

Clubs urged to make full use of the CIU's products and services

Union General Secretary Kenneth D Green CMD ACM has urged clubs to make full use of their membership of the CIU in order to navigate their way through the choppy economic waters ahead.

Speaking at the Union's Annual Meeting in Blackpool in April, Mr Green said: "We are just emerging from unprecedented disturbance to our business and I know quite a few clubs have yet to recover from this with members still reluctant to socialise as they used to do.

"There are no longer any government grants available to us to help prop up our businesses, so it up to us to manage what we have got, and it is in this vein I feel I must point you in the direction of the Union's education programme.

"I urge all members with an interest in the management of our clubs, to utilise our facilities which are available to all clubs and to attend our schools which are intended to point members along the correct path of keeping our clubs open and thriving.

"Please use your branches, have a word with your individual branch secretaries to see how they can help your club, as I feel certain we are not utilising our own structure as we should regarding sales of club goods, bingo tickets, etcetera, in addition to ongoing service on most things club related. I implore you to use your branch."

Mr Green also spoke about the urgent need for any clubs currently registered as a friendly society to change their legal status.

"I would urge any club registered as a friendly society to contemplate

transferring their registration to that of the Co-Operative and Community Benefits Society, which enables a club to become a limited liability company registered on the mutual department of Companies House," he said.

"This gives the club the protection of a legal entity and removes the personal liabilities for trustees and the club secretaries, which believe me are enormous should a club fail, or even be taken to court for an outstanding bill.

"The re-registering is, as all rule changes, a free service which our efficient rules department will carry out on behalf of a club with the only cost being the printing of new rule books.

"Please initially contact your branch to start the ball rolling. Remember, it is for the protection of the club and its individual members."

Earlier in the Meeting, President George Smith also called on clubs to utilise the Union's collective knowledge to help deal with any potential problems which arise.

He said: "We at the NEC and branch level are ready to visit your clubs to work along with you and hopefully help you improve the situation. There is help for you if you ask, so please ask.

"We are elected by you, our members. This is your Union. You are our priority.

"Whatever the criticism towards the Committee – and there is some now and again – we cannot be accused of sitting on our hands and not acting with you in mind."

● **For the full Minutes of the Annual Meeting, see pages 8-15**

Norbreck Castle Hotel hosts Beer & Trades show



The 30th edition of the CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition took place on Friday, April 8 at the Norbreck Castle Hotel in Blackpool.

Among the companies exhibiting at the show were ACE Furniture, Clenaware, Club Control, Dransfields, Higos Insurance, LWC, Mr Scratchings and Pure Purchasing as delegates enjoyed an informative afternoon of networking and club-orientated business advice.

There were also plenty of opportunities for delegates to win prizes provided by the exhibitors.

● **For a report on the show, see pages 16-17**

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Welcome to the May edition of *Club Journal* as we reflect on Conference Weekend which saw our member clubs gather in Blackpool for the Annual Meeting and the Beer & Trades Exhibition.

It was the first Conference to be held in April since 2019, following three years of COVID-related disruption and was extremely well supported by clubs from across the UK.

The Beer & Trades Exhibition on Friday, April 8 was a very interesting and enjoyable event with a host of suppliers on hand to dispense advice on running clubs more efficiently and we thank all those delegates who came to the event as well as the exhibitors who had a busy afternoon chatting with club officials and members.

It was certainly very busy on the CIU's dedicated stand as our team from Head Office talked to delegates about the many products and services which the Union provides to its affiliated clubs.

On the Saturday of Conference Weekend, the Annual Meeting took place at the Grand Hotel with the Mayor of Blackpool and the Deputy Mayor both in attendance as they warmly welcomed Union delegates to their town.

Being the first full AGM since 2019, there was naturally plenty of rigorous debate throughout the meeting with a

Welcome

total of 10 changes to the CIU Constitution passed by delegates, while the President and General Secretary both made rousing speeches about what the Union does on a daily basis for its member clubs.

You can read the Official Minutes of the Annual Meeting on pages 8-15 or, if you'd rather listen to the event, you can download an audio file of the entire meeting from the Union's website: <http://www.wmciu.org.uk>.

There is also a picture gallery containing all the images taken across the weekend by our official photographer, all of which will also be available for download.

Elsewhere in the issue, we are delighted that Bryan Howarth of B.H. Accountancy Ltd, the Union's Official Auditors, has written a piece on the Government's Making Tax Digital initiative and what it actually means for members' clubs.

You can read the article on page 25 in the 'HQ' section.

I hope you enjoy the issue and please keep the stories and photos coming in about your club.

Stephen Goulding

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CLUB JOURNAL

CIU Editorial Panel



George Smith
President



Ken Roberts CMD ACM
Vice-President



Kenneth D Green CMD ACM
General Secretary



Sean Belton CMD
NEC Member



Geoff Blakeley CMD ACM
NEC Member



Nathan Clarke
NEC Member



Mark Fergusson CMD
NEC Member



Geoff Fisher
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



Wynn Wright CMD
NEC Member

Sue Graham reaches milestone at SE Met Branch



Sue Graham, South East Metropolitan Branch Secretary, recently received an award for 10 years of service to the Branch. Pictured, left to right: Sue Graham (South East Metropolitan Branch Secretary) and Trevor Baker (President, South East Metropolitan Branch)

CLUB NOTICES

Clubs Name Changes

From: Baddeley Green WM Club
To: Baddeley Green Working Men's Club and Institute Ltd

From: Biggin Hill Social & Sports
To: Biggin Hill Social & Sports Club Ltd

From: Corringham Social Club
To: Corringham Social Club Ltd

From: Hoyland Nether Working Men's Club
To: Hoyland Nether Working Men's Club and Institute Ltd

From: Up Holland Labour Club
To: Up Holland Labour Club and Institute Ltd

Sheerness East WMC pair complete epic 874-mile charity trek

Paula Smith and Alison Downing – respectively Manager and Deputy Manager of Sheerness East Working Men's Club in Kent – have completed an epic virtual walk for charity.

The trek, which raised funds for the Royal Marsden and Great Ormond Street hospitals and the Sheerness East Youth Football Club, saw the pair complete the equivalent distance of Lands End to John O'Groats, some 874 miles, over a two-month period.

They embarked on the challenge on January 24 and completed the full distance by March 31, receiving a gold medal and a special T-shirt for their efforts.

The challenge raised a total of £2,600 for their chosen causes.

Paula, whose previous charity challenges have included a parachute jump and a wing walk, said: "A huge thank you for all our supporters at the club, including the sequence dancers, the Fellowship group which meets on Wednesday mornings, the Kent lorry drivers Union, the table tennis club, the various darts/pool and football teams but most of all to our customers, family and friends.

"We would not have raised this amazing amount without them.

"The search is now on for the next charity challenge!"



Left to right: Alison Downing and Paula Smith of Sheerness East WMC completed a virtual charity walk over a 874-mile distance

News in brief

BILTON W.M.C
PROUDLY PRESENTS

THE LEGEND!

MICK MILLER

FRIDAY 13TH MAY Plus support

DOORS OPEN 7PM

SHOW STARTS 8PM

TICKETS ONLY
£10
AVAILABLE FROM
BILTON WMC
OR
BY CALLING
07961794838



Legendary stand-up comic Mick Miller to appear at Bilton WMC on Friday, May 13
Bilton Working Mens Club in Harrogate is preparing to host legendary club comic Mick Miller in May.

The comedian will be performing at the club on Friday, May 13 and tickets are available to buy from the club or by calling 07961794838.

Miller was a regular on the 1970s stand-up show *The Comedians*, co-presented *The Funny Side*, regularly appeared on *Today With Des and Mel* and has been a guest on *Blankety Blank*, *They Think It's All Over* and *Des O'Connor Tonight*.

More recently, he appeared in *Peter Kay's Car Share* on BBC.

