



THE TRUST

ISSUE 16: APRIL 2016

OFFICIAL STATEMENT: RE – Freehold of Banks's Stadium.



As many supporters' of Walsall Football Club will be aware, the freehold of the Banks's Stadium was placed onto the market a few years ago through a company named DTZ, a company who specialized in Commercial Real Estate and Property Management, and although the freehold was subsequently taken back off the open market, it remained up for sale should a suitable purchaser come forward.

The Board of Walsall Football Supporters' Trust were deeply concerned by this desire to sell the land on which our football club stands and immediately set up a sub-committee to look into ways in

which we could put together a financial package that could potentially see the Trust purchase the freehold and ensure that whatever happened in the future, Walsall Football Club would always have a ground to play on.

It has been widely reported that the Chairman of Walsall Football Club would not just sell to anyone who did not have the best interests of the club at heart and this is something that the Trust Board believe to be honest and true.

The initial idea was to sell the freehold to Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council, but given the financial restrictions of the council, this never came into fruition and we now find ourselves asking, 'would this have been the right move?' taking into account cuts in budgets and the asset stripping of local authorities in the current economic climate.

We set out to canvass the opinions of many groups and individuals and spent an undocumented number of hours making contact with and meeting up with the business community, Legal Advisors, Banks, other Financial Institutions and potential individual investors (all of whom will remain anonymous at their own request and in line with the Data Protection Act) at the expense of the Sub-Committee Members themselves, expenses which have now been paid back in full by the Trust.

In recent months, we have been working closely with a company who thought they may have been able to put together a financial package that in conjunction with a pledge made by another investor, could have seen us achieve our aims and although ***we had managed to put together a package that would have raised a considerable sum***, we have sadly come to the conclusion that our plans were not financially viable, meaning we have reluctantly decided to step back and scale down our efforts at this time as this project is currently beyond our capabilities.

This however does not mean we have given up altogether and also doesn't mean that the Trust would not be willing to meet up with other interested parties in the future, should their interest and intentions be inline with those of the Trusts' in relation to the future of Walsall Football Club.

In the meantime, we would like to place on record our respect for the job that the Chairman is doing in ensuring the continued stability of Walsall Football Club.

If you have any questions regarding this statement, please contact the Trust Board by email to enquiries@walsallfctrust.org.uk or via www.walsallfctrust.org.uk/contact_us.htm.

Trust Board set provisional date for 2016 Annual General Meeting

A provisional date has been set for the 2016 Walsall Football Supporters' Trust Annual General Meeting for Thursday 9th June 2016, 7pm, date and time to be confirmed subject to availability of function room at:-

The Pretty Bricks
(The New Inns),
5 John Street,
Walsall,
West Midlands,
WS2 8AF.

The meeting is open to ALL members of the Trust, but only FULLY PAID members (or one representative from any FULLY PAID BUSINESS MEMBER) will be permitted to vote in any election or vote held (one member, one vote).

Full details and a Meeting Agenda will be forwarded to all members in accordance to the rules of the Trust in due course, along with any additional documentation and will also be posted on both the Trust website at www.walsallfctrust.org.uk and via our social media outlets, details of which can be found on our website.

An Evening with RAY GRAYDON & Friends event at the Banks's Stadium.



The Trust Board are pleased to announce that in conjunction with Walsall Football Club, a very special event is to be held at the Banks's Stadium with none other than former Walsall FC promotion winning manager 'Sir' Ray Graydon himself.

'An Evening with Ray Graydon & Friends' takes place in the Savoy Lounge on Friday 15th April 2016 (7pm) and will also see a number of the 2000/01 play-off final winning squad in attendance, including Jimmy Walker, Tom Bennett, Tony Barras, Darren Byfield, Darren Wrack, Ian Roper, Andy Tillson and Dean Keates, as well as Andy Gadsby (in memory Matt Gadsby) and Saddlers Press Legend and good friend of Rays' Paul Marston.

The event is priced at just £15 for season ticket holders and £20 for non-season ticket holders and includes steak and ale pie and chips and a free alcoholic or soft drink at the bar.

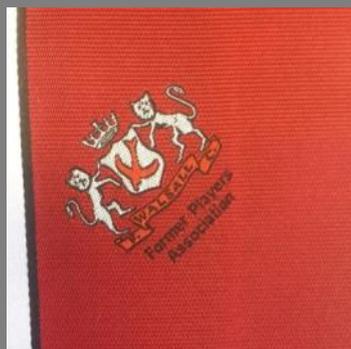
A raffle will also be held on the night in aid of CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young) and in memory of Matt Gadsby and Anton Reid with some great prizes up for grabs including:- A tour of Banks's Brewery, a Golf Four Ball session at a course to be confirmed, Paint Balling Vouchers, 2 tickets for Walsall v Fleetwood, bottle of Talisker Skye Single Malt, bottle of Glenfiddich 12 year old Single Malt, bottle of Taitinger Brut Reserve Champagne, bottle of Vodka, bottle of Shiraz Red Wine and 24 cans of John Smiths Bitter.

Tickets can be purchased by visiting the Walsall FC Ticket Office, by calling 01922 651416 or online at eticketing.co.uk/walsallfc.



Walsall FC Former Players Association ties now available.

