

Latest update on Gaming Machine VAT case

As most clubs are aware, HMRC conceded defeat earlier this year in the longstanding litigation with Rank Group Plc in respect of VAT paid to HMRC incorrectly, and at HMRC's insistence, on gaming machines operated by Rank prior to December 6, 2005 (*writes CIUVAT Advisor Ian Spencer*).

HMRC published a Revenue & Customs Brief 5 (2020) setting out HMRC's position and inviting all taxpayers who considered they had a valid claim for repayment for such VAT to make application for its repayment.

HMRC set out a list of information they consider they require to validate a claim in Brief 5 (2020).

Brief 5 (2020) makes clear that any taxpayer with a valid claim and a valid appeal will be repaid as soon as HMRC have undertaken the checks they need to make and authorised the claim, but HMRC expect any taxpayer who thinks they have a valid claim to contact HMRC.

It is insufficient having originally been paid by HMRC in 2010/2011 and subsequently recovered by HMRC in 2014, to expect HMRC to

repay the moneys without making such an application.

In addition, the CIU have recently been advised that the opportunity to recover these moneys may soon disappear as after January 1, 2021 when the UK leaves the EU, the UK will no longer be obliged to act according to principles set out by EU legislation, and in this instance the principal of fiscal neutrality (i.e. treating each taxpayer in an identical manner) may no longer be observed by the UK government.

Initial observations indicate that HMRC are rejecting some claims as having no valid appeal on the basis that there is no appeal against the protective assessment, which is a requirement set out in an earlier Tribunal hearing.

What HMRC seemingly fail to mention is that any person in this position can make application to the Tribunal to join an appeal against the protective assessment to the earlier Tribunal appeal.

HMRC require a letter to be sent to HM Courts and Tribunals Service (copied to HMRC solicitors office)

requesting that this happen, and where possible, with a copy of the protective assessment.

Other reasons where HMRC have been seen to reject applications for payment, are where original appeals were mistakenly withdrawn, no appeal was made at the time soon after the claim was initially made as there was no notice of rejection from HMRC or a valid claim was not originally submitted. It may be possible, subject to the individual circumstances of each claimant, to resurrect an appeal or a claim.

Please note: Litigation remains ongoing for Linneweber 2 claims (VAT paid on gaming machine income in any VAT period between December 6, 2005 and January 31, 2013)

● **Ian Spencer & Associates Limited is a provider of services related to indirect taxes and has been involved in the Linneweber issues since 2006. Any club having difficulties in recovering moneys from HMRC can contact Ian Spencer on 07904 864209.**

Pat Webster of Northampton St James WMC is presented with the MJB Shield

The MJB Shield is a new award which is a legacy from the late Mr Mick Bott, previous President of the SE Midlands Branch Office.

It is an award presented to a Club Member or Official within the SE Midlands Division for outstanding service to his or her club and going above and beyond.

The MJB Shield for the year 2020/21

was presented to Pat Webster of Northampton St James WMC by SE Midlands CIU Branch Office for her services to the club since 1979.

Pictured, left to right: John Hudson (President of Northampton St James WMC), Pat Webster (Club Secretary, Northampton St James WMC) and Wally Greenaway (President of SE Midlands Branch).





Welcome

Welcome to the November issue of *Club Journal*.

The year continues to throw many challenges at our clubs with the latest being that posed by the introduction of the three-tier COVID-19 alert system in England and the firebreak strategy deployed in Wales, both of which have resulted in CIU clubs having to shut their doors to members once again.

It's another huge blow to the whole club movement but we can only hope that the Government's strategy has the desired effect in reducing the number of cases of COVID-19 and this will see society returning to something akin to normal.

Clubs will also be fervently hoping that the Government's financial support measures are sufficiently generous to ensure that previously flourishing clubs are not thrown into financial difficulties by the continuing restrictions.

We give an overview of the latest batch of support measures announced by the Government on pages 12-15.

As you'll see from the front page, there are further developments on the Linneweber 1 case which involves the repayment by HMRC of the VAT on gaming machine income to clubs.

The CIU's VAT Advisor, Ian Spencer, has been involved in the Linneweber issues since 2006 and

any club having difficulties in recovering moneys from HMRC can contact Ian Spencer on 07904 864209 to discuss the matter.

Head Office has also drafted a template letter for clubs to send to HMRC – see page 10-11. The template can also be downloaded from the CIU website: www.wmciu.org.uk.

There is also further news on the issue of clubs' COVID-19 insurance claims (see page 8).

Aon has advised the CIU of the latest situation and we hope that this matter will be resolved to the satisfaction of our clubs.

Meanwhile, our 'Club of the Month' for November is the Frimley Green Club in Surrey.

Founded in 1885, the club has continually adapted to circumstances throughout its history and this positive, forward-looking attitude is standing it in good stead during the current trading climate. Turn to pages 24-27 to read the full profile of the club.

I hope you enjoy the issue and continue to stay safe.

Stephen Goulding, Editor

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CLUB JOURNAL

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CAMRA accolade for Crookes Social Club



General Manager Maurice Champeau outside Crookes Social Club in Sheffield

Crookes Social Club has been named 'Club of the Year' for 2020 by the Sheffield branch of the Campaign For Real Ale (CAMRA).

Maurice Champeau, the club's General Manager, said: "It is lovely to be recognised for this. It is something we have worked very hard on, improving the real ale offering and the general beer quality that is coming through the club. It is very important as a club to do an offering of this type, so to receive a recommendation like this is great."

Meanwhile, the club recently issued a call to arms for the Government and local people to support the club sector while it is going through tough times.

In a statement published in the *Sheffield Star* just before the area was taken into Tier 3 on the COVID-19 alert scale, the club said: "We understand times are changing and at the club we are doing our utmost to adapt. We offer a safe, socially distanced venue but the rules surrounding the pandemic are making it more and more difficult to continue.

"The curfew cut our hours and removed the most profitable trading hours we had between 10pm and midnight.

"A 10pm curfew realistically means no sales after 9.15pm. Customers feel pressured into rushing their last drinks and cutting short their conversations and social activities so that the doors can be locked and the lights switched off for 10pm.

"We've reduced our capacity to allow for social distancing, we've put stringent measures in place to keep both our staff and our customers safe.

"Is it not time our Government allowed people to act as adults and keep ourselves and those around us safe?

"We accept that not all will, but good management and common sense will ensure those visiting our pubs and clubs do so safely.

"The reality is, we've got less trading hours, serving less customers and we have increased staff costs to accommodate table service. Unless things change, we are looking at a very bleak future.

"The clubs, pubs, bars and restaurants of Sheffield need two things. Firstly, we need the Government to rethink the current pandemic control measures. They are not working and unless help is given, they will lead to the closure of many venues.

"Secondly, we need our customers and our communities to help.

"They need to help by visiting their local and using the facilities on offer, buy a drink, play a game of snooker or pool. In short, spend some money in these venues."



FOR SERVICE

50-Year Distinguished Service Award

John Hughes, Consett & District WMC (Durham Branch)

40-Year Distinguished Service Award

Dave Birch CMD, Kingsley Park WMC (South East Midlands Branch)

Long Service Award

Michael Johnson, Sunderland National Reserve Club (Durham Branch)

Michael Thorpe, Ouston & District Social Club (Durham Branch)

Certificate of Merit

David Wynne, Coxhoe Working Men's Club (Durham Branch)

Leonard Gilbert, Corringham Social Club (North East Metropolitan Branch)

Kevin Wilson, Corringham Social Club (North East Metropolitan Branch)

Brian Kirkup, West End Working Mens Club (Leicestershire Branch)

Lee Burchell, West End Working Mens Club (Leicestershire Branch)

Neil Lowe, Citizens Club (Leicestershire Branch)

21-Year Branch Award

Eric Campbell (Durham Branch)

News in brief



Goring Social Club in Oxfordshire begins search for new Steward

Goring Social Club in Goring on Thames in South Oxfordshire is advertising for a new Club Steward.

The position is available from January 2021 to an enthusiastic person keen to work alongside bar staff and Committee, promote the club and maintain a good relationship with club members.

The club is renowned for its range of cask ales and was named as the CAMRA South Eastern Regional Club of the Year in 2010.

It has also won the South Oxfordshire CAMRA Club of the Year award multiple times, including 2020.

