CONSERVATIVE CLUBS MAGAZINE





NHS

We must keep on protecting each other.







JANUARY 2021



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Message From The Chief Executive

I wish all readers of the Magazine a Happy New Year and I am sure we are all in agreement in hoping for a better 2021 than 2020. At the time of writing, Tier 4 restrictions have just been introduced to large parts of the Country, the Christmas bubble plans have been curtailed, travel to and from the UK has been severely restricted and the entire hospitality industry faces a very uncertain few months. It can therefore feel difficult to be optimistic about the next few months but with vaccinations now taken place, I believe we can see some light at the end of the tunnel and that with some luck, hopefully Clubs will be able to welcome their Members back

It is difficult to find things to be grateful for during the past year but we must acknowledge that whilst times have been tough most Clubs have been able to find a way through, aided heavily by the furlough scheme, business rates holiday and Government grants. There will be calls for more help and assistance to be provided and the ACC will always be leading those calls but we must reflect on how much worse the situation would have been but for the Government stepping in early with significant help for wages, rates and grants. It is important to remember the significant help and support that the hospitality sector has been provided, help and support which would have seemed impossible just twelve months ago.

It is with this 'looking on the bright side' message that I hope all the readers of the magazine are healthy and happy and that we can all work together to get through the next few difficult months and hopefully be in a better place in the Spring.

CONSIERVATIVE CLUBS MAGAZINE

Published by The Association of Conservative Clubs, Ltd 1 Norfolk Row, London SE1 7JP Tel: 020 7222 0843 Sales: 020 7222 0868 assistance@toryclubs.co.uk www.toryclubs.co.uk

Chairman:

Rt Hon Alistair Burt Chief Executive: Lord Smith of Hindhead CBE Printed by: Snell Print Ltd, Brympton Way, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 2HP

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CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

Furlough Scheme Extended

Chancellor Rishi Sunak has extended the furlough scheme for one month until the end of April 2021.

It means the government will continue to pay 80% of the wages of workers who have been furloughed.

Mr Sunak also confirmed he would be extending the government-guaranteed Covid-19 business loan schemes until the end of March.

The government will continue to

The Chancellor has announced that

the Jobs Retention Bonus of £1,000

per employee to be paid in January

2021 has been postponed.

pay 80% of the salary of employees for hours not worked until the end of April.

Employers will only be required to pay the wages, National Insurance (NI) contributions and pensions for hours worked, as well as NI contributions and pensions for hours not worked.

The eligibility criteria for the UK-wide scheme will remain unchanged and these changes will continue to apply to all devolved administrations.

£3,000 for RV below £12,000 or £5,000 for RV between £12,000 to £51,000; this has been received by many clubs from their local council in the last few days. For the vast majority of clubs which received the previous lockdown grants no application is required, however, if the previous lockdown grant was not received you should contact the local council to apply.

2. The furlough payments, as

2. The furlough payments, as mentioned above.

3. Sector specific support of £1,500 per employee up to £15,000 applications open from the 11th January 2021, see below for further details. A triage tool to check eligibility for this grant opened today see: - https://fundchecker.businesswales.gov.wales/sectorspecificgrant/ To use the checker you will need staff numbers, club's rateable vale and for those with over 10 staff estimated monthly operating costs.

Summary ERF Sector Specific Support:

The ERF Sector Specific Support (operating cost) package is targeted at Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure (HTL) businesses or supply chain companies who are materially impacted with a greater than 60% impact of turnover as a result of the restrictions.

Eligible businesses will have to be employing staff via PAYE, and either VAT registered or (exempt from VAT) with turnover above £85,000, or limited companies with turnover above £50,000.

Businesses who have accessed the ERF Restrictions Business Fund could also apply for this fund if they met the eligibility requirements.

For eligible businesses the package of support will provide the following grant awards:

- For single employee business, minimum grant of £2,500
- SMEs (up to 249 employees)
 £1,500 per employee up to a maximum of 10 employees, representing £15,000; or for those employing more than 10, £1,500 per employee or self-declared operating costs for the restricted period (whichever is the lower amount).

