

## Union prepares for first full Annual Meeting in three years



The CIU Officers and National Executive Committee Members will be on stage at next month's Annual Meeting in Blackpool

Next month will see the first full Annual Meeting of the CIU since 2019.

The 2020 AGM was cancelled altogether due to the COVID-19 pandemic while the rescheduled 2021 AGM, which took place in September 2021, was a truncated meeting which focused solely on discussing the Union's Annual Reports for 2019 and 2020.

The 158th Annual Meeting takes place on the morning of Saturday, April 9 in the Royal Suite of the Grand Hotel, Blackpool with Union President George Smith presiding.

He said: "It will be an honour to chair this year's Annual Meeting, especially as it is the first full AGM in three years, as well as it being back in the traditional April slot after the rescheduled 2021 event in September.

"I hope that as many clubs as

possible send delegates to Conference Weekend and play their full part in the Union's democratic processes.

"With the latest NEC and Presidential elections having taken place in December 2021, there will be some new faces on the main stage as we come together as a Union to discuss our Constitution and shape the future direction of our organisation."

As usual, the CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition will be staged on the day before the Annual Meeting – Friday, April 8 – in the Norcalympia Suite of the Norbreck Castle Hotel.

The event will give club delegates the opportunity to meet with suppliers and discuss the latest products and services for the club market.

There will also be a team from CIU Head Office at the event who will be showcasing the many products and services provided by the Union.



### Club of the Month: Bellingham Ex-Services Club

This month's 'Club of the Month' is Bellingham Ex-Servicemen's & Social Club in Catford, South East London.

This thriving, friendly club has recently undergone an impressive refurbishment which has attracted many new members through its doors.

In addition to regular live entertainment, the club also provides a range of activities for its members, including pool and darts, while its adjoining Memorial Garden pays tribute to the many fallen military heroes from the local area.

• To read the full profile, see pages 20-23.

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# Welcome

Welcome to the March issue of *Club Journal* as we look ahead to next month's Conference Weekend in Blackpool.

This will be the first full CIU Annual Meeting since 2019 following on from the event being cancelled in 2020 and the truncated 2021 event held in September of last year.

The key date of the upcoming weekend is Saturday, April 9 which is when the Annual Meeting will take place in the Royal Suite of the Grand Hotel at 10am. The day before – Friday, April 8 – sees the 30th CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition being staged in the Norcalympia at the Norbreck Castle Hotel.

There are further details on both these important Union events on pages 10-17, including further information on some of the exhibitors who will have stands at the trade show. Among the suppliers signed up to exhibit at the 2022 show are CAMRA, Dransfields and Higos Insurance.

As always, the teams from Head Office and *Club Journal* will also be present at the Annual Meeting and the trade show so please do come and say hello if you have the opportunity.

The CIU stand at the show will have information on all the services provided to clubs by the Union,

including the Award in Club Management course.

Meanwhile, our Club of the Month for March is Bellingham Ex-Servicemen's & Social Club in Catford, South East London.

The club underwent a refurbishment in 2021 and has successfully relaunched since the pandemic with a variety of activities ensuring the club is busy throughout the week.

As you'd expect given its name, the club has very strong ties with all three Armed Services and hosts a number of annual events on significant military dates. The club is also the headquarters of the HMS Hood Memorial Society, the organisation which was set up to remember the 1,400-plus men who perished when the HMS Hood was sunk during World War Two.

For the full feature, see pages 20-23.

Please keep your news stories and images coming in – they will all be published in upcoming issues of the magazine.

I hope you enjoy the issue.

**Stephen Goulding**

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**Club Journal is published by Alchemy Contract Publishing for the CIU**  
59/60 Thames Street, Windsor, SL4 1TX  
Tel: 01753 272022  
E-mail: [info@clubjournal.co.uk](mailto:info@clubjournal.co.uk)

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The views expressed in this journal are not necessarily those of the publisher

## CLUB JOURNAL

### CIU Editorial Panel



George Smith  
President



Ken Roberts CMD ACM  
Vice-President



Kenneth D Green CMD ACM  
General Secretary



Sean Belton CMD  
NEC Member



Geoff Blakeley CMD ACM  
NEC Member



Nathan Clarke  
NEC Member



Mark Fergusson CMD  
NEC Member



Geoff Fisher  
NEC Member



Stephen Foster CMD ACM  
NEC Member



Dave Gravel CMD  
NEC Member



Jack Haughey CMD ACM  
NEC Member



Chris O'Neill CMD ACM  
NEC Member



Bob Russell CMD  
NEC Member



Bill Stoker  
NEC Member

## Washington Station Club stages presentation



Pictured, left to right: Washington Station Westwood CIU Club Chairman James Tindle, Union President and Durham Branch Secretary George Smith, Club Secretary John Dodd and retired Club Secretary Brian Young

Washington Station Westwood CIU Club in Sunderland held a Senior Members Tea and presentation on December 15, 2021 to honour three stalwarts who have contributed a huge amount of their time to making the club a success.

George Smith, Union President and Durham Branch Secretary, presented Club Chairman James Tindle with a Long Service Award (25 years), Club Secretary John Dodd, with a Certificate of Merit (10 years) and retired Club Secretary Brian Young received a Long Service Award (25 years).

## OBITUARY

### RENNIE G PRICE

Heath Gap Welcome WMC in Cannock is sad to announce that Rennie G Price has passed away at the age of 75.



A club man for 40 years, he served as Chairman, Trustee and Treasurer and was a genuine, good, honest Committee Member.

He was also a family man and will be sorely missed by his grandchildren Mandy, Kelly, Becky and Emma.

## News in brief

### Shottermill Club in Surrey begins monthly showcase of local bands

The Shottermill Club in Haslemere, Surrey has teamed up with a local organisation, the Haslemere Fringe Festival, and will stage monthly events featuring up-and-coming local bands.

The Haslemere Fringe Sessions will take place in the club's Concert Hall on the first Saturday of each month with the emphasis on original talent from the area.

Club Chairman Dave Marden said: "We're delighted to be able to provide a venue and partner with the Haslemere Fringe team.

"Our club is open to anyone who wants to become a member, including families and people from all age groups.

"We're looking forward to welcoming some new faces as well as hearing some fantastic live music."

## CLUB NOTICES

### Clubs admitted

#### Wessex Branch

The Porter Club Ltd  
Sandown, Isle of Wight

#### North East Metropolitan Branch

Southwold & Reydon Constitutional Club Ltd  
Southwold

### Club withdrawn

#### West Midlands Branch

Braunstone & District Working Men's Club

## News in brief



### And this little piggy went all the way... to Easington Colliery Club

Easington Colliery Club & Institute in County Durham hit the national headlines in February after a stray pink and black spotted pig (pictured above) wandered into the bar, causing merriment for members and staff alike.

