

Members vote for name change at Annual Meeting

Delegates at the 2023 Annual Meeting held in Blackpool in April made history by voting overwhelmingly in favour of the Union being officially renamed as the Club & Institute Union (CIU)

The Union has formally changed its name, dropping the reference to Working Men from its title and is now officially called the Club & Institute Union (CIU).

This change was decided at the Union's 159th Annual General Meeting which was held on Saturday, April 15 in Blackpool.

Proposing the motion for the name change at the AGM, CIU National Executive Member Nathan Clarke said: "We believe this name change will have a huge, positive effect for our clubs and for this great organisation and will better reflect the realities of our clubs in 2023 where women members have just as much of a stake in their clubs as the men.

"This change will help to alter people's perceptions of the CIU and its clubs and will bring new people into the club movement, people who may have been put off coming through our doors because they're not 'working men'.

"Of course, clubs will be absolutely free to call themselves what they want, just as they are now – it is just the title of the Union that we want to change.

"We are very rightly proud of the 161-year history of this Union and forever grateful to the founding fathers of our movement but it is now time to ensure that everyone within and outside the CIU understands that our clubs are there for everyone."

Delegates passed the Motion by an overwhelming majority.

George Smith, President of the



Dawn Paylor, Secretary of Bishopthorpe Sports & Social Club, addressing the CIU AGM on the issue of the organisation's name change

CIU and Chair of the Annual Meeting, added: "I'm delighted that our member clubs have supported this historic name change and sent out a clear signal that everyone is assured of a warm welcome when they walk into a CIU venue."

Kenneth D Green CMD ACM, General Secretary, said: "Since 1862, the CIU has been a force for good across UK society with our clubs providing fellowship, entertainment and education for their members while at the same time providing meeting places for community groups and raising millions of pounds for charities and good causes.

"Hopefully this name change will now encourage more people to pop into their local CIU club and see for

themselves just how much our venues have to offer."

For the Official Minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting, see pages 8-17

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Welcome to the May edition of *Club Journal* as we focus on last month's Conference Weekend in Blackpool.

It was certainly a busy couple of days for delegates, starting with the Beer & Trades Exhibition on Friday, April 14 at the Norbreck Castle Hotel.

As always, there was a wide selection of suppliers at the event to dispense plenty of expert advice on running clubs including Preferred Suppliers BOC, Card Industry Professionals, Dransfields, Greene King, Higos and Pure Purchasing.

The CIU stand was extremely busy throughout the day with our team from Head Office talking to clubs about all the services and products offered by the Union and we received several inquiries about the ACM educational courses running in London in May and June (see page 24 for further details on the day courses and how to book your place).

The event also gave delegates an opportunity to network with clubs from all over the UK over a pie and a pint and I am sure that many new friendships were made on the day.

The Friday evening saw the CIU Showcase event at the Viva venue with a fantastic line-up of acts – 23 in all – demonstrating their talents on stage throughout a very enjoyable evening.

Many of those same acts continue to ply their trade at our clubs up and

Welcome

down the country to appreciative CIU members.

The centrepiece of the weekend was, of course, the 159th Annual Meeting which took place at the Grand Hotel on Saturday, April 15.

There was an extremely busy agenda with numerous speakers, including our esteemed guests the The Worshipful the Mayor of Blackpool, Councillor Kathryn Benson; Paul Maynard, the MP for Blackpool North and Cleveleys and award-winning author and broadcaster Pete Brown.

The Annual Meeting also provided some very stimulating debate which resulted in delegates voting for the name of the Union to be formally changed from the Working Men's Club & Institute Union to the Club & Institute Union (CIU).

You can read the Official Minutes of the Annual Meeting from pages 8-17 or, if you'd rather listen to a recording of the event, you can download an audio file from the Union's website.

There is also a picture gallery containing all the images taken across the weekend by our official photographers, all of which are available to download.

I hope you enjoy the issue.

Stephen Goulding

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CLUB JOURNAL

CIU Editorial Panel



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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

Harrowgate Club bids farewell to Arnhem hero



World War 2 veteran Ernie Sedgwick, who was an Honorary Member of the Harrowgate Club

The Harrowgate Club in Darlington is sad to announce that their Honorary Member, distinguished World War 2 veteran Ernie Sedgwick, has passed away at the age of 101.

Ernie joined the army in 1937 at the age of 16 and went on to serve his country with distinction, becoming a member of the Parachute Regiment in the latter stages of the war.

He saw action in Arnhem in September 1944 in Operation Market Garden, depicted in the film *A Bridge Too Far*. Along with his fellow paratroopers, Ernie was dropped into enemy territory to capture bridges over the Lower Rhine in order to ease the way for the ground troops who were arriving later.

Ernie was one of the first to land, and nine days later was one of the few who was still fighting having been under almost constant attack with house-to-house and hand-to-hand fighting. At one point, he escaped by clinging to the side of a raft and dodging the German spotlights.

In later life, Ernie became a welding inspector and travelled the world working on oil rigs and pipelines in Cyprus, Iran, Iraq, Australia, Canada and Nigeria.

Wrestling comes to The Big Club in May

Newton Aycliffe Working Mens Club in Durham – AKA ‘The Big Club’ – will be welcoming the stars of Maximum Pro Wrestling for a family-friendly event on Friday, May 26.

Among the wrestlers set to compete at the event are Ryan Ace, X-Jack and Asylum who weighs in at over 20 stone.

Tickets are £8 for adults and £5 for Under-16s while there is free entry for children under four.

A family ticket (two adults and two children) is £20.

Tickets are available from the website: maxprowrestling.com



News in brief



Dave Shadrach of Monson Club receives Long Service Award from Branch President

Dave Shadrach of the Monson Club in Redhill, Surrey was presented with his Long Service Award by South East Metropolitan Branch President Trevor Baker.

Pictured, left to right: Trevor Baker (President, South East Metropolitan Branch) and Dave Shadrach (Monson Club).



The Minster Club in Kent gets set for Ladies Bottomless Brunch on Saturday, May 27

The female members of the Minster Club on the Isle of Sheppey in Kent are in for a treat on Saturday, May 27 when the club will be staging a Ladies Bottomless Brunch.

The event will see live entertainment from an Abba tribute act plus a DJ set while there will be cocktails, prosecco, bottled beers and food available from 3pm-6pm.

Tickets cost £30.

News in brief

Egham United Services Club announces July dates for summer three-day beer festival

Egham United Services Club (USC) in Surrey will be staging its 40th Beer Festival from Thursday, July 27 to Saturday, July 29.

The club is renowned for serving a range of well-conditioned cask ales throughout the years as well as for staging regular beer festivals and is included in the latest edition of the CAMRA Good Beer Guide.

This is actually the club's 15th consecutive entry in the Guide, a major achievement on the part of Bar Manager Paul Dyer.

For more information on tickets for the 40th Egham Beer Festival, visit:

www.eghambeerfestival.co.uk



Higham Ferrers WMC in Northamptonshire appoints Paul Greatrex as Club Steward

Paul Greatrex (pictured above) has been appointed as Steward of Higham Ferrers Working Men's Club in Northamptonshire.

Paul has worked in the hospitality industry for several decades across a variety of venues, including pubs, hotels, racecourses, theatres and, most recently, the prestigious Oxford Union where generations of politicians have developed their debating skills.

"Having been acquainted with the club already from when I worked in the area previously, I knew that the members at Higham Ferrers WMC are second to none and I jumped at the chance to have the opportunity to become the new Club Steward," said Paul.

"The Committee here works exceptionally hard to get good deals for members to keep the club moving forward and ensure that we are competitively priced.