Grants Reminder

Jobs Retention Bonus

Delayed

As a reminder, Clubs which are currently closed due to coronavirus restrictions have financial assistance available to them from their local authority. This is in addition to the furlough scheme which Clubs should be using if they are closed or operating reduced hours.

English Clubs will be eligible for the following grant funding:

For properties with a rateable value of £15k or under, grants to be £1,334 per month, or £667 per two weeks;

For properties with a rateable value of between £15k-£51k grants to be £2,000 per month, or £1,000 per two weeks;

For properties with a rateable value of £51k or over grants to be £3,000 per month, or £1,500 per two weeks.

It is still planned that a "retention

incentive" will be implemented

and that would be deployed at an

Please contact your local authority to ensure you receive the applicable grant.

For Welsh Clubs:

"appropriate time".

For most Welsh clubs the ERF Sector Specific Support is worth £1,500 per employee up to a maximum of £15,000 - see further details below.

To summarise at the current time a Welsh club should be eligible for three levels of grant support:

1. ERF Restrictions Business Fund – this is a lump sum grant based on rateable value (RV),

Live Music

We are aware that some establishes are bypassing the Tier substantial food restrictions by stating that they are music venues or holding concerts and therefore classify as a music venue.

Whilst we acknowledge that some establishments are going down this route, we are still, as yet, unsure if it would be legal for Clubs to adopt. Essentially, a Club would claim to be a concert hall because it has live music on. By similar logic, a Club could claim to be a cinema by showing a film. We are dubious if a Licensing

Officer would accept either one of those arguments.

Our suggestion to ACC Clubs is to either directly ask for permission from their licensing authority for this type of event or to monitor similar premises which may be holding these types of events to see if they have any problems.

We are not at the stage of advising our Clubs that these are legal methods to avoid the need to avoid substantial food but we will continue to monitor this situation and will revise our advice if required.

Food Update For Clubs Without Kitchens

Since our previous update, we have received clarification that under the new Tier 2 Rules, Clubs which do not have a kitchen but wish to remain open can enter into an agreement with a local supplier, such as a take away or similar food supplier, to supply substantial

meals to Members when they order drinks.

This will be helpful to Clubs which do not have the facilities themselves to provide food but wish to remain open.

Clubs wishing to adopt this

To page 5 ▶

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January 2021 3

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.

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.

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@torvclubs.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 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.

4

Contract of **Employment** STEWARD NER NOT EMPLOYED)

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.

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.

Contract of **Employment** BAR MANAGER

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

Bar Manager Contract Standard Terms and Appropriate for a wide costs £15 and includes: Contract



Conditions of Employment range of Club Employees (bar employees, cleaners, general part time employees etc.). Each contract pack 2 x Standard Terms and Conditions of Employment 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 2 x Club Employee Disciplinary and Grievance Policy Handbook.

CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

◄ From page 3

system should display the take away menus on their tables or advise customers where to find the menus and to ensure that food has been ordered by the Member before commencing a supply of alcohol to that Member.

Any type of take away establishment will apply - Fish and Chips, India, Chinese etc. In theory, there is nothing to prevent multiple takeaway premises

being utilised to provide the substantial meal component which is required when a supply of alcohol is made.

However, allowing customers to bring food into the premises that has been purchased elsewhere in order to consume alcohol remains prohibited. The food must be ordered by the Member whilst they are in the Club and then served to them at the table they have been served alcohol.

Welsh Clubs Update

Further to the announcement yesterday regarding the prohibition on alcohol sales, we can confirm that this does apply to Welsh ACC Clubs.

Welsh Clubs can decide to remain open selling food and soft drinks but will have to close at 6pm each day.

We therefore, regretfully, expect most of our Clubs in

Wales to close from Friday for the foreseeable future since for many Clubs it does not make financial sense to open for daytime trading hours and without the ability to sell alcohol.

Wales has also announced a national lockdown which means Welsh Clubs will have to close in any event until the lockdown is lifted.

Questions and Answers

Given the Covid situation, do you have any advice for 2021 Subscriptions?

We believe that Club Acommittees should provided with wide discretion over the administration of 2021 subscriptions. We know some Clubs are offering a reduced rate subscription to account for the Club being closed for a large part of 2020. Some Clubs are delaying accepting subscriptions until later in 2021 to keep Members safe. The Committee needs to take the appropriate decision, with reference to the Tier that the Club is in. We simply suggest that when an AGM for 2021 can be held that the Members are asked to endorse the decision of the Committee.

