

# *CONSERVATIVE CLUBS MAGAZINE*



September 2021 75p



## **Aldershot Conservative Club**

**Desborough Conservative Club Completes Refurbishment**

**Club Law: The Role of Sub-Committees**

**Industry Insights**



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# Message From The Chief Executive

As we move into Autumn, head office is finding a renewed vigour within the clubs' movement. The re-opening period, which for some clubs commenced in April, has stretched through the summer and with clubs now back open in Wales, all committees have been focusing on the important aspects of club management. Scheduling that long delayed AGM, holding committee elections, enticing lapsed members into renewing memberships and, yes, dealing with legacy covid issues such as outbreaks of infection, staff management and keeping abreast of the evolution of covid rules. We are also finding that with members back enjoying their clubs, committees can now focus on, arguably, the most important aspect of their role – making the club a welcoming environment for members and their guests.

So much time and effort has been drained by Covid that it is easy to forget why people visit clubs. They visit clubs because they want to see their friends and meet people who broadly have the same outlook on life. They enjoy the drinks selection the club offers, be it a refreshing pint of cellar lager, pint of ale from the local microbrewery down the

street or a glass of wine. They look forward to the entertainment and sporting activities the club provides; the bowling, the snooker, the music and the quiz nights. And club committees can now, once again, start to focus on those issues which are always going to be the life blood of any club. It is, of course, important to get the AGM right, to ensure covid rules are complied with and that membership renewals are sent out on time. But for the typical member, what really matters is that they can come into their club, have a friendly chat over a drink of their choice, meeting up with friends and wonder if they will be shouting 'Bingo' in an hour's time, or watching sport, or having a meal, or listening to a band. Hopefully therefore this is where club committees can once again focus their efforts as the year progresses.

Featured on the front page of the magazine is a picture of Aldershot Conservative Club. This Club recently held a memorial service to record sympathy and support to families who have lost loved ones during the Covid Pandemic and a full report will be featured next month.

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# CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

## Covid Financial Support Updates

### VAT Cut

The Government announced a reduced rate of 5% (down from 20%) VAT on food, soft drinks and accommodation for the sector, which was initially a temporary measure between 15 July 2020 and 12 January 2021 before it was extended.

Until 30 September 2021, the 5% reduced VAT rate will remain in place for hospitality businesses. However, from 1 October, a new rate of 12.5% will be introduced, set to end on 31 March 2022.

### Furlough Scheme

The Furlough Scheme is due to end in September. The furlough scheme has been tapered from July and from September the scheme will continue to pay 60% up to £1,875, with the 20% employer contribution increased up to £625.

### Business Rates Holiday

The 15-month exemption period for business rates ended at the end of June. However, rates have not returned to standard but are reduced by about two thirds (67%) up to £2m for closed businesses with a lower cap for those who have been able to reopen. This reduced rate is in place for nine months, until March 2022.

### Grants

Government grants to Clubs have now ended.



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## Questions and Answers

**Q**At our Club's recent Annual General Meeting, some members asked why the item 'Any Other Business' was not on the agenda. Unfortunately, whilst I have never included this item, I was unable to give a reason which they found acceptable. What is your view?

**A**The item 'Any Other Business' is totally out of place on the agenda of a General Meeting for the simple reason that it gives no information or notification to members of matters which may be brought up and dealt with. The sole purpose of an agenda is to inform members of what is to be discussed, thereby giving an opportunity to decide on whether to attend the meeting. 'Any Other Business' would permit any matter to be raised and voted on without proper notification.

I often advise Clubs to conduct an 'open forum' after the meeting has closed since this provides an opportunity for members to raise matters with the committee, without the outcome of such discussion being binding upon the Club. Should any member have any particular matter of concern then he or she should raise it with the Secretary for inclusion on the agenda as a specific item in accordance with the procedure set out in the Club's Rules.

**Q**The Committee cannot agree on how long the nomination sheet for Officers and Committee Members should be posted for. Some Committee Member consider it can only be put up for ten days before being removed whilst others think we should leave it up until the Annual General Meeting in order to encourage nominations and let Members know the current nominations. What is your advice on this situation?

**A**The Club's Rule regarding this point reads as follows:

*At least three weeks prior to the day appointed for the commencement of the ballot a notice shall be posted on the Club Notice Board by the Secretary, inviting the nomination of candidates for the office of Committee Member or Officer of the Club. The notice shall remain so posted for ten days.*

Therefore, according to the Club's Rules, the notice requesting nominations shall be posted for ten days and then removed. The names of all candidates for office in the Club, together with the names of their proposers and seconders, shall then be entered on a nomination sheet which shall be posted on the Club's Notice Board seven clear days before the day appointed for the commencement of the ballot and shall remain so posted until the result of the ballot has been declared.

Ultimately there should be two Notices placed on the Club's Notice Board. The first Notice invites nominations and stays posted for ten days and the second notice then lists the persons who have been nominated and this notice remains posted until the ballot has been declared. These notices first provide an opportunity to nominate Members for election and then allow all Members to be aware of who has been nominated for election so they can consider how to cast their votes.

**Q**Can our club operate with a General Committee of six elected members? I have only six nominations for 12 vacant positions on the General Committee. I also have one nominee who has received one proposer but no seconder on the nomination list. Is he allowed or disallowed?

**A**There is no reason why your club cannot operate  
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# CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

## ◀ From page 3

with a Committee of six elected members, plus the Officers of the club. It would constitute a Rule change which would have to be approved by the members at a Special General Meeting. You would also need to look at your quorum requirements for the Committee and reduce it down accordingly. However, care should be taken not to reduce the number so low that the Committee ceases to be representative of the members.

To stand for any elected position, a member must have received a nomination from both a proposer and a seconder. Without a seconder then the nominee cannot stand for election.