Please apply with CV and references to Ian King on: secretary@goringssocialclub.co.uk



Rowley & Blackheath Labour Club raises £2,326 for Macmillan Cancer

Rowley & Blackheath Labour Club in the West Midlands raised the incredible total of £2,316 for Macmillan Cancer Support by hosting a coffee morning on September 25 as part of a nationwide fundraising campaign organised by the charity.

Adding to the money raised through the sale of drinks and cakes and donations, club member Cynthia Nash contributed almost 50 per cent of the grand total by being sponsored to have a mohican haircut at the club.

Macmillan Cancer Support has recently launched an Emergency Appeal to ensure that the charity has the resources to help everyone who needs their services. For more information, visit: www.macmillan.org.uk

Rubery Social Club scheme given green light



Rubery Social Club in Worcestershire has been given the go-head by the local council to proceed with its plans to sell off part of the club site for redevelopment into flats

Rubery Social Club in Worcestershire has been given the green light to proceed with its scheme to sell off part of the club site to developers after the local council approved the plans.

Up to 20 apartments are to be constructed behind the club in place of the club's large Concert Hall which will be demolished.

Club Treasurer Alan Cooper said: "This is a process which we started before the COVID-19 pandemic started. We decided that the Concert Hall, which has a capacity of 500, is oversized for what the club requires these days.

"The money from the redevelopment will obviously help massively in terms of the club's overall financial picture."

Maidstone WMC marks its 150th anniversary

Maidstone Working Men's Club and Institute Ltd in Kent marked its 150th anniversary last month, albeit in reduced style given the current situation with COVID-19.

Founded on September 27, 1870, the club moved to its current premises in 1883 and continues to be at the heart of the local area.

The club is the oldest in the historic market town of Maidstone and has a membership of just over 600 including Life Members. The club offers a warm welcome for Associate Members and their families and has been affiliated with the CIU since 1875 with continuous membership status.

The club's Secretary and Treasurer Brian Hickmott said: "We have plenty of competition around us with many other pubs in the area but we believe that the club offers so much more than a pub.

"Our annual Winter Games competitions have been very well supported by our members and that is normally a very important part of the club year.

"We have a huge variety of sports and games – around 20 in total - including billiards, darts, snooker, table tennis and dominoes.

"We continue to offer a wide selection of drinks at very reasonable prices for the area and the club has a rear Beer Garden which has been extensively renovated by Life Member and Committee Member Peter Harris, and now has a remembrance area for members who have passed away.

"We're doing well on membership and the club is attracting plenty of younger people who have realised just what excellent value our facilities offer. The club is proud to say that we have always had a full Committee and we really do consider ourselves to be "The finest old club in town".

Restrictions force rethink at Twyford Social Club



Twyford Social Club needs a 'viable plan' to be put in place before it can reopen

Twyford Social Club in Hampshire has been forced to close until further notice because of the economic strain of coping with the Government-imposed COVID-19 restrictions introduced in September, particularly the need to provide table service to members.

Club Secretary Ben Wootton said: "We have prided ourselves on the fact that since March we have been able to keep our four staff members employed and with the support of the staff and the committee we were able to open our doors again in August.

"But due to the restrictions and the fact as members you are not supporting your club by way of using the bar we are left with little option.

"The committee will be having a meeting over the next few weeks to decide the future of the club as a whole and will be in contact with all members as soon as we map out a viable plan.

"The guidance says that we must close and be vacated by 10pm and also that table service is mandatory.

"The first point would not pose as a problem to us, however the second point does. This would mean as an establishment we would need to have two members of staff on duty every hour that we open.

"To put it simply, we do not have the reserve funds to fund this, and quite simply we are not being supported enough by way of members using the bar to warrant having two members of staff on duty."

Club members urged to donate to Poppy Appeal

The Royal British Legion (RBL) estimates donations to the 2020 Poppy Appeal could be half of that given in a normal year because of the continuing Coronavirus pandemic.

For example, restrictions in clubs, which mean members cannot approach the bar, are likely to have a major impact on the sale of poppies in CIU clubs.

There are also likely to be fewer volunteer poppy sellers in public places this year due to shielding and safeguarding issues.

As a result, the RBL is urging people to visit the online Poppy Shop which has an extensive range of products, including poppy pins, the sale of which will go towards funding the Legion's essential ongoing work.

For more information, visit: www.britishlegion.org.uk

News in brief

Government extends measures to relieve pressure on businesses

The Government announced on September 24 that the measures put in place to protect businesses from insolvency will be extended to continue giving them breathing space during the COVID-19 pandemic.

A raft of changes to protect businesses from insolvency were introduced in the Corporate Insolvency and Governance Act and had been due to expire on September 30, 2020.

The temporary measures include:

- Companies and other qualifying bodies with obligations to hold AGMs will continue to have the flexibility to hold these meetings virtually until December 30, 2020. This means that shareholders can continue to examine company papers and vote on important issues remotely.
- Statutory demands and winding-up petitions will continue to be restricted until December 31, 2020 to protect companies from aggressive creditor enforcement action as a result of coronavirus related debts.
- Termination clauses are still prohibited, stopping suppliers from ceasing their supply or asking for additional payments while a company is going through a rescue process. However, small suppliers will remain exempted from the obligation to supply until March 30, 2021 so that they can protect their business if necessary.

- The modifications to the new moratorium procedure, which relax the entry requirements to it, will also be extended until March 30, 2021.

A company may enter into a moratorium if they have been subject to an insolvency procedure in the previous 12 months.

Measures will also ease access for companies subject to a winding up petition. The temporary moratorium rules will also be extended to March 30, 2021.

Additional information

- Businesses will be protected from the threat of eviction until the end of the year following an extension to the commercial eviction ban announced on September 16, 2020.

This extension aims to protect businesses that are struggling to pay their rent due to the impact of COVID-19 from being evicted.

News in brief

Weoley Castle WMC salutes stalwart Committee Member Tony Marsh

Tony Marsh has stepped down from the Committee of Weoley Castle Working Men's Club in Birmingham after many years of dedicated service to the club.

The club is renowned as one of the best venues for live entertainment in the local area and much of the credit for this stellar reputation is a direct result of Tony's role as the club's Entertainment Secretary.

The club issued a tribute to Tony which said: "As you are aware Tony Marsh has recently announced his resignation from the Committee.

"The President and all the Management Committee would like to thank Tony for all his hard work, commitment and dedication to the club over the years.

"Tony has been a brilliant Entertainment Secretary over the years booking some fantastic artists and hosting some brilliant shows with top artists.

"Tony also did weekly raffles and raised a lots of funds over the years for the club.

"Tony would be the first person to greet you when you entered the club. His banter will be missed."

CLUB NOTICES

Club name changes

From: Tovil Working Men's Club to: Tovil Working Men's Club and Institute Limited

Club ceasing membership of the Union

Brickcroft Social Club (Manchester Branch)
(The club's name was stated in the October 2019 Minutes as being admitted but no annual fee was received)

Club withdrawn

Bowers United Sports and Social Club
(North East Metropolitan Branch)

Clubs closed

Fishermen's Institute Club
(South East Metropolitan Branch)

Whitmore Rean Working Men's Club
(West Midlands Branch)

Surprise award for Hythe SC's Ray Young



Pictured, left to right: Ray Young (Secretary of Hythe and District Social Club) and Pete Harvey (Club Chairman)

Ray Young, Secretary of Hythe and District Social Club, was delighted by a surprise special award presented to him by Pete Harvey, the Club Chairman, on behalf of club the members, for all the unstinting effort that Ray had put into the club for the last 25 years as Secretary.

Dartford Social Club welcomes Hammers star

Dartford Social Club is hosting 'An Evening with Mark Ward' on Friday, November 20.

The event will see the former West Ham United midfielder taking part in a night of chat, including a Q&A session with the audience, as well a raffle and auction featuring football-themed prizes.

Much of the chat will no doubt focus on the Hammers team which finished in third place in the top flight in the 1985-86 season, of which Ward was a key part.

With one game remaining they were second in the league eventually finishing third behind champions Liverpool and runners-up Everton.

The club is currently organising a second event which will see Mark interviewing another member of the 1985-86 Hammers squad.



UEFA Champions League football live on BT Sport



News in brief



BT Sport to show heavyweight clash between Daniel Dubois and Joe Joyce

The much-anticipated fight between Daniel Dubois and Joe Joyce is now officially set for November 28 and will be shown live on BT Sport.