Showcase music night at the Shottermill Club in Surrey raises £1,400 for Ukraine Appeal

A recent live music showcase, featuring up-and-coming bands performing at the Shottermill Club in Haslemere, Surrey, raised £1,400 for the Ukraine Support Appeal.

The club's newly-formed Fringe Sessions promote local emerging and original talent on the first Saturday of each month, as well as DJ sets and dancing.

This latest event attracted more than 120 people and raised £1,400 for the Ukraine Support Appeal.

All the performers and the Shottermill Club donated their fees which – combined with the £5 per person entrance tickets and generous private donations from individuals – culminated in the significant contribution to the Ukraine Support Appeal.

Mill View Social Club honours its oldest member



Mill View Social Club in Sunderland recently honoured its oldest member, Henry (Harry) Oxman, who turned 100 in March.

Harry, who served with the RAF as a pilot and navigator in Africa in World War Two, was presented with a bottle of his favourite malt whisky and also received the first-ever Life Membership of the club.

Remarkably, in 1944, Harry was given the last rites on board a ship by a chaplain after falling into a Malaria-induced coma but went on to make a complete recovery, eventually returning to Sunderland where he worked as a draughtsman in the shipyards.

Presentation held at Mill View Social Club



Mill View Social Club in Sunderland held a special presentation for two stalwart Committee members, Mick Downey and Mick Conlin, attended by Union President and Durham Branch Secretary George Smith. Pictured, left to right: Robert Lovert (Chairman, Mill View Social Club), Billy Symcox (Durham Branch Executive, No.3 Division), Mick Downey (Certificate of Merit recipient), Mick Conlin (recipient of a Diploma for 20 years service to the club as Concert Chairman and Committee man), Union President and Durham Branch Secretary George Smith and Mill View Social Club Secretary Keith Seymour

Club stages 60th wedding anniversary party



Members of Wallsend Coronation Club in Newcastle sprang a surprise party to celebrate the 60th wedding anniversary of two longstanding members.

Arthur and Margaret Mann reached their milestone on March 20, sparking a special party at the club where Arthur has been a member for 56 years.

The Concert Room was filled with friends and family who shared in the couple's celebrations. Pictured, left to right: Margaret Mann, Ronnie Wonders (No.8 Division Executive) and Arthur Mann.

Victoria Sailors WMC hosts 'Karaoke for Ukraine'

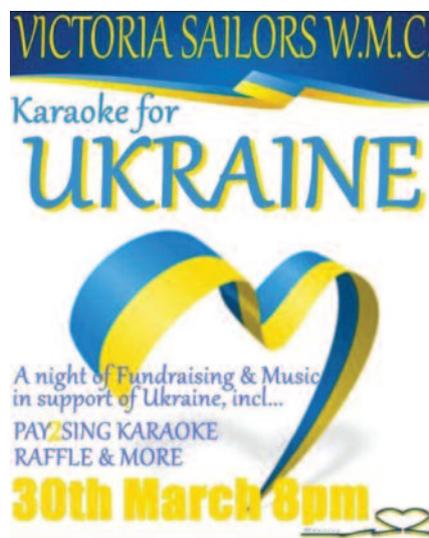
The Victoria Sailors Working Mens Club in Bridlington, Yorkshire held a 'Karaoke For Ukraine' night on March 30.

Members taking part in the karaoke made a donation to the Ukraine Appeal each time they sang, while a raffle was held featuring a host of prizes which were donated by individuals and local businesses.

A magnificent total of £5,810 was raised on the night for a very worthwhile cause thanks to the fantastic generosity of club members and guests.

In addition to 'Karaoke for Ukraine', the club has certainly been extremely busy in recent weeks with a full programme of live entertainment and other activities, including bingo, taking place at the club seven days a week.

The club is also renowned for its food offering with a number of great-value dishes available daily.



OBITUARY

BRENDA McMAHON

It is with great sadness that Brafield on the Green Working Men's Club in Northamptonshire announces that longtime Club Secretary Brenda McMahon has passed away.

Brenda was also a member of the South East Midlands Branch Executive and was a nationally renowned figure who spoke on several occasions at the Union's AGMs in Blackpool.

The club sends its deepest condolences to family and friends.

As a longstanding servant of the club she will be missed deeply.



News in brief

The Alzheimer's Society urges clubs to get involved in Dementia Action Week in May
Dementia Action Week will take place from May 16-22 with the Alzheimer's Society working with individuals and organisations across the UK to encourage people to 'act on dementia'.

If you or a loved one is experiencing memory loss, it could be a sign of dementia and the theme of the awareness week during 2022 will be 'diagnosis', helping people to recognise the symptoms of the disease.

Research carried out by the Alzheimer's Society shows that the misconception around memory loss being a sign of normal ageing is the biggest barrier to people seeking a dementia diagnosis.

With diagnosis rates falling to a five-year low, the charity wants to encourage those who might be living with undiagnosed dementia to come to them for guidance and support and feel empowered to take the next step.

For clubs wishing to get involved in raising awareness of dementia during the week, a series of flyers and posters can be ordered from the Alzheimer's Society website:

www.alzheimers.org.uk

News in brief



Steward Terry Gunn marks three decades behind the bar at the Islip Club in Kettering

Steward Terry Gunn (pictured above) has marked 30 years since he took over at the Islip Club in Kettering, having assumed the reins on April 12, 1992.

But Terry's involvement with the club goes even beyond three decades with his grandfather being one of the founders of the club – formerly named Islip Working Men's Club – some 90 years ago.

Founded in 1933, by a committee including Terry's grandad Harry, three generations of the Gunn family have been involved in the club.

Terry's father Raymond also helped serve pints. At 14, Terry would do odd jobs in the club for pocket money, before moving on to become a member of the bar staff when he reached 18.

Terry said: "I love the job. I can see me carrying on. I think it's enriched my life. Everybody knows me – it's good. I know everyone in the village and we're at the heart of the community."

Richmond Place Club prepares to host final day of Board Gamers Charity Weekend in May

The Richmond Place Club in Hereford is hosting the final day of the 8th Annual Herefordshire Board Gamers Charity Game Weekend on Sunday, May 15.

This charity event, which will raise money for Herefordshire MIND, will see attendees able to play a huge variety of board games as well as have a chance to win £4,000-worth of prizes.

The Herefordshire Board Gamers run a free lending library for games with a repository of over 360 board games, 50 jigsaws, two lifesize games and two lawn games.

Richmond Place Club Secretary Les Walker said: "We're really looking to welcoming gamers of all ages to the club for what is sure to be a fantastic day and one that will raise plenty of money to help people suffering with mental health issues.

"If you don't know how to play a particular game, there will be experts on hand to teach you the rules and get you involved."

Presentation held at Alberta Social Club in Jarrow



The Alberta Social Club in Jarrow recently held a Presentation Night as Committee Member John Drynan and Vice-Chairman Harry Shaw were presented with their 25-year service awards, while Club Chairman Brian Briggs received his 40-year service award.

Pictured, left to right: Billy Symcox (Secretary, No.3 Division), George Smith (Union President and Durham Branch Secretary), Brian Briggs (Club Chairman), Harry Shaw (Club Vice-Chairman), Peter Watt (Club Secretary) and John Drynan (Club Committee Member).