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

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

A The problem which you have raised is not uncommon. In most clubs the qualification for life membership was set probably before the First World War and in a great number of clubs the rules for this type of membership have not been changed since the late 1800s. It is not that long ago when a man who reached sixty five was considered to be elderly and to have done quite well. Therefore it is not uncommon to see a life

membership qualification of, perhaps, twenty years continuous membership and to have attained the age of sixty. Whilst I am not saying this is not an achievement many clubs no longer regard this as a qualification to warrant Life membership.

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

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

We have been approached by a person who wishes to transfer his membership of another affiliated club to our club. He has been a member of the other club for a number of years and has recently retired to our area.

A I am afraid it is not possible for membership to be transferred from club to club. Each member club is legally autonomous and governed by its authorised rules. Therefore, in order to become a member of any club it is necessary to be elected in accordance with that club's own rules.

My Committee have voted to charge all guests and visitors to our club a daily membership of £1 and to encourage full membership application. Have you had any experience of this?

Alt is not possible under the Licensing Act 2003 to offer membership to guests and visitors in the way you described. By reference to Section 62 of the Act, an interval of two days must elapse between nomination and election to membership, or if no nomination is required, between election and admission to the facilities of membership.

I do understand why your Committee wish to encourage people to visit your club but the method described does not comply with your club's club Premises Certificate.

Our Club is aware that all electrical equipment must be subject to PATs (portable appliance tests). We have carried out this work at some expense but we cannot find out how frequently these tests should occur. We are receiving conflicting advice. What are the guidelines?

At have referred your question to a leading insurance provider and this is the guidance that they issue on the subject. You may wish to check with your own insurance provider to check that they concur.

"There are two types of test. A "formal visual inspection", which can be carried out by competent employees and a "combined inspection and testing" which is more likely to be carried out by contractors. Most faults can be identified by the formal visual inspections — physical damage to cables or plugs, non standard

joints including taped joins in the cable, burn marks or equipment being used in unsuitable dusty or damp environments. However other faults can only be identified by "combined inspection and testing". Frequencies for both tests vary depending on the equipment and environment. Hand tools in an industrial environment may need 6 monthly tests, computers in an office may only need 2 yearly visual checks and 5 yearly formal test."

We have always had a "Joint" Subscription category which is slightly cheaper than two Single memberships. Although originally intended for married members, we did extend this to male and female partners some years ago. A gay couple on renewing their memberships have now applied for a Joint Subscription. Are we legally obliged to accept it them as Joint members?

AI would strongly advise the Committee to accept an application for joint membership from a gay couple.

The Equalities Act clearly states that discrimination based purely on gender is not acceptable and so it would be wrong for the club to discriminate on who can apply for a joint membership purely because of the applicants genders. Since this membership has already been extended to non-married couples there seems to be no reason that a gay couple would not be able to apply for joint membership.

In any event, considering that they are already existing members and given the small difference in cost between normal memberships and a joint membership, it would seem trivial for the Committee to become overly caught up on this

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CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

◄ From page 5

point. It is unlikely that the vast majority of members know what membership rates others have paid and it is unlikely that any attention will be paid in this situation by anyone else.

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

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

'The committee of every Inter-Affiliated club reserves to itself the right to make Special Regulations (subject to permission of the ACC Council) as to the admission of Inter-Affiliated members, in which case, a copy of the same shall be exhibited on the club notice board. Such permission shall not be required for the exclusion of Inter-Affiliation Ticket holders whose permanent habitation is

within a radius of ten miles of club premises. The holder of an Inter-Affiliation Ticket is reminded that admission to an Inter-Affiliated club is an act of courtesy which can be withheld in the interests of the club, on any occasion, or in respect of any individual at the discretion of the club committee of any Inter-Affiliated club.'

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

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

the facilities of a club which, for whatever reason, they have chosen not to join.

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

A impression that the committee had sole discretion over membership applications.