The showdown between the two unbeaten British heavyweights was originally announced for April 11, 2020 but was postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Promoter Frank Warren said: "This is about keeping boxing alive and relevant at a tough time and doing something for the fans and we have moved heaven and earth to put this on as a BT Sport Fight Night.

"With boxing still being behind closed doors and struggling back to its feet post-lockdown, I wanted to give something of a gift to British boxing fans.

"Dubois versus Joyce is the best fight on the British boxing calendar and I want this to be something as many people as possible can enjoy.

"It's a bonus that the added exposure gained from the fight will really help the boxers as they move forward with their careers."



Super League Final switched from Old Trafford to Hull's KCOM Stadium

Hull's KCOM Stadium will host this year's Super League Grand Final with Old Trafford being unavailable due to Manchester United's crowded fixture list.

In a further break from tradition, the climactic game of the season will be played on a Friday night, kicking off at 8pm on November 2 – live on Sky Sports.

This will be the first time Grand Final will not be played at the ground which has hosted it since the inaugural event in 1998.

Clubs wait on Coronavirus insurance claims

CIU clubs are waiting anxiously to see if their insurance claims for lost revenue due to the closures caused by the Coronavirus pandemic will be paid.

Aon initially raised a claim on behalf of all Aon-insured clubs.

Aon Claims Service Leader, Malcolm Mac Donald, issued the following statement regarding the latest state of play on claims.

"At present Aviva have declined all claims on clubs, their reason for decline is that the clubs were not ordered to close by 'a relevant authority as contemplated in the policy'.

"Aviva have held out for the test case, we believe that the Government are a statutory authority and we also believe that this point was conceded by one of the defendants – Hiscox – prior to the test case in their pleadings.

"We have another call on this matter with Aviva to persuade them to pay the claims.

"It is my intention to continue to push Aviva towards settlement and I will continue to deal with the claims after they have been registered by Broadspire until either all claims are admitted or we have exhausted all avenues which may unfortunately be after the test case appeal."

"If we achieve policy indemnity then policy holders will negotiate settlement with Insurers, there is no claims advocacy clause on the policy, the claim will be limited to £10,000 under the denial of access sub-limit."

● **Clubs must report claims to Maven/Broadspire in the first instance at: maven.claims@broadspirepa.co.uk**

Live acts going down a storm at Coxlodge Club

The Coxlodge Club in Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, has wasted no time since reopening in putting on some top live entertainment for its members, despite having to operate under COVID-19 restrictions.

The club prides itself on providing live entertainment three times a week – Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday nights – with an eclectic selection of bands, solo singers and cabaret artists, plus a popular Open Mic night which showcases local talent.

Recently, in the build-up to Halloween, the club put on two specially themed nights – an Open Mic Night on Wednesday, October 28 followed by a Halloween Party on Saturday, October 31 hosted by highly rated Motown & Soul singer Vernon Lewis.

Lewis, a familiar and popular voice on the club circuit, performed with a four piece band and such was the anticipation that the event sold out well in advance.

The club is renowned for booking some of the best tribute acts on the circuit and over the past year has put on acts paying tribute to the likes of Elton John, Amy Winehouse, Michael Jackson, Tina Turner and Elvis.



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Latest communication regarding Linneweber 1

Further to the information provided by the CIU's VAT Advisor Ian Spencer on the front page of this month's *Club Journal*, this letter has been posted to all 420 CIU clubs that originally requested the CIU Linneweber template and guidance back in 2005/6



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The Secretary

27 October 2020

Dear Club Secretary

Re LINNEWEBER - HMRC applications to make repayment as per Business Brief 05/2020

I am writing to your Club as it is on the database of clubs who requested and paid for a template letter of application to reclaim vat as part of the Linneweber litigation in 2006.

As you should by now be aware, HMRC issued Brief 5 (2020) setting out that they would pay "valid claims" and identifying what information HMRC wanted in order to verify those claims.

I am reminding clubs that it remains the primary and sole responsibility of their Managing Committee to make applications to HMRC as soon as practicable despite the following:

- Clubs have previously submitted fully particularised claims.
- HMRC are asking for information which goes back far beyond normal record keeping timescales and which HMRC have already had.

There are a number of scenarios that apply depending on how far your club has progressed, as follows:

- **No action to date**

If your club has not yet asked HMRC to make repayment as per HMRC business brief 05/2020, then I urge you to do so as soon as possible. This is because HMRC have inserted a caveat in to the Brief which is as follows:

"If traders are unable to provide the information requested, they should provide any information pertinent to their claim to enable HMRC to progress their claims."

If you need further templates to assist in this process then please contact CIU Head Office.

- **Application already turned down - appeal lodged**

If your club is experiencing difficulties with providing HMRC with details of claims if there is an existing appeal HMRC will usually provide the reference and a copy of the protective assessment. However there are quite a lot of instances where HMRC have no note of an original appeal and as such under current guidance (i.e. HMRC business brief 05/2020) they will not make repayment.

The answer in this instance is to submit a late appeal and to hope that HMRC see the error of their ways and allow the late appeals to progress and make repayment. HMRC has already been approached by agents pointing out the inconsistency of treatment in allowing late applications to amend existing appeals but suggesting they may oppose late appeals where no existing appeal has been submitted (see below).

Please report back to CIU Head Office as soon as possible, to enable a potential group challenge at a later date.

- **Application already turned down - no amended appeal lodged**

If your club has been turned down due to a failure to appeal this seems to be fairly commonplace. The claims are being preliminarily assessed and any claim made where there was an appeal but there is no application to amend the appeal against the protective assessment in 2010/11 are being identified and all claimants being told there is no valid appeal.

The next step is to write to HM Courts and Tribunals Service (HMCTS) copying HMRC in to the application and ask the Tribunal to join such an application to the original appeal. HMRC are not opposing such applications and are actually notifying the court as soon as they can that they do not oppose – they are also happy to provide a copy of the protective assessment which needs to be sent with the application. Once submitted we assume (i.e. ourselves and HMRC) that it is just a matter of process for the Tribunal to agree and then when advised this is the case HMRC will process payment.

The CIU has templates available to make application e.g. to HMCTS to amend appeals. However, there are agencies available to ensure that the correct action is undertaken. The only clubs that may miss out would be those clubs that failed to make a valid claim or any clubs that fall in the position of having no appeal.

If you require any further assistance the Head Office Manager is available to provide non-specialist general advice.

Yours faithfully,

Kenneth D. Green CMD
General Secretary

Government announces new support measures for clubs

Chancellor Rishi Sunak announced additional Government support for businesses and employees impacted by COVID-19 in October and these are listed below. Any subsequent announcements by the Government which are pertinent to CIU clubs will be published on the Union's official website: www.wmciu.org.uk

On October 22, the Government announced it will “significantly increase the generosity and reach of its winter support schemes to ensure livelihoods and jobs across the UK continue to be protected in the difficult months to come, supporting jobs and helping to contain the virus”.

In recognition of the challenging times ahead with businesses continuing to be affected by the Coronavirus pandemic, Chancellor Rishi Sunak said he would be increasing support through the existing Job Support and self-employed schemes, and expanding business grants to support companies in high-alert level areas.

This builds on agreements reached with Local Authorities moving to Alert Level very high (Tier 3), with extra support for businesses, jobs and the economic recovery.

Job Support Scheme (JSS-Open)

Recognising the pressure businesses in some sectors and areas are facing, the announcement lightens the burden of keeping on staff.

When originally announced, the JSS – which came into effect on November 1 – saw employers paying a third of their employees' wages for hours not worked, and required employers to be working 33% of their normal hours.

The latest announcement reduces the employer contribution to those unworked hours to 5%, and reduces the minimum hours requirements to 20%, so those working just one day a week will be eligible.

That means that if someone was being paid £587 for their unworked hours, the government would be contributing £543 and their employer £44.

Employers will continue to receive the £1,000 Job Retention Bonus.

The Job Support Scheme Closed for businesses legally required to close



Additional support measures for businesses were announced in Parliament in October

remains unchanged from the existing arrangement.

