



# THE TRUST

ISSUE 19: SEPTEMBER 2018

## SADDLERS SQUAD & STAFF JOIN THE TRUST



Walsall Football Supporters' Trust received a massive boost last week, following a trip to the Walsall FC Training Ground on Friday morning (24th August 2018) by Trust Secretary Steve Davies, when the whole of the Walsall FC squad and a number of staff, including Manager Dean Keates became fully paid up members of the Trust.

Steve had previously spoken to Dean and explained to him that the Trust Board already automatically add Walsall FC players to the Trust as 'Honorary Members' as soon as they join the club, but Dean, who worked closely with Wrexham Supporters Trust during his time at the club, was adamant that he wanted the entire squad, and members of playing and back room staff, to show their support to the Trust

and the work that we do, by becoming fully paid up members.

In addition to Dean and the squad, other members of staff to become members were Assistant Manager: Andy Davies, Goalkeeper Coach: Michael Oakes, Performance Analyst: Callum Hayes, Senior Physiotherapist: Marc Czuczman, Strength and Conditioning Coach: Nick Barnett, and Kit Man: Tom Bradley.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the players and staff who joined the Trust for their support, and welcome them to Walsall Football Supporters Trust. We look forward to working with you all in the future.



# WALSALL FANS v WALSALL FC LEGENDS FUNDRAISING MATCH CONFIRMED.



We are pleased to confirm that this years Walsall Fans v Walsall FC Legends fundraising match is set to take place at Rushall Olympics' Dales Lane ground on Sunday 28th October 2018, 2pm kick-off.

The event, which is this year sponsored by Verrecchia Ice Cream (West Bromwich), who weather permitting, will be in attendance on the day, has now become the Trusts' largest fundraising event of the year, and will see 22 Walsall Supporters take on a team of Walsall FC Legends (and guests), who are looking to once again defend their unbeaten record, whilst also helping to raise funds for The Saddlers Learning Centre, the Trusts' chosen worthy cause, the financial stability of the Trust itself, and any other charity or worthy cause donations that the Trust makes throughout the year.

Anyone willing to sponsor the Match Ball for this years event, at a cost of £50, should contact Trust Secretary Steve Davies via email to [walsall1888@aol.com](mailto:walsall1888@aol.com).

The fans team is open to ALL Walsall FC supporters aged 16 or above, at a cost of £10 to play (including Trust membership), and anyone looking to take part, should contact Fans Team Manager Rob Harvey via email to [robharvey1503@gmail.com](mailto:robharvey1503@gmail.com), text message to 07444 754995, or via Twitter to [@TheRobHarvey\\_](https://twitter.com/TheRobHarvey_) before Sunday 30th September 2018 to register your interest, and names will be drawn from the hat at random on Monday 1st October 2018, to determine who makes the squad. A video of the draw will be posted on the Trust website and via social media once the draw has taken place. Payment must be made in full before Sunday 7th October 2018, or the place will be offered to another player.

A raffle will be held on the day with some great prizes, members of the Board will be on hand to accept new (or renew) Trust memberships, and did we mention that the bar will be open throughout?

## Admission Prices are as follows:

Adults / 16+ (£3), Concessions (£1), Kids (under 16 FREE with full paying adult).

FREE Mascot places are available for the event, please see page 3 of this newsletter for more details.

## A NUMBER OF GREAT NAMES ALREADY CONFIRMED FOR LEGENDS SQUAD.....

Confirmations for this years Legends squad to face a 22 strong fans team in our annual fundraising match at Rushall Olympic FC, have already started to come in, with none other than current Walsall FC Manager, former Walsall FC Midfielder (95-02 and 06-07), local boy turned fans favourite, and more recently, Walsall Football Supporters' Trust Member, DEAN KEATES leading the pack.



In addition to Dean, former WFC team mates, DARREN WRACK (Winger 98-08), and IAN ROPER (Defender 95-08), as well as former Walsall FC loanee ANDY REECE (Midfielder 92-93) will all be taking part in the match, as will be guests of the Trust and Legends regulars, boxing brothers, Steve and Martin 'The Quiet Man' Gethin, both great supporters of this event.

More names will be released in the build up to the match, which takes place on Sunday 28th October 2018 (2pm Kick-off), and as they are confirmed, both on the official Trust website, and on both our official Facebook and Twitter social media platforms.



# FREE MASCOT PLACES AVAILABLE FOR FANS v LEGENDS MATCH\*



In order to try and make this years Fans v Legends match a Family Fun event, we're offering FREE mascot places to all kids, \*providing they are accompanied by a full paying adult; giving them the opportunity to lead the teams out onto the pitch, and get their photo's taken with the squads before kick-off.

It doesn't matter how many Mascots we have; the more the merrier!, and although it would be nice to see as many of them showing off their Walsal FC colours, it is not essential, nor a requirement.

Anyone interested in their child or children being Mascots on the day, should contact Trust Secretary Steve Davies via email to [walsall1888@aol.com](mailto:walsall1888@aol.com) to register your interest.

## RAFFLE PRIZE DONATIONS NEEDED.

We are currently looking for raffle prize donations for this years Fans v Legends match, in aid of The Saddlers Learning Centre, the Trusts' financial stability, and any other charity or worthy cause donations we make this year.

