



# TERRAS TIMES

"The Terras Supporters Club"

The newsletter of the Weymouth FC Supporters Association

ISSUE: May 2020

## From the Editors Chair

Hello everyone.

I would like to open the newsletter paying tribute to the two Terras fans who recently lost their lives at the height of this terrible pandemic.

When it hits this close and this hard you realise that Covid-19 is something that has a great degree of power over us and our lives and that we need to be strong.

We need to support the families affected at our club and in the wider community showing a level of respect, compassion and love beyond anything we might have shown before.

The fact that we are bound together by a love of football and of Weymouth FC should enhance our bonds going forward.

RIP Dave and Ray.

There isn't too much to talk about away from globe changing pandemics but despite the early end to the season and the as yet unclear conclusion I wanted to publicly thank the players, management and officials of the club for us going into the closed season (whatever that might look like) proud of the team and what it's achieved.

I am looking on the Non-League Matters forum (Tony Kempster forum for those of us of a certain age) for nuggets of what might be happening or when we might find out.

Although in the grand scheme of what is happening, football is irrelevant it will have a part to play in getting us back out and into society whenever this might end and our club has produced football of the highest quality this season. Memories of the opening day at Maidstone, of Super Jake lashing another one in from long range and the Bob Lucas Stadium rocking and rolling are felt as strongly here in South Lincolnshire as anywhere.

Wherever I have been in this world, I have always been proud to tell people who my team is and that pride is none more strong than at present.

Keep sane, keep safe and keep the faith.

*James*

## Chairmans Chatter

Welcome one and all to our latest newsletter. I sincerely hope you are keeping safe and well during these troubling times. Sadly, since our last newsletter, we have learned of the passing of two of our supporters to the terrible disease that currently threatens all our safety. Dave Ellis and Ray Parker both sadly passed away in April. It is a tragedy for their families, and I hope you will all join me in sending our heartfelt sympathy to their families and friends. In normal times, those of us minded too and of course with the blessing of their families, would have attended their funerals and wakes but that is sadly not possible. To that end, we will liaise with the Club to ensure we honour their memory when the opportunity eventually presents itself.

In these challenging times, I think we all need to have some uplifting news and positive things to look forward too. At the time of writing, we know the regular season for us has come to an end with seven games left play, which on the face of it, seemed the only logical conclusion. But all was not lost as the Media Team got together and came up with the Take Two initiative, which as your representatives, we have been delighted to assist and be involved with. I hope you have been able to enjoy the features run so far and I can assure you that vital funds have been raised to help support the Club through these uncertain times. We do not yet know what the final outcome of our season will, but personally I believe it would be very sad for it to end as it is, as the management and players have worked so hard this season, and also we must not forget the momentum was started back in 2017!! If at all possible, the play offs should happen and whilst I accept that may be an overly optimistic viewpoint, with far too much negativity around the mainstream media at the moment, we all need something positive to hold onto.

These are certainly unique and challenging times in so many different ways. Not least having no football to write about deep into the business end of the season! Very odd! But please rest assured, we have not been idle, as we continue to look at ways to keep the Club very much in the public eye. We recently made a donation to the Veterans Hub, the Clubs chosen good cause for the current season, which will be a great benefit to them as their income streams, like many organisations, have been greatly reduced. We have of course been running the full time draw in the Take Two features and we are looking at other ways we can, under challenging circumstances, continue to project the Club out into the community it serves. We hope to have more to report on that in the next issue.

Technology has played its part in allowing virtual board meetings to continue. As your representative on the WFC Board, I can assure you that planning continues regards numerous different possible scenarios and that we will be ready for what ever may present itself in the coming days and weeks. If you have any questions or concerns about what is happening, and I fully appreciate the frustration you must all be feeling, please get in touch. I am more than willing to take your questions or concerns to the Board of Directors, that is my role after all. The best way to get in touch is via email at [weymouth-fcsa@gmail.com](mailto:weymouth-fcsa@gmail.com) This is an email address I constantly monitor and if you would like a call back rather than use email back and forth, just include contact details and request a call and I will get in touch.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. Please do get in touch with any stories or anecdotes to include in the next issue. Help to entertain the fans whilst in lockdown! Do all please stay indoors and stay safe and well so we can all enjoy a return to the excitement of football back at The Bob Lucas Stadium in due course.

Best wishes to you all.

Pete Nash

Chairman, Weymouth FC Supporters Association, 'The Terras Supporters Club'

### **Is it over or not part 2**

So we now know that we wont be playing the remaining matvhes of the season and whatever way you cut it be it points, points per game, home and away factored points per game etc etc we wont be going up unless there are play offs.

Unlikely, but there are still people talking on the internet as though there might be some likelihood of this happening.