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ACP, *Club Journal*, 59/60 Thames Street, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 1TX



FOR SERVICE

Distinguished Service Award – 50 Years

David Legge Epsom Common WMC (SE Met)
Roy Bray Epsom Common WMC (SE Met)

Distinguished Service Award – 40 Years

Roy Rushton West Green WMC (South Yorkshire)
Steven Simms West Green WMC (South Yorkshire)

Long Service Award – 25 Years

Joseph Campbell Consett & District WMC (Durham)
Alan Mowatt West Moor Club (Northumberland)

Certificate of Merit – 10 Years

Lue Lue Cronin Knaphill Working Men's Club
(SE Met)

Martin Ansell Knaphill Working Men's Club
(SE Met)

Julie Dawn Line Higham Ferrers WMC
(SE Midlands)

Sheila Mantle Higham Ferrers WMC (SE Midlands)

Sarah Leggett Higham Ferrers WMC (SE Midlands)

James Condron Leicester Railwaymen's Club
(Leicestershire)

Greg Martin West Green WMC (South Yorkshire)

Jean Cook West Green WMC (South Yorkshire)

John Patterson Chirton Social Club
(Northumberland)

Edward Eason Chirton Social Club
(Northumberland)

Paul Williams Chirton Social Club
(Northumberland)

Ernie Craig Chirton Social Club (Northumberland)

Barbara Miller West Moor Club (Northumberland)

Patricia Haldane Dubmire Working Men's Club &
Institute (Durham)

Brian Michell Hylton Castle WMC (Durham)

Ray Robson Hylton Castle WMC (Durham)

Norman Parry Hylton Castle WMC (Durham)

Alan Matthews Hetton Victory Club (Durham)

Peter Warner Hetton Victory Club (Durham)

Steven Hodgson Hetton Victory Club (Durham)

Heather Wardle Hetton Victory Club (Durham)

David Chapman Thorne Democratic Club &
Institute (Doncaster)

Branch Executive Award

Skye Eastwood (Kent Branch Executive) – 21 Years

Roger Oake (Kent Branch Executive) – 10 Years

Blackpool 2022: The 158th Annual Meeting

The 158th Annual Meeting of the Union took 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 took place on Saturday, April 9 at Blackpool's Grand Hotel

The 158th Annual Meeting of the Union, held in the Royal Suite of the Grand Hotel in Blackpool on Saturday, April 9 began with **GEORGE SMITH, THE PRESIDENT** of the Union, introducing **THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR OF BLACKPOOL, COUNCILLOR AMY CROSS** and the **DEPUTY MAYOR, COUNCILLOR PAULA BURDESS**.

THE MAYOR issued a Civic Welcome to delegates.

THE PRESIDENT then asked delegates to agree the minutes of the 2021 Council Meeting held on Saturday, September 11, 2021 as per the October 2021 edition of *Club Journal*.

With the 2021 minutes approved, **BOB RUSSELL CMD**, the NEC Member for the Wessex Branch and

Western Counties and Chairman of the Standing Orders Committee introduced the other members of the Committee present at the meeting: David Norman of Heavy Woollen Branch, Alan Jones of Doncaster Branch, Skye Eastwood of Kent Branch and NEC Members Geoff Blakeley CMD ACM, David Gravel CMD and Chris O'Neill CMD ACM.

THE PRESIDENT then asked the assembled delegates to observe a minute's silence in remembrance of those club members who had passed away since the last Annual Meeting as well as to give thoughts to the plight of the Ukrainian people.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS:

"Ladies and gentlemen, once again, I'm honoured to be standing on this platform as your President for my

second term – I have you to thank for making that possible – and I will endeavour to carry out the tradition of my predecessors to the best of my ability, and I promise to work alongside you all to hopefully keep our Union moving forward.

"As we all know, last year's Conference was held later in the year, and was somewhat shortened due to that dreaded COVID experience. Now, hopefully, we can carry on as normally as possible.

"A lot of our clubs are finding it difficult to attract their members back into their fold and it may be difficult to do so due to their home bills increasing so much, along with the club running costs going through the roof, and the increase in the price of a pint.

"Over lockdown, some of our clubs had some help with grants from the

Government and local councils. Where some have managed with this help, others still found it difficult. On some occasions, we had problems with certain breweries with us finding it difficult to receive the correct orders, subsequently forcing us to rely on wholesalers.

“In my opinion, some breweries will prefer this in the future. I may be wrong, but I think so. Heineken have now withdrawn as a Preferred Supplier to the CIU, effective from August 31, 2022.

“We still have a situation whereby a club may purchase a certain brand at one price, and another club down the road will get the same brand at a far greater discount. This is not a new situation.

“This, again, in my opinion, asks for more unity from the brewery representatives. In the present climate, this may help to make our clubs stronger, and stronger as a body.

“New technology being used by the brewers is now more prevalent. For example, more and more dealings are carried out online.

“While this is not a bad thing, a lot of our clubs have no facilities to carry this out, and others have elderly officials who are not familiar with this and are resigning from their positions, thus placing the clubs with a problem at times to replace them.

“This is difficult enough to do anyway – in some cases, we can’t get anybody to replace them.

“We at the NEC and branch level are ready to visit your clubs to work along with you and hopefully help you improve the situation somewhat. There is help for you if you ask, so please ask.

“In the past, we had our own breweries – the Federation and the Crown. I’m sad to say that was in bygone days, but now we have to work with what we’ve got.

“I would like now to move to our illustrious NEC. In the past, there was approximately 30 committees and staff. At the present time, we have 14 committees and eight staff.

“No doubt there were more clubs at that time, but we still have the same problems, and when they arise, they have to be handled as in the past, and



Union President George Smith chaired the 158th Annual Meeting

with the same proficiency, which I may say is still carried out.

“I would like to thank our Office Manager, Stephen Goulding, and his staff for the excellent work they carry out, and believe me they do.

“They work up to their eyes and they are doing a great job – I thank them very much.

“The NEC meetings take place, at the present time, once a month. These determine policy and alongside these meetings, we also run sub-committees which go into greater depths on subjects such as recreation, education, with progress being made on the ACM (Award in Club Management).

“Ken Roberts and Ken Green and their colleagues are making a hell of a job on that, and we would like more people from our clubs to go into this ACM. It is very informative on club law and you would enjoy it once you got into it.

“We also have the parliamentary committees. We still have an input in the CORCA (Committee of Registered Clubs Association) general meetings which look into the relationships between us and other non-profit making bodies, such as the Conservative clubs, Liberal clubs,

British Legion clubs, just to mention a few of the organisations we deal with.

“All this and the work that gets carried out which comes via the branches from our clubs.

“Problems are passed on through the branches to the NEC. If we can answer them – most of the time we can – that information is then passed back to the branches, then on to their area representatives, and back to the clubs.

“It’s been said in the past from the stage that we need to move forward with the times.

“We, as your NEC, strive to initiate these changes, rather than rely on others. I’m convinced that we have carried this out and continue to do so.

“We listen to our members throughout the countries who give us their opinions and ideas and we act to maintain the best interests of our members and their clubs.

“We are elected by you, our members. This is your Union. You are our priority. Whatever the criticism towards the committee – and there is some now and again – we cannot be accused of sitting on our hands and not acting with you in mind.

“We still have our problems with PRS (PRS For Music). Believe it or not,

THE 158TH ANNUAL MEETING

some of our clubs have invited PRS reps into their clubs to see how we have been overcharged. Some say this is silly to ask them to come in, but some have found their claims against PRS have been correct, and PRS have corrected them.

“The same goes for the rest of our invoices. They’re all going up, but check them, and enquire if you think that they’re not right – either get in touch with them, get in touch with us, and we’ll help you get in touch with them.

“On the annual fees, I’d like to comment on clubs throughout our countries – and I say countries because we’ve got Wales and Ireland, not only England – who are contemplating dropping out of the Union because of the annual fee.

“I’m not going to preach about what the annual fee does for our clubs, but I’ll only point out that what they would lose on one invoice alone would pay for the annual fee, and that invoice would be PRS. They were practically double. This is only one example, and there are many more.

“So, if you think you know of anybody that’s thinking about dropping out of the Union, please get them to think again, because you’ll lose a few bob if you drop out.

“Get in touch with your branch, get in touch with your representatives, and they’ll explain why you should stay in the CIU.

“I’ll not apologise for not going into politics, or how Boris was wrong about his parties. You are our priority, you’re my priority.

“Again, if you allow me, I will quote as I did before from our founder, Reverend Henry Solly. He said: ‘The best hope of success is inviting people together for a worthy end in a true brotherhood, so that each may be there to give as well as to receive.’

“Striving to a common cause, these were the words of a man of wisdom, and I am convinced that we will follow his example and do our utmost to carry them out in his name.

