

# Welcome to the monthly newsletter for Eastbourne walking footballers.

July 2022 Issue

## Editorial

Every month, I sit down at the computer and my wife says 'what are you doing, not another bloody newsletter?' Well, I only think of it as a *bloody* newsletter when I try to write the editorial because often I have no idea what to write, so this month, as Eddie Waring used to say 'that's all you're getting'.

Enjoy the summer and enjoy your football.

Terry Stubbings

## Birthdays:

*Congratulations and  
happy returns to:*

Mike Gonnella on 1<sup>st</sup>

Richard Brook on 6<sup>th</sup>

Ken Barnard on 16<sup>th</sup>

Steve Over on 27<sup>th</sup>

Tom O'Connell on 30<sup>th</sup>

Stephen Pulman and Mike Bridger on 31<sup>st</sup>

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## Get well soon

We hope to welcome back these members back soon:

Anita Pickles; John Barry; David Blackburn; Jane Draper; Graham Booth; Mike Winton; Cole Memzy;

Plus, others, if there are any, that we don't know about.

### Things to look forward to

North Lanark lads will be coming down 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September.

Club's Christmas in January 2023.

### Committee meeting

Any member can attend a committee meeting, as an observer: the next meeting is on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July, 12.15 pm

### Acorns Trust by John Daly

By way of introduction, I am the dashing good-looking and difficult-to-beat goalkeeper (ok balding and overweight) who plays most Tuesday mornings and I am also the Eastbourne Borough Steward that stands by the main gates and greets everyone on match days. What a lot of you will not know is that I am also a trustee of the *Acorns Charitable Trust*.

I have approached *Eastbourne Borough Walking Football Club* to request a yearly donation to our charity (a proposal which will be discussed at the AGM) and so I thought it would be a good idea to explain who the trust is and what we as trustees do.

In 1978 a group of like-minded individuals from the *Langney Community Association* wanted to preserve and enhance green spaces in which to play football for the community, and in 1979 the current site on Priory Lane was rented from the council, the site was developed into the current stadium and facilities by the hard work of volunteers and donations from the community.

In 1984 the first football matches take place on site involving *Langney Sports FC* with the stadium being completed in 1989.

In 2002 the playing fields are converted into the *Eastbourne Borough FC* and the club is registered with the *Charity Commission* as community interest club with the trust currently owning 51% of the Eastbourne Borough football club, in the form of shares

In 2018 the charity which had operated under the name *East Sussex Community Trust* since 2002 changed its name to the *Acorns Charitable Trust*.

This year the trust were able, through its fund raising efforts, to purchase the Priory road site from *Eastbourne Borough Council* and it will become a Fields-in-trust site so it can never change from its sport and community-based use.

The Acorns Trust continue to raise funds to expand the site further, with the intention of increasing the numbers of sports available to the community. One of the methods of raising funds is to ask all *Eastbourne Borough FC* supporters and users of Priory Lane to make the *Acorns Charitable Trust* their nominated charity on sites like Amazon and PayPal, as if you make a purchase and do this, these companies make a small donation to us. It would be great if some of you chose to do this.

In recent years the trust has made significance donations to charities, including charities supporting respite care and to those involved in the battle against knife crime. As a trust, we are looking to expand on the charities we support and are looking at local charities for which we can raise awareness and provide donations.

If *Eastbourne Borough Walking Football Club* would be prepared to donate to the Trust on a yearly basis you would have an input in selecting small independent charities that you would like us to jointly support, perhaps pertinent to our age group: some suggestions being dementia support, prostate cancer, or stroke support, mental health in men etc, however any other suggestions would be great.

Walking football has for me been a great source of joy and team building and ensures my mental health remains in a very good place even when I lose, I hope that is you can agree to a yearly donation, we could go in some small way to really helping our local community in whatever area is chosen.

If any individual member wants to personally support the trust, please contact me, John Daly.

Age UK East Sussex League .

*Saturday 18th June 2022 10-00 Bexhill College,*

***Borough squad of nine: Roy Fouracres, Ahmad Lalmahomed, Ian Nisbet, Tony Edwards, Les Ward, Mike Gonnella, Steve Over, Brian Barber, Steve Benterman.***

### ***Bexhill1 Eastbourne 2***

The final Premiership game of the season took the Borough to local rivals Bexhill for a 10-00 kick off with the temperature in excess of 25C.

Despite the heat the game was played at a pace which did result in many running infringements with players at risk of blue cards. Bexhill had the best of the first half chances with Tony Edwards making two very good saves when one on one. A dubiously executed free kick gave Bexhill a one goal advantage just after the half

time break (although the game was actually played as four quarters to allow for water breaks due to the heat).

Borough made good use of their squad with well timed rolling substitutions. We played well as a team and maintained our discipline and shape and were always in the game. Opportunities opened up when a Bexhill forward talked himself into a red card (having previously been blue carded for running infringements and a second round of two more!) for dissent leaving the ref Jessie very little choice but to send him off. As space opened up Mike and Steve Over exploited it well for a fine equaliser by Steve Over after a well timed challenge by Mike.

Bexhill seemed to lose their composure after the sending off and Mike Gonnella had the chance to put us ahead; which he did with some aplomb scoring from a fine strike at an acute angle. A really good goal! which turned out to be the winner!

