

Welcome to the monthly newsletter for Eastbourne Walking Footballers.

November 2021 Issue

Editorial

Eastbourne Borough Walking Football Club is your club: it is the members that make it so good. Some of those members put aside some of their spare time to serve on your committee and to organize the activities that we all enjoy.

On behalf of everyone, thank you to Club Captain Roy Fouracres, who has contributed a lot to leading the club over the past four years but is asking for someone else to step forward.

Also thank you very much to David Blackburn, who has ably filled the post of Chairperson: David is not standing again.

Covid has limited what Brian LeGrove has been able to contribute as Social Secretary, but thanks to him, especially for all that he did in this role in 2018 and 2019.

Thanks too to Brian for stepping in as Treasurer, earlier this year. David Blackledge, as Secretary has done a great deal of work on behalf of the club: we are really lucky to have him.

While thanking these stalwarts, it is appropriate to also give 3 cheers to Phil Cousens and all our Referees and to Paul Sutton, Membership Secretary, Ahmad Lalmahomed, Vice Captain and to all those who regularly help set up or clear away on a Tuesday and Thursday.

Going forward we really need a vibrant committee:
what about putting yourself forward for next year's committee?

Any member can stand for Chair, Secretary; Treasurer; Social secretary; Press and PR; Club Captain.

All you need is one member to *propose* you and another to *second* you. If you are thinking of stepping forward, it might be a good idea to talk to the current post-holder about what is involved. Nominations and seconds for the posts should be sent to David Blackledge before 4th November.

Terry Stubbings



Birthdays:

Congratulations and happy returns to our November birthday-boys:

John Bartlett on 14th

Stephen Longbottom on 15th

Bill Shuttleworth on 17th

Brian LeGrove on 23rd

Darryl Mundy on 30th

Get well soon

We hope to welcome back these players back soon:

Carl Memzy; Chris Wheeler; Tom O'Connell; Carl Hodgkinson
Plus, others, if there are any, that we don't know about.

Be afraid of the blade

They approach with a knife

They are caught, sent for trial,

My eyes look for a way out

So arrogant, so in denial

My heart's beating fast

If I had died,

I'm in fear of losing my life

They would be inside

They demand cash and my phone

Nothing can replace

I feel helpless and alone

My losing face

My urine starts to flow

John S. Langton

My bowels let go

They mock and they laugh

'Go home, have a bath'

I fall to the ground, holding my face,

Tears fall, I'm a disgrace

I've lost more than cash and phone

I can't go out on my own

Fore

Another inter- walking football club golf tournament with old Bexhillians was held on 8th October.

There were 13 players 5 from Borough and 8 from Bexhill and we played 9 holes at Lottbridge Drove. The tournament was won by Chris Mottershead, with Paul Sutton getting the prize for closest- to-the-hole with his drive on the short 9th. Bill from Old Bexhillians got the prize for the longest drive on the 8th. Congratulations to these 3 players. Great fun was had by all who participated. All looking forward to the next one. *Alan Walmsley*

Guernsey Festival of Football

Nine Borough players made the trip to Guernsey. Most arrived on Thursday morning and settled into their nice hotel. Unfortunately, there was no football until Friday evening, which was not what the group were expecting. Other visiting teams shared the same hotel, which made for a friendly atmosphere and Guernsey were hospitable but the football on Saturday was disappointing, with poor organisation, weak refereeing (except for Phil Cousens), too many underage players and less football than everyone expected.

Roy Fouracres and David Blackledge were interviewed by BBC Channel Islands News and appeared in a local TV broadcast.



EAST SUSSEX LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

Monday October 04 2021 6-15pm

Bohemia Road, Hastings

Our league Team played in a fabulously entertaining match against a decent Hastings side on a wet blustery evening at Bohemia Road.

The match started at a frantic pace with the ball zipping off a very fast surface. Hastings had an early chance resulting in a rightfully disallowed goal for running. Borough soon adjusted to the conditions and were tactically astute against a well organized side. The defence of Gary Farthing and Mike Richardson were resolute and Terry Bellamy scored the opener with a fabulous shot from a tight angle and the Borough went on to take a 3-0 half time lead with two goals from Tom Chapman.



There was a feeling that the game was comfortably going Borough's way but two second half Hastings substitutions changed the shape and focus of the home team. Borough made good use of their squad: Les Ward came on for Mike Richardson, who had played superbly alongside Gary Farthing; and Ahmad Lalmahomed and Antonio Forte were used as rolling substitutes in a well-balanced team.

The second half was scintillating with Hastings fighting their way back with 4 goals but the Borough scored at crucial times to maintain a lead with a full time score of 5-4 in favour of the visitors, after more goals for Terry Bellamy and Tom Chapman with crucial assists from Antonio Forte.

