

Delegates prepare for 2023 Annual Meeting in Blackpool



Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM, President George Smith and General Secretary Kenneth D Green CMD ACM

The morning of Saturday, April 15 will see the 2023 Annual Meeting taking place at the Grand Hotel in Blackpool with proceedings getting underway with Union President George Smith in the chair.

He said: "I look forward to welcoming our club delegates from all over the country to Blackpool to debate and discuss the various proposed changes to the Union's Constitution and consider the Annual Report and Financial Report for 2022.

"Once again, Conference Weekend is a great opportunity for our member clubs all to come together and engage in debate."

Mr Smith will be supported on the main stage by the General Secretary, Kenneth D Green CMD ACM and Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM, as well as Members of the

National Executive Committee.

There will also be a Civic Welcome from The Worshipful the Mayor of Blackpool, Councillor Kathryn Benson.

During the meeting, the 2022 Annual Report will be considered by delegates while Union Accountant Uto Ekanem will present the Union's Financial Report for 2022.

There will be several Motions up for debate during the proceedings.

The Meeting will conclude with an address by the General Secretary, Kenneth D Green CMD ACM.

Mr Green said: "As a democratic organisation, we want to hear from as many of our members as possible in order to build a stronger collective future for the CIU and its clubs."

• **For the full running order of the Annual Meeting, see pages 8-9**

Don't miss the 31st Beer & Trades Exhibition on April 14



The biggest trade show in the UK for members' social clubs – the CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition – takes place on Friday, April 14 at the Norcalympia Suite at Blackpool's Norbreck Castle Hotel.

The event – the 31st edition of the show – brings a huge cross-section of club suppliers showcasing their products and services.

This year's exhibitors include Preferred Suppliers Card Industry Professionals, Dransfields, Greene King, Higos and Pure Purchasing.

• **For more information, see pages 10-11**

Enjoy top entertainment at the CIU Blackpool Showcase

The CIU Blackpool Showcase will be part of this year's Conference Weekend.

The live entertainment event takes place at the Viva venue in central Blackpool on the evening of Friday, April 14 and promises a great mix of original acts, tribute acts, bands, drag and comedy.

• **Tickets cost £10 for CIU members and £15 for non-CIU members and can be ordered online from:**

<https://ww2.theticketsellers.co.uk/tickets/ciu-blackpool-showcase/10056254>

• **For more information, see page 17**



Welcome to the April issue of *Club Journal* which signals that Conference Weekend is upon us once more.

This year's Annual Meeting will take place on the morning of Saturday, April 15 in the Royal Suite of the Grand Hotel in Blackpool with delegates from clubs from all over the country in attendance.

The venue is extremely easy to get to from central Blackpool on the tram with the Wilton Parade stop just a couple of minutes walk.

There is also parking available to delegates but please ensure that you enter your car registration at the hotel Reception desk to ensure you are not charged.

As well as considering the Annual Report and Financial Statement, delegates will also have the opportunity to vote on a number of Motions proposed by the NEC.

There will also be addresses from our President, George Smith and our General Secretary, Kenneth D Green CMD ACM.

As usual, on the day before the Annual Meeting, delegates are invited to the CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition at the Norbreck Castle Hotel.

Again, the venue is easy to reach by

Welcome

tram with its own stop directly opposite the front entrance. Parking is also available but, again, please ensure you enter your car registration at the hotel Reception.

This is the UK's biggest trade show for private members' social clubs and there will be a wide range of suppliers ready to talk about the products and services they can offer, including the CIU's Preferred Suppliers Card Industry Professionals, Dransfields, Greene King, Higos and Pure Purchasing.

Then, on the Friday evening, the Union will be staging our Blackpool Showcase event at the Viva cabaret venue with a number of superb acts from across the UK performing.

CIU members can buy tickets for this unmissable event for £10 – see page 17 for more details of the artistes and how to book tickets online.

Enjoy the issue and I hope you have a very worthwhile Conference Weekend in Blackpool.

Stephen Goulding

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CLUB JOURNAL

CIU Editorial Panel



George Smith
President



Ken Roberts CMD ACM
Vice-President



Kenneth D Green CMD ACM
General Secretary



Sean Belton CMD
NEC Member



Geoff Blakeley CMD ACM
NEC Member



Nathan Clarke
NEC Member



Mark Fergusson CMD
NEC Member



Geoff Fisher
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Stephen Foster CMD ACM
NEC Member



Dave Gravel CMD
NEC Member



Jack Haughey CMD ACM
NEC Member



Chris O'Neill CMD ACM
NEC Member



Bob Russell CMD
NEC Member



Bill Stoker
NEC Member



Wynn Wright CMD
NEC Member

Starbeck WMC stages free community disco



Starbeck WMC staged a free disco for members of the local community in February

A free community disco was held at Starbeck Working Men's Club in Harrogate in February in order to encourage local families to enjoy an evening out without worrying about costs.

Staged in conjunction with local organisation the Community Link, the event was free to attend with visitors just asked to buy their own drinks at the venue.

The aim was to bring together members of the local community, including young children, for a night of music and dancing.

Maryse Haywood, one of the organisers of the disco, said: "We kept the event at zero cost for people to come along and enjoy a night out without the worry of affording the evening."

Further donations from the Richmond Place Club

Following on from their previous donation of £500 to Opengate, a local charity for people with learning disabilities, the Richmond Place Club in Hereford has raised another £160 for the organisation.

This sum was raised from the club's Charity Darts Open tournament held at the end of 2022.

The event itself was very well supported and was won by Terry 'The Bull' Jenkins who beat Nick Fullwell in the final.

Meanwhile, the club also made a £500 presentation to the West Midlands Air Ambulance, this sum being raised over a number of months as part of a weekly prize draw.

Club Secretary Les Walker said: "We're very grateful to our members for continuing to support the club's various charity events which are held throughout the year.

"We are delighted to be able to donate money to Opengate and to the West Midlands Air Ambulance which both carry out such vital work."



