

Club Journal

February 2017

The magazine for all CIU members

75p

Planning for Blackpool 2017 reaches final stages



Norbreck Castle Hotel,
Blackpool

With Blackpool 2017 now just two months away, Union members are being urged to attend what will be a busy weekend of club-related activities.

The centrepiece of the weekend is the Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 8 at the Norbreck Castle Hotel.

Daily Mirror Political Correspondent Paul Routledge has been confirmed as the keynote speaker and is sure to give delegates a fascinating insight into his many years covering the corridors of power at Westminster.

Delegates also have the opportunity to attend the 126th CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition on the afternoon of Friday, April 7 at the Norbreck Castle Hotel.

This event allows clubs and suppliers to swap notes on the latest legislation affecting clubs, as well as learn about the latest products and service available, all in an informal, friendly atmosphere.

Among the suppliers who have already confirmed their attendance for the 2017



Keynote speaker
Paul Routledge

show are: Ace Furniture, Aon, BT Sport, CAMRA, Heineken, Dransfields, Smart Energy Projects and Rijo42.

Alongside the specialist business advice, there will be free refreshments courtesy of Heineken and special prizes on offer throughout the afternoon.

Rounding off the weekend, immediately following the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, will be the Dransfields CIU Quiz Final, where the winners and runners-up from each of the Regional Heats will compete for the prestigious trophy and cash prize. All attendees are welcome to join in on a 'just-for-fun' basis with sport prizes being given out.

The Union has negotiated a special delegate rate with the Norbreck Castle Hotel for CIU members and have 20 double sea view rooms, 20 double standard rooms, 20 twin sea view rooms, 20 twin standard rooms and 20 single rooms on hold.

The rate is £42.50 per person per night with dinner and B&B, based on two sharing a twin/double or £35 per person per night B&B, based on two sharing a twin/double.

There is a £15 per night addition in the case of sole occupancy and the deal is for minimum of two nights.

If you would like to take advantage of this offer, please book direct with the Norbreck Castle Hotel on 01253 352341, quoting the code: 'WMCI 17'.

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Nick Byram,
Bar Manager of
Dartford WMC

Club of the Month: Dartford WMC

Dartford Working Men's Club in Kent has won national recognition from the Campaign For Real Ale (CAMRA) for its cask ale offering.

The club has reached the last four of CAMRA's 'Club of the Year' competition, the only CIU club named in the final shortlist for the award.

"Real Ale is at the centre of everything we do at the club and it's very pleasing to gain recognition from CAMRA," said Dartford WMC Bar Manager Nick Byram.

"It's a great testament to the passion and hard work that our staff have when it comes to providing a perfect pint of cask beer."

For the full article, see page 10.

EDITOR'S LETTER

Welcome to the February edition of *Club Journal*.

Planning for Blackpool 2017 is in its latter stages as the Union looks ahead to another busy programme of events in April.

With the CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition taking place on Friday, April 7 and the Annual Meeting following the day after – Saturday, April 8 – those intending to attend Conference Weekend have just over two months to finalise their own plans.

While of course the Annual Meeting is the centrepiece of the weekend, I would urge you to come along to the Beer & Trades Exhibition if you can spare the time as it is a really enjoyable and highly educative experience for club members, giving you the opportunity to talk to all manner of suppliers of goods and services to clubland.

Meanwhile, the keynote speaker for the Annual Meeting has been confirmed as Paul Routledge, the Political Correspondent of the *Daily Mirror*.

In addition to his many years on Fleet Street, Paul has penned biographies of such key

political figures as Gordon Brown, Peter Mandelson, Airey Neave and Arthur Scargill.

Conference Weekend is rounded off by the Dransfields CIU Quiz Final and as we went to press, the Regional Heats were taking place up and down the country with the Union's finest brains doing battle for a chance to compete in Blackpool for the prestigious title.

Many thanks to all those clubs who have supported this year's competition and congratulations to those teams which have won through to the final. (And those who'd like to come along to join in the chance to win spot prizes, just turn up early on the day and we'll fit you into ad hoc teams. All great fun!)

Meanwhile, applications are now being accepted for the Club Law and Club Finance Residential Weekend which will take place in Coventry from Thursday, March 16 to Sunday, March 19.

The cost is £75 per person and covers full board, lectures and students folder, pad and literature but applicants will need to meet the costs of travel to the venue.



Those who have attended this course in the past have provided extremely positive feedback about the many topics covered and have spoken about how it helped many of them prepare for their Club Management Diploma (CMD) exams.

For more information on attending the Residential Weekend or taking the CMD exams, please contact Cath Fitzpatrick at Head Office on (0207) 7226 0221 or email her at: cfitzpatrick@wmcui.org

I hope you enjoy the issue.

Stephen Goulding, Editor

CLUB JOURNAL

CIU

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SERVICE AWARDS PRESENTED AT FARNCOMBE SC



Four members of Farncombe Social Club received their 10-Year Service Awards at a ceremony held at the club. Pictured, left to right: Farncombe Social Club Secretary Bob Jolly, Lez Power (10-Year Service Award), South East Met Branch President Trevor Baker, June Wilson (10-Year Service Award), Phil Penbethy (10-Year Service Award), Maureen E. Ekins (10-Year Service Award) and Andy Way (South East Met Branch Vice-President)

Pop star sees in the New Year at West Auckland WMC

A famous pop star decided to see in the New Year at West Auckland Workingmen's Club in County Durham on December 31.

Perrie Edwards, a member of chart-topping girl group Little Mix, whose hits include 'Shout Out To My Ex', attended the club night where her dad's rock band, Alexanders Palace, were performing.

According to reports in the local media, when news spread on the night that the 23-year-old star was at the club, many local fans turned up at the club entrance – some dressed in their pyjamas – in order to catch a glimpse of Edwards.

Club Treasurer David Bowes told the *Northern Echo*: "We couldn't believe it when

she turned up. We knew we had her dad singing but we never thought she would be there.

"We had already reserved three tickets when we were asked for three more – these were for Perrie and her friends – but we didn't know this at the time.

"She was absolutely brilliant. Nothing was too much trouble. She was happy to pose for selfies with everyone and she even went behind the bar to have her picture taken with the staff.

"Many people were still standing outside well after midnight. It was a fantastic night and we're going to struggle to beat it for next year's New Year's Eve."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Top pro darts players take part in the Richmond Place Club (Hereford) Open
The Richmond Place Club in Hereford welcomed some big names from the world of professional darts in December when it hosted its winter Charity Open Competition in aid of a local Breast Cancer charity.

More than 60 players demonstrated their considerable skills at the club, where the £500 purse eventually went to Professional Darts Corporation (PDC) player Nick Fulwell.

"We are getting real pulling power now, we're getting players who are seen on television," said tournament organiser Gill Kirby. "The standard is so high, we want to carry on."

Thanks to a £2,000 sponsorship from Hereford Central Roofing, a summer darts competition raised funds for the Acorn Children's Hospice and then this second event was held in aid of the Breast Cancer Haven at Hereford which provides support and care for those suffering from breast cancer and their families.

Well-known names were competing in Hereford including British Darts Organisation players and PDC player Dave Pallett, who nearly hit two nine-dart finishes during the competition.

"These are the players we are attracting because we put up good prize money," said Gill.

The Christmas competition lured Welsh No.1 player Mark Layton as well as Jim Williams while Mark Blandford was runner-up.

Burnley & Pendle Branch President and Executive Committee members honoured



Michael Barry, Burnley & Pendle Branch Executive Committee Member, receives his Certificate and badge for 10 years of Branch service from Manchester Branch Secretary and NEC member Geoff Blakeley CMD (left) at a ceremony held at Paradise WMC



Allan Harwood, Burnley & Pendle Branch Executive Committee Member, receives his Certificate and badge for 10 years of Branch service from Manchester Branch Secretary and NEC member Geoff Blakeley CMD



Gordon Leighton CMD, the Burnley & Pendle Branch President, receives his Certificate and Gold Bar for 31 years of Branch service from Manchester Branch Secretary and NEC member Geoff Blakeley CMD

NEWS IN BRIEF

Goring Social Club stewards mark 25 years of service

Goring Social Club in Oxfordshire is celebrating a major milestone by its stewards Dave and Jane Dean who have been at the club for 25 years.

A Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) special award certificate was presented to the couple at a ceremony held on New Year's Eve who were also given a voucher for a meal for four at a restaurant.

A further tribute to the Deans took place at the club on January 28 with local band Spooks providing music.

Study finds that social drinking is 'good for health'

A new academic study, published in the *Journal for Adaptive Human Behaviour and Physiology* has shown that the enjoying a couple of pints while socialising is directly linked to better wellbeing.

The research looked at the role alcohol plays in social cohesion, discovering in particular that people without a local bar are likely to have a smaller social circle, and to be less trusting of their community.

Professor Robin Dunbar, from the University of Oxford's Experimental Psychology department, said: "This study showed that frequenting a local bar can directly affect people's social network size and how engaged they are with their local community, which in turn can affect how satisfied they feel in life."

CLUB NOTICES

Suspension

Mr G Hill – Castle Ward WMC & Institute (Lincoln)

Clubs Withdrawn

Aberaman Original Band & Musical Institute (South Wales Branch)

The Lonsdale Club (Manchester Branch)

Zingari Club (Derbyshire Branch)

Clubs Closed

Melbourne Social Club (Cumbria Branch)

Maltravers Social Club Ltd (South East Met Branch)

Service Awards presented at Thomas Wilson WMC

Four members of Thomas Wilson Working Mens Club, Gateshead, received their 10-year Service Awards on December 7. Pictured, left to right, with certificates: Club Secretary Brian Nicholson, Chairman Mick Hambling, Vice-Chairman Jeff Humphries and Committee Member Alan Hodgson

Dartford Social Club raises £2,100 for local hospice

Pictured, left to right: Karen (Demelza Hospice Care), Nicky Middleton (Dartford SC), David Knowler (Dartford SC), Adrian Penniall (Dartford SC) and Dean Smith (Infinity Fitness, Kings Hill)

Dartford Social Club in Kent recently presented a cheque for £2,100 to the Demelza Hospice Care For Children charity after staging a special Jersey Boys Dinner Dance at the club.

Members and guests enjoyed a fantastic night dancing to the music of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons while raising money for an inspiring local charity which provides

support for seriously ill children and their families.

"Everyone who came along really enjoyed themselves," said Dartford Social Club Committee Member Adrian Penniall, one of the organisers of the event.

"Special mention must go to Dean Smith of Infinity Fitness, Kings Hill, for his generous donation to the charity total."

Here's your chance to have your own personal copy of *Club Journal* delivered to the address of your choice each month for less than you'd pay for it at the club.

If you would like 12 monthly issues of *Club Journal* for the special rate of £7.50 (meaning that two of the 12 editions will be yours for free), please send a cheque for £7.50 made payable to the Club & Institute Union, along with your name and address, to: *Club Journal*, ACP, 59/60 Thames Street, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 1TX

Northumberland Branch stages 2016 Leek Show



CIU Open Leek Show. Pictured, left to right: RW Stoker (No.7 Division Executive), G Moscrop (Winner), A Hardy (Northumberland Branch President) and D Clough (No.5 Division Executive)



Pictured: J Atherton who won the Heaviest Onion category in the World Leek & Onion Open



Pictured: A Davison, the World Leek Show Open Winner



FOR SERVICE

41-Year Branch Award

Trevor Baker, South East Metropolitan
Malcolm Piper, Derbyshire

21-Year Branch Award

Joe Flint, Derbyshire

10-Year Branch Award

Martin Woolford, Western Counties

50-Year Combined Service Award

Patrick Foley, Kingston-on-Thames WM Club,
North West Metropolitan

Certificate of Merit

David Chandler, Dartford WMC, Kent

Colin Searle, Dartford WMC, Kent

Alan Colls, Dartford WMC, Kent

Stephen Harper, Hawthorn Recreation &
Social Club, Doncaster

Edward Masters, Hawthorn Recreation &
Social Club, Doncaster

John Nadin, Hawthorn Recreation & Social
Club, Doncaster

Stuart Darlington, Locke Park Club &
Institute, South Yorkshire

Gary Young, Woodhouse West End Club,
South Yorkshire

Stephen Todd, Handsworth Social Club,
South Yorkshire

Richard Reynolds, Woodhouse West End
Club, South Yorkshire

Long Service Award

Andy Chambers, West Moor & District Social
Club, Northumberland

David Fish, Northern Social Club,
Northumberland

NORTH EAST METROPOLITAN BRANCH HOLD THEIR ANNUAL CRIBBAGE COMPETITIONS

The 2016 North East Metropolitan Branch Cribbage Competitions took place in October and November of last year at three different venues.

The Singles competition took place at Ponders End Working Men's Club, and was won by Sam Huckle from Ponders End WMC, who beat Mick Eagle from March United Services Club.

The Team Competition took place at Belle Vue Social Club, Colchester, and was won by the team from Ponders End Working Men's Club, captained by John Tabor.

The Pairs Competition took place at

March United Services Club. Derek Allen and Peter Halls defeated Mick Eagle and Dave Wiley from March United Services Club in the final.

A competition also took place for those knocked out in the first rounds of the main competition where pairs then have to play to lose to progress.

