



GoalPost

issue2 | October 2010

Founded 1985 | FA Charter Standard Club 2003 | FA Community Club 2005

England legend gets the ball rolling

We kick off our 25th year celebrations with a sportsman's evening at the Hatherton Hotel on the 21st October.

We are pleased to announce our special guest speaker will be England legend Jimmy Greaves, who will talk about his remarkable and colourful football career.

Considered by many to be one of the finest goalscorers of his generation, Jimmy is England's third highest international goalscorer and the highest goalscorer in the history of English top flight football.

The evening will be hosted by Roy Walley of Walsall F.C. and includes a four course meal, a memorabilia auction and entertainment from comedian Jed Stone.

We'd love to see lots of new faces at this special event - tickets are still available priced at just £35

Please contact
Pete Spillard
07768 632 093



Jimmy Greaves.
England's goalscoring legend comes to Penkridge



Fun, football and the big 25th kick off

Welcome to the second edition of 'Goalpost'. So much has happened since our first issue, not just on the football pitch but also off it. We've had presentation evenings (see back page), our first summer fun day (pictured above) and our annual football tournament (see page two).

It's always amazing to see people pull together to host these events, we are very fortunate to have a wonderful set of volunteers who give up their time so willingly. The reward is there for all to see with so many smiling faces - both young and old.

Our Summer cup was once again a great success, where more than 150 teams take over the Monckton for a weekend. It makes me very proud to read the fantastic feedback from both professional clubs and junior football clubs.

Without the support of all the parents, players, coaches, managers and committee members, none of this would be possible. It's been great seeing lots of new faces at these events, many didn't realise just how much goes on at Penkridge Juniors and just how many local children are involved in our club. We are trying to spread the word and are always looking for willing volunteers to help - if you fancy getting involved, we'd love to hear from you.

The football season ended as quick as it began, the bad weather over the winter months meant one of our teams played just 3 games in as many months... and finished playing seven games in the last few of weeks! We are all hoping 2010/11 will be less disrupted by the weather.

On a brighter note our u12 boys team finishing as runners up in their league shield final. (Opposite)

One of our youngest teams (u8s) scored over 100 goals during the season - remarkably every player managed to get on the score sheet including the two goalkeepers!

Our U16 girls team, moved to the Central Warwick League and had a fantastic run after Christmas not losing a league game in 2010 and eventually finishing as runners up. The very same team (now known as Penkridge Junior Ladies) kicked the first ball of our 25th Season on Saturday 11th September, the match against Wednesfield produced not only our first goal, but also the first hatrick of this landmark season, with the honours for both going to Lisa Oakden - the final score Penkridge 11 Wednesfield 0

I'm really looking forward to another great year of junior football and would like to take this opportunity to wish all players, coaches, managers, parents and supporters an enjoyable and successful season.

Andy Mayne

Vice Chairman Penkridge Junior FC.



WEBSITE NEWS

PJFC ROLE OF HONOUR.

We are pleased to announce the new Role of Honour section on the website.

Club Secretary - Di Lester has been searching through the archives to track all previous winners of the prestigious Club awards such as;

Ed James Team of the year

This trophy dates back to 1995 and is presented each season to our best 11 aside team.

Small Sided Team of the year

This award began in 2003 as mini soccer became a recognised format.

Clubman of the year

This award is presented to that years unsung hero and dates back to 1995.

Outstanding achievement

Presented to a team or individual since 2005.

Robert Hasting Fair Play Award

Individual award since 2007.

The full list of winners can be viewed on the club website; pjfc.co.uk/history

The website is also the place to read about our teams past and present.

Since the last issue of GoalPost we've received lots of old photos and information about some of our past players and teams, but there are still some eras missing.

If you can fill in the gaps or have some old team photos please contact Pete Spillard. We'd like to build a comprehensive archive of the Clubs history - and maybe even publish a commemorative book celebrating our first twenty five years.

Please visit the website or contact Pete Spillard direct on 07768 632 093

A festival of football.

Saturday July 3rd saw the annual Penkridge Juniors Summer Cup kick off, the tournament is the sixth one to take place in as many years, and it certainly didn't disappoint.

Sixty ambitious teams attended on Saturday with hopes of lifting the winner's trophy in the end. Boys teams ranging from 11-14 years of from all over the region turned out with high hopes. The tournament's name and club's success has certainly travelled with one team from as far as Liverpool participating. With the sky looking fairly safe and the temperature cool; the teams and their managers were itching to get underway in almost perfect footballing conditions.

