

CONSERVATIVE CLUBS MAGAZINE



February 2019 50p



Heatherfield Celebrates Bar Refurbishment

West Bridgford Raises £400 for Trent District First Responders

Club Law and Management – Preparing For An AGM

Making Tax Digital Update

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Kearlsey and Ringley Conservative Club Raise Funds for Macmillan Cancer Support

The Kearlsey and Ringley Conservative Club have raised over £3,500 for Macmillan Cancer Support. Every year the Club chooses a charity to support and throughout the year events are held to support the chosen charity.

The events started last year with the Club's Easter Sunday parade which grows in popularity every year, with even more prizes and events this year than ever before. Throughout the year the Club also held Bingo events, BBQs and raffles to raise further funds

culminating in the Club's annual August Bank Holiday Family Fun Day which contained raffles, tombola stalls, homemade cake and pastries and a fancy dress competition with a Star Wars theme.

With all the events now totted up, the Club raised an amazing £3,536.40 for Macmillan Cancer Support. The Committee would like to thank all the Club's Members along with support from local businesses who assisted with the prizes.



The Club's Star Ward Fancy Dress Competition.

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Exmouth Member Shaves Head To Raise Funds for South West Hospiscare

Lynda Barrett, Member of the Exmouth Conservative Club, decided to raise funds for the South West Hospiscare in memory of her late husband. Her husband, Keith

Barrett, had been supported by the South West Hospiscare team in his final days and she and Keith had agreed before he died that she would shave her head to raise

money for the fantastic team that supported them both.

Keith sadly died at home, in March, just five months after a diagnosis of mouth cancer, and Lynda says the charity provided a vital lifeline for both of them throughout the difficult time. "The staff that looked after my husband were absolutely brilliant," Lynda said, "so I thought, why not raise some money for them? They were very informative; they tell you everything they are doing and what they are going to do and they offered medical and emotional support for both of us."

Lynda elected to shave her head at the Club of which both herself and Keith were Members and regularly attended the Club. She managed to raise a total of £367 for the Hospiscare. Lynda said: "I knew in the back of my mind if I did it at the Club that they would pay to see me do it. They all said it suited me!" Lynda hopes her fundraiser will not only help the charity continue supporting people with life-limiting illnesses and their families, and also make more people aware of the existence of Hospiscare South West.



Lucy Hancock, of Exmouth & Lymptone Hospiscare Centre, said: "Our sincere thanks go to Lynda for doing such a brave and wonderful thing for our charity in memory of her husband Keith. The money that Lynda and her supporters have raised will be used towards our Hospiscare@Home service. This provides hands-on nursing care in patients own homes when required, any time, day or night, supporting adult patients with life-limiting illnesses who wish to remain at home at the end of their lives."



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Documentation Available Free Of Charge

ACC Room Hire Agreement - The room hire agreement is designed to be completed at the time a booking and includes space for a deposit to be taken to secure the room is applicable.

ACC Catering Franchise Pack - The ACC Catering Franchise pack can be used by Clubs which have a franchisee who uses the Club's facilities to prepare and serve food within the Club. The Franchisee Contract permits the Committee to decide if the franchisee shall pay a set fee per month to the Club for use of the Club's facilities, shall pay to the Club a percentage of the profits from the sale of food or that a combination of both methods of remuneration shall be utilised.

Health and Safety and Risk Assessment Documentation - The ACC has extensive documentation to assist a Club in creating a Health and Safety policy and conducting regular risk assessments. This documentation is available free of charge. Examples include template health and safety documentation, risk assessment forms and practical advice on completing a Club risk assessment and first aid information.

Candidates for Admission Sheets - The admission sheets can be posted on the Club's Notice Board to detail prospective new Members and have spaces for: Date, Candidate Name, Address, Occupation, Proposer, Seconder.

Sale and Leaseback

Since launching the ACC Sale and Leaseback service, over 70 Clubs have entered into this arrangement with the ACC.

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

Trusteeship

The ACC Trusteeship Service is a free facility offered by the ACC. The transfer of Trusteeship to the ACC has increasingly become popular amongst unincorporated clubs and there are two main benefits for the Club. The first is that the ACC will pay for all legal expenses involved with the transfer of Trusteeship. The second is that the Association's financial and legal resources are such that the Club's position will be greatly strengthened when negotiating loans or defending itself against legal action taken by a third party.

The ACC do not become involved with the day to day business of any Club for which we act as Trustee. The Club will continue to be able to call upon the ACC for advice on any matter without needing to make reference to our Trusteeship. We will only act on behalf of the Club in accordance with the lawful instructions of the Committee and Members. The Club Committee will therefore continue to run the Club's affairs and will only refer matters to the ACC as and when they consider it appropriate to do so.

To obtain any of the documentation packages please email charles@toryclubs.co.uk 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.

ACC Contracts of Employment

The ACC are pleased to supply a range of Employment Contracts. These contracts are designed specifically to comply with the needs of ACC Clubs and are produced to a high quality with a glossy finish. All Contracts were fully revised and updated in 2015, with minor revisions made in 2016, and are compliant with all current UK legislation. We recommend that all Clubs use our current contracts of employment for their employees.