“Thank you.”

THE 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2021 Annual Report was then proposed for acceptance by **UNION VICE-PRESIDENT KEN ROBERTS CMD ACM**.

He said: “Before I formally move acceptance of the Annual Report, I would like first of all to give thanks to our Head Office Manager on my right, Stephen Goulding and his team, who carefully put the Annual Report

together year on year, often under strict time restraints.

“The Report contains a whole host of information and topics, including drug awareness, health and safety, the Gambling Act, stocktaking, misconduct issues, rule changes to name but a few.

“In addition, it gives details of the Union’s education programme, its games competition winners and the Union’s financial statements which will be dealt with next.

“When I started out as Club Secretary many years ago, I always had a copy of this report at hand. It’s helpful, it helped me a lot in my job, and it’s an excellent read. So, therefore, I would now like to propose acceptance of the Annual Report for 2021. Thank you.”

The 2021 Annual Report was seconded by NEC Member **NATHAN CLARKE** and was accepted unanimously on a show of hands.

THE 2021 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

In presenting the Union’s Annual Financial Statement, **UNION ACCOUNTANT UTO EKANEM** said: “Good morning Mr President, delegates, and guests. It gives me great pleasure to stand before you today to



Union Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM formally proposed to accept the 2021 Annual Report



Union Accountant Uto Ekanem presented the Annual Financial Statement for 2021

present the Financial Reports for the Club and Institute Union Limited for the year to September 2021 on behalf of your National Executive.

“This year has recorded a positive result due to the global equity market making solid progress on the reopening of the economy after the severe restrictions at the height of the pandemic, thanks to the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccinations.

“A total recognised gain of £351,354 was recorded this year, compared with the total recognised losses of £802,461 in the previous year. This is a huge turnaround of £1.15 million.

“This positive turnaround is due mainly to the investments which this year returned a net gain of £917,388 compared to the loss of £328,653 in the previous year. A turnaround of £1.25 million.

“There has however been a further decline in the Union’s income which has reduced by £288,503 from £1,340,865 in 2020 to £1,052,362 in 2021. This is a drop of 21.5% and is due mainly to poor trading in the year because of lockdowns occasioned by the pandemic.

“Sale of affiliation fees, the Union’s

main source of income, and trade sales fell collectively by 27.8% from £994,047 to £717,552. After expenditure, this resulted in an operating loss of £681,805 compared with £667,751 in the previous year.

“This is despite a reduction in costs of sales and operating expenses, which together fell from £2,008,616 in 2020 to £1,734,167 in 2021 – a fall of £274,449. The operating profit margin has fallen from a negative margin of -49.8% in 2020 to -64.8%.

“The Union has put in place a strategy to continuously improve on the operating profit margin. There is however a limit to what can be achieved without an increase in income.

“I will repeat here again, as in previous years, that the Union has been running with operating losses for many years now.

“Efforts are continuously made at both branch and Head Office levels to reduce expenditure. This has helped the results over the years, but has not been sufficient to overturn the negative operating losses.

“We have depended on positive results from investments over the past years achieved through the sales of our

investments, and increase in the market value.

“This is not a sustainable strategy, as investments can decline as well as increase in value. Raising our operational results is a more sustainable strategy. An improvement in the take-up of the Union’s associates and pass cards will go a long way in achieving this and securing the future of the Union.

“The Union’s balance sheet is healthy and its net assets have increased by £350,054 from £6,740,645 to £7,090,699. This is an increase of 5.2%.

“I will now address the last section of your Annual Report following on from the financial statements which gives a brief summary of the results of your individual branches for the year.

“Your 24 branches returned a total recognised loss of £1,670 compared with a profit of £55,840 the previous year, which was due mainly to a profit on the sale of a fixed asset.

“Twelve branches returned net losses. The net assets for the branches, though still healthy, has reduced from £2,145,027 in 2020 to £2,143,355 in 2021. We lost Derbyshire and Burnley & Pendle branches in the year, resulting in a total of six branches lost over the last decade.

“In conclusion, this year has returned a positive result thanks to our investments. Over the years, the Union has supported our member clubs in various ways by providing advice and services that cater for their welfare and interests.

“I will reiterate again our commitment to achieving this in a more sustainable way that will ensure our continued existence into the long term. We shall continue to tighten our expenditure base, but must equally increase our income levels.

“While appreciating the support of our member clubs over the years, I must also add that we shall be relying on them to support this mission to create a more sustainable Union.

“Finally, Mr President, as usual, I would like to thank BH Accountancy, our auditors, for their expert advice given throughout the year, and to wish you all success in the management of your clubs.

Thank you, Mr President.”

JOHNWOOD CMD, President of Wessex Branch moved to accept the Financial Statement.

PETER CLARKE ACM of Tring Social Club seconded the Motion to accept the Financial Statement.

The Financial Statement for 2021 was accepted unanimously.

THE MOTIONS

MOTION 1

Motion 1, to replace the words ‘Club Management Diploma’ in Rule 2 (c), lines 4 and 5 of the Constitution, and replace them with ‘Award in Club Management’ was proposed by **UNION VICE-PRESIDENT KEN ROBERTS CMD ACM** and seconded by NEC Member **BOB RUSSELL CMD**.

Motion 1 was passed.

MOTION 2

Motion 2, to delete ‘Industrial and Providence Society Act’ and substitute with ‘the Cooperative and Community Benefits Societies Act 2014’ in Rule 7 (b), line 3 was proposed by **UNION VICE-PRESIDENT KEN ROBERTS CMD ACM** and seconded by NEC Member **BOB RUSSELL CMD**.

Motion 2 was passed.

MOTION 3

Motion 3, to delete Rule 7 (c) from the Constitution, was proposed by NEC Member **BOB RUSSELL CMD** and seconded by NEC Member **MARK FERGUSSON CMD**.

Motion 3 was passed.

MOTION 4

Motion 4, to rename Rule 7 (d), (e) and (f), as Rule 7 (c), (d) and (e) in the Constitution in light of the deletion of Rule 7 (c) in Motion 3, was proposed by NEC Member **BOB RUSSELL CMD** and seconded by NEC Member **MARK FERGUSSON CMD**.

Motion 4 was passed.

MOTION 5

Motion 5, to delete 4 (a) and substitute with 14 (a) was proposed by NEC Member **BOB RUSSELL CMD** and seconded by NEC Member **MARK**

FERGUSSON CMD.

Motion 5 was passed.

MOTION 6

Motion 6, to delete ‘the Executive shall meet once a month’ and substitute with ‘the Executive shall meet not less than six times in every year’ in Rule 17 (h), line 1, was proposed by **UNION GENERAL SECRETARY KENNETH D GREEN CMD ACM**.

He said: “It says in the Constitution on Rule 17 (h), line 1, the Executive shall meet once a month. In essence, if the Executive were not meeting every month, or once a month, we would be breaking our own rules, we would be breaking the Constitution.

“This proposed change could have the effect of saving the Union quite a bit of money on expenses, etcetera, and gives the Executive more scope to have meetings or not have meetings.

“We do get slightly less agenda points come the summer months, and I’m sure we can do the work within one meeting as opposed to two.

“So, I formally propose the motion. Thank you.”

The Motion was seconded by **UNION VICE-PRESIDENT KEN ROBERTS CMD ACM**.

Opposing the Motion, **LES HEPWORTH CMD ACM**, Heavy Woollen Branch Secretary, said:

“Good morning, fellow delegates. On this Rule 14, the Executive shall meet once a month as it stands now, that means a maximum of 12 a year. If it’s changed to the Executive shall meet not less than six times a year, there is then no maximum.

“So, I’m not saying they will meet more than 12, but it is open for the delegates to meet every week if they wanted to. So, I’ve been instructed by my club to object against this Motion as the reason as I’ve just stated, there is no maximum to the amount of times they can meet.

