

# WHITNASH SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

## NEWSLETTER—JULY 2020

### WELCOME BACK

We were pleased to re-open our doors on Friday, 17th July with just a few tweaks left to do to complete the bar refurbishment. We hope that you enjoy your new bar area, which has been undertaken over the past several weeks thanks to Craig Lee, the committee and the many volunteers mentioned in our last Newsletter. Their commitment, determination and dedication (not to mention free labour) is appreciated by us all and we hope you enjoy your newly refurbished Club.

### WHAT'S NEW?

#### INTERNAL WORK:

The whole bar has been re-designed with light oak flooring throughout, new décor, new upholstery, and a new layout for the bar, and you will see by the photos to the right that the floor was in desperate need of repair and renovation, not least for health and safety reasons and this was a major aspect of the refurb. However, in addition to the original budget, it was felt prudent to upgrade the lighting in the bar at the same time and spotlights have been installed, providing more subtle lighting which can be dimmed or brightened to suit the mood. We have also purchased an extra TV with surround sound and upgraded the projector facilities in the Concert Room, to facilitate large viewing numbers for major televised sporting events such as football, rugby, racing, etc. The entrance, toilets and passageways have also been repainted (free of labour charge) and in addition to BT Sport we are also trialling a Sky Sports package deal on a 2-month trial basis to test its popularity.

#### PHOTOS

We would like to say a special thank you to everyone who has provided us with photos from their section's archives, some of which have been installed throughout the club in celebration of our sporting history and current activities. If anyone has any old special photos, or even new ones, that they would like displayed, then please let us have them, together with photos and information of any new activities or achievements.

#### MEMORIAL WALL:

*It is our intention to create a 'Memorial Wall' displaying photos of long-standing and prominent members who have sadly passed away. We thought this would be a long-lasting tribute in recognition of their contribution to the club or their sport or social section. If you have any such photos which you would like displayed please let us have them and we will happily frame and display them. To be consistent these photos should be no larger than 5" x 7" please. If we are inundated with pictures, we may have to display them on a rolling basis. We trust you approve of this initiative.*

### COVID-19

*In order to safeguard our members and guests, we have put restrictions in place, including sanitisers, one-way system, social distancing rules, track and trace forms, etc. so please adhere to these rules for the safety of everyone. We welcome back all members, and those who have not yet renewed their membership, and of course brand new members. Why not pop down and bring your friends to see our newly-refurbished Club and renew your membership to enjoy our new facility.*



BEFORE



AFTER

## External Work

We have also tried to improve the outdoor facilities and the following work has been undertaken:

- Weeded and jetwashed slabbed area around the bowling green and patio
- Purchased new rattan furniture for the patio (new brewery has provided umbrellas)
- Purchased four picnic benches for the family garden as the old ones were completely rotten (umbrellas from the brewery).
- Provided hanging baskets for patio
- The first table will be designated the smoking area and a suitable long term shelter for this will be considered in the near future. For the comfort of your fellow members, please respect the smoking area restrictions.
- New fascia over the entrance door to the Main Club.

## NEW BREWERY—MOLSON COORS



**OUR NEW BAR**

The new brewery (Molson Coors) has installed the equipment in the cellar and the bar area, so we are now able to offer a whole new range of products for you to try. Already they have been very supportive and we are looking forward to a good relationship with them in the future. Come and try our brand new range at competitive prices. We have two options of real ale—Doombar which will probably stay as a regular choice and we will have a guest ale each month. Please let Rachel know your preferences or suggestions and we will try to accommodate.

## JAYKAYS DANCE ACADEMY AND SLIMMING WORLD

Jaykays Dance Academy are still only undertaking Zoom dance classes using the New Hall for which they are obviously paying a reduced hire fee. However, they have just advised that they will be returning on a part-time basis in August, and hope to fully return in September. They will be required to open the doors and windows as a result of Covid-19 rules, so trust that the music will not interfere with our outdoor activities and that you will bear with them during this period.

Slimming World are hoping to return on 14<sup>th</sup> August and we are working with them to put restrictions in place to ensure a safe environment. The idea is to have a reduced number of people in each group, so they will probably split their classes into five groups instead of three.

## EXTENDED OPENING HOURS

We are trialling extended opening hours on Friday afternoons by opening the bar from 2pm onwards with immediate effect. We hope that the Club will become an attractive venue for local workers who finish early on a Friday to pop down to the Club for a drink with their workmates as well as for our regular members. We will trial this until 31st October to evaluate the potential for a long-term arrangement.