Further details of the scheme:

- The JSS started from November 1 and covers all Nations of the UK. For every hour not worked, the employee will be paid up to two-thirds of their usual salary

- The Government will provide up to 61.67% of wages for hours not worked, up to £1541.75 per month (more than doubling the maximum payment of £697.92 under the previous rules). The cap is set above median earnings for employees in August at a reference salary of £3,125 per month

Example: a typical full-time employee in the hospitality industry is paid an average of £1,100 per month. Under the Jobs Support Scheme for open businesses, they will still take home at least £807 a month

All the employer needs to pay is a total of £283 a month or just £70 a week; the Government will pay the rest

- Employers using the scheme will also be able to claim the Job Retention Bonus (JRB) for each employee that meets the eligibility criteria of the JRB. This is worth £1,000 per employee. Taking JSS-Open and JRB together, an employer could receive over 95% of the total wage costs of their employees if they are retained until February.

Self-employed grant

The October 22 announcement increases the amount of profits covered by the two forthcoming self-employed grants from 20 per cent to 40 per cent, meaning the maximum grant will increase from £1,875 to £3,750.

This is a potential further £3.1 billion of support to the self-employed through November to January, with a further grant to follow covering February to April.

Further details of the scheme

- The Government will provide two taxable SEISS grants to support those experiencing reduced demand due to COVID-19 but are continuing to trade, or temporarily cannot trade

The three-tier COVID-19 alert system and Welsh firebreak restrictions

The UK Government has published detailed guidance for each of the new Covid Alert Levels in England. These are base guidance and area-specific guidance will also need to be followed additionally. Visit [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) for further information

Local COVID Alert Level – Medium – Tier 1

This consists of the national measures which came into force on September 25. For areas where national restrictions continue to be in place, this means:

- All businesses and venues can continue to operate in a COVID-Secure manner, other than those that remain closed in law
- Certain businesses (including clubs) selling food or drink on their premises are required to close between 10pm and 5am
- Businesses and venues selling food for consumption off the premises can continue to do so after 10pm as long as this is through delivery service, click-and-collect or drive-thru
- Schools, universities and places of worship remain open. Weddings and funerals can go ahead with restrictions on the number of attendees
- Organised indoor sport and exercise classes can continue to take place, provided the Rule of Six is followed.

Local COVID Alert Level – High – Tier 2

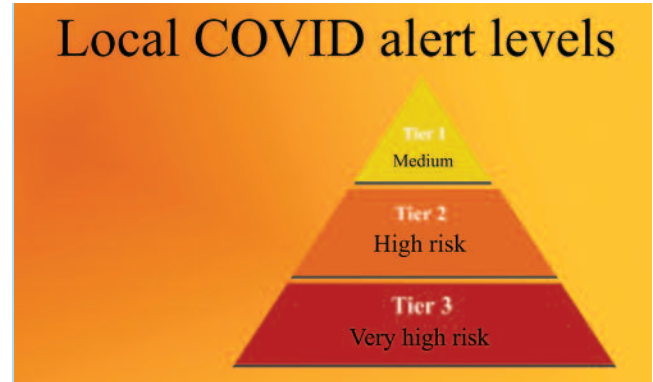
This is for areas with a higher level of infections. This means the following additional measures will be in place:

- People must not meet with anybody outside their household or support bubble in any indoor setting, whether at home or in a public place
- People must not meet in a group of more than six outside, including in a garden or other space
- People should aim to reduce the number of journeys they make where possible. If they need to travel, they should walk or cycle where possible, or to plan ahead and avoid busy times and routes on public transport.

Local COVID Alert Level - Very High – Tier 3

This is for areas with a very high level of infections. The Government will set a baseline of measures for any area in this local alert level. Consultation with local authorities will determine additional measures. The baseline means the below additional measures will be in place:

- Clubs, pubs and bars must close, and can only remain open where they operate as if they were a restaurant – which means



serving substantial meals, like a main lunchtime or evening meal

- They may only serve alcohol as part of such a meal
- Wedding receptions are not allowed
- People must not meet with anybody outside their household or support bubble in any indoor or outdoor setting, whether at home or in a public space
- The Rule of Six applies in open public spaces like parks and beaches
- People should try to avoid travelling outside the 'Very High' area they are in, or entering a 'Very High' area, other than for things like work, education, accessing youth services, to meet caring responsibilities or if they are in transit
- People should avoid staying overnight in another part of the UK if they are resident in a 'Very High' area, or avoid staying overnight in a 'Very High' area if they are resident elsewhere.

The firebreak restrictions in Wales

- People must stay at home, except for very limited purposes
- People must not visit other households or meet other people they do not live with
- Certain businesses and venues, including club, bars, restaurants and most shops must close
- Face coverings continue to be mandatory in the indoor public spaces that remain open (subject to certain exemptions and exceptions), including on public transport and in taxis.

For further information, visit: [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) and [GOV.WALES](https://www.gov.wales)

- It will be available to anyone who was previously eligible for the SEISS grant one and grant two, and meets the eligibility criteria
- Grants will be paid in two lump sum instalments each covering 3 months. The first grant will cover a three-month period from the start of November 2020 until the end of January 2021. The Government will pay a taxable grant which is calculated based on 40% of three months' average trading profits, paid out in a single instalment and capped at £3,750
- The second grant will cover a three-month period from the start of February until the end of April 2021
- The Government will review the level of the second grant and set this in due course.

Business Grants

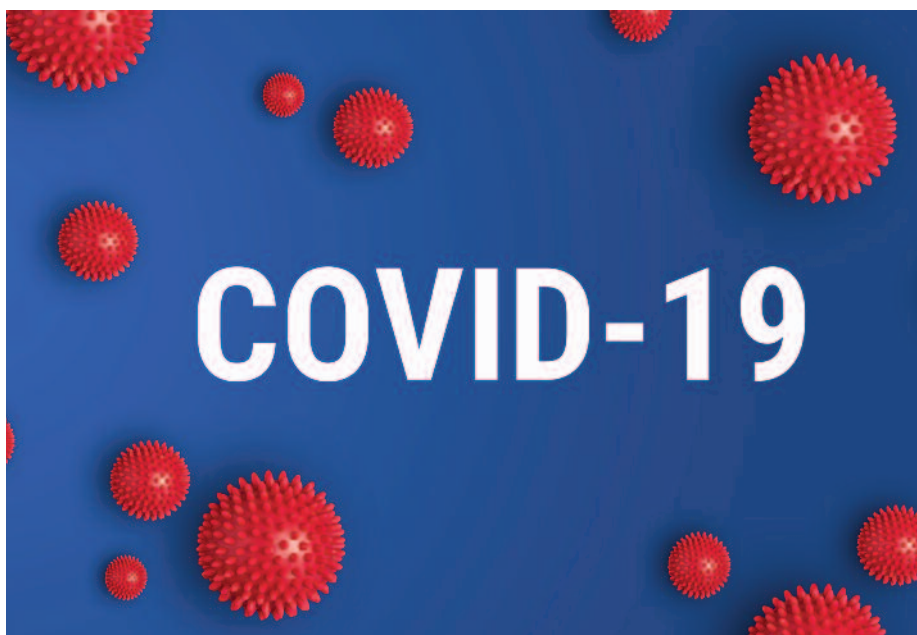
The Chancellor has also announced approved additional funding to support cash grants of up to £2,100 per month primarily for businesses in the hospitality, accommodation and leisure sector who may be adversely impacted by the restrictions in high-alert level areas.

These grants will be available retrospectively for areas who have already been subject to restrictions, and come on top of higher levels of additional business support for Local Authorities moving into Tier 3 which, if scaled up across the country, would be worth more than £1 billion.

These grants could benefit around 150,000 businesses in England, including clubs which aren't legally required to close but have been adversely affected by local restrictions.

Further details of the Business Grants scheme:

- The Government is providing additional funding to allow Local Authorities (LAs) to support businesses in high-alert level areas which are not legally closed, but which are severely impacted by the restrictions on socialising.
- The funding LAs will receive will be based on the number of hospitality,



A number of new support measures were announced in October by the Government

hotel, B&B, and leisure businesses in their area

LAs will receive a funding amount that will be the equivalent of:

- For properties with a rateable value of £15,000 or under, grants of £934 per month.
- For properties with a rateable value over £15,000 and below £51,000, grants of £1,400 per month.
- For properties with a rateable value of exactly £51,000 and over, grants of £2,100 per month.
- This is equivalent to 70% of the grant amounts given to legally closed businesses (worth up to £3,000/month).
- Local Authorities will also receive a 5% top up amount to these implied grant amounts to cover other businesses that might be affected by the local restrictions, but which do not neatly fit into these categories.
- It will be up to Local Authorities to determine which businesses are eligible for grant funding in their local areas, and what precise funding to allocate to each business – the above levels are an approximate guide.
- Businesses in Very High alert level

areas will qualify for greater support whether closed (up to £3,000/month) or open.

