



NEWSLETTER

October 2017



IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL MEMBERS

AGM Saturday 2nd June 2018. The Almonsbury Interchange Hotel The AGM is a requirement that we must have to maintain our status as an official Everton Supporters Club. Important decisions are made that do require voting in so please consider coming along to this game and have a say on how the club is run.

CHAIRMAN – RON JOYNSON



What a season this has been so far for both Everton Football Club and our own, West Country Blues. I'd like to discuss both unit's issues with you here today separately.

First of all Everton Football Club. Having played just ten games so far, we lay in 19th place (in a relegation position) of the Premier League.

We've sacked our Manager Ronald Koeman (a great disappointment / great player but poor Manager) have given our U23 Manager, David Unsworth, a four match trial as Interim Manager in which we have to date, lost the first two games with further games this week, verses Lyon (a) (**Ed Note** Which we lost) and Watford (h) on Sunday.

I appreciate that by the time you read this Newsletter, you will by then know how we have fared, and if David's tenureship has been extended or curtailed.

Our performance record to date (as of 30 Oct) is P10 / W2 / D2 / L 6 / G 7: 20 / Pts 8, in addition we were knocked out of the League Cup in the usual early stage of our entry, though we did give it a bit of a go in the 2nd half at the Bridge.

That said, it is all a little bit pathetic really.

Numerous candidates are being presented by the Press from foreign climes; Tuchel, Ancelotti, Pellegrini and many more, to home based support from Sean Dyche (Burnley are 7th in league currently having already beaten us this season at Goodison) Sam Allardyce and even David Moyes (minute's silence for knives to gunfights exponent)..... and so on!

Where do we go from here?.....Who knows?.....maybe a call for Alan Bennett is the response he always knows the way!

Onto West Country Blues issues.

The principal issue with West Country Blues at this time revolves around our Committee membership. You will be aware that this is the last Season that our Ticket Secretary, Becky Martin, will be able to fulfil her position for us after greatly appreciated stewardship and the position will therefore be open for someone else to fulfil from next season. There may well be additional Committee roles to fulfil so I have asked Mike (**Ed Note:** these are at the bottom of this newsletter) to add as a supplement to this Newsletter, a list of Committee Roles and the relevant Job Descriptions for you all to see.

May I ask that you all survey this listing and please consider your own possible application for any of the roles.

West Country Blues as an organisation is very important to us all (hence you're reading of this article) and serves in many cases, as the only possible method that some of us have, in getting to Goodison to see Everton. It is therefore extremely important that we enrol additional enthusiastic support to our Committee in the embodiment of the principles which we all share. Please let me personally be aware of your possible interest or for further role information for this important component of our Club. Please consider your commitment to our Club!

One final note from me. We intend to hold our next AGM at The Almonsbury Interchange Hotel (our club Bristol coach stop) on Saturday June 2nd 2018. Please diary this date prior to finalising your possible holiday dates etc at this time.

Many thanks and I await Everton getting back to a better, more secure, league placing.

Take care.

Ron Joynson
Chairman WCB

Nil Satis Nisi Optimum.

THE EDITOR/TREASURER – MIKE WILLIAMS



A huge Welcome to a whole load of new WCB Members and to the first newsletter for this season. It has been slightly delayed and is a lot smaller than normal due to the fact that I (as many of us) am in a really complicated relationship with this football club and currently it's not an especially happy relationship!

That incidentally, is not the reason I have not been on the coach the last couple of games, but it is purely work related as even the British Army has to come before Everton just occasionally!

For new members we publish this short newsletter on a quarterly basis and upload it to our website. Newsletter Stories and pictures are more than really welcome and can be sent to me at any stage.

Now that Ronald Koeman has gone, I look forward to a new appointment with interest. I am glad I have nothing to do with the appointment process as I wanted both Martinez and Koeman!

Thus far we have had 5 coach journeys to Goodison Park from the Westcountry. The games have been attended by 191 passengers. We have are running at a loss on travel of £225.

At this stage of the season this not a major concern as if expected we drop out of the Europa League our quota of Sunday games may drop as we see a reduced interest on the Sabbath. This figure is also offset by the 85 members who have joined which has realised an income of £1035.

Can I also thank everybody who contributes to the matchday collection as this further reduces the loss considerably through the season.