All Contract Packs now include a high quality and durable employee disciplinary and grievance policy handbook which should assist both Clubs and employees when these issues arise. Contracts for use with employees who live on the Club's premises now come with a specifically drafted Service Occupancy Agreement for the employees, and their partners if applicable, to sign in relation to their accommodation.

Our newest introduction to our contracts range is a contract of employment for use by Clubs which employ Bar Managers. We know that many Clubs employ Bar Managers as opposed to Club Stewards and we are pleased to now supply a specific contract pack for Bar Managers.

The contracts which are offered by the ACC are as follows:



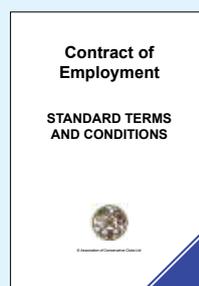
Club Secretary/Administrator Contract
Appropriate for Clubs which employ, rather than elect, a Club Secretary. Each contract pack costs £20 and includes:
2 x Club Secretary Contract
2 x Club Employee Disciplinary and Grievance Policy Handbook.



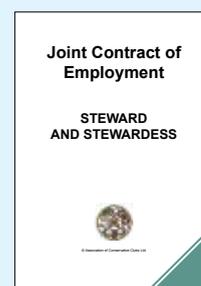
Steward Contract
Appropriate for a Club employing a Steward with or without accommodation included. Each contract pack costs £25 and includes:
2 x Club Steward Contract
2 x Service Occupancy Agreement
2 x Club Employee Disciplinary and Grievance Policy Handbook.



Bar Manager Contract
Appropriate for a Club employing a Bar Manager without accommodation. Each contract pack costs £20 and includes:
2 x Bar Manager Contract
2 x Club Employee Disciplinary and Grievance Policy Handbook.



Standard Terms and Conditions of Employment
Appropriate for a wide range of Club Employees (bar employees, cleaners, general part time employees etc.). Each contract pack costs £15 and includes:
2 x Standard Terms and Conditions of Employment Contract
2 x Club Employee Disciplinary and Grievance Policy Handbook.



Steward and Stewardess Joint Contract
Appropriate for a Club employing a Steward and Stewardess on a joint contract of employment with or without accommodation included. Each contract pack costs £25 and includes:
2 x Club Steward and Stewardess Contract
2 x Service Occupancy Agreement
2 x Club Employee Disciplinary and Grievance Policy Handbook.

Please contact the ACC with any questions regarding the new contracts of employment.

To order any of the above contract packs please place an order online at www.toryclubs.co.uk, email charles@toryclubs.co.uk or phone 0207 222 0868.

CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

Making Tax Digital Preparing for an Annual General Meeting

Many Club officials will not be aware that from April 2019 new HMRC regulations will come into force as part of the process known as *Making Tax Digital*. These regulations will affect all VAT registered businesses including Clubs, regardless of their legal status as either a registered mutual or a non-statutory Club. Some Clubs with smaller turnover have until 1st October 2019 to become compliant with the new legislation. VAT registered businesses will therefore be the first businesses that have to comply with MTD for VAT. If your sales are over the £85k turnover threshold you will **have to be** using functional compatible software from the start of your first VAT return period beginning on or after 1 April 2019. If you are below that threshold, then the date which you must comply to MTD we understand will be 1st October 2019, but HMRC are advising to start MTD as early as possible so that when the start date for you is formally announced, you are ready to start.

HMRC is beginning the introduction of the system of *Making Tax Digital* in April with changes required to your quarterly VAT submission. Basically the requirement is that all your Club's book-keeping records will be required to be maintained in a digital format. The VAT return must be created digitally using the underlying digital VAT records, and then must be provided digitally to HMRC. The process must be digitally transferred at all steps.

Your Club can still maintain its internal book-keeping records on spread sheets or any form of software able to produce the VAT figures, as long as they purchase/obtain suitable Bridging Software enabling them to transfer the data digitally to a format suitable to transfer direct to HMRC.

From the first quarter of the new tax year, VAT records will have to be filed online via an approved HMRC portal. In order to remain compliant with *Making Tax Digital* demands, Club committees must ensure the book-keeping process within the Club meets HMRC's requirements.

Clients of ACC Recommended Suppliers YDP Limited using the complete book-keeping service for social Clubs can be assured that they will be MTD compliant. YDP will file clients VAT Returns on their HMRC portal as their Agents.

For Clubs utilising the YDP book-keeping software a similar service will be available as part of the annual hotline and advice service.

Club committees wishing to upgrade their book-keeping systems to meet these new demands from HMRC are encouraged to contact YDP on **01933 358080** to enquire how specialist book-keeping software (designed for Clubs and cash based businesses) can ensure compliance. This is available to purchase @ £299 + vat with an additional £199 p.a. (+ Vat) for Annual Support (including digital VAT returns submission).

