday ($12.07/100 \times 100 = 12.07$ hours (12 hours and 4 minutes)). You can simply adapt this formula to reflect how many hours the employee has worked allowing you to calculate how much time they are due off.

When an employee requests holiday you simply calculate how many hours they have worked during the holiday year allowing you to calculate how much paid holiday time they are due.

There is also an online calculator which is very useful and will assist Clubs in working out an employee's holiday allowance - <https://www.gov.uk/calculate-your-holiday-entitlement>

Vacancy for a Part time Club Secretary Cheshunt & Waltham Cross Branch

Minimum 15 hours.

Days, times and salary negotiable.

Knowledge of SAGE payroll and accounts advisable.

Please contact Anne Oliver with CV at info@cwccc.plus.com.

An opportunity has arisen for a General Manager

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Questions and Answers

Q We have been informed by a Member that we are required to offer wine in measurements of 125ml in addition to the 175ml and 250ml measures already offered? Is this the case?

A In October 2010 a new mandatory code for selling alcohol came in to force and as part of this was the requirement that wine must be offered to customers in 125ml measurements.

In practice, this means:

All wine lists must state that 125ml measures are available

This must not be hidden in the small print but made very clear - font size should match that used for larger measures

However, it is not necessary to show prices for 125ml measures and a simple one line explanation such as this will suffice: "We also serve wine in 125ml measures. Please ask at for more details."

If the Club only sells wine in pre-sealed bottles, such as 750ml or 187ml bottles then you will not have to make the wine available in different measures.

However, the condition to sell wine in 125ml servings does not apply if the drinks in question are sold or supplied having been made up in advance ready for sale or supply in a securely closed container. For example, if beer is only available in pre-sealed bottles the condition to make it available in ½ pints does not apply.

Should at any point in the future the Club wishes to make some of wines available by the glass then these would have to be provided in the above measure in addition to the customary measures of 175ml and 250ml. This requirement would only apply to the specific wines sold by the glass, the Club could continue to sell certain wines by the bottle only.

Q One of our members insists that price lists for drinks must be displayed either on or behind the bar. What is the legal position?

A Price lists for food and drink are required on certain premises. The Price Marking (Food and Drink on Premises) Order 1979 states that this requirement does not apply to premises where the supply is ordinarily made to 'members of a bona fide club or their guests.' As such, the requirement for a visible price list does not apply to a registered Private members' club. However, there is no doubt that a price list can help both club employees and club members to avoid arguments over prices being charged.

Q Our local licensing officer has made an appointment with me to discuss the club's activities in respect of functions. The club rents the function room out for members' birthdays, wedding anniversaries etc. and this year we have held around 10 private functions for members. The licensing officer has suggested that we are not dealing with this matter correctly and that according to our rules a member can only bring in a guest twice in one month. I think there is confusion in respect of interpreting our rules, can you please advise me on this matter.

A I am very concerned to learn that the local licensing officer has asked to have a meeting with you and has suggested the club is not operating in good faith in respect of functions. I confirm that your interpretation of your club's members' Guests Rule is completely correct. There is no restriction on the number of guests who may be introduced by a member. The only restriction is on the same member being admitted to the club more than twice in one month and even then the Committee have the authority under the rules to give consent for additional visits to be granted. There is no evidence to suggest that you are not dealing with the subject of members private functions either outside the terms of your club rules or outside the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003.

The subject of non-member activities within Registered Private members' clubs is one which has become increasingly important, since almost all clubs now rely to a greater or lesser extent, on income generated from the sales of drink at private functions promoted by either individual members or outside organisations.

The most interesting change introduced by the 2003 Act is that members' guests introduced on a normal day-to-day basis will be permitted to purchase drinks. Whilst in 'the real world' such a practice has been accepted in many clubs, strictly speaking the previous rules of almost all clubs prevented such sales.

Consequently, drink may be supplied lawfully to a non-member attending any event promoted by a member, provided the non-member is a bona fide guest of the member and has been properly admitted to the club in accordance with the club's rules.

Any member wishing to hold a private function or party in their club will be able to do so and the number of functions is not restricted in number. Naturally, if a person who is not a member approaches a club with a request to hire a room in order to hold a private function, then the club could legitimately ask if the person would like to become a member. Provided such persons met the membership requirements of the club's rules, their election to membership would automatically make the event a members' private function at which his or her guests could be lawfully supplied with drink.

The rules of almost every club put no restriction on the number of guests a member may introduce at any one time but do, rightly, restrict the number of occasions the same guest may be introduced in any one month.