"My priority is to work with the Committee to provide a safe, entertaining, fulfilling venue everyone can enjoy and utilise all the great facilities that we have."

Bishopthorpe SSC wins CAMRA award



Bishopthorpe Sports and Social Club is extremely proud to announce that they have been awarded Club of the Year 2023 by the York Branch of the Campaign For Real Ale (CAMRA).

This is testament to all the team at the social club who work hard to consistently provide great real ales for members and guests to enjoy.

Pictured, left to right: Dawn Paylor (Club Secretary), Chris Tregellis (Chair of York Branch of CAMRA) and Martin Scott (Club President)

Kevin Caddy presented with the DSA



The Secretary of Rushall Labour Club, Kevin Caddy, was presented with his Distinguished Service Award at a ceremony held at the club. Pictured, left to right: Kevin Caddy (Secretary, Rushall Labour Club) and Jack Haughey CMD ACM (West Midlands Branch Secretary and NEC Member)

Chilton CSSC stages event in aid of charity MIND



Boyband tribute act Three perform at the charity event in aid of mental health charity MIND held at Chilton Community Sports & Social Club in March

Chilton Community Sports & Social Club in County Durham held a spectacular night of live entertainment in aid of mental health charity MIND in March.

The event was organised by Alec McRea and Mark Howells and was inspired by singer Darren Atkinson who unfortunately took his own life in May last year.

Club Secretary Carolyn Jones, who had known Darren for many years, decided to start raising money for MIND in memory of her friend.

She said: "We decided to collect new unwanted gifts and made them into gift baskets and sold raffle tickets, raising a total of £1,734. We decided to organise a show to try and raise more money in tribute to Darren. We were thrilled with the outcome and the generosity of the club and other clubs that attended."

A number of acts performed on the night – Three, Maxine Jack, Connor McRae, Alex McRae, Eddie Popescu, Mark Howells and Jayne Mckenzie and compere Gary Gobstopper – all of whom gave their services free of charge.

Darren's daughter and wife were also in the audience.

A total of £2,700 was raised on the night adding to a fantastic grand total of £4,700.

Plans are already underway to stage a similar event in 2024.

Northallerton WMC receives letter from PM

Northallerton Working Men's Club in North Yorkshire has been commended by Prime Minister Rishi Sunak for its charity fundraising.

Mr Sunak, who is the club's local MP and has visited the club on several occasions when in his constituency, wrote to the Club President, Mick Herron, about a fundraising event at the club to benefit the Friarage Hospital in Northallerton.

"It is an excellent cause you have chosen to support," he wrote.

"I hope the evening is a great success and congratulations on the excellent result you had with the event last month in aid of Hambleton Foodshare – another very good local cause."

Mr Sunak also provided the club with a bottle of House of Commons Whisky as a raffle prize for the fundraiser.

News in brief



Rossington Labour Club aiming to raise funds for new defibrillator at local care home

Rossington Labour Club in Doncaster will be holding a Charity Night on Saturday, June 3 in conjunction with the nearby Royal Care Home.

They are hoping to raise enough money to buy and install a new defibrillator at the care home.

The night will feature karaoke, live music, games, a quiz and a disco.

Tickets for the event are £5 and can be bought directly from the club.



Tudhoe Victory Club to welcome country rockers Hank & The Hot Dogs in May

The highly rated four-piece country rock band Hank & The Hot Dogs will be bringing their brand of American-style 'countrybilly' to the Tudhoe Victory Club in County Durham on Friday, May 26.

Tickets cost £3 with the music getting underway at 6pm on the night.

Meanwhile, the club's Children's Easter Party, on April 8, was a complete sell-out with local kids enjoying a fantastic afternoon of fun which included a visit from the Easter Bunny, plenty of chocolate eggs and other activities.



FOR SERVICE

Long Service Award

John Thompson – Shorthomers Working Men's Club (Manchester Branch)

Len Morgan – Rowley & Blackheath Labour Club (West Midlands Branch)

George Cowper – New Studio Club (Kent Branch)

Certificate of Merit

Pamela Moore – Tuxford & District Working Men's Club (Doncaster Branch)

Bob Spye – Tuxford & District Working Men's Club (Doncaster Branch)

Ian Walker – Haughton Le Skerne Working Men's Club (Durham Branch)

Raymond Laverick – Haughton Le Skerne Working Men's Club (Durham Branch)

Paul Sharp – Shorthomers Working Men's Club (Manchester Branch)

Keith Waddington – Shorthomers Working Men's Club (Manchester Branch)

Stuart Pengilly – Shorthomers Working Men's Club (Manchester Branch)

John Thompson – Shorthomers Working Men's Club (Manchester Branch)

Gavin Slaughter – Netherton Working Men's Club (Northumberland Branch)

Ronald Young – Netherton Working Men's Club (Northumberland Branch)

Garry Phillips – Chell Social Club (West Midlands Branch)

Sharon Phillips – Chell Social Club (West Midlands Branch)

Dean Whittle – Rowley & Blackheath Labour Club (West Midlands Branch)

Simon Jones – Rowley & Blackheath Labour Club (West Midlands Branch)

Branch Executive Award – 10 Years

William Sibley – Kent Branch

Branch Executive Award – 41 Years

Roger Tingley – Kent Branch

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Blackpool 2023: The 159th Annual Meeting

Club Journal presents the Official Minutes of the 159th Annual Meeting of the Union, chaired by Union President George Smith, which took place in Blackpool on Saturday, April 15



The 159th Annual Meeting took place on Saturday, April 15 at Blackpool's Grand Hotel with The Worshipful The Mayor of Blackpool in attendance

The 159th Annual Meeting of the Union, held in the Royal Suite of the Grand Hotel in Blackpool on Saturday, April 15 began with **GEORGE SMITH, THE PRESIDENT** of the Union, introducing **THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR OF BLACKPOOL, COUNCILLOR KATHRYN BENSON**.

THE MAYOR issued a Civic Welcome to delegates.

THE PRESIDENT thanked **THE MAYOR** and asked delegates to agree the minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting held on Saturday, April 9, 2022 as per the May 2022 edition of *Club Journal*.

With the 2022 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:

Glenn Doyle of Leeds Branch, Dave Norman of Heavy Woollen Branch and NEC Members Chris O'Neill CMD ACM, Geoff Blakeley CMD ACM and Dave Gravel CMD.

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

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS:

"I will start with a word about yesterday's Beer & Trades Exhibition which saw Preferred Suppliers Card Industry Professionals, Dransfields, Greene King, Higos and Pure Purchasing all in attendance, alongside other exhibitorw.

"The latter company is, together with the NEC, trying to work out a system with the pass cards which may help to

improve their use by members. This may well be in the shape of a lottery which may be covered later in this meeting.

"We must not forget that we need pass cards to keep the Union running. They are a mainstay of the Union and any improvement to keep these pass cards would, for me, be beneficial for the organisation.

"All the companies at the trade show, your NEC and your branches have worked to bring much needed revenue to our clubs.

"We'd also like to thank Nathan Clarke, the youngest member of our NEC, for the excellent CIU Showcase evening he arranged at Viva last night, along with Sean Ferris and Justin O'Regan of our *Club Journal* team.

"To move on, we must look at the existing state of our Union. Some still say – maybe rightly so – that we're still living in the past. I must say I'm part of

the past.

“I’ve been in the Union for 63 years and I know there are members in this room who have been involved even longer. We must not forget the input of our members in the past, and the contribution that they gave to the Union.