Members of the Walsall FC Former Players Association now have the opportunity to purchase their own exclusive, specially designed Association tie depicting the association logo at a cost of £10 each.



Any Association member interested in purchasing one should contact Association / Trust Secretary Steve Davies on 07799835388 or via email at walsall1888@aol.com.

Trust Board congratulate Walsall FC's International Stars.



The Trust Board would like to offer their congratulations to the Walsall FC players who have been away on international duty over the past week or so, in particular to Tom Bradshaw who earned his first International Cap for Wales in their 1 nil defeat to Ukraine on 28th March, almost equalizing during the second half.

Walsall FC Former Players Day 2016.



The 2016 Walsall Football Club Former Players Day as been confirmed to take place at the Banks's Stadium on Saturday 16th April 2016 when Walsall FC take on Southend United in their Sky Bet League 1 match.

Amongst the former players and staff already confirmed to attend (at the time of writing) are Nick Atthey, Mick Evans, Stuart Rimmer, Colin Brazier, Roy Cross, Stan Jones, Keith Ball, John Leedham, Kenny Mower, Mark Rees, Alan Birch, Brian Caswell, Craig Pead, Jimmy McMorran, Ray Wiggin, Ken Hill, Alec Jackson, Alan Roper, Paul Jones, Ray Graydon, Colin Harrison, Jack Bridgett, Phil Aston, Allen Clarke, Derek Clarke, Brian Palgrave, George Andrews and Mark Taylor.

The former players will be introduced onto the pitch at half time where I'm sure they will receive a fitting round of applause in appreciation of their services to Walsall Football Club.

Walsall FC Legends (XI) Fixtures.

WEDNESBURY ATHLETIC v WALSALL FC LEGENDS (XI)

Banks's Stadium, Bescot Crescent, Walsall, West Midlands, WS1 4SA

Saturday 7th May 2016 – 5:30pm

In aid of Team Margot. (Subject to re-schedule or cancellation due to League 1 play-off games).

HOMESERVE v WALSALL FC LEGENDS (XI)

Banks's Stadium, Bescot Crescent, Walsall, West Midlands, WS1 4SA

Monday 16th May 2016 – 7:30pm

In aid of an Homeserve chosen charity. Details to be confirmed. (Subject to re-schedule or cancellation due to League 1 play-off games).

BOXERS XI v WALSALL FC LEGENDS (XI)

Red Star AFC, Middlemore Lane, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 8DN

Sunday 10th July 2016 – Time tbc.

In aid of Birmingham Children's Hospital / The British Heart Foundation.

How to join or renew your Trust Membership.

Becoming a member of the Trust costs as little as £2 per year (August 1st to September 31st) for an Individual Member or just £10 a year to become a Business Member.

Being a Member entitles you to one equal share in the Trust itself (at £1) and also entitles you (or one representative from any business, firm, group, organisation etc) to one equal vote in all major Trust decisions and Elections, and also allows you to stand for election to one of the offices of Trust on the Trust Board.

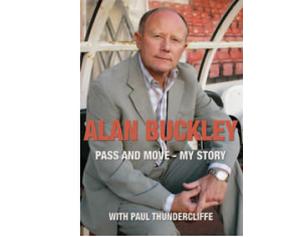
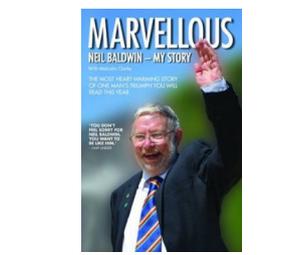
Membership is open to anyone aged 16 or over, providing you are compliant with the Rules of the Trust.

For more information on Membership, what your membership fees are used for and the benefits of becoming a member of the Walsall Football Supporters' Trust, please visit our website at www.walsallfctrust.org.uk where you can find out more and download your Membership Application Form as well as a copy of the Trust Rules and there accompanying policies.

Walsall FC memorabilia still available from the Trust.

There are still various items of Walsall FC and football related memorabilia still available from the Trust that would make great gifts or collector's items for any Saddlers Supporter. Please contact Trust Secretary Steve Davies

BOOKS & LIMITED EDITION PRINTS.

	<p>Farewell Fellows Park By Paul Town (Stadium Portraits)</p> <p>£20 Print Only. / £48 Framed & Mounted.</p> <p>To mark WFC's final game at Fellows Park.</p>
	<p>Walsall v Liverpool Milk Cup By Paul Town (Stadium Portraits)</p> <p>£20 Print Only. / £48 Framed & Mounted.</p> <p>Walsall v Liverpool, Fellows Park 14/02/1984.</p>
	<p>Walsall FC at Wembley By Paul Town (Stadium Portraits)</p> <p>£20 Print Only. / £48 Framed & Mounted.</p> <p>WFC's first ever appearance at Wembley.</p>
	<p>Pass & Move – My Story (Hardback) By Alan Buckley & Paul Thundercliffe</p> <p>£12 Unsigned. / £15 Autographed.</p> <p>Percentage of sales go to WFC FPA. RRP £19.99</p>
	<p>Marvellous – My Story (Hardback) By Neil Baldwin</p> <p>£10 Unsigned.</p> <p>Percentage of sales go to WFC FPA. RRP £12.99</p>
	<p>Walsall til' I Die (Paperback)</p> <p>£2 To Clear. RRP £9.99.</p>