You are correct. Whilst Amembers may object to a person's application for membership, it is the Committee that makes the final decision in accordance with the requirements of the club's own individual rules. It is usual for two votes against admission to exclude a candidate. Therefore, it is possible to have a situation whereby no members object to a nomination but the candidate is rejected by a

Committee, or where several members object to a nomination and the Committee elect the candidate to membership. Ultimately, the authority to elect or reject candidates for membership is vested solely in the Committee.

However, a Committee would be wise to consider the views of members when making their decision to elect a candidate for membership, since this is the reason why candidates' names are posted on the club Notice Board prior to election taking place.

Are the members able to call an SGM to overrule a Committee decision not to allow someone to become a member?

A The election of members is a matter which is vested solely in the Committee. Two votes against admission will exclude a candidate. There is no appeal and even the members at a Special General Meeting would not have the authority to overturn this decision. A rejected candidate may not re-apply until a period of one year has elapsed and a rejected candidate may not be admitted as a member's Guest.





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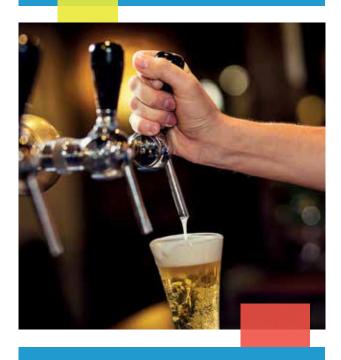




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Industry Insights

Welcome to the first Industry Insights of 2021. This month we explore threats to the great Full English Breakfast and how to avoid cyber scams. Plus: latest launches, new technology and expanding the shelf life of fresh produce. Enjoy!

How English is the full English Breakfast?

California

Britable did hay any poletic fame (In Minteres, on their leads they discover the initiation did of take or hottered books, Effecting to our mode's published to Cristalia Minusia English Scotland Dig (Colombre).

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Getting a slice of Veganuary action

The Vegoniusy compolign has now reached its one mill tanth participent since lounching seven years ago. It is a bole ry trend that is set to continue to grow, according to Reigion pastry specialist Righ.

Febien Level, Commercial Manager at Righ U.E, sold "It's wally eating to see the regan movement continue to gother mammertum on a daily basis. We have seen an explasion of interest in plant based dishes in toode relation and hospitality and we are really provided be one of the first professional postry suppliers to launch such an edensite regan range."



Pidy says it has exerything that operators need when it comes to serving up the best plant-based postry delights this Vegonucry. Its region range consists of at saditional sweet shortcrust party case, as well as a Veggle Cup' concept selection.

seems, pldy, co., ek.

TOP 10 ITEMS PROPERTY ON A PILL.

- Eggs (79%)
- Source (37%)
- Bosson (76 K);
- Boled Beam (4) (6)
- Hash Brown (6060)
- Mushroom (SER).
- Griffed Toerotoes (49%).
- 9. Toget (85%)
- Fried Re-od (3.3%)
- 1D Block Pudding (26 K)

Krafty's Blonde – German design, brewed in Suffolk

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r www.indigeniid.Com.

Bouncing back better

Workforce incongement expert 8's imply and poyrali specialist Mosnepay have lounched a partnership designed to help Haspitality Scence Sock Setter in 2021, leaping startifocused on delinering great front of house service.

The componies have joined forces to offer an integrated solution which these



managers to meet outtome respectations, giving hospitality employers a clear oversight of all the inemployee requirements.

The integrated cloud based solution enables by manage rate save hours of back office' work each week, throughe any attendance manifesting, rate building and streamlined payroll, while saving money through accurate payroll and exitime lobaur cost tracking. It leve reges the complementary strengths of the two businesses to other operators complete insight into employee costs and working patterns, according to the compone.

CED Conor I hav said. 'Hospitality businesses took a challenge life no other, and it's important to plan new to make the best of the appartunities that 3021 will bring. The new partnership between Stairuply and Mace pay extends to our outstanent, we've working classly with operators to ensure they genuinely understand their staif performance and activity, and use that information to run their business make effectively.

"As haspitally expens and expens, operators will need to adapt to a changing eighter of estrictions, while still delivering on customers: pectations. The rightemplayers, in the right place, at the right time, will be key to success. The appartunity is to Spance Sock Setter" in 2021, with a strong, customer loding staffing model.