In the latter case support is being provided through business support packages provided to Local Authorities as they move into the alert level.

For further information on what is covered by the grant, which employers and employees are eligible, and how to claim, search 'Job Support Scheme factsheet' on GOV.UK.

Extension to the reduced rate of VAT for Hospitality and Tourism

The Government has extended the temporary reduced rate of VAT (5%) to tourist attractions and goods and services supplied by the hospitality sector. This relief came into effect on July 15, 2020 and will now end on March 31, 2021 across the UK.

VAT Deferral New Payment Scheme

If you deferred payments that were due between March 20 and June 30, 2020, then these payments need to be made to HMRC by March 31, 2021.

You can use the New Payment Scheme to spread these payments over equal instalments up to March 31, 2022. Alternatively, you can make payments as normal by March 31, 2021 or make Time To Pay

arrangements with HMRC if you need more tailored support.

Self Assessment Self-Serve Time To Pay Scheme

If you deferred paying your July 2020 Payment on Account, you will need to pay the deferred amount, in addition to any balancing payment and first 2020/21 Payment on Account, by January 31, 2021.

This may be a larger payment than you usually pay in January.

If you're unable to pay your Self-Assessment (SA) bill in full by January 31, 2021, you can set up a

Time to Pay payment plan of up to 12 months online without speaking to HMRC.

If you have SA tax debts of up to £30,000, you'll be able to access this Time to Pay facility through GOV.UK and will get automatic and immediate approval.

If your SA debts are over £30,000, or you need longer than 12 months to repay your debt in full, you will still be able to use the Time to Pay arrangement by calling HMRC.

Further information on the various support measures for

clubs can be found at: **GOV.UK.**

Protect yourself from scams

Individuals and businesses should be vigilant about scams which may mimic Government messages as a way of appearing authentic and unthreatening.

Search 'scams' on **GOV.UK** for information on how to recognise genuine HMRC contact.

You can also forward suspicious emails claiming to be from HMRC to **phishing@hmrc.gov.uk** and texts to 60599.

Q&A: Further guidance on the three-tier alert system

What are the requirements for clubs to check household status of members (for example indoor seating in a Tier 2 area)?

Clubs should make customers aware that in Tiers 2 and 3 only one household/bubble may be served indoors.

This could include asking the members on arrival, etc. If the member informs the venue that their group is not one household, they cannot be seated indoors and must not be served unless they can be seated in an outside area subject to the rule of 6 (in Tier 2, in Tier 3 single household rules apply to outdoors as well).

If the member confirms that the group is all from one household, it is then the member's responsibility to be following the rules.

Venues do not legally have to check identification or other documentation to determine whether the household group is following the rules.

Background music – does the 85 decibel limit apply under the new tiered system?

ALL ALERT LEVELS:– No, this legal requirement on exact decibel limit no longer applies. Background music should however be kept to levels that does not make normal conversation difficult, or encourage shouting.

Equally, the legal requirements for no singing and no dancing no longer apply – though Government guidance remains that these should be discouraged.

Is a marquee 'outside' a club, an indoor or outdoor area for the new tier system household requirements?

For the new tier regulations, indoor space is defined in the same way as in the smoking ban regulations: (4) A place is indoors if it would be considered to be enclosed, or substantially enclosed, for the purposes of section 2 of the Health Act 2006(37), under the Smoke-free (Premises and Enforcement) Regulations 2006(38).

Therefore, a marquee or any similar structure must not be wholly enclosed, or substantially enclosed to be 'outdoors'. In practice this



means it must not have sides (including doors, windows or other fittings that can be opened or shut) that enclose more than 50% of the shelter, if you want to use it as an outdoor space.

Do customers need to wear face coverings while going to the toilet or entering/walking through the venue, and what are the staff requirements?

Face covering regulations mandate the wearing of a covering in hospitality venues for members, guests and staff.

A covering should be worn when moving around venues, including while being taken to be seated and going to the toilet.

You must remind members to wear a face covering whilst moving around the venue.

If businesses have taken steps to create a physical barrier or screen between workers and members of the public, then staff behind the barrier or screen will not be required to wear a face covering.

In a Tier 2 (one household inside, rule of 6 outside), if a club garden is only accessible by walking through the venue, can a mixed group of six walk through the venue to be seated outside?

Yes. Face coverings must be worn and social distancing is observed when walking through the venue to the outside area.

Hard work continues as clubs deal with further restrictions

In the first of a series, *Club Journal* talks to Branch Secretaries in order to find out how the clubs in their regions are faring. First up, we hear from Jack Haughey CMD of West Midlands Branch and Frank Healy CMD of York City Branch

Jack Haughey CMD, Secretary, West Midlands Branch and NEC Member:

“We still have several clubs in West Midlands Branch who haven’t yet reopened since July 4 because it is not viable for them to do so.

“Then, with the restrictions which were brought in by the Government in September with the 10pm mandatory closing, some other clubs that reopened in July have had to close because the loss of that key trading time and the other restrictions have made it unviable for them to be open at all.

“Most clubs in the Branch have reopened and are ticking over while others are struggling. We’re fielding a lot of calls at the Branch, mainly because the information they’re getting from the Government regarding the restrictions and what clubs need to do is not very clear.

“For example, one club contacted me after they were visited by the Public Health inspectors. The inspectors were absolutely delighted with everything that the club had done to keep their members safe, bar one exception.

“They asked the Secretary if the actual cloth on the club’s pool table was regularly sanitised. The Secretary thought they were joking at first but it appeared they were not.

“According to the officials, it was not enough that the club was sanitising all the other surfaces of the table, as well as the balls and the cues and that the players were instructed to wear face masks when playing, they wanted the club somehow to sanitise the cloth.

“The Secretary explained to them that the cost of the baize is £900 to re-cover and that he didn’t know of any sanitising fluid which could be used which wouldn’t ruin the surface but if they could recommend one, he would be happy to purchase it. They



Clubs in the West Midlands have had to contend with confusing information from the authorities

couldn’t actually name one!

“That is just one example where different inspectors and authorities are offering their own interpretations of the restrictions and regulations, something which is obviously going to cause confusion for clubs.

“There have also been issues in clubs in our Branch with the Track and Trace system. We had three clubs where someone had tested positive for COVID-19 so all of them were visited by Track and Trace officials.

“One Secretary was told that it was the club’s job to go through the register and contact everyone who had been in the club when the infected person had visited when that is clearly the job that Track and Trace personnel are paid to do.

“We’ve also had one club closed by Public Health for 14 days after a positive case and another in almost

identical circumstances allowed to open as normal after a deep clean. It’s very difficult to work out the criteria of when a club is closed or not following a reported positive case.

“When the new restrictions came out, I sat down with the Branch President (and Union Vice-President) Geoff Whewell and we went through the Government information and compiled a checklist of all the measures that need to be taken and sent that out to our clubs.

“Our clubs have worked really hard to put in place all the necessary measures to keep their members safe, even when the restrictions have changed with very little notice from the Government.

“It’s very hard for clubs when there’s inconsistency across the various licensing authorities, including the prime example of

whether clubs in Tier 3 have to close unless they offer food.

“According to some local councils, clubs who operate under a Clubs Premises Licence can supply alcohol to their members without food under Tier 3.

“We’re not currently in the top tier in our Branch but that is something which we’re currently trying to get an answer on from our local licensing officers as it’s something which is obviously of critical importance to CIU clubs which may find their area going into Tier 3.”

Frank Healey CMD, Secretary, York City Branch:

“Obviously times are tough for clubs and York is in a situation where we’re currently Tier 2 but likely to move into Tier 3 in the near future with Coronavirus cases on the rise.

“So the support measures which the Chancellor announced on October 22 are very, very welcome in that context, as is the Job Retention Bonus which will give clubs which bring workers back from furlough and

retain them in employment until the end of January 2021 a £1,000 bonus.

“Many of clubs in our Branch were very worried about the prospect of laying off staff so that is a real help.

“The 10pm closing order is definitely a source of grievance in York City Branch as I’m sure it is everywhere else.