An AGM is held to transact certain business: the report on the ballot for officers and committee (unless they are elected at the AGM itself); the report on the accounts; the adoption of the accounts, as audited; and other reports as required by a club's own rules.

Firstly it is essential for the AGM to be properly summoned. This usually involves a notice being placed on the club notice board announcing the date and time of the meeting and requesting motions to be submitted to the Secretary by a certain date.

The rules of most clubs provide that a notice of the AGM shall be exhibited at least twenty-one days before the date of the meeting; and the notice of any motion must be submitted within ten days following the posting of the notice. Rules can also say that the agenda must be posted for a specified number of days before the date of the meeting.

Before the meeting it is essential for whoever is taking the Chair-Club President or Chairman depending on the club's rules-to undertake a careful study of the agenda. This will mean he can conduct the business effectively and also spot any difficult matters that might arise. Preparation is crucial to the success of the meeting.

When the meeting starts, the Chairman should satisfy himself that the requisite quorum is present. Most club rules require a quorum. This is to prevent a small, poorly attended meeting making decisions which affect the whole club.

The meeting must proceed with each item of business taken in the order in which it appears on the agenda. A normal agenda begins with confirmation of the minutes of the previous AGM, any business arising from them, then the Treasurer's report on the accounts, the election of officers, and so on.

The presiding officer, mindful of the need for a well-ordered, good tempered and constructive meeting, must see that the agenda is followed strictly. Speakers should stand when called by the chairman and, to preserve order, only one person should be on their

feet at the same time. When the Chairman rises any other speaker should sit down and this should be insisted upon. Unless this is done, a meeting can degenerate into disarray and chaos.

A proposal for discussion is a 'motion' and when it is accepted it becomes a 'resolution'. Before discussion begins, a motion must be proposed and seconded. A motion that is proposed, but finds no seconder, lapses and the meeting proceeds to next business. When a motion is proposed and seconded it is open for discussion. No speaker should be allowed to address the meeting more than once on each motion, except for the proposer, who may reply to the debate. A motion may be ultra vires-that is, outside the scope of the meeting-and should immediately be ruled out of order by the chairman.

An amendment is a proposal to alter the wording of a motion and may be moved at any time during the discussion of the original motion. Special care must be taken over this if the meeting is not to be allowed to become confused. The proposal requires a proposer and seconder before it can be considered by the meeting. The chairman should present an amendment to the meeting, once it has been properly proposed and seconded, in terms such as: 'To the motion before the meeting the following amendment has been duly proposed and seconded, that...' The wording of the amendment then follows and the immediate discussion must be confined to the subject of the amendment. Some bodies permit amendments to be moved to amendments but it is NOT recommended for clubs. If it is allowed it can prolong discussion and make for a complicated passage of business. In practice the proposer of the main amendment may incorporate in it what he considers best in suggestions for further amendments, if he accepts they will improve his proposal. No amendment may be a direct negative to the main motion for this would merely duplicate the need to vote on a particular proposition. An amendment must be disposed

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◀ From page 5

of before the meeting can proceed to a further amendment. If an amendment is accepted it becomes part of the original motion; it is then called the substantive motion. Further amendments may be considered in turn until all have been dealt with. Then, discussions may continue on the substantive motion until it is put to the vote. Before the vote on each amendment the chairman should repeat its wording so that there is a clear understanding of the matter on which a vote is being taken.

Similarly the substantive motion should be read out again before the vote. When those 'for' and 'against' in each vote have been counted, the chairman should announce the result. If a large number of people are voting, the President should appoint two 'tellers' to count the votes. The tellers should both count the 'yes' and 'no' votes. If there is any disagreement the vote MUST be taken again. When an issue is controversial a close vote may be disputed so it is useful to be

prepared for a written vote.

One further possible motion is 'That this meeting do now adjourn.' This takes precedence over all other business and may be moved at any time during a meeting. The Chairman should not accept such a motion if he thinks it is being moved with the intention of disrupting the meeting. The decision is made on the vote of the meeting, on a motion proposed and seconded, and without lengthy discussion. Amendments are possible but only to set, limit or extend the period of the adjournment.

The correct conduct of a meeting is not an easy skill to master, but many difficulties can be avoided if the presiding officer follows the procedures set out here. However, even this will not guarantee that meetings are without problems. Some issues will so divide the membership that heated, and sometimes irresolvable, exchanges are inevitable. Nevertheless, a basic knowledge of tried, and accepted, procedures will help ensure that most meetings are managed efficiently.

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Premier League February Dates All kick-off times below are GMT.