This year the winners of the "Nettie Seat" trophy were Kit Carson and Geoff Blackburn from Chatteris Working Men's Club, who saw off the challenge posed by John Baker and Sylvester McKnight from Colchester Belle Vue Club in an entertaining final.



The Pairs Competition took place at March United Services Club and was won by Derek Allen and Peter Halls of Belle Vue Social Club (second and third left, with trophy) who defeated Mick Eagle and Dave Wiley from March United Services Club. They were presented with their trophy by Branch Vice-President John Tabor (far left) and Branch Games Secretary Sean Belton (second from right)



Pictured, above (left to right): Singles winner Sam Huckle and runner-up Mick Eagles with Branch Vice-President John Tabor and Branch Games Secretary Sean Belton. Pictured, left: The winning Ponders End Working Men's Club team, captained by John Tabor, receive their trophy from Branch Secretary John Baker. Pictured with Branch Vice-President John Tabor (third from left) and Branch Games Secretary Sean Belton (far right). Pictured, right: Kit Carson and Geoff Blackburn of Chatteris WMC receive the 'Nettie Seat' trophy from Branch Vice-President John Tabor and Branch Games Secretary Sean Belton

NEWS IN BRIEF

Great Gonerby Social Club to host charity music night for CLIC Sargent

Great Gonerby Social Club in Lincolnshire is staging a charity music night in March in order to raise funds for CLIC Sargent.

Organisers Julie Gilbert and Rachel Pattison are holding a number of events for the charity, which supports children and young people with cancer and their families.

They completed the Great North Run in Newcastle-upon-Tyne in September and will be running the London Marathon in April.

The music event in Great Gonerby will be held on Friday, March 3, at 7.30pm. It will feature local singers Paula Burrows, Rodeo Jo, Evonne Rivers and Laura Church, with comedienne Ali James as compere.

The pair were inspired to raise funds for the charity by the death of a family friend who sadly lost his battle with lymphoma in October 2014.

There will also be a raffle with a number of great prizes on offer.

Tickets are £7.50 for adults and £5 for under-16s. To book tickets, call Julie on 07752 489153 or Rachel on 07584 031624.





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CHEPSTOW	Saturday 25 February	£13	Winter Ladies Day
DONCASTER	Friday 3 March	£8.25	Afternoon Racing
DONCASTER	Saturday 4 March	£10.55	Afternoon Racing
CHEPSTOW	Monday 13 March	£13	Jumps Racing
HAYDOCK PARK	Wednesday 22 March	£9	1750 Day
CHEPSTOW	Thursday 23 March	£13	Winter Afternoon Jumps Racing
CHEPSTOW	Saturday 8 April	£13	Grand National Race Day
HAYDOCK PARK	Saturday 15 April	£11	Afternoon Jump Racing
CHEPSTOW	Monday 17 April	£13	Big Easter Family Fun Day
CHEPSTOW	Friday 28 April	£13	Spring Evening Jumps Racing
HAYDOCK PARK	Saturday 29 April	£11	TENsational Opener
HAYDOCK PARK	Saturday 13 May	£11	TENsational Pertemps Swinton Hurdle
HAYDOCK PARK	Friday 26 May	£9	TENsational
HAYDOCK PARK	Saturday 27 May	£12.50	TENsational Saturday
HAYDOCK PARK	Thursday 8 June	£9	1750 Day
HAYDOCK PARK	Saturday 10 June	£12.50	TENsational Saturday
HAYDOCK PARK	Wednesday 14 June	£9	1750 Day

Stop Press: Please send cheques two weeks before the race meeting date

CIU Racing Club Booking Form

Number of tickets required (minimum 6) _____ Price per ticket £ _____

Racecourse _____

Date of meeting: _____

Cheque enclosed for £ _____
(Made payable to racecourse involved)

PLEASE NOTE, DUE TO CHANGES WITH RACECOURSE CONDITIONS, BOOKING FORMS AND CHEQUES SHOULD BE RECEIVED AT THE ADDRESS BELOW AT LEAST 21 DAYS BEFORE THE EVENT.

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Club Address: _____

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 Tel: 01322 223646
 Kent Branch

Main picture: Dartford WMC has an impressive array of cask ales on tap. Inset: Manager Nick Byram picks up a CAMRA Award from broadcaster Sally Nugent at last year's Club Mirror Awards

DARTFORD WORKING MEN'S CLUB

Well-served cask ale is at the heart of the member experience at Dartford Working Men's Club in Kent with the club reaching the four-strong shortlist for this year's CAMRA 'Club of the Year' Award in association with *Club Mirror*

When it comes to cask ale, Dartford WMC is in a very elite band of clubs, having earned national recognition from the Campaign For Real Ale (CAMRA), including an entry in the organisation's *Good Beer Guide* – the bible of cask ale drinkers.

And this year the Kent club has made it to the final round for CAMRA's Club of the Year Award run in association with *Club Mirror*, the only CIU club to make the prestigious shortlist, with the winning club to be announced in February after a final round of judging (which includes *Club Journal* publisher Sean Ferris as a judge).

No wonder, given the huge commitment the club makes to cask ales with 15 hand pulls on the bar and over 500 different beers served throughout the year.

The club's Bar Manager, Nick Byram, who is the driving force behind Dartford WMC's rise as a cask ale venue of major repute, is delighted with the recognition from CAMRA.

"Cask ale is at the centre of everything we do at the club and it's always very pleasing to gain recognition from such a respected organisation as CAMRA," he says.

"We used to have a ceiling of 1,600 members but we've now upped that to 1,800 as there was such a demand to join.

"Serving well-kept beers from breweries all over the country is a real passion of mine and the skill and dedication on the part of our staff really ensures that the beer we serve is in absolutely top condition."

Indeed, such is Nick's passion for cask ale that he has started up his own brewery – Caveman Brewery – and many of its products naturally find their way to the Dartford WMC bar where they can be sampled by some very appreciative members.

Much of the appeal of the club's ale offering is that Nick works extremely hard to source unusual beers from some of the smaller, less well-known microbreweries which are popping up all over the UK.

He says: "Our members love the variety of beers which we serve and we make sure that we're very active on social media – particularly Twitter and Instagram – so they know exactly what beers we've got on any given night.

"We've also set up a Whatsapp group so we can send out instant messages to the members who subscribe to it."

But while the cask ale offering is a key part of the club's appeal with several beer festivals taking place there throughout the year, there is, of course, an array of other activities and entertainments going on at the club throughout the year.

"We have a very hardworking and forward-thinking Committee," says Nick. "They're always looking to do more for our members and give them more reasons to come through the doors.

"We have bands playing live every Saturday night and Sundays are devoted to single artists, discos or karaoke sessions.

"We have also launched a series of 'Cotton Club' gigs in memory of club member Roger Cotton which are proving really popular.

"We've booked a number of top live tribute bands and then charge £10-£12 a ticket. Recently we've had Marc Bolan tribute act TooRex, the Rollin' Stoned and in February we have the Bohemians who perform Queen's greatest hits."

Add in an excellent food offering, a renowned folk club and a friendly atmosphere and it's clear that Dartford WMC has a real winning hand.

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YOUR LETTERS

Below we publish a letter from Mark Ferguson CMD of Brinsworth Social Club, Rotherham, who puts forward the case for all CIU clubs to embrace the digital era fully. If you would like to send in a letter on this, or any other club-related subject, please email: justin@clubjournal.co.uk

I am the Treasurer of my club and am passionate about it being run properly and successfully. From my practical experience, education and training, I know how a club being well run, with dedicated management, will determine if it survives or not.

I have recently attended a CIU Residential Education weekend in Coventry. This reiterated the need for clubs to be run as businesses, keeping control of finances, getting the best deal from breweries, controlling stock, renegotiating the accountants' fee and many other basic housekeeping tips.

I am therefore absolutely astounded by the article regarding the CIU's response to the Government's Making Tax Digital initiative in December's *Club Journal* which appears to give the impression that CIU clubs are full of "Flat earth men" and Luddites, who:

- Cannot operate a computer
- Can only do longhand book keeping and their successors can only be taught this way
- Are dependent on external sources to process returns to HMRC and are digitally excluded.

When I read the article I cringed with embarrassment to think that this is a true reflection of the movement.

Every club must have a computer, the management committee have a duty to train and educate someone to operate it, to install basic software, even if it's only a basic spreadsheets and word documents. A few hours spent learning basic skills will save hours of manual toil on a weekly basis. It will also eliminate the need to pay someone else for what can easily be done by the club.

In the early days of the digital evolution, the government paid businesses to process PAYE on line. The RTI, was a daunting process, but once users have got used to it, it has saved time, in the long run.

The auto-enrolment has been a long and worrying process, but now it's up and running, it's second nature. It also gives employees more security and encourages them to invest in the future.

Perhaps the CIU needs to include in its education programme IT weekends and how to make the most of computers. The hours spent doing double entry book keeping could be put to better use.

It is of absolutely paramount importance that clubs embrace the digital age. We need to be in-step with technology not years behind.

Making Tax Digital, is on its way, and on its way for clubs too.

**Mark Ferguson CMD
Brinsworth Social Club, Rotherham**

Head Office Manager and Club Journal Editor Stephen Goulding replies:

The article in the December edition of the Club Journal outlined the Union's response to the new HMRC initiative 'Making Tax Digital' in which the Union President stated that few CIU clubs currently operate their book keeping records by computer.

The points raised in Mark Ferguson's letter are valid and we must all look to operate our business as efficiently as we can. This may include the use of computers, where appropriate, against more traditional methods.

We are currently working to create a new, modern, education scheme for all our members and will look to include some IT / modular training that will be of immense benefit to clubs who are eager to embrace the digital age.

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IT'S A 'SMART' IDEA TO SLASH BILL'S AND SAVE ENERGY.!

Secretary John Lane at Acomb Wmc and his Club Committee have been over the moon with their recent saving's and given how times are tough these saving's have been truly valuable to the Club. John goes onto state, " We were spending before Smart Energy's Products were installed a huge **£3,000 per Month** on our Club's electric spends so our Committee could not continue to ignore this any longer. Smart Energy have installed a number of energy efficient products into our Club and what we have saved over the past few years has been remarkable. Firstly our Club's Cellar Cooler was having to run 24/7 on our club's electric bill throughout the Autumn and Winter Month's and Our Approved Supplier Smart Energy advised us that our system only had to be running on our electric bill for just 6 Month's of the Year. We installed their FREE AIR CELLAR SYSTEM a few years back and have been **saving £200 per Month** on our cellar costs by using the cold air from outside from October through to April to cool our beer. I have to say this has been a complete NO BRAINER with a rapid return on our investment of just 12 Month's. As we could see our electric bills dropping we then asked Smart Energy Back last year who then installed LED lighting into our Club Concert Room by swapping out our old inefficient lights and the saving's were instant and are absolutely phenomenal. It is the the best thing that has happened to our Club in a long time. We have seen a huge drop in our electric spend of a further **£500 per Month**. Myself and our Committee didn't stop there as after 6 Month's we then asked Smart Energy back to install LED lighting throughout our Club. The Committee and I would strongly encourage other Club's to take advantage of the fantastic help and advice available from CIU's Approved Energy Experts-Smart Energy. Just by taking on their advice we have reduced our electric spends by **£1,300 per Month** and saved over **£15,000 per Year** by thinking 'SMARTER' to cool our beer, swap our old lights out for Low Energy LED Lighting and also heat our Club rooms up as and when we need to individually.

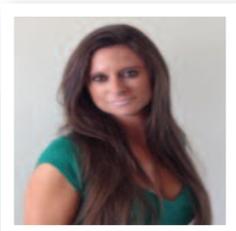


John Lane-Club Secretary..... Saving a huge £1,300 per Month on their electric spend after thinking 'Smarter' with the help of Smart Energy's advice. GRAND TOTAL SAVING'S OF £15,600 PER YEAR

Secretary Dave Ibbotson and President Frank Hunter of Darlington East End Wmc are yet another Club who have been thinking 'Smarter' lately. We explained to the Club after performing an energy management survey that continuing to heat club rooms with old conditioning units over 10 years old is one of the main reasons as to why their electric spends each Month were so high. Secretary Dave Ibbotson goes onto state, 'Phil Towndraw of Smart Energy offered our Club some very sound advice and was quick to notice that our Club Concert Room upstairs was taking up a big portion of our spend with the area being large and used regularly for our events and entertainment. The old air conditioning units were also not efficient and just caused drafts amongst our members. Phil stated that if we were to just look at heating this room with Low Watt Panel Heaters we could dramatically start to reduce our bills. We have had the heaters installed over the past few years now and we are delighted to say that we have been making **saving's of £490 per Month** on our electric spend just by replacing our old units in one room area. The heaters not only are energy efficient but they do not cause any drafts and our concert room heats up in the space of 15 minutes. We have just asked Smart Energy to come back and replace the rest of our old air-conditioning units in three other room areas of our club to save even further money on our bill's because we overall have been happy with what we have saved and this has helped our club out hugely. We also have their best selling product The Free Air Cellar System in our club too so that we no longer have to pay to cool our beer throughout the Autumn and Winter Month's which has also delivered further saving's to our club. We wouldn't hesitate in recommending both Phil and Amy's advice to any Club who are serious about wanting to save for a brighter future.'