**Q** At our last regular meeting, a Committee member got very aggressive and verbally abused members of the committee.

I have written to the Committee member in question and have suggested that they tender their resignation. This approach has fallen on stony ground and I have received the committee member's reply clearly stating that he intends to return to the next meeting as "an elected member of the management committee".

Should the Committee call a Special General Meeting to request a 3/4th vote to remove the individual?

**A** I am concerned to learn of the conduct of the member in question. In my opinion he should be subject to disciplinary action. The Committee have the authority to expel, suspend for a fixed period or to reprimand any member whose conduct is unacceptable under the rules.

A member would not be

permitted to act in this manner in the club Bar and likewise a Committee member or Officer cannot be permitted to act in such a manner at a meeting.

I would suggest you consider proposing that there is a complaint to answer and ask the Committee to agree that this person's membership facilities should be "withdrawn" until he is asked to appear before the Committee at a disciplinary hearing. At least seven days prior to this hearing he must have received a written notice summoning him to attend and giving a detailed statement of the allegations given against him. This should include everything he said in quotes, even the four letter words.

If, however, your Committee wish to go down the route that you have suggested than I confirm that this would also be in order but in my view would be a long way around a problem which is likely to come back in the future.

**Q** The Club runs multiple bingo sessions each week which the total amount being staked going over £2000 in some weeks. Would the Committee be acting appropriately to obtain a Bingo Operating License to make sure that the Club is fully compliant with the Gambling Act and will it in any way change the constitution of the Club?

**A** If the total amount being staked each week on bingo is exceeding the maximum allowable amount of £2000 per week then we would encourage the Committee to obtain such a licence. To reach this turnover on bingo is however unusual for most Clubs. There is no reason that the purchase of such a license will change the constitution

of the Club or affect the Club's Club Premises Certificate. The important point is that the Club will still only admit Members, their guests and IA Ticket Holders; holding a Bingo Operating Licence does not alter this.

**Q** Our Club has a pull tab lottery machine which is very popular and delivers a healthy profit to the Club. We are also looking into installing a B3A gaming machine inside the Club as they are also free from taxation and we think such a machine could prove to be popular amongst our Members. There is some concern though that a B3A machine may cannibalise the sales of the pull tab lottery machine and simply split the revenue received and increase our costs. Do you know if this is ever the case?

**A** Whilst I do not have any statistical evidence which I can send you regarding the change of usage of pull tab machines following the introduction of a B3A, I can safely say that I have rarely been into a Club with a B3A machine which does not also have a familiar pull tab ticket vending machine in some other part of the Club. I do think that the pull tab tickets have a following from part of the membership which is not particularly interested in playing any form of gaming machine even though I accept that the B3A machine is a very simple one to use compared with the more complex B4 machine features.

**Q** Is it acceptable for Inter-Affiliation (IA) Ticket holders visiting our club to introduce guests?

**A** By joining the Inter-Affiliation (IA) Ticket Scheme, clubs undertake to extend the same rights and privileges as their own members enjoy to visiting IA Ticket holders, except the right to take part in the management affairs of the club.

IA Ticket holders are subject to the same rules and regulations applicable to the host club's members. Therefore, any attempt to place restrictions on IA Ticket holders is contrary to the whole concept of the reciprocity which is the foundation of the IA Ticket Scheme. IA Ticket holders are entitled to purchase drinks, play the gaming machines and

introduce guests in accordance with the host club's rules; they are also entitled to participate in a host club's bingo or lottery activities, unless the club's committee have decided that such activities are 'members only.'

**Q** Our club has always welcomed IA Ticket holders from other clubs but recently a group of members from a neighbouring club have been using our club four or five times a week. The committee wish to impose a ban on all IA Ticket holders who live within five miles of the club. Is this acceptable?

**A** Regulation 8 of the Rules and Regulations governing the IA Ticket Scheme reads as follows –

*'The committee of every Inter-Affiliated club reserves to itself the right to make Special Regulations (subject to permission of the ACC Council) as to the admission of Inter-Affiliated members, in which case, a copy of the same shall be exhibited on the club notice board. Such permission shall not be required for the exclusion of Inter-Affiliation Ticket holders whose permanent habitation is within a radius of ten miles of club premises. The holder of an Inter-Affiliation Ticket is reminded that admission to an Inter-Affiliated club is an act of courtesy which can be withheld in the interests of the club, on any occasion, or in respect of any individual at the discretion of the club committee of any Inter-Affiliated club.'*

The object of this regulation is to prevent members of one club, with possibly a low annual subscription, from using the facilities of a neighbouring club that has a higher rate of annual subscription on a regular, if not daily, basis. Therefore, the committee of any Inter-Affiliated club reserves the right to impose a radius restriction on IA Ticket holders.

Due to the fact that Regulation 8 also provides committees of Inter-Affiliated clubs with the authority to refuse the admission of any IA Ticket holder—if this is considered to be in the interests of the club—we suggest that overall radius restrictions are not imposed. Club committees should instead rely on the authority provided by Regulation 8 to simply restrict

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# CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT

those IA Ticket holders who seek to use the IA Ticket Scheme as a method of regularly enjoying the facilities of a club which, for whatever reason, they have chosen not to join.

In short, therefore, committees are advised not to permit a few 'bad apples' jeopardising the enjoyment of neighbouring IA Ticket holders who do not wish to abuse the Scheme but who would like to occasionally visit other local clubs.

**Q** The Committee wish to implement a system where Members pay a lower price for drinks than their guests or other users of the Club (such as when a private event is being held). Can you confirm that such a pricing policy would be legal?