Club Stewardess Kayleigh Parkin managed to film the incident on her phone with the resulting clip going viral and attracting attention from local and national media.

Recounting the incident, Kayleigh told BBC Radio Tees, who sent a reporter down to the club: "At about 10pm on a Tuesday night, I received a call from the bar staff that there was a pig running around the bar and immediately came downstairs to see members and staff trying to lure him outside with crisps.

"Once they had done so, I locked him up at the back of the club to keep him safe.

"I put out a message on Facebook and swiftly got a response from the owner who came around to the club to pick up the pig, whose name was apparently Ronnie."

Club Secretary Stephen Foster CMD ACM, who is also a member of the Union's NEC, added: "I wasn't actually in the club at the time but my son texted me to say a pig had followed him and his cousin through the door into the club from the car park.

"I didn't believe him so he sent me a video to prove it.

"It was by all accounts a very friendly pig, especially if you fed it crisps, and was obviously used to people.

"But it clearly had a mind of its own as when the owners tried to put it in a vehicle, it refused to get in and they had to walk it back to the allotments across the road where it lives."

Meanwhile, a few days after the incident, the club coincidentally staged a concert by local rock band 'The Whole Hog' but Ronnie the pig did not make an appearance at the event.

## Presentation held at High Howdon Social Club



A presentation night was held at High Howdon Social Club on Thursday, January 20 which saw Robert McAlpine receive the Long Service Award and David Urwin the Certificate of Merit. Pictured, left to right: Back row: Dave Richardson (Northumberland Branch Secretary), Bill Stoker (No. 4 Division Executive and NEC Member), Ken Sayers (No. 7 Division Executive), Peter Scorer (No. 9 Division Executive). Front row: Doreen Urwin (David's wife), David Urwin (High Howdon Social Club Chairman and Certificate of Merit recipient) and Robert McAlpine (High Howdon Social Club Committee Member and Long Service Award recipient)

## St James WMC raises £1,500 for hospice charity



On September 26, 2021, St James WMC in Northampton hosted a Charity Sunday in aid of Cynthia Spencer Hospice.

Generous contributions from local businesses, club partners and, of course, the club's members, made the event a great success.

The club was delighted to welcome Northampton Town Mayor, Councillor Rufia Ashraf (pictured, above, centre), who presented a cheque for £1,500 to Jenny Standen (right) from Cynthia Spencer Hospice, a local organisation which does so much work with terminally ill patients and their families

## Scissett WMC raises £7,000 for Wakefield Hospice



Pictured: Club steward Gerry Gornall and Wakefield Hospice Healthcare Assistant Annmarie Guest, seated, along with the club's fundraising team.

A year of fundraising at Scissett WMC saw their 'Charity of the Year' – Wakefield Hospice – benefit from a donation of over £7,000.

COVID-19 caused a number of interruptions along the way, but the grit and determination of the club's fundraising team, and the strong support of club members, saw the end of year result hailed as a huge success.

A fashion show and a family race night both generated good revenue and when club steward Gerry Gornall took to the skies for a daring wing-walk, sponsorship boosted the fund by well over £1,000.

One club member completed a muddy 5k assault course challenge to raise more money, and throughout the year there were regular raffles, tombolas and auctions, with some superb prizes generously donated by local businesses.

Club fundraiser Terry Rigg said: "COVID certainly caused us some delays, but spirits were high and everyone was determined to raise as much money as possible for Wakefield Hospice."



Club Steward Gerry Gornall prepares for his wing walk

grateful that Scissett Club nominated the hospice as their charity of the year, and on behalf of all our staff and patients I would like to say a huge thank you for this donation. It really will make a difference."

"They do an amazing job, providing specialist care for people with a life-limiting illness, whilst also supporting the families of patients during the most difficult of times. We were delighted to hand over a cheque for just over £7,000 and every penny of the money will be spent to directly benefit patients."

Accepting the cheque, Wakefield Hospice Fundraising Manager, Keeley Harrison said: "We are very

## News in brief



### Bill Kirkbride receives his Distinguished Service Award after 40 years of service

Bill Kirkbride received his Distinguished Service Award after 40 years service to the Washington Station Celtic Club in Durham Branch.

Pictured, left to right: Michael McCaine (Secretary, Washington Station Celtic Club), Keith Howe (Steward, Washington Station Celtic Club) and Bill Kirkbride.



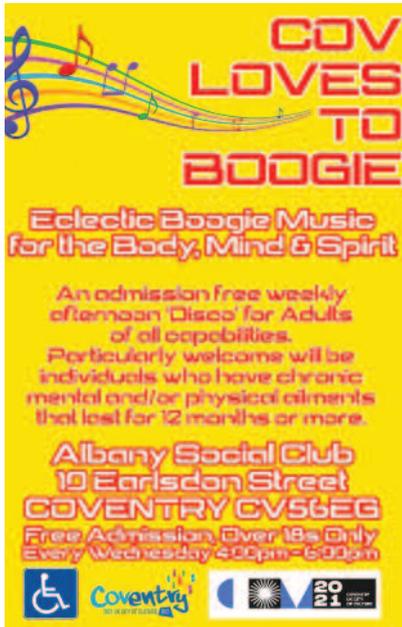
### Clubs urged to get involved with Comic Relief's Red Nose day on Friday, March 18

Comic Relief's Red Nose Day takes place on Friday, March 18 and clubs are being urged to get involved with the fun by organising an event on the day and raising money for charity.

From quizzes to cake labels, posters to recipes, the charity has put together loads of extra resources, decorations and inspiration to help you make the most of staging a Red Nose Day fundraiser, including a downloadable mini guide to fundraising featuring lots of ideas.

These are all available at the charity's website: [www.comicrelief.com/rednoseday/](http://www.comicrelief.com/rednoseday/)

## News in brief



**Coventry Club launches free Wednesday afternoon inclusive community disco event**  
 The Albany Club in Earlsdon, Coventry has further enhanced its reputation as one of the best music venues in the city by teaming up with Some Kinda Wonderful Promotions to stage a weekly afternoon disco 'Cov Loves To Boogie' for adults of all capabilities.

The event is staged each Wednesday at the club between 4-6pm and admission is free.

Individuals who have chronic mental and/or physical ailments that last for 12 months or more are particularly welcome.

## OBITUARY

### DOUGLAS MOXON

It is with deep sadness that the management of Chapeltown Working Men's Club in Sheffield have to announce the passing of their Treasurer Douglas Moxon.

Doug was a valued member of the Committee for over 52 years, serving as Treasurer for the last 42 years.

Our heartfelt condolences go to his wife, daughter and family.

He will be greatly missed by all friends, staff and fellow members at the club.