“Maybe we can resurrect some of their ideas and add them to the ideas of the younger elements around our clubs and try to move forward.

“Some clubs have given up a room for the young ones with the facilities that they require – not the ones that we think they require – and given them a chance to ask us for the stuff that they want. Obviously, this is being monitored by the committees of the clubs that are doing this.

“I think if a few more clubs did this, we might bring more young people in to see the facilities and the entertainment and everything that goes on in our clubs.

“I mentioned {NEC Member} Nathan Clarke earlier. There are more like Nathan, and we must encourage them to join us, to help run their clubs – male and female – and to enjoy the social side of our club life.

“We have an excellent team of lecturers working on our Award in Club Management (ACM) courses which help the young and not so young with the running of their clubs.

“We are currently arranging these in venues around the country at the moment to avoid members from travelling too far to attend these courses.

“Now, thank God, we’ve passed the Covid crisis and hopefully we’ll be joining up with the Parliamentary Group of club associations again, in which we can enlist the help of certain MPs with certain problems we encounter with councils, utility companies and grants that should have been given to our clubs which sometimes we’ve got to fight for, as well as new legislation and laws and everything pertaining to the successful running of our clubs.

“We are social community clubs and we are the people who give MPs the backing in their campaigns for them to enter parliament. Now, we need their



Union President George Smith chaired the 159th Annual Meeting

help in our campaign to keep our Union running.

“On the social side, we attempted to restart your national games tournaments – darts, snooker, pool, dominos, etcetera – but, again, we need your backing, we need the clubs’ backing to restore games to what they used to be in the past. It was big in the past – why can’t it be the same now? We can make this happen together.

“I’d like to mention the annual fee. At the moment, it’s 50p a member. We now find that we have clubs not being able to pay the fee and dropping out of the Union.

“However, we are finding out that some of the clubs are realising the benefits they lose by doing this. The benefits I can’t mention at the moment, otherwise I’d be here until ten o’clock tonight! Now, they are reapplying, they re-join the Union, which is not a problem. We will welcome them back into the fold as soon as they like, as quickly as possible.

“We all know that we are

haemorrhaging clubs. Many of our clubs are not able to move with the times, mainly because they can’t get the committees.

“The members won’t put {themselves} up for the committees. Another reason is when there’s a change of officials – new officers – some not familiar with the running of the club, consequently they ignore the club rules which were put there by the members for the members.

“They take over the club, dropping out of the Union without the knowledge of the members and relate to their own rules, which are nil, and the club’s rule book and the constitution are thrown into the bin.

“Again, our ACM course can help these people before these things happen. The NEC members behind me and your office staff, led by Stephen Goulding, are here to help you at Branch and Head Office level. We are here to help you.

“We need your help too. Together, we can move forward. A bit of a push and

we can move forward.

“I would like to thank our General Secretary, Ken Green, for the help and guidance he’s given me and the rest of our NEC members, and I thank our Vice-President Ken Roberts for helping me throughout. I would also like to thank Allyn Walton, our Union solicitor, for the excellent work he carries out for our clubs throughout the countries – that’s what he keeps saying, anyway!

“Also, I’d like to thank Sean Ferris and Justin O’Regan for the excellent work they do with the *Club Journal* and keeping us in the picture.

“I thank you all, members, for coming here today and the work you do to keep our clubs moving forward.

“I’d also like to extend our thoughts to {former Union General Secretary} Kevin Smythe and his good wife, and we all hope obviously that he makes a recovery from his current condition.

“Just remember, us up here on the stage here, you put us here, you put us in this position. We’re here for you to use. Please use us.

“God bless, just keep on clubbing. Thank you.”

There followed a speech by **PAUL MAYNARD**, the Member of Parliament for Blackpool North and Cleveleys, who talked about the

importance of members’ clubs to their local communities and gave his thoughts on how the CIU could help revitalise the club sector.

The second guest speech of the morning was made by award-winning author and broadcaster **PETE BROWN** who spoke about his latest book *Clubland: How the Working Men’s Clubs Shaped Britain* and shared his five-point plan to help clubs attract more members.

THE 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2022 Annual Report was then proposed for acceptance by NEC Member **NATHAN CLARKE** and formally seconded by **UNION VICE-PRESIDENT KEN ROBERTS CMD ACM**.

The report was accepted unanimously on a show of hands.

THE 2022 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

In presenting the Union’s Annual Financial Statement, **UNION ACCOUNTANT UTO EKANEM** said: “Mr President, delegates and guests, I always consider it an honour to present the financial report of this Union to our distinguished guests and delegates on behalf of the National

Executive Committee.

“I, however, regret to note that the numbers are not encouraging for the year to September 2022. In a nutshell, there is much room for improvement.

“We may, however, draw some consolation in the new opportunities that the new year will avail us to consider the details of our past performance, identify areas of concern and draw up strategies for a better performance in 2023.

“First of all, I would like to give an overview of the income statement for the year to September 2022.

“The year recorded a very bleak result due to a combination of various issues, including soaring energy costs, war in Ukraine, rising inflation and recession fears.

“Total recognised losses of £1,604,889 were recorded, compared with the total recognised gains of £351,354 in the previous year. A very massive decline of £1,956,243.

“The Union’s income or turnover totalled £1,090,832 this year, compared with £1,052,362 in the previous year.

“This is a marginal increase of £38,470. With the increase in the cost of sales from £193,216 to £332,073, coupled with increasing operating expenses from £1,540,951 to £1,695,315, the operating loss has increased from £681,805 to £936,556 this year, a further loss of £254,751.

“Although an increase in the Union’s income was recorded in the year, the Union continues to experience a decline in its two main sources of income – the sale of pass cards and income from annual fees. The income reduced by £32,021 from £659,037 in 2021 to £627,016. On investments alone, we moved from a gain of £917,388 in 2021 to a loss of £720,071, a downturn of £1,637,459.

“This, coupled with the operating loss of £936,556, accounted for the very poor result recorded in the year.

“We have depended on positive results from investments over the past years. A strategy, I stressed last year, that is not sustainable.

“This year, we have been hit with a very poor performance in the stock market which has impacted heavily on our financial performance. Raising our



Paul Maynard MP was a guest speaker at the Annual Meeting



The Officers were joined on the stage by the 11 members of the NEC

operational results is a more sustainable strategy.

“An improvement in the take-up of the Union’s associate and pass cards will go a long way in achieving this, thereby securing the future of the Union.

“The Union’s balance sheet is still healthy but its net assets are down by £1,606,014 from £7,090,699 in 2021 to £5,484,685 this year. A 23% fall.

“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 22 branches returned a total recognised loss of £225,718, compared with a loss of £1,670 the previous year.

“The losses have increased by £224,048. Eighteen branches returned net losses. This compares with 12 out of 24 branches in 2021. The net assets for the branches has reduced from £2,143,355 in 2021 to £1,917,637 in 2022.

“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 which will ensure our continued existence into the long term. We shall continue to tighten our expenditure base, but must equally increase our income levels.

“In the year to September 2022, we returned a loss of £1.6 million, and have net assets worth £5.5 million. Difficult decisions will need to be made regarding our future.

“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.

“I would just like to finish with the words of a famous author, T. Harv Eker.

“It says: ‘The only way to permanently change the temperature in the room is to reset the thermostat.’

“In the same way, the only way to change our level of financial success permanently is to reset our financial thermostat.

“Mr President, I would like, as usual, to thank B. H. 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. “

ELIZABETH HAUGHEY of West Midlands Branch and Heath Gap Welcome Club, Cannock moved to accept the Financial Statement.