President Frankie Hunter and Secretary Dave Ibbotson..... Saving £490 Per Month on their electric spend after thinking 'Smarter' with their Approved Suppliers Advice. GRAND TOTAL SAVING'S OF £5,880 PER YEAR



Helping Club's Is What We Do Best.

Derbyshire Branch Executive John Batchelor and Secretary of Alvaston and Crewton Wmc is a great supporter of Smart Energy and states that more Club's should be thinking smarter to reduce their overheads within their Cellar. John like many other Secretaries was still paying to cool the Club's beer throughout the colder month's and still didn't realise that the running of their cellar cooler was costing the club in excess of £3,000 per year when having to use them 24/7 all year round.



John states" Smart Energy advised us that we would only need to use our existing cellar cooler for 6 months of the year and that we could use the cold air from outside when 10 degrees and below. We were told that this would then save 50% of our existing running costs so our Committee jumped at the chance to have their Free Air Cellar System installed and as stated over the 6 month period when their Senior Engineer recorded our saving's we had saved £1,590 so we are delighted and would not hesitate to recommend this system to any other Club who are having to run their cellar coolers 24/7 in order to keep their beer cool."

John Batchelor- Club Secretary.. SAVING £1,590 OVER 6 MONTHS ON HIS CELLAR.

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<div style="background-color: #2196F3; color: white; padding: 10px; border-radius: 50%; display: inline-block;"> 60% <small>GUARANTEED SAVINGS OF £250-£500 PER MONTH</small> </div>	<div style="background-color: #2196F3; color: white; padding: 10px;"> SMART GAS OPTIMISER <small>Save thousands and optimise your old gas boiler without the need for huge outlay or changing it and slash your gas bills throughout the winter month's.</small> </div>
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<div style="background-color: #9C27B0; color: white; padding: 10px;"> 60% <small>GUARANTEED SAVINGS OF £250-£500 PER MONTH</small> </div>	
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0800 0730041
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Contracts and Handbook 2017 will be available from Branch Offices

The CIU Contracts and Handbook are currently being updated and will shortly be printed for 2017.

The publications will be available to buy from your local Branch. The documents available are:

- Club Staff Handbook
- Club Steward Contract
- Bar Manager Contract
- Bar/Cleaning Staff Contract
- Bar/Cleaning Staff Terms and Conditions of Employment
- Bar/Cleaning Temporary Staff Terms and Conditions of Employment
- Club Staff Accommodation Contract

The club documents are priced as follows: £5 for each Handbook; £2.50 for each Contract (except the Club Staff Accommodation Contract which is priced at £1.30 as a special limited edition) and £1.50 for each Terms and Conditions document.

These documents – available from your branch – take in all the current legislative requirements and have been produced to a high, professional standard.

Please note that orders may be subject to a slight delay as the new documents are produced.

National Executive Committee Dates for 2017

The remaining dates for the meetings of the National Executive Committee in 2017 are as follows:

- March - 1st/2nd
- April (Blackpool) - 5th/6th/7th/8th
- May - 3rd/4th
- June - 7th/8th
- July - 5th/6th
- August - 2nd/3rd
- September - 6th/7th
- October - 4th/5th
- November - 1st/2nd
- December - 6th/7th

SPOTLIGHT ON... BOB RUSSELL CMD

We talk to NEC Member Bob Russell CMD, President of Wessex Branch and Treasurer of Solent Social Club, to get his thoughts on the current state of clubland

How did you first become involved with clubs and the CIU?

I was introduced to clubs in the Derby area at a very early age as my uncle was a club steward, but at the age of 15 I joined the Navy and being at sea or in different parts of the country I stopped using them for a number of years.

It was only towards the end of my service when I was stationed at HMS Daedalus that I joined the Solent Social Club (then Lee on Solent WMC). I then joined the Committee later becoming Treasurer, then Secretary and now back to Treasurer.

If the Prime Minister offered you three wishes on behalf of clubs, what would they be?

Stop supermarkets selling ridiculously cheap beer and spirits, allow smoking in properly supervised and ventilated areas, remove MGD and go back to VAT at a reasonable rate on machines and an extra one is to stop that pig flying about!

Are there any particular areas of modern life which you see as having a knock-on effect to clubs?

One of our older members was complaining the other day that the youngsters of today didn't use the club as they didn't socialise. As he finished saying that a 20ish-year-old member walked in and I put it to him that he didn't socialise.

In all seriousness, he was highly offended and said that he was on Facebook, twitter and snapchat every day and commented on his mates' pages all the time!

What do you say to the doom-mongers out there?

Just look around you – well-run clubs are doing very nicely thank you and if you look at pubs in your area you will find that a lot more of them have gone than clubs in the same area.

What are the most positive signs you've seen in the club sector in the past three years?

My Branch, the Wessex Branch, has campaigned for equality for a number of years even putting motions at Blackpool when it was not a very popular thing to do, so it is nice to see a growth in the number of women who now use clubs in their own right and without having to be the "guest" of a male member.

Bob Russell
CMD



If you could award an OCE (Order of the Club Empire) who would it be to and why?

Following on from my last comment I would award the OCE to South East Midlands Branch Secretary Carol Goddard who was the first and still the only female member of the NEC. I think she deserves it for putting up with all of us male NEC members.

What clubs do you belong to and which is your favourite club?

I belong to the Crofton Club in Hampshire but my main club is the Solent Social Club. I have been a member there for over 40 years and I was first on the Committee and then became Treasurer.

I soon moved on to become full-time Secretary/Bar Manager, a position which I held for 35 years. Six months ago, I retired and was immediately co-opted back on to the Committee as Treasurer. So, that has to be my favourite club as I have put so much into it.

Who has been your biggest influence in your club life?

The biggest influence in my club life has to have been Mr Robin Etheridge: he was the Wessex Branch Secretary from 1979 to 2002 and also on the NEC during that time.

When I had just started as the Secretary of my club he persuaded me to stand for election to the branch executive which I did and I have now been on the branch for 27 years, the last 14 as President.

If it hadn't of been for Robin I don't think I would have been as involved as I have been and if not for his encouragement I might even have given up the Club Committee.

Law and Finance Residential Weekend 2017 set for Royal Court Hotel in Coventry in March

Apply now for the Union's Club Law & Club Finance Weekend, which will be held at the Royal Court Hotel, Coventry in March and costs £75 per student. Applications are also being taken for the Club Management Diploma Exams taking place in May 2017

Applications have now opened for the Club Law & Club Finance Residential Weekend taking place in March.

Being held at the Royal Court Hotel in Coventry from Thursday March 16 to Sunday March 19, the course will be excellent preparation for those taking the Club Management Diploma (CMD) Exams in May.

The weekend aims to give attendees the opportunity to learn about running their clubs more efficiently as well as getting them up to speed on the latest legislation, including such crucial topics as financial control, employment law, health and safety, club rules, food hygiene regulations, insurance and suspensions and expulsions.

A charge of £75 (VAT inclusive) will be made for the course but applicants will need to meet the costs of travel to the venue.

The course cost covers full board, lectures on Club Law and Club Finance and includes students folder, pad and literature.

Applicants must be a financial member of their club and hold the Union Associate and Pass Cards. An application form can be obtained from your Club Secretary or downloaded from www.wmciu.org.uk

For further information on the course, contact Cath Fitzpatrick at Head Office – Tel: (020) 7226 0221; Fax: (020) 7354 1847; email: cfitzpatrick@wmciu.org

The closing date for applications to the Residential Weekend is **FRIDAY MARCH 17** and the 30 places will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis.

Meanwhile, applications are also open for the two CMD Exams which are being held in May.

The exams are about instilling confidence and helping students highlight their strengths in areas of Club Law and Accountancy.

The Club Law exam will take place on Saturday May 6, 2017 and the Club Accountancy exam will be held on Saturday



May 13, 2017.

If you pass both examinations and obtain first place in both sections you will be presented with your diploma at the Union's Annual Conference in Blackpool.

The cost for taking the exams is a refundable deposit of £10 per section (£20 for both sections). The closing date for applications is **MONDAY MARCH 6**.

Further information and examination forms are available from Cath Fitzpatrick in the Leisure Department (see contact details above) or visit: www.wmciu.org.uk

KNIGHTHOOD FOR APPG SECRETARY DAVID CRAUSBY MP



David Crausby MP, the Secretary of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Non-Profit Making Members' Clubs, received a knighthood in the New Year's honours.

The Bolton North East Labour MP will become Sir David Crausby in recognition of his parliamentary and political services.

The 70-year-old, who was born in Bury, began his political career in earnest when he was elected to Bury Council in 1979.

After moving to work in Bolton as an engineer he stood for parliamentary election in Bolton North East in 1992, losing narrowly to the Conservatives.

He stood again in 1997 and recorded a landslide victory to become the new Member of Parliament for the area.

He has comfortably held that seat at a further four general elections since that point, most recently in 2015.

EXPANDED ONLINE VERSION OF CLUB JOURNAL AVAILABLE

As part of the Union's continuing commitment to offer more to its members, each month we will be publishing an online expanded version of *Club Journal* which will be available to download from the CIU's official website.

Published a week after the paper version of the magazine has been delivered, the online version will have an expanded features section with more content designed to give you the information you need to continue to make your club a success.

To visit the Union's official website and download the expanded online version of *Club Journal*, visit: www.wmciu.org.uk



SERVICE AWARD APPLICATION REMINDER

Please remember to allow sufficient time when applying for your Service Award Certificates as all applications are approved initially by your local Branch Office then approved at the monthly NEC meeting in London. All certificates take around six to eight weeks to be approved, engraved and signed.



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SUPER XXII GETS UNDERWAY IN FEBRUARY

Super League XXII begins this month as the 12 teams battle it out for the prestigious title. Wigan Warriors were the worthy champions last time out but will face mighty challenges from several quarters over the next 23 rounds of pulsating rugby league. *Club Journal* reports...



Wigan Warriors won last season's Super League

The Betfred Super League XXII gets underway in February and brings with it the usual promise of finely tuned athleticism and physical power as the 12 teams battle it out for the title over the 23 rounds of the regular season before the top eight teams enter the play-offs.

One of the teams to watch this season is Warrington who won the League Leaders' Shield and finished as runners-up in both the Grand Final and Challenge Cup final last year.

Coach Tony Smith, however, is not taking anything for granted this season and is expecting a highly competitive battle throughout the rounds, particularly given that the season has been rejigged by

the tournament organisers.

The teams will be playing a second set of fixtures over the Spring Bank Holiday following a week's delay to the start of the season.

There is also further disruption in May due to England's scheduled game against Samoa in Sydney.

"It's certainly going to be a challenging season," said Smith. "I think the structure of the season makes it hard. Having two Easters over the season is going to have an impact on some teams - hopefully not mine - but I think it's going to take its toll on many teams.

"We've also got a mid-season Test which will provide a big ask of our international players, having to travel to the other side of

the world. In the past it would have been played in Europe which has an effect on them of one week.

"Travelling to Sydney and back is a big trip to make in what is already a rigorous season, along with having training sessions throughout the season with the national team, on top of what they already do at club level, so there are some huge demands and some huge juggling.

"I think there's been some huge sacrifices being made for the international campaign, let's hope it's all worth it. The structure of our whole sport has been tipped on its head. I hope it's for the right reasons."

"We're very proud of what we did last year - we weren't far off all three available

Live Super League XXII Fixtures

Thursday, February 9, 8pm
Sky Sports 1 HD
St Helens v Leeds Rhinos

Friday, February 10, 8pm
Sky Sports 2 HD
Widnes Vikings v Huddersfield Giants

Saturday, February 11, 5pm
Sky Sports 3 HD
Catalans Dragons v Warrington Wolves

Thursday, February 16, 8pm
Sky Sports 2 HD
Huddersfield Giants v Salford Red Devils

Friday, February 17, 8pm
Sky Sports 1 HD
Leigh Centurions v Leeds Rhinos

Thursday, February 23, 8pm
Sky Sports 2 HD
Hull FC v Catalans Dragons

Friday, February 24, 8pm
Sky Sports 2 HD
Wigan Warriors v Widnes Vikings

Thursday, March 2, 8pm
Sky Sports 2 HD
Castleford Tigers v Leeds Rhinos

trophies - but we can't take anything for granted," he said. "I think we've got a better team than last year and I think some of the other teams will be better than last year too.

"There's always a few surprises along the way. Who would have predicted what happened to Leeds last year? That's the beauty of our sport, there's always some twists and turns.

"Catalans are an unknown quantity to some degree because they've got a lot of fresh faces."

Meanwhile, reigning champions Wigan Warriors, who secured their fourth Super League title last season, despite some major injury problems, will be without some key men for a large portion of the early season.



Warrington Wolves finished last season as runners-up

Fullback Sam Tomkins is likely to be out until April as he continues his recovery from foot surgery, while dangerous winger Dom Manfredi is set to miss the whole of the regular season after undergoing a knee re-construction and long-serving hooker Michael McIlorum, who broke his ankle against Brisbane Broncos in the World Club Series last February, will miss the start of the new season in order to undergo an operation.

