



NEWSLETTER

January 2015

The Chairman Speaks

May I start by wishing each and every one of you a very happy New Year. I hope you have enjoyed a better Christmas than our team, who ended the Christmas period as the only club to have lost all three games, it played in!

What a difference a year makes. As many of you know, I was very apprehensive about the appointment of our present manager. Twelve months ago I expected to be saying things like "I told you so", but instead I was saying things like "I hold up my hand and admit I got it wrong!"

I now wonder whether I merely postponed my negative comments for one year. The season we had last year was amazing and excited all of us. Towards the very end of the season things started to go wrong and here we are just four points above the drop zone and anxious for our immediate future. We haven't enjoyed the benefit of refereeing decisions in recent games, but that cannot excuse the less than acceptable performances by our team.

I have already made a formal complaint to the Merseyside police force, as someone has stolen our defence, who were once so reliable, but now seem incapable of going through an entire game, without making at least one mistake!

Supporting Everton over 50 years, I have seen it all before, and providing I live long enough, I will expect to see it all again. Roberto is one of the nicest human beings in football management and he appears to be very passionate about playing the game in the correct way. Let us hope he will soon be able to turn it all around, so that we can look forward to a really happy 2015.

With all good wishes.

Andrew

PS. May I take this opportunity of thanking once again Ronnie Wilson for all his hard work marketing the club over the last 10 years or so, since its inception. May I also thank Mike for agreeing to continue the good work started by Ronnie.

The Editor Speaks

Firstly a Happy New Year to you all and secondly may I also echo Andrew's comments thanking Ron for all of his hard work marketing the club stretching back some time, well before I joined. I hope to continue this as best I can. Work may take me out of the country occasionally

and I will have to miss the odd game as I do work some weekends in my capacity as a Training Analyst working with the British Army but I am sure this will not be a problem.



I have a few ideas and they are elsewhere in this newsletter. I hope to push a newsletter out every two or three of months. Clearly, with social media as it is, these types of thing are often forgotten but I hope to be able to find enough material to fill them. A few years ago newsletters were exactly what it said on the tin, but nowadays slightly less so, but I will endeavour to use you to supply me with material!

I thought I would tell you all a little about myself. I was voted onto the committee some time ago but work took me abroad last year to Jordan. This was a great opportunity but as an Evertonian not ideal as I explain later. I have been a member of the Westcountry Blues for some 3 years now I suppose, though as I said I have spent some time out of the country with my present job.

I have been back in the UK since early December, arriving the night before the Man City game which in my absence both ticket and transport was arranged by the super-efficient Becky. Off to the Etihad I went and that set the scene really, poor refereeing decision and a 1-0 loss and since then I have seen the Blues win once (at the time of writing the Cup game against the Hammers has not been played). I hope I am not a bad omen!

A Devonian by birth, but brought up in Cornwall and as that was far too great a cross to bear I decided to join the British Army to see the world in 1979. Well, I saw some of it, brushed a fair bit of it and of course got drunk in a lot of it as well. I spent very nearly 24 years in the British Army, serving in the Royal Tank Regiment most of which was defending the West from the Soviet Bloc. Seems such a waste of time now! I travelled quite extensively during that time, was paid handsomely and afforded a superb tax free life style in Germany and to you the British Tax Payer I say thank you very much!

Back to the now, I live in Warminster, a quiet market/Garrison town on the periphery of Salisbury Plain which funnily enough was my first ever Army Posting.

Why Everton?

I have been an Evertonian for ever I think, well less about 75 minutes of the 1966 Cup Final.

Often asked why I do support Everton (my home team is Exeter City...If that is not reason enough?) I can honestly say it is because I can remember that in 1966 my parents, who were both Police Officers were able to afford to rent a television from Radio Rentals in Tiverton. Father was now a Detective Constable and the extra guinea a week paid for this luxury.

So there I was on May 14th 1966 happily playing football on the green outside of the Police House we lived in when I was ordered in by pater.

"Come and watch this game of football...it's the FA Cup Final". Begrudgingly I sat crossed legged in front of the wooden box with a glass front waiting for something to happen. It was perched rather precariously on four very wobbly legs and as I waited for it to warm up, I suggested that I would rather be out in the sunshine but decided better of it after the look father gave me!

