



CLUB NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2020

Serving Manchester's Business Professionals since 1825

A Very Warm Welcome to **New Members**

This is a fantastic social event which allows new Members to meet and introduce themselves to existing ones over a splendid four course dinner. This dinner is not only for new "newbies" and their proposers but for all Club Members to enjoy the excellent food paired wine and of course conversation. Unfortunately, the COVID safety guidance means that new Members cannot move around the table between courses as has become customary at this event. You can be assured though that the congenial atmosphere of the event will ensure that all attendees have become acquainted prior to the ports arrival at the table. **New Members are requested to contact the Club to book themselves and their proposers onto this event. Please note that the dress code is black tie.**



IT'S STEAL



MEDIA & TECH LUNCH

On Thursday 1st October, the Club will host an address from Steve Oliver, the CEO and Founder of musicMaggie. Founded in 2007 the company has become a household name after it turned the business of reselling CD's, DVDs and games into an industrial scale operation. The business has evolved from selling physical media to reselling all forms of consumer technology. The figures speak for themselves not only being the UK leading consumer technology business in the UK, but it is now the biggest reseller of physical media and consumer technology in the world. The group employs 750 people, exports to 140 countries around the world and boasts an annual turnover of over £120m. It also became the first business in the world to get more than five million positive reviews on eBay and has over 100,000 five-star ratings on Trustpilot with more than six million happy customers.

In the US, the company operates as Decluttr and uses exactly the same business model as in the UK. Customers trade in their unwanted tech and media to Decluttr. These items are then refurbished and listed for sale on the Decluttr website, as well as the Amazon and eBay marketplaces. Decluttr has experienced significant growth. It has more than doubled its revenues in the last 12 months to a run rate in excess of \$50m, with the consumer electronics category climbing to over 50% of total revenue for the first time.

Find out what's next for this remarkable business. As this is likely to be an exceedingly popular event, we recommend that you book your places as early as possible.





Would I Lie to You?

This was one of the most popular events when it was held a couple of years ago and it returns for this mid-month tasting. Rarely do we get two excellent sommeliers in the same room, even rarer when they are also Club Members, but this month we are fortunate enough to have both Tony Seymour and George Bergier. George has over fifty years wine industry experience. For twenty five years he led the Guild of Sommeliers in Manchester as Chairman and is the current President of L'Ordre des Coteaux de Champagne. It is fitting that Tony has chosen his fortieth birthday to take on George in a classic game of 'would I lie to you?' or for those a little older, 'call my bluff'. The event format is simple, Members and their Guests will be presented with two stories regarding a wine; their job is to guess which of our two eminent sommeliers' is telling the truth and who is telling a fib, and if you've met them both you know this is a near impossible task as both have a great knowledge of oenology in addition to being able to spin a yarn.

The event takes place early in the month on Thursday 17th and as it's also Tony Seymour's fortieth birthday plenty of celebrating will take place. It's guaranteed to be an extremely exciting and fun night and following the sell out in August Members are encouraged to book their places early.

FANCY HAVING A PRIVATE LUNCH OR DINNER?

YOU DON'T HAVE TO LOOK MUCH FURTHER THAN THE CLUB

During this difficult COVID period it is difficult for businesses and families to organise an event or celebration. The Club is the ideal location having three different sized rooms that can accommodate anything from a dozen to forty guests, abiding of course the new safety guidance and regulations. Whether you're organising a company presentation, board meeting, business lunch or a family party/get together of celebratory dinner the Club can help provide a successful event. In addition, entertainment can also be organised from magicians, singers or private wine or gourmet tastings and the manager Iain and head chef Steven are only too happy to help with the planning.



ASSOCIATE LUNCH

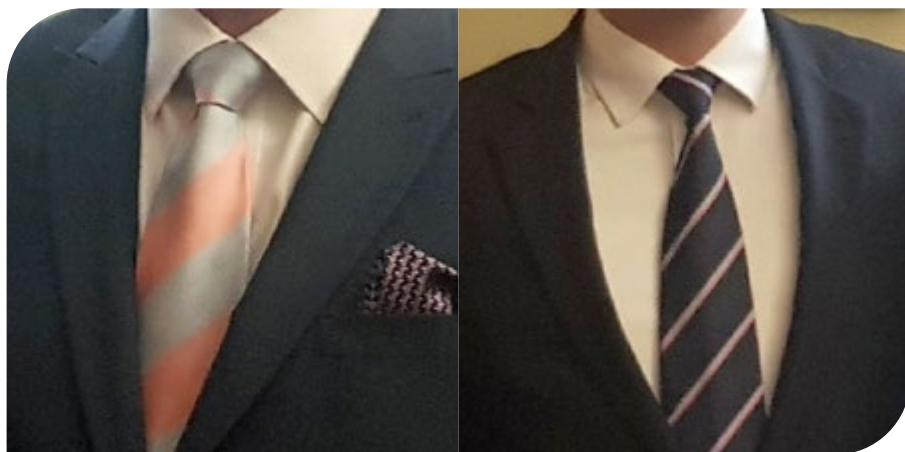
It was great to see an excellent group of Associate Members make it to their August event. Many Members have been biding their time to return to dining out in the Club in this uncertain pandemic environment. Once in the Club Members can appreciate that Iain and his staff has put in place measures to ensure the Club is a secure and safe environment to meet and dine. Several Members have commented that not only is it great to get out but it's even better to have a chef cook and somebody else to tidy and clean up after the meal; something many of us have had to do during this extended lockdown period. It would be great to see a dozen or so attend these lunches on a regular basis, full Members are also welcome.

The next event is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 22nd, for more details email Iain on manager@stjc.org.uk.

If you wish to book onto any event, organise a private lunch or dinner, or simply just want to visit the Club, please contact Iain Anderson our Manager. His email is manager@stjc.org.uk. Angela Hales is on furlough and although her email is being monitored, we ask that you use Iain's. Lynn Barker is still contactable in accounts and her email is accounts@stjc.org.uk.

CLUB TIES ARE BACK IN STOCK!

Contact Iain with your order for Summer or Winter versions.



For further information please contact:

The St. James's Club
45 Spring Gardens, Manchester, M2 2BG
Tel: 0161 829 3000
Email: events@stjc.org.uk
Website: www.stjc.org.uk

SOCIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

SEPT / OCT 2020

Lunching

12.30-2pm

Thursday / Friday

(Alternative days by arrangement of the Manager)

Evening Dining

(Can be made by arrangement of the Manager)

Retired Members Lunch

Monday 7th

12.30 for 1pm

Property Lunch

Tuesday 8th

2.30 for 1pm

Wine Tasting

Thursday 17th

7 for 7.30pm

Tony Seymour & George Bergier

Retired Members Lunch

Monday 21st

12.30 for 1pm

Associate Members Lunch

Tuesday 22nd

12.30 for 1pm

New Members Welcome Dinner

Thursday 24th

7 for 7.30pm

Tech & Media Lunch

Thursday 1st

12.30 for 1pm

Guest Speaker: Steve Oliver

Booking is required for all events 48hrs in advance, along with any specific dietary requirements. Please contact Iain Anderson on manager@stjc.org.uk



Don't forget to follow the Club on Twitter or join the WhatsApp Social Group!