The Act contains no reference to the way in which clubs should manage the introduction of guests and no reference to the number of members' functions or parties which could be held. Such functions would, of course,

have to be booked and the committee would retain ultimate discretion on whether to agree to a booking, or not.

Therefore, do not accept any criticism or suggested rule amendments concerning this matter from either Licensing Authorities or Police Licensing Officers, and refer any such matters to your affiliated organisation. I have seen some examples of ridiculous suggested rule amendments being passed off as 'legal requirements' by Licensing Authority Officials; all these suggestions have been withdrawn on being challenged.

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

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

You may wish to contract Dransfields on 0845 0943063 to discuss if they can assist the Club's needs.



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John Jenkins, Secretary – Aintree Conservative Club



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Annual General Meeting Report

The Chairman's Opening Remarks

ACC Chairman, The Rt Hon Alistair Burt MP, welcomed representatives to the Carlton Club for the 124th Annual General Meeting of the Association of Conservative Clubs. The Chairman was delighted to welcome the President, The Rt. Hon Karen Bradley MP, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

The Chairman gave apologies for the two ACC Vice Chairman, Gareth Johnson MP, and Philip Davies MP, ACC Treasurer who were unable to attend the meeting.

The Chairman reminded the Annual General Meeting that it was an occasion when we remembered those Club members and activists within our movement who had passed away during the previous year. The Meeting stood in memory of those colleagues.



Chairman's Report on the work of the Association during 2017

The Chairman said it was a pleasure to report on the work of the Association of Conservative Clubs following his third year as Chairman and was delighted that the financial report showed that the ACC has strengthened its financial position and was investing in the continuation of Conservative, Constitutional and Unionist Clubs. The Chairman commented that he ACC and its member Clubs worked hard on membership recruitment and membership retention with some 350,000 members in Clubs active in their communities across the UK. Conservative Clubs were a powerful political force and that the best way to encourage a 'conservative minded' person to become more involved was to simply ask them to become more involved. The Chairman said he would like to see more Club Members becoming members of the Party and for more Party Members becoming members of Clubs.

As previously reported, a total of 108 Constituency Associations had their offices in Conservative Clubs, including his own Constituency Office, and the ACC see this a positive way in which to bring these different sides of the Conservative family together. However, none of this could be achieved unless Clubs were in a strong and healthy

position and the ACC was making sure that Clubs were receiving the best advice and support on all matters from Licensing and Gambling, to Employment and Management.

The Chairman said that he believed Clubs were at their best when they were actively involved in local community projects and were seen as being open and engaged with a wide audience. He went on mention the amount of charitable donations made by ACC Clubs each year, when the last 'conservative' estimate totalled £2 million. It was this type of social engagement which made politics both relevant and fun for many people who might not wish to tune into Question Time.

The work carried out by the ACC provided the stability and confidence for Clubs to thrive and he gave just one example of where this has happened. The Devizes & District Conservative Club in Wiltshire had asked Harris Brothers to carry out a modest refurbishment at the start of 2017 and following this, under the leadership of their President, Jerry Willmott, the Club and its members had become more engaged with community activities. From the Club's last AGM to their AGM this year, the Club had recruited 179 new members.

The Chairman placed on record his grateful thanks to all ACC Officers and Council Members for spending so much time organising and attending meetings and Club events. In particular he thanked Jeff Springford, former Chairman of the Eastern Area Conservative Clubs who stood down from the Council after completing many years of dedicated service both to the Eastern Area and the ACC Council. He also mentioned Robert Denton, former Chairman of the East Midlands Area who had sadly passed away last year following only a short time on the ACC Council but who had served as an Officer of the Rothwell &

District Conservative Club for many years.

The Chairman thanked ACC national suppliers and recommended companies; Harris Brothers for their continued sponsorship of Area and Regional events, Dransfields for the excellent service which they provided to their many ACC customers and the ACC's Insurance Providers, 'Club Insure' whose continued professional approach to ACC Clubs was much appreciated. The Chairman concluded by thanking all the ACC staff for their continued loyalty and commitment to the Association of Conservative Clubs.



Rt Hon Alistair Burt MP, Rt Hon Karen Bradley MP, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and John Hudson OBE.

The Chief Executive's Report



ACC Chief Executive Lord Smith of Hindhead CBE.

In introducing the Chief Executive, the Chairman reminded the meeting that Philip was a Whip in the House of Lords and this year had served on the Political Polling and Digital Media Select Committee which delivered its report to Parliament in March and that he had just been appointed to a new Select Committee looking at the Regeneration of Seaside Towns.