Saturday 2 February 2019

12:30 Spurs v Newcastle United (Sky Sports)
17:30 Cardiff City v AFC Bournemouth (BT Sport)

Sunday 3 February 2019

14:05 Leicester City v Man Utd (Sky Sports)
16:30 Man City v Arsenal (Sky Sports)

Monday 4 February 2019

20:00 West Ham v Liverpool (Sky Sports)

**Should either club be in an FA Cup fourth-round replay, this will revert to Sunday, 3 February, midday, live on Sky Sports.*

Saturday 9 February 2019

12:30 Fulham v Man Utd (Sky Sports)
17:30 Brighton v Burnley (BT Sport)

Sunday 10 February 2019

13:30 Spurs v Leicester City (Sky Sports)
16:00 Man City v Chelsea (Sky Sports)

Monday 11 February 2019

20:00 Wolves v Newcastle United (Sky Sports)

Friday 22 February 2019

19:45 Cardiff City v Watford

**Due to Wales v England Six Nations rugby on 23 February.*

19:45 West Ham v Fulham (Sky Sports)

Saturday 23 February 2019

12:30 Burnley v Spurs (Sky Sports)
17:30 Everton v Man City (BT Sport)

**Both these matches are subject to postponement due to possible EFL Cup final participation.*

Sunday 24 February 2019

12:00 Chelsea v Brighton (Sky Sports)

**This match is subject to postponement due to EFL Cup final participation*

14:05 Arsenal v Southampton

**Due to Arsenal's participation in UEFA Europa League; this match is subject to postponement due to possible EFL Cup final participation.*

14:05 Man Utd v Liverpool (Sky Sports)

Tuesday 26 February 2019

19:45 Leicester City v Brighton

**This match could move to 27 February (19:45) should Leicester reach the EFL Cup final or should Chelsea v Brighton not be postponed due to possible EFL Cup Final participation.*

20:00 Man City v West Ham (BT Sport)

**This match could move to 27 February (20:00) should Man City reach the EFL Cup final*

Wednesday 27 February 2019

19:45 Arsenal v AFC Bournemouth

**Due to Arsenal v Southampton moving to 24 February.*

20:00 Chelsea v Spurs (BT Sport)

20:00 Crystal Palace v Man Utd

**Due to Man Utd v Liverpool moving to 24 February.*

Saturday 2 March 2019

17:30 West Ham v Newcastle

Sunday 3 March 2019

12:00 Watford v Leicester

14:05 Fulham v Chelsea

16:15 Everton v Liverpool

Saturday 9 March 2019

12:30 Crystal Palace vs Brighton

Sunday 10 March 2019

14:05 Chelsea v Wolves

16:30 Arsenal v Man Utd

Saturday 16 March 2019

12:30 Man Utd v Man City

**Subject to FA Cup Participation*

Sunday 17 March 2019

12:00 Tottenham v Crystal Palace

**Subject to FA Cup Participation*

14:15 Fulham v Liverpool

16:30 Everton vs Chelsea

**Subject to FA Cup Participation*

Saturday 30 March 2019

12:30 Fulham v Man City

Sunday 31 March 2019

14:05 Cardiff v Chelsea

16:30 Liverpool v Tottenham

Monday April 1

20:00 Arsenal v Newcastle

Questions and Answers

Q Could you let us know if we can charge a room hire fee for the Club? Since Members need to be able to access the Club we cannot guarantee the hirer exclusive use of the Club. If we can charge, could we also charge this fee to Members if they wish to hire part or all of the Club? Finally would a room hire charge attract VAT?

A The Committee are able to close part or all of the Club in order for a private and exclusive event to be held. This means that the Committee decides that a private event is going to be held inside the Club then the Club's Members will not be able to have access to the Club, or the specific Club space the event is using, for the duration of the event. Club Members do not have an automatic right of entry to the Club at all times and most Club will hold private events from time to time and Members cannot use the areas of the Club that the private events are using whilst they are ongoing. Many Clubs rely on the revenue from hiring out the entire Club or areas of the Club and whilst these events are ongoing Members will not be able to have access to the relevant areas which are being used.

Therefore, you can charge a room hire fee. Clearly if you decide to offer exclusive use of the whole Club or an area of the Club you will be able to charge a much room hire fee than if you cannot guarantee the hirer exclusive use of the Club. But in either scenario it is lawful to charge the person holding the event a room hire fee. Club Members can also be charged a fee to hire the Club for a private event although this would only really make sense if you were granting the Club Member exclusive use of the Club or area of the Club.

A standard room hire fee would attract VAT because you are supplying a service to the person hiring the room. If you were simply hiring a room to a person without supplying any bar or catering facilities then this supply may be exempt.

As a summery, most Clubs do allow for either part or the entire of the Club to be rented out for private events and will often charge a room hire fee to the person organising the

event. Members do not have an automatic right to use the Club at any time. For many Clubs revenue from private hire of the Club is very important in keeping the Club going.

Q Our Committee has decided to join the local Pubwatch scheme. It turns out that one of our Members has been banned by the area's Pubwatch. Should we therefore simply write to the Member and advise him that he can no longer use the Club for the duration of his Pubwatch ban or simply refuse to accept his renewal of membership fee for 2019?

A Whilst we support the general Pubwatch principle, we do find it difficult to recommend to our Clubs to be full Members due to the questions you have raised. Put simply, you cannot simply enact Pubwatch rulings without first going through the Club's own disciplinary procedure.

