



Welcome to the latest edition of the Newsletter. As usual I hope that you enjoy reading it, please pass it on to friends and relatives to show them that we are much more than a travel club.



Our AGM is to be held in the Honours Lounge on Thursday, 17th October at 7.30 pm.

It will follow the usual course of the Association's business first. Lynden, Steve, Rena and yours truly have to stand for re-election.

All of us wish to carry on but, if anyone wishes to put themselves forward for election, then please find someone to second you and put it in writing to Lynden at 18, Fennels Farm Road, Flackwell Heath, Bucks HP10 9BS or E-Mail her at [lyndenfinch@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lyndenfinch@hotmail.co.uk).

*She must receive this by 14 days prior to the meeting.*

After the formalities there will be an open meeting with Peter Couhig, Trevor Stroud and one of the playing management staff, which non-members are welcome to attend.

There will be refreshments laid on between the two meetings.

#### **BIG SCREEN**



I am sure that you have all seen the new screen this season. This was part funded, with a donation of £4,250 by your Association. So a big thank you to everyone who has supported our social events and travelled with us to away matches, which has raised funds to help the Club over the last few seasons. In total we have contributed £93,000 towards various equipment.

#### **SOCIAL EVENTS**

On Friday, 1st November we are planning on staging a Bingo Night as opposed to the usual Race Night, due to dwindling turnouts for the latter over the last two years.

Any views or ideas from any of you are always welcome. Please contact Sue on 07730 497745 or E-Mail her at [mccloudsue80@gmail.com](mailto:mccloudsue80@gmail.com)



*We need Raffle Prizes for our upcoming events, if you have any you can give them to Marion Lunnon, Sue McCloud or any member of the committee.*

#### **MEMBERSHIP & TRAVEL**



Those of you who haven't renewed your membership and intend to do so please contact Graham as soon as possible. There is no need to fill in a form so just give your £12 fee to him and let him know if there are any changes to your address, etc. New members will have to complete a form though. This is available from Graham or can be downloaded from the OWWSA website.

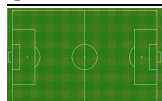
Our next away trip is on Saturday, 14th September to Gillingham (I hope the weather is better than last season!). The departure time from Adams Park is 11.00, with the cost for adult members being £18. The usual discounts for seniors and juniors apply, as does the £5 surcharge for non-members. Please note that if a game is called off after the coach has left the depot there is no refund for non-members. Another good reason to become a member.



*For our last but one away game of the season, at Lincoln on Saturday, 18th April, we are planning a weekend trip, going on the Friday and returning on the Monday. Anyone interested please let Rena know so she can sort details out with Roger Mott.*

For all trips Rena can be contacted on 01494 520179 and Graham on 07876 267301 (no texts though) or see them in their booth in the corridor of the Vere Suite.

#### ON THE FIELD OF PLAY



Well, what a start to the season and how about the finish to that last game! (this is being written on the Thursday after the Southend match). Gareth has assembled probably the best all-round squad since Paul Lambert's one of 2006/07 which reached the semi-final of the League Cup, in which we drew 1-1 with Chelsea in the first leg at home before losing 4-0 at Stamford Bridge.

We have genuine competition in all positions, which has shown in the goalscoring. There have been eight different players to find the back of the net already (or nine if you count Southend's Mark Milligan!). Already, some of the new players are making a name for themselves and how good it is to see Fred back and carrying on where he left off from his previous spells here.

Having said that, for me, the stand-out players have been some who have been here a while. Anthony Stewart has been Mister Consistency at the back (please stay injury-free), Dominic Gape, a human dynamo in midfield and in attack (although he doesn't always start) Nick Freeman has shown some amazing skills in setting up chances for his teammates.

Remember we still have Curtis Thompson and Sido Jombati to return from injury.

Gareth will certainly have some thinking to do for team selection then. What a good position to be in though!

**Where are they now?** I paid a visit to Darlington's new

stadium recently, personally completing the three divisions of the National League. Playing in defence for them was Louis Laing, who looked a class act in the 11 games he played for us whilst on loan from Sunderland during the 2011/12 season.

Others who have come to my attention are Kadeem Harris (Sheffield Wednesday), Joel Grant (Plymouth), Alex Jakubiak (Gillingham) who is doing something he couldn't do for us- scoring goals. Nathan Tyson has joined Notts County after scoring a hat-trick in a pre-season friendly and has already got amongst the goals in league games for them. Finally, Aaron Amadi-Holloway has gone to faraway pastures (Australia) to sign for Brisbane Roar, joining up with our ex-goalkeeper Jamie Young.

Footnote- Last time I informed you of Garry Thompson joining Bradford Park Avenue as Player-Manager. Incredibly he got the sack after TWO games! Admittedly both were 5-0 defeats, but it is still a ridiculous decision.

#### BACK IN TIME



On the corresponding weekend five years ago to this coming one (31st) we fought out a goalless draw at

York in League Two with the following line-up: Ingram, Jombati, Jacobson, Rowe, Mawson, Pierre, Cowan-Hall (Kretschmar), Murphy, Hayes (McClure), Craig (Holloway), Wood.



Ten years ago and a League One fixture saw us come from behind (sounds familiar) at Adams Park against our West Country friends Bristol Rovers.

They had taken the lead in the 26th minute. Matt Phillips equalised ten minutes later with a superb shot from outside the area. Jon-Paul Pittman then grabbed the winner with ten minutes to go after coming on as a substitute.

The team line-up was: Shearer, Moncur, Woodman, Green, Duberry, Oliver, Zebroski, Westlake (Beavon), Harrold (Pittman), Mousinho, Phillips. The attendance that afternoon was 5,214.

Twenty years ago we visited Gillingham for a Division Two (now League One) fixture and came away from Priestfield with a 2-2 draw after an eventful game.

Referee David Elleray awarded two penalties in the first half. After a trip on Andy Baird, Steve Brown scored from the spot in the 34th minute. Five minutes later, Paul McCarthy gave away a foul at the other end from which the Gills duly equalised.

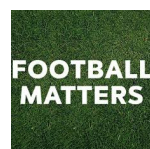
Things looked good with ten minutes to go as McCarthy made amends when he scored with a looping header. However, a mistake in the 84th minute by Martin Taylor left Gillingham with an open goal, which they seized upon to score the equaliser.

Our line-up was: Taylor, Lawrence, Beeton, Simpson (Holsgrove), McCarthy, Bates, Carroll (Harkin), Ryan, McSporran, Baird (Emblen), Brown

Thirty years ago we were a non-league Club and on this weekend Darlington, fresh from relegation from the Football League, visited Loakes Park for a Vauxhall Conference fixture.

A crowd of 2,620 saw the visitors have the better of things, although only winning by a single goal scored in the 56th minute.

Our team being: Granville, A. Kerr, Stapleton (Blackler), Creaser, Wicks (Butler), Franklin, Carroll, Robinson, West, Sanderson, Durham.



I had got a couple of topics to discuss but they can keep after the sad news of Bury's demise. Apart from my thoughts of sadness for their supporters (I always found Gigg Lane a friendly place to visit) I have just this to say to Steve Dale, The F.A. and the Football League for allowing it to happen- SHAME ON YOU!

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 or have anything they would like to see included please contact me on 07484 723982 or [dfinch105@btinternet.com](mailto:dfinch105@btinternet.com).  
Dave Finch (OWWSA Committee Member)