

Welcome to the monthly newsletter for Eastbourne walking footballers.

September 2021 Issue

Editorial

Another month, another newsletter.

The club's membership has now reached 70 people. It is great to have so many people, many of them playing regularly, once or twice a week. It may be time to put a limit on membership numbers, soon. Access to Instateam is only given to those who have completed paperwork and given a subscription and so have become members- let new people know this.

We will do a new revised membership list after the November Annual General Meeting. Talking of which, some of the current committee will not be standing next year, so it is time for you to start thinking about whether you could take a role on the committee: more details next month.

Best wishes,

Terry

Birthdays:

Congratulations and happy returns to those with a birthday this month:

Paul Lockwood on 1st

Frank Clements on 8th September

Gary Farthing on 10th September

Terry Stubbings on 12th September

Tom Chapman on 15th September

Chris Mottershead on 22nd September

Phil Cousens on 26th September

Get well soon

We hope to welcome back these players back soon:

Carl Memzy; Bob Bagley, Chris Wheeler; Tony Edwards;
Plus, others, if there are any, that we don't know about.
Good luck, too, to Roy Fouracres for his firth-coming operation.

Good luck, too to the Over-70s team, competing in the national competition on 3rd September.

A load of Balls

A big thank you to Jesse Birdsall and Steve Over, who have provided new footballs for the club. This is the second time they have donated footballs. Their generosity is very much appreciated.

Stay safe

COVID-19 is endemic in England and is likely to remain so, over the coming months. So, taking a few simple actions, to reduce the chance of it spreading is important. The Walking Football Association has issued guidelines, which are reflected in these four steps, which we should all follow.

1. If you are showing symptoms of the virus (feverish; a new continuous cough; shortness of breath; a sore throat; loss of or change in normal sense of taste or smell; feeling generally unwell; persistent tiredness) or have been in contact / living in a household with someone displaying symptoms or have had a positive test result within the last two weeks then you should stay at home
2. Test your temperature at home and stay away if this is 37.5 C or above
3. Greet your friends on arrival but remember advice is to avoid close contact with others. Examples of close contact include:
face to face contact under 1m for any length of time Including talking to them or being coughed on; being within 1m of each other for 1 minute or longer.
4. Use the hand sanitizer provided

PROFILE – Chris Smith



Chris Smith's parents lived in Ilford, but his father died suddenly before he was born so his mother went back to live with her parents in Streatham. She worked as a district nurse so his grandparents and aunt brought him up, which was a challenge, as his aunt had bipolar and grandfather had been blinded at the age of 18 from a grenade in the First World War. Chris was an only child.

At the age of eight he was sent on a survival mission for ten years. First to a boarding school in Hoylake near Liverpool and then to another

boarding school in Chipping Norton near Oxford. Bear Grylls, what does he know?

Seeing how despotic some of his teachers were, on leaving school he decided to become a teacher. Of course, his reason was for the long holidays, not the despotic motivation.

Without any training Chris taught at a school that backed onto Windsor Great Park and Elton John's house. His salary was £75 a term! After a couple of years and needing a bit more cash to run his red Robin Reliant van he qualified and became a real teacher, upgrading to a Minivan.

His grandfather retired to Rottingdean so he lived in their garden shed in the holidays and then upgraded to a house in Brixton Hill, a road or two down from the prison. He ended up teaching in a school in Croydon for 9 years and then in Dulwich for 27 years.

While at school Chris played football for Banbury and District County. Afterwards he played for York Club in Windsor Great Park and various church and pub teams until ankle surgery forced him to switch to playing

hockey for Kenley. He has supported Spurs since 1967 but while living in Rottingdean used to go to watch Brighton.

Chris and Jane moved to Eastbourne 6 years ago to be carers for his mother. They have three daughters and a grandson.

Chris dabbles in playing guitar-like instruments, runs a ukulele group, paints pebbles to sell for charity, digs his allotment, plays tennis, pickleball and hasty walking football and he is a trustee for Embrace, a local charity for children with autism and disabilities. Oh yes, and he also breeds rabbits for pets.