He commented that Philip continued to act as Chairman of Best Bar None, a scheme supported by the Home Office and the drinks industry, aimed primarily at promoting responsible alcohol consumption and higher professional licensing standards. Helping to create a safer and more responsible alcohol related leisure environment that encouraged people of all ages to socialise and that last year Philip was the guest speaker at the Institute of Licensing's Annual Conference. These voluntary roles reflected the fact that the Chief Executive was widely recognised as a leading expert in the licensing industry. The Chairman went on to mention that Philip also undertook many roles within the Conservative Party. He

continued to be a Party Treasurer and Chairman of the National Conservative Draws Society. He also served on the Party's Audit and Finance Board, is one of the Party's Pension Trustees and was a Trustee of the Party's Archive held at the Bodleian Library.

The Chief Executive said that one of the main components of his report last year was recognising the fact that ACC clubs operated in an autonomous way when purchasing brewery products and highlighted the differences between a large club association like the ACC and a similar pub group within the commercial world. He said at that time that the ACC would be exploring and considering how to establish some form of single account system where clubs would be able to purchase all of their bar products through one account benefitting massively from cost savings. He recognised that this would not be easy to achieve and appreciated how much clubs jealously guarded their independence but that independence when purchasing on this scale came at a price.

On average, each year Conservative Clubs purchased somewhere in the region of £70 million worth of bar related product; from draft beer, to premium lager, wines, spirits and ciders to soft drinks. Working on the basis that clubs try to achieve a profit margin of 50% - the annual turnover from ACC bars alone was approximately £140 million. This figure did not include income from gaming machines, lotteries, subscriptions, entertainment, food or room hire.

The Chief Executive reported that the ACC had been working with the UK's leading drinks wholesaler, which currently supplied some 23,000 pubs, bars and restaurants including well known groups such

as JD Wetherspoon and Stonegate, as to how a similar process could be applied to our own clubs. The Chief Executive said that he hoped that the ACC's new arrangements could be launched later this year and further details would be publicised to all Clubs at the time of the launch. Clubs had commented that they wanted to obtain better drinks pricing and cheaper access to televised sports and the eventual deal would seek to satisfy both of these requirements.

The Chief Executive commented that 70% of alcohol was now consumed at home; as a nation we were drinking 14% less alcohol than we were 10 years ago and 40% of all alcohol purchased was purchased by only 10% of the adult population. If these three key statistics were taken into account, then it was clear that the potential market place for members had reduced. He went on to say that many ACC Clubs were successful but not all clubs were as successful as they could be and the ACC needed to ensure that every club in every part of the UK, received the same assistance and benefits from a strong collective negotiating position.

The Chief Executive reported that not only were all operators within the leisure industry faced by challenges of a challenging market and changing social attitudes towards alcohol, but the Licensing Act itself increasingly looked like a cheque book in a digital age. The provision of early morning restriction orders or EMROs seemed ridiculous with not one ever having been introduced. He stated that he believed the Late-Night Levy effectively remained a form of additional taxation to some businesses which operated during the evenings and night time but that fortunately, since their creation in 2011, only nine of the

350 Local Authorities in England and Wales had introduced a Late-Night Levy, whilst 13 others had issued consultations but had not subsequently introduced one. He commented that the Licensing Act was the legislative backbone of the Hospitality Industry, which was the third largest private sector employer. Three million jobs were directly supported through Hospitality UK, 9% of all UK employees

Turning to the ACCs financial position, he said that he was pleased that the ACC continued to provide clubs with financial assistance and that during a recent visit to Leeds for a Yorkshire Region meeting, he had spoken with the Secretary of the Middleton Conservative Club, Tony Hunt, who was delighted to report that last year the club returned a surplus of £54,000. Six years previously the club had come very close to closing. The club had an historic debt with HMRC and a crippling brewery loan that could not be sustained. The ACC were able to step in quickly to pay off HMRC and also to remove the loan with a longer repayment plan and a low interest rate, the ACC had provided the club with breathing space to get back on its feet and that is exactly what the club had done. With £6 million currently on loan to clubs, this one example from one club which had received an ACC loan would reflect that there were many other similar positive stories to be heard.

The sale and leaseback arrangement for clubs continued to be a popular option for clubs wishing to release assets ties up in property to either invest in the facilities being offered to members, repay historic debt or to provide significant working capital. With a further £6.5 million being invested in this scheme last year, the Chief Executive said that this was an area which had huge further potential and growth.