## Neil Kewley presented with Certificate of Merit



Neil Kewley (pictured right), Treasurer of Marsden Socialist Club (the 'Club of the Month' in the February issue of *Club Journal*), was presented with his Certificate of Merit in February.

The presentation was made by Heavy Woollen Branch Secretary Les Hepworth CMD ACM (pictured left).

## Buy your own copy of Club Journal each month

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.

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## News in brief



**Tyson Fury v Dillian Whyte heavyweight bout to take place on UK soil on Saturday, April 23**  
Tyson Fury will defend his world heavyweight title against fellow Briton Dillian Whyte on Saturday, April 23.

Fury's UK-based promoter Frank Warren has won the purse bid to stage the WBC heavyweight clash on UK soil.

Fury has not fought on home turf since beating Francesco Pianeta in Belfast in August 2018, ensuring that this is sure to be a much-anticipated live event in clubs.

The 33-year-old's last five fights have been held in the United States, including his trilogy with Deontay Wilder.

Unbeaten Fury had recently hit out at Whyte and Anthony Joshua as he waited for confirmation of his next opponent.

There had been talk of a unification bout with Oleksandr Usyk, holder of the WBA, WBO, IBF and IBO belts, but Joshua is entitled to a rematch with the Ukrainian following his defeat to him last year.

Whyte is coming off the back of a win over Alexander Povetkin, avenging his KO defeat to the Russian in 2020, with Fury fighting for the first time in the UK since his trilogy fights with Deontay

The fight will be showing on BT Sport Box Office with details of the undercard and the pricing of the event set to be announced in due course.

Meanwhile, the rematch between Anthony Joshua and Oleksandr Usyk is expected to be announced for early summer this year as the former champion goes in search of his revenge.

Joshua was outclassed by Usyk at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium last September, losing his world heavyweight titles in the process.

The fight is expected to take place in mid-May this year but the exact date has not been confirmed yet.

Joshua's promoter Eddie Hearn said: "It's clear AJ will be fighting Usyk, which is his preferred choice. May is when you'll see that fight."

## New book unearths CIU club's link to suffragette



The Richmond Place Club in Hereford and (inset) suffragette Florence Canning who was born in the building in 1863

The Richmond Place Club in Hereford has been in existence for more than a hundred years, but a fascinating piece of local history has recently come to light about a suffragette who was born there in the 1860s.

Clare Wichbold MBE has written a book about the women's suffrage campaign in Herefordshire. She discovered that the Reverend Thomas Canning and his wife Eliza were residents of Richmond Place, living in a rented apartment in the building before later moving to the new vicarage being built at St Paul's Church in Tupsley. Their oldest daughter, Florence, was born on 19 May, 1863.

Florence lived in Hereford for many years and became an accomplished artist but gave up in 1908 to join Mrs Emmeline Pankhurst's Women's Social and Political Union, the militant branch of the suffrage movement. She spent a month in Holloway Gaol in July of that year, having been arrested as part of a women's march to Parliament, and was arrested on at least two more occasions.

Florence travelled all over the country to rallies and went as far as the Isle of Skye on one trip to speak about votes for women. She also worked with Sylvia, one of Emmeline Pankhurst's daughters, supporting her social reform campaign for families who were living in terrible poverty in the East End of London.

Not content with being a suffragette, Florence also joined other suffrage organisations. She became the Chairman of the Church League for Women's Suffrage and was an active member of the Tax Resistance League, refusing to fill in the 1911 Census form as a protest about women's taxation.

Clare said: "Despite all her campaigning, Florence sadly never got to see women get the vote. She died of cancer on Christmas Eve 1914 at Brighton and was buried back in Hereford at the church where her father was vicar for over 30 years. I'm really pleased to have been able to share Florence's story with Les Walker, Secretary of the Richmond Place Club."

**• Hard Work – But Glorious: Stories from the Herefordshire Suffrage Campaign is available online from Ledbury Books and Maps, £15 plus P&P.**



# FOR SERVICE

## Distinguished Service Award – 40 Years

### Northumberland Branch

Peter Taylor – Wallsend Labour Club

### Western Counties Branch

Pete Butcher – Rodbourne Cheney Social Club  
Michael Joyce – Rodbourne Cheney Social Club

## Long Service Award – 25 Years

### Northumberland Branch

Frank Storey – Blucher & District WMC  
David McKenzie – Wallsend Labour Club  
Ken Sayers – Wallsend Labour Club

### Western Counties Branch

Paul Herbert – Rodbourne Cheney Social Club

### Durham Branch

John Florentine – Hopetown & Whessoe Club

## Certificate of Merit – 10 Years

### Doncaster Branch

Anne Butler – Harworth Comrades Club  
Adrian Smith – Harworth Comrades Club  
John Land – Harworth Comrades Club

### Western Counties Branch

Philip King – Rodbourne Cheney Social Club

### Northumberland Branch

Steven Gibson – Newburn & District  
Memorial Club

### Durham Branch

Alan Hogan – Stormont Main WMC  
Richard Morris – Stormont Main WMC  
John Forrest – Stormont Main WMC

## Branch Award – 21 Years

David Legge – South East Metropolitan Branch

## Centenary Award

Blucher Social Club (Northumberland Branch)

# CIU delegates ready for key date in the Union calendar

The 158th Annual Meeting of the Union takes place in the Royal Suite of the Grand Hotel in Blackpool on Saturday, April 9 with Union President George Smith chairing the proceedings



The 158th Annual Meeting will be the Union's first full AGM since 2019

With Conference Weekend moving into view, delegates from clubs all over the country will be making their arrangements to travel to Blackpool for the most important date in the CIU calendar.

The morning of Saturday, April 9 will see the 2022 Annual Meeting taking place at 10am as attendees take their seats in this year's venue, the Royal Suite of the Grand Hotel in Blackpool.

This venue is well served by transport, with the Wilton Parade tram stop directly opposite, is close to the centre of the town and provides a comfortable and convenient venue for delegates.

The Union has ensured that free parking will be available on the day but delegates are advised that they must ensure that their car registration is

recorded on the computer terminal at the hotel's Reception.

Having won his second term as Union President in December 2021, George Smith will once again chair the Annual Meeting as he did the rescheduled AGM held in September of last year.

He will be supported on the main stage by the General Secretary, Kenneth D Green CMD ACM and Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM, as well as the 11 Members of the National Executive Committee.

During the meeting, the 2021 Annual Report will be considered by delegates while Union Accountant Uto Ekanem will present the Union's Financial Report for 2021.

There will be several Motions up for debate and the *Club Journal* will publish the provisional agenda for the

meeting in the April edition.