Wigan have re-signed Thomas Leuluai and Joe Burgess after stints in the NRL, replacing departed duo Matty Smith and Josh Charnley.

The club also brought in French internationals Morgan Escare and Romain Navarrete and Wane admits there is plenty of room for improvement on their title-winning year.

Wigan coach Shaun Wane said: "Our attack wasn't great last year so there's a lot to work on," the coach said.

"Eighty per cent of our review was negative, there are a lot of things we have to do better and the players recognise that.

"The fact is that we only won one thing. Warrington were the best team, the most consistent team throughout the year."

In the World Club Challenge, Wigan will look to become the first British team to beat Australian opposition since 2012 when they face NRL winners Cronulla

Sharks on February 19.

Week four sees even more marquee matches with a repeat of the 2016 Grand Final between Warrington Wolves and Wigan Warriors while beaten semi-finalists Hull FC and St Helens also square off under the lights a day later.

Other highlights include Leigh Centurions' first game in the competition at the state of the art Leigh Sports Village when they play Leeds Rhinos in week two, while local rivals, St Helens and Wigan Warriors, will meet on Good Friday.

This season will mark the competition's 20th Grand Final with the finale on October 7.

Sky Sports Head of Rugby League Neville Smith said: "We can't wait to be at Langtree Park on the opening night of the season for what should be another fantastic year of rugby league on Sky Sports. The struggles of last season's champions Leeds and semi-finalists Huddersfield show the unpredictability of the competition and it's anyone's guess who'll make this year's Grand Final."

Sky Sports Rugby League expert Brian Carney added: "With the champions Wigan promising they can get better and now a new club in Leigh to shake up the competition, I'm confident Sky Sports will bring the most fascinating season we could have wished for. Roll on February 9th."

ENGLAND EMBARK ON SIX NATIONS DEFENCE

The RBS 6 Nations Championship, which begins in February and concludes in March, will have a bonus points system in place for the 2017 tournament which rewards try scoring, a move which could produce some exciting games



England won the title after victory in all five rounds in 2016

The news that the Six Nations organisers would be introducing a bonus points system for the 2017 tournament (on a trial basis) was greeted with equal trepidation and applause when it was announced in the latter half of last year.

Many traditionalists threw up their hands in horror at the prospect of such an esteemed and established tournament changing its structure and thereby forever altering the 'product' on offer.

Others have embraced the notion of promoting attacking rugby and rewarding teams for scoring tries, a formula which is already in operation in the World Cup, the Rugby Championship, the Aviva Premiership and the Guinness PRO12.

Under the new trial, four match points will be awarded to a winning team, with an extra point if they score four tries or more, while losing teams will be awarded no points but can collect a bonus point for scoring four tries or more or lose by a margin of seven points or less.

A draw will result in the teams being awarded two points each with an additional bonus point on offer for scoring four tries or more.

In addition, a team which wins all five matches, thus achieving the Grand Slam – as England did in the 2016 tournament – will be awarded a further three points.

It's certainly a significant change to the format but one that Eddie Jones, coach of reigning champions

England, is taking in his stride.

"Bonus points won't affect how we do things," he said at the official launch of the 2017 Six Nations in January.

"I have coached rugby for 20 years and it has not had one iota of influence on how I have gone about things. I've grown up with bonus points, I coached in Super Rugby when they first came in. It's always been a factor that if you play well, you win. If you play really well, you win with a bonus point - it's as simple as that."

Certainly, England were lauded for their attacking play during the 2016 tournament and Jones will no doubt expect his team to move forward a level from where they were 12 months ago.

"I want us to set a benchmark in the first game against France," he said. "The last time England played well in the first round was against Wales in 2006. Before that you have to go back to the great side of 2001-03."

England have been installed as title favourites by most bookmakers with Ireland - fresh from their autumn feat of beating the World Champion All Blacks in Chicago - also heavily tipped for glory.

The Irish – who also recorded victories over Australia and South Africa in 2016 – have been boosted by the news that talisman Johnny Sexton should be fit for Six Nations duty after an injury scare.

The fly-half has been widely touted for the Lions No.10 berth for the tour of New Zealand in the summer and he will be desperate to show his abilities once more

on the Six Nations stage.

For his part, manager Joe Schmidt is convinced that Ireland will be there or thereabouts when it comes to challenging for the title, having come through an injury-ravaged tournament with credit last time out.

"The last three years I kind of had to put the pin in the wall and make a marker and I think I said in the first two years that a top-two finish would be something I would be really happy with," said Schmidt.

"Last year, just on the back of losing so much experience and so much ability through injury, it was a bit of a rebuilding time for us. I think we built not too badly, I think it is going to be more competitive than ever but again it would be great if we could get a top-two finish."

"Nothing protects you from injuries to key players though. That could still happen and derail you a bit but hopefully we will be as well prepared as we can be."

Ireland's first opponents, Scotland, will be hopeful of causing an upset at Murrayfield as Vern Cotter prepares the team for the last time as coach ahead of his summer departure.

The New Zealander believes that Scotland are now a competitive force and have come a long way since they finished the 2015 tournament with the Wooden Spoon after five straight losses.

"Scottish rugby is on the up as both Glasgow and Edinburgh have qualified in Europe and we've got players

Ireland are expected to be a leading contender in the 2017 Six Nations



in successful teams like Saracens," he said. "I think coming through a World Cup and reaching a quarter-final has helped.

"There have been games that have been very disappointing to lose and from those there have been honest reviews that have helped us move forward.

"When this team gets more time together in the Six Nations it will be a great competition for us because there are opportunities to go on a Lions tour.

"I think we have player in serious consideration. We need a good Six Nations. Then if they get that experience it's going to filter down through Scottish rugby."

Meanwhile, Wales open their 2017 Six Nations account against Italy and have a new captain in the burly form of Ospreys lock Alun Wyn Jones who has replaced Cardiff Blues flanker Sam Warburton, who led the team with distinction for six years.

"There's a new competitive edge about the squad with a new dynamic in the captain," said Wales coach Rob Howley. "Alun Wyn has certainly put his footprint on his captaincy style and will flourish in the role."

As well as their victories over South Africa and Argentina in the autumn, Wales narrowly beat Japan, but their series began with defeat by Australia. He said: "We've got over the line in the autumn three times so I think the players can take pride in that. But we all accept that we need to go to another level."

There are seven uncapped players in the Wales squad and Howley, who has taken charge of Wales while Warren Gatland is on secondment to the Lions, believes these new faces will help the team to improve.

"There is a different feel," he said. "There was a lot of energy, but maybe players who have been in our envi-

ronment for a period of time have said something to themselves that they haven't been good enough. And ultimately we want to set the standards.

"It's a big year as everyone knows, but that standard has to be set in the Welsh jersey and the last couple (of Six Nations) we've come up short - second and joint second and that hurts."

There is a real sense of optimism in Italy with a new coaching team in place led by former Ireland international Conor O'Shea.

O'Shea admits he can't wait for his first Six Nations campaign in charge of Italy. The former Harlequins director of rugby took over as head coach in the summer of 2016 with the team winning Tests against Canada and the USA and losing to Argentina. They also recorded their first-ever win over South Africa, beating the Springboks 20-18 in November.

"We're obviously a team that is striving to work in the right way, and if we do that then results will look after themselves."

2017 Six Nations TV schedule

ROUND 1

Saturday 4th February

Scotland v Ireland 2.25pm (BBC1)

England v France 4.50pm (ITV1)

Sunday 5th February

Italy v Wales 2pm (ITV1)

ROUND 2

Saturday 11th February

Italy v Ireland 2.45pm (ITV1)

Wales v England 4.50pm (BBC1)

Sunday 12th February

France v Scotland 3pm (BBC1)

ROUND 3

Saturday 25th February

Scotland v Wales 2.25pm (BBC1)

Ireland v France 4.50pm (ITV)

Sunday 26th February

England v Italy 3pm (ITV1)

ROUND 4

Friday March 10th

Wales v Italy 8.05pm (BBC1)

Saturday March 11th

Italy v France 1.30pm (ITV1)

England v Scotland 4pm (ITV1)

ROUND 5

Saturday March 18th

Scotland v Italy 12.30pm (BBC)

France v Wales 2.45pm (ITV)

Ireland v England 5pm (ITV1)

The FA Cup live on BT Sport

Call now 0800 678 1061





The 26th CIU



Beer & Trades Exhibition

Friday April 7, 1pm-5pm

Norcalympia

Norbreck Castle Hotel

Blackpool

THE 26TH CIU BEER & TRADES EXHIBITION

Union Vice-President John Tobin looks ahead to the CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition in the Norcalympia at the Norbreck Castle Hotel in Blackpool on Friday, April 7 and promises a fantastic day out for delegates

This April will see the CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition being held for the third time at the Norcalympia at the Norbreck Castle Hotel in Blackpool.

The event certainly has a lot to live up to after the two previous shows at this magnificent venue but we're very confident after many months of planning that it will do just that.

As Union Vice-President, the show comes under my remit and I've been delighted at how it has progressed over the past two years to become a 'must-attend' event during Conference Weekend and a worthy curtain-raiser to the main event, the Annual Meeting, which takes place on the Saturday.

There will be more exhibitors than ever before, more activities to take part in, with the result that we are expecting attendance levels to be even higher than in 2015 and 2016.

While the key purpose of the show is to boost your club's business and get the lowdown on the latest products from all manner of suppliers in order to help your club flourish financially, there is also a major emphasis on having an enjoyable afternoon.

The show is an ideal opportunity to mix and mingle with other club folk in an informal atmosphere and exchange ideas on boosting

business, as well as take part in a number of activities, including bingo sessions, prize draws and pool competitions.

Heineken will be showcasing a range of products with delegates each receiving a set of complimentary drinks tokens.

Dransfields – the Preferred Supplier of gaming machines to the Union – will also be a major presence at the show.

As well as demonstrating the latest gaming technology, they have several activities planned throughout the afternoon with some fantastic prizes up for grabs.

Other exhibitors who confirmed their attendance for the 26th Beer & Trades Show include ACE Furniture, Aon, BT Sport, the Campaign For Real Ale, Heineken, Dransfields, Just Enrolment Plus Ltd and Rijo42.

It is shaping up to be a great occasion so I look forward to seeing you there.



John Tobin (centre) with Graeme (left) and Josh Miller (right) of Ace Furniture



A delegate tries out his footballing skills on the BT Sport stand



Union Vice-President John Tobin (left) with Heineken UK National Account Manager Graeme Mitchell at the 2016 CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition



Delegates had the chance to 'play their cards right' and win prizes on the Dransfields stand during the 2016 show



The Head Office team will be at the show to answer your questions



John Tobin (right) and former England and Nottingham Forest player Trevor Francis on the BT Sport stand at the 2016 show



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33-38 King Street, Blackpool FY1 3EJ.
Enjoy your visit with us at the club.
Good all-round entertainment.
Bookings for coach parties accepted.
Room available for hire.
Sec: Mr D Saint or Treasurer Mrs G Cornwall
Club: (01253) 626 308; Office: (01253) 290 322
www.blackpoolrbl.co.uk
email: blackpoolbritishlegion@gmail.com

You've been to the rest – now visit the best!

Voted the best club in the North West on TV's "The One Show".

BLOOMFIELD CLUB & INSTITUTE

128 Bloomfield Road, Blackpool FY1 6JW
Free entertainment seven nights a week along with your favourite games
• Bingo • Tote • Supa5
The club is on one level with disabled toilet facilities.
Coach parties and football fans welcome.
Contact Secretary on (01253) 344583

KNOTT END WORKING MEN'S CLUB

Offers a great welcome to CIU members and parties. Why not try
• a visit to the seaside • a ferry ride to Fleetwood
• a bowling green competition
or just our good food and entertainment.
SALISBURY AVENUE, KNOTT END-ON-SEA, LANCs.
Bar telephone (01253) 810362
Telephone Secretary Mrs Karen Bradford in the office for dates and details – (01253) 812226

ROSEGROVE UNITY Working Men's Club

Holme Lodge, Rossendale Road, Burnley, Lancs, BB11 5DL.
Sited 2 minutes from Junction 9 on M65.
Large car parking space available.
Entertainment Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
Bookings must give 14 days' notice.
contact Secretary on 01282 431 363 or e-mail rosegrove20@gmail.com

GOING TO THE RACES?

BURNLEY MINERS WMSOC

As seen on TV
2 minutes from the Town Centre and Turf Moor.
Entertainment Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
Coach parties by appointment.
Breakfast and/or evening meal.
Tel: Bar (01282) 422 791 or Office (01282) 835 429

BRIGHTON & SUSSEX

EASTBOURNE & DISTRICT TRADE UNION CLUB & INSTITUTE LTD

Clapham House, 48 Seaside, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN22 7QL.
A warm welcome is guaranteed to all CIU associates and guests. A good selection of reasonably priced beers and spirits available. Temporary membership can be arranged at the door for all holiday makers. Large groups or coach parties are welcome with prior arrangements. Situated 5 minutes walk from the beach.
Please contact secretary on (01323) 727703.