In conclusion, the Chief Executive said he believed that the ACC had achieved a great deal in recent years and he hoped his report demonstrated that much could be achieved in the future. He thanked the ACC Council for their support and to ACC Clubs for everything which they did in order to maintain the high standards and reputation of private members' social clubs which played such a vital part to so many communities throughout Great Britain.



Statement Of Accounts For The Year Ended 31st December 2017



Ray Johnson, Western Area Chairman.

In the absence of Philip Davies, the Chairman called upon Mr Ray Johnson, Chairman of the Western Area Conservative Clubs to propose that the Statement of Accounts was received.

Mr Ward had pleasure in reporting that the income and expenditure account for the year ended 31st December 2017 shows a surplus of just over £3.5 million.

This bottom line figure did not include the donation of £48,600 to the Conservative Party, which was made up of direct sponsorship of Party activities.

In addition to these figures, the amount of loans to ACC Member Clubs from Development Fund 'A' and from the ACC accounts during 2017 stood at just under £6 million.

ACC Club Development Fund 'A' showed a surplus for the year of just under £9,000. The 'B' Fund returned a healthy surplus following a donation from the 'A' Fund. Mr Johnson reminded the

meeting that this fund was used to cover legal expenses involved with Trusteeships and was therefore non-profit making.

Income from the sale of IA Tickets decreased, following a continual trend of falling sales, by some £3,000 from the previous year. This decline had been expected and a prediction of the estimated decrease was anticipated by the ACC Council.

Commission income showed a significantly lower receipt of just under £60,000 compared with 2016 but that a late payment received in 2015 had produced an unusually higher receipt.

The accounts also show a deficit on the magazine of some £5,500 due to reduced income from advertising and increase production costs. The Magazine remained however an important communication link between Clubs and the ACC and was a widely read publication.

The Accounts showed rental income from the sale and leaseback of Club properties at just in excess of £1 million, a significant increase on the previous year. Mr Johnson reported that the ACC had invested a further £6.6 million in property purchases during the year. Surpluses for Clubs were recorded at just under £2.5million.

The ACC's Deposit Scheme stood at just under £8.5 million and interest payable to Clubs stood at £283,000. Total expenditure showed an increase of under £80,000 from the comparison with 2016 and was expected and within budget.

The year end result is that the total net assets of the Association of Conservative Clubs show an increase of £4,504,000 to £21,311,000, an increase of approximately 20%.

Mr Johnson thanked the ACC Accounts Manager, Lesley Dipopolo and the ACC's Accountant and Auditor Katy Dee, of Begbies Chartered Accountants and concluded by saying that it gave him great pleasure to propose that the Accounts as set out be received by the Annual General Meeting. The proposal to receive the Accounts was seconded and carried unanimously.

Presidential Address

The Chairman introduced The Rt. Hon Karen Bradley MP, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and spoke of her professional business background as a senior tax expert prior to being elected in 2010.

In a wide ranging address, the President spoke of her own Club in Biddulph and the many happy occasions which she had enjoyed there. She also touched upon the important social side of political engagement and that ACC Clubs played an important role as one of the cornerstones of the Party's

family.

She spoke of her experience at the DCMS and more recently of her position a Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and of the important role of the Union. Touching on the ongoing Brexit negotiations she said that everything was being done to ensure the best outcome for the UK.

The President concluded her address by again thanking the Association of Conservative Clubs for its continued loyalty and support.



Rt Hon Karen Bradley MP, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and Michael Robinson, Chairman West Midlands Area.

The Resolution to the Prime Minister – Rt Hon Theresa May

“That this Annual General Meeting of The Association of Conservative Clubs congratulates the Prime Minister and Leader of the Conservative Party, for her strength of character and honesty in addressing the difficult choices facing the country over the next decade”.

In calling upon Cllr John Hudson OBE, Chairman North West Area Conservative Clubs the Chairman mentioned that Cllr Hudson had

been to the Palace the previous day for his investiture and that he spoke on behalf of everyone by saying how proud everyone was that his work in politics, local government and charity had been recognised with this honour.

In an inspiring address, Cllr Hudson set out the many reasons for both supporting the Prime Minister and for voting Conservative and giving every assistance to the Party.

The Resolution was seconded and carried by acclamation.



Vote Of Thanks to the Hon President and Chairman

A vote of thanks to the ACC Officers was proposed by Mr Michael Robinson, Chairman of the West Midlands Area

Conservative Clubs and Secretary of the Biddulph Conservative & Unionist Club and was carried by acclamation.