Ten minutes later and still waiting for it to warm up I could sense that Williams senior was irritated somewhat, and was not overly surprised when he gave it a rather hard smack to the side. To be truthful the only surprise was he hit it rather harder than the ones he seemed to save for me...but it worked and there it was, a grainy black and white picture. Not quite sure how the wobbly legs never collapsed with the smack he gave it but there was now a picture of Wembley Stadium, that was sort of beginning to become fairly clear and it seemed to get better as the valves warmed up or something.



It looked like it was the all Whites against the Black and Whites (For those watching in Black and White the Pink ball is the one next to the Blue Ball...!). The teams appeared on the screen and lined up as follows:

		Everton			Blue Jerseys
		Gordon West			
	Ray Wilson		Tommy Wright		
Jimmy Gabriel		Brian Labone			Brian Harris
	Alex Scott		Colin Harvey		Derek Temple
	Alex Young	Mike Trebilcock			
		Jim McCalliog			
John Quinn	David Ford		John Fantham		Graham Pugh
		Sam Ellis			Peter Eustace
Gerry Young			Wilf Smith		
	Don Megson	Ron Springett			
		Sheffield Wednesday			White Jerseys

For some inexplicable reason, the crowd started to sing a hymn and we were treated to father singing along with it. Even after this experience it has obviously become a great favorite for me and the Cup Final Hymn *Abide with Me* will feature on the day of reckoning. As the crowd sung along the camera man panned along the front row....one of which looked like a very young Ron Joynson. It had to be..... the whole male Joynson clan were there miming to the words all displaying the most fantastic teeth!

Ask Ron to flash a smile next time you see him and you will see what I mean!

Anyway, after the teams were presented to Princess Margaret and mother and father sang the National Anthem the match started and had only been going for 4 minutes when I made up my mind that I was a Sheffield Wednesday supporter as they took the lead through Jim McCalliog. This was further endorsed in the 57th minute when they increased their lead with Derek Temple netting. Then we lost the picture again, another hefty smack to the side of the television coupled with a rather loud shout which included words that I had not heard before but they seemed to be aimed at some chap who worked for Radio Rentals!

This rather frightening outburst did work though and the picture was back and Everton have scored themselves during the unplanned interlude. Then the unthinkable as Everton scored again which caused father to explode with delight...unfortunately frightening mother to death and causing her to drop a stitch in the new tank top she was knitting...I heard that word again....this time directed at the ol' fella!

Then some bloke ran on the pitch and as it was all fantastically explained in his own very special way by Kenneth Wolstenholme the chap managed to avoid the chasing officers of the law on his way to try and kiss Gordon West. Accompanied by shouts of encouragement from my father the pursuing Police officers eventually rugby tackled the chap on the edge of the box and led him away rather un-ceremoniously.

Sadly, father's Police outlook on life suggested that this chap had committed the most hideous of crimes and deserved to be sent to Dartmoor on bread and water. This was surprising as I thought this was a place for kids as I was always being threatened to be sent there, especially when I refused to eat cabbage or something equally disgusting!



"Leave it to me Sarge...!!"

Incidentally, if anybody wants to enter into a caption competition, with the picture of Eddie Cavanagh running (actually he seems to be floating) across the hallowed turf then send it to me and I will publish it in the next newsletter.

Anyway, whilst watching this rather strange display of overwhelming joy it gave me time to weigh up my options, the Whites or the Blacks....oh the Blacks I think!

Then Gerry Young slipped and Derek Temple was able to run clear and slot the ball past goalkeeper Ron Springett into the corner of the onion bag or something for the winning goal.....3-2....Up the Black and Whites...I had made the right choice...the Blacks for mewhat do you mean Blues.....we never had a colour TV until 1975.....the rest is history!

Anyway off out I went and announced to the rest of the gang that I supported Everton and my favorite player was Mike Treble Cock which the older boys found funny....and then some git told my ol' fella who hit me on the side of the head as if I was a Radio Rental TV...I wobbled and my two legs gave way....when I woke up I was wearing a rather nice Blue and White Tank top!!



Mike Trebilcock with what looks like a touch of wind!

Anyway that is me if anybody else wants to describe why they support the Black and Whites. Why not email me at michaelwilliams7358@yahoo.co.uk

There's Only One Aiden McGeady...but you were cheap!

I wrote this back in December as my work came to an end in Jordan but I thought it worthy of inclusion.