“For 18 months when the lockdown was on, they met by Zoom meeting, so it went on just fine for 18 months – we had a meeting every month as the Constitution states.

“So, I would like to put the objection against this Motion and the wording should actually be not more than six times a month, not less.”

Responding to Mr Hepworth’s point, **UNION GENERAL SECRETARY KENNETH D GREEN CMD ACM**, said:

“I find it incredible that Les had voted for this Motion to be put forward when you were on the National Executive – yes, you did – and it’s incredible that he should come here today to just object for a tiny little thing like this. I find it unacceptable.

“When the Executive meet, they’ve been meeting over Zoom all through COVID, and yes, we did meet once a month, and it was every month on Zoom, we had Zoom meetings every month. So, the explanation you’ve just been given, gentlemen and ladies, is wrong.”

Motion 6 was passed.

MOTION 7

Motion 7, to insert the following clause at the end of Rule 19, line 3: ‘Should a member of the Executive or General Secretary be removed from office, under this rule they would not be allowed to be nominated for a branch of national position for a period of five years from the date of their removal’, was proposed by **UNION GENERAL SECRETARY KENNETH D GREEN CMD ACM**.

He said: “Prior to our Constitution being changed in 2005, there was nothing in our Constitution for the NEC to be disciplined by anybody – the NEC couldn’t be disciplined by themselves, and they couldn’t be disciplined by you.

“It was decided prior to 2005 that this was wrong in this day and age, which then allowed the Executive to discipline themselves.

“So, if anybody had done anything wrong, or against the Constitution, they could be suspended for a period of up to three months, and then removed by delegates at a special meeting called solely for that purpose.

“As you all know, this was implemented in 2019 when a special meeting was held in Birmingham to remove the then President.

“This should now read: ‘Should a member of the Executive or General Secretary be removed from office under this rule, they would not be allowed to be nominated for the branch or



Delegates voted on 10 Motions during the Annual Meeting

national position for a period of five years from the date of their removal’.

“This was, in a lot of club rules, worded as if a person fails to fulfil their term of office, they will not be allowed to stand for two, three, four years.

“Of course, there’s a position at the moment where any Executive could be removed from office, and then ironically on the Constitutional vote of 75 clubs or the NEC and two-thirds of the members present at that meeting, remove them.

“We call an election for that position, so if you want to get shot of me, you remove me, there’s nothing to stop me putting back up for election. This anomaly is in quite a few clubs.

“What we’re suggesting is that we remove that anomaly. I know I’ve had comments of it – ‘why isn’t it ten years?’, ‘why isn’t it for life?’, ‘why isn’t it forever?’.

“We did take advice on it. Five years seems reasonable, which the FCA (Financial Conduct Authority) will accept, and if it were any longer, or ten years or life, they would deem it to be un-constitutional and not in accordance with the Human Rights Act.

“That’s why we decided on five years,

and I hope you’ll accept that coming from the NEC to discipline themselves.”

The Motion was seconded by **UNION VICE-PRESIDENT KEN ROBERTS CMD ACM.**

Motion 7 was passed.

MOTION 8

Motion 8, regarding changing the word ‘placed’ with ‘place’ in Rule 20 (h), line 1, was proposed by NEC Member **BOB RUSSELL CMD** and seconded by NEC Member **MARK FERGUSSON CMD.**

Motion 8 was passed.

MOTION 9

Motion 9, regarding replacing the words ‘payment by cheque’ with ‘payment’ in Rule 23, was proposed by NEC Member **BOB RUSSELL CMD** and seconded by NEC Member **MARK FERGUSSON CMD.**

Motion 9 was passed.

MOTION 10

Motion 10, regarding replacing ‘£100’ with ‘£150’ in Rule 32 (e) was proposed by NEC Member **BOB RUSSELL CMD.**

Mr Russell said: “What we’re trying

to do is make this payment comparable to an arbitration payment.

“This is not dealing with arbitrations, okay? Rule 32 is disputes, and it is a dispute between a club and the Union, not a member in their club which is the ordinary arbitration that you know about. It is a dispute between the club and the Union.

“To my knowledge, and I’ve been on the NEC, it’s never been used, and even people who have been on the NEC longer than I have, have never heard of it being used, so I don’t know the last time it was used, but it is just to delete the £100 which a club much deposit now to form a dispute, and replace it with £150, which brings it in line with a club’s honorary rule book for arbitrations.”

The Motion was seconded by NEC Member **MARK FERGUSSON CMD.**

Motion 10 was passed.

THE ADDRESS BY GENERAL SECRETARY, KENNETH D GREEN CMD ACM.

“Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

“I hope you have both enjoyed this weekend and gained some knowledge



Union General Secretary Kenneth D Green CMD ACM gave an address during the Annual Meeting

of clubs and the Union as a whole.

“At no other time has an AGM been held after the pandemic we have just endured and it is important that we look at our clubs in a slightly different manner with the need to treat our clubs as a business and follow the procedures when managing a club’s affairs.

“We are just emerging from unprecedented disturbance to our business, being both restricted and even prevented from opening, and I know quite a few clubs have yet to recover from this with members still reluctant to socialise as they used to do.

“There are no longer any government grants available to us to help prop up our businesses, so it is up to us to manage what we have got.

“And it is in this vein I feel I must point you in the direction of the Union’s education programme, which we intend to reopen in the near future, and I urge all members with an interest in the management of our clubs, to utilise our facilities which are available to all clubs and to attend our schools which are intended to point members along the correct path of keeping our clubs open and thriving.

“We all use accountants for some of our needs, but this comes at a cost to the club, and even if you cannot dispense with their services other than for the annual audit if most of the work is presented to them in a timely fashion, and it follows there should be a reduction in the cost of their work which should eventually be passed on to the club.

“This can be achieved with good management practices and following club rules to the letter.

“Another pointer to club rules, and I make no apology for raising the subject of arbitrations again, as I have done in every speech at a conference I have ever made, it is to ensure the management committee follow club rules implicitly when disciplining members who, for whatever reason, break club rules, and they are dealt with in a fair and reasonable manner to avoid the need for a member to implement their right to appeal to myself for our arbitration procedure to be brought into force.

“I should not need to remind yourselves that a lost arbitration only causes disappointment for club

committees and, indeed, some clubs have used the loss of an arbitration to influence their members to vote to withdraw from the Union, when the fact is, it was their failure to abide by their own rules, and even some committees attempt to save face by removing the club from the Union by a failure to pay the annual fee when it becomes due, without the authority of the club’s members.

“The arbitration procedure is carried out within the rules of the Arbitration Act 1996, and is binding on the club as it is the individual member, and if taken to the courts, would inevitably fail to be overturned – beware.

“The reason we have an arbitration procedure is to keep clubs and its members from the grasp of the law and ongoing costs associated with expensive litigation.

“Moving on to breweries, most breweries are attempting to recover their losses caused by both the pandemic and the rising prices of all commodities, including fuel.

“Unfortunately, this is inevitable, and we need to keep a very keen eye on the costs, and if you cannot negotiate on

price, the cost must be passed on to our members, or the decline in clubs would no doubt accelerate to alarming proportions.

“The word on the street is that most, if not all, brewers are reorganising their operations and moving to a more continental approach to business rather than the traditional methods we have always enjoyed in this country, with them moving away from individual deliveries, and suggesting clubs be moved to wholesaler supply which would reduce their costs.

“No doubt, most of you attended the trade show yesterday, and I hope you took the time to speak to the representatives on the drinks stands. And note, it weren’t Heineken, it was LWC, a wholesaler.

“Please use your branches. Have a word with your individual branch secretaries to see how they can help your club, as I feel certain we are not utilising our own structure as we should regarding sales of club goods, bingo tickets, etcetera, apart from ongoing service on most things club related. I implore you to use your branch.

“On to the Constitution. We have today discussed and voted on a number of changes to our Constitution – some minor, some major changes, all of which the National Executive deem to be of equal importance.