Michael Robinson, Chairman West Midlands Area.

ACC COUNCIL 2018/19

Hon. President:	To be announced
Chairman:	The Rt Hon Alistair Burt MP
Vice-Chairmen:	Gareth Johnson, MP To be announced
Treasurer:	Philip Davies MP
Additional Member:	Noel Manns
London:	Alan Boniface
Northern:	Bill Newall
North Western:	Cllr John Hudson OBE Geoffrey Knowles OBE Jeff Simpson, JP Charles White
South Eastern:	Chris Smith
Yorkshire:	Eddie Ward
East Midlands:	To be announced
West Midlands:	Mike Robinson
Eastern:	Derek Rain
Wessex:	Jim Gauld
Western:	Ray Johnson Brian Tottle
Wales:	David Thomas

Clubs Development Fund Committee

The Rt Hon Alistair Burt M.P.	Mr. E. Ward
Philip Davies M.P.	Mr. W. Newall
Cllr. J. Hudson OBE	Lord Smith of Hindhead CBE
	Mr R. Johnson

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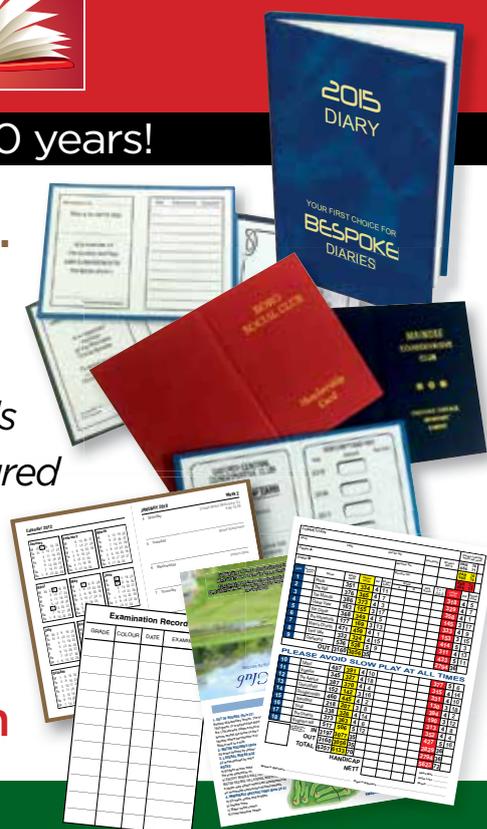
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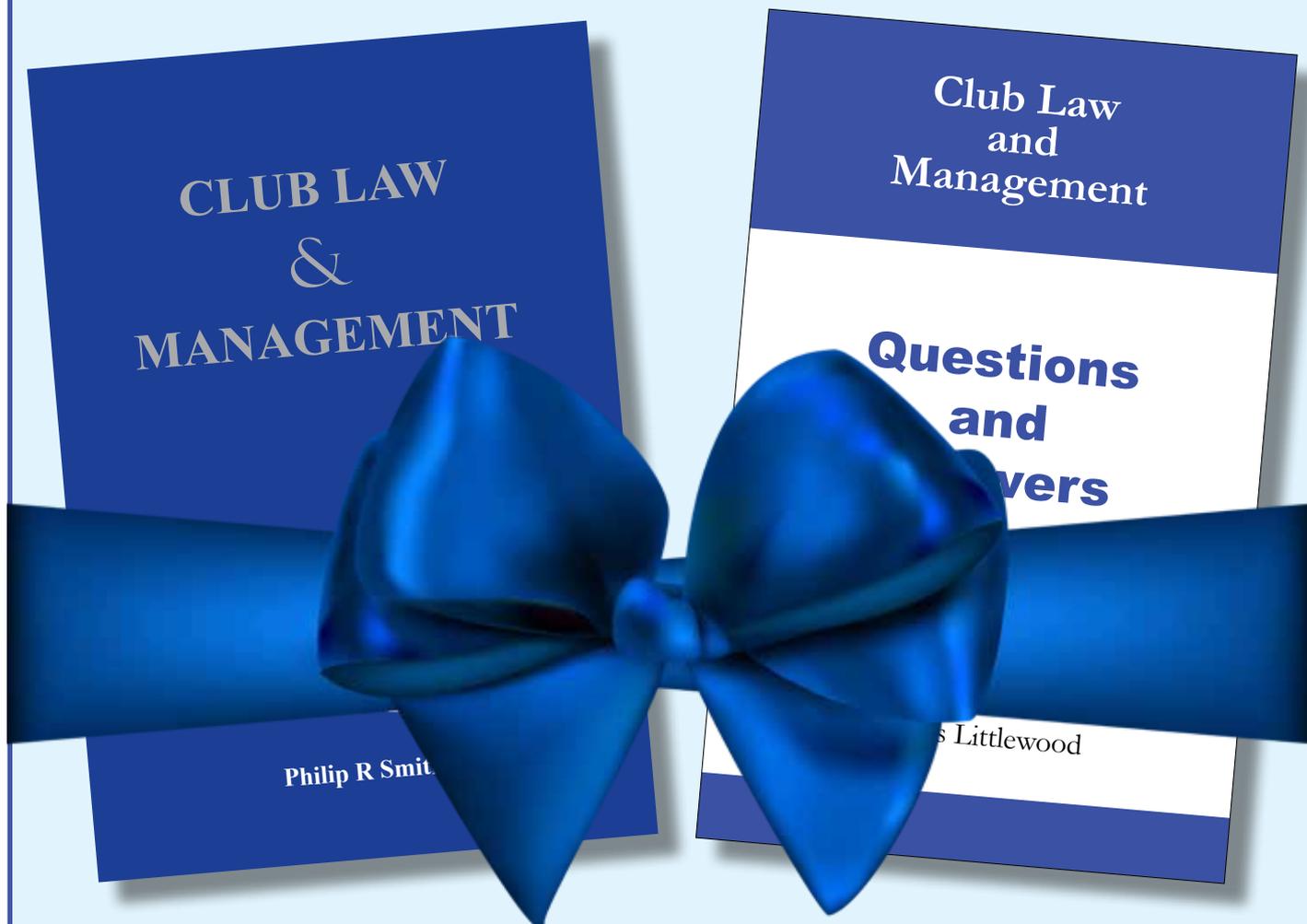
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CATERING WAGES ACT, 1943

