

Rolleston Club At the Heart of the Village

Christmas and the New Year have come and gone with a great deal of festive fun being displayed in the Club. New Year's Eve group Hustle played to a full house and as far as I am aware everybody had a good time. I am sure you noticed the Christmas lights and tree enhancing the frontage of the Club this year and thanks go to the two individuals who made this possible.

East Staffordshire Borough Council has recently carried out an inspection of our catering facilities and record keeping. A representative from the Council arrived just as Christmas lunches were being prepared. A thorough examination of our hygiene facilities was carried out and we are delighted to report a score of 5–VERY GOOD was achieved. We have therefore maintained our excellent maximum rating of five stars through the diligence and hard work of Sean and the catering staff. This, coupled with a maximum score for the quality of our draught beers by Cask Marque makes Rolleston Club a good place to visit and enjoy a meal with a pint. It only costs £10 per person per year to join the Club with seniors (65 and over) paying £5. Membership swipe cards are an additional one off payment of £2. If you are interested collect your application form from any member of staff.

Plans have been drawn up to have major work undertaken on the Club's infrastructure with an enlarged kitchen, new office location, uni-sex toilet nearer to the Bowling Green, structural changes to the flat roof over the Main Hall, extension to the Bowling Pavilion and new PVC double fronted windows for the Lounge. These improvements will cause disruption to the daily/weekly activities in the Club but we will have to manage them carefully to ensure the long term future of Rolleston Club.

The finances for these projects have been built up over the last few years and we plan to invest our resources into improving the facilities. In no way will our Committee allow us to return to the disastrous financial situation of 2009 and each project will be priced, managed and carefully implemented in an agreed programme. We now await planning permission from East Staffordshire Borough Council and hopefully commence stage 1 in March/April.

As the New Year moves on the commencement of the bowling season becomes nearer. The Ladies Section are holding their AGM in January and the Men's on 17th February. We are planning to run as many teams as last year and make use of our excellent facilities. During the winter a small band of volunteers have worked on the Bowling Green endeavouring to improve the surface and ensure growth in areas of substantial use. Keith Widdows has been seen on many

occasions collecting leaves, looking after the surrounds of the green and doing general maintenance work. His attention to detail along with the support of other members has helped the Club considerably.

Nick Parr, our Bowls Secretary is planning to run taster sessions in late April/May for beginners to learn the game either on a Tuesday morning or Wednesday afternoon (times and dates yet to be agreed). Nick, with the support of other bowlers will invite any interested member to participate in a group session. Any member who has played the game previously and would like to have a practice on these taster days will also be most welcome. Keep a watch for our newsletter and on the notice boards for further information.

An important item for consideration is the format of our new Committee in April. I am retiring as Secretary and applications can be put forward on the nominations list. Mark Storr, our Assistant Secretary, will be invited to apply but the position is also open to any member as long as they are proposed and seconded. If more than one application is received the vacancy will be filled by ballot. There is also a vacancy on the full Committee and any member can seek nomination.

An important date for the diary - 29th February when Kevin Price pays tribute to 'Elvis' Kevin is an excellent performer and comes with a very good record of 'keeping Elvis's music alive'. Tickets are on sale at £5 members and £8 guests and can be obtained from any of the bar staff.

Keith Norris has provided a varied entertainment programme for 2020 with a number of new groups visiting the Club. It is a very difficult jog to get the balance of music right but hopefully we will provide something for everyone.

FORTHCOMING ENTERTAINMENT - ROLLESTON CLUB

- 15th Feb - DARK HORSES – A local band back by popular demand.**
- 29th Feb - ELVIS TRIBUTE – Tickets £5 members and £8 guests.**
- 3rd Mar. RoDSEC EVENT – Magic Evening**
- 14th Mar – RUBY BRIDGE – Five Piece Covers Band, Soul, Funk & Dance Tunes**
- 21st Mar - SOULSTON, NORTHERN SOUL & MOTOWN £5 pay on door**
- 28th Mar - BOPPIN THE BLUES – A new band to the Club, Rock'n'Roll Trio**
- 25th Apr. – SILICONE TAXIS – Popular four piece local band.**
- 9th May- STRANGE DAYS – Derbyshire Band, music from 60's to present day.**
- 23rd May - THE FOUR MUPPETEES – A new band to the Club**

Doors open for entertainment at 7.30pm with groups scheduled to be on stage at 9.00pm. A small charge is made for members and their guests for non-ticketed events