Les and Alison Walker of the Richmond Place Club (left) hand over the £500 cheque to West Midlands Air Ambulance

News in brief



Westholme Farm Social Club reveals line-up for its summer animal shelter fundraiser

Westholme Farm Social Club in Wallsend has confirmed the line-up for its Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter Fundraiser Night in July.

Performing on the night will be comedian and singer Shirley Mac, the acoustic duo Assassin and rock group The Gatecrashers.

Tickets for this event will go on sale soon at the club, while there will also be a bumper raffle, with all proceeds going to support the work of the shelter

The fundraising event will take place on Saturday, July 15.

CLUB NOTICES

Club name changes

From: Thorpe Green Bowling and Social Club
To: Thorpe Green Bowling and Social Club Ltd

From: Scissett Working Men's Club
To: Scissett Club Ltd

From: New Lodge Estate WM Club and Institute
To: New Lodge Working Men's Club Ltd

From: Leeds and District Amalgamated Society of Anglers Club
To: Leeds and District Amalgamated Society of Anglers Club Ltd

From: Hatfield Main Club
To: Hatfield Main Club Ltd

From: Kingston Workmen's Club and Institute
To: Kingston Workmen's Club and Institute Ltd

News in brief

Ovington Social Club in Northumberland to stage its second Beer Festival from April 13-15

After the success of the first Ovington Beer Festival in 2022, Ovington Social Club will host its second festival between April 13-15, 2023.

Nestled in the Tyne Valley, the landscape around Ovington has witnessed a long history of Reiver skirmishes and this gives the festival its theme of 'borderland beers'.

John Sadler and his Time Bandits will provide an educational performance about the history of the Reivers to open the festival on the Thursday evening and raise money for the Friends of Harbottle Castle and the festival's chosen charity, the Stroke Association.

The beers are being sourced from the breweries closest to the English-Scottish border with Borderlands Brewery, The Carlisle Brewing Company, First and Last Brewery and Cheviot Brewery already confirming that their ales will be available over the three days.

Over the two main days of the festival, there will be music from local bands The Belta Reivers and The Whistle Testers while there will also be food available to festival goers.

Full details and tickets (£7.50 for either Friday or Saturday, includes two tokens) can be accessed through their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ovingtonsocialclub/.

After the grand opening on Thursday, April 13, the main festival will be open from 6-11pm on Friday, April 14 and from 12-11pm on Saturday, April 15.

OBITUARY



Kevin Envis

The Leicestershire Branch is sad to announce that Kevin Envis, who was a member of the Branch Executive, passed away on January 18, 2023.

Kevin was elected on to the Branch in September 2012 and remained in office until his passing.

He was also the President of the Leicester Railwaymen's Club.

Kevin will be sadly missed by all his friends and family.

We send our upmost sympathy to his wife Gill and his two sons Ashley and Greg.

Presentation held at the Allotment Social Club



A ceremony was held at the Allotment Social Club on January 26 to present three club stalwarts with their Certificates of Merit. Pictured, left to right: Dave Richardson (Northumberland Branch Secretary), Philip Robinson (Club Committee Member and Certificate of Merit recipient), Paul Bennet (Club Committee Member and Certificate of Merit recipient), Gary Lee (Club Committee Member and Certificate of Merit recipient), Chris Smith (Club Secretary), Billy Porter (Club Chairman) and Paul Yellop (No. 7 Division Executive)

Club stalwarts honoured at Newsham Victory SC



Two Committee Members at Newsham Victory Social Club were presented with their Certificates of Merit on February 16. Pictured, left to right: Dave Clough (No.5 Division Executive), Dave Richardson (Northumberland Branch Secretary), Norman Clay (Club Committee Member and Certificate of Merit recipient), Melvin Rolls (Club Committee Member and Certificate of Merit recipient), Billy Campbell (Club Chairman) and Andy Thompson (Club Secretary)

Charity 'Gamesathon' held at Acomb WMC in York



Acomb Working Men's Club President Nick Dodson and Snooker team member Mark Harrison ahead of the 'Gamesathon'

Acomb Working Men's Club in York hosted a 'Gamesathon' event last month in order to raise money for those affected by the earthquake in Turkey and Syria.

Members of the snooker team played for 30 hours non-stop, beginning at 2pm on March 3 and continuing until 8pm the following day.

The players played four frames then stopped for five minutes, followed by a toilet break. This carried on throughout the 30-hour duration."

At the same time, members of the darts team ran a 12-hour event following a similar format to the snooker.

The event raised over £2,000 which was donated to the Disasters Emergency Committee which co-ordinates aid in the affected areas.

21-Year Branch Award for Robin Docherty



South East Metropolitan Branch held a ceremony to present Robin Docherty with his 21-Year Branch Award. Pictured, left to right: Dave Deluce, Frank Wilde, Robin Docherty, Andy Way (Branch Vice-President), Chris O'Neill CMD ACM (NEC Member & SE Met Branch Secretary), Trevor Baker (Branch President) and Roger Burns

News in brief



Belvedere Social Club member Tom Jones celebrates his 105th birthday in style

Clubman Tom Jones celebrated his 105th birthday at Groveland Park Care Home on February 16, 2023.

A member of Belvedere Social Club in Kent, Tom served on the Committee of the club for many years and was also a member of the Executive Committee of the Kent Branch of the CIU.

Since joining Groveland Park in 2013, Tom has maintained his active lifestyle.

Tom was also a finalist for the prestigious London Pride of Britain Awards in 2021. He was nominated for his charity work where he raised £4,645 for the Greenwich & Bexley Community Hospice.

After a special lunch featuring fillet steak, the Deputy Mayor for the London Borough of Bexley, Rags Sandhu, joined Tom for an afternoon of celebrations.

He presented Tom with his birthday card from King Charles III and the Queen Consort, which now joins the card he received from Queen Elizabeth II for his 100th birthday celebrations.