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

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

**CIU AGM 2022**  
**Saturday, April 9**  
**10am**  
**The Royal Suite**  
**Grand Hotel**  
**North Promenade**  
**Blackpool**  
**FY1 2JQ**  
**Tel: 0871 2227768**  
**Tram: Wilton Parade**



Delegates will vote on several motions



The Annual Meeting is being staged at the Grand Hotel in Blackpool



Union President George Smith will chair the 158th Annual Meeting



Union General Secretary Kenneth D Green CMD ACM will address the Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 9 in Blackpool

# Mark the date for next month's Beer & Trades Exhibition

Friday, April 8 will see the 30th CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition as club suppliers demonstrate their products and services to delegates at the Norbreck Castle Hotel

The biggest social club trade show in the UK – the CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition - takes place next month during Conference Weekend.

Staged at the Norcalympia Suite at Blackpool's Norbreck Castle Hotel on the afternoon of Friday, April 8, the event – the 30th edition of the show - brings a huge cross-section of club suppliers showcasing their products and services, as well as experts from a number of key areas who will be on hand to give advice to clubs on how to increase revenue and reduce their running costs.

As well as gaining sound business advice, there will be plenty of fun to be had. To this end, there will be activities laid on by the exhibitors, including Preferred Supplier Dransfields who will be demonstrating their latest gaming and entertainment machines as well as running bingo sessions and competitions which will enable delegates to win fantastic prizes.

Other exhibitors appearing at the show include BT Sport, Big Screen Online, Club Control and Higos Insurance.

The CIU will also be running a stand at the Exhibition so do come along and have a chat with the team from Head Office about the many services which the Union provides for clubs.

Meanwhile, the *Club Journal* team will be circulating at the event with two official photographers to capture the day's events. The event begins at 1pm and is free to attend so please come along and get involved in the only trade show in the UK specifically for CIU members' clubs.

Be sure to stick around until the end when there will be a grand prize draw on stage with several great prizes up for grabs.

There will also be live entertainment once the main business of the day has been concluded.



The Beer & Trades Exhibition takes place on Friday, April 8



Preferred Supplier Dransfields attracted a lot of interest from delegates last year as they showcased some of the latest gaming and entertainment machines



Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM and ACE Furniture MD Graeme Miller



Higos Insurance representatives chat to a delegate at the 2021 trade show



The Campaign For Real Ale will be on hand with a range of real ales



Union President George Smith (centre) at the 2021 event



There will be several bingo sessions during the event



The Mr Scratchings stand had an array of snacks for delegates to sample in 2021



Dransfields Managing Director Chris Haley and Operations Director Trevor Roberts



The CIU stand last year (pictured, left to right): Tahir Gul, Stephen Goulding, Annette Johnson, Union Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM, Samantha Hagan and Uto Ekanem



Pukka Pies was one of last year's exhibitors



The Trade Show is a great opportunity to network with officials from other clubs as well as suppliers



Delegates will have the chance to take part in several games

# CIU Trade Show – The Exhibitors

The CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition returns to Blackpool on April 8, 2022. See you there?



## ACE Furniture

“ACE Furniture is a family business with over 40 years’ experience in manufacturing both fixed and loose furniture for the contract industry, based centrally in Northamptonshire.

“ACE prides itself on manufacturing by traditional methods in both wood and metal ensuring the furniture is built to last. It has a repair and re-upholstery service which can handle everything from small repairs to full re-upholstery, and the skilled workforce of frames makers, upholsterers and sewing machinists ensure that all furniture meets customers’ specific needs.

“Working with the CIU for over 20 years helps ACE to understand the needs of the Club market. ACE will arrange a free site visit to discuss requirements and make suggestions to bring the club up to date in both style and finish.”

**Telephone: 01536 203244**

**sales@acefurniture.uk.com**

**https://www.acefurniture.uk.com**



ACE Furniture has been working with the CIU for over 20 years



## Campaign For Real Ale

“Clubs which are governed for the benefit of their members are important community assets. CAMRA works to protect clubs and promote the social and well-being benefits of membership, and the vital work they often do to support their local communities.

“The aims of CAMRA clubs campaigning focus on raising the profile of club-going, encouraging people to use and become members of clubs, increasing the numbers of clubs offering real ales, ciders and perries to their members, and raising awareness of those clubs that provide them.

“As with all CAMRA activity, clubs campaigning is led by volunteers.”

**info@clubs.camra.org.uk**

**https://www.camra.org.uk**



One of the aims of CAMRA is to encourage members to visit their clubs more often



# Card Industry Professionals

“Card Industry Professionals is the UK’s No.1. Card Processing Service – supporting businesses to accept payments in-store, online or over the phone! We have strong partnerships with several leading acquirers and Fintech hardware and software providers which enables us to offer a portfolio of products that support businesses to adopt digital payment tools to satisfy the growing expectations of their customers.

“In 2021 CIP were Card & Payments Awards finalists in the ‘Best Payments Industry Newcomer’ and ‘Innovation in Retail Payments’ categories.”

**Telephone: 0330 002 0786**

**[i.dawson@cardindustryprofessionals.co.uk](mailto:i.dawson@cardindustryprofessionals.co.uk)**

**<https://cardindustryprofessionals.co.uk>**



CIP offers a portfolio of products to help clubs



# Club Control

“Club Control is one of the largest providers of custom management products and software solutions to the social club sector in the UK.

“We have a combined industry experience of over 50 years and really know how clubs work and how they operate.

“Drawing on this knowledge we design our products specially for clubs so they make your job easier, faster and more accurate and in turn make your club more efficient, more secure and more profitable.

“Our dedicated service line and advisors are available between the hours of 9am and 11.30pm 365 days a year. We also have state of the art custom remote support meaning we can train, diagnose, and fix instantly over the internet, ensuring you receive seamless support.”

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**[info@clubcontrol.co.uk](mailto:info@clubcontrol.co.uk)**

**<http://www.clubcontrol.co.uk>**



Union Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM visits the Club Control stand



# Dransfields

“Dransfields is the UK’s largest independent supplier of gaming and amusement machines to private members clubs. With over 75 years’ of club and pub industry experience, we have unrivalled expertise and are able to provide the highest levels of service and support to help you maximise profits - your local partner in profits. We are your approved recommended Gaming Machine Supplier to the CIU and several other organisation, all commending us for our excellent service and commitment to clubs and club values. This year we’ll be showing our range of classic equipment and new products, as well as entertaining attendees with fun games (with prizes!), including standard Bingo and new Spotlight BeBop Bingo.”

**Telephone: 0345 644 9419**  
**enquiries@dransfields.com**  
**<https://www.dransfields.com>**



Dransfields is the approved recommended Gaming Machine Supplier to the CIU



# Higos Insurance

“Your business is unique. So is our approach to your commercial insurance. Over the last 30 years we’ve come to realise that no two businesses are ever exactly the same. So we provide bespoke solutions to match your precise business insurance needs.