“I am apparently known in some areas of our Union as ‘Constitution Ken’, which I’m led to believe is intended as a derogatory term, but I would like it to be known that I think it is the most complimentary nickname I have ever been called, and I am proud to keep our Constitution in the manner it is written, and pledge to uphold it all times during my tenure as General Secretary.

“If we cannot stick to the Constitution, how can members be expected to bear the rules of either the Union or indeed their club?

“There are always people who wish to throw obstacles in our way, not least government departments who seem to have an ongoing wish to derail our efforts to keep within the law, and it is now decided that future interference with the role of trustees is imminent, and I would urge any club registered as

a friendly society to contemplate transferring their registration to that of the Co-Operative and Community Benefits Society, which enables a club to become a limited liability company registered on the mutual department of Companies House.

“This gives the club the protection of a legal entity and removes the personal liabilities or trustees and the club secretaries, which believe me are enormous should a club fail, or even be taken to court for an outstanding bill or other failing, such as leases, etcetera.

“The re-registering is, as all rule changes, a free service which most of our most efficient rules department will carry out on behalf of a club with the only cost being the printing of new rule books, which we all need anyway.

“We have been urging clubs to transfer for a number of years now, and I also always say when speaking to clubs about this, no one knows what is around the corner, and the most successful club could hit hard times without realising the pitfalls.

“Please initially contact your branch to start the ball rolling should you require this service. Remember, it is for the protection of the club and its individual members.

“If I can just diversify a little bit, I can recall the case of Sheffield Foundry Workers Club, a club under my branch which failed – the club closed.

“Sheffield City Council, after about three or four vandalism attacks on the club, decided it weren’t looking very good, so they knocked it down and levelled it – it’s now a grassy mound where the club used to be.

“Sheffield City Council then went on and found three trustees who were liable to pay £30,000 each for the demolition of their club which had cost £100,000.

“Fortunately, after an intervention by the local MP and myself, Sheffield City Council decided not to demand immediate payment, but did put a charge on the trustees’ estates.

“So, if the trustees sold their houses, the first £30,000 would go to Sheffield City Council.

“When they die, the first £30,000 of their estate will go to Sheffield City

Council.

“I can’t stress enough on the importance of getting shot of trustees. Trustees were wonderful in the 1900s, they’re not today.

“Trustees used to be bank managers, land owners, even vicars – now they’re not, they’re us, ordinary working people, who don’t want to be spending £30,000 on Sheffield City Council. Convert, it’s an easy process.

“When your club’s insurance is due for renewal, I would urge you to contact Higos, our Recommended Supplier of insurance, to obtain a quote.

“They may not be the cheapest, or even the most expensive, but I assure you the cover suggested on the initial quote will no doubt be the best cover for your club’s individual requirements.

“Also, they work with the NEC, and we receive a commission for all Union-affiliated clubs they cover.

“All of the brokers also give commissions, but it’s usually to the managing director of the brokerage. It would help the Union survive without the accompanying costs.

“Details are always in the *Club Journal* which, if you don’t read, I would suggest it is in your club’s best interest to read it on a regular basis, as this, along with our website, is where we transmit relevant information and updates to help your club.

“Five minutes to read could be the difference between success and failure of your club.

“As you are no doubt aware, the Union and its clubs are one of my favourite subjects, and without boring the pants off you, I will end now, but should you wish to hear anything else about clubs and the running of the same, look out for correspondence from your branches, as we are back up and running around the country at your branch council meetings when further discussions could be had.

“Thank you for listening, and we hope to see you at next year’s Annual General Meeting, if not before.”

THE PRESIDENT announced that the next Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 15, 2023 and declared the 2022 Annual Meeting closed.

The CIU trade show reaches new heights

The CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition is one of the highlights of Conference Weekend and the 30th edition of the event was no exception, with delegates able to network with an array of suppliers

The annual CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition has become a much-loved curtain-raiser to Conference Weekend and the 30th edition of the event, held at Blackpool's Norbreck Castle Hotel on Friday, April 8, was another fantastic showcase of products and services geared towards the club market.

Once again, a wide cross-section of suppliers were on hand to dispense advice to clubs on how to increase revenue and reduce costs with all aspects of club administration covered by the various exhibitors.

Making their debut this year were drinks wholesalers LWC who provided complimentary drinks at their bar, including Cruzcampo lager, Grays bitter and Appleshed cider from the firm's Signature Brands range.

Meanwhile, Preferred Supplier Dransfields made their usual massive effort to engage with delegates, bringing along an extensive array of their products, including gaming machines, pool tables and their Spotlight entertainment system.

The CIU Head Office team was also in attendance to highlight the many services they provide to affiliated clubs.

As usual, there were a number of great prizes to be won by delegates, including several widescreen TV screens courtesy of Dransfields.

An very enjoyable and informative afternoon concluded with President George Smith, Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM and General Secretary Kenneth D Green CMD ACM welcoming a number of prize draw winners up onto the stage to collect their prizes.



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



Drinks wholesaler LWC provided a wide range of drinks at the Trade Show. Pictured, above, LWC Account Manager Ray Matthews



The Trade Show took place on Friday, April 8 on the day before the Annual Meeting



Many club delegates won prizes during the various bingo sessions



A delegate visits the Card Industry Professionals stand



Karaoke was just one of the activities provided by Dransfields



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



Preferred Supplier Dransfields brought a number of gaming machines to the event



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



Speed Pool on the Dransfields stand was a popular activity



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



The Beer & Trades Exhibition provided plenty of networking opportunities



The event was a great opportunity to enjoy drinks from the LWC range, including Appleshed cider, Export lager and Cruzcampo lager



Club representatives from across the UK attended the trade show



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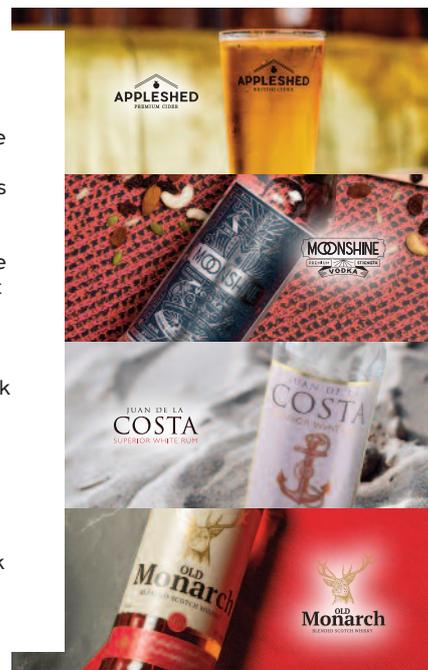
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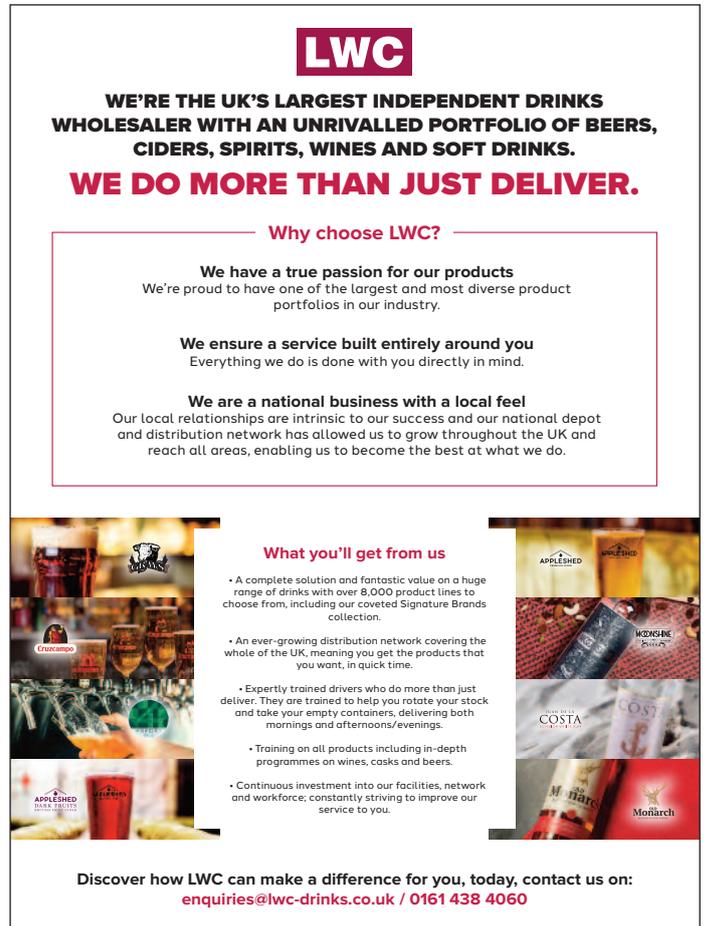
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News in brief

The CIU Contracts and Handbook are currently being updated

The CIU Contracts and Handbook are currently being updated and will be available soon.