**A** We can confirm that such a policy would be entirely appropriate. With the introduction of modern tills this business model is becoming more popular in Private Members' Clubs and provides a clear reason for guests to become Members of the Club. Depending on the till system the Club is using there are a few days that this policy can be implemented, we have certainly

seen cases where an employee simply chooses 'Member' or 'Non-Member' when serving and the till then calculates the correct price based on that information. To comply with licensing legislation we would recommend that either two price lists are available or that the advertised price list is correct for Non-Members with Members being provided with a discount to the advertised prices.

**Q** A previous Member who was expelled from the Club two years has expressed an interest in returning. Some of the current Committee would like them to be able to reapply for Membership. Can an expelled Member reapply for Membership?

**A** As it has been at least twelve months since this Member's expulsion, the Committee are able, by a simple majority vote, to allow this person to reapply for Membership. This does not mean that the Member will then be re-admitted to the Club. They will still have to apply in the usual way and Club Members will be able to object to his nomination. Ultimately though it will be a Committee decision and two votes

against his Membership will mean that his Membership application is rejection.

The key points are that the Committee do not have to allow him to reapply for Membership and if he is permitted to reapply for Membership then two votes against his admission will prevent his application being successful. The Club's Members are able to object to his application although ultimately the Club's Committee Members make the final decision but they would be wise to take into account any objections received by Members.

**Q** We are currently redesigning our website. Is there any reason that we cannot place the membership application form on the website? We think this may aid the recruitment of new members.

**A** I do not think there is any reason the Club's Membership form cannot be accessed and submitted electronically and as such it could be placed on the website. I think that Clubs have to move with the times and that an electronic submission of a membership request is perfectly acceptable.

The Committee would then have to verify that the proposer and seconder listed on the form are willing to act in those roles.

The key point is that you are not advertising for new members and you are not saying that all new members are welcome. By placing the membership request form on the website you are simply allowing interested members to submit a request which will then be considered by the Committee. It is very similar to leaving membership application forms around the Club when a private event is being held at the Club. Ultimately, the Committee is still making the final decision on whether or not a prospective member is granted membership.

**Q** We are about to put in a CCTV system and would like to know if we have to put up notices advising employees and Members that they may now be filmed when in specific areas of the Club. We do not want to run afoul of any regulations if we need to rely on the CCTV footage in the future.

**A** With any Club operating CCTV cameras either inside or outside the premises we would advise that notices are put up to make Members and visitors aware that their movements are being recorded.

It is also possible that the Club will need to register its CCTV cameras with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) and you may wish to contact the ICO to confirm if the Club's system will require registration. Having said that, for the fee of £35 a year you may wish to register regardless. Technically, registration is required if you are to use the CCTV system to record the movements of a specific person, such as an employee who you consider may be acting inappropriately. If you are not recording the movements of a specific person then registration is not strictly necessary but I am sure you can appreciate that there may well be a time when you will wish to use the CCTV system to record the movements of a specific person and therefore registration would be required.

**Q** The Club has installed a defibrillator in the Club's premises. This machine is designed so that it can be used by a Member of the Public if a person is not breathing or breathing erratically. Our employees were, however, provided training when the machine was installed. Should we keep this training up to date and do we need to provide an employee with specific first aid training?

**A** It is likely that as you have less than 25 employees that you will not need a properly trained First Aider but simply an employee responsible for dealing with any first aid related incidents.

I understand that these types of defibrillators are designed to be used by persons who have no experience of them. Whilst the designs of these machines do vary, most of them include spoken instructions with the machine to assist with use. Having said that, a simple refresher course for the Club's employees on how and when to use the machine is a sound idea. You may wish to contact the organisation which installed the defibrillator and ask if they have any written guidance which can be given to the Club's employees and placed with the machine inside the Club.

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**ACC Catering Franchise Pack** - The ACC Catering Franchise pack can be used by Clubs which have a franchisee who uses the Club's facilities to prepare and serve food within the Club. The Franchisee Contract permits the Committee to decide if the franchisee shall pay a set fee per month to the Club for use of the Club's facilities, shall pay to the Club a percentage of the profits from the sale of food or that a combination of both methods of remuneration shall be utilised.

**Health and Safety and Risk Assessment Documentation** - The ACC has extensive documentation to assist a Club in creating a Health and Safety policy and conducting regular risk assessments. This documentation is available free of charge. Examples include template health and safety documentation, risk assessment forms and practical advice on completing a Club risk assessment and first aid information.

**Candidates for Admission Sheets** - The admission sheets can be posted on the Club's Notice Board to detail prospective new Members and have spaces for: Date, Candidate Name, Address, Occupation, Proposer, Seconder.

## Sale and Leaseback

Since launching the ACC Sale and Leaseback service, over 70 Clubs have entered into this arrangement with the ACC.

Under what circumstances would a Sale and Leaseback be appropriate? The most successful examples of ACC Sale and Leasebacks are Clubs which have a dedicated Committee and Membership and want to secure their Club's future. By unlocking the Club's freehold, Clubs can be provided the means of repaying debt, often undertaking refurbishments and providing a significant cash sum. The rent payable to the ACC following the completion of a Sale and Leaseback can often be less than a Club was paying for servicing debt.

## Trusteeship

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To obtain any of the documentation packages please email [charles@toryclubs.co.uk](mailto:charles@toryclubs.co.uk) or phone 0207 222 0843. To enquire about any of the ACC's financial assistance packages please email [assistance@toryclubs.co.uk](mailto:assistance@toryclubs.co.uk) or phone 0207 222 0843.

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# Desborough Conservative Club Completes Refurbishment

The Members of the Desborough Conservative Club, Northamptonshire, have expressed their gratitude to the Club's Committee after an extensive renovation project was completed.

