

Welcome to this month's newsletter for Eastbourne walking footballers.

December 2022 Issue

Editorial

We have a new Eastbourne Borough Walking Football Club committee. I hope all members will give their support to Terry Bellamy, Chair; Dave Blackledge, Secretary; Ian Nisbet, Treasurer; Mike Bridger, Club Captain; Andy Dixon, Social Secretary and myself, as Publicity Officer.

Best wishes and Happy Christmas

Terry Stubbings.

Birthdays:

Congratulations and happy returns to our birthday-boys:

Alan Walmsley on 8th December

Graham Skinner on 15th December

Cole Memzy on 23rd December

Ken Eason on 27th December

Jonathan Baugh on 9th December

Terry Bellamy on 21st December

Steven Benterman 24th December

Stop for a cuppa

Every Thursday, there will be free tea or coffee provided in the club house, after the walking football session, as well as sandwiches etc, to buy. So, stay behind for a chat and a snack.

Get well soon

We hope to welcome back these players back soon:

Ian Corfe, Ben Trowell, John Langton, Keith Andrew, Roger Powell, Dave O'Toole, Carl Memzy, Mike Bridger

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

Eastbourne Tournament

Will be on Thursday 15th June 2023 10am - 4pm

Andy Dixon would like volunteers to help with the event. Members should speak to Andy if they are interested.

Southern Combination League

Saturday 19th November 2022 12-45
Hastings Academy.

Borough squad of nine: Dave Blackledge, Gary Farthing, Les Ward, Richard Brook, Mike Gonella, John Kemp, Mark Reed, Terry Bellamy, Adam Wood



Referee : Mark Vincent

Hastings Hornets 1 - Eastbourne Borough 0

The second league fixture of the season took the Borough to Hastings to play the *Hornets* for a 12-45 kick off at a chilly Hastings Academy. The pitch is a little different to our usual set up in that it is wide (almost square?) with larger goal areas than we are used to.

The first half was an even affair with both sides sharing good possession and chances. John Kemp held the ball well up front and created several chances for our attacking midfielders. Chris Turner was well marshalled by Gary Farthing and when Chris did get shots away he was well off target -but it was a warning of what was to come after the break.



In the second half *Borough* continued with good quality play with lots of chances which were thwarted by an excellent Hastings goalkeeping performance. *Borough* did get the ball into the net but the goal was disallowed by ref Mark, as he'd already blown the whistle for a foul. *Hornets* continued to create chances and clear shots which resulted in truly remarkable saves from Dave Blackledge, who was undeniably our man of the match. Unfortunately, Chris did find his shooting boots for the second half and scored the only goal of the game, as well as testing Dave on several occasions.



Borough were really unlucky to not get anything out of the game. The guys played really well and stuck to our system and created good chances but came up against an excellent in-form keeper who made numerous saves from good quality shots and on another day.....

The match was a good spectacle for the home "crowd" and the small band of travelling supporters from Eastbourne.

Report and photos: Steve Benterman

Player Profile: Ian Nisbet



Ian was born in January 1956, in the town of Folkestone, so making him a 'man of Kent' (rather than a Kentish Man), despite living nearly the whole of his life in Sussex. It was 1959 when Ian's father, who worked as a butcher, moved to live and work in Eastbourne, taking with him young Ian and his older siblings, Bob and Janet. Janet is now living in Adelaide, Australia, having emigrated in 1972. Many of you will know Bob, either because you met him at his butcher's shop in Susan's Road or because you have met him in recent years, playing walking football at Bexhill and representing *the Atha*. Bob's son, Russell, is also Bexhill's sponsor, *Harold's Hog Roast*.

Ian was educated at Roselands School then Stafford School (then on the site of what is now the fire station) before moving onto Cavendish Secondary.

At school, Ian played football up until when he left Cavendish at the age of 15 and moved on to FE college, to study his O-levels. He did come back to the beautiful game, however, in his mid-twenties, playing for a number of local Saturday and Sunday sides.

As an 11 year old, Ian first went to White Hart Lane, taken there by his father to see the mighty Spurs defeat Fulham 4-2, with goals from Alan Gilzean, Jimmy Greaves and two from Cliff Jones. Bob, many years Ian's senior had married a girl from Tottenham, which is part explanation for why *Spurs*. Gordon Jago had recently moved from being Eastbourne United manager to becoming Coach at Fulham, and the Nisbets gave him a lift to London on this particular February Saturday. Ever since, Ian has been a frequent supporter at White Hart Lane/ Tottenham Hotspur Stadium. One of Ian's highlights was watching the second leg of the UEFA Cup final, when Spurs drew 1-1 with Anderlecht, making an aggregate score of 2-2, before going on to win the penalty shootout 4-3 (which remains the most recent European honour won by Tottenham!)

After leaving FE college, Ian had to look around for a job and managed to find one at Eastbourne Borough Council, as a junior in the rate's department. Just a few years later, Ian moved onto Wealden Council, initially in rates-payment enforcement before moving into housing benefits in 1982 after its introduction. He then took his professional exams and became housing benefit manager for over 20 years. The remainder of his working life was in similar work, although when working for *Capita*, in London, Ian's contract work meant Ian used his extensive knowledge of the housing benefit system to assist many of the largest London

Boroughs (many running into hundreds of millions of pounds) to maximise their income from housing benefit.

In 1985, Ian met Eileen, a nurse on the orthopaedic ward of the DGH and married her in 1986. They have a daughter, Katie, and are expecting a first grandchild, in January.

Ian first started playing walking football in 2017, and has represented the club lots of times, including on two tours to Spain.