“That has really hit clubs hard in terms of their trading potential as traditionally members don’t really come into clubs in great numbers before 7-8pm.

“You can’t simply expect your members to start coming in at 5.30pm to make up for the shortfall as it’s very difficult to change people’s habits which they’ve built up over the years.

“Clubs – obviously not just in York City Branch, but all over the country – have the added problem that many of their members are in the older demographic so are generally more reluctant to go out and socialise as often during the pandemic and many will be continuing to shield.

“So there are some tough times

ahead for clubs, but strangely there’s a great optimism and even humour about the current situation from many of the Club Secretaries and Committee members who I’ve been in contact with.

“Nobody has been in this sort of situation before but they’re determined to keep going and make the best of it for their clubs and their members.

“For example, during the shutdown, several clubs in the branch used that ‘dead’ time to refurbish their clubs or get jobs done that they didn’t have time to do during ‘normal’ times.

“That clubs continue to look to the future and improve things for their members shows a great level of optimism, especially when you look back to the shutdown when nobody knew when the Government was going to let us reopen.

“The pandemic has really brought the community aspect of CIU clubs to the fore with most of them doing great work for vulnerable people as well as ensuring that their members can socialise safely.”



Clubs in York City Branch have been working hard to get through a very tough trading period, but report a great optimism and even humour about the current situation

Further exhibitors confirmed for 2021 CIU Beer & Trades Show

More club suppliers have confirmed their presence at the 29th Beer & Trades Exhibition which is scheduled to take place on the afternoon of Friday, April 9 during Conference Weekend



Heineken UK will be exhibiting at the 2021 CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition on Friday, April 9, 2021, at the Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool

With the whole world hoping that 2021 sees something of a return to normal life for the majority of the population after a torrid time during 2020, the 29th CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition has been scheduled for the afternoon of Friday, April 9, 2021.

As has been the case for the past five years, the venue for this event is the Norcalympia at the Norbreck Castle Hotel in Blackpool, a short tram ride or drive from the centre of town.

Without doubt the event is the UK's biggest trade show for members' clubs with an array of products and services on display which are all targeted at helping clubs to boost trade and save money.

In addition, there will be plenty of chances to win some great prizes throughout the afternoon.

Already, several key club suppliers have confirmed their presence at the 2021 show - see page opposite.



The Club Control team line up before the 2019 CIU Trade Show



Delegates will have the chance to win prizes during several bingo sessions



Dransfields will be showcasing their gaming machines at the 2021 Trade Show

Exhibitors for the 2021 Trade Show

We hear from the suppliers who are looking forward to meeting CIU members at next year's show



“We’re very excited about the prospect of Blackpool next year. We’ve been a keen supporter of the Trade show for many years now and our calendar seemed that much poorer without it this year. We’re delighted it’s back and look forward to catching up with our club customers.”

Ed Cracknell, Head of Marketing, BT Sport



“We are delighted to be attending our sixth consecutive CIU trade show, showcasing our innovative range of products, specifically designed and bespoke for the club sector.

“We look forward to seeing you on our stand as always. We will be demonstrating our EPOS Control System, which is now helping over 1300 clubs, together with our new mobile serving solutions which are tailored to ensure Covid safety for your staff and members.

“Stay safe, take care and see you in Blackpool.”

Chris McNally, Director, Club Control



“There’s no doubt it’s been a tough time for us all but it is great to see so many clubs have successfully adapted to the situation and have re-opened their doors to their members and guests.

“Dransfields will continue to work with customers to assist them during these difficult times and I am therefore delighted to support the CIU Trade Show and Exhibition once again. The positives of being able to get together once again and meet in a fun, safe and controlled manner are immense and will be a highlight of the 2021 calendar for many of us.”

Chris Haley, Managing Director, Dransfields



“While we all know the challenges our sector is going through at the moment, we hope your experience with Higos Insurance has so far been a positive one. We are all really looking forward to attending our first CIU Trade Show and Exhibition. We certainly hope that we can see as many of the CIU members there as possible, and

the Clubs team will be on hand to talk to you about any of your insurance needs, plus the other services Higos can offer you as the CIU insurance partner. In the meantime we hope you all stay safe and well, but if you need to talk to us about anything insurance related please do not hesitate to call the team on 01458 270 303 or email hospitality.portfolio@higos.co.uk.”

Darren Siwec, Account Executive, Higos Insurance



“Nationwide Energy are delighted to again be support the CIU Trade Show in its 29th year and to meet all our club customers. The ‘new normal’ continues to change and Nationwide Energy can assist clubs in reducing their energy spend without impacting on the service to members.

“We don’t make savings by selling you equipment that may reduce your consumption.

“These savings are made by making sure you are on a competitive rate for your energy and helping you make sure you only use equipment when needed.”

Gerry O’Hara, Operations Director, Nationwide Energy



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BT SPORT

Union Annual Meeting set for Saturday, April 10, 2021

Don't forget to put the date of Saturday, April 10 in your diary as that's the day when the 2021 Annual Meeting will take place in Blackpool as clubs come together to make their voices heard

The Union's NEC has scheduled the 2021 AGM for the morning of Saturday, April 10 in Blackpool, following the cancellation of the 2020 meeting due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

The venue for the AGM has not been confirmed but will be announced in due course.

The Annual Meeting will draw representatives from CIU member clubs from all over the country, giving them the opportunity to debate and vote on changes to the Union's Constitution, as well as listen to addresses by the President, George Smith, and the General Secretary of the Union, Kenneth D Green CMD ACM.



The 2021 Annual Meeting will take place on Saturday, April 10 in Blackpool



Clubs from all over the country will assemble in Blackpool for the 2021 Annual Meeting



Having missed out on the 2020 AGM, delegates will be able to take part in debate and vote on several key issues at the 2021 event



Union President George Smith will chair the 2021 Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 10



Union Secretary Kenneth D Green CMD ACM delivers his address in 2019



NEC Member Jack Haughey CMD ACM at the 2019 AGM

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The Frimley Green Club in Surrey

The Frimley Green Club

The Frimley Green Club in Surrey has refused to let the Coronavirus pandemic dampen its spirits and continues to be an oasis of positivity both for its members and for the local community

It may not be the brightest of times for clubland at the moment, but the Frimley Green Club in Surrey is not letting the small matter of a global pandemic get in the way of the club's position as the beating heart of the village's community.

The club's approach since reopening has been to adapt very swiftly to the seemingly ever-changing Government restrictions, keeping their members informed at every turn.

Jim Channon, Committee Member, explains: "Basically it's a question of listening to the members and asking them what they want us to do as a club within the restrictions.

"Since we reopened we've seen a week-on-week increase in business which is a testament to the support

which the club enjoys from our members.

"There are a number of factors which have helped us, most notably the fact that people are much more confident to come out because they can see the great lengths that the club has gone to in order to keep people safe.

"Through our website and social media posts, we make sure that everyone is updated on what we're doing to provide a COVID-secure environment.

"Then, when they come into the club they can see the new layout as well as signage throughout the various areas of the club about the restrictions which are in place. They can feel reassured that it's safe to come out and enjoy a drink.

"In terms of the table service rule, we set up an app as soon as that came in and it's gone very smoothly. All the tables are numbered, you make your order through the app and then the drinks are delivered to your table on a tray.

"The confidence factor is very important, as is the fact that many people found themselves going stir-crazy during the lockdown over the summer months and are keen to change their surroundings and come to the club.

"We've actually had a lot of new members joining since we reopened on July 4 and I think a lot of that comes down to the safety provided by the club when you compare it to the pub environment.

“As well as the physical measures we have put in place, as a members club we have an electronic door entry system which mean we know exactly who comes through the door, how long they stayed and even what drinks they ordered!

“But we’re also putting things on to get people through the doors, casting the net wide in order to get different sets of people into the club. We have a solo artist every Saturday night as well as regular Games and Quiz Nights – all conforming to the Government restrictions – and they have proved very popular.”

So, has the controversial 10pm closing time restriction adversely affected the club?

“Obviously, you have to adapt and re-educate your members with the new timings,” explains Jim.

“For example, we used to have live entertainment on a Saturday night from 9pm to midnight, now it’s 7pm to 9pm, so you have to ensure everyone is in that mindset as well as putting on

events at times which suit 10pm closing.