OBITUARY

Tom Goulding

It is with great sadness that the Hotel & Apartments Social Club in Blackpool announces the death of our former Treasurer Mr Tom Goulding.

He passed away peacefully on January 21, 2023 surrounded by his family.

He will be greatly missed by many who got to know him at the club.





FOR SERVICE

Distinguished Service Award

David Stothard – Park Social Club, Edenthorpe (Doncaster Branch)

Long Service Award

Darren James – Bedworth Ex-Servicemen's Social Club (Warwickshire Branch)

Branch Executive Award – 10 Years

Kevin Envis – Leicestershire Branch

Hawthorn Recreational & Social Club Veterans snooker team sets the standard



The Doncaster Veterans Snooker Team, based at the Hawthorn Recreational & Social Club. Pictured, left to right: Alan Dykes (Captain), Steve Harper (Vice-President), Tom Hodby, Ricky Kilby, Joe Duggan, Alan Marley and Bill Swinwood (Club Secretary)

When the Trades & Labour Club sadly closed its doors for last time in 2018, the Doncaster Veterans Snooker Team was forced to look for a new home venue.

The Hawthorn Recreational & Social Club welcomed them with open arms and the team has continued to set the gold standard in the area's various snooker competitions.

Success followed the team and they have won the League twice on the bounce along with many other trophies.

The club has dedicated this success in honour of Billy Cuffling (the Secretary who sadly passed away last year); also to member Dave Culshaw who generously donated a new set of match snooker balls to the team.



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Make your vote count at this year's AGM

The 159th Annual Meeting of the Union takes place in the Royal Suite of the Grand Hotel in Blackpool on Saturday, April 15 with proceedings getting underway at 10am



The 159th Annual Meeting will take place at the Grand Hotel, Blackpool on Saturday, April 15

Conference Weekend takes place this month with delegates from clubs all over the country assembling in Blackpool for the key date in the CIU calendar.

The morning of Saturday, April 15 will see the 2023 Annual Meeting taking place at 10am as attendees take their seats in the Royal Suite of the Grand Hotel in Blackpool.

This venue is well served by transport, with the Wilton Parade tram stop directly opposite, and is close to the centre of the town.

The Union has ensured that free parking will be available on the day and delegates are advised that they must ensure that their car registration is recorded on the computer terminal at the hotel's Reception.

Union President George Smith will chair the Annual Meeting and will be

supported on the main stage by the General Secretary, Kenneth D Green CMD ACM and Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM, as well as Members of the National Executive Committee.

The Worshipful the Mayor of Blackpool, Councillor Kathryn Benson will give a Civic Welcome to delegates towards the start of the Meeting.

There will be two guest speakers during the morning: firstly, Paul Maynard, the Conservative Member of Parliament for Blackpool North and Cleveleys.

Mr Maynard served as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Justice in 2019 and for Transport from 2016 to 2018 and again from 2019 to 2020.

The second guest speaker is author and broadcaster Pete Brown whose latest book is entitled *Clubland: How*

The Working Men's Club Shaped Britain.

During the meeting, the 2022 Annual Report will be considered by delegates while Union Accountant Uto Ekanem will present the Union's Financial Report for 2022.

The Union's Legal Advisor, Allyn Walton, will also be making a speech focusing on his work on behalf of CIU clubs.

There will be two Motions to be voted upon by delegates – see opposite page for details.

The Meeting will conclude with an address by the General Secretary.

The Official Minutes of the Annual Meeting will be published in the May edition of *Club Journal* while an audio file of the proceedings will be available to download on the CIU website, in addition to the written transcript.

• wmciu.org.uk

AGENDA - AGM 2023

Session Commences 10am

1. **Minutes of the Council Meeting held April 9, 2022**
2. **Civic Welcome by The Worshipful the Mayor of Blackpool, Councillor Kathryn Benson**
3. **Standing Orders Committee**
4. **President's Address**
5. **Guest Speakers: Paul Maynard MP**
6. **Guest Speaker: Pete Brown (Author)**
7. **To consider the Union's 2022 Annual Report**
8. **To consider the Union's Financial Statement for year ended September 30, 2022**
9. **Address by CIU Solicitor Allyn Walton**
10. **To consider Motion to change of Union's Constitution and Motion proposed by Leicestershire Branch**
11. **General Secretary's Address**

NOTICE OF MOTIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION Proposed by the NEC

Motion 1

Union's Constitution

Change of Rule 20. Council Meetings

The General Secretary shall 8 WEEKS PRIOR TO THE AGM in each year, send to each club a preliminary agenda of the business to be transacted.

A club with the authority of its Branch Council (or Branch Executive if no Branch Council can be held), a Branch or the National Executive may submit in writing an amendment to a motion contained in the preliminary agenda to the General Secretary not later than 6 WEEKS PRIOR TO MEETING, TOGETHER WITH A COPY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT AND A STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND BALANCE SHEET.

Motion 2

Leicester Branch Motion

Year card proposal

The current pass card be discontinued and replaced with a new card called the Year Card.

The words Year Card would be displayed across the centre

of the card replacing the year date.

The statement displayed on the current card says 'This certifies that Payment has been made to the Union covering pass cards for 2022.'

The new statement would say 'This certifies that payment has been made to the union covering the year card for **** this being the individual's contribution to the Union'.

Motion 3

Change of Rule1: Name change

The name of the Union to be changed by removing 'Working Men's'. The Union to be called Club and Institute Union (CIU).

The Annual Meeting will be run in accordance with the Standing Orders for Union Council Meetings.

Please note that no delegate will be admitted to the Meeting without producing the admission ticket which was sent to the club by Head Office.

A great day of club business in prospect

The CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition is one of the highlights of Conference Weekend and the 31st edition of the event on April 14 will give delegates the chance to talk to an array of club suppliers

The Union's 31st Beer & Trades Exhibition will take place on Friday, April 14, with the doors at the Norbreck Castle Hotel opening at 1pm.