The u11's and u12's kicked off the day at 11 o'clock while the u13's and u14's games began an hour later. There were some fantastic standards of football on display throughout the age groups which was reinforced by a Wolverhampton Wanderers talent scout who said, "The tournament has been great so far with an exceptional cross section of boys playing good standard football".

With some tense and nail biting matches the finals were decided, although unfortunately none of the seven Penkridge teams participating reached any finals; Woolton Wanderers (Liverpool) met Madeley White Star in a thrilling final for the u11's in which Woolton rode out 3-1 winners after extra time. Next it was the u12's turn and Four Oaks Lions turned out to play Hednesford Town 1 in a game which Four Oaks cruised to a deserved 2-0 victory. Then came the u13 final and St Georges B faced Boley Park A in a very tight game where St Georges defended a 1-0 victory. The closing final of a long day



saw PRD United A defeat AFC Cannock Juniors in an encounter that ended 1-0.

Day 1 drew to a close and in reflection turned out fantastic; with some great standards of football, refereeing and organising throughout, Sunday had a lot to live up to...

Sunday 4th July kicked off in very similar fashion with conditions looking fine for football once again. This time however the Monkton Recreation was filled with just short of one hundred football teams, ranging from u7 boys up to the u11 girls sides.

Young teams and their supporting families were out in force again from all over the Midlands, and it was an even earlier start for most teams who arrived at 9 o'clock for the very earliest kick offs. Wherever you looked there were young hopefuls eagerly awaiting their chance to shine on the field of play. These hopefuls included six Penkridge Junior teams all representing their town.

The u7's and u8's competed in friendly and non-competitive football throughout the morning and looked to have thoroughly enjoyed their day out. The u9's final saw AC My Lads come up against Old Wulfrunians North, the game was played out well by both sides although Old Wulfs were the more threatening side and overcome their opponents by 3-0. The u10's final was played out between Red Street Phoenix and Ulverley Hawks, it was a game that could have gone either way but Red Street came out on top winning 1-0. The final final of the tournament was fought out between the u11 girls, Stretton Swifts Ladies faced Starlands St Annes in a deadlocked game until Stretton netted a scrappy goal which ended up being the difference between the sides.

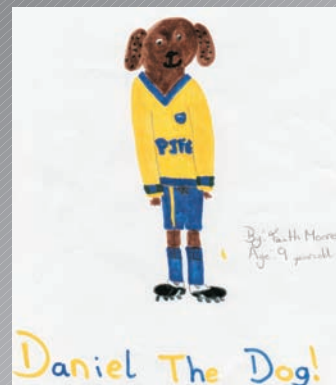
All in all the entire tournament cannot be described as anything other than a massive success story, the players and supporters looked to have had a great time and took away some great memories from a fantastic weekend.
by Alex Dodd



Design a mascot winner...

A big thank you to everyone who sent in designs for our new club mascot. The judges had a really tough decision, but the chosen design was Bounce (the Ball) by Tom Harrison Age 11 just pipping the brilliant Danny the Dog by Faith Moore (age 9).

Keep your eyes out over the coming months... as Bounce starts to make an appearance.





A group players & parents took on the challenge of a 140 mile, Coast to Coast cycle ride over the August Bank Holiday weekend, to raise funds for Adam's Appeal.

Adam Bird is the 6 year old nephew of team manager Alan Jones, and cousin of U18s Ben Jones, and U14 Girls Lucy Jones. Adam was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive children's cancer called neuroblastoma in June last year, but needs to fly to America for treatment which is unavailable in the UK, and could save his life. "Our family are doing all we can to raise the necessary funds to send Adam to America for treatment. We are so fortunate to know so many people who have supported us with fundraising.



The bike ride idea was initially the lads, however, they needed help with the planning and that's where the parents got involved. We couldn't resist a great opportunity to get fit, raise precious funds, as well as experience the challenge of biking across the country"

The group set off from Whitehaven on Saturday August 28th, and

arrived in Roker on Monday 30th.

Congratulations to Alan and his team on a fantastic effort.