“We’ve also introduced takeaway beer sales to try and offset the loss of sales resulting from the 10pm closing time. We sell it in two or four-pint containers and that has gone down really well with members, particularly on Fridays and Saturdays.

“It means they can have a good night at the club and then head home for a couple of further quality drinks from our bar.

“We’ve also boosted our food offer and that has proved very successful. As well as things like filled rolls, pies and pasties, we are also going to be offering Sunday lunches, starting on Remembrance Sunday.

“We have a strong military tradition in the club given our proximity to Deepcut and the Gibraltar barracks, so we’re giving our members the chance to mark the occasion at the club.

“Normally at this time of year, we host a sit-down dinner for around 100 Canadian veterans who are visiting the

area and that is always a great honour for the club.”

The pandemic has not dented the club’s ambitions and they continue to look for ways to enthuse their members.

“We have a very good Committee and we sit down together every week to brainstorm new ideas that will keep the club moving forward,” says Jim.

One such idea came to fruition over the summer with the club installing an outside bar to allow members to make the most of the club’s garden area during the excellent weather enjoyed by the UK over a number of months.

The wooden structure was swiftly christened ‘The Lockdown Arms’ after a club-wide naming competition and went down a storm with members.

“We had a fantastic ‘Grand Opening’ with music and a barbecue in the garden,” says Jim.

“Given that we’re not going to be able to hold the major events that we normally would over the upcoming festive period, we’re aiming to try and create a mini Christmas market in our



The club's outside bar – the Lockdown Arms



The Main Bar at the Frimley Green Club

garden this year with outside heating and mulled wine on offer.

“All these sorts of fun activities really help to create a positive buzz around the club.

“We find it really helps to get the message out on the website and we always make sure we post photos on Facebook and Instagram on Saturday nights to show that the club is still the place to come for a good night out even with all that's going on at the moment in the wider world.”

Another incentive is the club's live sport offering.

“We have BT Sport and Sky in the club and live sport is another thing which helps to bring people through the doors, particularly for Premier League matches,” says Jim.

“Basically, we try and ensure that the club is a broad church – that there's something for everyone, whatever your age.

“Some of our older members like to come in during the afternoons and have a hot drink so we've invested in our tea

and coffee making facilities and put on special afternoons for seniors with cakes and food available.

“It means you have people in the club during what would normally be very quiet times.”

Pre-pandemic, the club's Function Room was in huge demand with parties and other celebrations taking place on a weekly basis but the club is having to forego that income stream for the time being.

“The private function side of things is great for boosting the bottom line but in the absence of that we've had to think about what else we can use the Function Room for while the restrictions are in place,” says Jim.

“We have Pilates and Slimming World classes taking place there and try and accommodate as many local groups as possible during the week to ensure that the club remains a real hub of the community.

“The club is very much a family-oriented club which spans the generations, with many of our older

member coming in to enjoy one of our daytime bingo sessions, to younger people who come into the club to play pool and darts.”

As you might expect given that the Lakeside Country Club, home of the BDO World Championships for many years, is just down the road, the club boasts first-class darts facilities with a dedicated area offering two dartboards and a further two in the Main Bar, perfect for local league fixtures.

“We also have a football team attached to the club and that is a great way to get young people involved in club life,” says Jim.

“They play their games on a Sunday morning and then come back to the club afterward to socialise and watch the Premier League matches in the afternoon.”

The club prides itself on its excellent range of drinks and the prices offer exceptional value for the area with a pint of Carling priced at £2.70 and John Smith's at £2.30 a pint.

Cask ale is also available at the club

as are an array of speciality gins and mixers.

“Our main supplier is Molson Coors and we have a great relationship with them,” says Jim.

“We run a number of regular drinks promotions throughout the year, including offering cheaper drinks during weekdays.

“We also introduced a membership reward scheme in December of last year.

“Members can use their membership card when making purchases and gain reward points.

“You can also pre-load cash onto your membership card which is a really good feature of our system.”

As well as the aforementioned links with the military, the club also has a major connection with the NHS.

“We’re less than a mile away from Frimley Park Hospital which has around 8,500 staff and we have a number of members who work there,” says Jim.

“During the lockdown we did a charity fundraiser for the NHS amongst our members. We do a number of charity events throughout the year for a variety of causes but obviously the NHS is to the fore at the moment.

“There’s enough doom and gloom



Live entertainment is very popular at the club (picture taken before COVID-19 restrictions)

out there at the moment so we want the Frimley Green Social Club to be an oasis of positivity and give our members something to look forward to every week.”

It’s clear that the club is more than delivering on this objective.

CONTACT DETAILS

The Frimley Green Club
 18-20 Sturt Road, Frimley Green,
 Camberley, GU16 6HX
 Tel: 01252 835322
 Branch: South East Metropolitan

The Frimley Green Club and the Crown Prince of Siam

The club was established as a one-room club in 1885 and such was the growth in membership during those early years that it soon needed to expand.

In 1888 a meeting was held at the village rectory to consider the best plan to establish a new building.

Frimley Green landowners were all invited to discuss the question of where the new premises could be built and how much money could be raised to get it up and running.

At this juncture, no less a dignitary than the Crown Prince of Siam, who was serving with the British Army at Frimley Lodge at the time, intervened.

On completion of his military service, the Prince awarded a donation as a thank you to Frimley Green, thus funding the construction of the new building and becoming an honorary member of the club.

The site of the new club was Sturt Road, where the club remains to this day, albeit unrecognisable from those early days thanks to successive refurbishments which have resulted in the fantastic modern facilities enjoyed by current members.



The Crown Prince of Siam funded the club’s move to its current site in 1888 and became an Honorary Member of the club

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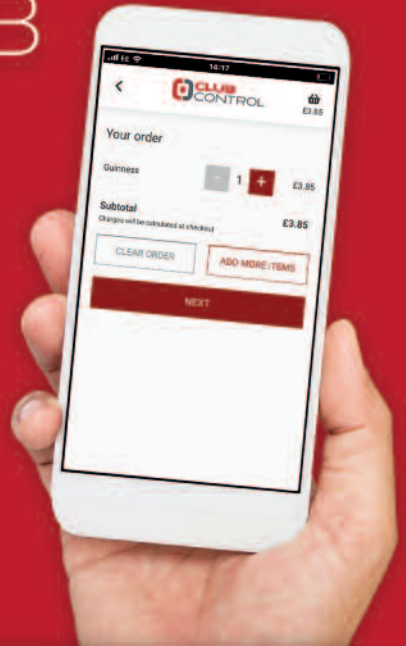
- Members simply download the app to their phone, iPad etc
- Members browse through your drinks list, then order and pay on their phone
- Staff automatically receive a printed order at the bar and pour the drinks
- Member collects the drinks at the collection point or delivered to their table

Club Benefits:

- Covid secure and compliant
- Satisfies your duty to protect Staff, no Member contact, Staff do not touch the till
- Annual subscriptions can be paid via the App
- Members want to come to the Club for a drink as it is a safe place to order and pay for drinks
- No App commission fees, 100% of the sale value is received by the Club; unlike most other ordering platforms

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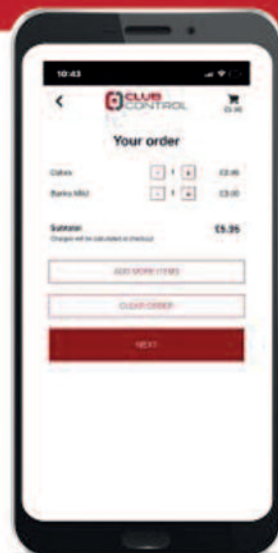
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FAST DELIVERY - UK STOCKIST- CONTRACT QUALITY

Steward or Stewardess with partners wanted Skegness Ex-Servicemen's Club

(Previous applicants need not apply)

A one bed flat is available on the club premises.

Duties to include:

- Bar, cellar and staff management
- Stock ordering and bar sales recording etc
- Cash control

The Club Management has 13 members at present.

A £2,500 bond is required.

Applications with CV and references should be made to the Club

Secretary by post to:

Skegness Ex-Servicemens' Club Ltd
2, Grand Parade, Skegness, Lincolnshire PE25 2UN.
Applications close on 16/11/2020.

