

# Welcome to the June monthly newsletter for

## Eastbourne walking footballers.

June 2021 Issue

### Editorial

The Newsletter is back. Being a rather weak, sickly publication, it was necessary to shield during the pandemic but now it is fully vaccinated- not just against Covid but also against Yellow Fever, Ebola and Japanese Encephalitis. Of course, it will take a little time to regain fitness and to shift a few of the lockdown pounds but that is true of many of you, too.

It was good to see our captain, Roy, watching some of the action on Thursday and hope it won't be long until he is back to playing. Roy said afterwards that he was upset to see so much running and wants everyone of us to make more effort to remember that we are playing walking football.

Best wishes

Terry Stubbings

### Happy Birthday to you

Heidi Emery on the 2<sup>nd</sup>

Paul Sutton on the 7<sup>th</sup>

Andrew Dixon on 11<sup>th</sup>

Michael Brady on the 16<sup>th</sup>

Tony Cleaton on the 18<sup>th</sup>

Adam Wood on 25<sup>th</sup>

## Get well soon

We hope to welcome back these players back soon:

Stephen Longbottom; Chris Wheeler; Graham Booth; Roy Fouracres  
Plus, others, if there are any, that we don't know about.

## Dates for your Diary

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June: visit from Bexhill over-70s team

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July: visit from the Brummie Boys. This will include a Borough select team playing the visitors for the Mark Hardcastle Challenge Cup.

## Hip, hip hooray

Congratulations to Jude Hawes, invited back to the second stage of the trials for the England Women's walking football team.

Well done to Chris Mottershead and David Blackledge, invited back to the second stage of SE regional over-70s trials Three cheers for Tony Edwards, David O'Toole and Steve Over invited back to the second stage of SE regional over-50s trials.

## Thanks

Thanks to all those who help set up and put always on Tuesdays and Thursdays, especially Brian LeGrove, Phil Cousens; Paul Sutton, Roger Barnett, John Langton and Roy Fouracres (currently excused).

Thanks to all our referees: we really appreciate the tricky job that you do.

## Want even more walking football?

Did you know that there is also Walking Football at Hampden Park Sports Centre, Saturday mornings on the astroturf: 10 am start. This is nothing to do with our club but some members go along and play.

## National Cup

This will begin in early July. We have entered an over 60 team. Our squad is

Striker  
Bob B

Midfielders  
Terry B, Dave B, Mike B, Carl H, Dave O

Defenders  
Andrew D, Roy 4, Brian L, Terry S, Les W.

Goal Keepers  
Dave B, Maurice L, Chris M, Alan W.

## Player Profiles

### *Ahmad Lalmahomed*

Ahmad was born in Mauritius, at that time a British colony, in the early 1950s, one of 7 children (4 boys, 3 girls). Ahmad's father was a butcher by trade and owned a retail shop. Ahmad played football from the age of eight, joining his local team, Phoenix Spurs, meaning he had little choice about becoming a Tottenham Hotspur fan, too.

Ahmad took GCE exams and while waiting for his results, worked in the family's retail shop, helping his mum.

Ahmad came to the UK in 1975, having been accepted to train as a nurse and 3 years later he became a Registered Nurse. Ahmad progressed well and was given a Charge Nurse ( male Sister) post in 1983. This was the same year that Ahmad married: subsequently he had two children (in those days there were only two genders and Ahmad had one of each). Ahmad's nursing career has included many years managing an NHS residential home for clients with learning disabilities. He was able to retire from the NHS at the age of 55 because he had Mental Health Officer status but then moved on to the private sector, as Manager of a Nursing Home for elderly residents. In recent years, Ahmad has worked part-time as a Clinical Practitioner and Advisor, using his City and Guilds teaching qualification to train staff in the areas of health and safety; moving and handling; first aid; infection control and protection of vulnerable adults. Ahmad has always enjoyed his nursing career. His is a nursing family.

Ahmad has always been a sportsman. His favourite sports are swimming, football, volleyball and golf. Ahmad also plays tennis and badminton and has participated in cross country running: at college he won major trophies. In the 1990s, Ahmad coached a youth football team.

Ahmad likes to think of himself as an honest and trustworthy person, who is kind to others and finds it easy to make friends. Ahmad apologises that his competitive nature sometimes gets him into a bit of conflict, including when playing walking football.

Ahmad likes walking in the countryside, especially in beautiful mountainous or coastal areas.

Ahmad says another hobby is painting and decorating but only if his wife tells him to do it!

Favourite food is fish and chips. Sorry, I wrote ' lamb korma' but the spellchecker changed it. To put the 'mad' in Ahmad, Ahmad says he thinks Spurs are going to win the Premiership and England are going to win the World Cup. As he says 'we have to believe'.

*Tom O'Conner*

Shortly before V J day, Mrs O'Connor was delivered of a bonny baby boy, in Ipswich, and named him Thomas. As a boy, Tom was taken to Portman Road and ever since has been a Tractor Boy, although now shares his allegiance with the Seagulls, being a season-ticket-

holder at the AMEX. Tom was educated (yes, he was) at Stow Market Grammar School. From the school grounds Tom could see RAF Watersham: later at the end of his RAF career (1975), Tom was able to see his old school from where he was stationed- RAF Watersham.

*Tom on RAF parade : he is on the right*



Tom played soccer for his school and soccer and tennis for each of his RAF stations. He was quite a promising footballer, as a apprentice under Alf Ramsay at Ipswich Town but his dad wouldn't sign professional forms, insisting he pursue a more stable career.

Tom's career, initially, was as ground crew in the RAF, where he worked on Lightnings and Vulcans and on the historic crew working on Spitfires, Lancasters and Hurricanes.

Being on the Vulcans involved a trip around the world, every 6 weeks, teaching other crews mid-air refuelling.



Tom married Jan, 45 years ago. They had 3 daughters and now have 3 grandchildren and a great grandson.

Tom used to be a volunteer driver for Alzheimer's Society, part of which was bringing a group to Eastbourne Borough's club house for weekly social events. While there, he spoke to Steve Benteman about Walking Football and Steve invited him along to play, in Seaford. Unfortunately, this did not go well- Tom had a spell in goal and left with a broken finger. Soon after, however, Tom was a regular at Shinewater and at Priory Lane and has now been playing over 4 years.

Tom is a useful snooker player, participating in the local league. For many years Tom has been a caravanner, giving it up 5 years ago but then getting hooked (up) again.