We are trying to reduce the losses further by the *Win Your Bus Fare Home* scratch cards and of course Easyfundraising.

Just a plug for Easyfundraising of course in the lead up to Xmas. Remember that every time you spend in over 3000 online shops, **including Everton Direct**, having visited them via the Easyfundraising portal will make us money. We currently have about £190 for our cause. Full details on how to use this very simple process can be found on our website under the Easyfundraising tab.

Our next coach trip is not until Dec 2nd against Huddersfield Town so see you all them.

COYB

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TRAVEL AND TICKET REQUIREMENTS – BECKY MARTIN



If you are a season ticket holder and not attending a game please ensure you let me or Mike Williams know as soon as possible as the coach seat can be offered up to others.

As always, it is advised that you let me know as soon as you can when you know which fixture you wish to attend, this will avoid any last minute requests that could result in failure to get a ticket or of being allocated a restricted view although due to increased season ticket sales this may be the case anyway.

A reminder that I am standing down from the role at the end of the season due to work reasons. We really do need somebody to come forward to join the committee as Ticket Secretary. I will happily shadow them for a period of time and offer advice when needed.

The Job role listing may seem daunting, it's not really. As I have found and I suspect Mike is the same, once you have a process in place it sort of looks after itself. You may need a few minutes on the odd evening to consolidate a list or send an email but that is what Emmerdale, Coronation Street and Eastenders are on TV for!

PLEASE REMEMBER

- Tickets will only be ordered for members travelling to the match on the WCB coach.
- Everton are not obliged to provide a refund on cancelled tickets so in the event that you cannot attend a game, having ordered a ticket, you may be liable to still pay for tickets ordered. We would hope your good nature prevails!
- The only way to really ensure that you are included on the bus list is to speak to me personally or by text as I may miss Facebook messages.
- There is a £2 surcharge on tickets if I order using the Westcountry Blue memberships.

WESTCOUNTRY BLUES IN EUROPE

This season members of the Westcountry Blues have attended all of the Europa League away fixtures and at the time of writing a number are in Lyon and at least 5 are going to Cyprus!

With an away trip to Split, I thought it would be nice to let people see what fun an away trip with Everton is. That is still the case, they are great fun, however I had still not finished the piece the day after being knocked out of the Competition by Olympic Lyon. As I sit here pondering it the night before the Watford game I am just lost for words It may of course be some time before we have the opportunity again!

So I am simply adding a few pictures into a rogue's gallery!

SPLIT



LYON







THE BLACK WATCH FANZINE – TOM MOORE

This summer, Tom Moore took the decision to start a new Everton fanzine called [The Black Watch](#).

In 2012, long-running Everton fanzine *Speke from the Harbour* printed its final issue. A year later, the first and original Everton fanzine *When Skies Are Grey* produced its last regular issue in print and reverted to a digital-only model (though it still does the occasional issue in print).

Around the same time, George Orr's historical publication *Blue Blood* also closed its doors, leaving the efforts of the good people at NSNO – who distribute a fanzine at a few home games a season – as the only fan-led printed publication in circulation on matchdays.

Some might think this shift from print to digital is inevitable, but the demise of the printed fanzine at Everton is at odds with developments elsewhere. Longstanding mags are still running at clubs like Man Utd and Newcastle, while supporters of clubs ranging from Leeds to Motherwell, and Stoke to North Ferriby, have established thriving printed fanzines in recent years.

This is part of the inspiration behind The Black Watch. Quite simply, Tom missed having something physical to read on a matchday.

In addition, the likes of WSAG and SFTH have played an important role in chronicling the history of our club. Printed fanzines, as with websites such as ToffeeWeb, offer the chance for fans to put forward their views, reflect on developments at the club, and to write about what its like to support Everton. Now, more than ever, this is important, as our club embarks on a period of rapid change.

After a summer of planning and writing, the fanzine has gone on sale. It's not been an easy task so please support Tom in this venture.

Tom sells the Black watch on Line and also outside the Church on a match day. Uou can also order on line at the [The Black Watch](#).



THE OLD GREENGROCER

I came across this picture the other day and I just thought I know those teeth!!!