The event is the UK's biggest trade show for private members' social clubs with an array of products and services on display which are all targeted at helping clubs to boost trade, save money and support clubs, while taking part in some fun activities and networking along the way.

All the key club suppliers will have a presence at the show, including Preferred Suppliers Card Industry Professionals (CIP), Dransfields, Greene King, Higos Insurance and Pure Purchasing so make sure you come along for some expert business advice and ways of boosting trade.

Making their trade show debut, Greene King are looking forward to showcasing some of their famous brands at the event and giving delegates the opportunity to sample them at their bar.

Among the other companies exhibiting at the show will be ACE Furniture, Club Control and Mr Scratchings.

As usual, Dransfields will be running a number of prize games and competitions on their stand, as well as running several bingo sessions throughout the afternoon.

The event will culminate with a series of prize draws on the main stage with the event finishing at 5pm.

"This year's Beer & Trades Exhibition is set to be another very enjoyable and worthwhile event for our club delegates," said Union Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM.

"Please do come along and take the opportunity to chat to club suppliers as well as network with fellow Union clubs from all over the UK."



A delegate takes a closer look at Dransfields' latest gaming machines



Left to right: Dransfields Managing Director Chris Haley, Union General Secretary Kenneth D Green CMD ACM, Mill View Social Club Secretary Keith Seymour, Union President George Smith and Union Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM



The team from Preferred Supplier Higos will be on hand at the trade show to talk about your club's insurance needs



There will be several bingo sessions throughout the show



A delegate visits the Card Industry Professionals (CIP) stand at the 2022 show



Greene King, the Preferred Supplier of beers and ciders to the CIU, will be showcasing their wide array of brands at the show



A delegate reads a complimentary issue of Club Journal at the event



Chris McNally of Club Control with Union Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM



Mr Scratchings will be distributing samples of their bar snacks at this year's event



Speed Pool on the Dransfields stand will be a popular activity



The Head Office team and Union Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM (fourth from right) at the CIU stand



Pure Purchasing MD David King and Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM



Karaoke, via the SPOTLIGHT system, will be one of the activities provided by Dransfields at the 31st CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition



As always, there will be plenty of seating available for those visiting the trade show

CIU Trade Show – The Exhibitors

The CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition returns to Blackpool on April 14, 2023. See you there?



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Dransfields is the approved recommended Gaming Machine Supplier to the CIU

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Personally, I have really enjoyed working with many clubs/businesses so far and have found this very rewarding knowing that I can assist them to put money back in their pockets rather than take it away, especially in the current climate.

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Don't miss the 2023 CIU Blackpool Showcase

If you're heading to Conference Weekend, you can experience a great evening of live entertainment on Friday, April 14 at the CIU Blackpool Showcase which is being held at the famous Viva venue



The 2023 CIU Blackpool Showcase will be staged at Viva on the evening of Friday, April 14

Over 15 acts have been revealed for the Blackpool Showcase event which is part of this year's Conference Weekend.

The live entertainment event takes place at the Viva venue in Blackpool, described as the Las Vegas of the North, on the evening of Friday, April 14 following the 31st Beer & Trades Exhibition and the night before the Union's AGM on Saturday, April 15.

The Showcase promises a great mix of original acts, tribute acts, bands, drag and comedy at the Viva.

Among the entertainers expected to grace the stage are Boy George tribute act Liam Halewood, Dolly Parton tribute act Kay Molyneaux, Whitney Houston tribute act Destiny Michelle and singer/songwriter Katie Blackwell.

NEC Member Nathan Clarke, who is co-ordinating the event on behalf of the Union, said: "The CIU Blackpool Showcase will be an unmissable night of music and comedy in the heart of Britain's Northern capital with some brilliant acts from across the UK.

"The event represents great value, so I would urge you to order your tickets in advance so you don't miss out."



Dolly Parton tribute act Kay Molyneaux



Whitney Houston tribute act Destiny Michelle



Katie Blackwell



Boy George tribute act Liam Halewood

• Tickets cost £10 for CIU members and £15 for non-CIU members and can be ordered online from: <https://ww2.theticketsellers.co.uk/tickets/ciu-blackpool-showcase/10056254>



Founded in 1899, Wombwell WMC has been an integral part of village life ever since



Wombwell Working Men's Club

Founded in 1899, Wombwell Working Men's Club in Barnsley, South Yorkshire has embarked on a modernising process which has attracted new members and given a boost to trade

For the past 124 years, Wombwell Working Men's Club in Barnsley, South Yorkshire has been a key part of the local community and is the epitome of the close-knit members' club where family and community alike can meet, socialise and enjoy a range of activities and entertainment.

Once a favoured watering hole for miners from the two collieries which once provided the bulk of employment in the area before their closure, the club has modernised and reinvented itself as a modern, forward-looking venue fit for the 21st century.

"We've worked really hard to get to where we are at the moment," says Club Secretary Matthew Grice.

"I took over as Secretary about six years ago and really felt that there was so much more we could be doing as a



The club hosts regular children's events which have helped to boost the club's profile

club, in terms of moving it forward and planning for the future.

“So that’s what we’ve tried to do as a Committee. That includes carrying out refurbishments where required. We did a lot of work during lockdown, freshening and brightening up the interior in order to make it more inviting as a venue.

“We have installed new furniture and upholstery which makes it a much more pleasant space to be in.

“The main Function Room was stripped back to the brick and we installed a new ceiling and new lighting, the walls were replastered and repainted and we had the parquet floor restored.

“Our toilets have also been fully refurbished and we’re currently looking at some other areas which need modernising.”

Along with the improvements to the facilities, the club has embarked on a mission to ensure that anyone walking through its doors – whatever their age – will feel welcome as well as engaged in one or more of the many activities and entertainment provided.

“We’re actively trying to encourage

younger members to come into the club and that’s something which has started to work very well,” says Matthew.

“One such example is that lately we have seen an increase in teenage lads coming in with their dads to play snooker during the early evening period and that’s something which will encourage them to become members of the future.