Any questions telephone **01754 762113**
between 11.30am-1.30pm and ask for the Secretary.
Alternatively email on exserviceclub@hotmail.co.uk

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

ACROSS

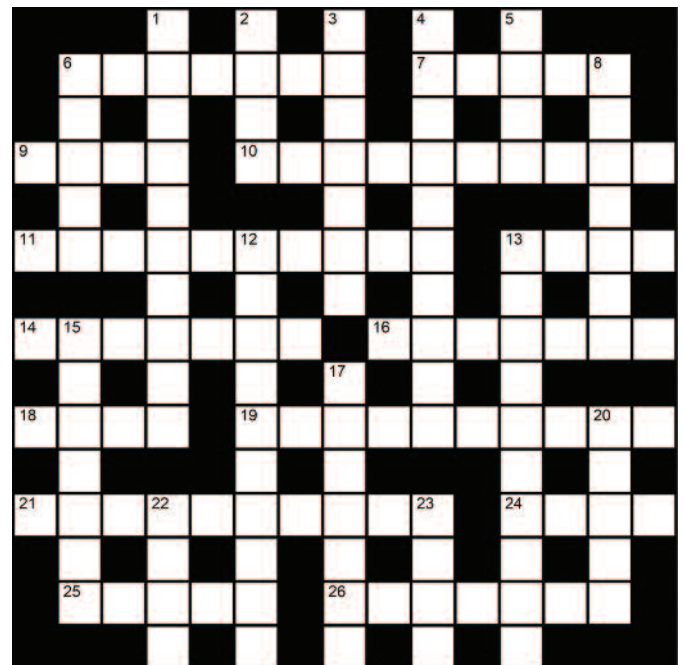
- 6 Ben's out of back numbers' design for cotton fabric (7)
- 7 Tile, when part led, could be game bird (5)
- 9 Just a place of fun (4)
- 10 Point again at the awful system of page numbers (10)
- 11 Old bouncer surprisingly good at French cooking (6,4)
- 13 Dry part of Angora Ridge (4)
- 14 How to teach Rita in film? (7)
- 16 Some of the coldest in Yorkshire for your fate (7)
- 18 Field entrance said to walk (4)
- 19 Walk up to lacemaker in alarm! (4-2,4)

- 21 Cat to catch dormice in service of the people (10)
- 24 Parvenu who's run out to cover the path with stone (4)
- 25 Dental bits of gear? (5)
- 26 Hypocrites not coy about wearing the trousers (7)

- 6 A bone to pick over at the local feast? (5)
- 8 Feeling of virtual movement/ (7)
- 12 Theory won't be revised just to make it remarkable (10)
- 13 Expect a knot in the captain's tie (10)
- 15 Dare to set about the most expensive? (7)
- 17 A boat in South Yorkshire that's lacking in detail (7)
- 20 The cleverest bit found in a lock (5)
- 22 Ended in controversy (4)
- 23 Column inches that can pre-empt the cat (4)

DOWN

- 1 Frightened one could try to cascade the bad types (7-3)
- 2 Support for quiet get-together (4)
- 3 a illegally import weird mug on legs! (7)
- 4 Aeronaut has light treatment in French school (3,7)
- 5 Speed I tend to cut in at (4)



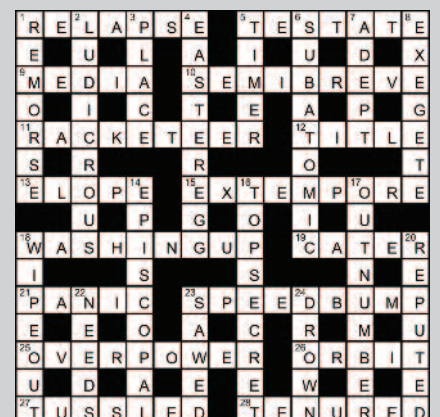
Name _____
Club _____
Address _____

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

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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

- Liz Hempstead of Monk Park WMC
- Mr Frederick Graham of Low Spennymoor WMC
- Patricia Smith of Yardley Ex-Servicemen's Club
- Ken Martin of Bulcher & District Social Club
- Ian Wardle of Bedlington Social Club





Thursday, November 12, 7pm

Golf: US Masters

The delayed tournament takes place at the Augusta National Club. Last year saw Tiger Woods win his fifth Green Jacket, and fifteenth major, by one stroke ahead of three runners-up. It left him one shy of Jack Nicklaus' record six Masters wins, and three short of his record eighteen major wins. At age 43 he became the second oldest winner, after Nicklaus.



Wednesday, November 18, 7.45pm

International Football: England v Iceland

Most England fans will have that unforgettable 2-1 European Championship defeat to Iceland in 2016 etched into their memory, as the men in white were dumped out of the tournament. However, on current form, England are overwhelming favourites to win this Nations Cup match, having already beaten Iceland by 1-0 in a fairly efficient manner back in September.



Saturday, November 28, 4pm

Rugby Union: Wales v England

Oval ball action as Wales take on England in the Autumn Cup competition. This is certain to be a passionate affair with these teams enjoying a huge rivalry over the years. During the 2020 Six Nations Championship, the clash between the two was a real thriller with England just holding on against a late Welsh onslaught to win 33-30.

SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS

November brings plenty of top sporting action, including international football in the UEFA Nations Cup, some choice Premier League and UEFA Champions League fixtures, plus the US Masters from Augusta

Sunday, November 8

2pm

Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Manchester City v Liverpool

Thursday, November 12

7pm

Sky Sports Golf

Golf: US Masters - Day 1

Thursday, November 12

8pm

ITV

International Football: England v Republic of Ireland

Friday, November 13

12 noon

ITV

Horse Racing: November Meeting, Cheltenham

Friday, November 13

7pm

Sky Sports Golf

Golf: US Masters - Day 2

Friday, November 13

7pm

Channel 4

Rugby Union: Ireland v Wales

Saturday, November 14

12 noon

ITV

Horse Racing: November Meeting, Cheltenham

Saturday, November 14

3pm

Amazon Prime

Rugby Union: England v Georgia

Saturday, November 14

7pm

Sky Sports Golf

Golf: US Masters - Day 3

Sunday, November 15

9.30am

Sky Sports F1

F1: Turkish Grand Prix

Sunday, November 15

12 noon

ITV

Horse Racing: November Meeting, Cheltenham

Sunday, November 15

5pm

S4C/Sky Sports Football

International Football: Wales v Republic of Ireland

Sunday, November 15

7pm

Sky Sports Golf

Golf: US Masters - Day 4

Sunday, November 15

7.45pm

Sky Sports Football

International Football: Belgium v England

Tuesday, November 17

7.45pm

Sky Sports Football

International Football: Spain v Germany

Wednesday, November 18

7.45pm

Sky Sports Football

International Football: England v Iceland

Wednesday, November 18

7.45pm

Sky Sports/S4C

International Football: Wales v Finland



Cheltenham: November Meeting,
Thursday, November 12, 12 noon, ITV

Saturday, November 21

12.30pm

BT Sport 1

**Premier League: Newcastle
United v Chelsea**

Saturday, November 21

3pm

Amazon Prime/Channel 4

Rugby Union: England v Ireland

Saturday, November 21

5.30pm

Sky Sports Premier League

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

Sunday, November 22

4.30pm

Sky Sports Premier League

**Premier League: Leeds United v
Arsenal**

Tuesday, November 24

5.55pm

BT Sport

**UEFA Champions League:
Rennes v Chelsea**

Tuesday, November 24

8pm

BT Sport

**UEFA Champions League:
Manchester United v Istanbul
Basaksehir**

Wednesday, November 25

5.55pm

BT Sport

**UEFA Champions League:
Olympiakos v Manchester City**

Wednesday, November 25

8pm

BT Sport

**UEFA Champions League:
Liverpool v Atalanta**

Thursday, November 26

5.55pm

BT Sport

**UEFA Europa League: Molde v
Arsenal**

Thursday, November 26

5.55pm

BT Sport

**UEFA Europa League: SC Braga
v Leicester City**

Thursday, November 26

8pm

BT Sport

**UEFA Europa League:
Tottenham Hotspur v
Ludogorets**

Saturday, November 28

12.30pm

BT Sport

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

Saturday, November 28

4pm

Amazon Prime

Rugby Union: Wales v England

Saturday, November 28

5.30pm

Sky Sports Premier League

**Premier League: Everton v
Leeds United**

Sunday, November 29

4.30pm

Sky Sports Premier League

**Premier League: Chelsea v
Tottenham**



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