Merchandise

We have a number of items all reasonable prices that enable us to easily market the club. Bags, badges and stickers are all available. Stickers are ideal for the car and designs are below. Please buy and distribute around the place. The 2 larger ones are priced at £2 and the smaller square one at £1.50.



In addition, Ian Davis has a number of items for sell that would make ideal stocking fillers for Xmas, just speak to him on the bus when he is awake!



EVERTON DECISIONS	
PROBLEM	SOLUTION
DEFENCE IS VERY SLOW	SIGN MICHAEL KEANE, WHO IS SLOW
LOST ROMELU LUKAKU	SIGN AGING WAYNE ROONEY WHOSE LEGS NO LONGER FUNCTION
TOO MANY "NUMBER 10" TYPE PLAYERS	SIGN GYLFI SIGURDSSON FOR £40 MIL
ROSS BARKLEY WANTS TO LEAVE	KEEP THE UNHAPPY PLAYER AT THE CLUB
FANS WANT BIG NAME MANAGER	SEE HOW UNSWORTH GETS ON

PADDYPOWER

WESTCOUNTRY BLUES COMMITTEE JOB ROLE/DESCRIPTIONS

GENERAL

1. The following job descriptions highlight in detail what is expected of the WCB committee role. The items are not exhaustive but give an indication of what is expected.
2. In all cases there are certain aspects that the committee member does as they are quite happy to do so e.g. Mike Williams the current treasurer maintains the website as he knows how to do it.
3. Each role may be developed further if required.

WCB JOB DESCRIPTION – CHAIRMAN

(CURRENT INCUMBENT RON JOYNSON)

- Provide leadership to The Committee.
- Act as principal communicator between WCB and EFC.
- Act as Chair at AGM and ensure that accurate minutes are recorded / communicated.
- Personal introduction on coach to new members.
- Act as the communicator of Committee decisions where appropriate to members.
- Keep abreast generally of WCB Committee activity, duties and responsibilities.
- Fulfil verbal communication on coach on match days.
- Prepare a successor
- Serve as liaison between Members and Committee.
- Recommend AGM date time and location
- Fulfill the MOTM scheme, both on the coach and record season results for AGM.

Task	Detail	When
Provide Leadership to the Committee	Provide direction, effective communication, liaison, to the committee in order to ensure smooth running and a harmonious club.	As required
Provide authorisation for payments	Provide authorisation for payments to the treasurer.	As required
Conduct liaison with EFC	Act as the principle communicator with Everton Football Club on all day to day matters.	As required
Recommend AGM date and location	Provide instruction on AGM dates and location	Annually
Chair AGM	Organise and chair the AGM ensuring an agenda is produced and accurate minutes are taken	Annually
Fulfil Match day duties	Fulfil numerous match day duties including verbal communication, MOTM scheme, both on the coach and record season results for AGM, collection of voluntary contributions. Personal introduction on coach to new members.	On each Home match coach.
Prepare a successor	The preparing of a successor requires full briefings on the role, problem solving and mentoring.	As required

WCB JOB DESCRIPTION – TREASURER

(CURRENT INCUMBENT MIKE WILLIAMS)

- Create and maintain admin framework for season
- Monitor coach requirements and liaise with Coach Provider on requirements.
- Maintaining records.
- Preparing a successor.
- Manage WCB budget.
- Collecting match day travel fares.
- Preparing Financial reports.
- Produce membership forms/information sheets for season.
- Distributing match day Tickets
- Member Liaison
- Collection of Membership Fees.
- Match day reconciliation.
- Maintaining Website