STAN SUMMERS, Vice-President of Durham Branch and President of Darlington Working Men’s Club, seconded the Motion to accept the Financial Statement.

The Financial Statement for 2022 was accepted by delegates.

The next speaker was CIU Solicitor **ALLYN WALTON** who outlined how his role at the Union ensures that CIU clubs have access to affordable legal services in they key areas of Employment Law, Contract Law, Defamation Law, Arbitration Law and Constitutional Law.

He noted some of his recent successful actions on behalf of CIU clubs and reminded clubs to get in touch with him via Head Office or through their local branch if they need help with any legal problems.

THE MOTIONS

MOTION 1

Union’s Constitution

Change of Rule 20. Council Meetings

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

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

The Motion was proposed by **UNION GENERAL SECRETARY KENNETH D GREEN CMD ACM** and seconded by **JACK HAUGHEY CMD ACM**, NEC Member and West Midlands Branch Secretary
Motion 1 was passed.

MOTION 2

Leicester Branch Motion – Year card proposal

THE 159th ANNUAL MEETING

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

The words Year Card would be displayed across the centre of the card replacing the year date.

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

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

The Motion was proposed by **DAVID ROLLASON**, Secretary of Latimer Ward Club and Leicestershire Branch Executive Member.

He said: "Morning, Mr President, National Executive members, fellow delegates. I, like a lot of people in this room today, have attended many, many union AGMs over the last 40 years. In fact, only missing one due to ill health. In that period of time, I have witnessed many, many debates on various topics, including the price of pass cards, etc.

"I just want to highlight one or two things that I've noticed in previous *Club Journals*.

"In the November issue of the *Club Journal*, our Secretary, Mr Kenneth Green, points out that 'help is required to safeguard the future of our Union as an organisation, or we face financial oblivion. As the current crisis continues, the Union which was founded over 160 years ago will cease to exist within a few years. The 2022 Financial Statement report that the Union has showed an operating loss of over £681,000, which comes on the back of several years of further losses'.

Mr Green said that it's clear that radical steps are needed to ensure the future of the organisation which has been a positive force in British society since 1862.

"Also in the same issue, the Editor Stephen Goulding, stated that the General Secretary is determined to find a way to make the Union more profitable and asked for feedback and suggestions from club officials.

"In the December issue, [PRESIDENT] Mr George Smith, urges clubs to pay their overdue annual fees, underlining the importance of the

sale of pass cards to the members for the overall financial health of the Union, and its ability to give support to the clubs.

"They ask that you, if they haven't done already, pay your overdue fees and, as well, encourage your members to buy a pass card.

"Why encourage when our Union rules, Rule 8, clearly state that the club must hold a fully paid share into the Working Men's Club and Institute Union Limited, in order that each member of the club may be entitled to all privileges of the Union subject to withdrawals.

"A person on becoming a member of the club 'shall' – not 'if', 'could', 'maybe', 'if you want' – the rule clearly states: 'Shall be supplied with an associate and pass card at the privilege rates charged by the Union for any period for which it has paid the subscription, or granted membership of the club'.

"May I also quote, from the Leicestershire point of view, the officers of the committee of the Leicestershire Branch have asked me to express growing concern regarding the continuing fall in the sale of pass cards. You've heard various things today, people relating to pass cards and the sales, and the decline of sales.

"Pass cards are the major source of the income of the Union and its branches, if not the biggest, and if the trend continues, there will be no Union or branches left.

"Over the last few years, a number of branches have already closed, and this trend just cannot continue. You only have to look at the last Annual Report to see a number of branches are not in a very healthy position.

"There are a number of reasons for the drop in the sale of pass cards. A lot of the clubs have closed over recent years. In the Union heyday, we had over 4,000 clubs. Now, we have just over 1,200. So, this is obviously the major reason for the fall of pass cards.

"This situation is compounded by the fact that because there are fewer clubs and they are located further apart, members are finding it more difficult to visit associated clubs.

"They do not drive because of the drink driving laws, it's too far to walk,

and taxis can be too expensive, so some members do not bother with a pass card.

"Some clubs are allowing that to happen and giving them that choice. As an example, not too many years ago, the Leicestershire Branch had six clubs in the centre of Leicester, all within half a mile of each other, which allowed members to walk from one to the other.

"We now only have one club left in the city centre, and the nearest one to that is in fact my club, a couple of miles away.

"There are other reasons some clubs are allowing a person to join the club as a member, and that person has a choice whether they purchase the associate and pass card.

"Most clubs have rules that a person on becoming a member, like I've just quoted, shall be supplied with the associate and pass card, 'shall' being the operative word, not 'perhaps', 'maybe' or 'please yourself'. Recently, the Leicestershire Branch took on eight clubs from the Derbyshire Branch which is now closed, the remaining clubs going to South Yorkshire Branch.

"Between the eight ex-Derbyshire clubs, they purchased 85 2022 pass cards. Three of those clubs have none. South Yorkshire have experienced the same result. No wonder why we lost, sadly, Derbyshire. Clubs are just not purchasing their full allocation. For example, we had one club that has nearly 2,000 members but has just 40 pass cards, making it a joke.

"When a club joins a Union, surely all its members follow suit and become members as well, and are issued with a pass and associate card because, at the end of the day, they own the club, but as we know, this does not happen.

"So, it looks like the pass card has come to its end of life, or the terminology no longer exists. We are suggesting a complete new format to the National Executive to consider.

"The current pass card would cease to exist, therefore removing all the excuses I've mentioned earlier on, and a new card produced that could possibly be called the year card, where the current card shows the year in bold numbers that would replace in bold letters year card.

"Beneath the letters a similar



Delegates voted on three Motions during the 159th Annual Meeting, passing Motion 1 and Motion 3

statement from the one at the moment with a new format which would read 'This certifies that payment has been made to the Union covering the year card for this period individual's contribution to the Union.'

"The cost of the card should remain the same as the present £3.50 which is less than a penny a day. It's still good value.

"The amount of the year card issued for the individual clubs would be based on the amount of clubs declared on the annual return form, therefore every member should have one.

"The cards for entering to other CIU clubs would be the associate card which then means exactly that, with the card carrying the person's specimen signature as proof of identity, which should be compared to the one that they put in the associate book, and accompanied with the year card as proof of payment for that year.

"Each member of the club would hold an associate card to sign by that person at present. This would be a one-off purchase which would last a lifetime of the person for the cost again, £3.50, which is still good value.

"May I quote what the Vice-

President, Mr Ken Roberts, said from the January issue of the *Journal*? 'To my mind, we should be mighty proud of our clubs and the safe, friendly environment they provide for all walks of life, and shout out our many achievements from the rooftops.'

"I agree with Mr Roberts, so I say to you all here today, do you support the Union or not? I propose the Motion."

The Motion was seconded by **MALC JONES**, Vice-President of Leicestershire Branch.

Opposing the Motion, **ALAN PRESTON**, President of York City Branch, said: "This is not going to change anything because you've got your year on your pass card already.

"It doesn't make them buy any more. As soon as they buy an associate card, the following year, they might not buy one at all. They've still got the lifetime thing.

"I've got four of them for the four clubs I play games with, and part of the Union is that to play Union games, you need a pass card and an associate card. I can't see why getting the printout and stuff for another form of card is going to change.

"It's not going to achieve anything.

You've got your year card which is 2023 next year, 2024. This year card doesn't do anything for me, I'm afraid, and that's all I've got to say, thank you very much."

Speaking in favour of the Motion, **JOHN THOMPSON** from the Langham Club, said: "If I was to understand the Motion correctly, the idea is that it becomes compulsory – is that right? So, it will change things because people won't have the choice to not buy one, they'll be compelled to buy one.

