



Terras Times

The newsletter of Weymouth FC Supporters Association.

May 2024

Editorial -Pete Nash:

Those eagle eyed among you will have noticed the editorial has not been done by James this month! James announced at the start of the year he would need to stand down at the end of the season due to family commitments. For those that didn't know, James is one of our many exiled Terras, hailing from Market Deeping in the beautiful county of Lincolnshire. He joined our board some years ago now, having already contributed to our fundraising by compiling and then donating two books, Terras Blog Tales and Weymouth Shirt Story, two editions. The former I think is in about its third run. It was from this interest in writing that the idea to create a newsletter was born. It has grown and evolved over the 5 years or so since its inception into what you get in your inbox today. It goes without saying that we are very grateful to James for all he has done for us over the years and he can be justly proud of the fine legacy he is leaving behind. We know you cannot do these things without the support and encouragement of family, so we thank them all as well for their support. They will not be lost to us, we will see them again in these sunny climes and we hope one day that James and his family will join us as our guests for a game.

As one door closes, another opens and the newsletter will move on into new hands in the coming weeks. James has kindly offered to be on call with help and advice as required. With luck this will be my one and only appearance as editor and you will have someone new to entertain you next time around!

We will be taking the opportunity to give the newsletter a bit of a refresh and it would be nice to encourage some new content and contributors. Are you a wordsmith? Do you have a lot to say about all things Terras? If so, why not get in touch and see where it leads, you will need a couple of spare hours a month at most. Contact me at enquiries@wfcsa.co.uk

Cheers, Pete



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Chairman's Chatter

Hello everyone and welcome to the May edition of your monthly newsletter.

Hopefully I've not exhausted my content through the editorial? No chance!

We are now well into the close season and you will already be seeing the squad announcements. I hope they encourage you that, as a club, we are working as hard as we can to put a competitive squad together for the next campaign. I have said it so many times in the past, and I really do believe it to be true, each season gets tougher and tougher. As more money comes into the game, mainly via sugar daddies, at this level taking clubs full time and everything that it entails, meaning that all the other teams need to up their game to compete, whilst remaining part time. It's not easy and the danger and risk of over reaching is always there. It was interesting reading some of the comments after the season tickets and next seasons pricing was announced. Entry money is our number one source of income and is so vital to us. We don't want it to be any higher than absolutely necessary, but everything has gone up, from the minimum wage, bar stock, playing kit and club shop supplies. We simply cannot continue to absorb these rises in the business and then be expected to be competitive at the same time. We are exploring as many financing options as we can, some will be quick wins and others may take a bit longer, but the club is working hard to improve our financial position all the time.

There are lots of repairs and improvements going on around the club. Hopefully you have seen the old players tunnel has gone? The new one is already taking shape and in addition to the tunnel, the build will incorporate a new office for the manager, as a reconfigure of officials changing facilities is required by the National League for next season. The pitch side gates need replacing, the PA system needs a full overhaul and there is a wealth of welding repairs that need undertaking ready to pass muster for our ground safety certificate which will allow us to play football at The Bob Lucas Stadium, so no pressure then! It goes without saying, if you have the skills and some spare time, evening and weekends, then please let us know and get in touch via the enquiries email detailed above. Money raised and donated by The Oily Rag Breakfast Club has been allocated for some of the repairs so our thanks to Robbie Nicholls and his team.

Watch out for upcoming events over the next few months as we continue to lay on quiz nights and the like. Thank you also to you all for supporting the scratch card fundraising initiative. We have some very happy season ticket winners, as well as other prizes of course.

Thanks for reading. Until next time, stay well, stay safe and thank you for your continued support. Pete



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Membership Update

The new membership scheme launched earlier this month to coincide with the new season tickets going on sale and our thanks go to those who have already signed up. Despite our very best efforts, we started planning this last year and I wrote extensively about it in this newsletter and my programme notes throughout the season, it seems to have passed many of you by, which is a real shame! We have put an awful lot of time and effort into it, so please believe me when I say there was nothing sudden about it! Whilst we have to accept our communication has clearly failed on this occasion, it was certainly not for a lack of trying. So here we go again, let me ask you this, how would you prefer to get your membership info? Email your response to enquiries@wfcsa.co.uk

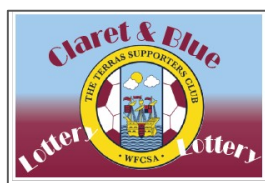
So, let me bring you up to speed with where we are. WFCSA membership has now become seasonal and is no longer evergreen. It now runs from May to April and you can join any time during the season for £12 adults, £20 for a family. (We will in all probability have a half season offer in the new year, but this has not yet been decided upon as I write). Membership is also free with every season ticket purchase. This unlocks a range of benefits, including membership prices in the club shop and access to the reward scheme. I encourage you to visit the website to learn more about what that means to you and our partners.

Follow this link: <https://www.wfcsa.co.uk/members-reward-scheme-participants/>

Club Shop Update

During this close season, we will be adding an extension to the club shop. This will give us somewhere we can set up our printing equipment and also give us more storage space to increase our stock holding. In addition, the extension will have other sales outlets for programmes, 50-50 draw tickets etc. This will especially useful when the weather is less kind. We hope to start the build next month and be complete in time for the start of pre-season.

Starting next season you will see price increases right across the range of goods we sell in the shop. We continually work hard to bring you the very best deals we can. However, over the past 3 years we have seen prices increase at such a rate that we can no longer afford to hold off price increases. This was one of the driving factors behind the membership revamp and the membership shop prices scheme. Time will tell if it is successful but we had to act if we were to remain effective in our fundraising. There will still be bargains to had though, rest assured.



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