EASTBOURNE WORKING MEN'S CLUB

102/104 Firie Road, Eastbourne BN22 8ET.
Tel: (01323) 723322
Email: ewmctd@gmail.com
www.ewmc.club

Visit the one and only workers' club in our lovely South Coast town. We have live music, raffles, bingo, darts, snooker and pool. See our website for coming events. A warm welcome to CIU members all year round.

Littlehampton Trades & Labour Club

Wick Street, Wick, Littlehampton BN17 7JH. Telephone (01903) 714 054
A warm welcome awaits all visitors. Facilities include darts, crib and Sky TV. Catering for private parties can be arranged (14 days' notice please). Live entertainment every Saturday. Coach parties welcome with prior notice, please contact the Secretary.

ESSEX & EAST ANGLIA

COMRADES SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB, CLACTON

A warm welcome awaits at both our premises. 205 Old Road, a short walk from seafront, has live entertainment Saturday evenings, disco Sunday afternoons, back garden and car park. 9 Colne Road is one minute from sea front. Live entertainment Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday afternoons and Saturday evenings. Pool, darts, raffles and bingo at both. Coach parties welcome by ringing the Secretary in advance on (01255) 423 314.

HUNSTANTON (NORFOLK) UNITED SERVICES SOCIAL CLUB

A warm welcome to all visitors. Large enclosed garden and car park with sea views. Three snooker tables, also pool table and darts. Bingo Mondays and Thursdays and one game Saturday evening. Live weekend entertainment. Catering arranged on request. Disabled friendly. Close to Sandringham Royal Estate, Coaches welcome midweek.
Contact Club Steward on (01485) 533360.

SHERINGHAM TYNESIDE CLUB

95 Station Road, Sheringham NR26 8RG
Safe beer garden and parking. Great home-made food at great prices seven days a week. Coaches welcome, contact the Secretary in advance on (01263) 822570

Naval & Military Club (Southend-on-Sea)

20 Royal Terrace, Southend SS1 1DU.
Tel: (01702) 347169
A warm and friendly welcome awaits you. Large rear garden and roof terrace with fantastic views overlooking the seafront and estuary. Live entertainment Saturday nights and Wednesday afternoons. Hot and Cold Food available every day of the week. Local Real Ale Club of the Year. Coach parties welcome but must contact the Secretary/Chairman prior to the visit.

FELIXSTOWE TRADES & LABOUR CLUB

182 High Road West, Felixstowe IP11 9BB
Offers a warm welcome to all visitors. We are open 7 days a week from midday offering a good selection of beers. Entertainment every Saturday night.
Visit our website for more info:
www.ftalc.co.uk

WALTON-ON-NAZE RBL CLUB

Vicarage Lane (off High Street)
Visiting the seaside?
Our newly refurbished and refitted club extends a warm welcome and friendly atmosphere. Two minutes from beach front. Good range of drinks and bar snacks available

New memberships available.
CIU and RBL affiliated coach parties welcome!
Free finger buffet for 49-seater coach visit!
Upgraded buffet at a discount.
Contact Secretary on (01255) 674153

HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT

Leigh Park and District TUWMC

439 Dunsbury Way, Havant PO9 5BD
The largest club on the South Coast
Sited 2 miles from A3(M) and A27 and within 20 minutes' drive of Goodwood and Fontwell Races.
Visiting clubs welcome.
Live bands on Saturday nights and food, darts, snooker and pool available all week.
Please contact the Secretary on (023) 92472624
email: workingmens.ins@btconnect.com
website: www.workingmensclubleighpark.co.uk.

Newport (I.W.) Social Club

13-14 Lower St James Street, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 5HB. Tel: (01983) 527 291
Sited in the centre of town, with a warm friendly atmosphere where you can bring family and friends. Open all day, function room, snooker room, darts, pool and jukebox. Kitchen now open 7 days a week for hot and cold food. Coach parties always welcome by prior arrangement.

COWES COMBINED SERVICES & SOCIAL CLUB

85 High Street, Cowes, Isle of Wight PO31 7AJ.
A warm and friendly welcome is extended to all visitors.
Sited on the sea front with panoramic sea views from the stage dining area, the club has one of the best views in the country.
Ideal for parties and outings.
Freshly prepared meals available 7 days a week.
Disabled facilities. Coach parties very welcome, please notify Secretary or bar manager in advance. Entertainment Friday and Saturday evenings.
Tel: (01983) 716482
email: cowesscsc@onwight.net

HEREFORD & WORCESTERSHIRE

Hereford Welsh Social Club

1 Hinton Road, Hereford, HR2 6BL.
Tel: (01432) 269038/265874
Email: herefordwelshsocialclub@hotmail.co.uk
A friendly welcome is extended to all Associate Members. Live Entertainment every Saturday evening.
Hot and cold food available.
Coaches welcome (please contact Secretary prior to your visit).
Please visit our website:
www.herefordwelshsocialclub.co.uk
"Hereford's most popular social club"

RICHMOND PLACE CLUB

69/71 EDGAR STREET, HEREFORD HR4 9JP
Live entertainment every Saturday. Monthly Country & Western night.
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Shoppers and coach parties very welcome.
Parking for coaches.
Contact Secretary, Les Walker on (01432) 356 529.
email:richmondclubsecretary@btconnect.com

KENT

BEXLEYHEATH WMC

Royal Oak Road, Bexleyheath. DA6 7HG
Telephone (0208) 303 2163
Friendly atmosphere, comfortable surroundings and an excellent range of beers to quench your thirst. Everything you require on your visit to Bluewater and Lakeside shopping centres. Refreshments available.
(Please give advance notice).

SUNDRIDGE PARK WMC

134 BURN TASH LANE, BROMLEY.
Tel: (020) 8464 3638 (Office); (020) 8460 6348 (Club)
Located close to A21 and A20. A warm welcome is extended to all visitors. Two bars serving a wide range of drinks. TV in bar and the lounge. Purpose-built snooker room with four tables. Live entertainment Saturday and Sunday evenings. Coach parties by prior arrangement with the office.

LEEDS & WEST YORKSHIRE

Belle Isle WMC

Belle Isle Road, Leeds LS10 3PE.
Warm and friendly club with large car park, good value beer and large concert room. Live bands Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Coaches welcome.
Contact Secretary on (0113) 2718 768.

Visiting Blackpool or Yorkshire Coast? Haydock Park or York Races?

Then call at: Eland Working Men's Club
Roseberry Street, Eland, West Yorkshire HX5 0HT
For your breakfast on the outward journey. And for an evening's splendid entertainment on your way home. We are only 2 miles from Junction 24, M62 on the A629. A warm welcome extended to all Associate Members. Live entertainment on Saturday nights. Dancing on Thursdays to our resident organist. Fully modernised Concert Room and Lounge. Excellent Games Room. Floodlit Bowling Green. Large Car Park. Sky Sports. BT Sports and free Wi Fi are available. Coach Parties welcome – please let us have 14 days' notice in writing to the Secretary Steve Graydon.
Tel: Club (01422) 373 023. www.elandwmc.web.com.
Telephone pre-bookings to be confirmed in writing to the Secretary.

SWARCLIFFE WORKING MEN'S CLUB

Swarcliffe Avenue, Leeds LS14 5DE
A warm and friendly welcome always assured in the comfortable surroundings of our recently refurbished club. Live entertainment every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening. Relax in the quiet of the lounge or try a game of snooker on one of our three superb tables.
Big screen Sky Sports TV.
Planning a day at the races?
York, Wetherby, Ripon.
We are 2 minutes from the A64 and 5 minutes from the M1. Breakfast and evening meals for large parties available by appointment.
Contact: Glen Doyle (Secretary) – (0113) 2959100

LEICESTER & EAST MIDLANDS

Nottingham Oddfellows Club

89 Humberstone GATE, Leicester.
TELEPHONE: (0116) 262 0181
262 5404 (Evenings) – CIU Affiliated
City Centre Club. Coach park right outside premises 2 minutes from centre of Leicester. Coach parties and parties always welcome. Food supplied hot or cold – 7 days' notice or please phone prior to visit. Children welcome. Dances Monday, Tuesday and Friday.
Entertainment available.
Phone or write to Secretary Eric Johnson

SKEGNESS EX-SERVICE CLUB

2 Grand Parade, Skegness, PE25 2UN.
Telephone: (01754) 762113

Located on the seafront near the clocktower, 2-3 mins from town centre. Lounge bar, pool/children's room, 1st floor patio area. Reasonably priced beers/lagers and house doubles. Selection of chilled baps. Live entertainment every Saturday (Sundays main season). Sky and BT Sport shown. Open 11.30- 11.30 most days. Pre-booked coaches welcome - come to a completely refurbished 21st century club.

LONDON

THE HAMMERSMITH CLUB

Rutland Grove, London W6 9DH

10 mins' walk from Fulham FC and less than 25 mins by local transport to Chelsea and QPR. A warm and friendly welcome to away fans looking for good hospitality and a relaxing drink. Also 20 mins to Westfield, Europe's largest shopping centre and 30 mins to West End theatres.

Contact Thomas on 07798 735267 or visit www.hammersmithclub.co.uk

HARROW ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Northolt Road, South Harrow HA2 0DW.

Extends a warm welcome to all Associate members and guests.

Situated 10 minutes from the A40 and 20 minutes from Wembley Stadium. Coach parties welcome with prior notification to Bruce or Elaine on

0208 422 1222

For entertainment details check our website. www.harrow-club.co.uk

HAYES WMC

Pump Lane, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 3NB.

Telephone: (020) 8573 1721
e-mail: bobdaybell@aol.com

Why not visit the flagship of clubs in the South? Ascot, Kempton Park & Sandown racecourses all nearby. Live bands every Friday and Saturday night. Late night cabaret last Saturday of every month, at least 3 acts, charge for entry, late bar.

Catering available weekends, orders taken in advance to your requirements.

Visit our website:

www.hayesworkingmensclub.com
for our full entertainment programme.

Coaches welcome by prior arrangement with the secretary.

WILLEDEN WORKING MENS CLUB

202 Villiers Road, London NW2 5PU

Email: wwmc1@hotmail.co.uk
Tel: 020 8459 5846

A warm and friendly atmosphere, situated within 2 minute walk from Dollis Hill Station, NW2. 2 stops to Wembley Stadium/Arena. 20 minutes to Central London. Coach parties welcome by prior appointment.

Visiting London? Going Shopping?

Stop off at the

The Wood Green Social Club

3 Stuarts Crescent, Wood Green London N22 5NJ
Tel: 0208 8889917

Email: woodgreensocialclub@tiscali.co.uk

Where? Not far from Brent Cross shopping centre.

On the way through to Lakeside and Blue Water.

We offer good food and a warm welcome.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE & CAMBRIDGESHIRE

St James Working Mens Club

Weedon Road, St James, Northampton.

A warm welcome awaits all club members. Lounge, Games Room and large Concert Room. Parties welcome, catering if required by prior arrangement.

5 minutes M1, Junction 15A.

Please contact Secretary

Mrs P. Webster.

Tel: (01604) 456 602

www.stjameswmc.co.uk

SHEFFIELD & SOUTH YORKSHIRE

ARMTHORPE CORONATION CLUB

Tranmoor Lane, Armthorpe, Doncaster DN3 3BS.

Handy for racecourse and Doncaster Rovers. Close to M18. Big screen TV, entertainment every weekend.

Ring Club Secretary Alan Jones on

(01302) 831 393.

Arundel Ex-Servicemen's Club

City Road, Sheffield

A friendly Club close to Town Centre

Facilities include:

a 500 seat Concert Room, two other lounges and a Games Room. Great Cabaret every night except Tuesday and Wednesday.

Coach parties please contact

Mr B. Simmonite.

Children allowed up to 10 years

Catering for Buffet if required.

Telephone: (0114) 239 7151

BARNBY DUN SOCIAL CLUB

High Street, Barnby Dun, Doncaster DN3 1DS

A warm and friendly welcome awaits you. The club is just off the High Street and so close for the football and racing.

There is a busy entertainment programme, the chance to hire/use the function room as well as reasonable prices.

Please call Steve Fearon

01302 882936

to book your visit in.

CARCROFT VILLAGE WMC

Chestnut Avenue Carcroft, Doncaster DN6 8AG

Extends a warm welcome to all CIU affiliated members.

Coach Parties welcomed by prior arrangement.

1 mile from A1 and close to M1, M18 and M62.

Top class entertainment every weekend.

Handy for Doncaster Races and trips returning from North or South coastal routes.

Big screen TVs and live football

All enquiries to

Jim Hutchinson, Secretary on

(01302) 725497;

email: secretary@carcroftvillagewmc.com

website: www.carcroftvillagewmc.com

HAWTHORN RECREATIONAL & SOCIAL CLUB

Goodison Boulevard, Cantley, Doncaster.

Tel: (01302) 535 995

Easily accessible for the Racecourse.

Big screen Sky TV. Artistes on Saturdays.

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Craithie Road, Doncaster DN2 5EG.