“Our strategy has been a success with year-on-year turnover up and we now have funds available to further enhance our club.

“We recently enjoyed the best January and February in my time as Secretary so things are going well trading-wise.

“We’ve signed up over 100 new members since January which is another measure which shows how we’re growing the club’s appeal and the word is going around that it’s a great place to be.

“We’ve also examined our outgoing costs in great detail and made sure that we’re not just carrying on with existing contracts but looking at each and every one to ensure the club is getting the best value from its suppliers.

“It’s really looking at the operating

‘rhythm’ of the club, putting it on a proper business footing, making everything a lot more efficient and also ensuring that our bar prices remain competitive.

“We have regular drinks promotions and happy hours as an incentive for members.”

The club prides itself on being family-friendly and runs a number of children’s events at particular times of the year.

“We also do things like raffles and football cards throughout the year in order to fund regular children’s parties at Christmas, Easter, Halloween, etc. for which we’ve become very renowned,” says Matthew.

“We have around 80 kids for each party and put on a disco and hand out goodies and they really help to give the club a good name in the local community as well as bring in families.

“Obviously the kids are brought along by their parents who will often want to have a drink or two so our trade over the bar during the children’s parties is always excellent.

“It also means that we’re often first choice when someone needs a venue



Karaoke Night on Wednesdays regularly draws upwards of 80 members on a weekly basis

CLUB OF THE MONTH

for a private function, whether that be a birthday or anniversary celebration or an afternoon kids party as they've come along, been impressed by our event and the facilities and will want to book.

"We want to cater for all ages and make sure that everyone feels welcome when they come in.

"You'll get people coming in for the first time - perhaps they've never set foot in a members' social club before - and they will absolutely love what we have to offer as a venue."

One huge success for the club has been their karaoke competitions run over several months and culminating in a Grand Final featuring a line-up of the best performers from the various heats singing in front of a packed audience and a judging panel.

"We run two karaoke competitions a year and will be looking to launch another competition more along the

lines of 'Britain's Got Talent'," says Matthew.

"For the karaoke competitions we have a local radio station - Rockingham Radio - involved so it is great for promoting the club.

"They provided the judges for the Grand Final and made Simon Cowell-style comments after each of the acts, so it really added to the entertainment.

"We also run a regular non-competitive karaoke session on Wednesday evenings and it's one of our busiest nights of the week with between 80 and 120 people in every single week."

Meanwhile, away from the karaoke, on Saturdays and Sundays, club members can sit back and enjoy performances from visiting artistes and bands.

Peter Brettell, who manages the club's entertainment, is passionate about the power of live entertainment

to boost trade and entice members of all ages through the doors more frequently.

"Obviously our members are mad for karaoke but they also love the turns we put on," he says.

"On Saturdays and Sundays we have live entertainment - solo singers, duos or bands - along with a series of bingo sessions on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays."

"Our members really seem to have a wide appreciation of music across the eras and are just as likely to get up and dance to George Ezra as Elvis Presley.

"As well as the Saturday and Sunday acts, we're also trialling a series of ticketed live events on a Friday night whereby you buy a ticket for £5 and get a free drink and see a band."

Of course, aside from music, there are plenty of other popular activities taking place during the week, many of a



Wombwell WMC has enjoyed a busy start to 2023 and signed up 100 brand-new members in January

The club has two full-size snooker tables and a pool table while darts is also a popular activity among members



sporting nature with the club's three darts teams and a pool team competing in the local leagues.

"We're not the cheapest for drinks in the village given that we have a couple of the big chain pubs nearby but we like to think that we offer so much more across the board including two full-size snooker tables and a pool table - all at 20p a game - plus darts, gaming machines and pull-tab machines," says Matthew.

"We're holding our own Open Darts Competition later in the year with six dartboards set up in the Function Room and cash prizes for the top finishers, so watch this space for the announcement on that.

"We also allow community groups to use the club to hold their meetings, including the local amateur dramatics society who meet here every Tuesday."

Charity events and fundraising initiatives also take place throughout the year at the club.

"Every year we run what we call a

'Reunion' where we invite people from all over the area to come into the club to meet old friends and make new ones and then raise money for charity," says Matthew.

"We're just about to finalise the date for the 2023 event and our nominated charity is going to be the local scouts group. We'll also be staging regular fundraisers for other good causes.

"All the events and activities help to boost the profile of the club in the village and as well as first-time visitors you'll also get people who haven't been in for 20 years and can't believe how much it's improved and want to be involved in club life again."

Matthew attributes the club's ongoing success to the hard work of the eight-strong Committee and the support they receive from members and club staff.

"The club runs very much on goodwill and we have a good bunch of Committee members who are always willing to give up their time for the club," he says.

"Likewise, we are very lucky to have members who turn out in such huge numbers to support the club's events and activities.

"Our staff are also vital to ensuring that the club runs smoothly and is a welcoming environment for all.

"We're delighted with how things are going and we want to keep maintaining that upward curve and build on our current success.

"The club has been at the heart of the community since 1899 and we want to ensure that it remains that way for future generations of people in Wombwell."

CONTACT DETAILS

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25 Station Road
Wombwell
Barnsley, S73 0AY
Phone: 01226 752181
Branch: South Yorkshire

HQ



News in brief

Updated CIU Contracts and Club Secretary's Handbook now available from branches

Updated versions of the CIU contracts are now available to buy from your Branch.

- Club Staff Accommodation Contract
- Contract of Employment – Bar Manager
- Club Staff Handbook
- Contract of Employment – Bar/Cleaning Staff
- Contract of Employment – Club Steward
- Club Secretary's Handbook
- Zero Hours Contract

They are each priced as follows - £5 per Handbook; £3 per contract.

Due to increased production and postage costs the price list will be reviewed over the coming months.

National Executive Committee dates for 2022

The dates for the monthly NEC meetings at Head Office in 2023 are: April 13; May 3&4; June 7&8; July 5&6; August 2&3; September 6&7; October 4&5; November 1&2 and December 6&7.