The refurbished Club has been warmly welcomed by both existing Members and new Members who have decided to join the Club for the first time after the renovation project was publicised in the local press. As part of the refurbishment the Club has created a new kitchen area to help facilitate the serving of food and has created a brand new lounge area and stage. The old lounge area has been transferred into the 'The Quiet Room' which is now a multi-purpose area which can also host private events. The Club's previous bar has not been replaced but has been extensively refurbished and moved to the back wall to create a new stunning bar area. The Club has also moved the previous television to a new central viewing platform which allows easy viewing for sports coverage.

Part of the ethos regarding the changes made over the last year was to create a smaller, yet more spacious modern Club environment. There is a new and modern games area which consists of skittle and pool tables, as well as a darts board. In the bar area members can watch TV or listen to jukebox music. The new lounge area is airy



and spacious where members will be able to dance to live entertainment every week. In addition to this, a new office has been created at ground floor level. All the changes are to set the Club up for the 21st Century and to ensure that the layout of the Club is versatile enough to cater both for Members but also allow a variety of both Club and

private events to take place.

The Committee are very satisfied with the outcome of the project and also with the interest

shown by both current and new members towards the Club. Pictured are some areas of the new Club.



# Industry Insights

**Industry Insights aims to provide a whirlwind tour of who's doing what in the club sector, from latest launches and new products to business acquisitions and market research into the hospitality sector at large.**

## Prepare now for Autumn inflation spike

Clubs and hospitality operators need to take steps now to prepare for an inevitable spike in inflation across the rest of the year, as well as potential shortages of menu items, warns buying specialist Lynx Purchasing.

**T**he warning comes as Lynx publishes a Summer Market Update looking at supply issues in the months ahead.

"The 'perfect storm' is about to break," says Lynx Purchasing managing director Rachel Dobson. "The Bank of England is forecasting that inflation will hit 3% this autumn, other economists suggest 4%, and for some key food and drink sectors it's likely to be higher still.

"The labour shortage, difficulties with imports, higher distribution and fuel costs, and the continuing impact of the COVID pandemic globally are all factors. The effect of inflation not only on costs, but also potentially on consumer confidence, coming as operators are working to rebuild after lockdown, is as serious as any challenge the sector has faced in recent years.

"As always, our advice to operators is to buy UK produce in season wherever possible, when it's at its best in terms of quality, availability and value," says Dobson, "but that only works so far in this market. From pepper to pinot noir, every menu relies to an extent on global products.

"Even for anyone who's worked in purchasing for some time, this is as significant and widespread a challenge as we've seen. The same labour shortages



hospitality is seeing on the front line stretch back through the supply chain via warehousing and distribution to picking and packing.

"Globally, recovery from COVID is really only as fast as the slowest vaccine rollout. In regions such as the far east, where a great deal of poultry and seafood is processed, they are still facing real challenges."

The Summer Market Update highlights areas such as meat, poultry and seafood as presenting real challenges. "Operators will have to factor in higher prices and potential shortages not just now, but as they plan menus for the key Christmas period.

"For example, there's a global shortage of cooking oil, which is not only a store cupboard staple in its own right, but an essential ingredient in many other products.

"Commodities such as rice, grain and coffee are traded globally, and prices inevitably go up when

fuel and transport costs are high."

On the positive side, produce such as UK-grown salads and berries are currently good quality and excellent value, and there are high hopes for domestic crops of potatoes, salads and onions.

"There's never been a better time to use menu descriptions such as 'served with fresh, seasonal vegetables' to make the most of availability," says Dobson.

"It's going to take a concerted effort to move forward. At government level, the problems of customs bureaucracy and the challenges of employing overseas labour have to be addressed. Internationally, the roll-out of COVID vaccines is key.

"Suppliers hate to be unable to fulfil customer orders and are doing all they can to meet demand, but operators will also have to do their bit.

"Those who can keep their menus flexible will be best placed to make the most of changing availability, but there will also be opportunities for those who can improve their buying discipline

"Daily deliveries and just-in-time top-up orders have led to a degree of complacency. Operators may have to get used to better menu planning, more notice for suppliers, and fewer and bigger deliveries in future."

## William Grant & Sons wins Distiller of the Year

Independent family-owned distiller, William Grant & Sons, has been recognised as Distiller of the Year at the International Spirits Challenge (ISC) 2021. The industry-leading awards are known for setting the international benchmark for quality and recognising excellence in spirits worldwide.

This run of success builds on previous years where William Grant & Sons was awarded Distiller of the Year (2016-



2020) and Scotch Whisky Producer of the Year (2015-2019).

Brian Kinsman, Master Blender (pictured) said: "I am so proud that despite the continued challenges faced by our business and our industry in the last year, we continue to be recognised for the exceptional quality of our liquid. Receiving this level of recognition from the ISC is a real honour and a testament to our teams' continued innovation and dedication to delivering excellence across our portfolio."



## Live fixtures for WSL announced

Sky Sports has confirmed its first selection of Women's Super League (WSL) games, kicking off with Arsenal v. Chelsea on 5 September and finishing on 10 October with Chelsea v Leicester City and Arsenal v Everton.

The recently announced three-year deal sees the company showing a minimum of 35 exclusively live games this season, with Karen Carney, who won over 100 caps for the Lionesses, as lead pundit.

A recent survey amongst sports fans revealed that 68% of those who would watch or would consider watching women's sport are more interested now than they were a year ago (Ipsos Mori Out of Home Viewing Panel, Jan, March, June 2021).

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



## BT Sport bolsters European football portfolio

Italy's Serie A, home to some of the biggest names in world football, will be shown on BT Sport until at least 2024.

The league is one of the most competitive tournaments in world football involving such luminaries as Juventus stars Cristiano Ronaldo and Aaron Ramsey, Milan's Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Napoli's Kalidou Koulibaly.