"Could I also propose we set a time, maybe two years' time, where the price goes up to £5? Just doing some quick sums. If we have 1,200 clubs, let's say an average of 200 members, £5 a year, that's £1.2 million or something?"

"I'm not proposing it, I'm just making a suggestion because that would obviously massively help the financial situation of the CIU, but yeah, I'm in favour of the Motion because obviously right now people are choosing to not buy the passes which harms the money for the CIU.

"As I understand, the Motion makes that compulsory, so it does change things."



NEC Member Nathan Clarke proposed Motion 3 regarding the name change of the Union which was passed by delegates

Speaking against the Motion, **PETE SNELL** of the Mildmay Club said:

“Good morning delegates and President. We’re honoured to have Pete Brown amongst our members. I can fully support the principles behind this Motion, but I don’t think anyone’s thinking it through.

“We are a club that now has 1,200 members and we do what the rule book says. Every single one of them, when we take them on, is told you have to affiliate to the national body and pay your three quid every year, and we get the cards and we get the stickers to do that.

“The sad thing is, at the moment, it’s fine because we’ve got annual cards, and they come to collect their cards and, at the same time, if they know what they’re doing, they pick up the stickers to make sure it’s kept up to date. The sad thing is we don’t have that many CIU clubs around us.

“We’ve got the Walthamstow Trades Hall, we’ve got the Langham Club up the road, but most people don’t actually use it from one year to the next.

“So we’re moving to a new system, and there’s good reasons for it; when you’re a big club, it’s more difficult to

comply with licensing.

“So, next year, when we expect on our current rate of growth to have 1,500 members, I would also hope we are going to have a lifetime card which you use to get into the club and tells the bar if you’re a paid-up member. It makes sure we cover our guests, it keeps us compliant with the licensing regulations, because when you’ve got the successful club, you’ve got to have better systems.

“Now, this Motion is suggesting that, at a time when we as a club need to get rid of a card that’s out of date – and it’s a hell of a lot of work when you’ve got that number of people putting the fresh stickers and the fresh names on a card every year – we’re still going to be printing out endless individual cards.

“Quite honestly, all it’s going to do is create a massive backlash from our members saying ‘why are you generating this plastic mountain every year when most of us never actually use any other CIU clubs?’

“At this time we should be talking about moving with the times and getting an electronic solution.

“I’m sorry, this {Motion} is backward

looking. I fully support the intention that every club does what we do, which is say when you join this club, you become a CIU member. Most people respect the movement, most people are happy to do that in the same way some people hardly use the club, but actually like to donate to its future. They’re happy to donate to the future of the CIU.

“But making it explicit that, by the way, you’re paying £3 a year for a card that you never use as the mountains of uncollected cards builds up behind the bar. Forget it. I’m going to be voting against it. I just don’t understand it.”

DAVID ROLLASON, Secretary of Latimer Ward Club and Leicestershire Branch Executive Member, added:

“The important thing is to adhere to the Rules. Rules they say you shall purchase the pass cards.”

Motion 2 failed.

MOTION 3

Change of Rule 1: Name change

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

Motion 3 was proposed by NEC

Member **NATHAN CLARKE** who said: “First of all, put your minds at rest, this motion is not a case of the CIU going woke. No, this is simply a case of a minor name change which we believe will have a huge positive effect for our clubs and for this great organisation, and will better reflect the realities of our clubs in 2023 and going forward, where women members have just as much of a stake in their clubs as the men.

“This change will help to alter people’s perceptions of the CIU and its clubs, and will bring new people into the club movement, people who may have been put off coming through our doors because they are not working men.

“Obviously, everyone in this room knows how fantastic our clubs are. We need to get that message out to everyone, and this name change will help us to do just that.

“I believe that it’s the right thing to do, and will help clubs to bring in new members, new people who will help to make those clubs stronger and, by extension, strengthen the Union.

“Of course, clubs will be absolutely free to call themselves what they want just as they are now. It is just the title of the Union that we want to change.

“And remember, most people, including ourselves, refer to the organisation as the CIU already, and we use the CIU on letters that are sent out from head office, so it is not a big change anyway.

“We are very rightly proud of the 161-year history of this Union, and forever grateful to the founding fathers of our movement. This is now time to ensure that everyone within and outside the CIU understands that our clubs are there for everyone.

“Please support this Motion and help to show the world that CIU clubs are not places of the past, but modern, welcoming venues for all, with a bright future.

“I hope you all will agree and vote in favour of the Motion that the Union name be changed from the Working Men’s Club and the Institute Union Limited to The Club and Institute Union Limited, CIU.

“Therefore Mr President, I formally

propose this motion.”

The Motion was seconded by **STEPHEN FOSTER CMD ACM**, NEC Member for Durham, who said: “Good morning, delegates, Mr Chairman. I remember in the good old days when all you had to do fill the club was open the doors. How times change.

“The law changes, society and culture changes, and Covid increased the competition from supermarkets whose responsibility ends at the checkout. So, we really need every advantage we can get. We must be seen to be politically correct to achieve any concessions.

“Having ‘Working Men’s’ in our name implies we don’t embrace equality, but as we all know, our clubs are the most welcoming and safest places in the UK.

“I understand the sentiment and passion for tradition, but removing Working Men’s Club from our name could change the public’s perception of the CIU, that we are a modern and inclusive organisation.

“Pete Brown said some of the things I was going to say – thanks for that, Pete. We’ll hopefully get some good press. This could be a big news item. Maybe we should invite people to give the club a try.

“What I wouldn’t change however is our history or heritage, and certainly not my memories from 50-odd years as a club member.

“Sometimes, delegates, you have to compromise your principles for the sake of progress. I second the Motion.”

Speaking in support of the Motion, **ALAN PRESTON**, President of York City Branch, said: “Fellow delegates, if memory serves me right in the Winter Gardens seven years ago, I’d said exactly the same as this, and it got poo-pooed, but we don’t live in the past.

“I said change the Working Men’s bit to the CIU because the women MPs down in parliament, if they see the ‘Working Men’s’ bit in the title, may not look favourably on the Union.

“I support Nathan, even though I did this exact same speech about seven years ago. Thank you.”

Speaking against the Motion, **STAN SUMMERS**, Vice-President of Durham Branch and President of Darlington Working Men’s Club said:

“Mr President, members of the executive, fellow delegates.

“I spoke on this about three or four year ago, and I brought into it the sentiment of me being unwilling to lose what we have already got, especially the ship building and things like that. I’m not going to mention that again, but I do believe that we want to continue to carry on as we are now.

“I’ve listened this morning very interestedly to Peter Brown. He has said some points there which I’ve never thought of. But why change something that we’ve got, when nothing is wrong? Maybe we need to look at ourselves, change other things, change the way we operate with Facebook and things like that.

“I’m long in the tooth and I’m one of these people who carries on with traditions. My members tell me what they want, and they continue to want to be a Working Men’s Club. So, I’m saying I speak against the Motion.”

Speaking in favour of the Motion, **DAWN PAYLOR**, Secretary of Bishopthorpe Sports & Social Club, said: “I’ve been a Secretary of my club for the past 11 years. I would like to share with you all a few reasons why I wholeheartedly support this Motion. My predecessor, Jackie Medley, attended the CIU AGM in Blackpool to fight for women’s rights to join the CIU.

“Back in the day, women couldn’t buy pass cards, women could not play CIU games, women didn’t have a voice in the Union despite being members of their own clubs. Eventually, she succeeded in women being allowed to join the CIU.

