

Welcome to the monthly newsletter for Eastbourne walking footballers.

December 2021 Issue

Editorial

The end of a strange year. Now we have so many enthusiastic members, it is only a pandemic that can stop us. Hopefully, 2021 will be a near normal year and the club will grow (not too much) and thrive. Good luck to the new Committee, under new (recycled) Chair, Terry Bellamy, ably supported by our excellent Secretary, David Blackledge; Roy Fouracres, our Club Captain; new Treasurer, Ian Nisbet; myself, covering Press and Publicity and Social Secretary, Michael Richardson (with help from Stuart Callf).

Best wishes and season's greetings,

Terry Stubbings

Happy Birthday to

Alan Walmsley on 8th

Jonathan Baugh on 9th

Graham Skinner on 15th

Terry Bellamy on 21st

Cole Memzy on 23rd

Steve Benterman on 24th

Ken Eason on 27th

Get well soon

We hope to welcome back these members back soon:

Mike Winton; Chris Wheeler; Carl Hodgkinson

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

Goodbye and good luck

Very best wishes to Chris Mottershead, as he relocates to Cirencester

Golf

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*

INTER-REGIONAL 70+ WALKING FOOTBALL SUPER-CUP 2021-22

Report by Chris Mottershead

The first round of this competition took place at Solihull on October 31st. The intention is to have three or four Round Robin events with points from all games added up to give the champions for the season.

The North-East did not send a team to Solihull, leaving four regions taking part: North West, Central (i.e. Midlands), South West and South East. The South East squad meets monthly at Billericay for training. Myself and Dave Blackledge are two of the three goalkeepers in the squad of 21.

The four regions taking part were each allowed a squad of up to ten players. Games were six-a-side and 25 mins in length. The 3G pitches were on the small side and the goals were four feet by twelve. The keeper's area was four metres deep at maximum and the penalty spot five metres from the goal line.

Our first game was v the South West. Our front two were quickly causing them problems such that we were three up at half-time! We didn't expect that! Our striker was rested for the second half but we still added another goal to win by four goals to nil. The photo below shows South East players in grey shirts, defending against the South West in white shirts. I'm in goal – photo by wife Sue, one of three wives who were there in support.



Next up was the North West, who won the only previous 70+ inter-regional event - in 2019. This was more like the sort of game we expected – plenty of passing around, keeping possession until a shooting opportunity arose. Our front two produced a goal in the first half and we looked to be holding on to our lead in the second half. The referees gave warnings for running, contact, and tackling from behind, and any player receiving two warnings was quickly substituted to avoid the consequences of a blue card. The pressure built in the second half but we held out for the single goal victory. This result put us in a strong position for the final game.

Central, whose manager is the England 70+ manager, played a good passing game and were less physical than the NW. We thought we had taken the lead early in the first half only to find that the ball had just gone out of play before the ball reached our striker. Central then went down the other end and found enough space to score against us. Behind for the first time, we fought back and equalized before half time. In the second half, the referees' decision to allow the ball to stay in play when bouncing off the back fence, caught us out. One of our defenders entered the D thinking the ball was dead. None of the players spotted it, but the referee did. I dived the right way but couldn't keep the penalty out and we were behind again. We then produced the best reply possible with a team goal of four or five passes from goalie to scorer, 2-2, and there it ended.

Results: Round 1: SW 0 – 4 SE Central 0 – 1 NW
 2: SE 1 – 0 NW SW 0 – 2 Central
 3: NW 2 – 2 SW SE 2 – 2 Central

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals F-A	Points
South East	3	2	1	0	7 - 2	7
Central	3	1	1	1	4 - 3	4
North West	3	1	1	1	3 - 3	4
South West	3	0	1	2	2 - 8	1
North East	-	-	-	-	-	-



SOUTH EAST TEAM

Clubs represented:

Eastbourne
 Garon Park (Southend)
 Godalming
 Huntington
 Kingston
 Little Oakley (Harwich)
 Wakering

East Sussex League Premiership Eastbourne Borough A v Bexhill A November 4th

Bexhill started the game strongly but with Gary Farthing playing intelligently, as the one-at-the-back, could not create more than half chances. After 7 minutes, Kim Monroe, made a good interception, controlled the ball well, took on a Bexhill defender and powered a shot past the Bexhill goalkeeper. In the second half it was more of the same, when Kim Monroe again intercepted and scored with a powerful shot.