Look out for further information in future editions of *Club Journal*.



HMRC produces MGD guide for clubs

HMRC has produced a Machine Games Duty (MGD) guide to distribute to every person in the country, who either has access to a gaming machine, supplies machines, Trade bodies linked to gaming machines, and premises with gaming machines.

This guide has now been completed and can be downloaded from: gov.uk/machine-game-duty or call 0300 200 3700 for more information.

National Executive Committee dates for 2022

The remaining dates for the monthly NEC meetings at Head Office in 2022 are: May 4/5; June 8/9; July 6/7; August 3/4; September 7/8; October 5/6; November 2/3 and December 7/8.

Annual Meeting 2023 dates confirmed

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

Thursday, April 13 – NEC Meeting (Blackpool)

Friday, April 14 – 31st CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition (Blackpool)

Saturday, April 15 – AGM (Blackpool)

New rates for National Living Wage

These rates are for the National Living Wage (for those aged 23 and over) and the National Minimum Wage (for those of at least school leaving age). The rates change on April 1 every year.

	Previous rate	From April 2022
23+ Year Old	£8.91	£9.50
21-22 Year Old	£8.36	£9.18
18-20 Year Old	£6.56	£6.83
16-17 Year Old	£4.62	£4.81

Images and audio of AGM available

With the 2022 Conference Weekend having taken place last month, the unedited audio of the Annual Meeting is now available to download from the Union's website at: www.wmciu.org.uk

Also available on the website are the images taken by the official photographer across the whole of Conference Weekend, including the AGM, Executive Dinner and the Beer & Trades Exhibition.

The Official Minutes of the Annual Meeting have been set out on pages 8-15 and includes full details of the 10 Motions which were voted upon by the assembled delegates during the Meeting.



John Wood CMD spoke at the 2022 Annual Meeting in Blackpool on Saturday, April 9

Financial Focus: Making Tax Digital



In the first of a series of articles for *Club Journal*, **Bryan Howarth** of B.H. Accountancy Ltd, the Union's official auditors, examines the Government's Making Tax Digital initiative and what it actually means for CIU clubs

It is with great pleasure that I am able to offer my first article for the *Club Journal* which I hope will prove to be the first of many such articles which the member clubs of the CIU will find helpful and informative.

By way of a brief introduction, my name is Bryan Howarth and our firm, B.H. Accountancy Ltd, have the privilege of being the statutory auditors of the Union (including some of the Branches) as well as the auditors of a number of the Union's clubs themselves.

It is the experience of such work which allows us to have seen which areas of auditing, accountancy and taxation may need expanding upon to assist many areas of the Union.

In this first article, I would like to mention the issue of the initiative recently implemented by HM Revenue & Customs for VAT – Making Tax Digital (or “MTD”) – and what is changing in the near future.

Although I use the word “recently”, the latest date at which this scheme should have been applied to the Union and each of its member clubs was from the first VAT period commencing on or after 1st October, 2019.

This is on the assumption that each member club has a taxable turnover (i.e. gross sales) above the VAT registration threshold (this being £85,000 per annum) and so I will assume that this is indeed the case for all such member clubs. As such, every VAT Registered Branch and member club of the Union should have been implementing the MTD provisions for some time now and be quite familiar with this process.

However, whilst this is the case in the main, I have found certain examples where this has NOT been the case and the reasons for this vary. What has not been so widely publicised by HM Revenue & Customs is that ever since the implementation date, they have operated a so-called “soft-landing” approach which was essentially a period of time to allow clubs to learn what is required of them with no penalties for errors.

The common mistake I have found is that as no action was taken by HM Revenue & Customs during the soft landing period, some clubs believed the provisions of MTD did not apply or that their club had been “overlooked” and continued to file VAT Returns under the “old” rules – which was a case of accessing an online account with HMRC and manually inputting the figures correlating to the usual nine boxes of a VAT Return.

Even those clubs who did think they were compliant may have been doing so in an incorrect manner without realising this.

The problem such clubs will find is twofold. The first

problem is that the soft landing period ended on 31st March, 2021. The requirement to keep digital links if you are already caught under MTD rules came into force from 1st April, 2021 as part of the second phase of the implementation process. HMRC defines a digital link as transfer of data between software programmes or applications. Penalties are liable for any non-compliance from that date.

The second problem is that MTD is to soon become mandatory for ALL VAT Registered businesses across the entire UK – regardless of size or level of taxable turnover. So even if there were legitimate examples as to why member clubs could be exempt from the provisions of MTD before now, this is about to change.

To facilitate this, HMRC will also ensure that the “old” method of filing VAT Returns (see above) will be switched off for ALL businesses. This means that there will be no option but to embrace MTD for all VAT Registered businesses.

This mandating of MTD will commence from the first VAT period commencing on or after 1st April, 2022 (so quarter ended 30th June, 2022 VAT Returns for most). This is in the VERY near future and could result in the need for a steep learning curve for many affected Branches and member clubs of the Union.

Please also be aware that a formal registration with HMRC to advise that a club is moving over to MTD is required as part of the transition process and there are narrow timeframes to do this correctly. Therefore, it is strongly advised that this is checked and acted upon in good time. If this is left until, say, July 2022 it may be too late!

It is therefore vital that all affected areas of the Union identify what knowledge and ability gaps exist within their organisation and to address these as a matter of urgency. MTD is coming to us all and will be here to stay!

Further details on the above can be found at:

www.gov.uk/government/news/making-tax-digital-for-vat-is-coming-are-you-ready

As stated, it is quite likely that a substantial number of member clubs will need a lot of assistance with this process.

If you feel that this is something that will affect your club, I recommend that you speak to your auditors at an early stage and ensure that they understand your needs and to get agreed who needs to do what and by when.

This is crucial to ensuring a smooth transition. If, for whatever reason, that cannot be achieved, please feel free to contact our firm to see how we can help you.

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BARNARD CASTLE WORKING MEN'S CLUB

Club Steward/ Stewardess with partner to assist is required for immediate start

An opportunity has arisen at Barnard Castle Working Men's Club in County Durham. We are seeking to appoint a new experienced and efficient Steward/Stewardess to continue to maintain the current operations of this club.

Responsibilities will include the smooth running of two bars, cellar management, stock control, ordering, line cleaning, cashing up, managing staff and other ad-hoc duties as required.

Full responsibilities of stock is necessary for which a bond may be required.

Applicants should be friendly, efficient and possess good social and communication skills and to work alongside the Officials and Committee. A good interactive relationship with club members is also expected.

Position is paid monthly with 28 days annual leave. Living accommodation of a 2 bed flat forms part of the contract and is non-negotiable.

All interested parties should send a copy of their CV and covering letter to the Club Secretary, Mr M Lodge or by email to tjrogers@hotmail.co.uk.

