Since the last Newsletter the Club has been open for meals and drinks in the Marquee erected outside the main building.  We are open Thursday to Sunday inclusive between the hours of 10 am and 8 pm (dependant on weather) and many members have supported us during this four day period.  One point of clarification is that alcoholic drinks can be purchased from 10 am (except Sundays) for outside consumption.  Covid 19 measures are very much in operation and the general view from members are that we have made the environment as safe as is possible in the current climate.

The Bowling Green is also open on the same days as the Club with a ‘beer garden’ available for those who wish to use the grassed area around the green.  Members can book a bowling session on facebook/website with time slots allocated between 11am and 5 pm. Anyone having difficulties can contact the Club directly on 01283 812072 and leave a message and someone will respond to your enquiry.  The green is looking very good and those using the facility are impressed on the state and quickness of the playing surface.

In the last Newsletter I mentioned that the Burton Sports Council had granted £567 towards the cost of new sports equipment for which we are most grateful.  A formal presentation of the cheque is to be made in the near future with Committee Members and Sports Council Representatives present.

The Saturday Evening Entertainment Programme is taking shape with the first event being scheduled for 31st July.  Northern Soul/Motown with Jason Hunt and colleagues has been booked and hopefully will be an attractive opening to our events lists.  Groups and parties have now completed a programme of bookings and there are only a few Saturday’s vacant until the end of the year.  Thoughts have also turned to New Year’s Eve and we have made a booking which will be confirmed in next month’s Newsletter.

The Bowls Season can commence on Monday 17th May for the majority of teams (although the Derby League begins on 4th May).  We have entered our teams representing Rolleston Club and members are very keen to get the season underway.

Another  important date for your diary is Friday 25th June when the first session of Bingo has been arranged,  We hope by then Covid 19 is well under control and members can return to enjoy the weekly session of the game.  It is also anticipated that the Quiz will recommence on Wednesday 23rdJune.

Line Dancing with Maureen Bullock is also returning  on a Monday Evening commencing on 21stJune at 7 pm.  New members are welcome as well as those practised in the art.  We trust you will support Maureen on her return.

U3A groups are reviewing their programme and the Antiquarium representation  have their first meeting in July.  We have been advised that the Tuesday afternoon Jazz Group are looking for new members and if you are interested please leave your details with the Club Office.  We are awaiting details from the other U3A groups which will be published when details have been finalised.

We are planning changes to our Club’s operation during May and June.   When we are able to use our indoor facilities the Committee have decided that the Main Room will be used for the Café .  In the afternoons the Lounge Bar will be open until closing time for drinks etc.  Sometime in mid June it is intended to return the Café back into the Lounge full time and the Main Room will then be used for outside functions.  We believe that there may be teething problems with the operation but hopefully things may return to normal very quickly.  We are always aware of the dangers of Covid and the Club will make certain that the some of the regulations/precautions currently in operation will be retained.

Nicky Langley has settled into her position of Chef and those partaking of her meals have commented on their satisfaction with the food provided.  You may have seen the majority of our other staff returning and it is very pleasing that they have settled into their revised roles with enthusiasm and a wish to serve our members.

The Committee would like to thank Staff and Committee members who have redecorated and redesigned the Main Room Bar endeavouring to bring it into the 21st Century.  The more modern look is designed to be brighter and more practical for use by the staff and we would like to compliment them on a job well done.

Financially the Club has survived the difficult period during lockdown and although having to use some of its reserves is still on a sound footing.  The Committee have been very careful in managing its resources and have also been supported by members in renewing their membership.  It is very encouraging that after mentioning a problem to one senior member about a repair job it was done three days later.  Thanks go to two of our members who completed the job and thereby saved the Club having to incur additional expenditure.

In conclusion I would like to thank everyone who has continued to support Rolleston Club during the past twelve months and look forward to seeing more members return to use our local Village Club.

We have a Facebook page [Rolleston Club](https://en-gb.facebook.com/rollestonclub/) and a Twitter account [@Rolleston\_Club](https://twitter.com/Rolleston_Club) for up to date news and our website, [www.rollestonclub.org.uk](http://www.rollestonclub.org.uk) is now also live.  Join in our conversation

John Brandon

Club Secretary