As I finish my tour of duty in the Middle East I thought I would write a few witterings about the difficulties of watching the Blues in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Known so well for the Dead Sea, Petra and Jerrash amongst others, Jordan is a fantastic place to live and work. Sadly, I do not think there will be an Everton Supporters club here for a few years!

That said there is a fantastic love of football in the Kingdom and games are televised live in abundance, normally utilising streams from Saudi Arabia and Albania. Therefore life is good if you support Barcelona, Real Madrid, Bayern Munich or you know who!

Keeping up with the Blues can be can be complicated, but there are means.....

Toffeeweb. The live match day forum is a good way to keep up with the game. I can only assume there are people all around the world glued to the fast updating site. The same names appear frequently and they all seem to know each other pretty well. My favourite is Wayne Wong.....it cannot be a real name can it?

Predictably, language is not for ladies although I am sure some *ladies* join in, (no consideration given to the Bangkok supporters club and possible gender issues of course), and this season certain players, our Manager and of course our Chairman seem to bear the brunt of most references to lady parts!

Howard, McGeady, Hibbert, McGeady, Distin, McGeady, Osmond, McGeady, Naismith, McGeady, *Besic, McGeady, Martinez, McGeady, Kenwright* and oddly *McGeady* get regular grief.

After an hour and half of this particular forum one does feel rather suicidal I have to say and should be avoided at all costs!

Dodgy Weblinks. Normally found on the Toffeeweb forum in abundance. Control + C followed by Control + V in the browser and you are away.....well not quite. There are numerous warnings that appear insisting that you to not really want do this as its dodgy, adverts inviting you to download software are abundant and after downloading them of course you now have the worry that somebody can actually see what you are doing on a daily basis....which having been on my own in a hotel room for 6 months could be a disaster!

The trick is not to hit the red corner cross to close these windows. Somewhere on the screen there will be a small cross to close these painfully worrying boxes. When you do manage to close the adverts, one is greeted with a slightly pixelated stream of a normally wet and windy Goodison Park. Sit back and relax....no, it's not that easy of course. The adverts re-appear periodically, the damn picture will often freeze and time stands still. Once it has caught up the time starts from where it froze. So by the time you all reach the East Lancs road and you know who the MoM is I am still 20 minutes to go. Of course I know the score, as Toffeeweb has informed me....MoM Aiden McGeady!

After a session on the net watching the Blues I am staggered by the weight of emails from Russian women wanting to share my bed, offers to invest in Nigerian business opportunities and why ladies and possibly men think I will benefit from an extra few inches. If only a reduction option was available!

The biggest disaster was loss of complete internet a few moments before the Jags screamer across Stanley Park....a meeting with Hotel General Manager ensued where to placate me he offered my team a steak dinner on the terrace. Mine was 'blue' of course!

As I finish these witterings we are away at Spurs, and I am trying to find a stream and yes got one on laptop and Toffeeweb on the tablet.....McGeady you are a total t.....!

A Toffees Quiz 2000 - 2010

These questions test your knowledge of Everton during that time. I have to say thank you to the Tooth Fairy (Linzi – my daughter) for finding the questions and the answers are on the last page.

1. In February 2000 who scored a hat-trick for Everton in the 4-0 away win at West Ham United?
2. In the 2-1 victory over Arsenal in October 2002, Wayne Rooney famously scored his first Premier League goal and won the game, but who scored the earlier equaliser for the Toffees?
3. James Vaughan became the youngest Premier League scorer at the age of 16 years 271 days when netting during a 4-0 win over which side in April 2005?
4. Which defender came to Everton from Celtic on a free transfer in the summer of 2001?
5. Who became the Toffees' third most expensive player at the time when moving to Goodison for a fee of £9 million in the summer of 2009?
6. Which team did Everton beat for the first time in ten years with a 2-1 victory at Goodison in February 2010?
7. Who captained Everton for the first and so far only occasion, in the 3-3 draw against Chelsea in December 2009?
8. Which American international played 8 games on loan during the 2002/03 campaign, scoring 4 goals?
9. Against Newcastle at Goodison in December 2006 who became the second youngest Everton player to score two goals in a post-war league game, doing so aged 18 years 251 days?
10. Who knocked Everton out of the League Cup twice in 3 seasons, in 2003/04 and 2005/06?
11. In the 2006/07 campaign, who became the first Everton outfielder for twenty years to play every minute of a league season?

