



SENIOR TIGERS

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Welcome



**Wishing every Senior Tiger
the warmest of Christmas Greetings**

Hopefully, we can share that Christmas hope when we gather for our annual Christmas Luncheon, this year on Thursday, 8th December.

Player of the Month/Season to date:

There has been movement! We can now report on your votes for both the October & November 'Player of the Month'. **October** saw Greg Docherty make a surge. He received 39 votes out of the 126 votes that were cast. Some way behind the 'Doc' were Jacob Greaves (21), Regan Slater (17) & Ryan Longman (16).

November, a truncated month because of the World Cup, saw Regan Slater take the most votes with 47 of the 106 votes cast. Next came Jacob Greaves on 24.

Overall, for the season to date, Oscar Estupinan has lost his early lead and surging ahead is **Regan Slater**. Regan has a total of 123 votes. Jacob Greaves is next with 81 votes and Oscar is in third place with 78 votes.

The fans' trip to TURKIYE

A number of Senior Tigers were fortunate to win their places on the fans' trip to Turkiye. Next month we might hear from some but here are a couple of pictures sent back by Tony Conway from a training session for the players.



A CLUB SONG?

During the Turkiye trip, Acun held a Q&A with the gathered fans. One thing that came up was that the owner would like to identify a song for the Tigers, one that would be "atmospheric and build up to a crescendo and into a chant". He said that he felt the singing of "I can't help falling in love with you" is sung at many clubs and wasn't rousing enough for him. He wants the Tigers to have their own song. Tony (our spy in the camp) asked that this might be added to the Newsletter.

So over to you. A Song for the Tigers, one which would be ours and deliver some passion in the crowds. I have no particular song to throw in the pot but thought the owner might be able to introduce us to a Turkish piece of music that would deliver his requests.

DECEMBER MEMORABILIA ARTICLE

Welcome to the Memorabilia Team article for December. This month I will continue where I left off in November, with the England players who have played for Hull City. During my continued research, I have uncovered another player with 2 caps. He is **David Mercer** (Heritage Number 92), he played in 2 games, 1 in 1922 and the second in 1923. In his second game, he scored the 4th goal in a 6-1 win over Belgium at Highbury. David played 97 times and scored 26 goals for the Tigers between 1914 and 1921. The 1st WW taking its toll on the number of appearances.

Let's move on to the players with 10 or more caps. **Ray Parlour** (894) made 10 appearances, making his debut against Poland in 1999. Nicknamed "The Romford Pele" Ray joined City on loan from Middlesbrough after a highly successful career at Arsenal. He played 15 times for City in the 2006/7 season. Despite an outstanding career and being one of the Tigers' legends, **Raich Carter** (392) only managed 13 caps. Made his debut against Scotland in April 1934 and his last against Switzerland in May 1947. Outstanding competition and the war years are again the reasons which would limit his international career. **Raich** joined the Tigers as Assistant Manager and player in April 1948 but within a few days, he was appointed Manager. He had an enormous impact on the club and the City. Led the team to a promotion in 1948/49 in front of never to be repeated attendances. Made 150 appearances and scored 62 goals and left in April 1952.



Raich Carter

David Rocastle (746) appeared 14 times for England, the first in September 1988 and the last in May 1992 against Brazil. A real classy player signed by Mark Hateley in October 1997, David played for 3 months making 11 appearances and scoring 1 goal. Tragically he died in March 2001 from blood cancer. He was so well-liked at Arsenal that their training ground is named after him.

Now for "One of our own", **Stuart Pearson** (525), he won 15 caps whilst at Manchester United. The 1st was

against Wales in 1976 and the last versus Northern Ireland in May 1978. "Pancho", as he became known, was born in Cottingham, came through the ranks and eventually replaced Chris Chilton. Much sought after he moved to Manchester in May 1974 for a then-record fee for City of £200K.

Danny Mills (890) won 19 caps between May 2001 and February 2004. Danny came to City on loan from Manchester City in September 2006 and made 9 appearances. Next, we have **Peter Barnes** (636) with 27 caps. Peter joined the Tigers on a short contract having left Manchester City. Only made 11 appearances in the 1987/88 season and to be honest, I don't think city fans saw him at his best.

Next and still highly respected we have another "One of our own" in **Nick Barmby** (852). Nick won 23 caps



Nick Barmby

between March 1995 and October 2001. He was Hull born but with no youth connection to City, he was recruited by Spurs at a very young age and moved to London. He actually made his Spurs debut at Boothferry Park in Gareth Roberts' testimonial at the age of 16. He played for several top sides before dramatically signing from Leeds United for his home town club in June 2004. Despite dropping down 2 divisions he put everything into his 8 years with City as a player, coach and manager. Made 197 appearances and scored 32 goals in 3 divisions. Still highly thought of with many fans wanting him to return to the club in some capacity.