“Why is it called Working Men’s? Women should not be ignored. They also run the clubs. They also work behind the bar. Times have changed, and the CIU has to move with these times. It is a collective. Quite simply, it is working men and women.

“Myself, I’m a working lady. All these ladies, they’re working ladies. We are not taking anything away from the working men. The working men should be honoured for the heritage and services, but not at the cost of excluding half of the population.

“In conclusion, this Motion should

be passed as there should be no distinction between gender in the CIU. This Motion speaks for fairness, for equality and for the working women of the Club & Institute Union. Thank you.”

Speaking in favour of the Motion, **PAT O'BRIEN** of Cricklewood Trades Hall, said: “I’ll be honest, it’s not very often that my clubs sends delegates to the Annual Meeting. In fact, the last time that we did this was the one referred to at the Winter Gardens seven years ago, and I spoke along the same lines that I’m speaking about now, and some of those who spoke against the Motion at that time said it wasn’t sexist, it was just tradition.

“Well, as far as I’m concerned, it is a sexist term, and voting in favour of this Motion does absolutely nothing to diminish the rich history of the CIU. In fact, quite the contrary. I’m glad I came today.

“Pete Brown came out with some excellent suggestions there. Very simple, but they are actually very progressive and I think they can take things forward, but the person speaking against the Motion said you can use these suggestions and yet spoke against this Motion.

“As far as I’m concerned, those two things are totally incompatible. I feel so strongly about this.

“As I said, we don’t often send delegates. When I saw this Motion on the agenda, myself and my colleague down there, said we would travel at our own expense purely because we feel so passionately about this.

“The last time, 60% voted for this Motion, but it didn’t achieve the two-thirds majority, and I think it’ll be a very, very sad reflection on this Union if that happens again.

“If it’s talking about being serious about going forward and progressing, if you don’t pass this today, it’ll be an absolute shame on the Union, and I think it’s vital that you pass this Motion. Thank you very much.”

NEC Member **NATHAN CLARKE** added: “I understand what Stan {Summers} said, I take that on board. I’m the Secretary of my club and I’ve got women on the Committee. I fully support this lady {Dawn Paylor} and I

hope you all fully support this Motion. *Motion 3 was passed.*

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

“Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen.

“May I begin with a thank you all for making the effort to attend today, and the trade show yesterday, which appeared to be as successful, if not more so, as previous shows, where I’m sure you took the opportunity to meet all the different suppliers in attendance and discovered new ways to keep our clubs afloat in these trying times.

“I also hope you enjoyed a little entertainment last night at the inaugural CIU Showcase event at the Viva venue and are not suffering from over-indulgence.

“As you are no doubt aware, an Annual General Meeting is both a requirement of the Union’s Constitution and a legal requirement of the Financial Conduct Authority as it is in all our clubs.

“You have no doubt heard me before on how we are one of the most democratic organisations in the country, if not the world, and the mere fact that we are here today proves that point.

“Most, if not all of you here today, will be aware of the efforts of the Union to provide an education system whose sole aim is to ensure our clubs continue to serve our members in the coming generations.

“This is called the Award in Club Management, which is delivered as a modular education system which, when completed over three parts, gives the learner the ammunition to return to their clubs and ensure the survival of the business, and makes sure of the continued growth of the club.

“The *Club Journal* and our website has all the details of these courses which are run throughout the year, and hopefully covering the whole of the country. We strive to publish the *Club Journal* as our prime method of information to our clubs, and I implore you, at least once per month, to read the copy sent to all clubs where you may be quite surprised at the content

and maybe see something which will be of benefit to your club and its members.

“I personally have around 50 years of service to clubs, having started on my parent club’s committee at the age of 22 – the same age as Nathan, really – and have never lost sight of the fact that we are there to serve the members or our respective clubs.

“I receive too many complaints, both as a Branch Secretary and General Secretary, where certain unscrupulous people think it is their club to do as they please, like going out of the Union because they want to liquidate the club and ensure only they profit from the sale of the club, or take the club over and trade as a proprietary club, thus disenfranchising all members, a point which grates on me as these people are usually ripping off their family and friends among the wider community, who they have known sometimes all their lives.

“Another ruse by unscrupulous people is to ignore the rules on arbitrations.

“When a member, either suspended or expelled, complies with the rules, and applies to the Union for arbitration, and the club either ignores the member, or decides by themselves there is no need for the Union and refuses to comply with the club’s own rules.

“They then tend to blame the Union when they lose an arbitration, and remove the club from the Union, often with the members having no idea they are no longer in the Union until the member tries to buy a pass card for the next year.

“Quite often, the only reason a club loses an arbitration is because the committees have failed to apply the rules as they stand, and they try and shout that it is the Union’s fault when it is quite clearly their own incompetence in not following the rules of the club.

“If a club committee expect members to adhere to the rules, it goes hand in hand that the management committee should also adhere to the rules.

“A well-used phrase is ‘What does the Union do for our club?’. Well, here goes – we’ll still be here at ten o’clock like George says. Arbitrations, which have

the ability to keep clubs out of the reaches of the legal profession, and all its associated costs.

“Advice, which covers all the situations clubs and committees can find themselves in, is available for all the branches and the NEC to cover most problems.

“Legal advice at heavily subsidised rates through our in-house solicitor, Allyn Walton, and not forgetting the discounted rates of PRS, PPL which the Union have achieved over the years which, when applied, more than covers the initial annual fee that the club pays the Union.

“When licensing authorities start to hassle clubs with sometimes false requirements, such as trying to put restrictions on your licence when they know full well they are not allowed to under the Licensing Act, we are a phone call away to advise on correct procedure.

“An example comes from the North East. Allyn’s already gone into this, where a club had a noise abatement notice imposed on them in total contradiction of the Licensing Act which was successfully resisted by Allyn.

“Another part of our business being ripped off on an industrial scale is energy supply. If you attended the trade show yesterday, you will no doubt have seen a stand with a company called Ethical Utilities who aim to pursue refunds from energy suppliers who have used brokers who have not declared their commissions to the end user – us.

“Energy brokers are not a regulated industry, so have in the past ridden rough shod over all sorts of legislation, even to the point of forging signatures of club signatures on letters of authority. I know that because it happened in my own club – not me, by the way, but somebody else.

“If you have any doubts about your brokers, and I’m sure that there are many, contact Ethical Utilities who, although they charge 30% of any claim, they also work on a no win-no fee basis, so really it’s a no-brainer and you could receive 70% of all the commissions paid to brokers that you don’t know about.

“I will say at this point not all brokers are rogues, so not all clubs will receive



The Annual Meeting concluded with an address by General Secretary Kenneth D Green CMD ACM

pay-outs, but until you try, you’ll never know.

“I know a lot of clubs have yet to recover from the depths of the pandemic, which did decimate the whole of our industry.

“It is up to us to attempt to bring back the good old days of full clubs and healthy balance sheets. Gone are the days when you open the doors of the club to be met with a queue of members waiting to sit in their favourite seats.

“May I humbly suggest we will listen to all our members and find out what they want.

“Not all suggestions will be viable, and not all occasions, but I feel sure that the combined experience of old and new can meet in the middle and continue our great traditions of community and helpfulness, and keep up the first rule of

every club – to carry on the business of the club by providing for the use of its members the means of social intercourse – I said social intercourse – mutual helpfulness, mental and moral improvement, rational recreation and advantages of a club.

“I wish to thank you for listening to my personal diatribes, and I hope if only one sentence of this speech either saves a club or moves a club back onto the road to success, I believe I will have succeeded in my ambition of doing my best in the position I hold.

