



SENIOR TIGERS

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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Issue  ~ APRIL   

Welcome

Spring is round the corner, flowers are blooming and Tigers are still promising great things! Welcome to you all for your April Newsletter. You will find in this issue two different directions – forwards & backwards. We are looking at what the future prospects are like for our Senior Tiger's Club and also taking a nostalgic look back. Enjoy!

Looking ahead:

Your committee has been giving thought to how things may return. We all, of course, look forwards to meeting up on the first Thursday afternoon, not to mention Barbara's wonderful Outings. But what is the reality? When we return can we expect ongoing conditions? Will we be able to expect 150+ people to meet in the same room, can we afford a larger venue at the KCOM? Will all our members be ready to return or not? Paul Bryan, our Well-being Co-ordinator will be calling everyone, as usual, over the coming days and he will be asking you to take a short survey with him. This will help us as we make our plans for the coming months. His survey won't take long so please do respond to his call.

One decision that has been taken is that we are hoping to go largely Cashless when we return. Handling cash does have some Covid challenges but it is more the practicalities. Already Barbara

has to pay a substantial amount every month into her local branch, but that's not in Cottingham where she lives, it is in Hessle. But HSBC are shortly to close that branch and it will become even harder for her to cash in. Plans are now being made to go cashless, and we hope that most of you will be happy to pay your Membership Fee by a simple Bank Transfer and the same for Outings and Luncheons. We understand that our 'Senior's' generation prefers simple cash but times have changed and we do need to move with the times here. It will be possible for members to pay by cheque, at least for the time being, but we hope that most will be able to use the transfer system. For the time being Ernie will still take cash for the monthly raffle – as long as we are allowed to conduct raffles when we return.

Our website & the Memorabilia:

There are a number of our members involved in a massive exercise to catalogue items that will soon be accessible to all on our revamped website. This is a huge exercise but the result will be an incredible resource available at your finger tips. Watch out for news to follow.

Player of the Month/Season

Please remember to vote when you receive your Vote Button (email) or for those without email please call **Pat Betts** on **898715** and record your vote for March's Player of the month. Last month George Honeyman won the vote and extended his lead for PoS. He was closely followed by Greg Docherty who is now sitting in 3rd position behind 2nd placed Jacob Greaves. Will things change when your March votes are counted?

Have a smile:

Adam & Eve

At Sunday School the children were learning how God created everything, including human beings. Little Josh was especially intent when the teacher told him how Eve was apparently created out of one of Adam's ribs.

Later in the week his mother noticed him lying down and looking scared. "Josh, what is the matter?" Josh whispered fearfully: *"I have pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife."*

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Looking back to congested Easter fixtures:

As we enter the crucial Easter period which often sees the promotion and relegation issues become a lot clearer, our thoughts turn to past times when things were different and may I say a lot tougher. We have also witnessed large crowds and some big scores as the season starts to enter the final phase.

Managers, Officials, Coaches and Players are often heard complaining about too many games and fixture congestion, even when its 2 games a week. A look back through the "Match Information" on the Memorabilia section of the Senior Tigers web site shows an interesting comparison to days gone by and today. This season the Tigers will play on Good Friday and Easter Monday. Well spaced out and no reason to complain.

However, it was not always like this. Up until the early 1980's it was common for teams to play 3 games in 4 days. However as some of you may have found it was not always club officials who complained. Family life was often disrupted as non footballing members wanted to take advantage of the bank holiday and the start of Spring but those with a team to follow wanted to plan their match days and trips away.

I think the last 3 game Easter was in 1981. When City lost 1-0 away at Blackburn on Good Friday, following this up with a 3-1 home win against Blackpool on the Saturday, with Keith Edwards scoring twice and Paul Moss netting once. On Easter Monday we made a trip across the Humber to Grimsby and drew 1-1 in front of 18,360.

1970-71 we were looking at a possible promotion to Division One. Hopes were high in early March after a 2-1 win away at Sheffield United in a game that was labelled "The Battle of Bramall Lane". Unfortunately form somewhat deserted us and Easter came with a lot to do. A 1-1 draw at Sheffield Wednesday, a home 1-0 win to Bristol City in front of 22,178 and a 0-0 draw away at

Birmingham City with 33,109 in attendance. We finally finished 5th in the Second Division.

1969 saw us get 2 wins and a draw with 7 goals scored and only 1 conceded. 1966-67 season got off to a great start on our return to Division 2 but during March and April we only won once resulting in a 12th place finish. Easter was particularly poor with 3 losses to Wolves (A) 4-0, Birmingham (A) 2-1 and Birmingham (H) 2-0. The great promotion year of 1965-66 saw us win all 3 matches in 4 days. Oxford (A) 2-0, Brentford (A) 4-2 and a 2-1 win in the home fixture with Oxford on the Easter Monday with 31,992 cheering on and dreaming of promotion. In the season before this we were also dreaming of promotion but a poor Easter more or less put paid to the dreams. Good Friday saw us lose at Southend and 24 hours later we visited promotion rivals Mansfield Town. In a fantastic atmosphere the home team ran out 2-1 winners and 19,500 witnessed the game in which Waggy scored on his return to his home town club. On the Monday promotion hopes finally faded as we could only draw 0-0 in the return fixture with Southend.