Whilst the whole squad played really well in a very good team performance Steve Over and Mike Gonnella were the definite candidates for man of the match ; Mike Gonnella just gets it for a determined performance whilst carrying an injury but Steve Over's tireless movement and availability up front was commendable (and a very well taken goal!).

Overall it was a competent team performance which reflected the effort put in at Tony's Tuesday training sessions.

A good win to finish the season.



*Team photo, Ahmad and Steve missing (Ahmad turned up after and Steve took the photo!)*



*Mike being interviewed by Roy after his man of the match performance explaining how well he played, setting up the first goal and how wonderful his strike was for the second.*

Player Profile: Roger Barnett

Roger was born, the eldest of three brothers, in Lewisham, South-East London and grew up in Bellingham opposite Atherney Primary School, where he began his education. The boy Roger sat next to, as a five year old, later became Roger's brother-in-law! Roger was good at sport from an early age, picked for the school football team, as a defender or, since he was pretty nifty, as a winger. On Saturday afternoons, Roger went with his Dad to Cold Blow Lane to watch the mighty Millwall and has followed the Lions ever since.



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Roger moved on to Downham School, at age eleven but soon after the school closed (it is unclear whether Roger was responsible for this, in any way), so then it was Catford Boys. Roger was still quite a sportsman and became South London boys' 220 yard athletics champion.

After O-levels, Roger left school and took an engineering apprenticeship, along with a City and Guilds qualification, with Wrays Opticals, which manufactured binoculars, periscopes and other opticals.

Next in Roger's career was a maintenance role in a tannery at Elmer's End, where he worked with a Harry Secombe look-alike, a man who laughed so much he would fall over! Roger was now courting and in the hope of being able to buy a house, he moved in with family at Whitstable, working on maintenance at Whitstable Harbour.

Unfortunately, this didn't quite work out, so it was back to South London and, just like Reg Varney, it was 'On the Buses'.

50 years ago, this year, Roger married Susan and bought his first home, a maisonette in Bromley. Susan and Roger have two boys, Andrew and Addy.

Sport was always important to Roger: In 1987 he ran the London Marathon, in a just a smidgeon over 4 hours. London Transport had a great sports club and Roger was a keen member: among other things he was a member of the New Cross Garage winning *SuperStars* team (*SuperStars* was a multi- sport contest, in which 8 or so gym tests and sports we tackled). Part of the reason for Roger being such a superstar was that he was rowing regularly, as a member of the Greenwich-based Globe Rowing Club. The picture shows Roger, as part of the Globe RC coxed four, at an international event in Berlin. This was a trip that could have ended in disaster, after the crew, while practicing, steered towards and stretch of open water. Suddenly, there was an East German soldier pointing a gun at them. They had veered into the demilitarised zone, between West and East Berlin and were yards away from the Democratic German Republic.



*Roger rowing in Berlin- guess which one he is (answer next month or just ask Roger)*

Roger moved to Eastbourne 5 years ago. Roger is an enthusiastic Eastbourne Borough season-ticket holder. While walking his dog, near Priory Lane, Roger got talking to Mark Hardcastle and found out about Walking Football and has come along regularly. Roger is the ultimate utility player- goalkeeper, defender, midfielder and he's also been known to score the occasional goal.

### Season's end for Age Uk East Sussex League

A few stats:

A Team      Won 5, Drawn 2, Lost 2, Goals For 11, Goals Against 11, Points 17 (Includes a match against Uckfield, who subsequently withdrew from the competition)

B Team Won 5, Drawn 0, Lost 4, Goals For 15, Goals Against 16, Points 15 (Includes a match against Old Stars, who subsequently withdrew from the competition)

Number of Members taking part: 34 (26 for the A Team, 28 for the B Team)

Appearances and goals scored:

	<u>A Team</u>	<u>B Team</u>	<u>Total</u>
Brian Barber	1		1
John Bartlett		1	1
Terry Bellamy	3	8 (3)	11 (3)
Steve Benterman	6	1	7
Dave Blackburn	1		1
Dave Blackledge	3	5	8
Mike Bridger	1	7	8
Richard Brook	7 (1)	2 (1)	9 (2)
Tom Chapman	1	4 (4)	5 (4)
Andy Dixon	3	1	4
Tony Edwards	4	2	6
Gary Farthing	5	2	7
Antonio Forte		3	3
Roy Fouracres	5	2	7
Mike Gonnella	1 (1)	1	2 (1)
Ahmed Lalmahomed	1	3	4
Maurice Lawlor	1	2	3
Paul Lockwood		2	2
Steve Longbottom		2	2
Cole Memzy	1		1
Kim Monroe	3 (2)		3 (2)

Chris Mottershead	1		1
Ian Nisbet	2	6	8
Dave O'Toole	4 (1)	1	5
Steve Over	6 (4)	6 (5)	12 (9)
Mark Reed		1	1
Ray Richards		1	1
Mike Richardson		5	5
Graham Skinner	2		2
Chris Smith	1	1	2
Terry Stubbings	5	5	10
Chris Turner	4 (2)	1 (2)	5 (4)
Alan Walmsley		1	1
Les Ward	6	2	8

Nice to see so many members being involved in this.