Probably one of the best strikers in the 40s and 50s **Stan Mortenson** (457) came to City late in his career. He had already excelled at Blackpool and gained 25 caps when he signed for the Tigers in November 1955. He made 46 appearances and scored 29 goals for the Tigers. He is still the only player to score a hat trick in an FA Cup Final. Another player joining late in his career in the mid-1950s was **Wilf Mannion** (445). He won 26 caps between September 1946 and October 1951. He had actually retired from playing when he came to Hull but his last club Middlesbrough had retained his registration and when he decided to make a come-back they demanded a fee of £4,500. Played 18 times for City scoring only once. We now come to the player who probably had the most

colourful career of all, **Neil Franklin** (414). Neil made 27 consecutive appearances as a centre-half for England and is considered by many to be the best defender in the country. He controversially moved to Bogotá in Columbia for a huge signing-on fee. He was banned by FIFA but eventually returned to England in 1951 and in what was considered a major coup he signed for City. Still only aged 29 he made 96 appearances in 4 years.



Neil Franklin

Mark Hateley (740) won 32 caps in a decorated career and was brought to Boothferry Park by new owner David Lloyd in a multi-pound investment for the then 4th division side. He was appointed Player Manager in August 1997 in a spell that, to be honest just didn't work out. City was bottom of the 4th division in November 1998 and Mark was sacked. This eventually led to the "Great escape" season. Mark made 27 appearances and scored 3 goals in troubled times.

We now move to a current international and much-loved player by City fans. **Harry Maguire** (995) signed for £2.5M in July 2014 after playing well for Sheffield United against the Tigers in the FA Cup semi-final, earlier in the year. Not always picked by Steve Bruce, Harry eventually won through to replace Michael Dawson and Curtis Davies and came to prominence in the Premier League. However, relegation in 2017 resulted in him moving to Leicester City for a reported £15M fee. He later moved to Manchester United for £80M of which City received a handsome sell-on fee. Currently approaching 50 caps as I write this article he also has 7 goals for his country. He made 76 appearances for the Tigers and scored 3 goals. We wish him well for this World Cup and beyond.

Lastly, we come to the most capped player, **Emlyn Hughes** (602) who won 62 caps between November 1969 and May 1980. He was also appointed captain by Joe Mercer. Emlyn had a highly decorated career at Liverpool and Wolves but also played at Blackpool, Rotherham, whom he managed, and Mansfield Town. He was signed by Colin Appleton to guide the team through the last 9 games of the 1982/83 4th Division promotion season. This he did making 9 appearances. He briefly became a director of Hull City in 1988. He

became a well-known television personality, spending many years as a team captain in the quiz show "A Question of Sport" and working as a football pundit. In 2003 he announced he was suffering from a brain tumour and he sadly died in November 2004. A great leader and character.

That covers all those City players to have represented our much-loved club and Country. Let's hope there are many more to come and that one day a player actually on the playing staff makes the country's team. I urge you to read more about all the above players on the "oncloudseven" website or via the Senior Tigers website, many have had interesting careers, especially the likes of Neil Franklin, Raich Carter and Nick Barmby.

Lastly, I wish former City players Harry Maquire, Jackson Irvine, Harry Wilson, Kamil Grosicki and Dan James all the best in this year's World Cup Tournament.

Tony Conway

Senior Tigers Heritage and Memorabilia Coordinator



Doing the right thing may not always make you popular! Let's face it, Noah, when he set about to build his giant Ark, was the laughingstock of his community. What made him build such a vessel when there was no water to sail it on? That was, of course, how people were thinking. Noah, however, was listening to God and if God said to build a boat he built one! Came in very handy when it really started raining!

So, when three noble gentlemen of the Orient said they were going to set off on a 'pilgrimage', one that would take them to lands far away, you can guess the response from their families and neighbours! They didn't even know where they were going! They made their exit, in front of bemused watchers, and just agreed they would "Follow that Star!" Of course, they knew their stars and when they noticed this one it just kind of suggested something was happening, something that would have 'cosmic' consequences and they wanted to know what, who, why, whatever, they wanted to "Follow that Star!"

Well, what happened next is part of our tradition, at the heart of the Christmas experience. Maybe, we

should raise a glass to those gallant Three who would discover the importance of this event, truly cosmic.

Maybe this Christmas you will listen to the inner voice and hear a call of faith that brings you to the Christ at the very heart of the special moment. Turkeys & trimmings are only optional extras! *Allen*