Marketing

I have a number of car stickers now that I am now sourcing. As I get them I will make you aware. They will stick to the inside of the window so are re-usable. I have come up with a number of designs that will hopefully be available once I have managed to tie the fellow down. The designs proposed are below:



Follow Everton FC with the
Westcountry Blues
Official Supporters Club
www.westcountryblues.org.uk



Follow Everton FC with the
Westcountry Blues
www.westcountryblues.org.uk



To replace your Tax Disc of course!

WCB T Shirts and Hoodies

I am now also in discussion with a supplier and the plan is that these will be purchased direct from them. There is a range of items and styles with the WCB logo embroidered on them and they are made to order on an individual basis. Once I have done the deal, I will purchase the first of each and model them on the bus! Then if you like them you simply log onto his website and place your order and it gets shipped direct to you, it will be easy as that!

They will be available from www.50calembroidery.co.uk

He is a friend of a friend so to speak and the remit was that I advertised my mate's business. Actually this is not as daft as it sounds as he is an accomplished artist. For a fee he could turn your favourite Everton moment into a rather nice picture, mug or T Shirt. So why not have a look at his website www.malcyart.co.uk

Mention me, the Royal Tank Regiment and he may offer a discount!



WCB Mugs






I will also source some of these as Ron has done in the past. I had initially thought about a normal china mug as per normal but I also thought the thermos cups may be an idea. I just need a little feedback really whether there would be any interest before I try to obtain. Please let me know.

I also thought it an idea this time to design a cup that had something different to normal. I know that we have some younger members on the bus, perhaps they would like to design something based on their favourite Everton player or moment. Again, before I start setting up a colouring competition why not get the younger ones to get the crayons out and come up with some ideas. I know that the younger ones are knocking stuff out on Photoshop now and that would also be included.

Please send me an email to express any interest and any ideas and I can go from there, failing that I will come up with something.

Upcoming Fixtures

 Everton v West Brom Mon 19 JAN 15 - K.O. 20:00	Ticket orders to Becky closed. TRAVEL There will probably be members travelling to this fixture by car. Let us know if you require a lift and we will try and put you in touch with them so you can arrange a car share.
 Crystal Palace v Everton Sat 31 JAN 15 - K.O. 15:00	Ticket orders to Becky by ASAP TRAVEL There will probably be members travelling to this fixture by car. Let us know if you require a lift and we will try and put you in touch with them so you can arrange a car share.

 <p>Everton v Red S!*!*</p> <p>Sat 07 FEB 15 - K.O. 17:30</p>	<p>Ticket & travel orders to Becky by 07 January.</p> <p>TRAVEL</p> <p>10:00am M5 Junction 25 (Taunton)</p> <p>10:45am M5 Junction 16 (Almondsbury)</p> <p>11:00am M5 Junction 13 (On the bridge)</p>
 <p>Chelsea v Everton</p> <p>Wed 11 FEB 15 - K.O. 19:45</p>	<p>Ticket orders to Becky by 11 January.</p> <p>TRAVEL</p> <p>There will probably be members travelling to this fixture by car. Let us know if you require a lift and we will try and put you in touch with them so you can arrange a car share.</p>
 <p>BSC Young Boys v Everton</p> <p>Thu 19 FEB 15 - K.O. 18:00</p>	<p>Ticket orders to Becky by 19 January.</p> <p>TRAVEL</p> <p>No Club travel to this fixture.</p>
 <p>Everton v Leicester</p> <p>Sun 22 FEB 15 - K.O. 14:05</p>	<p>Ticket & travel orders to Becky by 21 January.</p> <p>TRAVEL</p> <p>06:45am M5 Junction 25 (Taunton)</p> <p>07:30am M5 Junction 16 (Almondsbury)</p> <p>07:45am M5 Junction 13 (On the bridge)</p> <p>This fixture has moved to the Sunday due to the Europa League on Thursday.</p>
 <p>Everton v BSC Young Boys</p> <p>Thu 26 FEB 15 - K.O. 20:05</p>	<p>Ticket orders to Becky by 26 January.</p> <p>TRAVEL</p> <p>There will probably be members travelling to this fixture by car. Let us know if you require a lift and we will try and put you in touch with them so you can arrange a car share.</p>



**Arsenal v
Everton**

**Sun 01 MAR 15 -
K.O. 14:05**

Ticket orders to Becky by 28 January.

TRAVEL

There will probably be members travelling to this fixture by car. Let us know if you require a lift and we will try and put you in touch with them so you can arrange a car share.

