



TUNED IN

Sports & Social Club CIC

The official newsletter of the Stowmarket Community Sports and Social Club CIC • ISSUE ONE (JUNE 2013)

WELCOME TO the very first edition of **TUNED IN**, the online newsletter aimed at keeping you updated with everything that's happening here at the Stowmarket Community Sports & Social Club CIC. We'd be delighted to hear what you thought of our first offering so please send us your feedback once you've finished reading via e-mail to alex.moss@stowmarkettownfc.co.uk. **Editor:** Alex Moss



DIRECTOR OF Projects, Nigel Jarvis provides a brief history of the CIC and a look at where we are today...

In 2009 Stowmarket Town Football Club was incorporated into the newly formed Community Interest Company and the process of trying to improve the facilities at the existing site for the benefit for the local community began. The position of Director of Projects was created to help spearhead the Club's ambition of providing a new clubhouse and associated improvements for its members.

Club representatives subsequently met with Mid Suffolk District Council officials, who set up their own project team to help guide and support the Social Club with making a successful planning application when the time came. However, at an early stage it became clear that the existing Greens Meadow site was far too small to allow the newly formed Club to grow to its full potential and provide first rate facilities for its members. It was also acknowledged that staying at Greens Meadow would reduce the potential funding from such bodies as the Football Association. At a late stage in the discussions, Suffolk County Council designated part of Greens Meadow as a new County Wildlife site, restricting any activity or use of this area of land in the future.

It was therefore agreed that the Club should look elsewhere in the Stowmarket area for a more suitable site to develop. We subsequently had several productive meetings with representatives from Mid Suffolk District Council, who have been very helpful in offering advice and assistance in our search for a new site. The outcome of our discussions with the Council was the identification of a preferred site on the western outskirts of the Town, on the edge of Chilton Fields. Last year the Directors of the Club invited our local Councillors (Lesley Mayes, Gerard Brewster and Gary Green) to Greens Meadow to explain our ambitions and ask for their assistance. All three Councillors have been extremely supportive of the Club's proposals and have been working hard behind the scenes on our behalf. At this stage there is very little information available on the location of the new site and we are unlikely to be given any details until the negotiations surrounding the proposed Wimpey Homes development at Chilton Fields have been concluded.

There is obviously much work ahead of us to secure a suitable site and then develop it with a new club house, changing rooms and pitches etc., but the Directors of the Club are fully committed to improve the facilities for its members and players at the earliest opportunity. A strong and supportive membership will be a key element in our success, together with the incorporation of other local sporting groups.

STOWMARKET TOWN Football Club's popular Fun Day returns this summer, promising a day of entertainment for all the family.

The No.1 Michael Buble Tribute Act in the UK, Ricky Arthur will be performing along with many local bands, including Zoom Club, Primo Neilson, Going Back and Would Be Kings.

There is plenty for the kids to do also with stalls, face painting and a bouncy castle all available alongside a BBQ and a license bar.

As the night draws in, the fantastic Ska'd 4 Life will be on stage to end the day. This is a **FREE** event to attend on Saturday 10th August at Greens Meadow, starting from 2PM until late.



STOWMARKET TOWN Football Club are looking for a new football secretary for the 2013/14 season. The voluntary role at Stowmarket is different from other clubs; they are only looking for someone to deal with registrations of new players and the occasional e-mails and letters from the Thurlow Nunn League. This helps make the position more fun and allows someone with a small amount of free time to be part of something exciting as well as being part of the future of this historic organisation. **Words:** John Griffin

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Company Secretary: John Griffin

Director of Adult Football: Neil Sharp

Director of Youth Football: Stuart Loftus

Director of Operations: Dan Smith

Director of Projects: Nigel Jarvis

Directors without portfolio: Colin Davies and Terry Graham

Company Accountant: Malcolm Rowe

Feel free to ask the board questions on any subject by emailing john.griffin@stowmarketcic.co.uk



The CIC are in the process of trying to purchase a minibus for the use of the club. They have approached a couple of charity funds and the council and hope to have a decision by the end of the summer. If they are successful the board of directors will work out a usage scheme for its members and the community. The bus will form an integral part of the club and will ensure the younger members will get better opportunities to attend venues of some distance.