ADVERTISER INDEX

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

ACROSS

- Strange epistemology from the gospel half! (6)
- Exist as a fraction for another? (6)
- Estimate the thought (4)
- Could be dreamed that I'm a Belgian? Nonsense! (10)
- Record cover on your arm? (6)
- Go nosing around for happenings (6-2)
- Mad state of rocket? (9)
- Lies told about a little land mass (4)
- Basin that can go down? (4)
- Amusing or whatever? He's so uneducated! (9)
- Combined, however, is one example (8)
- Florida demands to have containers (6)

- An ace chord composed, but just not a bishop (10)
- Instrument played by hobo, even though it's small (4)
- Aster reluctantly taking on a middle-sized substitute (6)
- About as inept as you can get for making jam (6)

- Chuckling cattle, the butt of jokes? (8,5)
- Lengthy gospel writers to keep out the cold? (4,5)
- Cur goes crazy; what a bane! (7)
- Sort of bordering on crime? (7)
- Once you've worked the answer out, it won't be! (7)
- Harmful tan: use to throw off rider? (6)
- Take on types, apt to do wrong (5)

DOWN

- Mulled over a brainy bit! (7)
- Banana-skin anecdote's a bit mindless! (5)
- Triple mushrooms for building muscles? (7)
- Panacea said to be where someone's working on his lolly? (6)
- Genial, as a way to go towards pain relief (9)
- Over the top training of mules (7)



Name _____
Club _____
Address _____

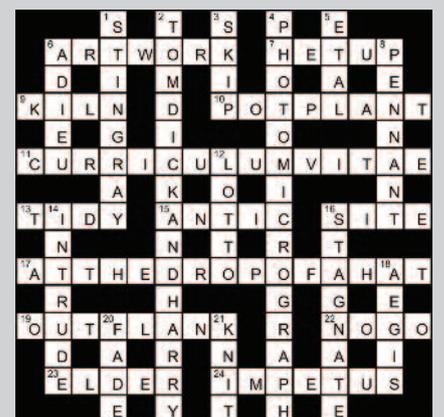
Send your entry to Club Journal Crossword, Alchemy Contract Publishing, 59/60 Thames St, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 1TX. **Deadline May 25.**

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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

Hugh Allison of Trades Hall
Mr Paul Moss of Bramshott & Liphook Social

Brenda Pangrakis of Ferryhill Sports & Social Club
S McCormac of East Dene Social Club
Jack Bishop of Blucher & District

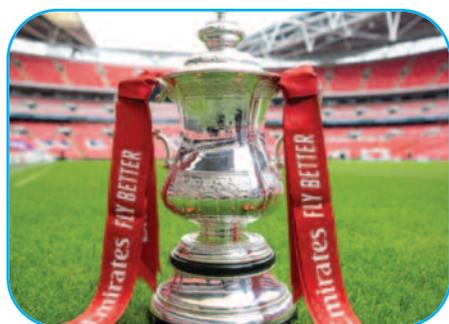




Friday, May 13, 8pm – Sky Sports Arena

Super League: St Helens v Hull FC

Super League pacesetters St Helens host Hull FC in what should be a close encounter. Saints winger Tommy Makinson has been one of the stars of the campaign so far with a number of tries to his credit. For the visitors, look out for Manu Ma'u who scored the pivotal try in Hull's tight victory over the Warrington Wolves in their Easter Monday clash.



Saturday, May 14, 5pm – BBC/ITV

FA Cup Final: Chelsea v Liverpool

The fabled trophy will be up for grabs at Wembley as Chelsea face Liverpool in the FA Cup final. It means Liverpool are still on course for a possible quadruple trophy haul this season, having won the League Cup earlier this year as well as being in the semi-finals of the UEFA Champions League and challenging for the Premier League honours.



Sunday, May 22, 1pm – Sky Sports F1

F1: Spanish Grand Prix

Top Formula 1 action from the famous Circuit de Barcelona in Catalunya. The 2021 race was won by Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton from pole position ahead of Red Bull's Max Verstappen and Hamilton's teammate Valtteri Bottas. The win allowed Hamilton to extend his Championship lead over Verstappen to 14 points.

SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS

May is packed with big events, including the climax of the Premier League season, several Super League fixtures and the final stages of the UEFA Champions League and Europa League competitions

Thursday, May 5, 7pm

Sky Sports Arena

Darts: Premier League

Friday, May 6, 1.30pm

Sky Sports Golf

Golf: British Masters

Saturday, May 7, 1pm

Sky Sports Golf

Golf: British Masters

Saturday, May 7, 5.30pm

BT Sport

European Rugby Champions Cup – Quarter-Final: Leicester Tigers v Leinster

Saturday, May 7, 5.30pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Brighton & Hove Albion v Manchester United

Saturday, May 7, 7.45pm

BT Sport 1

Premier League: Liverpool v Tottenham Hotspur

Sunday, May 8, 1pm

Sky Sports Golf

Golf: British Masters

Sunday, May 8, 3pm

BT Sport

European Rugby Champions Cup – Quarter-Final: Racing 92 v Sale Sharks

Sunday, May 8, 2pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Arsenal v Leeds United

Sunday, May 8, 4.30pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Manchester City v Newcastle United

Sunday, May 8, 7.30pm

Sky Sports F1

F1: Miami Grand Prix

Tuesday, May 10, 8pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Aston Villa v Liverpool

Thursday, May 12, 7pm

Sky Sports Action

Darts: Premier League

Thursday, May 12, 7.45pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Tottenham Hotspur v Arsenal

Thursday, May 12, 7.45pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Tottenham Hotspur v Arsenal

Thursday, May 12, 8pm

Sky Sports Arena

Super League: Huddersfield Giants v Wigan Warriors

Friday, May 13, 8pm

Sky Sports Arena

Super League: St Helens v Hull FC

Saturday, May 14, 1pm

ITV

Horse Racing: Newbury

Saturday, May 14, 3pm

BT Sport

European Rugby Champions Cup – Semi-Final

Saturday, May 14, 5pm

BBC/ITV

FA Cup Final: Chelsea v Liverpool

Saturday, May 14, 5pm

Sky Sports Arena

Super League: Catalans Dragons v Warrington Wolves

UEFA Champions
League Final:
Saturday, May 28,
8pm, BT Sport



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Sunday, May 15, 12 noon
BT Sport

**Premier League: Tottenham
Hotspur v Burnley**

Sunday, May 15, 1pm
BT Sport

MotoGP: Grand Prix de France

Sunday, May 15, 4.30pm
Sky Sports Premier League

**Premier League: West Ham
United v Manchester City**

Monday, May 16, 8pm
Sky Sports Premier League

**Premier League: Newcastle
United v Arsenal**

Wednesday, May 18, 8pm
BT Sport

UEFA Europa League: The Final

Thursday, May 19, 1pm
Sky Sports Golf

Golf: PGA Championship

Thursday, May 19, 7pm
Sky Sports Action

Darts: Premier League

Thursday, May 19, 8pm
Sky Sports Arena

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

Friday, May 20, 1pm
Sky Sports Golf

Golf: PGA Championship

Friday, May 20, 7.45pm
BT Sport

**Premiership Rugby Union: Wasps
v Sale Sharks**

Friday, May 20, 8pm
Sky Sports Arena

**Super League: Salford Red Devils
v Castleford Tigers**

Saturday, May 21, 2pm
Sky Sports Golf

Golf: PGA Championship

Saturday, May 21, 3pm
BT Sport

**Premiership Rugby Union:
Harlequins v Gloucester**

Saturday, May 21, 5.30pm
BT Sport

**Premiership Rugby Union:
Saracens v Northampton Saints**

Sunday, May 22, 1pm
Sky Sports F1

F1: Spanish Grand Prix

Sunday, May 22, 2pm
Sky Sports Golf

Golf: PGA Championship

Thursday, May 26, 7pm
Sky Sports Main Event

Darts: Premier League

Saturday, May 28, 8pm
BT Sport

**UEFA Champions League: The
Final**

Sunday, May 29, 1pm
BT Sport

MotoGP: Grand Prix de Italia

Sunday, May 29, 1pm
Sky Sports F1

F1: Monaco Grand Prix



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