“Our service begins with getting to know you and the nuances of your club. We then use our industry experience and expertise to assess your risks and mitigate them with a programme that’s entirely tailored to your needs.

“Our aim is to provide you with the reassurance that only comes with a programme specifically built for you.

“We are now a Chartered Insurance Broker and won the Commercial Insurance Broker of the Year Award from the Insurance Times, 2021.”

**Telephone: 01458 270410**  
**somerton@higos.co.uk**  
**<https://www.higos.co.uk>**



Darren Siwec and Phil Roe of Higos Insurance



# Mr Scratchings

“Mr Scratchings are a Bradford-based family run company that has come a long way since our establishment in 2002. We are a one stop shop for the licensed trade and supply bar snacks (crisps, nuts, confectionery etc) from the major manufacturers alongside our comprehensive range of cleaning products, paper, bar sundries and, of course, our traditionally made “Mr Scratchings” Pork Scratchings and Crunch. Our business environment is constantly changing and we owe it to our customers to change with the times. We continue to be competitive, provide excellent service and offer a range of products to suit your club. We want to be your Supplier of Choice. Why not give us a call to discuss your requirements?”

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Paul Collier and Lynda Callaghan are the Stewards of Bellingham Ex-Servicemen's & Social Club



# Bellingham Ex-Servicemen's & Social Club

Bellingham Ex-Servicemen's & Social Club in Catford, South East London has recently invested in an impressive refurbishment and is reaping the rewards with an increase in trade

Tucked away in a residential road just a few minutes walk from Bellingham train station in Catford, South East London, Bellingham Ex-Servicemen's & Social Club has its roots in military tradition but remains a thoroughly modern and welcoming venue for members drawn from the local community.

Having recently invested in an impressive refurbishment of its Main Bar, including the replacement of the room's banquette seating and furniture by K and M Club Refurbishment Limited, the club is positively flourishing and has bounced back extremely well in the post-pandemic period, as its excellent trading figures demonstrate.

The club is run by stewarding couple

The club has long been a focal point for the Armed Forces



Lynda Callaghan and Paul Collier, who have been at the helm for around nine years and with the support of the Committee, headed by Chairman Dave Woodward, have ensured the continuing success of the club.

As you walk into the Main Bar, there is no doubting the military origins of the club with services memorabilia adorning the walls of the club, including two large Spitfire models on either side of the stage as well as many regimental crests and insignias.

The club is the headquarters of the HMS Hood Memorial Society, the group devoted to remembering the battlecruiser sunk at the Battle of Denmark Strait in May, 1941 with the loss of 1,415 men – many of whom were from South East London – and only three survivors.

Several items on the wall reflect the club's unbreakable link with that naval tragedy, including a scale model of the HMS Hood, while each year on May 21, the club hosts the HMS Hood Memorial Day event which usually has over 200 attendees.

"It's a real privilege to have the association with the HMS Hood and it's a big part of the club," says Paul.

"The day itself each year sees relatives of those who lost their lives, representatives of veterans organisations, as well as current serving members of the Armed Services in attendance.

"The local vicar, who is a member of the club, conducts a service on the stage and everyone stays afterwards for refreshments and a buffet.

"Armed Forces Day is also a major occasion for the club and we are the base for Lewisham Council's commemorations."

Indeed, part of the club's grounds include the huge Allerford Garden of Remembrance which pays tribute to fallen heroes from all three Services.

Step out of the side door of the Main Bar and you immediately come to a set of wrought-iron poppy decorated gates which lead into the Garden of Remembrance.

"This is a very peaceful place for people to come to remember their loved ones," says Paul.

"Many veterans have chosen to have their ashes scattered here once they pass away so there is a constant flow of people laying flowers at the various memorials throughout the year as well

as the big commemorative events."

Other key days for the club include Remembrance Day, VE Day and VJ Day, and in recent years the club has welcomed groups of Chelsea pensioners down to the club for these sorts of occasions.

"We pick them up from the Royal Hospital in Chelsea, give them a free day in the club and then take them home afterwards," says Paul.

"We've also had singers who dress up in World War 2 military outfits and perform songs from the 1940s which goes down really well."

But, of course, while the club's military links remain strong, the majority of the club's 400-plus members have no association with the Armed Forces but have been enticed into the club thanks to its reputation as one of the best-run and most appealing licensed venues in the area.

"Like everyone, we had a worrying time through the pandemic but have come through it and we're feeling very positive about the future," says Lynda.

"The refurbishment has really given the club a new lease of life and the members are delighted with how the club looks, including the new colour



Chelsea Pensioners rub shoulders with a Pearly King and Queen during an event at the club

## CLUB OF THE MONTH

scheme, flooring and furniture.

“Before the refurb, it was looking a bit jaded and old-fashioned but the investment that the club has made is paying off as we’re getting more requests for memberships from people who have been told about us by their friends who are existing members.

“We’re a relatively small club with a Main Bar, adjoining Games Room plus an outside Beer Garden but there’s plenty going on throughout the week to ensure the club is busy.”

The club, which is open seven days a week, certainly has a good array of well-priced drinks with Beck’s, Budweiser, Carling, Foster’s and Stella Artois all available on draught, along with Spitfire, Bombardier and John Smith’s ales, Strongbow and Guinness.

And at weekends, members can sit back and enjoy plenty of live entertainment alongside their drinks with Lynda in charge of selecting the acts who perform on Saturdays and Sundays.

“We have an act every Saturday night, usually a singer,” explains Lynda. “We also have some special guest artistes, for example, a drag act called Bella Berserk who is coming here in March.

“She was hysterical the last time she



The club grounds include the Allerford Garden of Remembrance

performed here, so that’s sure to be packed this time as well.