Annual Meeting 2023 dates

The dates for the 2023 Conference Weekend in Blackpool have been confirmed and are as follows:

Thursday, April 13 – NEC Meeting

Friday, April 14 – 31st CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition (Norbreck Castle Hotel)/CIU Blackpool Showcase (Viva)

Saturday, April 15 – AGM (Grand Hotel)

Reduction in duty on draught beer and cider announced in the Spring Budget

The recent Budget announced by Chancellor Jeremy Hunt on Wednesday, March 15 will see an increase in tax relief on draught beer and cider sold in the On-Trade from August 1.

Draught relief will increase from 5 per cent to 9.2 per cent meaning that the duty on draught products in pubs and clubs will be up to 11p lower than the duty in supermarkets.

However, the Chancellor also announced a 10.1 per cent rise in duty on other drinks, including bottled beer, wines and spirits.

This comes ahead of the planned introduction of a new duty system in August which will see drinks taxed according to their ABV with stronger drinks taxed more heavily.

Much to the dismay of clubs and the wider hospitality industry, the Chancellor did not include any reductions in VAT or announce any further help for venues in the area of increasing energy costs in his announcement.

Indeed, in the wake of the Spring Budget, a petition has been launched on the official Parliament website calling for the current 20 per cent VAT rate to be halved for the hospitality industry.

The petition states: "As an industry we face unprecedented hurdles. Wages have increased 20 per cent; food prices have risen by 8.5 per cent; utilities have doubled; rates are soon



to rise and we have higher debts payments coming out of the pandemic.

"This presents a perfect storm of costs that just can't be absorbed. We must reduce VAT to 10 per cent to help us weather this unprecedented storm

"This rate should be extended to: hot food; soft drinks; hot drinks; events and door tickets; accommodation and attractions."

At the time of writing, the petition, which will be available to sign until May 7, had gathered over 14,000 signatures but will need 100,000 signatures to be considered for debate by MPs in Parliament.

If you would like to sign the petition calling for a reduction in VAT in the hospitality industry, go to: petitions.parliament.uk



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*CGA OPM Data to P08 2022 (13/08/2022) Free Trade volume ROS per outlet MAT

London dates announced for ACM day courses

Candidates have the chance to earn the Union's Award in Club Management (ACM) by attending three day sessions in April, May and June at London clubs

The Award in Club Management (ACM) course is back for 2023 with three day courses taking place at London clubs in April, May and June.

Walthamstow Trades Hall in London will be hosting a Unit 1 day course on Saturday, April 22; The Langham Club in Haringay, London will be hosting a Unit 2 day course on Saturday, May 13 and the Unit 3 day course is set for Saturday, June 10 at the Mildmay Club in Stoke Newington, London.

Specifically designed for CIU clubs, the qualification gives club officials a thorough grounding in the key aspects of running a modern and efficient club.

The qualification consists of three self-contained units, each taking one day of classroom-based study to complete and costing £30 per unit.

Unit 1 of the course covers Law & Regulations, Licensing, Unit 2 covers Law and Regulations (Part 2) and Unit 3 covers Management, Finance and Administration.

Once a candidate has completed the course and been examined in all three units through a multiple choice examination, they receive the ACM.

The course is aimed at people who are going to be sitting on club committees and occupying positions of authority within clubs.

It has been developed to ensure that candidates gain a thorough understanding of licensing laws and regulations relating to members' clubs, as well as a whole host of other laws and regulations that govern the running of a club, including entertainment and the rules and regulations surrounding gaming machines in clubs.

The lectures are carried out by highly experienced lecturers from within the CIU who lead the day sessions and can draw from their knowledge of the club scene to illustrate the key points.



The Mildmay Club & Institute in Stoke Newington, London will be hosting a Unit 3 Award in Club Management (ACM) day course on Saturday, June 10

ACM dates

Saturday, April 22

Walthamstow Trades Hall, London, E17 4RQ

Unit 1 – Cost £30, including course book

Saturday, May 13

The Langham Club, London, N8 0RY

Unit 2 – Cost £30, including course book

Saturday, June 10

Mildmay Club & Institute, London, N16 9PR

Unit 3 – Cost £30, including course book

To book a place at any of the courses, contact Senior Head Office Administrator Cath Fitzpatrick on 020 7226 0221 or email: Catherine.Fitzpatrick@wmciu.org

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Q&A: CIU Preferred Supplier – Card Industry Professionals

Ciaran Savage, Managing Director of Preferred Supplier Card Industry Professionals (CIP), explains how the company can help and support clubs with tailored payment solutions

Q: Ciaran, what made Card Industry Professionals (CIP) want to join the CIU's Approved Suppliers List?

Ciaran Savage (CS): We have hundreds of Sales Professionals throughout the UK, already supporting thousands of businesses to accept card payments everyday. One of our Sales Professionals in the North East, Ian Dawson, works as a Treasurer for one of the CIU clubs and he has supported many clubs within his region with finding the right payment solution. These range from our all-in-one 'CIPStorekit' Epos Till System to the more commonly-used traditional chip and pin machines.

Ian and Regional Sales Manager Aidan exhibited at the CIU trade show last year and received a great welcome and lots of enquiries about our offerings, so it made sense to partner with the CIU directly to support members who may be looking at their payment solutions and wanting to find a better option.

Q: Will clubs be able to meet you at the Blackpool Beer & Trades Exhibition on April 14?

CS: Ian and Aidan are looking forward to attending and are both very experienced with supporting social clubs. They will have products to demo and discuss and you can pop by and have a chat with them about all things 'payments'.

Q: What makes CIP different in how they support clubs?

CS: CIP have been continually listed as the No.1 'Card Processing Service' and 'Business-to-Business Service' on Trustpilot since October 2021 and have received over 550 '5-star reviews' from business owners to date.