The dugouts will also feature a number of famil-



iar faces, with Jose Mourinho returning to the league to manage Roma and Massimiliano Allegri heading back to Juventus to try to repeat the success he enjoyed during his first spell with the club.

The coverage of Serie A on BT Sport kicked off on August 21 and every single match will be broadcast, with at least five live games shown each round, totalling around 200 live games across the season.

Meanwhile, BT Sport's coverage of the new UEFA Champions League season will begin with Matchday 1 held across Tuesday, September 14 and Wednesday, September 15 as holders Chelsea begin their title defence.

The group stages of the UEFA Europa League begin on Thursday, September 16.

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

## Diageo presents a positive picture

Diageo's Preliminary Results for 2021 show the company delivering strong net sales of £12.7 billion, an increase of 8.3%, and an organic net sales growth of 16.0%.

Despite the on-trade being significantly restricted in many markets due to COVID-19, the company reported that it has invested in long-term growth despite near-term uncertainty. This included increased investment in marketing (up 23%), and continued investment in capacity, digital capabilities, consumer experiences and sustainability. It had also expanded its gin and ready to drink portfolios with acquisitions, including Aviation American Gin.

A global on-trade recovery fund of over £72 million (\$US 100 million), had already reached around 35,000 outlets in 11 countries, and 25 new goals had been included in the company's 'Society 2030: Spirit of Progress'.

Ivan Menezes, Chief Executive, said: "These results demonstrate the strength and relevance of our brands and the extraordinary efforts of our talented people. I would like to thank all of my colleagues for their dedication and resilience, and to express my deepest condolences to all who have lost



Ivan Menezes

loved ones this year due to the pandemic.

"A key priority has been supporting the hospitality sector through the pandemic, including our \$100 million global fund to enable the safe re-opening and recovery of bars.

"We have also built on our successful ESG track record with the launch of 'Society 2030: Spirit of Progress', our new 10-year action plan to shape a more sustainable and inclusive business."

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

## Goose Island Today's Haze launches in UK on-trade

Goose Island has launched a new Hazy Session IPA, Today's Haze, to the UK on-trade. The latest drop from the Chicago-based brewery is now available for clubs and bars to stock in both can and keg formats, having launched to the off-trade earlier this year.



Today's Haze is billed as having 'moderate bitterness and fresh, tropical flavours at a sessionable 4.6% ABV' and is brewed from Goose Island's own hops grown on its Idaho farm.

The new launch responds to an increasing consumer demand for IPAs, a category which is growing at a 50% compound annual growth rate in the off-trade. Hazy beers are seeing the fastest growth of any sub-style within the IPA category.

The new launch expands Goose Island's range of IPA brands, joining a portfolio which includes the multi-award winning Goose Island IPA and Goose Island Midway Session IPA.

Jean-David Thumelaire, On-Trade Sales Director, Budweiser Brewing Group UK&I, said: "Since reopening, recognisable premium brands really are winning in bars, with IPAs proving a strong driver of growth. We always strive to innovate at Budweiser Brewing Group, building brands that cater to emerging consumer preferences such as Today's Haze."

• [www.budweiserbrewinggroup.co.uk](http://www.budweiserbrewinggroup.co.uk)



## Beavertown Brewery's Birthday Blastoff

Beavertown Brewery is celebrating its ninth year with a 'Birthday Blastoff', and to mark the occasion the brewery says it has 'teamed up with friends including big names from the food & drink world, top-notch brewers and even a radio station to bring you some awesome beer collaborations'.

New, limited edition beers include Hoppy PILS with Mikkeller, Pastry Stout with Crosstown, Mango Sour with Dishoom, West Coast IPA with Soffles, Bohemian IPL with Worldwide FM, Double Chin from Beavertown Brewery and Hazy DIPA with Lakes Brew Company.

• <https://beavertownbrewery.co.uk>

# Uncovering that Friday feeling

**P**rosecco brand Mionetto has undertaken research to discover whether the 'Friday Feeling' really exists. And it clearly does according to the results.

Will Willis, wine expert at prosecco producer Mionetto, said: "Forget Saturday. Friday is Brits' official start to the weekend. More so than ever there's a real excitement about reaching the weekend but we didn't expect to see the anticipation start to build more than a full day before... 3:13pm every Thursday to be exact."

With respondents believing that the weekend 'officially' begins, at 6:58pm on Fridays, Mionetto has dubbed this Prosecco O' Clock.

"Brits have fallen in love with Prosecco. Sales have sky-rocketed, with UK prosecco sales increasing by nearly 20% in the last year alone, reaching over 109 million bottles," said Willis.

Mionetto originates from the heart of the northern Italian prosecco growing region of Veneto. Available in more than 70 countries, Mionetto is the world's best-selling international prosecco brand (IWSR data 2018).

• <https://uk.mionetto.com/en>



## Use of technology in clubs to continue to grow post COVID-19

HEINEKEN has launched a free trend resource available for operators to download. The industry insight report explores the evolution of the hospitality experience and the technology trends shaping the industry, post-lockdown and in future years to come.

The past year has seen the accelerated adoption of pre-existing technologies, such as Order and Pay apps and booking systems. For back-of-house teams, real-time data can be used to help predict customer behaviour, and therefore inventory needs. Some businesses across the Atlantic have introduced Artificial Intelligence to improve efficiency, reflecting how the new technology rollout within the industry is far from over.

The report outlines the technological advances that operators can implement now and over the next 5-10 years, to meet future demand. For example, Order and Pay apps are currently enabling hospitality businesses to analyse data and send personalised offers and rewards to customers. AI-enabled software will further this by allowing staff to monitor real-time processes to maximise speed and efficiency for each stage of service.