**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



## MAINTENANCE

Our Maintenance sub-committee has been supporting our Club Development sub-committee by assisting with the new bar refurb. They have also been busy replacing the old wooden fascia with long lasting plastic fascia board above the main entrance, installing a data line for the overhead projector in the Concert Room and felting the recently donated footballers' shed. We have also removed debris, bushes and ivy from our spare land behind the Concert Room. We've had the whole toilet and drainage system flushed, ready for our re-opening, installed new pea gravel in old drainage channels and helped assemble the new garden benches. There is still continuing maintenance to do on our buildings; however if we continue making progress at this rate, we are confident it won't take too long before we get on top of our requirements, although maintenance in general is always an ongoing task.

## FOR THE RECORD.....

Contrary to an email you may have received from Darren Butler, we feel you should be made aware of the following facts for your reassurance:

- *We have NOT cancelled any future events that have already been booked (nor did we ever intend to) such as the pantomime – we ARE going to honour these and still organise them (Covid-19 restrictions permitting) so money has NOT been lost.*
- *The committee has NOT turned its back on events – we will still be organising them in the future to suit all ages. We would welcome any suggestions or ideas from you regarding future entertainment at the Club.*
- *At no time was the Club 'condemned as unfit for use'. Darren's comments regarding our initial electrical report were inaccurate, and we do not condone his comments. Incidentally ALL electrical work at the Club has been undertaken by PROFESSIONAL registered electricians and at no time was the Club deemed as condemned.*
- *The reference to police involvement was in fact involving a private communication to Darren by a non-committee member, expressing a viewpoint and no police action was warranted.*
- *The Club is not being run as a DICTATORSHIP as accused. As you are all aware, we have been communicating regularly with members through our newsletters and direct contact to improve transparency and communication. The Club is now being run like a BUSINESS in a professional way, and the current committee remain dedicated to making the Club a success.*
- *To say that the way the Club is being run 'there will be no money' is completely inaccurate - we are carefully budgeting our finances. As already reported, once we are back to normal following a lean spell during lockdown, we will be financially secure for years to come. Our hirers will bring in regular monthly income, and in the first two weekends of re-opening, we have already enjoyed excellent improved takings over the bar. We are confident that we can look forward to a bright future.*

Anyone who has already been down to the newly refurbished Club will know that there is a renewed buzz about the place. It is now a more modern, vibrant environment with a wider range of drinks now available, at very competitive prices, and we have purchased another large TV for sport, all of which will undoubtedly attract new members to the Club as already experienced in the last two weekends.

## CELLAR

The cellar was cooling double the amount of area than was necessary, so we have now cut that down by boarding off half the cellar, which will hopefully reduce our electricity bills. The second half of the cellar has now got racking, on which to store all other products and supplies, which will be better organised for the steward, especially when it comes to stocktaking.

## WEBSITE

[www.whitnashssc.co.uk](http://www.whitnashssc.co.uk)

There are now three separate calendars on our website —one for the Bar, Concert Room and New Hall. At the moment these contain potential events rather than confirmed events as we are not currently able to run a full schedule. Please take a look at History/Refurbishment on the Club menu where you will see a gallery of photos taken during the bar refurbishment.



## COVID-19 RULES AT THE CLUB

In the interests of the health and safety of your fellow members and friends please follow the social distance guidelines and one-way system and other rules as indicated on notices throughout the Club and stay alert at all times.

Please enter the Club via the main club door and exit via the patio doors and metal gates.

You are required to complete Track and Trace forms and record your presence on each occasion that you visit the Club.

Thank you



## FOOTBALL SECTION

With the unfortunate folding of the Junior Football section, we are delighted to announce that we have retained the services of Sherisse Cullen to help us start re-building the youth section as part of a unified Football Section at the Club.

Tim Goddard's team will now be playing their final year of Junior football in the Coventry & Warwickshire Youth League and, subject to confirmation, Gaz Browne's side will be venturing into their first season of men's football in the Leamington & District Sunday League.

We are also delighted to announce we have been joined by a complete side who were previously playing in Bishops Tachbrook who will also be playing in the Leamington & District Sunday League. Welcome to the Club lads!

## BOWLS SECTION

*You will see that the Bowls Section have transported the wooden pavilion that was behind the old tennis courts and erected it in the corner of the bowls area. They intend to house their Honours Boards in here and it will be a useful addition to their facility. Thanks to those concerned for clearing the ground and transporting and erecting this building. It looks great.*

## MEMBERSHIP CARDS

All membership cards are now behind the bar ready for your collection. Please ask Rachel or the bar staff for yours if you have not already received one. If you know of any past members who have not yet renewed their membership, please encourage them to do so. New members always welcome.



## THANK YOU .....

to all the members who have already visited the Club and who have expressed their approval and delight at the changes we have made. It means a great deal to all those of us who have worked so hard to make these improvements and your appreciation and support is very much appreciated.

Carol Woodward—Section Liaison (on behalf of WSSC Management Committee)  
July 2020