Borough looked secure, with David O'Toole and Terry Bellamy tirelessly making themselves available and Steve Over holding the ball up well. There were cameos from Tom Chapman, Richard Brook and Terry Stubbings, as players were rested. Borough squad: David Blackledge, Les Ward, Terry Bellamy, Gary Farthing, Terry Stubbings, David O'Toole, Steve Over, Richard Brook and Tom Chapman



East Sussex League Championship Eastbourne Borough B v Bexhill B November 4th

Two Chris Turner goals won this match for Borough. Eastbourne started well but fell behind to a Bexhill breakaway: Tony Edwards made a good reaction save to a powerful strike but unfortunately the ball rebounded to the Bexhill striker, who made no mistake with his second chance. Antonio Forte had started up front and along



with the tireless Terry Bellamy, was causing problems, without managing to convert any chances into goals but as halftime approached, Chris Turner replaced him. Straight after halftime, Mike Bridger received a pass from Chris Turner and crashed the ball off the goalkeeper's right hand post, with the ball going straight to Chris, who put it into the net. Soon after, it was Chris Turner again, scoring with a strong shot. Equally important to Borough's victory was the good work put in by the defence, particularly by Steve Benterman, who cut out so many of the Bexhill attacks, with his alertness and who was probably man-of-the-match. Ian Nisbet also put in a strong first half performance.

Borough squad: Tony Edwards, Steve Benterman, Roy Fouracres, Ian Nisbet, Andy Dixon, Mike Bridger, Terry Bellamy Chris Turner and Antonio Forte.

East Sussex League Premiership Eastbourne Borough A v Crisp Walkers November 18th

Borough started this match strongly but at the end were lucky to come away with a draw. Gary Farthing put in another good performance, as one-at-the-back but was exposed too often, as the midfield lost their way, a little. There was plenty of activity from David O'Toole, Kim Monroe and Terry Bellamy but without achieving as much as they had, in the previous match.



However, things were looking good, after just a few minutes, as Steve Over, shot strongly, just inside the post, resulting in a fumble from Crisp Walkers and a Borough goal, a lead that lasted until halftime. Crisp Walkers brought on Shaun at halftime and looked a much stronger team, mounting repeated attacks and finding a lot of space, particularly on the left. Maurice Lawlor made some good saves but was not able to cut out an accurate pass from Shaun across his goal area to an unmarked John, the Walker's striker, who coolly placed the ball into the goal. As full time approached, Kim Monroe gave way to Les Ward, who played at the back, allowing Gary Farthing to move to left midfield and this helped Borough to hold on to a point.

Thanks to all club members who turned up to make a good crowd of supporters.

Borough Squad: Terry Bellamy, Roy Fouracres, Maurice Lawlor, Gary Farthing, Kim Monroe, Dave O'Toole, Steve Over, Terry Stubbings, Les Ward

Bexhill Over 70s invitation 28.11.21



Eight Borough players went to Bexhill Leisure Centre to play in a league of 4 teams (2 Borough five-a-side teams, each featuring a guest and 2 Bexhill teams). Generally goals were hard to come by, except in one match when Antonio Forte scored five goals, including two penalties. The match between Maurice Lawlor's team and Chris Mottershead team finished as a no-score draw.