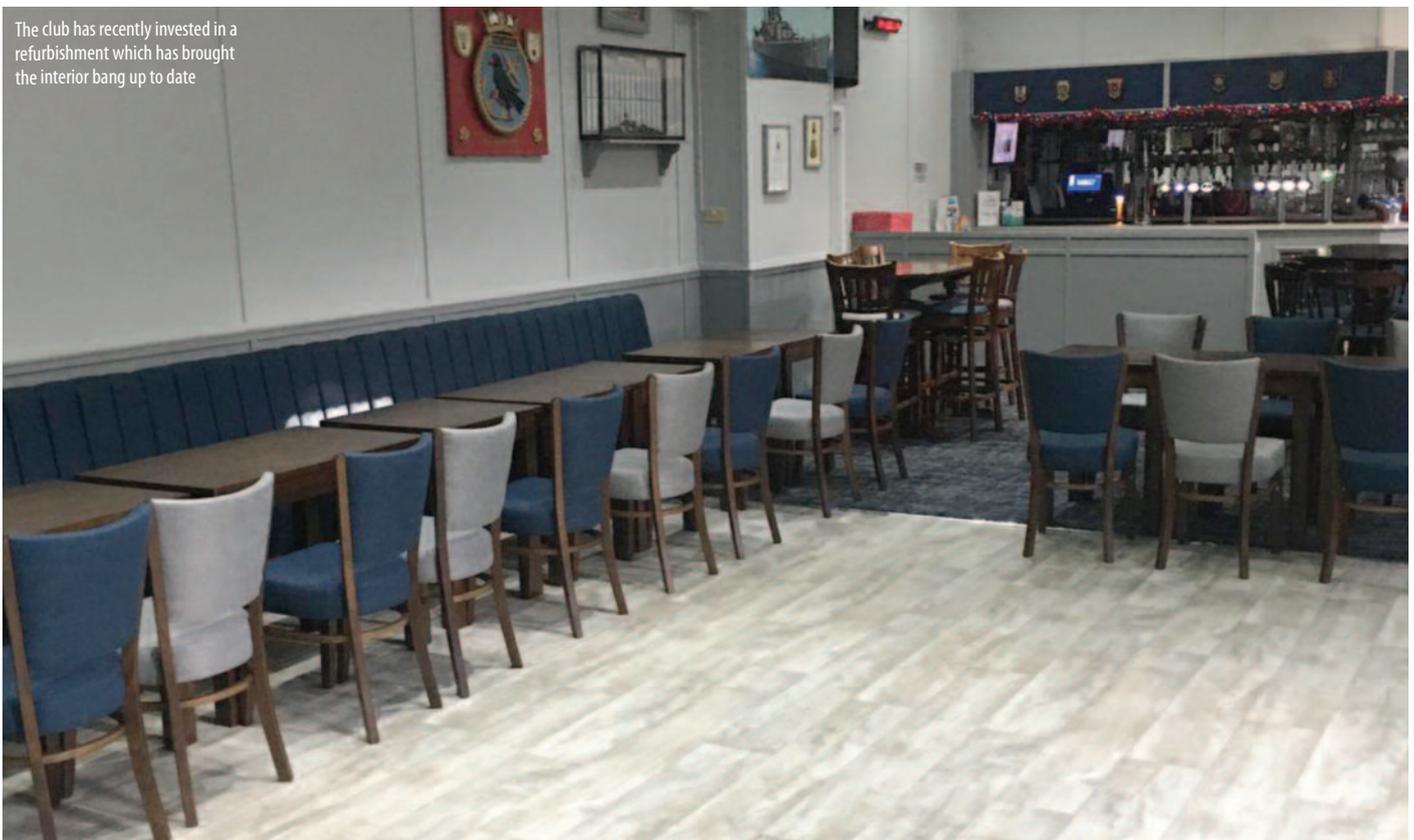
“For the special acts, we do sell tickets but it will be either £5 or £10 depending on the acts and you get free shots with the ticket.

“On Valentine’s Day, we put special decorations and flowers all around the club and we held a special ‘Mr & Mrs’ party with couples invited up on stage to answer questions about each other

and then afterwards put on a disco.

“Karaoke nights are also really popular, while on Sunday afternoons at 2.30pm, we have a singer, a meat raffle and a membership draw. In the last two weeks, one member has won £1,000 and another won £300. You don’t have to buy a ticket, you just have to be here with your membership card and if your number comes up you get the cash prize.

The club has recently invested in a refurbishment which has brought the interior bang up to date



“If nobody wins it for a number of weeks, it rolls over up to a maximum of £1,000. It’s a great incentive for members to come in. The money comes from selling football cards which gives a prize of £30 to the winner and raises £10 for the club which goes into the Membership Draw pot.

“We also do a raffle on a Saturday and the profit from that goes into the Membership Draw. It all means that members want to be in the club in order to have a chance to win.”

During midweek, the club remains busy with three darts teams and one pool team involved in local league competitions, as well as weekly bingo sessions on Thursday nights.

“We’re always particularly full on a Thursday night with bingo taking place in the Main Bar and a darts league fixture in the Games Room,” says Lynda.

“In fact, we have two darts teams playing on a Thursday but they have to ensure that if one is playing a home fixture, the other is playing away.”

Another income stream for the club comes from renting out the second floor to the Bromley Martial Arts academy.

“Many years ago that was the club’s

Snooker Room and then it became a storage space but for six years it has been a self-contained karate dojo and is used throughout the week for group lessons with the rental going to the club,” says Paul.

Private functions are also held regularly at the club, including children’s parties during the daytime in midweek.

“We’ve had bouncy castle parties both inside and outside in the Beer Garden for children, plus a number of anniversary and birthday parties and wedding receptions,” says Lynda.

Live sport provides another reason for members to come into the club on a regular basis with a projector screen in the Main Bar and two further screens.

“We have a good following for the Premier League football, particularly Chelsea games, and we’ve also been showing the Six Nations rugby,” says Paul.

“Last year’s European Football Championships were great for us, despite taking place when there were restrictions in force.

“So we’re looking forward to the 2022 World Cup in November and December and will be showing the England games on the big screen.

“It’s going to be a bit strange to have the World Cup taking place in the run-up to Christmas but there should be a great atmosphere in the club, particularly if England can go all the way to the final like they did in the Euros.”

In terms of further improvements to the facilities, the club is turning its sights on its Beer Garden at the rear of the building.

“That will hopefully be the next project,” says Lynda.

“It’s fantastic to have outside space during the summer months so we’ll be looking to make the garden even more comfortable for our members.”

As it looks ahead to a bright future, this thriving club continues to achieve a fantastic balance between its military origins and its role as a key part of the local community in South East London.

#### CONTACT DETAILS

Bellingham Ex-Servicemen’s & Social Club  
10 Allerford Road  
London  
SE6 3DD  
Phone: 020 869 4202  
Branch: South East Metropolitan



The club is the headquarters of the HMS Hood Memorial Society

# HQ

## News in brief

### Contracts and Handbook available from Branch Offices

The CIU Contracts and Handbook have been updated and reprinted and are 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
- Zero Hours Contract

The club documents are priced as follows: £5 for each Handbook; £2.50 for each Contract (except the Club Staff Accommodation Contract and Zero Hours Contract which are priced at £2) and £1.50 for each Terms and Conditions document.

To buy any of these documents please contact your local Branch Office.

### National Executive Committee dates for 2022

March 2/3; April 7 (Conference Weekend, Blackpool); May 4/5; June 8/9; July 6/7; August 3/4; September 7/8; October 5/6; November 2/3; December 7/8.