Ian Dawson of Card Industry Professional (CIP) will attend this year's trade show

CIP established in 2017 to provide businesses with tailored payment solutions in-store and online, throughout the UK, backed up with transparent on-going support and guidance. CIP has developed strategic partnerships with key acquirers including EVO Payments, Elavon Merchant Services, Zettle by PayPal and Worldpay by FIS to enable CIP to offer a range of products and solutions to merchants, not just one!

Q: What can club members expect from CIP if they were to enquire about your services?

CS: CIP pride ourselves in offering 5-star customer support. Both the Sales Professionals and customer service team are on hand to support the club with discussing the best solution for their needs and following-up with the same level of support after the payment solution is in the business and 'live'.

Clubs can expect face-to-face and over the phone support for their business and a review of a recent statement if they are with a current

provider. The Sales Professional will show the savings/efficiencies that could be made and match a CIP product to the needs of the business.

There's no pressure to sign up, when the club is ready, the Sales Professional will be able to complete the application forms and work with the onboarding team who will take care of everything else and order the new hardware once the account is approved.

Q: What ongoing support can club members expect?

CS: CIP have a customer support team who are on hand to answer any queries and technical support is available with all of our partners seven days a week.

Q: Any final comments?

CS: It's great to be working with the CIU closely to support their members and we look forward to helping many more clubs save money and get the right solution in place for their business.



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We are seeking to appoint a new club Steward/Stewardess to maintain our busy club.

Responsibilities will include the running of the bars, cellar management, stock control, ordering, line cleaning, cashing up, managing staff, maintaining health and safety, other duties as required.

Full responsibility of stock is necessary for which a bond is required.

Applicants should be friendly, efficient and possess good communication and social skills.

Work well as a team alongside bar staff and committee.

A good interactive relationship with club members is expected.

The position is paid weekly with annual leave as government guidelines.

Living accommodation of a two bed flat forms part of the contract and is non negotiable.

All interested parties for this appointment should send a copy of their CV and covering letter to the secretary Margaret Dobson by email or post.

email:
margaretdobson47@hotmail.com

address:
Secretary, Pelsall Social Club, 121 Norton Road, Pelsall, Walsall, WS3 4NX.

Every month we give £10 prizes to five lucky correct entrants.

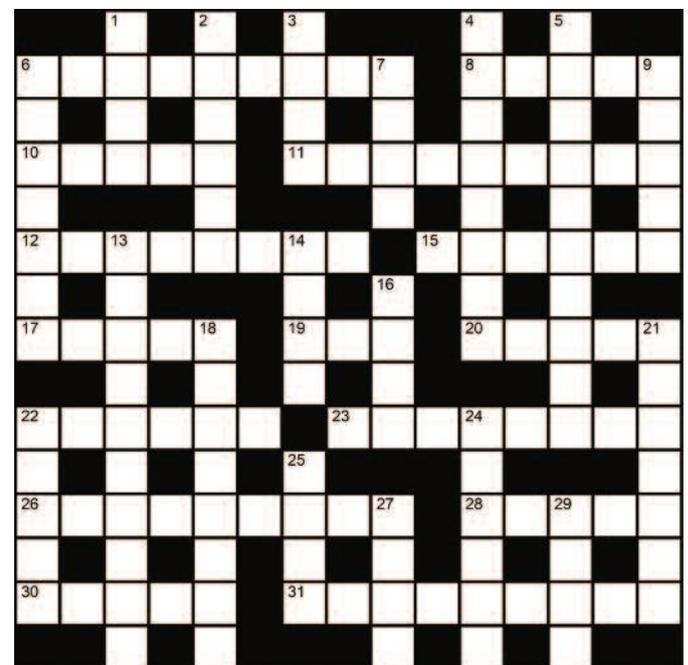
ACROSS

- 6 Con a man out of his BLT on French "White Tor"? (4,5)
- 8 No empty space in which to be 'eggy'! (5)
- 10 Try as you may, it could be just a faun (5)
- 11 Pitch and poke about in garment storage feature (3,6)
- 12 Run through, when about to join the funeral car (8)
- 15 Rebuild roof, e.g. or do without (6)
- 17 Salad leaves, with big spoon to serve from (5)
- 19 You exist in Q S, say (3)
- 20 0,2,3,4,5, not a soul about (2,3)
- 22 How can Mao be a tiny organism? (6)
- 23 Went forward and caved in, unfortunately (8)

- 26 Ballet, in the air, could be a two-sided affair (9)
- 28 Multiplied items that are out of order (5)
- 30 Chop meat? To start the pie? (5)
- 31 There could be none cuter to meet with! (9)

DOWN

- 1 Reef, for example, sounds negative (4)
- 2 A brie I created as a sort of peninsular (6)
- 3 Hit with a party? (4)
- 4 Pull all the stops out with an urban visit? (2,2,4)
- 5 Cook using a chimer in take-off poetry (4-6)
- 6 Slim rat scurrying round in the cold North wind (7)
- 7 Coat, which could be of good hope (4)
- 9 Copy Mark in to audit to finish (5)
- 13 Early on in the PhD, made one for flying through water? (10)
- 14 Doe, browsing off meadows, went through water (4)
- 16 Even Dante's Inferno has something to sell (4)
- 18 Envenom about the meter being a bit out (8)
- 21 Confusion ensued for the consumer (3,4)
- 22 The usual bumpy bits in a photo book! (5)
- 24 Role play in the open air production? (3,3)
- 25 Cheese to fly for a short time (4)
- 27 Chance to be a lady? (4)
- 29 Glove made out of the ends of a mitre joint (4)



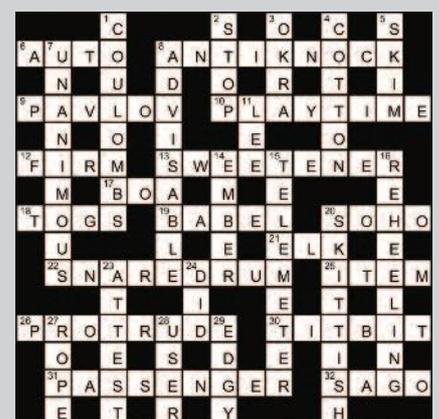
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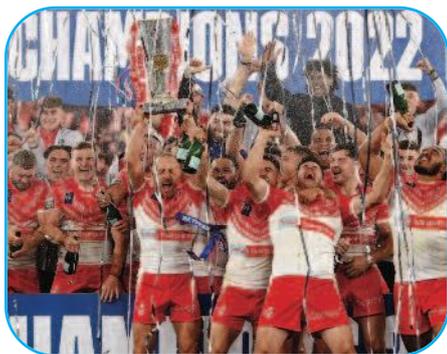
Send your entry to Club Journal Crossword, Alchemy Contract Publishing, 59/60 Thames St, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 1TX. **Deadline April 25.**

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Congratulations to the five winners of our £10 Prize Crossword for March.