The problem is Clubs are not like Pubs. Clubs are Member organisations where people pay a fee and receive Membership rights. This creates a legal contract between the Club and the Member which a Pubwatch ruling cannot surpass.

The Club has to follow its own Rules and Regulations when suspending or expelling a Member from the Club and it is not always certain that an event which leads to a Pubwatch ban is also capable of being sufficient to suspend or expel a Member from the Club.

In any event, you always need to follow the Club's formal disciplinary procedure before suspending or expelling a Member. A Pubwatch ruling is not sufficient to rescind a person's Membership, nor can a Club Committee simply refuse to allow a Member they do not like to renew their Membership. You can see how the latter would easily be open to abuse by Club Committees.

Therefore, if you want to suspend or expel this person you will have to follow the Club's normal disciplinary procedure.

Q Could you let us know any developments on the Linneweber 2 case or any VAT news?

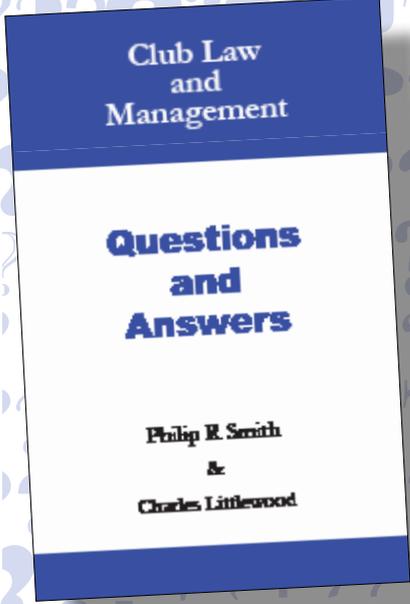
A We reached out to Ian Spencer & Associates, experts in the tax field, and they provided this answer:

There is not much happening VAT wise other than HMCTS trying to sort out lead cases for the Linneweber 2 issue – sadly this will run and run. We saw a spreadsheet with all claimants on and the total claims are in excess of £1.3 billion, it seems likely that the lead appellants will be Ladbrokes and William Hill who both have claims in excess of £100M.

The only other issues that remain in question are exemptions for live entertainment and sports facilities – if any Clubs declare VAT on income derived directly from these sources then they can ask for it back – but must undertake the usual partial exemption considerations. If Clubs

provide these facilities at no cost for their own members they might seek approval from HMRC of apportioning their subscriptions to reflect the provision of these exempt activities/facilities (for example, some ACC Member Clubs have agreements from HMRC that up to 1/3rd of the membership subscription reflects the provision of sports facilities and therefore they claim the relevant amount back from the vat declared on subscription income).

The only other thing to note is that in the event that assuming the UK leaves the EU there is the potential that VAT legislation/rates could change – but even if Brexit does happen in March we cannot see anything changing quickly – and possibly not even at all for Clubs."



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Club Law and Management

Questions and Answers

Philip E. Smith & Charles Littlewood

A follow up to the popular Club Law and Management hardback comes a book dedicated to frequently asked Questions and Answers

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*Matthew Clark must be the Club's main supplier and have a significant proportion of supply

the experience matters

Matthew Clark

Dunscair Conservative Club moved their supply over to Matthew Clark this month.

David passed over all of his prices to Vicky from Matthew Clark who completed a full pricing review and David was able to make some considerable savings by switching. He is also now saving around £250 a month on his Sky bill which was really easy to set up after calling the ACC helpline.

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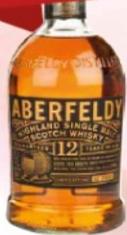


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Abingdon Conservative Club Celebrates Member's 100th Birthday

Bill Slade, Member of Abingdon and District Conservative Club, celebrated his 100th birthday at his Club surrounded by friends. Bill has lived in Abingdon almost his entire life and during the Second World War he was part of the Merchant Navy which was drafted to the Royal Navy at the outset of the war. During the conflict he took part in the notoriously perilous Arctic Convoys, which saw ships and their crews complete freezing journeys to Russian ports to keep the Soviet Union supplied during the German occupation of Norway. Mr Slade was presented with an Arctic Star medal in 2016 to recognise his role.