You can read the full story of their charity challenge on the club website. Anyone willing to make a donation can do so online at; www.justgiving.com/alan-jones3

Ben scoops FA Award

On Saturday 11th September the search was finally over for Grassroots Football Clubs, Coaches and Volunteers of the year. The Staffordshire Football Associations annual awards, held at Port Vale Football Club, recognised the cream of the crop from the grassroots game for their achievements during the 2009/10 Season.

The Staffordshire FA Charter Standard Working Party, along with members of staff, had the difficult decision of selecting the winners. We are delighted to announce that our very own Ben Lester picked up the Young Volunteer of the Year Award.



Gareth Thomas (Staffordshire FA Football Development Officer) said: "Across the county, people are working hard week in and week out to provide a professional, fun and rewarding football experience for the local community and we are delighted that The FA and McDonald's have recognised these clubs and individuals with the Community Awards."

A total of 33 invited guests attended the awards ceremony which took place prior to Port Vale's league fixture against Aldershot. In addition to their day out at Vale Park, the award winners had previously enjoyed a day out at Wembley Stadium, for the FA Community Shield game between Manchester United and Chelsea.

A massive well done to Ben, this is a great achievement for someone so young, who devotes so much of his own free time to Penkridge Junior Football Club and grassroots football in general.

He is a credit to his family, our club and the local community.

The evolution of PJFC

PART 2 - THE STORY OF THE NINETIES
by Alan Stephenson
Chairman 1996-2001

The 1970s saw the growth of penkridge begin with the expansion of new housing estates and schools. It became a popular area to live with the M6 motorway, A449 and A5 roads on the doorstep, just right for commuting. Obviously the more families putting their roots down in Penkridge meant that there would be a catchment for creating football for lads.

In 1990 Dave Griffiths started off running a football team for lads under the age of 9 some were even under 8, this team was known under PJFC as the penkridge Colts. This was the year I became involved with PJFC when my son joined Dave's team. Although at the time there was not a properly formed league for the under 9s Dave had found other teams in and around the Stafford area who were keen and wanted to play competitive football.

As Jim Kettle pointed out in the first part of the club history in the 1990s PJFC expanded quite rapidly and obviously with that expansion and rising costs more funds would be required. Cost of running PJFC with a average of 8-10 teams meant that we could not rely on subs alone.

A fund raising committee was set up and from this a new type of social life was developed in Penkridge. Here's a list of some of the memorable events in that were always well attended;

- New Years Eve at the Monckton
- Bavarian evening
- Disco's at the Hatherton
- Karaoke at the Health Cafe Cannock
- Barn Dances at the Peace Memorial
- Black Country Night Out
- Xmas dances at the Peace Memorial

A big thank you must go to everyone who was involved with the fund raising events over this period.

With the expansion of PJFC it was agreed that teams with a qualifying age of twelve and above, would be given the opportunity to experience competitive football against teams abroad.

The under 13 team which I was involved with went to The Hague in Holland in 1994. We played three Dutch teams over a period of 3 days, although we did not win any of our games, the lads gave a good account of themselves and enjoyed the experience of playing abroad. Organising a trip of this nature needs a lot of effort and energy and takes up a lot of time, you cannot do it by yourself. I must say that all parents concerned were fantastic, the support you require running all types of fund raising events from dart matches to a

trolley dash at Kwik Save!

It's a big responsibility taking a group of lads abroad. You need eyes in the back of your head! Having said that, it's wasn't always the lads which caused the problems. One dad in particular (God bless him) was found knocking at the door of the Spanish Embassy about twelve o'clock at night thinking he was locked out of the hotel he was staying in!

With four lads to a room, and their eagerness to watch Dutch TV, we had to make sure from time to time that they were watching the "appropriate" channel! Also they were keen to call home and so needed to check no massive telephone bills were accrued! Then of course, the beer supplies brought over by "Dads" were tending to end up elsewhere, you know who you were! Happy Days! Fond memories I hope for everyone concerned, I certainly have!

Finally through the 1990s P JFC became more established and secure as Club, through the dedication of many people giving of their time, to enable lads of all ages to play football.

The year 2001 would see the start of obtaining the FA Charter for Junior Football, which was achieved under the guidance of Chairman Norman Mence and his Committee.

To be continued...





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PJFC Awards 2009/10

Presentation evenings were held on Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd May at The Hatherton Country Hotel.

The club trophies were awarded to the following teams/individuals :

Small Sided team of the year PJFC Under 8s (Pic 1)

This team of very young players had the fantastic achievement of scoring 113 goals in the season and even more outstanding was the fact that each and every player had scored at least 1 goal, and they played as a team to ensure that this was achieved, special and rare in children so young.