This fixture has moved to the Sunday due to the Europa League on Thursday.

Remember: Fixture dates and times may change due to Europe Cup games and TV so check the website regularly. Of course the Best Place to check is the official Everton website.

2014/15 FIXTURES & RESULTS

	DATE		TEAM	F - A		DATE		TEAM	F - A
FY	22 Jul 14	A	Tranmere	2 - 2	PL	01 Jan 15	A	Hull City	0 - 2
FY	27 Jul 14	A	Leicester City	0 - 1	FA	06 Jan 15	H	West Ham	
FY	03 Aug 14	H	FC Porto	1 - 1		10 Jan 15	H	Man City	
FY	06 Aug 14	A	Celta Vigo	1 - 3		19 Jan 15	H	West Brom	
FY	09 Aug 14	A	SC Paderborn	1 - 3		31 Jan 15	A	Crystal Palace	
PL	16 Aug 14	A	Leicester City	2 - 2		07 Feb 15	H	Red S!!*	
PL	23 Aug 14	H	Arsenal	2 - 2		11 Feb 15	A	Chelsea	
PL	30 Aug 14	H	Chelsea	3 - 6		19 Feb 15	A	BSC Young Boys	
PL	13 Sep 14	A	West Brom	2 - 0		22 Feb 15	H	Leicester City	
EU	18 Sep 14	H	Wolfsburg	4 - 1		26 Feb 15	H	BSC Young Boys	
PL	21 Sep 14	H	Crystal Palace	2 - 3		28 Feb 15	A	Arsenal	
CC	23 Sep 14	A	Swansea	0 - 3		04 Mar 15	A	Stoke City	
PL	27 Sep 14	A	Red S!!*	1 - 1		14 Mar 15	H	Newcastle	
EU	02 Oct 14	A	FC Krasnodar	1 - 1		21 Mar 15	A	QPR	
PL	05 Oct 14	A	Man Ure	1 - 2		04 Apr 15	H	Southampton	
PL	18 Oct 14	H	Aston Villa	3 - 0		11 Apr 15	A	Swansea	
EU	23 Oct 14	A	Lille	0 - 0		18 Apr 15	H	Burnley	
PL	26 Oct 14	A	Burnley	3 - 1		25 Apr 15	H	Man Ure	
PL	01 Nov 14	H	Swansea	0 - 0		02 May 15	A	Aston Villa	
EU	06 Nov 14	H	Lille	3 - 0		09 May 15	H	Sunderland	
PL	09 Nov 14	A	Sunderland	1 - 1		16 May 15	A	West Ham	
PL	22 Nov 14	H	West Ham	2 - 1		24 May 15	H	Spurs	
EU	27 Nov 14	A	Wolfsburg	2 - 0					
PL	30 Nov 14	A	Spurs	1 - 2					
PL	03 Dec 14	H	Hull City	1 - 1					
PL	06 Dec 14	A	Man City	0 - 1					
EU	11 Dec 14	H	Krasnodar	0 - 1					
PL	14 Dec 14	H	QPR	3 - 1					
PL	20 Dec 14	A	Southampton	0 - 3					
PL	26 Dec 14	H	Stoke	0 - 1					
PL	28 Dec 14	A	Newcastle	2 - 3					

A Quiz - Twenty- First Century Toffees Answers

Answers: 1. Nick Barmby 2. Tomasz Radzinski 3. Crystal Palace 4. Alan Stubbs 5. Diniyar Bilyaletdinov 6. Chelsea 7. Tim Howard 8. Brian McBride, with 4 goals in 8 games 9. Victor Anichebe – Joe Royle (1967) was younger 10. Middlesbrough 11. Joseph Yobo

Extra Time

So there we are my first go at this. Hope it has not upset anybody or bored you to death.

We must all have fantastic memories of following the Blues and I have asked for some help from you so if you have a story from a trip to Lille, Switzerland or even Hull, why you support the Blues or why Sheffield publicans call you Big Ron, your favourite Everton moment, any images that you take....anything.....please let me have them.

The last paragraph made me think of something about my own recent trip to Hull. I went up the night before and was on Spurn Point at 06.30 on the morning of the match with my camera.



I took this pretty amazing picture of the sunrise, (I just need to straighten the horizon!) and after the game thought this (coastal) defence would have been more effective than ours!!!!

COYB.....please!

Mike Williams

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