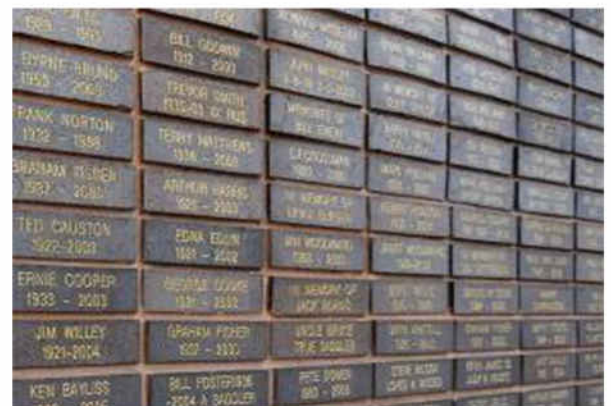
Walsall Football Club and Club Secretary, Dan Mole have already donated 2 pairs of match tickets for 2018/19 home games (Matches and dates yet to be confirmed), in addition to a bottle of Bacardi kindly donated by WFC supporter Wayne Bowes.

If you have any items that you are willing to donate to the raffle, please contact Trust Secretary Steve Davies at [walsall1888@aol.com](mailto:walsall1888@aol.com).

# MEMORIAL SERVICE TO BE HELD AT THE BANKS'S STADIUM IN MEMORY OF SADDLERS PASSED.

A small Memorial Service will be held at the Banks's Stadium on Saturday 15th September (2pm), prior to Walsall FC's League One match against Doncaster Rovers, in recognition of former Walsall FC players and staff who are sadly no longer with us.

The service will be held by Club Chaplin, Reverend Peter Hart in front of family members of some of those who are to be remembered, and who will be in attendance as guests of the club, Walsall FC Former Players Association, and the Trust. Memorial bricks have already been placed in the wall over the summer.



This as been made possible following a joint project by Walsall FC, the WFCFPA, and the Trust, and although it may not include every former player, director, or member of staff who have been sadly lost, we hope for this to be an on-going venture, and that as many former Saddlers as possible will be recognised moving forward. Amongst those to be remembered on the day will be: Jack Bridgett, Horace Brisbourne, Tom Hargreaves, Roger Hynd, Albert McPherson, George Meek, Geoff Morris, Granville Palin, Willie Penman, Dave Robinson, Clive Welch, Ken Hodgkisson, Bert Williams, Brian Taylor, Matt Gadsby, David Preece and Ian Hanysides.



## RECENT CHANGES TO TRUST BOARD

Back in April of this year, both Membership Secretary Dean Neville and Board Trustee Ian Astbury resigned their positions from the Board following a number of years due to personal indifferences. Board Trustee Kev Paddock accepted the roll of Membership Secretary and was duly elected at the AGM.

Also at the AGM, Trust members (and both former Lord Mayors of Walsall) Councillor Gary Clarke (Con), and former Councillor Dennis Anson (Lab), were both co-opted to the Board in order to fill vacant positions.

All other members of the Board were re-elected to their posts in accordance to the rules of the Trust, as no new proposals had been made.

In the early part of August, long standing Trust Chair Neil Ravenscroft stood down from his position due to personal commitments, but remains on the Board as a Trustee. Vice Chair Bob Thomas has been asked to take on the duties of the Chair until such a time the position can be filled at the AGM or an EGM of the Trust. Notice of any meeting will be forwarded to the members of the Trust, along with the relevant documentation, once the Board have met to discuss the details of the matter.

## WALSALL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION SIERRA LEONE EMERGE CHAMPIONS



Walsall Football Foundation Sierra Leone emerged champions of the 'Real Amateur Football Competition' on Saturday 25th August 2018, beating rivals Qua Smart FC 6-2, despite heavy rain.

Walsalls' first two goals of the game came in the first three minutes of play setting precedent for the entire match; the first goal came from Ibrahim Kargbo within sixty seconds, after the Qua Smart keeper failed to hold on to the ball following a direct shot by Walsall Captain Mohamed P Kamara, the second by Ishmail Bangura following a goal mouth scramble and a poor clearance in the third minute, creating a brilliant run past the Qua Smart defence and scoring neatly in the top corner.

Twenty minutes later, Kamara, who was all over the Qua Smart midfield, scored Walsalls' third to make it 3 nil, before Qua Smart defender Alies' heavy shot deflected off the Walsall keeper to make it 3-1 before half-time.

Qua Smart came out in the second half looking to get back into the game, but on the sixty minute mark, Bangura scored his second for Walsall, who took control of the game once more. Qua Smart raised their game once again on the seventieth minute, when striker Tevez wasted no time and shot passed the Walsall keeper to make it 4-2, and in the final ten minutes, Bangura, Walsalls' energetic striker, gave Qua Smart no breathing room at all as he completed his hat-trick to make it 5-2.

Walsall finished the game with ease and comfort, and a sixth goal from Anthony Steven in the dying seconds of the game was enough for the referee to signal the end of the match, leaving Walsall 6-2 victors, and their support in a more than jubilant mood.

Country Minister of Sport, Ibrahim Yelenkeh and other community Stake Holders, who were at the game, had just witnessed probably the most thrilling youth football match that the community has even seen.

Champions Walsall FC went home jubilant with the trophy and a number of other awards in their possession, giving them something to be proud of.

Please visit [www.facebook.com/WFFSL](https://www.facebook.com/WFFSL) for photos and more details.