Task	Detail	When
Create and maintain admin framework for season.	Set up folders and number of spreadsheets to keep track of finances, membership, match attendance, coach lists, and money collections. Regular backups also required. This also include the production of membership forms, information sheets for all members and ensuring that they are put onto the website. All membership information is recorded by the WCB secretary so effective liaison is needed.	Beginning of each season and on a weekly basis.
Manage WCB Budget	Requires weekly/fortnightly/monthly management and reconciliation of bank statements, rectification including data entry to spreadsheets. Money is banked after each home game. This also requires financial reports to be prepared for the AGM in a timely manner. Advise Chair of any financial problems as required.	As required.
Produce membership forms/information sheets for season.	Membership form/information sheets are prepared and produced in timely fashion for upcoming season. These need to be hard copies and put on line.	As required.
Collection of Membership Fees	This is collected via cheque or cash both in post and on match day coaches. All money is banked and membership forms passed to WCB secretary for inclusion to WCB database.	Each home match day.
Monitor coach requirements and liaise with Coach provider on requirements and complaints.	Communicate with Ticket Secretary regarding coach size for each home fixture to enable appropriate bookings and alterations. Conduct effective liaison between coach provider and WCB for all bookings, complaints and any other business by email and phone.	2/3 weeks prior to each home fixture and as/when if requirement changes.
Distribution of home match tickets.	Ticket secretary brings home match tickets to the coach and hands them to the Treasurer for distribution. Money collected for tickets is paid to Ticket secretary on the coach either by cash or cheque. Receipts are prepared for this and signed by the Chairman and Ticket secretary to acknowledge payment.	Each home match day.
Collection of match day travel fares	Collect match day travel monies on the coach either by cheque or cash and also monitor BACS payments as required. Cheques are scrutinised for correct entries.	Each home match day.
Match day reconciliation	This includes maintaining a record of each match day information regarding coach size, passenger numbers, costs, monies taken etc. Money is reconciled and bank forms completed and taken to the bank at the earliest opportunity after the match day. The coach provider is paid as soon as the invoice is received by email from them normally by BACS.	As required
Website Updates	The website is updated as required with travel information and any information deemed important to WCB members.	As required
Member liaison.	Respond to requests from new and existing members for information – order dates, costs, pick up points, coach times, club rules, practical match day arrangements, etc.	As required

Coach provider appreciation.	Purchase and deliver a token of appreciation to coach provider – usually chocolates and a card at end of season end of season.	End of season
Prepare a successor	The preparing of a successor requires full briefings on the role, problem solving and mentoring.	As required

WCB JOB DESCRIPTION ASSISTANT TREASURER **(CURRENT INCUMBENT CHRIS HOLMES)**

- Assist committee members
- Assist Treasurer on match days
- Member liaison.
- Prepare a successor

Task	Detail	When
Assist committee members	Assist with ticket issue and money collection on the bus, in the absence of the Treasurer and assist in anyway at AGM etc	As required
Member liaison.	Respond to requests from new and existing members for information. Bring to the attention of the Main Committee or represent any concerns or suggestions made by members informally outside of the committee	As required.
Prepare a successor	The preparing of a successor requires full briefings on the role, problem solving and mentoring.	As required

WCB JOB DESCRIPTION TICKET SECRETARY **(CURRENT INCUMBENT BECKYMARTIN)**

- Completion and return of annual affiliation forms.
- Membership submission
- Credit card confirmation.
- Create admin framework for season.
- Receive requests from members/guests for tickets and/or coach seats.
- Order home match tickets.
- Populate home order reconciliation sheets.
- Order away match tickets.
- Populate away order reconciliation sheets.
- Create match day coach and money lists.
- Distribution of home match tickets.
- Distribution of away match tickets and collection of payment.
- Advise on coach requirements.
- Liaison with Plymouth branch.
- Resolve ticket issues.
- Member liaison.
- Financial reconciliation and rectification.
- Box Office appreciation.
- General Everton liaison.
- Prepare a successor

Task	Detail	When
Completion and return of annual affiliation forms.	Ensures that the club is officially recognised by Everton as a regional supporters club and enables us to order match tickets for members.	Beginning of each season.
Membership submission.	Forward a copy of the membership list to Everton for their records – part of the affiliation process.	Twice per season – August and January.
Credit card confirmation.	Confirm to Everton details of the credit card to be used for club ticket orders (see note 1 at foot of table).	Beginning of season or as/when card details change.
Create admin framework for season.	Set up a folder and number of spreadsheets to keep track of ticket orders, match attendance, coach lists, money collections, away payments, order forms etc for the season (see note 2 at foot of table).	Beginning of each season.
Receive requests from members/guests for tickets and/or coach seats.	Manage requests from members ensuring that all necessary order information (number/type of tickets, preferred stand, customer numbers etc) is captured and recorded against the correct fixture in preparation for the ticket order and coach reservation for that fixture. Requests are received by telephone, text, email, messenger, WhatsApp and can often be quite in advance of the fixture. It can also be necessary to recheck the requests made nearer to the fixture – for	As and when contact is made by members/guests.