### Annual Meeting 2022 dates

Thursday, April 7 – NEC Meeting

Friday, April 8 – Beer & Trades Show (Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool)

Saturday, April 9 – AGM

## Trade returning to pre-pandemic levels



Industry analysts CGA have reported that drinks sales across the On-Trade are close to reaching pre-pandemic trading levels.

Notable uplifts came in Scotland and Wales, where the relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions had lagged behind England.

Wales sat three per cent ahead of 2020, as drinkers embraced the removal of a number of COVID-19 constraints.

UK trading peaked on Saturday, February 5 when drinks sales were two per cent higher than on the same day in 2020.

Trading was given a welcome lift by the start of the Six Nations rugby tournament, which saw England, Scotland and Wales all playing that day.

“It’s very encouraging to see drinks sales approaching parity with trading before the pandemic,” said Jonathan Jones, CGA’s Managing Director, UK and Ireland.

“With consumer confidence growing and the removal of remaining COVID-19 restrictions now looming, venues can hope for a revival as we head towards Spring—though with costs soaring for businesses and consumers alike, there is still a long road to recovery ahead.”

• [www.cgastrategy.com](http://www.cgastrategy.com)

# ACM day sessions to resume in second half of 2022

The Union's Award in Club Management (ACM) qualification, which aims to give a thorough grounding in the knowledge required to run a members' club, will be relaunching later this year with day session dates and venues to be announced in upcoming editions of *Club Journal*



New day courses for the Union's Award in Club Management (ACM) will be taking place in the second half of the year with the dates and venues to be announced in future editions of *Club Journal*.

The ACM was developed by the Union to give club officials all the information they require to run a successful private members' club.

The qualification consists of three self-contained units, each taking one day of classroom-based study to complete.

Unit 1 of the course covers Law & Regulation, Licensing; Unit 2 covers Other Law and Regulations and Unit 3 covers the topics of Management, Finance and Administration.

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

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

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

The feedback from those who have already completed their ACM qualification has been overwhelmingly positive.

Tricia Banachowicz ACM, the Secretary of Leigh Park Trade Union Working Men's Club in Havant, was among the first officials in the country to complete all three stages of the ACM and said: "Even when you've been running a club for several years, there's always more to learn and the ACM covers a lot of ground in terms of licensing, finance and regulations.

"The format of the course is such that as well as covering the course syllabus in the day sessions, candidates have the chance to talk about situations at their own clubs and open up a discussion.

"It means that you can fill in any gaps in your knowledge – perhaps situations which have not occurred at your club but potentially could arise in the future.

"For example, one of the areas that I found interesting was the difference between operating under a Club Premises Certificate and a Premises Licence given that some clubs choose to obtain a Premises Licence for different parts of the club.

"I've already encouraged other Committee Members to take the ACM and I believe that it would be particularly useful for Committee Members who are about to become Club Officers.

"Having the ACM is a sign that you have a thorough grounding in the laws and regulations governing clubs and that can be invaluable in meetings, both within the club and when you are talking to external parties such as the licensing authority."

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#### ACROSS

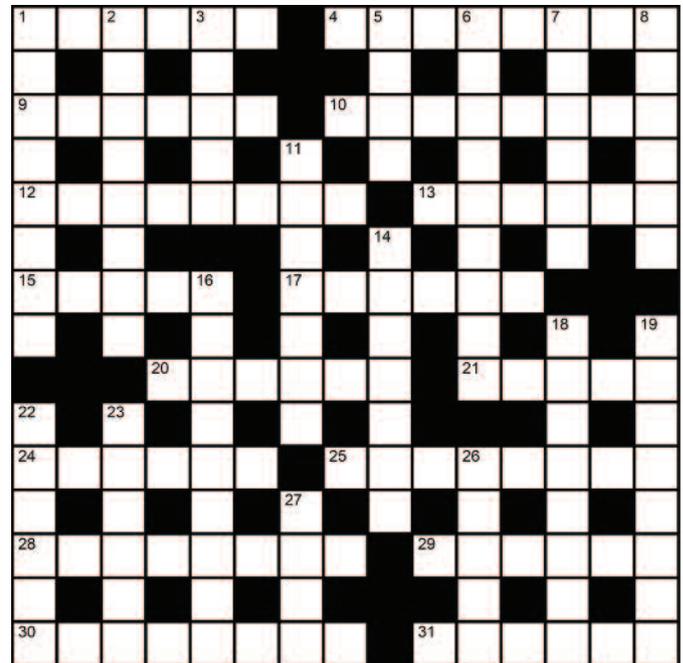
- Martial art tea-break to be without form (6)
- Kennel for a bad one? (8)
- Yale is about to be joined comfortably (6)
- It is a collapsed lung that gets the foreign language speaker (8)
- Suspend fixer? It will be sore if you pull it! (8)
- Classify roasts in some way (6)
- Outfit to give you a rise? (3,2)
- Pampered pet taken from an old gap repair? (6)
- Legless guillemot staggering around from last month (6)
- Spread out fin a southern drama (5)
- Flat ball shape can be a lot out (6)

- Insult to go adrift with the most cards in your hand (4,4)
- Sauciest kind of travelling companion! (8)
- Exam cheat finding employment in an office? (6)
- Innkeeper discovered on the Loire (8)
- In verse, briefly, Stanley is said to be one (6)

- Tin, yet to be opened for one (6)
- Joint that has no game to play in regionalism (7)
- Concerning, but not worrying about the poor sap! (1,6)
- A topic that's ill-suited to being of the government (9)
- False belief that could be optical? (8)
- Frenzy is with a hearty stew (8)

#### DOWN

- It's a childish height at the side of a grasshopper! (4-4)
- Meet with agreement on Teresa's plan (8)
- Tonal variation of a daw (5)
- Old poet's void, somehow (8)
- Protrusions that could be moments of joy? (4,5)
- Harmony of union's negotiations (6)



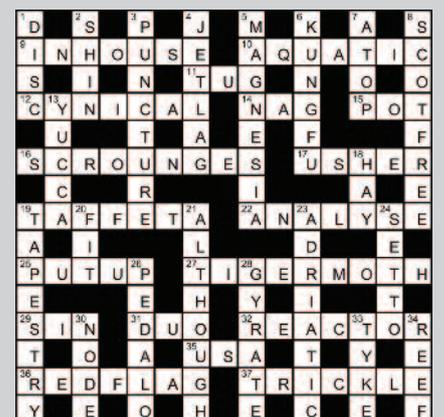
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Send your entry to Club Journal Crossword, Alchemy Contract Publishing, 59/60 Thames St, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 1TX. **Deadline March 25.**

## CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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

- Trevor Crick of Queen's Park WMC  
Douglas Burt of Cricklewood Trades Hall  
Ed Bamber of North Biddick WMC  
Charles Holmes of Woolley Bridge WMC  
A Walczak of Eyres Monsell WMC





Tuesday, March 8, 8pm - BT Sport

**UEFA Champions League – Last 16, 2nd Leg: Liverpool v Inter Milan**

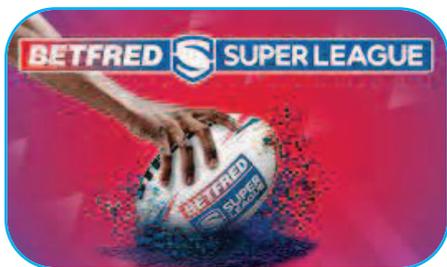
A huge game featuring two of the most illustrious names in European football history. Liverpool have won the title a total of six times to Inter's three and are likely to thrive on their home turf where the Anfield faithful will be roaring them on in this crucial second-leg encounter to reach the quarter-finals.



