



Welcome to the latest edition. I hope that you enjoy reading it. If so please pass it on to your friends to show them that we are more than just a travel club.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Our last event, the Quiz Night, was a resounding success with 23 teams taking part. It was, as usual, won by James Herriot's Soapy Elbows, who had actually donated the winning trophy (thank you to them). The coveted wooden spoons, produced by Marion Lunnon, went to WWFC Quizzed. Marion and Harold also ran a highly successful raffle which contributed in no small part to a profit of £1,325 on the night, which all goes to help the Football Club.

The next and final event of the season is on Friday, 5th April, the Annual Dinner. First of all apologies over the changing of the date which was due to an unfortunate misunderstanding between ourselves and the Football Club over the menu. I hope that all of you who have already booked will be able to make this new date.

The dinner will be in the Woodlands Suite and will start at 7. 30 and costs £30. Tables of up to ten people are welcome.

We need to know definite numbers by 20th March to give the Club time to prepare.

So phone Sue on 07730 497745 or E-Mail her at mcloudsue80@gmail.com as soon as possible.

The menu is:-

Leek and Potato Soup

Chicken Breast wrapped in Parma Ham,

Potato Gratin

Seasonal Vegetables

Or

Brie and Mushroom Wellington

Seasonal Vegetables.

Lemon tart.

MEMBERSHIP AND TRAVEL

At our latest Committee meeting it was decided that the membership fee of £12 will remain the same for next season.

We have just five more away league matches left now (how quick the season goes) starting with

Shrewsbury on Saturday, 16th March.

Departure time is 10. 00,

Adult members being £19

Senior members being £18

Junior members being £17

Non members being £24

Please contact Rena (01494 520179) or

Graham (07876267301) in the normal way for any away trips.



ON THE FIELD

As I write this we are in a comfortable 12th place in the table but there are a host of teams lined up behind us ready to overtake should our recent poor run of form continue. The main concern is that we have scored just the once in our last four matches and that from the penalty spot. It is a great shame that we couldn't extend the loans of Bryn Morris, Fred Onyedinma and Randell Williams, all of whom gave us more attacking options. Hopefully, despite the fact that we have some tough games coming up, especially at home, we can gain those 12 points needed to reach our survival target.

Looking at the Championship table we could be meeting more big clubs next season.

Playing-wise Curtis Thompson continues to be a model of consistency despite the results and must be one of the candidates for player of the season.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW ?

A couple of our old boys have been involved in a managerial change-around. First of all Hakan Hayrettin left his post at National League bottom club Braintree Town after they had recorded their best result of the season when they hammered Barnet 4-0 ! He has now gone to Maidstone United as assistant to their new boss John Still, who had supposedly retired after leaving Barnet. Still's place at The Hive has been taken by

Darren Currie, who had been second-in-charge there. One of Darren's first matches saw the Bees record an excellent F.A. Cup win at Sheffield United.

Player movement finds Russell Martin at some Club in North Bucks, Joel Grant at Mansfield, Randell Williams at Exeter, Bryn Morris at Portsmouth and Dan Scarr at Walsall, while Danny Rowe has left Frickley Athletic to join Whitby Town. While reading the Non-League Paper recently, I noticed that Reece Styche, who had a disappointing goalless spell with us in the 2013/14 season, had been sent off playing for Alfreton Town.

IN THE PAST

On the first weekend in March, five years ago we gained a useful point in a 1-1 draw at Southend as our relegation battle to avoid the drop into non-league football continued. After a scoreless first half at Roots Hall, Barry Corr gave the Shrimpers a 63rd minute lead. We equalised just six minutes later when substitute Paris Cowan-Hall, who had only been on the field a few minutes, crashed a shot against the bar. As it dropped down it entered the net via keeper Daniel Bentley's back.

Our line-up that afternoon was : Ingram, McCoy, Wood, Scowen, L. Johnson, Stewart, Arnold (Cowan-Hall), Craig (Morgan), McClure (Kuffour), Kretzschmar, Bloomfield .



Ten years ago, we were chasing promotion from League Two when Chester City visited Adams Park. Goals from Matt Phillips (25m.) and Jon-Paul Pittman (66m.) gave us a comfortable 2-0 win. The line-up was: Young, Casement, Woodman, L. Johnson, McCracken, Mousinho, Phillips (Spence), Doherty, Pittman (Harrold), Beavon (Ashton, Zebroski).

Twenty years ago and we were in another relegation struggle and trying to find our feet under new Manager Lawrie Sanchez as old adversaries Colchester came to town. After conceding a first-half goal to the experienced Jason Dozell, we went into time added on 2-1 up thanks to goals from Andy Baird and Keith Scott. Unfortunately, a rare mistake by Dave Carroll, caught in possession in the corner when trying to run the clock down, saw Colchester break away and gain a clear-cut penalty, which David Gregory fired home. So two vital points dropped. Our line-up that afternoon was: Taylor, Wraight, Vinnicombe, Ryan, Cousins, Lawrence, Carroll, Brown, McSporrán (Emblen), Scott, Baird (McCarthy).

FOOTBALL MATTERS

The F.A. have, this season, been giving a trial to sin-bins in some of the leagues at grass-roots level. Instead of a player being booked for dissent he spends ten minutes on the sidelines. There has been a positive feedback so they are going to put it in operation further up the pyramid next season with a view of it eventually being

introduced in the higher levels. Whether it will extend to other minor bookable offences only time will tell. I hope it does and think it's a great idea as it benefits the offending player's opponents on the day and not any future opposition if the player concerned is suspended. It has been used for some time now in Rugby Union and I think that football can learn from them. It might make players think twice about letting their team mates down.

As usual the views on anything footballwise are mine and not necessarily those of the Committee. If anyone has any comments regarding the content of this newsletter please contact me on 07484 723982 or d Finch105@btinternet.com

Dave Finch (OWWSA Committee Member)