In an increasingly interconnected world, operators need to understand the way their physical and digital spaces interact, as consumers now look for experiential elements in their on-trade visits. The growth of digital entertainment is therefore looking to accelerate, with virtual reality and gamification becoming popular for hospitality businesses. With 36.3m gamers among the UK population, there is an untapped future opportunity for operators to diversify their entertainment into gaming.

To meet current customer needs, operators should install plug sockets and offer free Wi-Fi. This will not only encourage increased dwell-time in venues, but also increase spend. Looking ahead, HEINEKEN expects customers to take their streaming and gaming enjoyment into clubs, pubs and bars. Therefore, the outlets of the future will support the growth of esports, and provide cost-free streaming outlets, becoming an ideal location for virtually-led experiences.

The report provides further information, insights and examples to help operators identify the key areas for growth and tech development in their businesses. It is informed by the expertise of leading technology researcher, Elena Corchero and advice from leading trade operators, suppliers, independent experts and HEINEKEN specialists.

• **HEINEKEN's 'Pub of the Future' report can be downloaded here:**  
<https://smartdispense.heineken.co.uk/smart-insights/>

## National Hospitality Day – 18 September 2021

UKHospitality is partnering with a taskforce of trade associations, professional bodies and charities to call on the nation to support the hospitality sector by visiting their favourite venue on 18 September.

National Hospitality Day will be a nationwide celebration of hospitality outlets and the suppliers that support them.



UKHospitality's Jeremy Gibson said: "It will be a showcase of all that's great about UK hospitality; a collective shout-out for the places we've all missed; and a financial shot in the arm for a sector that's been hit hardest by COVID. It will provide a chance for the country to say 'welcome back, we've missed you' by supporting its favourite places.

"We're inviting operators and suppliers to do what you do best: delight your customers and guests by laying on exciting activities, offers and events. How you decide to support is up to you. Activities could be as ambitious as hosting a gala dinner with guest chefs or arranging a Q&A with a local celebrity. Or they could be as modest as laying on free nibbles and entertainment, or cooking a hog roast in the garden."

• [www.ukhospitality.org.uk/events](http://www.ukhospitality.org.uk/events)

# Coronavirus killing technology and FOGS management

**M**echline Developments will be presenting its range of innovative hygiene, food waste management and Fat, Oil, Grease & Starch (FOGS) removal solutions at the Commercial Kitchen Show on 23-24 September at ExCeL, London.

Mechline's team will be on hand to explain more about HyGeniX – the sanitisation system which can remove 99.99% of airborne viruses including the COVID-19 surrogate in under three hours.

HyGeniX is also proven to prolong the shelf-life of perishable fresh food by an average of 58% and can neutralise odours, says the company.

Its four-step FOGS management solution will also be on show, and includes: assessing the FOGS management needs of a venue; selecting the correct equipment; installation, commissioning and training, followed by ongoing service and support to ensure that kitchens stay compliant with UK regulations.

Other highlights on the Mechline stand include the AquaJet and AquaTechnix ranges of water saving pre-rinse sprays, taps and faucets and the BaSix range of hygienic hand-washing solutions.

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



## Nelson returns to Caffè Culture and Commercial Kitchen

**N**elson, suppliers of energy and water efficient warewashers, will be exhibiting at both Caffè Culture and Commercial Kitchen, focusing on the latest generation of its Advantage glasswashers and dishwashers, from small, powerful, undercounter models through to high volume, steam heat recovery pass throughs.

At Commercial Kitchen (23-24 September, Excel), Nelson will highlight its bespoke dishwashing systems that help streamline



throughput and avoid congestion. Each design is created around an individual establishment's needs and provides the ultimate configuration in terms of location, storage, tabling, racking, shelving, waste disposal and pre-wash rinsing.

At Caffè Culture (2-3 September, Business Design Centre, London) Nelson will be presenting the smaller models within the Advantage range, as well as showing an ergonomic model that avoids the need for the operator to bend.

• [www.nelsonwashonline.co.uk](http://www.nelsonwashonline.co.uk)

## And the winner is...

**T**he winner of No.3 Gin's Pursuit of Perfection competition has been announced as Thomas Hay Owens, Group Beverage Co-ordinator at True North Brew Co. in Sheffield. He won the overall prize for his cocktails Poetry In Motion and The Last Word, after a day of intense competition at Berry Bros. & Rudd's headquarters at No.3 St James's Street.

Hay Owens will now see his competition-winning creations brought to life in a ready-to-drink cocktail.

• [www.bbr.com](http://www.bbr.com)



## VIEWPOINT

### GOING GREEN

Glenfiddich, the world's most-awarded single malt Scotch whisky, has launched a pioneering 'closed loop' sustainable transport initiative that will make it the first global spirits brand to run its delivery fleet on green biogas made from the residues of its own distilling process.

Using a unique technology developed by its parent company William Grant & Sons, the Glenfiddich distillery at Dufftown in north-eastern Scotland converts its production wastes and residues into an Ultra-Low Carbon Fuel (ULCF) gas that produces minimal carbon dioxide and other harmful emissions.

Each truck will displace up to 250 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e annually, which has the same environmental benefit as planting up to 4,000 trees every year.



Stuart Watts, William Grant & Sons' distilleries director, said: "Glenfiddich is appreciated around the world as a unique single malt whisky, which is the result of generations of pioneering craftsmanship and concern for the long-term sustainability of the spirit.

"It has taken more than a decade for Glenfiddich to become the first distillery to process 100% of its waste residues on its own site, then to be the first to process those residues into biogas fuel to power its trucks, and finally to be the first to install a biogas truck fuelling station supplied by our on-site renewable energy facility.

"Across the entire production lifecycle, the biogas reduces carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>e) by over 95% and other harmful particulates and greenhouse gas emissions by up to 99% when compared to diesel and other fossil fuels. Each truck will displace up to 250 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e annually, which has the same environmental benefit as planting up to 4,000 trees every year - the equivalent of displacing natural gas, a fossil fuel, from 112 households."