Ed James 11 a-side team of the year PJFC Under 16s Girls (Pic 2)

They moved to play in the Central Warwick League which meant a lot of travelling but the chance to play at a better level of football and thanks go the Parents and coaches for their commitment in order to make this happen. They finished runners up in the league and lost to Derby County in the League Cup Quarter Final and also lost in the Quarter Final of the County Cup.

Clubman of the year Pete Spillard. (Pic 3)

This year this award goes to someone that has gone above "that extra mile". He is a manager and a very pro-active committee member.

In such a short time, approximately 9 months, the work, time and effort that he has put into our club is outstanding. He has built a website we are all truly proud of and spends many hours a week updating it with news and useful manager information.

He has also instigated our club newsletter "GoalPost" which is helping to raise the profile of junior football within the community.

His enthusiasm for the children's football and to Penkridge Junior FC is second to none, this award is acknowledgement for his efforts.

Outstanding achievement Lisa Oakden. (Pic 4)

Lisa is currently playing in the Under 16 Girls team, although she is only an Under 15s. She has played a year above herself for the past 2 seasons and during these 2 years she scored 69 and 43 goals, which is an amazing achievement. Lisa joined PJFC when we first set up a girl's team in 2004/05.

Robert Hastings Fair play & dignity Ben Lester. (Pic 5)

Ben has been with PJFC for the past 10 years. During this time he has been far more than just a player. He has helped with fundraising events, helped his dad with coaching sessions, became a ref and is now a coach, currently looking after the Under 11 Girls. Ben is an extremely pleasant young man who is a credit to his parents and a tremendous asset to our Club, and one that we hope will be around for many years. His commitment to Junior football is rare for one so young, we are hopeful this will result in others following his example.

Individual Team Awards :

Under 7s
Players Player - Gemma Lawley
Parents Player - Matthew Moore
Managers Player - Ethan Cheung

Under 8s
Players Player - James Black
Parents Player - Lewis Weatherer
Managers Player - Andrew Archer

Under 9 Wanderers
Players Player - Aaron Smallwood
Parents Player - Aaron Smallwood
Managers Player - Kieran Shaw
Most Improved - Issac Goodbody

Under 9 Panthers
Players Player - George Foster
Parents Player - Will Lever
Managers Player - Jacob Pitt
Most Improved - Tom Britton

Under 10s
Players Player - Marcus Bazzi
Parents Player - Jack Pope
Managers Player - Jack Pope

Under 11 Girls
Players Player - Anna King
Parents Player - Charlotte Wlazlo
Managers Player - Chloe Smith
Most Improved - Charlotte Wlazlo

Under 11s
Players Player - Jordi James
Parents Player - Jordi James
Managers Player - Harry Foster

Under 12s
Players Player - Chris Mayne
Parents Player - Billy Hodgkinson
Team Man - Tom Lunn
Top Scorer - Shaun Whittingham

Under 13 Girls
Players Player - Bethan Dutton
Parents Player - Amy Smith
Managers Player - Daniella MacDougal
Most Improved - Laura Sisson

Under 13s
Players Player - Reece Jecketts
Parents Player - Mat Smith
Managers Player - Jack James

Under 14s
Players Player - Tom Wellings
Parents Player - Adam Leroux
Most Improved Player - Ollie Winmill

Under 15s
Players Player - Jed Davies
Parents Player - Harry Bramley
Managers Player - Samuel Hogan-Cooper

Under 16 Girls
Players Player - Harriet Gibbons
Parents Player - Ellisha Busby
Managers Player - Gabrielle Podmore

Under 17s
Players Player - Gareth Griffiths
Parents Player - Gareth Griffiths
Managers Player - Alex Dodd



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Long service awards
Olivia Thomas
Lisa Oakden
Harriet Gibbons

Ben Lester
Ben Jones
Zak Holloway
William Hartwell

Dave Guest
Ant Hartwell
Allan Jones



PENKRIDGE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

Founded 1985 | FA Charter Standard Club 2003 | FA Community Club 2005



Communications officer
Pete Spillard
07768 632 093

Address;
PJFC (c/o Russ James),
Roller Mill, Teddesley Road, Penkridge, Staffordshire, ST19 5BD

Club officers / Team managers
contacts available on our website
www.pjfc.co.uk