



Welcome to this month's Newsletter for Eastbourne Walking Footballers. June 2023

Editorial

A new month and we have something special to look forward to, on Thursday 15th June- our own tournament. Lots of you have volunteered to help with the smooth running of the tournament and we are really grateful to you. Thanks too to all those who help out throughout the year, with setting up pitches, packing up afterwards, washing bibs, coaching, refereeing and club administration We really are lucky to have such a friendly and vibrant club.

I am sure that we will have great day on the 15th and show kindness and respect to all our visitors. Let's keep fingers crossed for good weather.

Best wishes,

Terry Stubbings

Birthdays:

Congratulations and happy returns to those with a June birthday:

Paul Sutton on 8th

Mick Brady on 16th

Adam Wood on 25th

Get well soon

We hope to welcome back these players back soon:

Dave Waller. Antonio Forte, Michael Richardson, Roger Powell, John Barry, Ron Bishop, Jonathon Baugh

WFA National Cup Over 60s

6th May Eastbourne Borough 0 Woodnesborough 2



Borough Over 60s are out of the WFA National Cup. The visitors to a wet Sunshine Coast are from near Sandwich in Kent and are Kent League champions.

Borough started well, keeping the ball well but without really managing any convincing attacks. Woodnesborough's main tactic was to have four at the back and a single player upfront, who was fed with the ball as often as possible, holding it up until he got support. Gary Farthing was doing really well at the back to frustrate these attacks but was unlucky, as halftime approached, when a Woodies' shot deflected off his hip, completely wrong-footing Dave Blackledge in the Borough goal and making the score 0-1.

In the second half it was more of the same, although more Borough passes were going astray. There were some promising attacks down the right side and Adam Wood and Tom Chapman got shots in, without managing to trouble the opposition goalie much, while Dave Blackledge was having a lot to do and playing really well, to keep Borough in the tie. However, he could do nothing against a strong shot, placed just inside his left hand post after a tiring Borough defence were slow to close down the Woodies' player in the right wing position.

Borough squad: Dave Blackledge, Tom Chapman, Brian Barber, Gary Farthing, Adam Wood, Terry Bellamy, Terry Stubbings, Mike Bridger

WFA National Cup Over 50s

6th May Eastbourne Borough 3 Hastings United 1

report by Les Ward

Borough progressed to the third round of the WFA National Cup over 50s with a victory over fellow Southern Combination rivals Hastings United on a wet day at Priory Lane.

The visitors were favourites, as they had beaten the home side twice in the league encounters, but the home side started on the front foot and created a couple of early opportunities which gave them belief that there was chance to get something from the game. The team showed changes from the league squad with Steve Over and Darren Shoemsmith playing and they were combining to good effect supported by Ben Trowell and Mark Reed. Another change was Richard Brook playing in an unfamiliar role at the back where he performed very well.

As expected the visitors began to create chances of their own and Tony Edwards, in the Borough goal, made some superb stops to thwart them, one particular interception with his leg

to cut out a cross, prevented what would have been a tap in at the far post. Borough were also threatening at the other end and could have gone ahead but fell behind towards the end of the first half when a low drive finally beat the home keeper. Although trailing the home team responded well and equalised a few minutes later when a shot from Mark Reed deflected over the goalkeeper. The second period produced a game which ebbed and flowed as both teams went for the win and it was Borough who struck early in the half when Mark Reed scored his second of the game with a powerful drive set up by Steve Over. Hastings responded to this goal and had several chances to draw level but, as in the first half, found Tony Edwards difficult to beat as he made a string of fine saves to deny them a leveller. John Kemp replaced Mark Reed with eight minutes left and he put the game out of the visitors reach with a composed close range finish. Hastings, to their credit, kept going to the end to try and rescue the game but the home team held out for a fine victory. The second round sees Borough get a bye so they await their next opponents in round three.

Borough squad: Richard Brook, Tony Edwards, John Kemp, Steve Over, Mark Reed, Darren Shoesmith, Ben Trowell, Les Ward.

Player Profile: Tony Edwards

Tony was conceived in London and born at a very young age, over 60 years ago, in Sussex. While at school, Tony shone at sport, playing rugby and cricket for the school, representing Sussex as a 100metre sprinter and also playing for the county side at football, as a nippy midfielder. Tony was first earning at 14, delivering newspapers and at 16 he left school and went to work with his dad. The family firm was involved in haulage and removals, and working for it has a long term effect on Tony's back. Tony has had a range of businesses, including buying and selling cars, selling animal feed, having a chicken farm and is now a taxi driver. Tony played in midfield for Hailsham Town from the age of 15 and later he played in the Isthmian League for Gerry Boon's Eastbourne United. What do Erling Haaland and Tony Edwards have in common? They have both scored in an FA Cup tie- Tony's was against the mighty Dorking Town. At 28 Tony left playing football behind, mainly because he was suffering with his back but Tony has been Assistant Manager for Lewes U23s, Hailsham Town U23s and first team and also for Peacehaven. It was Les Ward who got Tony along to walking football, where he as re-invented himself as a goalkeeper and he has taken on managing the Borough Walking Football league team. Tony has 4 children, 3 grandchildren. Callum, the youngest of his children played youth football under Gus Poyet at Brighton, as well as playing for Lewes and Burgess Hill.