In 1958-59 we won promotion and on the Easter Saturday we hosted FA Cup Semi Finalists, Norwich City. 24,156 witnessed a great game and highly entertained in a 3-3 draw with goals from Doug Clarke (2) and Colin Smith. The year before an even better event took place as Easter Saturday. We beat Oldham Athletic 9-0. 11,007 cheered City to an emphatic win with goals from Bradbury (3), Smith (3), Clarke, Bulless and Cripsey.

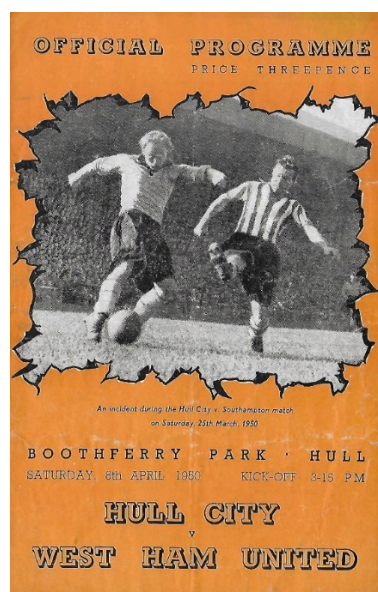


The unlucky Oldham keeper was Dave Teece who had signed for them from City in 1956. What a horror return! 2 days later the largest crowd of the season, 16,763 was drawn to BP hoping to see more goals against Bradford City. However, in true City fashion we lost 3-1. 24 hours later we lost 1-0 again away to Bradford City. These 2 defeats put paid to the outside chance of promotion as we finished 5th.

On Good Friday 1955 we lost 4-1 away at Bury and 24 hours later we lost 4-1 again at home to Blackburn Rovers. We salvaged some pride on the Monday, winning 1-0 at home to Bury. A similar set of results occurred in 1952, we lost 5-0 at Everton, 4-0 at Nottingham Forrest but gained some pride with a 1-0 win in the return with Everton. The important goal being scored by Gerrie. We also won the following 2 games and staved off relegation.

Local derbies were often the feature of Easter games and with 3 games to play travel had to be kept to a minimum. In 1951 we hosted Leeds United on Good Friday and won 2-0 in front of 46,701. Harrison and Carter scored. 24 hours later we played away at Birmingham City before the Easter Monday trip to Elland Road and the Peacocks getting revenge by 3-0.

Holidays can often bring out large crowds and 1949-50 was one such year. The Good Friday



fixture away at Spurs attracted 66,889 and they did not see a goal. 24 hours later we returned to BP and drew 2-2 with WHU in front of 31,049. 48 hours later we were back at BP and beating Spurs 1-0 in front of 38,345. Hardly time to take the family to the coast in those fantastic times.

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3 game Easters were also the norm prior to 1939, in fact in City's first season in League football in 1904-05 we played Grimsby away on Good Friday (lost 2-1), Boston away on the Saturday (won 4-2) and returned to Hull for the Easter Monday fixture at The Boulevard, drawing 2-2 with PNE.

Before closing I want to tell you a remarkable fact about City and an Easter Monday fixture in 1947. City won all 3 fixtures for the first time since 1923. After completing the 3rd game by beating Carlisle at BP, 10 of the winning side found themselves turning out for the Reserves in the evening! The Reserves played in the afternoon at Scunthorpe in the Midland League and were due to return to BP to play Filey Town in a East Riding Cup fixture. However, they were delayed en route and manager Major Buckley played the first team. Only one player was replaced, he was Ron Brown. His replacement Denis Thompson scored 5 goals

as City ran out winners 8-2. You couldn't make it up.

I invite you to browse through the "Match Information" on the web site and look for many other interesting games. You may notice that up to 1958 clubs played on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Now that would start a family row in our house. Enjoy the Easter week end and lets hope for 6 points.

Tony Conway
(Senior Tigers Memorabilia Project Coordinator)

A timely thought: Will things go back to Normal?

Author & activist, Sonya Renee Taylor, said ...

"We will not go back to normal. Normal never was. Our pre-corona existence was not normal, other than we normalised Greed, Inequality, Exhaustion, Depletion, Extraction, Disconnection, Confusion, Rage, Hoarding, Hate and Lack.

"We should not long to return, my friends. We are being given the opportunity to stitch a new garment, one that fits all of humanity and nature."