Tuesday, March 15, 12 noon - ITV

**Horse Racing: The Cheltenham Festival**

The top jump racing event of the year takes place over four days at the iconic Prestwick Park racecourse. The highlight of the week is the Gold Cup on the Friday but every day will have seven races of the highest quality featuring the world's best National Hunt horses, jockeys and trainers. A Plus Tard, Monkfish and Minella Indo are all major contenders for the Gold Cup.



Thursday, March 31, 8pm - Sky Sports

**Super League: Wigan Warriors v Hull FC**

Thursday night action from the Super League as Wigan Warriors welcome Hull FC. The home side will be looking to new recruit Cade Cust to make an impact this season, while strong runners such as Kaide Ellis and Patrick Mago should make massive inroads into the Hull defence. Hull's Jake Connor will be a key man for the visitors in this encounter.

# SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS

March is a massive month for live sport with the Cheltenham Festival taking centre stage alongside some top ties in the UEFA Champions League, Premier League, Super League and Six Nations Championship

Monday, March 7, 8pm

*Sky Sports Premier League*

**Premier League: Tottenham Hotspur v Everton**

Tuesday, March 8, 8pm

*BT Sport 2*

**UEFA Champions League – Last 16, 2nd Leg: Liverpool v Inter Milan**

Wednesday, March 9, 8pm

*BT Sport 2*

**UEFA Champions League – Last 16, 2nd Leg: Manchester City v Sporting CP**

Thursday, March 10, 8pm

*Sky Sports*

**Super League: Leeds Rhinos v Hull FC**

Friday, March 11, 8pm

*Sky Sports*

**Super League: St Helens v Warrington Wolves**

Friday, March 11, 8pm

*Sky Sports Football*

**Championship: West Bromwich v Huddersfield Town**

Friday, March 11, 8pm

*BBC*

**Six Nations Rugby: Wales v France**

Saturday, March 12, 12.30pm

*Sky Sports Football*

**Championship: Barnsley v Fulham**

Saturday, March 12, 12.30pm

*BT Sport 1*

**Premier League: Brighton & Hove Albion v Liverpool**

Saturday, March 12, 3.15pm

*Sky Sports*

**Super League: Huddersfield Giants v Castleford Tigers**

Saturday, March 12, 4.45pm

*ITV*

**Six Nations Rugby: England v Ireland**

Saturday, March 12, 5.30pm

*Sky Sports Premier League*

**Premier League: Manchester United v Tottenham Hotspur**

Sunday, March 13, 2pm

*Sky Sports Premier League*

**Premier League: Chelsea v Newcastle United**

Sunday, March 13, 4.30pm

*Sky Sports Premier League*

**Premier League: Arsenal v Leicester City**

Monday, March 14, 8pm

*Sky Sports Premier League*

**Premier League: Crystal Palace v Manchester City**

Tuesday, March 15, 12 noon

*ITV*

**Horse Racing: The Cheltenham Festival – Opening Day**

Tuesday, March 15, 8pm

*BT Sport 2*

**UEFA Champions League – Last 16, 2nd Leg: Manchester United v Atletico Madrid**

Wednesday, March 16, 8pm

*BT Sport 2*

**UEFA Champions League – Last 16, 2nd Leg: Lille v Chelsea**

Thursday, March 17, 8pm

*Sky Sports*

**Super League: Wigan Warriors v Castleford Tigers**

Tuesday, March 15, 12 noon

*ITV*

**Horse Racing: Cheltenham Festival**

Six Nations Rugby: England v  
France: Saturday, March 19,  
8pm, ITV



*Wednesday, March 16, 12 noon*  
ITV

**Horse Racing: Cheltenham Festival**

*Wednesday, March 16, 7.45pm*  
Sky Sports

**Championship Football: Blackpool  
v Sheffield United**

*Thursday, March 17, 12 noon*  
ITV

**Horse Racing: Cheltenham Festival**

*Friday, March 18, 12 noon*  
ITV

**Horse Racing: Cheltenham Festival**

*Friday, March 18, 8pm*  
Sky Sports Premier League

**Premier League: Wolves v Leeds  
United**

*Friday, March 18, 8pm*  
Sky Sports

**Super League: Salford Red Devils v  
Leeds Rhinos**

*Saturday, March 19, 12.30pm*  
Channel 4

**Super League: Warrington Wolves v  
Wakefield Trinity Wildcats**

*Saturday, March 19, 12.30pm*  
BT Sport 1

**Premier League: Aston Villa v  
Arsenal**

*Saturday, March 19, 12.30pm*  
Sky Sports Football

**Championship Football: Derby  
County v Coventry City**

*Saturday, March 19, 2.15pm*  
BBC1

**Six Nations Rugby: Wales v Italy**

*Saturday, March 19, 4.45pm*  
ITV

**Six Nations Rugby: Ireland v  
Scotland**

*Saturday, March 19, 5.30pm*  
Sky Sports Premier League

**Premier League: Burnley v  
Southampton**

*Saturday, March 19, 12.30pm*  
Sky Sports Football

**Championship Football: Fulham v  
Nottingham Forest**

*Saturday, March 19, 8pm*  
ITV

**Six Nations Rugby: France v  
England**

*Sunday, March 20, 2pm*  
Sky Sports Premier League

**Premier League: Tottenham  
Hotspur v West Ham United**

*Sunday, March 20, 4.30pm*  
Sky Sports Premier League

**Premier League: Liverpool v  
Manchester United**

*Thursday, March 24, 7.45pm*  
S4C/Sky Sports

**International Football: Wales v  
Austria**

*Saturday, March 26, 5.30pm*  
ITV

**International Football: England v  
Switzerland**

*Tuesday, March 29, 7.45pm*  
ITV

**International Football: England v  
Ivory Coast**

*Thursday, March 31, 8pm*  
Sky Sports

**Super League: Wigan Warriors v  
Hull FC**



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