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NEWSLETTER

Winter Issue 2007

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



Well we are already two months into the season and so far we have been lucky that the weather has been great and hopefully everyone (managers, coaches, boys, girls and parents alike) are enjoying their football.

Since the last newsletter, the most notable event has been our Celebration Dinner in recognition of the contribution of Martin and Gill Belton and Dave Simmill to the club. Those who attended had a fantastic evening (more photos/ details of the evening inside). During the evening, all three were made Honorary Vice Presidents of the Club which is in recognition of their 10 years of service to the club and the invaluable experience they have brought and continue to bring to the club.

It is their contribution which has built the foundations so that this year we have 28 teams and over 300 players registered with the club, including one team, the U17's, playing in the Reading's Men's League for the first time. So we now have a Men's team, a Ladies team and teams represented all the way down to U7s as well of course as the Soccer School.

The size and growth of the club obviously has implications on how we run the club from a financial perspective and I wanted to give you some insight into where the subscriptions are spent. The chart inside indicates what percentage of the club funds is spent where. What is clear is that sponsorship, fundraising and parent support for club events is key to the club's financial success.

Although we have individual team sponsorship, one of our current areas of focus is to try and find a new club sponsor and to this end, both Andy Dean and Paul David have taken on this responsibility as part of the committee. If anyone knows of any local companies who would be potentially interested in sponsoring the club, then please contact either Andy or Paul on 0118 9543414 and 0118 9775168 respectively.

Finally, whilst I introduced this article by stating that I hoped everyone (managers, coaches, players and parents) were enjoying their football, I need to remind you all of the reasons we are all involved – the promotion and enjoyment of playing football in the right spirit. Winnersh Rangers has justifiably got a strong reputation amongst local clubs and leagues for the behaviour and sportsmanship of everyone involved. Please remember this and ensure we continue to play and support our children in the right spirit. Please encourage our children to play fairly and most importantly to accept referee's decisions both as players and spectators. We all have a responsibility to do this.

Best wishes,

Neil Chalfont
Club Chairman

Winnersh Rangers CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Winners to be drawn at the Pavillion,
12pm, 15th December 2007

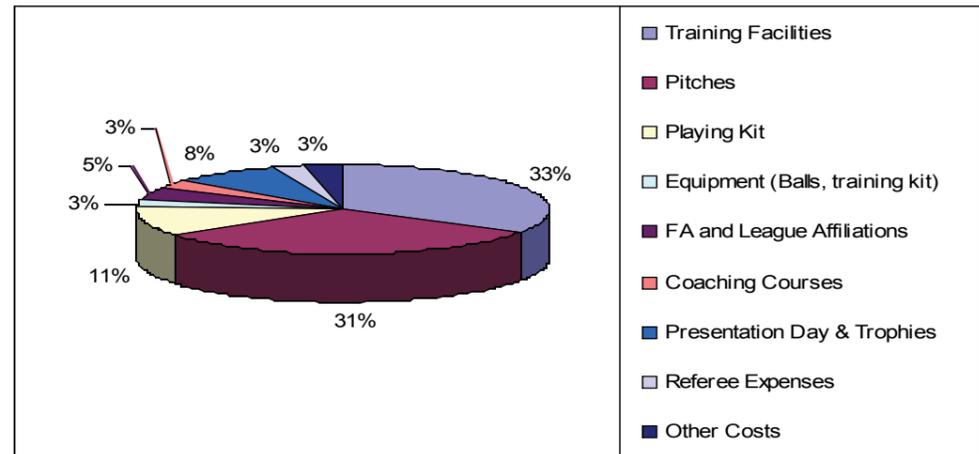
Prizes

Christmas Hampers,
Champagne, Wine & Spirits
and M&S Vouchers

Please sell as many tickets as you can.



Where do our subs go?



What the above chart doesn't tell you is that even though this year we raised our subs slightly we have found some of our larger expenditures increasing considerably - e.g. costs have just risen by 30% at Leighton Park our main training venue. Therefore we need to raise extra money from our various fundraising efforts throughout the season, ensuring that subs can remain as low as possible. We hope you will continue to support us in this by helping us with the Purple Cafe, selling of Xmas raffle tickets and attending our fundraising events in the coming season, talking of which...