	example, where requests have been made but the fixture date/time is subsequently changed.	
Order home match tickets.	Complete home match order form (supplied by Everton) for each home fixture. There is one line per ticket and member's name, customer number, preferred stand, ticket type (adult, OAP, junior) and special requests should be entered (e.g. if people want to be sat together etc). This form is then emailed to the supporters club contact in the Box Office for processing. Orders should be submitted the day before the 'Foreverton' sale date for each fixture. Everton do supply these dates (for home fixtures only) at the start of the season but can be subject to change (so it is necessary to check the Everton website regularly). Subsequent orders are often made if members make late requests though this is subject to availability of coach seats and match tickets. Ticket orders are usually only made for those travelling with the club to games.	Usually 5/6 weeks prior to each home match.
Order away match tickets.	As above, an away order form needs to be completed and emailed to Everton. The form is a little different as no stand preference required. Customer names and numbers are required and only those meeting certain criteria (e.g. season ticket holders with away credits matching criteria for each fixture) will qualify for tickets. Everton do not publish on sale dates for away matches in advance and it is therefore imperative to check the Everton website regularly as the window for ordering is usually very small (the away fixtures sell out fast).	Usually 3/4 weeks prior to each away match.
Populate home order reconciliation sheets.	This is a spreadsheet showing the tickets ordered, who they are for and what the cost is. This is given with the receipts from Everton (received with tickets) to the Treasurer on match day and is used to reconcile the amount reimbursed to Ticket Secretary (for the ticket purchases) from the WCB funds.	As and when home match tickets received from Everton.
Populate away order reconciliation sheets.	A list of all members who have ordered a ticket for an away match, how their ticket is to be distributed to them (post, coach etc) and the cost. This enables the Ticket Secretary to reconcile credit card statement with ticket orders and track who has paid for each fixture, who still owes etc.	As and when away match tickets received from Everton.
Create match day coach and money lists.	Paperwork for use on match days – a list of people we are expecting on the coach at each stop and a list of how much is to be collected from each member/guest for payment of tickets/travel/membership. This is printed by Ticket Secretary for the Taunton stop and emailed to Treasurer (copied to Jackie) for Almondsbury.	A couple of days before each home match.
Distribution of home match tickets.	Ticket secretary brings home match tickets to the coach and hands them to the Treasurer for distribution. Occasionally it is necessary to post some to members (for example if we are not running a coach but have supplied tickets for members, if a regular travelling member is not using the coach due to extenuating circumstances). When posting tickets the ticket secretary will include a letter to the member stating how much is owed and how they can pay. A note must also be made of the ticket details for any tickets posted (stand, seat etc) in case tickets are lost in the post and need reissuing.	Each home match day and prior for posted tickets.
Distribution of away match tickets and collection of payment.	These are handed out to members in person where possible but sometimes need to be posted (e.g. sometimes there is not a coach running between receiving away tickets from Everton and the fixture taking place). Full details need to be recorded of any tickets which are posted in case of loss. Ticket Secretary collects money directly from members for any away tickets ordered.	For each away fixture as and when tickets are supplied.
Advise on coach requirements.	Communicate with Treasurer regarding coach size for each home fixture to enable appropriate bookings and alterations.	2/3 weeks prior to each home fixture

		and as/when if requirement changes.
Liaison with Plymouth branch.	Check coach requirements for Plymouth supporters club and add to lists to ensure correct coach size ordered.	For each home fixture.
Resolve ticket issues.	Liaison with Box Office in event of lost tickets, incorrectly issued tickets (e.g. adult rate when should be junior etc) and cancellation requests.	As required.
Member liaison.	Respond to requests from new and existing members for information – order dates, costs, pick up points, coach times, club rules, practical match day arrangements, shared transport (where no coach or for away games) etc. Contact members in event of fixture changes etc which may affect ticket/travel requirements.	As required.
Financial reconciliation and rectification.	Ensure that credit card statement matches expectation in terms of tickets ordered and cancelled - there have been occasions where tickets have been incorrectly placed on our account so this is really important. Resolve any erroneous orders with the Box Office. I also do reconciliation of the amount spent and the amount I have had back in from WCB (home) and individual members (away) just to ensure nothing is missed.	Monthly.
Box Office appreciation.	Purchase and deliver a token of appreciation to Box Office staff – usually chocolates and a card!	Christmas and end of season.
General Everton liaison.	Receive and supply information regarding supporters club events – flag parades, end of season awards etc.	As required.
Prepare a successor	The preparing of a successor requires full briefings on the role, problem solving and mentoring.	As required