Borough Squad: Roy Fouracres, Maurice Lawlor, Antonio Forte, Chris Mottershead, Terry Stubbings, Brian LeGrove, Michael Richardson, John Langton



Profile: Andy Dixon

Andy, your new Vice Captain, was asked to write something about himself and this is what he wrote

Having been born in Stratford-upon-Avon, I moved to a lovely village, Swanmore in Hampshire, which is situated in the middle of a triangle of Southampton, Portsmouth & Winchester, when I was about 5 years old. I attended the local schools before going on to take my A-levels and then starting my career in banking at age 18. To be honest I didn't really have a clue what I wanted to do and banking seemed a sensible option as I liked Maths! Having worked for Lloyds Bank in and around Southampton I met my wife Sue, who also worked at the Civic Centre Branch in Southampton. We have now been married for 43 years and have 2 wonderful daughters & 4 grandchildren. Some of you have already met my eldest grandson Finley who has been to a couple of our sessions. He particularly likes playing against Maurice! My

eldest daughter (Finley's mum) and her family live in Basingstoke and my youngest daughter & her family live very close to us in Hailsham: ideal for babysitting!

My banking career took me into the world of investment banking where I worked for Lloyds Private Banking for 20 years plus. I was transferred to the Eastbourne office in 1994, for what was meant to be a maximum of 3 years. At the time the move was quite an upheaval as we knew nothing about East Sussex. As my role in banking expanded, I ended up traveling around the South Coast looking after the bank's 'high net worth' customers and here we still are in same house all these years later. I took early retirement from the Bank after some 35 years, mainly because Sue had been suffering from Multiple Sclerosis and her condition was worsening. I was finding it difficult to balance home life with work. In fairness and great credit to Sue, she very rarely complains about her condition and she is probably the bravest and strongest person I know. Having had a break from work for a couple of years and sorted things out at home to make life easier for us both I started to get itchy feet and went back to work. It was certainly a lot different from my time in Lloyds and before I knew it I had done 9 years at Chandlers BMW & Mini in Hailsham. This was very much a part time job where I could walk to and from work and had every Wednesday off plus weekends. Having known little about cars I can now safely say I still don't! Just before Covid hit us Chandlers or Group 1 (the American Parent Company) decided to relocate the team I was working in to Chelmsford and that was the right time for me to call it a day. This then opened a new chapter for me ie Walking football. My wife had said to me that I needed to get a hobby or broaden my interests and when someone mentioned to me that I should try walking football it seemed a good idea. I started initially playing at the Sports Hall with Crisp Walkers on Thursday evenings, where I met Ian, Bob and Adam and also John Daly, who has recently started playing with us. So when I left Chandlers it seemed the ideal time to try out Eastbourne Borough which I have greatly enjoyed & been made to feel very welcome and even allowed to join some of them for 'refreshments' after the Thursday sessions! My fitness has gradually improved despite the enforced layoffs, although doubtful that my footballing abilities have improved. I have now got over the stage where I could barely walk up or down the stairs for 2 days or more after our Tuesday and Thursday sessions. I do try and fit in some cycling both on my outdoor bike and exercise bike to try to give myself some extra fitness. I particularly like cycling down to the coast and enjoying a latte and a sausage roll. More recently I have also taken up refereeing where, with the help of Phil, have now been signed off along with Brian, Steve and Tony to join our existing team of refs.



Why do I support Southampton? As I lived in Hampshire, I had the choice of Saints or Pompey. My father took me to see both and I suppose I became hooked when one of the first games was watching Saints wallop Wolves 9-3. I have also watched a couple of other games recently involving a 9-0 scoreline but enough said about that. My boyhood heroes were Terry Paine, the great Ron Davies and Mike Channon (who lived just down the road from us). I was fortunately to see the Saints annihilate Man United in the famous 76 FA Cup Final and have the shirt to prove it happened. I have been and still am a season ticket holder and try to get as many home games as possible. I even go to the odd away game (Brighton). I have thought about changing my allegiance to Brighton, but I just can't do it. Finley has also been converted to a Saints fan although he is more interested in playing than watching now, but comes with me when he can. I recently went on the Guernsey Tour where the company and rapport was great and I got to know some of you a lot better and can see why the Eastbourne Borough Walking Football club is so important in providing the opportunity for us to take up football again and to have a good laugh & enjoy good company.