

# TOUCHLINE

WBTFC Newsletter Volume 8, August 2010

WBTF.COUK

**Welcome:** Well that summer break was over quickly! So what's been happening at the club over the summer? Of course the six-a-side festival was held in June and once again proved the togetherness of this club in organising such a well run tournament, and thank you to all who played their part. We have had to undertake some ground improvements at Rylands Way following the promotion of our first team to the Hellenic Premier Division, the most visible change being the re-build of the home and extension of the away dug outs as required for ground grading. Less visible is the maintenance work undertaken on the ground surround. This was all made possible by the hard work of our volunteer staff and my thanks go to you all. It may also be that the works undertaken by our landlord, the Sports Association, in the clubhouse is new to you, with the windows, furnishings and decoration being completed post seasons end. It really has made the clubhouse a much more inviting prospect, and I'd remind all that through your membership of the football club you are a member of the Association and welcome to visit the bar at any time – certainly cheaper than many a bar. Income over the bar helps secure the future of the Sports Association and in turn our use of the football pitch for a very reasonable cost. Lastly I'd like to welcome you all to this new season, and thank you for playing your part in helping us to provide the footballing opportunities we do to your community. Paul Harrison - Chairman

**Senior teams:** Welcome to the season 2010/2011 – Time seems to be running away, and the older I get the quicker it goes! Only in a blink of an eye we were celebrating promotion to the Premier league with the 1<sup>st</sup> team and celebrating end of season with the reserves and the U18s. A huge amount of work has been undertaken at Rylands this close season this has been part of the ground grade developments required to enter the Premier League (I won't apologise for saying that too often – we have been waiting a long time), this work has been done voluntary with many people putting in vast amount of their time to ensure we can play Premier Football. Many thanks must go to Pete Yeardley, Steve Matthews, Pup to name a few, but a massive thanks must go to Simon Paish as without his efforts we would not have completed the work in the required timeframe. We held a "Help for Heroes" game playing against the 1<sup>st</sup> Rifles at the back end of July and I am pleased to confirm that we raised £500 on the day with a prospect of a further £500 being donated by BP Oil, this money will be split between the 1<sup>st</sup> Rifles Casualties of war Fund and Help for Heroes Fund. I would like to thank all who helped in making the day rewarding and financially beneficial to the two well deserving funds. Back onto football, whilst writing this column the 1<sup>st</sup> Team have won the opening two league games and drew the 1<sup>st</sup> Home league game. We also saw an excellent replay win in the FA Cup and have been awarded an away trip to Almondsbury in the next round. The reserves have not seen any league action to date but have had some excellent results in their pre-season games and I know Simons hard work will not go unrewarded this year. The u18s have also not yet seen any action but again Danny has been hard at work behind the scenes preparing the side for this year's coming games. To finish I have been fortunate to work with some dedicated people who have given so much to this club, one of whois Rod Carter who has decided to step down at the end of this season from his position as Club and Senior Section Secretary. He will be much missed and I will over the coming Newsletters be speaking about Rod and what he has achieved for this club for now. If anyone is interested in applying for this role please let me know. Please continue to Support us. HAVE A GREAT SEASON  
Chris Jones – Section Head of Senior Football

**Youth teams:** Welcome back to the season after the summer holiday. Most people can take advantage from the short break in football but behind the scenes it is traditionally the busiest time of the year for the committee with endless rounds of meetings and AGMs. This season we welcome several new faces and changes within the youth section. Jeremy Smith joins us as our new dedicated under 8s manager and thanks to the sterling work undertaken by Community Football we are now able to field two sides at this age group. Our under 11s, will for the first time, be competing in the FAs latest initiative... 9 a side. In my opinion this has long been overdue and will allow young players to gradually make that step up from mini football to the full 11 a side game. I would also like to acknowledge the assistance received from Andy Clinch and Wootton Bassett council in ensuring that we have a dedicated 9 a side pitch available within our community. Our under 18s will also have a new manager this season in Paul Cooper. Paul has proved to be a major asset since joining us last season and his involvements at all age levels has proved invaluable (I'm just glad he doesn't have a real job and an understanding wife!!). The under 18s team will provide that crucial stepping stone towards the transition from youth to senior football. With Simon Paish now in charge of the reserves expect to see more of our youth players taking this path through their own club. After many years promising, I am pleased to advise that Mark O, Dwyer will now provide specialist coaching to that mostly overlooked part of a football team...the goal keeper! Mark will hold specialist sessions to all our keepers on a rota basis and although initially these are at Lydiard Park it is hoped to transfer these to the senior pitch under floodlights during the winter months. The final area we are looking at is communication to all members of our section. We hope to introduce two section administrators (mini and youth) who will collate all membership, contact details etc of everyone within the club. It is hoped that this will ease the burden on our treasurer, secretary and managers and provide that important two way communication channel with our players and families. Finally a plea.... Most of our managers are a shy bunch (well apart from Burkey and Dave Terry!) so during the long season they would appreciate help, both practical and emotionally. They all undertake their roles free of charge and for the love of the game and without their commitment we would have no club. Sometimes a hand or a few words of encouragement go a long way and I know from personal experience how satisfying it can make it if you feel others are supportive of you. Enjoy the season ahead and remember... the referee is always right!