It's hard to nominate a man of the match in such a good team display but special mention for a true captain's performance from Terry Bellamy and of course hat trick hero Tom.

Also a mention for the referee Jesse - a good performance with the whistle in a well mannered game played in a good spirit .

Borough B squad: Tony Edwards, Gary Farthing, Mike Richardson,

Les Ward, Terry Bellamy (Captain), Ahmad Lalmahomed, Tom Chapman, Antonio Forte

EAST SUSSEX LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

Monday October 11 2021 8-15pm

Kings Academy Ringmer

An autumnal evening game against a good Ringmer side, on an exceptionally good surface at a modern new ground saw Borough win a hard fought game against a well organized team.

The home squad set out their stall with a three man defence which our forward line initially found difficult to break down, but eventually the chances came only to be foiled by "the man of the match" Ringmer keeper who was solely responsible for keeping the score at one nil after Tom Chapman had scored the only goal of the game. The keeper made some outstanding saves from Steve Over, Richard Brook, Dave O'Toole and Terry Bellamy and whilst Dave Blackledge made some good stops and Les Ward and Terry Stubbings looked secure in defence, Borough had most of the ball, creating some chances, including Steve Over hitting the post and were worthy winners.



Both sides started the game at a fast pace - often too fast leading to a blue card for Ringmer's number 11 but several of our players were also guilty of excessive speed. Phil Cousens had a tough time controlling the game with much "advice" from the home bench.

Overall it was a competent team performance which made good use of a decent squad to gain a useful 3 points.

Borough squad: Terry Bellamy, David Blackledge, Richard Brook, Tom Chapman, Gary Farthing, David O'Toole, Steve Over, Terry Stubbings, Les Ward

EAST SUSSEX LEAGUE PREMIERSHIP

Saturday October 30 2021 8-15pm

Priory Lane, Eastbourne

Borough did well to get a result against a strong Hastings team. Borough started with a 2-2-1 formation, while Hastings played just one at the back, allowing them to begin to dominate in midfield. Despite this, Borough had chances on the break and after about 5 minutes, Chris Turner managed to cut in from the right and send a fierce shot from a tight angle into the top left corner of the Hastings goal. After this, Hastings were repeatedly winning the ball and putting the Borough defence under pressure. However, Les Ward was having a strong half and blocked many attacks, while David Blackledge was putting in a man-of-the-match performance, in goal. The score remained 1-0 until halftime.

Changes were made at halftime, with Terry Stubbings, to play as one at the back, coming on for Les Ward, Gary Farthing pushing from defence into midfield and Richard Brook also coming into midfield, while Chris Turner and Steve Over shared the half, as striker. These changes reduced Hastings chances but they still had quite a few, with David Blackledge making some great saves. Borough had several chances of their own, Richard Brook created a good chance but crashed his shot against the post. Steve Over produced a thunderbolt but somehow the Hastings keeper pushed it onto the post. There were no further goals and so Borough ran out 1-0 winners. Thanks to all club members who turned up to make a good crowd of supporters.

Profile: Bob Bagley



Bob is originally from Glasgow, born in Govan, within walking distance of Ibrox stadium, the home of Glasgow Rangers. Bob is the youngest of five children and has been a Rangers fan from birth. (Sir) Alex Ferguson also grew up in Govan and when Bob first went to matches he was playing as a

striker, or centre forward as they used to be called. Incidentally Bob's middle name is Ferguson but that is just coincidence, to Bob's knowledge they not related in any way.

Bob has now lived in the south of England for 46 years. Most of his adult life he worked in the betting industry, starting as a trainee manager for Ladbrokes in 1976. Bob has managed shops in Southampton, Hastings and Margate until he was given the opportunity to manage a group of shops in East Sussex, based in Eastbourne. This was the time when he met his wife Diane. It was at Hove actually, at the dog track, of course, during a social event for Ladbrokes staff. Bob often remind himself that Diane was the only winner he picked that night. Bob and Diane soon married and set up home firstly in St. Leonards on sea and then they moved to Westham, Pevensey in 1985, on Live Aid day. Our three children were all born in East Sussex. Apart from a four year spell in East Grinstead, whilst working at Ladbrokes HQ in London, Diane and Bob have lived in this area. When Bob left Ladbrokes, he eventually became Business Development Manager for Tote Bookmakers, covering the south of England.

Bob has been involved in walking football for over five years, starting with Crisp Walkers at Eastbourne Sports Park and since he retired in 2019 playing at Eastbourne Borough. Walking football has been a great benefit to Bob, despite being out through injury earlier this year, and he says he has met some great people also, some of whom he regularly plays golf with.