Of course we will keep you posted... to be honest I didn't think this feature would get past part 1 last month!

## Most exotic sounding Terras player ever?

Whilst a number of people have been busily assembling their best ever Terras XI, worst ever Terras XI, most under-rated side and so on... we toyed with the idea of best ever Weymouth FC haircut but couldn't pick between John Waldoock and Ian Hutchinson so we have gone for the topic above and there are joint winners.

Both of these players turned out for the club at the turn of the century when getting exotic sounding players was a bit of a dream for the Speedway end of the ground.

**Jan-Gerard Waagenar** was the first. A goalkeeper who arrived at the Terras and set about displacing a club legend in Paul Myers. He wasn't universally popular amongst the fans for that fact although he was certainly tall and a decent shot stopper.

He warmed up in his old FC Gelderland training top a club that no longer exists with only Vitesse Arnhem surviving in that part of the Netherlands. He didn't stay long despite the crowd actually calling for him to come on in an away game at Worcester where Myers had a rare off day conceding 3 before half time.

A couple of years after him came a long haired Danish midfielder who sported white gloves (like the king of pop) and a white head band to hold back his long blondish hair. He was **Nikolai Lund** a player who looked at home in our side from the first moment he stepped on the pitch. This lad was popular and a quality act in a side that had been crying out for something a little bit different. Again his stay was brief but memorable enough that he is remembered still to this day.

## Retro away days—episode 1 19/08/1998 Kings Lynn 1-2 Weymouth

This was one of the longest but most enjoyable footballing days of my life.

It started before dawn when I headed out along Preston Beach Road to pick soon to be Echo journalist Matt Pitman up along Dorchester Road.

He had been looking for a lift to the match and was happy to take up my offer, even if it meant me picking up some Terras I knew in Peterborough and visiting my Nan.

We were soon along the M27 and enjoyed a service station breakfast (although I seem to remember Matt was travelling with a nice pack up for the day, a benefit of still living at home at the time).

After a quick cuppa with the family and having collected the rest of the supporters we had on our list we made our way down the A47 into deepest darkest Norfolk.

Kings Lynn is a pretty little town with The Walks a decent ground.

We always seem to have decent matches and enjoyable banter with the fans. I remember our 40 pass wonder goal coming against them and legendary goalkeeper Chuck Martini. However the atmosphere at a home ground is pretty intimidating for visiting fans and so it was on that sunny afternoon.

We'd parked up and looked for a local fish and chip shop. An angry drunk looking man in a Glasgow Rangers shirt gave us directions which consisted of walking down a pretty dodgy looking alley way. However he was right and we were soon in "Micks", a fish and chip shop who also stocked fresh jam and knitwear.

Diversification of business wasn't a term as familiar as it is today so this was an odd sight for us but we paid our money and enjoyed our food on the way back to the ground.

The alley way was now full of home fans and I don't think it was the shiny polyester of my Paulas Benara made home shirt that was making me agitated and sweaty (*Edit—I have got the shirt down from the attic and put it on and to be fair it might have been the fabric*). There was a lot of people and not many smiling at us.

Once in the ground we had a look in the club shop which reminded me greatly of the concrete toilets at Portland lighthouse.

Their lead terrace singer who orchestrated the fans was a giant man in an Russian Cossacks hat. He was quite scary and looked about as hot as I was feeling. Could have been the hat although their kit was also Paulas Benara branded.

The game saw them take an early lead before goals from the much maligned (but I always thought brilliant) Craig Mansell and the Wearside Wonder David Laws was enough to get the points.

The goal from Laws saw him sprint over to the small knot of Terras fans behind the goal we were attacking before being mobbed. As he freed himself he shook his head like a dog covering us with his sweat. My friend Seb didn't wash for weeks until his Wife got really angry with him . Cont.

## Retro away days—episode 1 19/08/1998 Kings Lynn 1-2 Weymouth

There are some goals that stick in your memory and you always treasure the moment.

This was one of those goals.

I don't even think it was one of Laws' most spectacular finishes. It dribbled in at the near post, but the fact that most of the fans were 250 miles into a 500 mile round trip was enough for the players to show their appreciation of the fans and vice versa.

As the final whistle blew and we celebrated in the late summer sun there was the dawning realisation that we would be travelling for many hours still.

So we headed back for me to see my Nan again before making the requisite drop offs and heading back south from Peterborough to Dorset.

It always felt odd for me going home so it was great to have some company for the long drive back to my other home.

Matt and I consumed lots of Britpop cassette tapes on the motorway (I had a 1990 VW golf at the time) before we crested the Ridgeway as the moon hit its peak.

We were both taken aback by how lovely the scene was and that we had returned to Weymouth clutching three valuable points in our first season back in the Southern Premier.

## Conference South 2019/2020

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