Pete Yeardley –Section Head of Youth Football



**Ladies & Girls:** This close season has by far been the most difficult for the girls section to date. With Mark stepping down I was more than happy when Geoff Tidy agreed to be the U16 coach for the season, but as we near the first games of the season for the girls teams already the U16 team need players to be able to play 11 a side. Anyone involved in girls football in Wiltshire knows there is problems in getting girls to carry on playing through into the adult game, and with this in mind I have taken on an active role as a committee member of the ladies and girls league and will be registration secretary whilst trying to understand where the problems are. When I look back to when my own daughter first started to play football the mixed ability of the group was very wide, even now 7 of the same players playing ladies football at Wootton Bassett are still of different ability but they are more aware off their strengths and weaknesses when playing. As said above we are looking for players not only for the U16 & U14 sides that we have running this season, but also still looking to start new teams in the girls section at the U10 and U12 age groups. Anyone who would like to help or idea's please contact me on my e-mail [bryanwood611@btinternet.com](mailto:bryanwood611@btinternet.com) or through the club web site using the contact us tab.

My message to anybody looking to coach younger player's boys or girls is the need to keep football fun.  
Bryan Wood "Woody" – Section Head of Ladies & Girls

**Respect:** I would like to take this opportunity to remind us all of the FA's Respect campaign, aimed at addressing unacceptable behaviour in football, both on and off the pitch. It covers all involved in the game – players, managers/coaches, club officials, and spectators including parents of youth players. I would urge you to visit the FA's Respect webpage at [www.thefa.com/Leagues/Respect](http://www.thefa.com/Leagues/Respect) where guides for all are available together with a film in which Ray Winstone demonstrates some of what Respect tries to eradicate. It's also important to remind you that we as a club are liable to disciplinary charges from the FA for any inappropriate behaviour, including verbal, from not only players but also officials and spectators. Please help us to participate in this great game the right way. Paul Harrison - Chairman



You think you're 'supporting' your son. His team-mates think he's a loser because his Dad mouths off from the sidelines.

**Are you losing it?**  
**Respect**  
[www.TheFA.com/respect](http://www.TheFA.com/respect)

**Senior Team Sponsorship:** Our senior section relies on external funding, and with a running cost of some £13,000 just to breakeven you can see it's just like running a business. Gate receipts are our only income stream, but these are insufficient and we are very dependent on the support of local business through sponsorship and/or advertising. However the current climate is making it very difficult to attract this support. We are close to appointing a commercial manager to help drive this forward in the future, but for now would ask you all to consider if you know of any potential companies we might contact and send our commercial prospectus to. Sponsorship starts from as little as £30. Please send any ideas to Chris Jones at [info@wbtfc.co.uk](mailto:info@wbtfc.co.uk)



**Club development:** Pete has already commented that the closed season is far from closed for the coaches nor committee members. Firstly I would like to thank Simon Paish for encouraging me to help with knocking down the old dugouts, I have never ached so much before, I think I will stick to my day job, sitting behind a computer or two. Along with the ground grading we have created two U8 teams in readiness for the new season, it looks like we have filled the vacancy for the Commercial Manager, we have added Community football webpage and created a web shop covering merchandise. We also hosted a Wiltshire Coaching Association session for thirty five coaches from local clubs. We must not underestimate the effort which goes into running both the Holland Tour and the 6 aside tournament, both of which were again very successful. We have failed to create an U13 team for this year and so will be looking to form a partnership with Brinkworth Cats providing player exit routes as well as filling what will be a potential gap in three years time. Also outstanding is the creation of the manager's booklet. It's that time of the year when the football development plan is reworked, moving it on one year. Meetings have been held and the plan is currently being revised. This will set out the objectives for the new season.

Andy Walduck – Club Development Officer

**Sponsor Focus:** In this newsletter we are focusing on the great British pastime, the local curry house. The Ganges, located in the High Street, has been trading for twelve years and offers high quality Indian cuisine. WBTFC would like to thank the Ganges for all their support of the club.

The restaurant at 147 and 148 High Street offers a large selection of Indian cuisine. Take-away available with 10% discount.

**g a n g e s**  
INDIAN CUISINE  
[www.ganges.co.uk](http://www.ganges.co.uk)

## What's On?

### Seniors:

Please support both the First team and reserves, this makes all the difference, visit [www.wbtfc.co.uk](http://www.wbtfc.co.uk) for the fixture list. The first team will play in the FA Cup on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> away to Hamble ASSC and then play in the second round of the qualifying stages of the FA Vase, away, against either Devizes Town or Amesbury Town on the 18<sup>th</sup> September.



## COMMUNITY FOOTBALL

### "Monday night"

5pm – 6pm: Reception & Year 1 – Lime Kiln Sports Hall.

6pm - 7pm: Years 2 – W.B. School Astroturf.  
Years 5 -Year 7 – W.B. School Astroturf (Please call Matt to book your space before you look to attend (07859 794621)