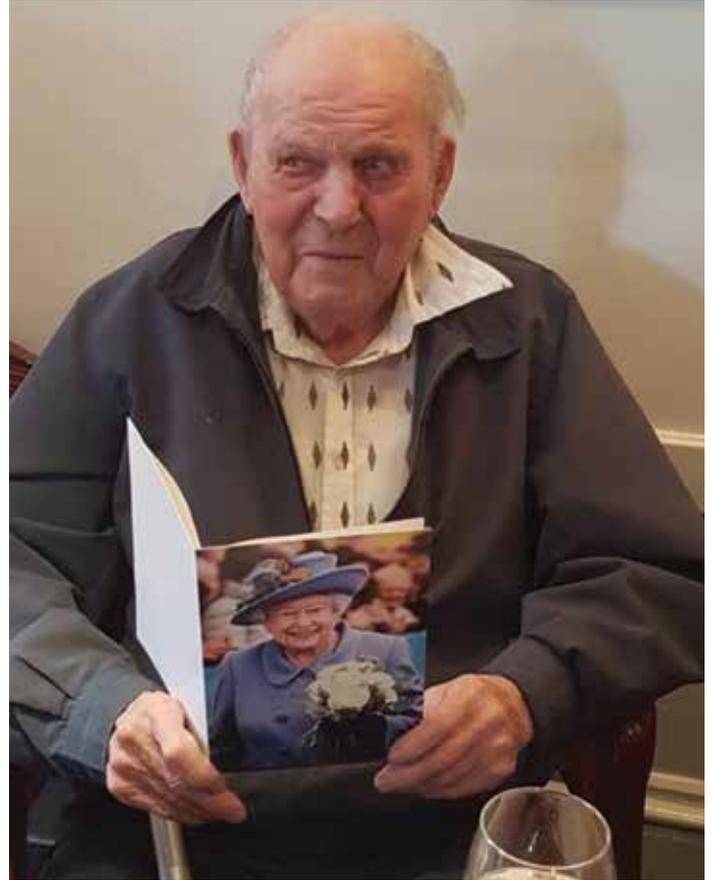
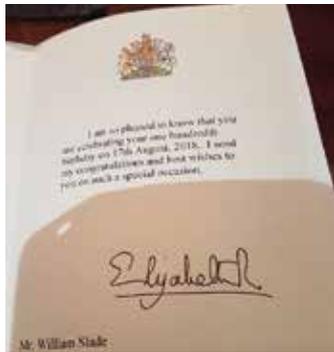
After leaving the Royal Navy, he was a plumber on various estates in Abingdon throughout the 1950s and 1960s, eventually going to work for the NHS at the Churchill Hospital. By the time he retired he was a quantity surveyor for all the hospitals at the Oxford site.

In his spare time, Mr Slade, who did not have any children, was a regular at The Fitzharry's Arms, where he went most nights to enjoy a pint of Oxford-made Morrells light ale, and the odd Rum, as well as playing crib for which he won various trophies.

John Billinton, who organised the birthday celebration, said: "Bill was delighted to have so many people there. His friends at the Conservative Club have always been his family."

Sadly since we received this story, the Club has contacted the ACC to inform us that Bill passed away on the 28th November 2018. The ACC passes our condolences to all of Bill's friends and family. Kerry Bell, Club Chairman, said that Bill was a daily visitor to the Club and that his presence will be missed by a great many people.

Oxford Mail





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Preston Celebrates 90 Years

The Preston Conservative Club, Torbay, has celebrated its 90th anniversary with a celebratory weekend put on for its Members.

The festivities started on the Friday evening with a comedian hired to perform at the Club. During Saturday afternoon the Club put on a tea dance where the Members enjoyed dancing in the Club's ballroom. The Club's local MP, Kevin Foster, also visited the Club and cut the Club's birthday cake. Not happy with just having Kevin cut the cake, the Club soon put him to work servicing cakes and drinks behind the Club's bar!

On Saturday evening the Club had hired a four piece band to perform and during the evening the history of the Club was recounted by past President Brian Tottle. The Club was formed in 1927 and the first day's trading produced takings of 30 shillings with the cost of membership being 7 shillings and sixpence. Brian likened this to the cost of a marriage certificate making it a difficult choice for a man at the time to make.

The original building was very small, but through the decades the Club prospered and expanded until it reached its present size. Brian described some of the Club's many ups and downs but was pleased to report that the Club is doing well and its future



The Club's Committee.

is looking very prosperous. Brian said this is due to first class management and the Club's excellent bar staff. The Club is now moving forward, onward and upward, and is working towards the next ninety years.

The festivities wound up on the Sunday afternoon where the Club put on a ukulele band along with a free lunch and drinks for all the Club's Members to enjoy. Throughout the weekend the Club had in place a Temporary Event Notice and prospective members were invited to join

in the events and many new membership applications were received.

The ACC congratulates the Club on its 90th anniversary and wishes the Club all the best for the next 90 years.



The Club's Birthday Cake.



Kevin Foster MP and Wendy Holmes serving the cake.

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Ken Clarke presents cheque for over £4000 raised by the West Bridgford Conservative Club to the Trent District Community First Responders

Every year the West Bridgford Conservative Club in Nottingham raises money for a chosen Charity of the Year.

Club Secretary, Peter Brunger, said "Each year the club supports a chosen charity and in 2018 we were delighted to support the Trent District Community First Responders (TDCFR) who do so much to help the community. These volunteers are trained by, and work closely alongside, East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) and respond in their spare time, unpaid, to answer 999 medical emergencies within their local communities. Over the past year team members have logged over 4,400 hours on call and attended more than 1,300 incidents of behalf of EMAS.