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Bar snacks available. Tremendous value for money

bar prices. Contact Secretary Tom Forester

in advance on:

(01302) 320 036

or email intakesocialclub@yahoo.co.uk

SURREY

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"North Surrey CAMRA Club of the Year 2008 & 2009"

"Finalist for CAMRA Club of the Year 2009"

Located 5 minutes from J13 M25, handy for Windsor Castle and races, Kempton, Ascot, Epsom and Sandown. 5 mins from Egham Station on the Waterloo to Reading line. Three real ale and cider festivals a year.

www.eusc.co.uk

Tel: (01784) 435120 or (07738) 714572

(Real Ale Festivals and Party Bars also arranged)

DAY OUT RACING

ESHER W.M.C.

142 Esher High Street, Esher, Surrey.

Telephone: (01372) 467 758

Sandown Race Course within walking distance.

Kempton Park and Epsom also nearby.

A warm welcome is extended to all associate members.

THAMES VALLEY

Banbury Trades & Labour Club

32 West Bar Street, Banbury, Oxon OX16 9RR.

Tel: (01295) 254 168.

A warm welcome is extended to all Associates.

Coach parties welcome with 14 days prior notice to Secretary Joan Conley.

Live entertainment on

Saturday night. Food available. Please contact

Secretary with your booking.

WALES

CARDIFF WEST END SOCIAL CLUB

COWBRIDGE ROAD WEST, ELY, CARDIFF CF5 5BY.

A very friendly welcome to CIU Associates and their families from CARDIFF'S PREMIER SOCIAL CLUB.

10 minutes from M4. 15 minutes to city centre.

Millennium Stadium, Cardiff International Arena,

St. David's Hall/ Centre, Cardiff Bay.

Live entertainment every

Saturday night with Bingo/Raffle/Tote/Disco

FULL SKY SPORTS/RACING UK.

Hot and cold food available.

COACH PARTIES MOST WELCOME.

Telephone: (029) 2059 4004

Bettws Social Club

Lambourne Way, Bettws, Newport, Gwent.

A warm friendly welcome assured to all CIU

affiliated members and guests.

Less than 10 minutes from junction 26 of the M4.

Coach parties welcome by prior appointment.

Live entertainment every Saturday evening.

Catering can be provided by arrangement.

Tel: (01633) 858 780.

Going to Premiership Swansea City or racing at Ffos Las?

Visit

MORRISTON WMC

11 Slate Street, Swansea SA6 8AA.

A friendly club which makes visitors welcome.

Liberty Stadium 15 minutes, Ffos Las 45 minutes,

Ospreys 15 minutes. 10 minutes from M4 Junction 45.

Coach parties welcome with advance notice.

Ring (01792) 771580

Rogerstone and Bassaleg Social Club

1 Tregwilym Road, Rogerstone, Newport NP10 9DW.

A warm friendly welcome assured to all CIU

affiliates and guests, less than 10 minutes from

junction 27 of the M4.

Coach parties welcome by

prior appointment, live entertainment every

Saturday evening.

Telephone: (01633) 893 508.

WARWICKSHIRE & COVENTRY

BEDWORTH EX-SERVICEMEN'S SOCIAL CLUB & INSTITUTE

Rye Piece, Bedworth. Tel: (024) 7631 3236

Extends a warm welcome to all associates

Bar Meals & Restaurant Facilities Tuesday - Sunday

5 Minutes from The Home of the WASPS & COVENTRY

CITY - The Ricoh Arena. Package deals -

Free parking/Pre-match meal/Minibus to/ from

ground/Post match meal.

Real Ales available.

Saturday Night Live Entertainment

Saturday/Sunday Bingo.

Contact Secretary for bookings

Willenhall Social Club

Robin Hood Road, Coventry CV3 3BB.

Secretary: (024) 7630 1222 or 7630 3278.

Welcome to all Associate Members.

Entertainment every Saturday and Sunday night in

concert room (seats 600).

Bar, games room and luxury lounge facilities.

Large car park. Hot and cold snacks available.

10 minutes from City Centre.

No Children Allowed.

Coach parties apply to Secretary.

WARWICKSHIRE & COVENTRY

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Beacon Road, Holbrooks, Coventry CV6 4DS.

5 minutes from M6 Junction 3, 10 minutes' walk

from Ricoh Arena, minibus from

club on match days. Excellent function room and

facilities. Hot and cold snacks available at all times.

Prior notice required for coach parties and

catering (menu sent on request).

Please contact the Secretary.

Tel: (024) 7672 4830;

Office: (024) 7672 4832.

WEST COUNTRY

THE ANZAC CLUB

Anzac Street, Dartmouth, Devon TQ6 9DJ

(01803) 832661

A warm and friendly welcome awaits all affiliated

members and guests. Coach parties welcome, please

give 14 days' prior notice.

Catering for buffets can be arranged.

Situated behind St Saviour's Church.

Please like us on Facebook.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE BORO SOCIAL CLUB

Weston super Mare Boro Social Club
2 Locking Road, Weston super Mare BS23 3DF
2 minutes from railway station and 5 minutes from the town centre Club is situated in the main coach park.
A warm welcome is guaranteed to CIU members and guests. Usual cheap social club prices.
Coach parties by prior arrangement please.
Entertainment and bingo every Tuesday from 2 pm.
Please contact the Bar Manager on
01934 622940
or email joyceandpete1@outlook.com.

WEST MIDLANDS & BIRMINGHAM

REMEMBRANCE CLUB LTD

10 CHESTER ROAD, CASTLE BROMWICH, BIRMINGHAM B36 9DD
Extends a warm welcome to all Associate Members.
Live entertainment every Saturday and Sunday evening.
Line Dancing Mondays. Ballroom Dancing Tuesdays.
Large comfortable lounge. Games Room. Ample parking.
Close to M6/M42 (nr. Spaghetti Junction).
Coaches by arrangement.
Contact the Secretary. (0121) 747 5256 / 747 2943

GREENLANDS SELECT SOCIAL CLUB
A lively and friendly club.

We provide live entertainment Friday and Saturday evenings, bingo Tuesday pm, Friday pm and Sunday lunchtime, large TV showing Sky and BT Sport, Play and Stay playgroup Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday am. Line dancing Tuesday 1pm - 3pm.
Close to the M42 junction 2 we would welcome football supporter coaches with prior arrangement and indeed any coaches by prior arrangement with the club secretary and can provide hot and cold food if given notice.
Please call Mrs Lynn Orme, Club Secretary, on 0121 475 2553 (8.30am till 1pm NOT Thursday or Sunday.)

Yardley Wood Social Club

118 School Road, Yardley Wood, Birmingham B14 4JR.
Club Tel: (0121) 474 2026
Sec: (0121) 474 3725
Visit our brand new website:
www.yardleywoodsclub.com
Two large TV screens, 6 snooker tables, bingo and weekly entertainment, bowling green. Function rooms available for hire and catering.
Large car park at rear of the club.
Associate members welcome.

YORKS (N&E) & NORTH EAST

BEECHWOOD, EASTERSIDE & DISTRICT SOCIAL CLUB

Broadwell Road, Easterside, Middlesbrough TS4 3PP.
(Opposite The James Cook University Hospital)
Live music every night with bingo, totes and raffles.
Large bar with 4 snooker and 2 pool tables, 2 dart boards and all Sky sports channels.
Two smoking areas with heated Beach Huts.
Coach parties welcome with prior notice to The Secretary.
Tel: (01642) 318789
Check the website it's all on there:
www.beadsclub.co.uk

Going to watch Sunderland or Newcastle United?
Visit

BELMONT CLUB & INSTITUTE

Grange Road, Carrville, Durham DH1 1AJ
Friendly club. Football and other sports supporters welcome. Large screen TVs.
Coach parties by arrangement.
Tel: (0191) 386 1487

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MEMBERS' CORNER

Informative articles which affect our life
by Dione Mobley

With all the festivities over from last year, many retailers all over the country start to have their holiday sales both in shops and online.

Many people wait for the winter sales to begin after Christmas to try and pick up a bargain. There comes a warning for consumers from Compantech.com who research, test and review thousands of consumer products and services.

They say that shoppers need to be careful when making purchases online, especially during the busy sale periods.

People are being warned to be on guard if they are looking through some of the most popular sites like Amazon or other sites similar.

Pay very close attention to any product being advertised or sold at a very low price which may appear far below the actual

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market value because some fraudsters are using popular sites for "Phishing Scams". The scammers will pose as a legitimate business by posting usually hi-tech items as bait to lure in unsuspecting customers on a legitimate shopping site.

However, to complete a sale from a customer, the site will automatically re-direct the buyer to a fraudulent site for payment.

When this happens the buyer will not receive their order or be able to claim the cash back for the goods they ordered.

This practice is against all Amazon's terms and conditions. However, they have had many reports this is still going on and unfortunately are unable to refund customers who have been victims.

If you think you are shopping on a legitimate website and you are suddenly redirected to pay on a different site, then this is probably a scam and you should not continue with the purchase or give out any credit card details.

Always pay close attention when shopping online because these schemes are becoming highly advanced and much harder to detect.

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ACROSS

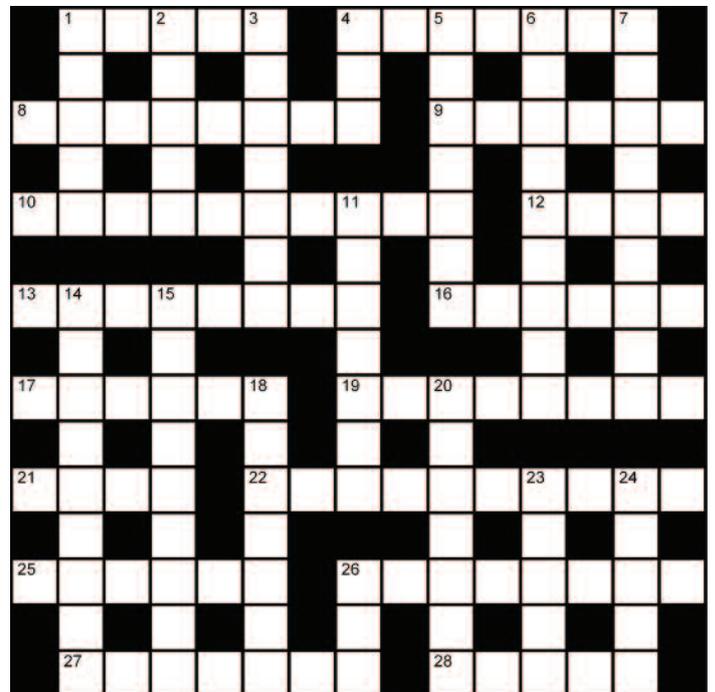
- Cooks us his Japanese food... (5)
- Geeky types? At least they're not wet! (7)
- Undeliverable - so drain it out and send it to Seattle town. (8)
- More is worse for this chemical compound! (6)
- When your ticker misses a tock? (10)
- Tidally, it's all out - how neat! (4)
- Amy plods away - at religious song book! (8)
- Slider broken by loafing types. (6)
- Beginning at the first book. (6)
- Copes too readily with a torch in the ear... (8)
- Give out the time that's right for the grid. (4)
- Let generic patterns be seen of voting in - again. (2-8)

DOWN

- Derisive remark, seen to be about right! (5)
- Airy one is kind of splashy, like as not... (5)
- Irvin to experiment - in a test tube (2,5)
- Copy the orang-utan, say. (3)
- Aim giro towards paper-folding. (7)
- Co-pilots a flight of disciples. (9)

- Dapper set - not so clever when it comes to a road camera! (5,4)
- Employ a ruse at the dancing post (7)
- Rugby player shows only a fraction of the sales rush. (5-4)
- Hate girly schemes for a distance - that's astronomical! (5-4)
- Van I ran into the ground - but it's paradise! (7)
- Infest - or manage too much? (7)
- React badly to a little bit. (5)
- Gravity barely conceals slight push. (5)
- Calvados? - some party! (3)

Send your entry to Crossword, Club Journal, 59/60 Thames St, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 1TX
Deadline February 25.



Name _____
Club _____
Address _____

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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

- Mr John Marlow of Newfoundland WMC
- Mrs C Thomas of Shafton Village WMC
- Ivor Ling of Cowley Workers SC
- Eddie Masters of Hawthorn Club
- Mr Kevin Paul Crockwell of Bedworth Ex-Servicemen's





FOUR COMPETITIO



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Thursday February 9, 8pm - Sky Sports 2 HD

Super League: St Helens v Leeds Rhinos

The new Super League season gets underway as St Helens welcome Leeds Rhinos to Langtree Park. This should be an exciting match, particularly in view of the five law amendments which have come into force in order to make the game more attractive and provide more space for enterprising, attacking play.



Wednesday February 15, 7.45pm - BT Sport HD

UEFA Champions League: Bayern Munich v Arsenal

The Gunners face a major challenge as they head to the Allianz Arena for this Champions League Last 16, first leg clash against Bayern Munich. The German side finished second in their group, behind Atletico Madrid, but remain a real force in European football and Arsenal will have to be at the top of their game for this foray in Bavaria.

SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS

Club Journal looks ahead to some of the key sporting fixtures taking place in February, including the start of the Super League and several big Barclays Premier League fixtures, not least the Manchester derby

Sunday February 5

1.30pm

Sky Sports 1 HD

Barclays Premier League:

Manchester City v

Swansea City

Sunday February 5

4pm

Sky Sports 1 HD

Barclays Premier League:

Leicester City v

Manchester United

Thursday February 9

8pm

Sky Sports 2 HD

Super League: St Helens v

Leeds Rhinos

Friday February 10

7.45pm

Sky Sports 1 HD

Championship Football:

Sheffield Wednesday v

Birmingham City

Friday February 10

8pm

Sky Sports 2 HD

Super League: Castleford

Tigers v Leigh Centurions

Six Nations Rugby:
Wales v England, Saturday,
February 11, 4.50pm, BBC1



Saturday February 11

3pm

Sky Sports 2 HD

Super League: Salford Sea

Devils v Wigan Warriors

Saturday February 11

12.30pm

Sky Sports 1 HD

Barclays Premier League:

Arsenal v Hull City

Saturday February 11

2.45pm

ITV

Rugby Union: Six Nations -

Italy v Ireland

Saturday February 11

4.50pm

BBC

Rugby Union: Six Nations -

Wales v England

Saturday February 11

5.30pm

BT Sport 1 HD

Barclays Premier League:

Liverpool v Tottenham

Hotspur

Sunday February 12

1.30pm

Sky Sports 1 HD

Barclays Premier League:

Burnley v Chelsea



Thursday February 23, 7pm - Sky Sports 1 HD
Premier League Darts: Brighton
 Newly crowned PDC World Champion Michael van Gerwen continues the defence of his Premier League title and will face some mighty challenges along the way from the likes of Gary Anderson, Phil Taylor and Raymond van Barneveld. The Premier League format visits a number of cities before concluding on May 198 at the O2 in London.



Sunday February 26, 2.15pm - Sky Sports 1 HD
Barclays Premier League: Manchester City v Manchester United
 One of the biggest occasions of the season as Manchester divides into its blue and red factions for this derby encounter. The earlier league fixture between the sides ended in a 2-1 win for City at Old Trafford and United manager Jose Mourinho will be out for revenge.

Sunday February 12
 3pm
 BBC
Rugby Union: Six Nations - France v Scotland

Sunday February 12
 4pm
 Sky Sports 1 HD
Barclays Premier League: Swansea City v Leicester City

Monday February 13
 8pm
 Sky Sports 1 HD
Barclays Premier League: AFC Bournemouth v Manchester City

Wednesday February 15
 7.45pm
 BT Sport HD
UEFA Champions League: Round of 16, 1st Leg - Bayern Munich v Arsenal

Thursday February 16
 6pm
 BT Sport HD
UEFA Europa League: Round of 32, 1st Leg - KAA Ghent v Tottenham Hotspur

Thursday February 16
 7pm
 Sky Sports 1 HD
Premier League Darts: First Direct Arena, Leeds

Thursday February 16
 8.05pm
 BT Sport HD
UEFA Europa League: Round of 32, 1st Leg - Manchester United v St Etienne

Friday February 17
 6pm
 Sky Sports Darts HD
World Pool Masters

Friday February 17
 8pm
 Sky Sports 1 HD
Super League: Leigh Centurions v Leeds Rhinos

Saturday February 18
 12 noon
 ITV4
Horse Racing: Ascot, Haydock Park and Wincanton

Monday February 20
 8pm
 Sky Sports 1 HD
Championship Football: Newcastle United v Aston Villa

Tuesday February 21
 7.45pm
 BT Sport HD
UEFA Champions League: Round of 16, 1st Leg - Manchester City v Monaco

Wednesday February 22
 5pm
 BT Sport HD
UEFA Europa League: Round of 32, 2nd Leg - St Etienne v Manchester United

Wednesday February 22
 7.45pm
 BT Sport HD
UEFA Champions League: Round of 16, 1st Leg - Sevilla v Leicester City

Thursday February 23
 7pm
 Sky Sports 1 HD
Premier League Darts: Brighton

Thursday February 23
 8pm
 Sky Sports 2 HD
Super League: Hull FC v Catalans Dragons

Thursday February 23
 8.05pm
 BT Sport HD
UEFA Europa League: Round of 32, 2nd Leg - Tottenham Hotspur v KAA Gent

Saturday February 25
 12 noon
 ITV4
Horse Racing: Kempton Park, Lingfield and Newcastle

Saturday February 25
 2.25pm
 BBC
Rugby Union: Six Nations - Scotland v Wales

Saturday February 25
 5.30pm
 BT Sport 1 HD
Barclays Premier League: Watford v West Ham United

Sunday February 26
 12 noon
 Sky Sports 1 HD
Barclays Premier League: Tottenham Hotspur v Stoke City

Sunday February 26
 2.15pm
 Sky Sports 1 HD
Barclays Premier League: Manchester City v Manchester United

Sunday February 26
 3pm
 ITV
Rugby Union: Six Nations - England v Italy

Monday February 27
 8pm
 Sky Sports 1 HD
Barclays Premier League: Leicester City v Liverpool

HOUSE OF LORDS SELECT COMMITTEE

On Tuesday, November 22, 2016, Union President George Dawson CMD appeared before the House of Lords Select Committee examining the Licensing Act 2003 alongside two other club representatives

George Dawson CMD, the Union President, gave evidence to the House of Lords Select Committee examining the Licensing Act 2003, alongside Peter Adkins, Director of Regulatory Services, Emms Gilmore Liberson Solicitors and Paul Varney, who represents the Association of London Clubs.

The Members of the House of Lords Committee in attendance were: Baroness McIntosh of Pickering (The Chairman); Lord Blair of Boughton; Lord Brooke of Alverthorpe; Lord Davies of Stamford; Baroness Eaton; Lord Foster of Bath; Baroness Goudie; Baroness Grender; Baroness Henig; Lord Smith of Hindhead and Baroness Watkins of Tavistock.

Here is the full transcript of the evidence session:

The Chairman: Gentlemen, thank you for your patience. I welcome you most warmly. Thank you for joining us this morning and coming to give evidence to us on the Licensing Act 2003. A list of members' interests relevant to the inquiry has been sent to you. I understand that copies are available today.

Could I commence by asking a general question? Can you give us a general view of how effectively you think the Licensing Act 2003 has operated over the last 11 years? Has it operated in the way you believe it was intended to operate, or otherwise?

George Dawson: I am George Dawson, president of the Working Men's Club and Institute Union. Generally it has worked very well. There has been a bit of row-back on the flexibility that was originally intended—the 24-hour opening—especially with the late-night levies, et cetera. When we applied for our licences in 2005, all eventualities were covered by having licences until 2 o'clock. Most of my clubs claim for 8 in the morning until 2 in the morning, every day of the week.

They do not use it all the time, but they do it to have flexibility over periods of celebration—100 years of the club, et cetera. A lot of clubs—it is only in some

areas—now have to do a variation, because six authorities decided to do the late night levy.

They get charged a late night levy if the club premises certificate says, "until 2 o'clock", even though they may not use it all the time, and they may use it on only two occasions in the whole year. Then they have to apply for a temporary event notice.

The flexibility seems to be going from the idea of what was originally intended, but generally it is working well.

The only problem that the union has with different authorities is inconsistency. Different authorities interpret the law in different ways. We have a difficulty with advising our clubs in one area about something that we feel is not part of the Licensing Act, and trying to educate the licensing officer in that respect. In other areas, we have no difficulty whatsoever.

If you have no trouble in your club, they just leave you alone to get on with it. The inconsistency is the worst part of the Act.

Paul Varney: I am Paul Varney from the Association of London Clubs. We have adapted to it now. It works very well for the London clubs. Unlike George, we deal with just three authorities, with a majority in Westminster.

Other than costing us all an awful lot more money each year than the certificate that we used to have, it works well. We would prefer the least amount of change, or no change at all. As not-for-profit clubs, we would not like to be lumped together with the commercial elements. We have the hours that we need. Temporary event notices are regularly applied for and granted. We do not have many of those. Normally they are for celebrations or regular club events. The licensing works very well for us.

Peter Adkins: In general, it seems to work very well. It is certainly an improvement on the old system. Although you get some strange licensing officers and police who interpret the law in different ways, generally across the country we have a fairly pragmatic and consistent approach

to the law. When we deal with people who are all over the country, it is fairly easy for us to advise them on how things should be implemented.

The approach of the legislation, in combining late-night entertainment and late-night refreshment, is a good one, although it seems that they are now being split again. It brought in those three regimes. Putting licensing with councils was also a good idea. After all, they were more used to licensing systems generally, and it was not a judicial function.

I also like the default nature of the application process. If it goes through and there are no objections, that is it; there are no hearings. That helps to keep the costs down for my client base. In general terms, I like it. It seems to work very well.

Lord Brooke of Alverthorpe: Good morning, gentlemen. You seem to be reasonably content with the way it is working. Do you think there is an argument for removing the special category of club premises certificates completely and moving members' clubs into alternative, more flexible categories, such as CANs—community and ancillary sellers notices—if and when they come along? Have you given any thought to that?

Paul Varney: We do not change how we use the licensing very much at all. The clubs are very traditional and do the same things each year. We would prefer to stay on our own and not be subject to all sorts of chopping and changing that is likely to come. There would be no advantage at all to us in moving. In fact, it would be a disadvantage.

George Dawson: I agree with Paul. It is a system that is working. When the new system came in, I had quite a number of long-standing secretaries of clubs pack up, because they found it too difficult. That lost a lot of experience in the clubs. Some of them came back after we had shown them how to fill in the forms, et cetera.

The system is working at the moment. There are problems that I have pointed out,

with extra things such as the late-night levy and things that been tried before like alcohol disturbance zones and EMROs—I cannot remember what the acronym stands for. I have always thought that those extra things were quite unnecessary.

They have an impact, but the system should be left as it is, instead of chopping and changing again and moving to a different system.

Peter Adkins: When this question came up, I started to do a little research into community and ancillary sellers notices. Of course, there are no regulations out, but the main drive seems to be for bed and breakfast people, community events and so on.

It does not seem to fit very nicely with what clubs do. Clubs have always had a separate licensing regime. One of the best things at the moment is that we do not need a DPS—a personal licence holder. I am not certain that this regime would fit well with clubs. I am with my colleagues here; there is no need to change the system. It seems to work reasonably well. We are used to it. We have been using it for 11 years. To change it all around will just cause more problems.

Earlier, Mr Varney commented on the annual costs. That may well be a high factor for the London clubs, but for most clubs out in the regions we are talking £190 a year. It is not a huge factor that this would be a cheaper route.

Lord Brooke of Alverthorpe: It is, of course, a self-certificating system, if it comes.

Peter Adkins: Absolutely.

Lord Brooke of Alverthorpe: You would not have to go through the process of being examined by others, unless you got into trouble.

Peter Adkins: Yes. We would probably need the same system for the club premises certificate to fall back on, so we would be introducing a third level.

Baroness Grender: Your use of temporary event notices is very different from that of a commercial operation right in the heart of Camden market, for example, that uses a regular temporary event notice system. Then different clubs next to one another



do exactly the same to extend into the early hours.

That has a significant cost for local authorities, whereas the temporary event notices that you use are rare and are predominantly for community events.

Do you think that there is any merit in feeling a bit sorry for local authorities—according to the LGA, temporary event notices are run at a significant loss—and separating them and having some kind of change?

Should there be a different system for that kind of high-end, commercial use of temporary event notices, rather than the £21 local event notice system?

George Dawson: In my experience, when a temporary event notice is used by a private members' club that has a club premises certificate, it is usually when the club would like to advertise and invite the general public to a charity function or something like that, so that it can raise more money for whatever charity it is supporting. It may be an event that is put on to celebrate a local person who has just got an OBE.

In that context, it is used only to allow us to supply the public with sale by retail, as opposed to mutual supply to a member. In my experience, that is what most of them are used for.

We have been given the flexibility to operate until midnight or 1 o'clock in the morning, which we originally applied for 10 years ago, although I know that six authorities have the late-night levy.

Most clubs took that up, so they do not need a temporary event notice for extensions. I do not understand why a premises licence individual—a public house or a commercial enterprise—has

not already used the advantages of the Licensing Act to apply to operate until 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning in their normal premises licence.

Baroness Grender: The evidence is that they do not. They use TENs in a highly commercial environment.

George Dawson: That was not the function of TENs when they came in. Talking from the mutual side, the temporary event notices were brought in so that we could have a wider audience coming to our clubs on odd occasions. Commercial properties should have taken advantage of the 24-hour opening that the Government wanted in the first place. I do not think it is a correct use of them.

If they were separated, a mutual would have the 15 temporary event notices for special functions that you have in a private members' club. It should be treated differently from a commercial exercise where a pop group is on until 4 o'clock in the morning.

Then the council would have to decide which one was which. Given the ignorance of the law that some licensing officers have, I hope they would not make the wrong decision and that a private members' club would not end up paying £100, instead of £21, and getting the wrong type of temporary event notice. I agree with you. The commercial premises should have put it into their licence in the first place.

The Chairman: Mr Varney, do you agree?

Paul Varney: Yes, exactly that. We would not want to be lumped together with the commercial market, if there was a

differential. What we do is social—it is for members and their guests—so it would be wrong to lump us in with a commercial enterprise. If it was split, there would need to be very clear guidance that the clubs were in the lower category. We have very few of them, anyway.