Words: John Griffin





FIRST TEAM Manager, Rick Andrews has confirmed his management team for the 2013/14 season. Rick will have Ricky Licence and Lee Wilcox as his two assistant managers, with Lee focusing towards player recruitment for The Old Gold and Blacks. Aaron Hall completes the line-up as Head Coach.

FOR THE second year running, Stowmarket Town have won the Programme of the Year Award in the Thurlow Nunn League First Division. Congratulations to Alex Moss for all his efforts over the season.



CHARTER STANDARD

STUART LOFTUS, Chairman of the Youth section at Stowmarket Town Football Club, reviews last season...

At the end of the 2011/12 season, the club was delighted to achieve the FA Charter Standard Award and kicked off the 2012/13 season with 16 youth teams. Saturday 18th May saw over 200 boys and girls from the youth section of the football club come together for their end of season presentation day (pictured right), kindly sponsored by Vindis Skoda – Bury St. Edmunds. Teams from under 7's to under 18's represented the club in the 2012/13 season playing in the Sunday Ipswich and Suffolk Youth Football League. All the players received a club trophy and souvenir program, and special awards were handed out to reward the players' efforts for the season.



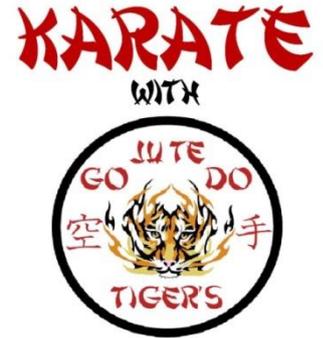
A number of teams celebrated league and cup successes, but it is not all about winning, our ethos running youth football will always remain – that players have given their best efforts, enjoyed playing football, learning and developing along the way, made new friends and most importantly had some fun. The youth section is the lifeblood of the club, feeding players to the clubs' senior squads and a number of players in the older age groups have also had senior football experience during the season.

The teams don't run themselves of course and a big thanks must go to all of those involved in the running of the teams including managers, assistants, coaches and parents behind the scenes, without these volunteers our teams just wouldn't run. And behind the scenes of the club, a special thank you to the club officials Nigel Burch and Peter Friston and all other members of the committee. The club is also very lucky to have the generous support of local businesses, many of which sponsor our teams, ensuring they look the part on the pitch and we thank them all.



There are always many challenges to overcome in our town and we hope that in the not too distant future the town and its sporting needs are addressed. Whilst everyone looks forward to the summer and the holidays, preparation for next season will already be underway, if you are interested in joining one of our teams, you can find all the contact details under the 'Stow Youth' section at www.stowmarkettownfc.co.uk.

WE ARE pleased to announce that the local Karate Club, Go-Ju-Te-Do Tigers, are now affiliated with us. Two hour sessions are held every Tuesday between 6:30-8:30PM and open for all ages. The sessions teach self-defence and promote fitness for everyone to make your life safer. To find out more contact Simon Griffiths on 07909 295856. Please note that discounted rates are available for CIC members.



A CLOSER LOOK AT THE COMMITTEE

EVERY ISSUE we will bring you a background on a member of the CIC committee. First up is Company Secretary, John Griffin...

John has been involved with the club for the last eight years. He began as a football coach under the Youth section for Stowmarket Town FC, before continuing to move up the ranks to Reserves coach, First Team Assistant Manager and finally First Team Manager. John found a new role away from the dugouts as General Manager and worked with the committee to create an improved structure for the Adult football section of the club and aimed to push for promotion in a three year plan.

Promotion at the end of the three years was unachieved, with the third season being the closest to the goal having been top of the league as late as February. Colin Davies resignation as Company Secretary saw "Griff" take on the role to help get the move that the club desperately needs.

"It has become clear, very quickly, that we need a better platform to sustain the clubs history," says John. "Without this move we will not be here in another 5 years let alone 130, so winning promotions will mean nothing without a club. These next years are crucial if we are to build on our great youth structure and to provide safe winter facilities for the children of Stowmarket."

THERE ARE already a range of affiliated clubs of the CIC, such as Stowmarket Town Football Club (Adult and Youth), Stowmarket Ladies Netball Team, Stowmarket Pool Team, Stowmarket Darts Team and a Karate Club but we are always looking for more clubs and associations to join and help gain better sporting facilities for the town. For more details please contact our Secretary at john.griffin@stowmarketcic.co.uk. To find out more information about the CIC head to our official website www.stowmarketcic.co.uk.