Mr Watts added: "William Grant & Sons has been a pioneering distiller for more than 130 years, always exploring new processes and techniques to create sustainable benefits for our business and communities. We are proud of these renewable energy breakthroughs in our industry as we scale up the de-carbonising benefits of this closed-loop process across our entire transport fleet."

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



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# Heatherfield Bounces Back After The Covid Closure

Heatherfield, Totley, Conservative Club has held two main fundraising events since the Covid restrictions were relaxed. A BBQ and Summer Lunch, were almost full to capacity with over 40 members following the re-opening of the club.

Members are obviously anxious to begin socialising once again after the long lockdown. The events raised over £800 which will immediately be reinvested back into the club.



Members enjoying the events.

# Keith Furnell presented with Badge of Honour by Quarry Bank Conservative Club

The Committee and Members of Quarry Bank Conservative Club are delighted to have awarded Mr Keith Furness the ACC Badge of Honour for his 25 years of loyal service to the Club's Committee.



Left to right: Mr Dave Parsons President, Middle Mr Keith Furnell, Right Mr Kenneth Suttcliffe Chairman.

# Maldon and District Reopening Event

The Maldon and District Constitutional Club has reopened its doors following an extensive revamp and a visit from the town's MP. The Maldon and District Constitutional Club's Fambridge Road base is the third home for the club since opening in 1908 and recently underwent a refurbishment.

Now the Club, which has also been closed due to Covid rules, is finally open again after restrictions eased last month. John Whittingdale MP, Secretary of State for the Department of Culture, Media and Sport, attended the reopening, along with town Mayor David Ogg.



# CLUB LAW AND MANAGEMENT SPOTLIGHT

## The Important Role of Sub-Committees

Sub-committees are the last level of management of a club. Clubs are required under the Licensing Act to have one general management committee but they may have more committees. For larger clubs these extra committees are essential, and for smaller clubs they can be extremely valuable.

The rules do not have to specify which sub-committees shall be appointed. It is usually sufficient for the general committee to be given the power to appoint such sub-committees as they deem necessary to assist them in their overall task of managing the club's affairs. Two sub-committees generally set up by clubs are a Finance sub-committee and a Bar sub-committee. Others may include an Entertainment sub-committee and a Games sub-committee.

Sub-committees are either appointed or elected and they perform specific and specialised tasks. Their membership does not have to be composed entirely of persons elected from the club committee. However, any member of a sub-committee who is a member of the general committee would be required to stand down from the sub-committee in the event that they resign from the general committee. Also, any sub-committee concerned with the purchase or supply of intoxicating liquor on the club's behalf, must consist of members duly elected by the club membership.

There are numerous opportunities in a club for the use of sub-committees where appointment and co-option may be used to employ the services of a wide range of members. Sub-committees provide the opportunity to bring in all the best talent available to make the conduct of affairs successful and improve the events and amenities of the club. A member who is an accountant may plead that he does not have the time to participate in all the functions of the general committee, though he can be an invaluable member of a Finance sub-committee. Members with experience in leisure industries will be attractive as recruits to an Entertainment sub-committee. Co-option to sub-committees also provides the chance for younger

club members to learn management procedure.

Sub-committees can elect their own officers and adopt their own procedures however ultimately they are always responsible to the general committee. They are not usually entitled to make decisions affecting the club without the approval of the general committee. This is especially true where the sub-committee makes proposals involving the use of club funds. For example, the Entertainment or Social sub-committee could be charged with running the annual dinner or a monthly dance. As such it should either obtain an estimate cost for approval by the general committee, or that committee must specify a maximum sum within which the sub-committee plans its expenditure. If the sub-committee finds it cannot contain spending within the limit laid down, it must report back to the general committee giving its reasons and asking for the limit to be raised.

The mechanics may not be the same in each club but the principle to be observed is that sub-committees must have the approval of the general committee for what they wish to do. There is a danger that members of sub-committees will believe they have a special remit of the authority of the general committee. This view must be resisted. Serious financial consequences might follow if the general committee does not have the last word in managing the club within the powers given them by the rules.

Nevertheless, members of sub-committees are not puppets. It might be difficult to find people to serve on them if they were asked to regard themselves in this way. All who serve on sub-committees should be aware not only of their powers, but also where the boundaries of those powers fall.

Sub-committees are of tremendous importance to the well-being of the club. If they are to function well, sub-committee members should be familiar with the requirements of the club's rules and the laws relating to the conduct of Private Members' Clubs, just as much as the officers and general committee. An Entertainment sub-

committee, for instance, must be conversant with the conditions applicable to the promotion of

bingo and lotteries, and to the limitations on serving drink at social functions.

### OBITUARY

#### Councillor David Greenhalgh

Becoming a Councillor in 2006, David threw himself into the role. Time for everyone and always striving for the best for the community.

An approachable, kind councillor who would go above and beyond to help. David became the Leader of Bolton Council in 2019. During the Covid pandemic David worked relentlessly for the good of Bolton and was a true hero for the town. Amidst all this in continued to support our local community by organising Christmas hampers and Easter gifts. Supporting the community and improving the area was always David's priority, full of ideas and



initiatives. David was a colleague but also a true friend to many in the Dunscair Conservative Club. He has left a huge void not only in the lives of his friends and family but in the whole community.