Peter Adkins: Generally I would agree, particularly with Mr Varney. The main problem is in the definition of what is commercial and what is not. A social club may well run a major event on New Year's Eve, for instance, which will bring money into the club and raise the club's coffers. Is that commercial or not? They are not-for-profit clubs, obviously, but there is money coming in.

I can see various other premises licence holders thinking, "They are holding that event and paying £21. We are paying £150. What is the difference?" There may have to be a blanket exemption for CPC holders, for instance. It will be in the interpretation, more than anything else. I am for anything that will reduce the costs for clubs.

The Chairman: For "social", you would read "community".

Peter Adkins: Yes.

The Chairman: You would differentiate them in that way.

Peter Adkins: Yes.

The Chairman: That is very helpful.

Baroness Goudie: Some private members' clubs have faced declining numbers and have opened their doors to the public, for which a standard premises licence is required.

Have those clubs experienced any problems with the wider licensing system? If so, are there amendments that you would like to see that would help to rectify them?

Paul Varney: For our clubs, that is not quite the case. Our memberships are increasing, rather than declining.

Baroness Goudie: That is a London syndrome—a City syndrome.

Paul Varney: It is a fortunate position. Very few have a full licence. Some do, but

our needs are perhaps slightly different, in that we enjoy a degree of success and increasing memberships. We are very fortunate.

Baroness Goudie: You are fashionable.

Paul Varney: We are going to have to be.

Baroness Goudie: New ones are starting up as well.

The Chairman: That seems very well informed.

Peter Adkins: We do not have the advantages of Mr Varney's membership, because clubs are decreasing in number rapidly. I think that there are now 5,500 fewer clubs than there were five years ago.

Lord Smith of Hindhead: It is 3,500.

Peter Adkins: Sorry—3,500. Most clubs like to hire out rooms as a way of bringing in income, so I would always advise them that they must have a premises licence. The difficulty is that sometimes the neighbours, who have put up with the club being there for ages, use it as an excuse to have an argument about it and we end up in hearings.

That drives up the costs, of course, even though they are looking for exactly the same hours. The police tend to jump on the bandwagon as well and to want more security—CCTV. Those are all good reasons, but they tend to drive up costs.

Most clubs have an arrangement whereby they keep their club premises certificate and have a premises licence only for particular rooms, such as a function room, so that they can keep the club separate.

They may use it two or three times a week or two or three times a month, but because they use it more often than the TENs limit, they need that premises licence. That leads to their paying two lots of fees. They keep their CPC and their premises licence, so annually they pay two lots of fees. It also causes a problem as to who will be the designated premises supervisor—the personal licence holder.

I always advise clubs that they need at least two, because in clubland it is normally the steward, and stewards have a habit of leaving. You have events organised, but suddenly you have no

personal licence holder, so no premises licence.

There have been changes in the Licensing Act to exclude the need for some premises to have a DPS. If that could happen for clubs with a premises licence, it would be a positive move.

Paul Varney: I agree.

George Dawson: I have experience of this, because my own club has a CPC and a premises licence. The steward is the designated licence holder, which you need for a premises licence.

We use it mainly for the function room, which holds 350. We cannot always fill it, but because it is near the town centre, quite a lot of people want to use it for functions. Our club would not survive if we did not have that.

Out of the 1,600 clubs in the union, getting on for 600 have both a CPC and a premises licence, for the same reasons that have been indicated. A lot of them built up large concert rooms in the 1960s and 1970s when, if you did not get there at 7 o'clock, you would not get a seat.

With the change in social life, people are sitting at home and watching telly, instead of going out, and buying cheap booze from supermarkets.

Lord Brooke of Alverthorpe: Well said.

George Dawson: People do not have the went wrong. George Dawson: People do not have the social life that they used to have and that we all wish they still had, so a lot of clubs have had to survive in that way.

Personally, I have found no difficulty with the idea of treating us differently on a premises licence. We put ours in quite early, so we got it for between 8 and 2 o'clock in the morning, with no objections. Most of the clubs that I advised on it have had premises licences for six or seven years, so there has not been the opportunity to object.

As Peter said, there are a lot of vexatious people about these days. One individual can stop something going on, even though the 120 who live round about are quite happy with it.

I cannot see that much of a change needs to happen. The system changed so that the personal licence holder does not have to get their licence renewed every three years; they have it for life. That has been a very

good improvement. I cannot see a problem with it.

We might get more advantages from being treated differently, but I do not know how it would work if you treated one premises licence differently from another. You might as well keep it all the same. Then it will not confuse people.

Lord Foster of Bath: Incidentally, Mr Dawson, I know that until 2004 your members had their own brewery and got their beer from that. I want to move on to the current situation, but you might want to reflect on that and the ties you have.

I am interested in the whole business of the rules of the game that say that, to meet the requirements, a club has to be acting in good faith. In one sense, that is clearly about the provisions in relation to the buying of alcohol.

It is quite clear that exclusivity agreements, whereby a club is tied to a brewery, could be considered by many to be an example of not acting in good faith, based on the rules. What are your thoughts on that?

George Dawson: We had a special exception with the Federation Brewery and the Crown Brewery. They did not come into it because both of them were co-operative or mutual societies.

This has been in subsequent Licensing Acts, since the 1896 or the 1906 Act. The issue is interpreting whether or not it is a tie.

If your barrelage is going down and you have gone from 500 to 300 barrels, to get the best deal from a brewery, instead of having two breweries in and getting an £80 a barrel discount, you might have to go to one brewery to get a £100 a barrel discount.

That would not be exclusivity, unless you started to borrow money from it. There is not much funding available. Banks have not wanted to lend money to clubs for 20 years. In fact, a lot of breweries do not want to lend money any more.

To me, that is a tie-in. The breweries write the agreements in such a way as to set you a barrelage target, but they also have clauses that allow you to purchase from outside, rather from them exclusively.

You can have a guest beer, for example. They are quite canny about not taking it as

a tie-in, as surely that would be a tied house. There are laws against that, under the 1989 beer orders.

Lord Foster of Bath: I want to be absolutely clear. In Section 63, it says that one of the matters that will be taken into account is “any arrangements restricting the club’s freedom of purchase of alcohol”. You are saying that your members will enter a deal with a brewery for it to provide you with the vast majority of the beer, but there is always a clause that allows the club to get beer from somewhere else.

George Dawson: Yes.

Lord Davies of Stamford: Does it allow you or require you?

Lord Foster of Bath: The beer order allows them to.

George Dawson: It allows you to. It would defeat the object of the agreement if you were not hitting the barrelage.

Lord Smith of Hindhead: If you do not hit the barrelage, you get a penalty.

George Dawson: You get a £50 penalty. That is how they try to get around its being a tie.

Lord Foster of Bath: Yes. With respect, it is also you, as the club, trying to get around its being a tie and therefore losing your licence.

George Dawson: Yes. I have known only one club—a club in Barrow-in-Furness—where that section has been used, but that club had 20 other offences as well. It was one of 20 offences. That is the only club, to my knowledge.

Lord Foster of Bath: I would be interested to hear the views of the other two panel members on this issue. Do you think there is a need to change?

Paul Varney: I have heard what Mr Dawson has just said. We do not have any such arrangements in our clubs. We have a wine committee, which is responsible for the selection of wines and beers. We are not tied at all. We would not have only one supplier; we would have a number.

Peter Adkins: I do not see any problem with this. It is still the case, unfortunately, that some clubs are desperate for money, and that brewery loans are available. I do not like it, but they still do it. If you remove certain arrangements with brewers, those loans do not become available.

Again, it is a question of interpretation. I was speaking to one of my clients, at the Austin Sports and Social Club, which used to have 10,000 members. Obviously that went wrong. He was saying, “What if I get in four brewers, make them tender for the job and we do the best deal with them, through a proper tendering process? Will that cause problems with good faith?” It is the same thing, but a different way around.

I do not really see it as a problem. My clubs do not really see it as a problem either. I am with Mr Dawson. I have never heard of any club being challenged on the basis of good faith. That is the least of their problems at the moment.

Baroness Watkins of Tavistock: Under Section 62(2), an interval of at least two days must lapse between nomination or application for membership and admission to membership. That two-day requirement is no longer applied to establishments such as casinos. Do you think it should still apply to clubs operating under club premises certificates?

Paul Varney: It should remain very much in force. It is what differentiates us from casinos and profit-making clubs.

Baroness Watkins of Tavistock: It is a quality standard.

Paul Varney: Yes. It gives other members a chance to see who is being elected. There is then a process either to admit or not to admit members. It is very important that that stays and differentiates us.

Peter Adkins: In reality, it is quite unusual for a club to have as a rule that you can become a member within two days. Most club rulebooks would require 14, approval by the committee and so on. That is because clubs are social entities. It is the old Groucho Marx comment; you want people there who you know will fit in.

The other problem with having almost instantaneous membership is that a lot of

clubs still own their premises. You may have someone turn up and become a member.

If two years down the line the club closes and you have someone who came one night, became a member and has never been seen since, what happens? Tracking those people would be almost impossible.

George Dawson: I am pretty sanguine about it, because all club rulebooks usually say seven, 10 or 14 days. From the point of view of equality or standardisation, if casinos have the two-day requirement removed, why can we not have it removed?

The two-day provision appears in rulebooks, when you have temporary members. You can have temporary members and temporary affiliates who have moved into the area for a holiday for one or two weeks.

I have one club in a walking area that uses it quite a lot—if anybody knows Hebden Bridge—because it has people who come around walking, are there for a week and are made members for two days.

Lord Davies of Stamford: Are they members of corresponding clubs already? Is that how they come in?

George Dawson: Not necessarily. If they were a member of an associate club, they would just sign in as an associate. It would not bother me if the provision was removed and it would not bother me if it was left in.

The Chairman: You are ambivalent. You are not bothered.

George Dawson: As with the example I gave to Lord Foster regarding the beer tie, I have had only one licensing officer where it was an issue—it was either in Coventry or on the south coast. The licensing officer sent a letter saying, “We are not accepting your rulebook because it does not say ‘two days’ and the law says ‘two days’”. The union wrote a letter pointing out that 10 days had to elapse before someone was made a member.

We said, “They are well within the law, so why are you asking them to move it down to two days?” The licensing officer got the message and stopped bothering the club.

The Chairman: Excellent. How is your average current membership of clubs looking? Do you believe that the closure of clubs is due to a change in drinking behaviour, if more people are drinking at home?

George Dawson: I became a treasurer at 18—a week before my 19th birthday—so I have been involved in clubs for 34 years. There has been a decline in the on-trade generally over 34 years. It has been a steady decline.

The biggest decline—you will know from this that I am a smoker—was when the smoking ban came in. That was the most massive decline that every club has had.

That is why we are looking more to TENs for commercial reasons, to keep a club open. Previously we would not have needed to do that, because we had enough people coming in.

There is also cheap beer from supermarkets. However, I point out that, 25 years ago, we had a discussion with John Smith’s Brewery at which quite a number of us derided one of the directors who was there because somebody could go down the road and get four cans of John Smith’s at the supermarket or the off-licence more cheaply than the club could buy in the beer.

It is not a new problem with supermarkets. It has always been the case that they have been cheaper, but more people are now staying at home watching “The X Factor” and other such programmes.

The Chairman: Mr Varney, do you agree?

Paul Varney: It is probably not so relevant to us. Members come to the clubs for a number of reasons. The smoking ban has certainly affected us.

Peter Adkins: There is no doubt whatsoever that club membership is declining in working men’s clubs generally across the country.

Those that are doing reasonably well are normally sports and social clubs or have good sporting teams associated with them, rather than the old-style clubs. Miners’ clubs, for instance, have effectively evaporated.

A lot of the major manufacturing industries used to have social clubs

attached to them and have cut them loose. They may still be there, but industries do not support them any more. Earlier, I mentioned the Austin Club. It used to have a regular payment from everybody who worked at Austin. Of course, that has just evaporated.

Socioeconomic changes have meant that people are not going to those kinds of clubs any more. There is an ageing membership. They find it harder and harder to get younger people through and, sadly, they are declining. We can debate the figures, but it is bad.

Lord Smith of Hindhead: I apologise for the earlier comment. I am not giving evidence today.

Peter Adkins: I currently act for five or six clubs that are in the process of dissolution. That is a sad thing, but I am not certain that there is anything that we can do here to help. It is a different environment we have to look at.

George Dawson: Peter is a solicitor. He is painting a very grim picture of private members’ clubs. We have had a considerable amount of difficulty, but we are still a significant part of the on-trade. There is £21 billion in the on-trade in beer. CIU probably accounts for 5% of that by itself, but the ACC has 900 clubs.

There are also British Legion clubs. We are still a significant player in the on-trade. The on-trade has shrunk tremendously, but it is not all depression and everybody closing down.

Paul Varney: Far from it.

George Dawson: We are looking at different avenues to keep our clubs open. Do not think that we are all going to close down tomorrow.

The Chairman: I thank you most warmly on behalf of the Committee for participating, being so generous with your time and giving evidence today.

We are very grateful to you. Thank you very much. In releasing you, I ask the Committee to stay back for a few moments of private business.

George Dawson: Thank you for inviting me to come and represent my clubs’ interests at the Select Committee.



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