Note 1

Everton require a credit card against which they will process all home and away ticket orders for the supporters club. WCB does not have a card and cannot obtain one due to the type of bank account we have. Therefore the usual practice is that the tickets are ordered on a credit card belonging to the Ticket Secretary. I use a card that I only use for tickets and find that makes the reconciliation process simpler. It should be noted that due to the order dates being some time before the match, it is often the case that I have paid the bill for tickets before the money is received back from WCB (home games) or individual members (away games) – anybody considering the role would need to bear this in mind in terms of cash flow or come to an alternative arrangement with the treasurer (It's not unusual that I will have paid £1k in advance of receiving it back).

Note 2

A good, well organised admin structure is the key to this role and it helps to have a good understanding of spreadsheets! I find that setting the sheets up in the quiet spell before the season starts works well. I can supply the blanks for anyone that wants to take on the role though I am sure they will adapt in a way that works for them! Personally I set up a new folder every season with sub folders to separate home, away etc.

WCB JOB DESCRIPTION SECRETARY

(CURRENT INCUMBENT DANNI JONES)

- Completion and return of annual affiliation forms.
- Membership submission
- Create admin framework for season.
- Member liaison.
- Record minutes at AGM
- General Everton liaison.
- Prepare a successor

Task	Detail	When
Completion and return of annual affiliation forms.	Ensures that the club is officially recognised by Everton as a regional supporters club and enables us to order match tickets for members.	Beginning of each season.
Membership submission.	Forward a copy of the membership list to Everton for their records – part of the affiliation process.	Twice per season – August and January.

Create admin framework for season.	Set up a folder and number of spreadsheets to keep track membership details.	Beginning of each season.
Member liaison.	Respond to requests from new and existing members for information – order dates, costs, pick up points, coach times, club rules, practical match day arrangements, shared transport (where no coach or for away games) etc. Contact members in event of fixture changes etc which may affect ticket/travel requirements.	As required.
Record Minutes	Record the minutes at the AGM and prepare the document for distribution	Annually
General Everton liaison.	Receive and supply information regarding supporters club events – flag parades, end of season awards etc.	As required.
Prepare a successor	The preparing of a successor requires full briefings on the role, problem solving and mentoring.	As required

WCB JOB DESCRIPTION MARKETING AND MERCHANDISE SECRETARY

(CURRENT INCUMBENT IAN DAVIS)

- Produce Newsletters on a 3 month basis
- Manage merchandise budget
- Create admin framework for season.
- Prepare a successor

Task	Detail	When
Produce Newsletters	Ensure that timely newsletters are published with any snippets of information, history etc that may be of interest to WCB members. Liaison between other committee members is required. Copies are only uploaded to website.	Jan, Mar, Aug, Oct
Manage Merchandise Budget	Identify items of merchandise that may promote the WCB. Items are normally sold on the match day coach but details can be published on the website.	As required
Create admin framework for season.	Set up a folder and number of spreadsheets to keep track of stock	As required
Prepare a successor	The preparing of a successor requires full briefings on the role, problem solving and mentoring.	As required

WCB JOB DESCRIPTION COMMITTEE MEMBER (CURRENT INCUMBENT JACKY MOUNTY)

- Assist committee
- Act as independent signatory for cheque reimbursement.
- Member liaison.
- Prepare a successor

Task	Detail	When
Assist committee members	Assist with ticket issue and money collection on the bus, in the absence of the Treasurer and assist in anyway at AGM etc.	As required
Act as Joint Signatory	Act as nominated additionally independent signatory for cheque reimbursement to Treasurer, as required	
Member liaison.	Respond to requests from new and existing members for information. Bring to the attention of the Main Committee or represent any concerns or suggestions made by members informally outside of the committee	As required.
Prepare a successor	The preparing of a successor requires full briefings on the role, problem solving and mentoring.	As required