"During busy periods they can often reach patients faster than an ambulance, particularly those living in rural areas, which may make all difference to the outcome especially, for example, to victims of stroke and cardiac arrest. The team operates as a registered charity as it must cover the cost of its vehicles and purchase all its own specialist, and very expensive, medical equipment. At present, it costs around £1500 to fully equip each individual First Responder".

During the year an amazing total of £4078 was collected through a wide range of fund raising activities by its members. At a special event during the evening of Friday 18th January 2019 the Rt. Hon. Kenneth Clarke QC MP, Honorary President of the Club, presented the cheque to members of the TDCFR team and paid tribute to the work done by Community First Responders at a national and local level in meeting an immensely valuable need to help those in need of emergency medical care.



The Cheque Presentation Event.

This year, the Club is again fund raising yet again and has once again nominated the Trent District Community First Responders as its Charity of the Year for 2019.

Andy Stephens, treasurer of the charity and a community first responder himself, said "This incredible donation helps us to realise our ambition of a second liveried vehicle for our group. We have a number of new responders joining us during 2019 and this relieves any concerns we might have about having to equip the team while investing in our future. We are incredibly grateful to all of the members who contributed to fundraising efforts during the year and to the club committee and secretary who continue to offer us such valued support."

West Bridgford Conservative Club has two air conditioned bars, a snooker room with three high quality tables, free WiFi and a private car park and warmly welcomes all Inter-Affiliation ticket holders.

Heatherfield Completes Bar Refurbishment



Lee Rowley, MP for North East Derbyshire, alongside Gordon Millward, John Smith, and David Pinder with volunteer barman Roger Barnsley in the background.

The Heatherfield Conservative Club, South Yorkshire, has celebrated the Club's successful refurbishment project.

A number of years ago the Club's Committee embarked on a project to ensure that the Club's debts would be cleared which would then be able to allow the Club to undertake a much needed refurbishment of its bar areas, with the hope of attracting new Members to join the Club.

The Club is pleased to announce

the successful completion of this project and has held an opening event for formally open the new bar. Lee Rowley, MP for North East Derbyshire, was able to attend the Club's refurbishment party and raise a glass to the Club's success.

The Club has reported strong Membership growth numbers, alongside more use of the Club by existing Members. The ACC Congratulates the Club's Committee on the completion of this important project.



Camelford Conservative Club Donates Funds to Cancer Research UK

The Committee and Members of the Camelford Conservative Club have been hard at work raising funds for two good causes, Cancer Research UK and the Cornwall Air Ambulance Service.

The funds, presented on Tuesday, December 11, were accumulated from the Camelford Conservative Club's annual harvest auction. On behalf of the club, Tim Pitt presented two cheques for £1,000 to Cancer Research UK, and the Cornwall Air Ambulance, which was gratefully received by representative Janet Cox.

Madge Walkey, from the Camelford Cancer Research UK committee, said: "Each year the club gives half of their proceeds from the annual harvest auction to our branch of Cancer Research UK, and the other half goes to another organisation — this year being the Cornwall Air Ambulance.

"Over the last 32 years, the club has donated a total of £19,513 to the Cancer Research UK Camelford committee, as a result of their annual harvest auction."

Thanks have since been

extended for the generous sum, which will be presented to a representative from Cancer Research UK at the Committee's annual meeting, due to be held in April or May of this year.



Sally Moore receives a cheque on behalf of Cancer Research UK for £1,000 from Tim Pitt from the Camelford Conservative Club. The Camelford and Delabole Post

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How We Won the A.C.C. Political Challenge Banner.

By J. R. FRIEND, Hon. Sec. Walthamstow Conservative Club.

The Hon. Secretary of the Walthamstow Conservative Club here tells readers of the "C. C. G." how the A.C.C. Political Challenge Banner was won.

