



THE TRUST

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 14 : February 2015

Commemorative Wembley Ale almost ready for collection.

The Trust Board are pleased to announce that our Walsall FC Commemorative Wembley Ale, 'Walsall @ Wembley' will be available to collect from, or be delivered by the brewers around a week before our trip to Wembley.



Bottle and label sample courtesy of Enville Ales Limited.

The beer itself which is brewed by Stourbridge based Enville Ales is a 4.5% Bitter which depicts Anthony Fordes' sliding goal celebration at Preston North End on the label along with the names of the full Walsall FC 'Road to Wembley' squad and details of how we finally got there after 127 years of heartache and defeat.

The beer costs £4 per bottle and is limited to 504 bottles only (not 300 as originally advertised) and once they're gone, they're gone, there will be no more brewed.

Each player who took part in the JPT run up to Wembley, along with Dean Smith, Richard O'Kelly and Jon Whitney, will each receive a bottle of the beer courtesy of the Trust as a small memento to say thank you for helping to fulfil the dreams of ALL Walsall FC supporters.

To get your hands on a bottle or two, you can place a pre-order now with Trust Secretary Steve Davies by calling or texting 07799 835388, by email to walsall1888@aol.com or by contacting him through the Trusts' official Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/walsallfctrust>.

THE ASSIST to record special Trust Wembley Song.

Walsall based Indie/Alternative band The Assist, who boast Saddlers fans amongst their ranks are to record a special Wembley song for the Trust this week to mark WFC's first ever visit to Wembley.

The song which is to be aired for the first time on Radio WM's Early Kick-Off show on Saturday 28th February will be available on iTunes and on a very limited edition CD Single (127 copies only) signed by the band.

Profits from the song will be donated to both the Walsall FC Youth Development via the Trust and The Brain Tumour Charity via Trust member Adam Paget who has made the whole thing possible.

Special thanks go to The Assist and Eddie Thomas who has donated the studio time for free meaning more funds go to both charities. Full details to follow.



Support for the Trust at an all time high but membership down on previous 2 years.

Overall support for the Trust as taken a major boost since Walsall FC booked their first ever trip to Wembley Stadium for the JPT Final against Bristol City next month, but actual membership is still pretty low considering.

Members of our official Facebook group have swelled dramatically since our 2 nil win on aggregate over Preston North End to secure the clubs first ever trip to Wembley Stadium in their 127 year history, with an additional 163 members joining in the past 5 weeks alone totalling 517 members in all at the time of writing.

Our next job however is to try and persuade some of those Facebook members, who obviously have an interest in the Trust and the work we do, to take the next step and become an actual paid up member of the Trust.

Starting at just £2 per year (September to August) to join, Walsall Football Supporters' Trust is one of the cheapest Supporters' Trusts around, with some charging much more.

The first £1 from your membership fee goes towards securing your one equal share (at £1) in the Trust itself, with the remaining fees going towards our annual administrative fees to Supporters Direct, the Financial Conduct Authority and the Mid-Counties Co-Operative, towards the day to day running of the Trust, and/or towards fundraising events or charity donations.

To download a Membership Application form, please visit http://www.walsallfctrust.org.uk/documents/membership_application_form.pdf.

To join us on Facebook, visit us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/walsallfctrust>.

Official Trust website up and running again.

The Walsall Football Supporters' Trust official website is once again back up and running at www.walsallfctrust.org.uk following a long break whilst undergoing a full re-build.

There are still a number of parts of the site that need to be completed, but the important thing is that it's back to bring you all the latest Trust, Walsall FC Former Players Association and Walsall FC Legends news as and when it happens.

1974/75 FA Cup Run Squad Reunion another success for the Trust and WFC FPA.

A host of former Walsall FC players who played an integral part in our 1974/75 FA Cup run, knocking out both Manchester United and Newcastle United before losing to neighbouring Birmingham City in the 5th round were in attendance at the Banks's Stadium this weekend to mark the 40th anniversary of their great achievement.