### Pages From The Past

In this month's Pages From The Past we go back 100 years to September 1921 where we find an article about how the ACC helps its Member Clubs. In some form or another, articles such as this are a mainstay of the magazine since for every Club Secretary who has been in post for years and years, there will be another new Club Secretary who is recently elected and is not quite sure what this organisation called the ACC actually does. Informing Clubs of what the ACC can do to help is something we know we need to do but occasionally, we admit, it takes a back seat to the latest advice on Government regulations or the most interesting Q&As from the past month. We are taking steps to remedy this though. Regular readers will have seen the new feature, Club Law Spotlight, which seeks to republish previous Club Law highlights. We hope

to be able to find the correct balance between including new and interesting content for avid readers whilst also ensuring we spend enough time on the basics to help new and evolving Committees.

What the article stated 100 years ago holds true today, that the ACC is there to assist with any problems a Club might have, be it a dispute between club members, an employment problem or a tax question or advice on the latest piece of licensing legislation. And in the intervening 100 years we are pleased that we can add that we can also providing direct financial assistance to Clubs, be it a loan to assist with a refurbishment or information about a potential sale and leaseback. In short, we aim to be a one stop shop for any question or problem that an ACC Club may encounter.

## HOW THE A.C.C. HELPS ITS CLUBS.

And how Clubs, in turn, can help the A.C.C.

By THE EDITOR OF THE "C.C.G."

This is a confidential chat between you, me, and—no, not the gossip, but those Clubs from which there has, so far, been no reply to the letter from Headquarters asking them to "do their bit," towards helping "poor families," A.C.C., to look after his little brood of 1,500 Clubs.

Our Clubmen are such splendid sportsmen, always so ready to lend a hand, that I have only to "pass the word round" for outstanding subscriptions to come rolling in. Many Clubs have "weighed in" promptly and nobly; others have written to say that, though the spirit is willing, their coffers are well-nigh empty, owing to a variety of causes, but mainly an account of the industrial crisis through which we have been passing. They promise, however, to send something along directly funds permit.

But there are others—Clubs which could lend a hand if they would, and it is to these I want to appeal. The past twelve months have been very arduous, exacting and expensive at Headquarters. It has been a period of perpetual warfare on behalf of your Club and all Clubs, and, as we all know, campaigns cost money. May I recall a few of the victories recently won by the A.C.C.?

**LONDON CONTROL BOARD.—Abolished.**

**LICENSING ACT.—Hours of supply extended and Clubs again permitted to fix their own. The right restored to Welsh and Monmouthshire Clubs to open on Sundays.**

**ENTERTAINMENT TAX.—Clubs no longer liable to pay on impromptu concerts, "sing-songs," etc.**

**EMPLOYMENT ACT.—Clubs freed from necessity of insuring their employees.**

**INTRODUCING LICENSING TAX.—Promise wrung from the Chancellor of the Exchequer to alter its unjust incidence at the earliest possible moment.**

Summarised, the foregoing may not, at first glance, seem much, but when it is remembered that every concession obtained has only been won after a hard and prolonged fight, it is a record of triumph unsurpassed in the history of the Club movement. Every Club has benefited, or will benefit, from the victories achieved. Are they not worthy of recognition?

### More Provincial Conferences to be Held.

I need not refer to the several Provincial Conferences held for the first time this year, for they are too fresh in your memory, only to say this—they cost money. But, whatever the cost, they were well worth it. They brought our Clubs into close contact with Headquarters, and with one another. Knowing the good done, we want to develop this idea: to hold frequent meetings in different centres, so that your Club and others may derive benefit therefrom. We want your help to enable us to do this.

Then again Clubs are turning to the A.C.C. in ever-increasing numbers for guidance with respect to the interpretation of rules, assessment, income tax, and legal matters generally. Bar-management nowadays presents far more difficulties than previously: inquiries pour in daily concerning cost and selling prices, etc. All are answered by experts, "free, gratis and for nothing." Think for a moment of the work entailed with a family of 1,500 Clubs to look after!

### "One Good Turn Deserves Another."

Above of all Club organisations, the A.C.C. makes no charge for membership. Several Clubs urge that we should do so, but we prefer to adhere to our original "plan of campaign" and help our Clubs in every possible way gratuitously, relying on such as are able to make a voluntary contribution to our funds. If your Club has not yet subscribed we ask for its generous aid so that the A.C.C. may continue unretarded the work it undertakes for every Club which marshes under its

banner. Some Committeemen may ask when the question of subscribing to the funds of the A.C.C. comes up for decision, "What has it done for our Club?" Show them this article and remind them of the old but true maxim that "one good turn deserves another."

### Spontaneous Tributes from Clubs.

The following are a few extracts from letters received last month from Clubs concerning the A.C.C. and its work:—

"My Committee recognising the good work the A.C.C. has done, and is doing, beg to increase the amount of their subscription to £35s."—**NONHAMPTON CONSERVATIVE CLUB.**

"You deserve all the support possible for the way you work and fight for the well-being of the Clubs."—**PIPER CONSERVATIVE CLUB.**

"I have much pleasure in enclosing cheque for a guinea and beg to acknowledge the always ready help afforded us on all occasions when sought."—**BRIMPTON CONSERVATIVE.**

"Congratulations for on the splendid results of your efforts and wishing you every success."—**LINCOLN CONSERVATIVE CLUB.**

"Herewith our annual subscription. With best luck and remembering what a lot we have to thank you for."—**SOUTH ST. PATERNA'S UNIONIST CLUB.**

"I enclose cheque for A.C.C. funds. My Committee make this contribution the more willingly as a mark of appreciation of your new departure in holding Conferences in the provinces this year."—**WIGAN CONSERVATIVE CLUB.**

"My Committee wish me to express their appreciation of the valuable work the A.C.C. has done for Clubs."—**BELMONT CONSERVATIVE CLUB.**

"The Committee have pleasure in making this modest subscription as they recognise the powerful influence of the A.C.C. on behalf of Clubs which has proved so invaluable in the past and gives good promise for the future."—**SHANKLIN CONSERVATIVE CLUB.**

DESIGN No. 1.



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