"Just as importantly, they typically have higher in also at staffe agagement in terms of attracting, matinating and retaining the best people.

"The aperators we workwith have a much cleaner understanding of their business in terms of lateau costs and pinch points are ach location, and are able to easily demanstrate compliance in key areas such as he ofth & solety, working hours and data management. In one of attracting, matikating and retaining the best people."

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World first for eco-friendly vodka

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Virtual delivery and dine-in food franchise brands launches

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Stony Stratford Conservative Club Refurbishes Lounge Bar

K and M Club Refurbishment Limited were asked to visit the Stony Stratford Conservative Club to discuss the proposed refurbishment of their Lounge Bar. Mary Robinson, Secretary of the Club, explained that in general the room was in very good condition but that the Committee wished to give the area a makeover for



The Club.



The Club's New Seating Area.

the benefit of their very loyal membership.

The Club instructed K and M to prepare a design scheme and quotation, relating to the introduction of new furniture together with the reupholstering of the existing banquette seating, which all parties agreed would achieve the most cost effective transformation to the room. A scheme was produced and accepted with the works being undertaken

before the Club re-opened from a Covid-19 lockdown, resulting in the membership returning to a modern comfortable Lounge Bar. Mary Robinson reported "that everyone thought that the room had been very nicely finished and that the furniture scheme did create a value for money refurbishment".

We are pleased to hear the comments of the members and wish this successful Conservative Club continued success.

20% discount

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Call for your free copy of our 2020 Furniture Brochure



We are delighted to announce the publication of our new
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affiliated to the Association of Conservative Clubs, ordering furniture
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2021 will be offered a 20% discount. Please quote ACC 2021,
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01454 299844 07718 782749 info@kandmclubrefurbishment.co.uk www.kandmclubrefurbishment.co.uk **KandM**

Waterloo and Taunton Delivers Gifts to Members

The Waterloo and Taunton Conservative Club Committee Team have been out hand delivering a special little something to their Club's 'Honorary Members' and 'Life Members'.

Usually 'the Club', based in Ashton-under-Lyne, would host an annual Pensioners Christmas Party, however due to coronavirus and the government tier 3 restrictions, this hasn't been possible this year. So instead, they have taken a little bit of Christmas cheer direct to members.

Club Chairman, Leon Tamcken said 'We couldn't let our older members go without. Many live alone and we are usually the only social contact they have. It was great to see so many faces light up with joy as we surprised them with doorstep deliveries'.

Christmas Boxes included a bottle of wine, sandwiches, pork pie, luxury chocolates.

The ACC congratulates the Club Committee on carrying out this wonderful exercise.











January 2021 13

Braintree and Bocking Constitutional Club



In December the Braintree District Council erected the town's Christmas tree outside the Braintree and Bocking Constitutional Club. The Club enabled this by offering to provide the electricity required for the tree to be lit and were delighted by the finished result. In an otherwise difficult December, the Club were pleased to be able to bring some light and sparkle into the lives of the town's residents.

Club Insure Message

Dear ACC Clubs.

Following the implementation of various restrictions across the UK, we understand that some of you will be forced to close for varying periods.

We are writing to reassure you that if you are closed, your full cover will remain in place whilst you are mandated to close by the government and you will not be subject to the usual unoccupancy conditions placed on policies following 30 days out of use (whether these be UK wide restrictions or those implemented by devolved administrations).

This means you can rest assured that you will remain protected throughout the period you are forced to be closed.

However, if your premises were permanently unoccupied before any lockdown, or you have since decided to permanently unoccupy your premises, you should speak to us as soon as possible.

We would ask that where safe and possible, you continue to visit the premises regularly and document these visits, along with recording any damage or defects found upon inspection.

It is a requirement, that you remove any waste from the premises to reduce any risk so please make sure this is completed before the property is vacated.

We're always working hard to keep you protected and we hope this offers some peace of mind.

As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to speak to your usual point of contact.