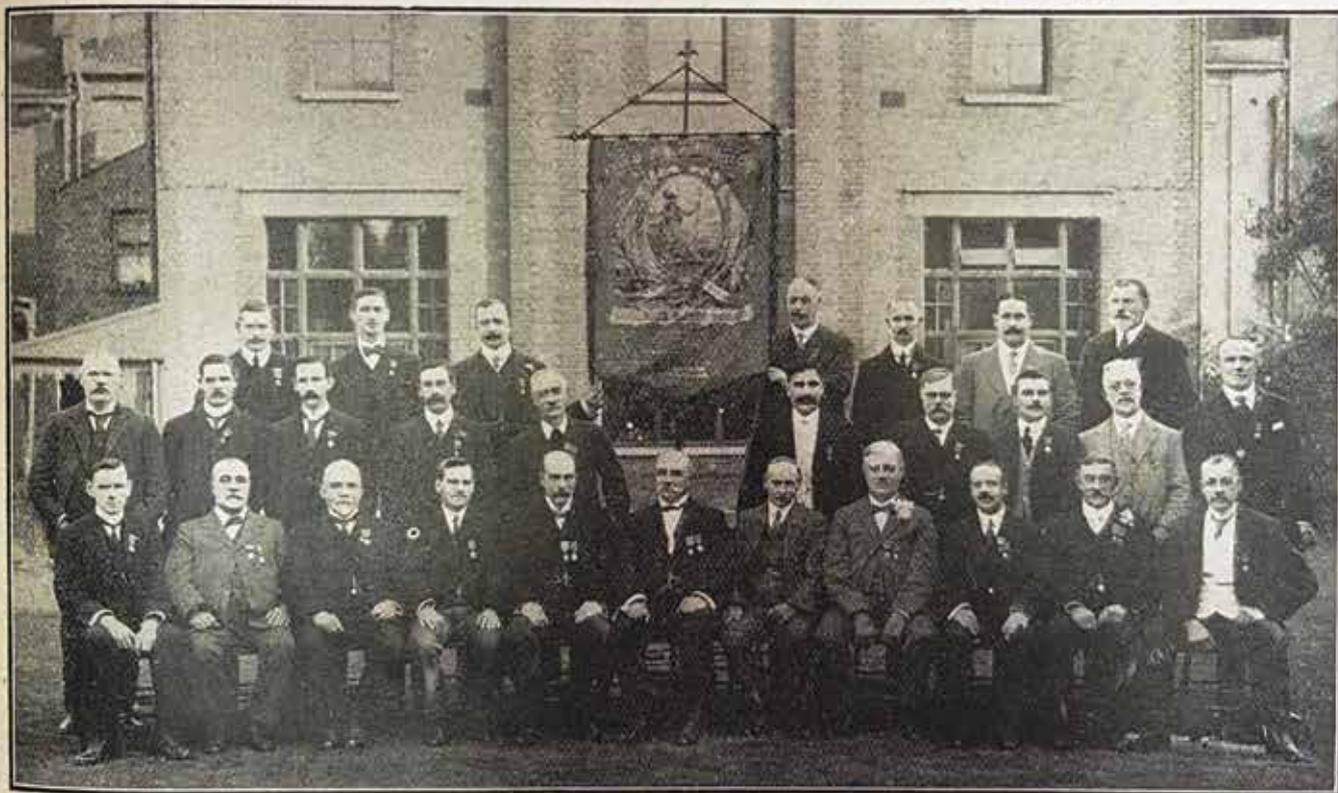
Systematic work in conjunction with the local Association, close contact with the Agent, and, above all, persistency and sustained enthusiasm enabled the club to emerge triumphant in a memorable contest.

The Editor of the "C. C. G." asks me to tell readers how the Walthamstow Conservative Club won the A.C.C. Political Challenge Banner. This I will gladly do, but

The size of the billiard room was doubled—we have now six full-sized tables—and beneath was constructed a hall capable of seating about 500. I may say, in passing, that the Walthamstow Conservative Club billiard team have won the A.C.C. Billiard Shield on three occasions and hope to win it many times again in the future.

But now to tell you how we won the Political Challenge Banner. Undoubtedly the success of our club was achieved because we recognised, as a club, that any efforts we made politically would be of no particular value unless we were working absolutely in union with the Conservative Associa-

OFFICIALS OF THE WALTHAMSTOW CONSERVATIVE CLUB.



Front Row (left to right)—V. H. Hayward (Chairman Sub-Political Committee), T. Pinder, T. J. Dean (Vice-Chairman General Committee), J. Lyne (Chairman Political Committee), H. D. Falshaw (Hon. Treasurer), F. Taylor (Chairman of the Club), J. R. Friend (Hon. Sec.), G. Bell (Chairman General Committee and Vice-Chairman Political Committee), T. H. Penwarden (Chairman Games Committee), G. Thomas, F. Smith.

Second Row (left to right)—C. Wallace, J. B. Field (Hon. Sec. Ha'e End Ward), S. J. Findlow (Vice-Chairman Games Committee), A. W. Kendall, J. Clark, W. J. Warboys, J. Thomas, C. E. Pitt, W. W. Cook, W. J. Mayhew.

Back Row (left to right)—H. H. Miller, E. Sharp, A. W. Bristow, E. H. Pyne, T. H. Braithwaite, F. J. Hodges, F. W. Goffin.

first I should like to say a word about the club itself, a picture of which appeared in last month's GAZETTE.

The Walthamstow Conservative Club was established in its present premises in 1885, its Founder and first Hon. Secretary being John Cropley, known as "One from the Plough." It opened with a membership of about 100, but, like Topsy, "we've growed," until we now number 1,030. A fire early in 1896 destroyed the billiard room, hall and part of the old house, but the end of that year saw the premises restored and reopened. In 1901 the purchase of the freehold for £3,700 was completed, and a further extension of the building was undertaken five years later.

Consequently we made it our business to justify our representation on the Executive Committee of the Association, by means of which we were able to keep in touch with its doings and see that no work was duplicated. The Agent of the Party is a member of our Political Committee, this giving him a *locus standi*. The salient points of the report he forwarded to the judges, giving a full account of the political work of the club, which was published in last month's GAZETTE, so I need not repeat them.

I have frequently heard it mentioned when attending A.C.C. Conferences that no club stands a chance of winning the Banner unless the Association and the club are located

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