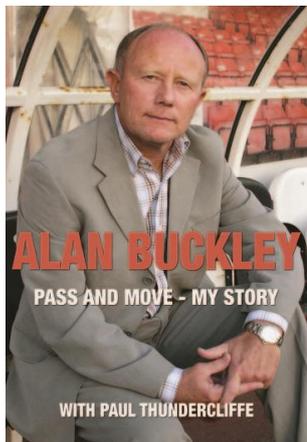
Alan Birch, George Andrews, Roger Fry, Nick Atthey and Colin Harrison (pictured above), along with Mick Kearns and Brian Caswell were introduced onto the pitch at half time to the applause of the Walsall faithful and also met a number of supporters following the match.

Trust and WFC Former Players Association Secretary Steve Davies said "It was great to see some of those players back together".

Both Alan Birch and Colin Fry were presented with framed Certificates of Achievement by the Trust during the day as a thank you for their time at the club and for their ongoing support and commitment to Walsall FC with the other guests receiving their certificates at previous events.

Alan Buckley 'Pass & Move – My Story' book available once more from the WFC FPA.

The Alan Buckley book 'Pass & Move – My Story' which was co-written by Paul Thundercliffe is once again available from the Walsall FC Former Players Association via Association Historian David Evans.



The book which retails at £18.99 is available for the discount price of just £12 or £15 for an autographed copy.

The Trust helped Alan with his West Midlands leg of the book launch last year which saw a total sell out of the first batch of books and also held an 'Evening With Alan Buckley' event at The Saddlers Club.

A percentage of each book sold from this batch will be donated to the

Walsall FC Former Players Association to help them with the day to day running of the association and to help set up any future fundraising events.

To get your hands on a copy, please contact Trust Secretary Steve Davies on 07799835388 to make arrangements. Books can be collected from the Walsall FC Programme Shop following successful purchases if required.

'Walsall Til I Die' books available at a bargain price.

Copies of the 'Walsall Til I Die' book are once again available from the Trust at a discount price of just £2 (RRP £10).



The book which contains some great stories and memories from a number of Walsall FC supporters makes for a great read and is one not to be missed at such a fantastic price.

To secure your copy, please contact Trust Secretary Steve Davies on 07799835388, via email to walsall1888@aol.com or through the Trusts' official Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/walsallfctrust>.

(Apologies to anyone who tried to contact Steve at the WFC home clash with Gillingham regarding either book but a flat mobile battery was to blame. All this technology and they still can't produce a descent battery!)

Details of the 2015 Walsall Football Club Former Players Day at the Banks's Stadium.

Walsall FC's Sky Bet League 1 home tie with Fleetwood Town FC at the Banks's Stadium on Saturday 11th April 2015 (kick-off 3:00pm) also sees a host of former Walsall FC players and staff return for the now annual Walsall Football Club Former Players Day.



The club decided to host the Walsall FC Former Players Day three years ago following the Trusts Former Player Visits which saw a number of former players and staff attend Walsall FC home games and has now become a regular fixture on the Saddlers Calendar.

Further details of attending guests will be released as and when they are confirmed on the Trust website at www.walsallfctrust.org.uk and via the official Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/walsallfctrust.

Details will also be printed in the Trusts' column in the Walsall FC Match Day Programme and in our Walsall Advertiser Column in the build up to the event.

It would be great to see as many of you there as possible to welcome back some of heroes from yesteryear.

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Life-long Walsall FC Supporter in charity walk to Wembley.

Life long Walsall FC Supporter Graeme Brookes is to embark on a gruelling 138 mile charity walk to Wembley Stadium in aid of the Walsall Society for the Blind and as a way of remembering his Grandfather Ronald Brookes, who despite being both deaf and blind, followed Walsall FC both home and away for 83 years, without ever getting to see his beloved team get to Wembley.



Graeme will set off on Saturday 14th March towards Tame Bridge and then for most of the journey, will trek along the Grand Union Canal.

Walsall Society for the Blind rely heavily on public fundraising and volunteers, so it was easy for Graeme to offer his support to a group who had helped and supported his Grandfather when he was a teenager.

Graeme said that it was his Grandfathers dream to walk down Wembley Way to attend a Walsall match there, so what better way to commemorate his memory.

You will be able to keep up with Graeme's progress via his blog at www.walsalltowembley.com