The Club Insure Team 0344 488 9204



Pages From The Past

In this month's Pages From The Past we go back 100 years to January 1921 which featured the ACC's New Chairman's address to ACC Clubs. It bears little resemblance to the current New Year's message from the ACC's Chief Executive featured on page 2 but there are still some familiar themes regarding what the ACC can do to assist Clubs. The address contains the message of what the ACC is for and how the wider Clubs' family can support each other during difficult times. This does bear similarity

to 2020 which for many will be a year to forget but has shown how the ACC can assist Clubs when regulations change quickly and when financial support is required. The message is also borne out by Clubs such as Waterloo and Taunton which hand delivered Christmas presents to Club Members during December. And that is always what Clubs will be about - for however difficult the circumstances, Clubs are by their nature there to support their Members and one another.

PAGES FROM THE PAST

THE CONSERVATIVE

The Official Organ of the Association of Conservative Clubs, to which there are affiliated 1,550 Conservative and Unionist Clubs, with a total estimated membership of over half a million.

Vol. XXV. No. 310.

JANUARY, 1921.

PRICE 2d.

Our New Chairman's New Year's Address to Clubmen.

Make the A.C.C. Clubs Hotbeds of Political Activity and a Tower of Strength to the Party in Every Constituency.

Press Forward, and help those who are at the Helm of the Ship of State!

By Sir HERBERT NIELD, K.C., M.P., Chairman of the A.C.C.

T is a coincidence, and in no way due to prearrangement. that I am able to address clubmen through the medium of the Conservative Clubs Gazette for the first time as

the same time achieve the purpose of a New Year's message, at the commencement of a new decade of the 20th century.
I cannot, however, pro-

ceed without alluding, however briefly, to the passing of my distinguished prede-cessor, Sir Herbert Mack-worth-Praed, with whom and under whose able chairmanship I have worked for many years on the Govern-

ing Body.

To me, as no doubt to each of you, the news of his death must have come as a shock, bringing with it an after sense of personal loss. I am sure this must have been so in the case of old clubmen, who have been accustomed to attend the annual conferences of the A.C.C. and renewed their acquaintance with their chief, whose urbanity and sheer humanity must have endeared him to all.

I confess that never before had the lines of that great hymn of Isaac Watts seemed more true in their application:

"Time like an ever rolling stream Bears all its sons away."

And so I thought as I stood in St. James's Church, Piceadilly, at the funeral ser-

vice. It has borne away our much esteemed and honoured friend, Sir Herbert Praed, and left to those of us who were privileged to know him*an unperishable memory of a large-hearted and generous comrade, of whom it may truly be said that he never allowed his left hand to know what his right had done." In many cases none knew but the recipient of his bounty the measure of relief he had afforded, and thereby the value of his aid had been multiplied and its pleasure

Sir Herbert Praed was truly one of those frankly magnetic personalities, knowing mankind, and known of them, ever ready to encourage and stimulate others, and to do the Chairman of the Governing Body of the A.C.C., and at his duty by his generation. He has "fallen on sleep."

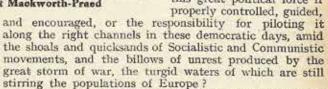
The memory of his deeds remain. Let us therefore say, "Vale: Requiescat in pace.

The A.C.C. and its Great Political Possibilities,

As to myself, I acknowledge fully the difficulty of succeeding such a man, but when, at the invitation of Viscount Chilston, who has been so long connected with the A.C.C., supported by the unanimous voice of my colleagues on the Governing Body, I was asked to take the Chairmanship, I felt, notwithstanding my exceptionally busy life, that I had no option but to accept, and so to further the Cause for which for many years I had laboured.

Few can realise more than I do the immense value of our organisation, or the responsibility which attaches to the Chairmanship of a body which controls no fewer than 1,550 clubs, with a membership of about half a million clubmen, for practically every Conservative and Unionist working men's club throughout the country is affiliated to the A.C.C.

Who can overestimate the tremendous possibilities of this great political force if



It is essential that our clubs should be model assemblies; should afford rest and recreation to those who have laboured during the day, often in monotonous occupations ;



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SIR HERBERT NIELD, K.C., M.P. Who has been elected Chairman of the A.C.C. in succession to the late Sir Herbert Mackworth-Praed

"CLUB NOTES" ON PAGE 5-"C.C.G." ESSAY COMPETITION, PAGE 6-"SALISBURY" POCKET BOOK, SOLD OUT!

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