



Terras Times

The newsletter of Weymouth FC Supporters Association.

August 2023

Editorial - James Warrener:

Whisper it quietly but the Terras are back !

The opening weeks of the season has seen impressive wins and strong crowd numbers supporting the team both at home and away.

I think it's fair to say that most fans aren't adamant that we challenge for the league or play offs this season, with more building both on and off the pitch to come, but how nice does it feel to be looking up a league table rather than down?

Much has been written and said about the new kits. But the proof is in the pudding with sell outs on both home and away designs with further stock being ordered.

Apologies if you have experienced a delay in your order. Rest assured that behind the scenes people are working very hard to get shirts on peoples back as soon as is possible.

We reached a couple of key landmarks early in the campaign with both Keelan O'Connell and Bobby Wilkinson making their 50th match with the club.

I mention Keelan as a player who came in at a difficult time for the club and who has become part of the Terras on and off the park.

People are quick to criticise footballers in general for their conduct and lack of community spirit. We have a good bunch at Weymouth FC right now and should, rightly, be proud to sing their names.

Part of the reason for that building bond between players, fans and the community has to be Bobby Wilkinson.

We are going to do a piece with Bobby in an upcoming newsletter, but he has appeared on a few [YouTube videos](#) recently so please enjoy those until he and I sit down for a chat.

We do have a long read special this month with Craig Adams. The new head coach of the U23's is well known to me from his time up north(ish) with sides we will remember like St Ives and Bedford. He has been a Terras fan for many years so to be part of our club is brilliant. Read on to hear what he has to say on his appointment.

James



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Interview with Craig Adams

Weymouth U23s



James - Tell us about your journey to Weymouth FC ... when you first became aware of the role and how you came to a decision

Bobby Wilkinson is good friends with a Manager I used to work for, named Chris Nunn. He and I worked together at Biggleswade Town and did quite well finishing just outside the playoffs. We weren't one of the big hitters in the Southern Premier but we worked really well as a team. I moved down to Weymouth in December 2021 and Chris mentioned me to Bobby.

Nothing happened for a few months and I was out of the game, but when I next spoke to Chris he asked if I was missing football. I had been watching Portland, Wimborne, Dorchester and the Terras and one thing led to another and I had a chat with Bobby and when the role came up I was keen to take it.

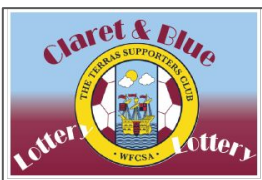
James - Do you set targets as a leadership team in terms of players progressing to the first team?

Bobby has a first team squad set up which is positive, but we speak two to three times a week and we have a lot of talent in the U23s and we have five or six who have a realistic chance of being around the first team squad.

We are a young group of U23s but Bobby is watching training and trusts my view on some of the players being part of his plans.

Five or six boys have been training with the first team squad already. The plan is that once the season gets into the swing of things, those players will be looked after and potentially sent out of loan to get mens football on a Saturday.

Football that matters, three point football and that will be to make them squad ready for the first team over time.



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Interview with Craig Adams

James - What match is the one you are most looking forward to?

Short answer for this one... I am always looking forward to the next match.

It's not about the result, it's about the performance and progression.

James - What's the vibe like in the squad? Have you worked out who has the best sense of humour or who needs some encouragement?

The vibe is really good. The biggest character is Elliot Rossiter closely followed by Kelson Pollard, Korey Andrews... It's just good humour.

The lads are focused when they need to be but enjoy banter when they get the chance to.

In terms of encouragement, I don't look to encourage people out of their shells if they aren't comfortable with it.

You have to create an environment that nurtures players and people can fit in with that. Force it and you can have a detrimental effect.

James - Without giving too much away, how are your team going to set up and play? What should fans expect to see when they come to a game?

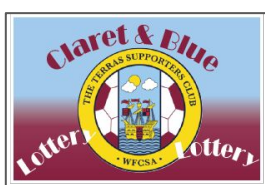
Our style and set up has been a variation of a 3-5-2. That might look like anything with or without the ball. The main thing that's fixed is the number of centre backs.

We have the personnel within the U23s that can adapt to most formations.

Supporters coming to watch will see us pass the ball with possession. However whilst possessing the ball is great we won't take six passes if one can unlock a defence.

I don't believe in negative possession, nor do I believe in passing the ball for passing sake.

If our centre back sees its on from back to front he will make that decision and make that pass.



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Possession is great at certain times of the game depending on the circumstances but we have some exciting players. Some have been at league clubs and have a point to prove. We also have local players.

We want to build a side based on clean sheets but if the opposition score three, trust me we want to score four.

We aren't looking to develop robots at Weymouth FC. We want to get people off their seats.

James - I always finish with a question about Terras kits... so which do you prefer? Home or away?

I won't lie, when I saw the kits on 2d in picture form I wasn't sure !

The away kit looked like Nesquik !

However, when we have seen it in the flesh and seen the lads wearing it, it looks amazing.

You can see that the designers and Kappa have put a bit of time into it.

As for favourites, I would say whichever we win in.

But for me it's always the home kit.

I watched an interview with Dartford Manager who said when the fans are with Weymouth FC at the Bob Lucas, it's a horrible place for away teams to come to.

It was the same when I have been here with other teams as a player and coach.

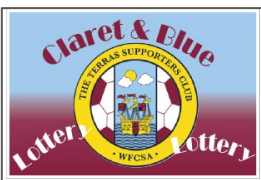
So, that claret and blue kit at home with the fans supporting us will always do for me.

Chairman's Chatter

Pete is on holiday at the moment so there is no Chairman's Chatter this month.

We will update members on what's going on around the WFCSA in an upcoming newsletter.

Thanks, James (for Pete)



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