WRFC TOURNAMENT - Sunday 8th June

This year Winnersh Rangers are holding our first ever Tournament we are currently looking for volunteers to help with everything from setting up, programme selling and car parking to teas & coffees and of course, clearing up! Your help for this event will be essential for its success, so please keep this date free. More details next issue.



Boys to Men - WRFC U17's By Gill Seagrove

Back in the summer just when the boys thought they would get another year of football, quite unexpectedly the league for the U17's collapsed and our manager left. The boys though were determined that they would stay together and carry on as a team. And so the search began. We couldn't move to a Sunday League as some of the boys already play on Sundays, so we needed another Saturday league.

We found ourselves a new coach/manager Daniel Mellish, with Glynn Wallis assisting him and approached Reading Football League, an adult league that plays Saturday afternoons and on the 6th October played our first match..We won 8-0, what a great start for the boys. It hasn't been all plain sailing though, the boys are playing much harder, tougher football against men older and stronger than them and it has been a big learning curve for them. But they are doing well, enjoying what they are doing and playing great football.

CONGRATULATIONS!

To Daniel Barnes who has been chosen as goalkeeper for the East Berks League U13 Rep Team for the second year. Daniel plays for the U13 Cougars and also represents the Forest School teams in football and rugby. In their first game of the season against Horsham, East Berks won 4-0. They played a fantastic game and Daniel proved they are in safe hands.

Who travels the furthest to play for Winnersh?

We have players from all around the county but I think we only have one who crosses international boundaries to play for Winnersh.

Florence Hopper has been a member of the Kites U14 Girls team for 3 years. In fact Richard, Florence's Dad, was the previous manager who guided us to the SCML championship last year. Richard, Florence and Deborah (Flo's Mum) moved away a few months ago but remain amazingly loyal to Winnersh Rangers.

Florence has remained signed up and travels back for matches when she can from BULGARIA!

Thank you to Steve French who, is not only helping out as coach this year but has arranged for the **Lanz Group** to be the Kites new Kit and training equipment sponsor.

U7 Lions

So far so good.... Played 5 won 4 drew 1 The defense has only let in 3 goals to date and they have scored 31. Micah Elwood has scored 21 in those 5 games including 9 in one game & 5 hat tricks. Micah has also been selected & trains with Reading FC at the development centre. A big 'thank you' to kit sponsor **Itec**, www.itec-is.net.



10 Years and Counting...

On Saturday 3rd November Winnersh Rangers celebrated the contribution that Martin & Gill Belton and Dave Simmill have made to the club over the last 10 years with a night of eating, drinking and dancing at Bearwood Lakes Golf Club.

We were joined by managers, parents, committee members, friends & family. Gills parents flew in specially from Washington DC to be there!

It was a great evening with a delicious buffet and live band.

Thank you to Chris Jones for his musical ear, Graeme Parker our official photographer and Dave Simmill for unwittingly helping to organise his own party!

The evening kicked off with a champagne reception, followed by a sit down hot buffet and speeches from

Neil Chalfont, Martin Belton and Dave Simmill. Then some of the braver among us strutted our funky stuff upon the dance floor (pics below).

I believe there was many a long lie in that Sunday morning!

"Over 300 boys and girls currently play football for the club and over the years many others have played and benefited from its existence."

"The first 10 years of Winnersh Rangers have undoubtedly been hugely successful and we have a great deal to thank Martin, Gill and Dave for."

Neil Chalfont
WRFC Chairman

We hope this event will kick off a 'Season of Celebration' to mark the clubs 10th Anniversary.

Here's to the next 10 years!



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10th November 07

Dear Neil, Fellow Committee Members and Winnersh Rangers Members

I would like to say a very big thank you for last Saturday's wonderful evening.

Martin and I had a fabulous night - everything was perfect! The fact that it was held at Bearwood Lakes Golf Club, such a wonderful setting for a party, made it even more special. Every detail from the welcoming drinks, the gorgeous forked buffet to the fantastic table decorations was superb. It was a very special evening and one we will always treasure.

I would also like to thank you for inviting our parents to the occasion. All four of them thoroughly enjoyed the evening and we were so pleased that they could join us in celebrating what is the 10th Season of Winnersh Rangers FC.

Martin and I are particularly thrilled with our digital photograph frame. We have it up and running in the lounge and Joel is itching to put it all to music! It really is a fabulous gift and something we have looked at longingly for a while. It is also a wonderful reminder of all the good times that we have had as well as showing pictures of family and friends that we might not see as often as we'd like.