- Joe Catterson of Spennymoor WMC
- Luke Hadley of Rowley Regis & Blackheath Labour Club
- Richard Tetley of Willenhall SC
- Yvonne Hill of Cynon
- Mr Brian Smith of Osset WMC





Friday, April 7, 3pm – Sky Sports

Super League: Wigan Warriors v St Helens

One of the most enduring rivalries in world sport will ensure that this Good Friday fixture is a highly competitive affair. Of course, it is Saints who are reigning Super League Champions and they will be favourites for this clash particularly after a strong start to the current season, including their huge win over Aussie side Penrith Panthers.



Saturday, April 15, 12.30pm – ITV

Horse Racing: The Grand National

The ITV team will be at Aintree for all three days of the Grand National Meeting which culminates on the Saturday with a full schedule of jump racing on the famous track. At around 5.15pm, the big race will go off as the nation watches with bated breath for one of the undoubted sporting highlights of the year. This year's event is sure to be as competitive as ever given the calibre of the runners involved.



Wednesday, April 25, 8pm – BT Sport

Premier League: Manchester City v Arsenal

One of the most significant matches of the domestic season sees the two Premier League pacesetters battling it out at the Etihad. The fixture at the Emirates Stadium back in February finished 3-1 in City's favour with De Bruyne, Grealish and Haaland scoring for the visitors who could only conjure up a single goal from Saka during a pulsating encounter.

SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS

As the Premier League hurtles towards its conclusion there are some huge games coming up which will have a direct bearing on the final destination of the title as well as the various relegation battles

Tuesday, April 4, 8pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Chelsea v Liverpool

Wednesday, April 5, 8pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: West Ham v Newcastle United

Thursday, April 6, 8pm

Sky Sports

Super League: Castleford Tigers v Wakefield Trinity

Friday, April 7, 12.30pm

Sky Sports

Super League: Hull FC v Hull KR

Friday, April 7, 3pm

Sky Sports

Super League: Wigan Warriors v St Helens

Saturday, April 8, 12.30pm

BT Sport

Premier League: Manchester United v Everton

Saturday, April 8, 12.30pm

Sky Sports Football

Scottish Premier League: Celtic v Rangers

Saturday, April 8, 5.30pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Leeds United v Crystal Palace

Sunday, April 9, 2pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Southampton v Manchester City *

Sunday, April 9, 4.30pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Liverpool v Arsenal *

Thursday, April 13, 12.30pm

ITV

Horse Racing: Grand National Meeting - Day 1

Saturday, April 15, 10am

BBC

Snooker: World Championships - Day 1

Saturday, April 15, 12.30pm

ITV

Horse Racing: Grand National Meeting - Day 3

Saturday, April 15, 12.30pm

BT Sport

Premier League: Aston Villa v Newcastle United

Saturday, April 15, 5.30pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Nottingham Forest v Manchester United

Sunday, April 16, 2pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: West Ham v Arsenal *

Sunday, April 16, 4.30pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Manchester City v Leicester City *

Monday, April 17, 8pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Leeds United v Liverpool *

Friday, April 21, 8pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Arsenal v Southampton *

Saturday, April 22, 12.30pm

BT Sport

Premier League: Fulham v Leeds United



F1: Azerbaijan Grand Prix
Sunday, April 30, 12 midday,
Sky Sports F1

Saturday, April 22, 5.30pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Manchester United v Chelsea

Sunday, April 23, 2pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Newcastle United v Tottenham Hotspur*

Sunday, April 23, 4.30pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Brighton v Manchester City *

Tuesday, April 25, 7.30pm

BT Sport

Premier League: Wolves v Crystal Palace

Tuesday, April 25, 7.45pm

BT Sport

Premier League: Aston Villa v Fulham

Tuesday, April 25, 7.45pm

BT Sport

Premier League: Leeds v Leicester City

Tuesday, April 25, 7.45pm

BT Sport

Premier League: Southampton v AFC Bournemouth *

Wednesday, April 25, 7.30pm

BT Sport

Premier League: Nottingham Forest v Brighton

Wednesday, April 25, 7.45pm

BT Sport

Premier League: Chelsea v Brentford

Wednesday, April 25, 7.45pm

BT Sport

Premier League: West Ham v Liverpool

Wednesday, April 25, 8pm

BT Sport

Premier League: Manchester City v Arsenal

Thursday, April 26, 7.45pm

BT Sport

Premier League: Everton v Newcastle United

Thursday, April 26, 8.15pm

BT Sport

Premier League: Tottenham Hotspur v Manchester United

Saturday, April 29, 12.30pm

BT Sport

Premier League: Crystal Palace v West Ham

Saturday, April 29, 5.30pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Arsenal v Chelsea

Sunday, April 30, 12 midday

Sky Sports F1

F1: Azerbaijan Grand Prix

Sunday, April 30, 2pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Fulham v Manchester City

Sunday, April 30, 4.30pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Liverpool v Tottenham Hotspur

Monday, May 1, 8pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Leicester City v Everton

(* Fixtures subject to change due to teams being involved in UEFA and/or FA Cup competitions)



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