During the month of May all Clubs should have received from the Office of Wages Boards and Councils a **Notice L.N.R. (38)** in respect of Stewards, Stewardesses, and the wives of Stewards.

The Notice proposes the revocation of the Orders L.N.R. (26) and L.N.R. (36). It embodies the regulations previously contained in these Orders, and at the same time proposes certain amendments.

Briefly, these are:

1. That the minimum wage payable to a Steward or Stewardess working not less than 34 hours a week be increased by 11s. 6d. a week where accommodation, including the supply of light and heat, is provided; or by 12s. 6d. a week where it is not provided.

2. That the minimum remuneration of a Steward or Stewardess working less than 34 hours a week be increased by 3d. an hour where accommodation is not provided. Where accommodation is provided the proposed increase is 1½d. an hour for each of the first 22 hours worked in any week, and 3d. an hour for each hour worked thereafter in that week.

3. That the minimum remuneration of the wife of a Steward assisting in the work of the Club for not less than 34 hours a week be increased by 10s. 0d. a week. Where a Steward's wife works less than 34 hours a week and is paid on an hourly

basis the proposed increase is 2½d. an hour.

4. That the remuneration of the wife of a Club Steward who is required to perform her husband's duties during his absence on annual holiday be increased by 1s. 8d. a day if she ordinarily works for not less than 34 hours a week; or by 2½d. an hour if she ordinarily works less than 34 hours a week.

5. That the recognised value of full board supplied to a Steward and his wife be increased by 3s. 0d. a week. It is proposed that the value of full board supplied to a Steward or Stewardess be increased by 2s. 6d. a week.

It should be noted that these changes are **PROPOSALS ONLY** and no action is necessary at present. If approved by the Minister a subsequent Order will be issued in due course, bringing the proposed changes into effect from a date to be specified.

Any Club which did not receive this Notice should make application direct to:

The Office of Wages Boards and Councils,
Ebury Bridge House,
Ebury Bridge Road,
London, S.W.1



Some of the members and guests who attended the Annual Supper and Concert of the Biddulph Union Club. Seen here at the top table, left to right: Messrs. E. Whittaker, Secretary of Congleton Constitutional Club; N. Wright, F. Bailey, Lt.-Colonel W. H. Lee, Mr. J. Cottrell, Chairman of Biddulph; Mr. R. G. Heath, President; Lt.-Colonel P. F. Pitt; Mr. J. Higgs, Vice-Chairman; Mr. I. Campbell-Robertson, Agent; Mr. W. Kendal and Mr. Whitehouse. See Club Mixture.

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