I think for me personally, being named as an Honorary Lifetime President means more than anything though and Martin and I are both deeply indebted to the committee for this accolade. We will treasure it for the rest of our days.

We would like to thank everyone who came along on 3rd November to celebrate with us and we hope that you all enjoyed yourselves as much as we did.

Kind regards

Gillian and Martin Belton.



Above: An impromptu speech from Dave Simmill.
Left: WRFC Party Animals.
Right: Martin & Gill (Centre) with Family.
Photographs courtesy of Graeme Parker.

Tournament Programme Advertising

Would your business or the company you work for like to advertise in next years Tournament programme? Full and half page ad space available.

To place your ad call **Louise Joyner** on 0118 9621 595 or email studio@artifactsdesign.com

Parking at Bearwood Rec.

Due to the ever increasing number of Winnersh Rangers teams this season, parking at the rec is at a premium. It's a problem that is being monitored by the local traffic and community wardens. Please see the map below showing where you can safely park without risking a fine.

REC CAR PARK

Please park sensibly, do not block the entrance or park in front of the gates.

MOLE ROAD - NO PARKING

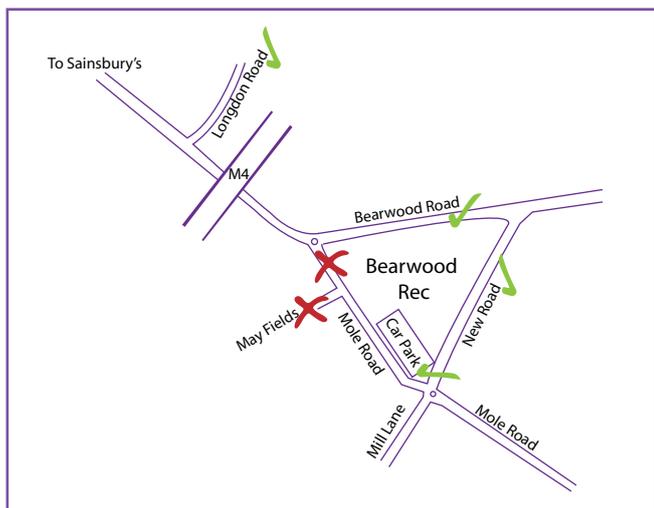
Don't be fooled by the lack of double yellow lines, you are very likely to be slapped with a fixed penalty fine for parking there.

BEARWOOD ROAD/NEW ROAD/LONGDON ROAD

Please park on 1 side of the road only. On a Saturday you may park on the yellow zigzags outside Bearwood Primary school. Please avoid parking across driveways.

MAY FIELDS

Please avoid parking in May Fields Road as it upsets the residents.



Your manager will inform you when extra parking venues are available.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Get the most out of your footballing experience this season by following the Winnersh Rangers Code of Conduct.

PARENTS AND SPECTATORS

- Never force a child to play football; they have to enjoy it.
- Praise effort and performance more than results.
- Praise good behaviour quickly to show adults value it.
- Applaud good play by either team.
- Do not argue with the officials; they are volunteers!
- Do not coach from the sidelines or shout at a player that makes a mistake.
- Stay off the pitch during matches.
- Show the players you enjoy watching the game no matter what the result.
- Respect other players by giving the club good notice if you are unable to attend a game.

PLAYERS

- Play football because you enjoy it, not to please others.
- Learn the rules and play by them.
- Accept the referee's decision; don't argue with the officials.
- Shake hands with the opposition at the end of every game, no matter what the result.
- Always encourage team mates.
- Always be on time for the match with clean boots and kit.
- Always arrive on time for training and matches.
- Listen to the coach/manager who is there for you!
- Help pack up the equipment after training and the match.
- Always try your best.

WINNERSH RANGERS' PHILOSOPHY

The Football Association and Winnersh Rangers FC believe that children should learn how to compete to win, fairly and skilfully within the laws of the game. Competition in its self is neither good nor bad, it depends on the attitude of players and adult leadership.

Striving to win is more important than the result!



Keep Warm & Dry this Season

with a WRFC Fleece Lined Rainjacket
AVAILABLE NOW.

To place your order, call Dave Simmill on

07966 580543

or email

equipment@winnershrangers.com



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