“As a great philosopher once said, I don’t know why we are here, but I am pretty sure it’s not to enjoy ourselves!

“Have a safe journey home and we hope to see you next year.

“Thank you very much.”

THE PRESIDENT declared the Annual Meeting closed.

A day of knowledge and insight for clubs

The 31st CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition was another great day of club business with key suppliers from a variety of sectors showcasing their products and services to club delegates

Over 300 delegates from clubs across the UK attended the 31st CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition on the afternoon of Friday, April 14 at Blackpool's Norbreck Castle Hotel.

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

The afternoon kicked off with Union Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM officially opening the event from the main stage.

With the event underway, delegates were able to sample a range of beers from the bar run by Preferred Supplier Greene King, while another Preferred Supplier, Dransfields, brought along an extensive array of their gaming and entertainment systems.

As a special treat provided by Dransfields, delegates were able to go head to head against two professional pool champions – Clint l'Anson and Jack Whelan – while there was also a highly competitive karaoke competition held during the afternoon using their Spotlight system as well as a number of bingo sessions and prize draws.

Union Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM said: "The Beer & Trades Exhibition continues to go from strength to strength and I hope that all the club representatives who attended were able to gain some useful knowledge and insight from the many suppliers who continue to support the CIU in its mission to ensure that clubs have all the right tools at their disposal to make their clubs a success."



There was a fantastic turnout for the 31st CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition held at the Norbreck Castle Hotel on Friday, April 14



George Tucker, Commercial Insurance Broker at Preferred Supplier Higos with Union Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM



Delegates enjoy a pint from Preferred Supplier Greene King



Professional World Pool Champion Clint l'Anson in action at the Dransfields stand



Union General Secretary Kenneth D Green CMD ACM and Pure Purchasing MD David King



John Axon, Key Account Manager, Greene King Brewing and Brands and Union Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM



Vice-President Ken Roberts CMD ACM and Ian Dawson of Preferred Supplier CIP



NEC Member Dave Gravel CMD alongside the Gallagher Premiership trophy



West Yorkshire Branch Executive Member Eddie Ratcliffe uses the Dransfields Spotlight system



Preferred Supplier Dransfields showcased their latest gaming machines



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



Graeme Miller, Managing Director of ACE Furniture, chats to club delegates during the trade show



Delegates enjoyed a fine selection of Pukka Pies during the trade show



Union President George Smith (centre) alongside Justin O'Regan (left) and Sean Ferris (right) of Club Journal

A fantastic night of live entertainment

The CIU Showcase at Blackpool's Viva venue saw a total of 23 great live club acts, including bands, tribute acts, solo singers and duos performing as part of the Union's Conference Weekend



The CIU Showcase took place at the Viva venue in Blackpool on Friday, April 14 with over 20 top club acts performing

As part of the Union's mission to ensure that there is a packed schedule of activities during Conference Weekend, the CIU staged its own Showcase at Viva in the heart of Blackpool on the evening of Friday, April 14.

Viva, situated right next to the Blackpool Tower, models itself on the cabaret bars of Las Vegas and the venue certainly lived up to the advance billing with some top-notch lighting and sound production backing the excellent performances.

The larger-than-life compere Mark Ritchie got the proceedings underway with a song and a few jokes before welcoming the first of the many acts to the stage.

There were 23 acts in all performing three songs apiece throughout the evening, a fantastic line-up which

featured some of the top club acts from across the UK, all out to impress the packed out audience drawn from CIU clubs.

Tribute acts featured heavily on the night including Destiny Michelle presenting a set of well-known songs from her Forever Whitney show; Cherie Pearce as Dolly Parton; William Rawlings as Dean Martin and Liam Halewood as Boy George.

A number of bands took to the stage including The Rockin' 60s and 70s outfit Pickettywitch'd whose set including their No.5 hit from 1970, *That Same Old Feeling* and a cover version of Abba hit *Honey Honey*.

Other acts who impressed the crowd included Timeless, a duo comprising of Tommy Barron and Hefin Roberts who brought some slapstick comedy to proceedings backed up by some top-

class vocal performances, including a showstopper from *Les Miserables*.

Further outstanding vocals came from solo singers Kelvin J Wood, Louis Devere, Karen Harvey and Katie Blackwell.

"The CIU Showcase was a fantastic evening and demonstrated just how many talented performers there are in the UK at the moment," said NEC Member Nathan Clarke who co-organised the event alongside Barrie Lucas of Showcase Productions.

"Live entertainment is the lifeblood of Union clubs and no doubt many of the artistes we saw on stage at the Viva will be performing at CIU venues in the near future.

"Thanks are due to Barrie and all the acts for putting on such a great night as part of the Union's 2023 Conference Weekend."



Veteran band Pickettywitch'd played three songs including their hit *That Same Old Feeling* which reached No.5 in 1970



Whitney and Dolly – AKA Destiny Michelle and Cherie Pearce – pose for a photo opportunity following their respective performances



Really Robbie got the crowd dancing and singing along to some classic Robbie Williams songs



Timeless – duo Tommy Barron and Hefin Roberts – brought their own brand of comedy and top-class singing to the Showcase



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ACM day courses taking place in May and June

Following the Unit 1 day course held at Walthamstow Trades Hall, there are two further Award in Club Management (ACM) day courses taking place in May and June at London venues

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

These follow on from the Unit 1 day course held at Walthamstow Trades Hall in London in April and see The Langham Club in Haringay, London hosting a Unit 2 day course on Saturday, May 13 and the Unit 3 day course set for Saturday, June 10 at the Mildmay Club & Institute in Stoke Newington, London.

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

The qualification consists of three self-contained units, each taking one day of classroom-based study to complete and costing £30 per unit and the units do not need to be taken in order.

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

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

The course is aimed at people sitting on club committees and occupying positions of authority within clubs.

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

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



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

ACM dates

Saturday, May 13

The Langham Club, London, N8 0RY

Unit 2 – Cost £30, including course book

Saturday, June 10

Mildmay Club & Institute, London, N16 9PR

Unit 3 – Cost £30, including course book

To book a place on either of these courses, contact Senior Head Office Administrator Cath Fitzpatrick on 020 7226 0221 or email: Catherine.Fitzpatrick@wmcui.org

Please note the units can be taken in any order so candidates can attend a Unit 1 course after completing these Units 2 and 3

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

ACROSS

- 6 Could be married on e-bay perhaps? (5)
- 7 Rent out the ale recipe? That's timeless! (7)
- 9 Getting a bit demoralised by the spoken test (4)
- 10 Retirement wear made for thin girths (10)
- 11 Relish the sound of gathering a single bloom (10)
- 13 Aim of gaol's internal review (4)
- 14 Victoria shortly to get bills that are savage (7)
- 15 Stop and pry into being awkward and argumentative (7)
- 18 Doom to Hell and motorway madness (4)
- 20 Bring into line the position

