

SEASON 2013/14 - FACILITIES

With little/no money and only a small number of willing volunteers, it is fair to say we have not been able to complete everything we would have liked to this season. However, those volunteers remain committed to improving the appearance of our grounds/facilities throughout the summer.

Having said that, much has been done this season to try to tidy up both the clubhouse and the grounds, although the severe winds have had a major impact on the fencing around the stadium. Iain Messenger and I have recently been involved in meeting fencers and in obtaining quotes for full replacement of the fence around this area and Alan Constable will be applying to the FSIF (Football Stadia Improvement Fund) to hopefully secure a grant for these works.

As you will be aware the clubhouse and changing rooms were repainted. This was carried out by a team of workers through Mark Tobin. Other personnel involved in this project from the club were Jackie Poulter, Iain Messenger, Simon Munns and Tony and Lisa from the junior section U13s.

Following the completion of the roof repairs – a major project for the club, there was a tidy up job required of the wiring around the outside of the club house. This was done by Tony from the junior section U13s at no cost to the club.

Other work recently completed includes the pruning of the trees lining the driveway and also trimming around the bottom of the trees and drive edges. This started some time ago before the arrival of the junior unit to the left of the clubhouse. Various people have helped with this over time including Kelvin Poulter, Simon Munns, Iain Messenger, the 2 Chris's, Stewart Cooley and his partner – all volunteers from the junior section. The initial clearing had to be done in pouring rain early on a Saturday morning – not a pleasant task! Take the time to look next time you go along there – it looks much more neat and tidy.

We do not have the luxury of being able to pay a cleaner so the general day to day tidying/cleaning which includes all manner of areas within the grounds and

clubhouse is carried out in the main by Iain Messenger. If anyone has any free time and can willingly offer assistance in any of these areas eg cleaning toilets, litter picking (thanks Bob Lewis too), emptying bins, sweeping up, clearing & cleaning changing rooms etc etc please let me know.

Moving Forward

Hopefully at some point in the near future we can start to look at improving the dugouts but in the meantime the perspex will be fixed (again a victim of the high winds).

The electrics for the washing machine will be completed before next season (kit washing volunteers required!).

Simon Munns has started work on the BBQ to secure loose bricks which were dangerous.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all of those volunteers named above (and if I have missed anyone I apologise profusely) for their continued support. It is greatly appreciated.

Sue Thorne

Bar, Social & Club Events

The hard work of the summer has started in earnest following the end of season with ATFC hosting various Cup Final competitions. Last weekend was especially busy with the U17s presentation on the Friday night, the Christian Cup Finals throughout the day on Saturday and the WSYLFs all day Sunday. Thanks must be given to Simon, Chris and Tony (junior parents) for their sterling work on Saturday's BBQ in all weathers, Louise for being a great floater and most especially to Luke, Charlotte and James who worked the tea bar with great enthusiasm under the care and supervision of Bob Lewis. Thank you all! It was a very profitable day!

Thanks must also be given to Sue and Alan Cox who again gave up their time all day Sunday for the WSYLFs and to Iain for the extra hours needed in setting and clearing up each day with a spot of bar work thrown in for good measure.

Future bookings are as follows:-

May

Fri 16th – U11s (stadium)

Sat 17th – 40th Birthday Party

Sun 18th – GLWFL Finals

Fri 23rd – U13s Presentation (Ben)

Sat 24th – 18th Birthday Party

Sun 25th – U11s & U12s Fun Day & Presentation

Fri 30th – U13s Presentation (Connor)

June

Sun 1st – Sri Lankan Day

Fri 6th – U14s Presentation

Sat 14th – Junior Tournament

Sun 15th – Junior Tournament

Sat 21st – U15s Presentation (Nick & Mick)

Sun 22nd – Christening

July

Sat 5th July – Christening

Sun 12th July – Charity Day

As you can see from the above most weekends up to mid July are now full.
Good news for the bar takings!!

Organisation for the big charity day in July is mainly complete. This event has been arranged by a professional party organiser and will be an all day music party which will run through the afternoon until 10.00pm when the music will cease. A music licence has been secured for the day by the organiser and he has also arranged security. It is anticipated that 350 people will attend – entry is by pre-sold ticket only. The organiser will arrange for a mass clear up the following day and will notify local residents of the event beforehand. Iain Messenger has organised the outside bar through his contacts and has arranged the staff needed to work on it. Should this be successful, there is a chance of another one in August.

Depending on interest we hope to fit a Sports Quiz into the mix sometime soon and another race night.

A thank you must be said to Jackie Poulter. Her idea of offering a free hot dog to both home and away junior teams has seen an increase in use of the bar on Sundays when junior games have been played. It has brought more people in and therefore extra cash over the bar. Those of you who have frequented the bar on a Sunday in the height of the season will have witnessed the success this has brought.

The bar is currently the biggest generator of cash we have so keep using it, keep the bookings coming – recommend us to family, friends, work colleagues etc.

Your club needs you!!!!

Sue Thorne