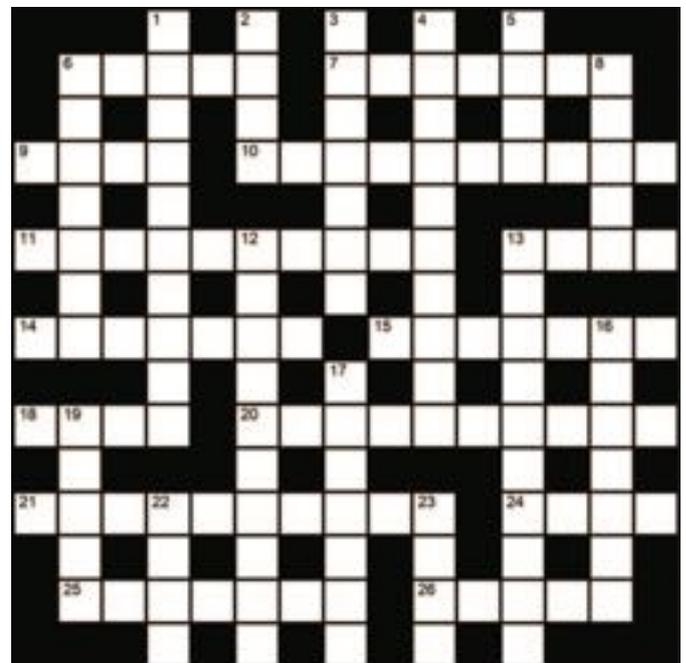
number? (10)

- 21 Could be adapting to an Oriental bamboo chomper! (5,5)
- 24 Unable, say, to produce false piety (4)
- 25 Disgrace round about an open shoe (7)
- 26 Last in some garden centre section? (5)

- 5 Measure of the commander in chief (4)
- 6 Drink in pictures, already loaded into little car (7)
- 8 Arrivals? No Sir! It's kind of an insect stage (5)
- 12 Cash could land up in rocket sites (6,4)
- 13 Flight technicians who urged the Crown to change (6,4)
- 16 Flower to eat up in style (7)
- 17 Collectively, like elbows, say? (7)
- 19 Wrong for her to be single (5)
- 22 Genuine appeal of a low tide (4)
- 23 It's a long time to dish out adhesion! (4)

DOWN

- 1 Client to obey the arrangement for a local collection of 'Xs (2-8)
- 2 Ferments stem from a plant (4)
- 3 Bower can go paler under stress (7)
- 4 Dirt, in secret, could be limited (10)



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.

- S MacCormac of East Dene Social
- Alan Dykes of Hawthorn RSC
- Elsa Main of Engineers Social Club
- Gavin Chapman of Garforth Social Club
- Rod Sockett of Sheffield Lane WMC





Monday, May 8, 1pm – Channel 4

Super League: St Helens v Salford Red Devils

A Bank Holiday fixture as reigning champions Saints host Salford Red Devils. Both sides have been hovering around the mid-table position in recent weeks so this should be an even contest. Salford have received a huge boost after being able to recall forward Oliver Partington after he made a remarkable comeback from the knee injury he suffered earlier in the season.



Saturday, May 13, 1pm – ITV

Horse Racing: Victoria Cup Day, Ascot

The highlight of this two-day meeting is The Victoria Cup, a valuable seven-furlong heritage handicap that tends to attract proven course specialists and interesting, less exposed youngsters alike. Cape Byron was a memorable winner in 2019, going on to land The Wokingham Stakes a month later. It is likely that some of the 2023 participants will return for the Royal Meeting in June.



Sunday, May 28, 4.30pm – Sky Sports/BT Sport

Premier League: Final Day

The current campaign concludes with, as always, all 10 matches kicking off concurrently in order to maintain fairness across the division. Due to the Qatar World Cup having to be accommodated into the season, it's a later finish to the term than supporters will be used to, with only the Covid-impacted 2019/20 season having stretched further into the year.

SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS

An epic Premier League season comes to its conclusion this month with some big games but there is also plenty of Super League, rugby union, cricket and horse racing action to come throughout May

Friday, May 5, 7.45pm

Sky Sports

Super League: Catalans Dragons v St Helens

Saturday, May 6, 5.30pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Liverpool v Brentford

Saturday, May 6, 7pm

Sky Sports Action

Boxing; Light-Heavyweight – Joshua Buatsi v Pawel Stepień

Sunday, May 7, 2pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Manchester City v Leeds United

Sunday, May 7, 4.30pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Newcastle United v Arsenal

Sunday, May 7, 8.30pm

Sky Sports F1

Formula 1: Miami Grand Prix

Monday, May 8, 1pm

Channel 4

Super League: St Helens v Salford Red Devils

Monday, May 8, 3pm

Sky Sports Cricket

Cricket - IPL: Kolkata Knight Riders v Kings XI Punjab

Tuesday, May 9, 3pm

Sky Sports Cricket

Cricket - IPL: Mumbai Indians v Royal Challengers Bangalore

Wednesday, May 10, 6pm

Sky Sports Arena

Pool: World Masters

Thursday, May 11, 12 midday

Sky Sports Arena

Pool: World Masters

Thursday, May 11, 12.30pm

Sky Sports Golf

Golf: Soudai Open

Thursday, May 11, 7pm

Sky Sports Arena

Darts: Premier League

Thursday, May 11, 8pm

Sky Sports

Super League: Wakefield Trinity v Hull FC

Friday, May 12, 12.30pm

Sky Sports Golf

Golf: Soudai Open

Friday, May 12, 12 midday

Sky Sports Arena

Pool: World Masters

Saturday, May 13, 12.30pm

Sky Sports Golf

Golf: Soudai Open

Saturday, May 13, 1pm

ITV

Horse Racing: Victoria Cup Day, Ascot

Saturday, May 13, 8pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Nottingham Forest v Southampton

Sunday, May 14, 12.30pm

Sky Sports Golf

Golf: Soudai Open

Sunday, May 14, 1pm

BT Sport

MotoGP: French Grand Prix

Thursday, May 18, 1pm

Sky Sports Golf

Golf: PGA Championship

Darts: Premier League Final
– Thursday, May 25, 7pm,
Sky Sports Action



Friday, May 19, 1pm
Sky Sports Golf
Golf: PGA Championship

Friday, May 19, 7pm
Sky Sports Action
Darts: Premier League

Friday, May 19, 8pm
BT Sport
Rugby Union: European Challenge Cup Final

Saturday, May 20, 2pm
Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: T20 Blast – Derby v Lancashire

Saturday, May 20, 6pm
Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: T20 Blast – Birmingham v Yorkshire

Saturday, May 20, 4.45pm
BT Sport
Rugby Union: European Champions Cup Final

Sunday, May 21, 2pm
Sky Sports F1
Formula 1: Emilia-Romagna Grand Prix

Sunday, May 21, 1pm
Sky Sports Golf
Golf: PGA Championship

Wednesday, May 24, 6.45pm
Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: T20 Blast – Somerset v Hampshire

Wednesday, May 24, 8pm
Sky Sports Premier League
Premier League: Brighton & Hove Albion v Manchester City

Thursday, May 25, 6pm
Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: T20 Blast – Middlesex v Surrey

Thursday, May 25, 7pm
Sky Sports Action
Darts: Premier League Final

Thursday, May 25, 8pm
Sky Sports Premier League
Premier League: Manchester United v Chelsea

Thursday, May 25, 8pm
Sky Sports
Super League: Hull Kingston Rovers v Wigan Warriors

Friday, May 26, 8pm
Sky Sports
Super League: Leeds Rhinos v St Helens

Saturday, May 27, 3pm
BT Sport
Rugby Union: Premiership Final

Saturday, May 27, 6pm
Sky Sports Action
Boxing: WBO Cruiserweight Championship - Lawrence Okolie v Chris Billam-Smith

Sunday, May 28, 2pm
Sky Sports F1
Formula 1: Monaco Grand Prix

Sunday, May 28, 4.30pm
Sky Sports/BT Sport
Premier League: Final Day

Thursday, June 1, 11am
Sky Sports
Test Cricket: England v Ireland – Day 1

Saturday, June 3, 3pm
BBC
Football: FA Cup Final



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