



SENIOR TIGERS

www.seniortigers.org.uk

Chair & Newsletter Editor: Rev'd Allen Bagshawe
allenbagshawe@gmail.com

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Welcome

Player of the Season (September):

Ryan Allsop took the most votes for his September performances. He received 30 votes. The other main results were **Jean Michael Seri** (20), **Aarron Connelly** (15), **Lewie Coyle & Morton Tyler** (13 each) and **Jaden Philogene** (12).

Ozan Tufan retains his lead from a strong August poll, but having missed September through injury he has made no further advance on 67. He is followed by Captain **Lewie Coyle** on 53 and **Ryan Allsop's** September advance sees him now in 3rd place on those 30 votes.

Congratulations also to **Jaden Philogene** on scoring two goals and one assist on his England Under 21 debut. What a way to introduce himself. It was a big win for England against the Serbia Under 21's, nine goals! **Liam Delap** also contributed with a goal (assisted by Jaden) and an assist (scored by Jaden!). Tigers making a mark!

October meeting:

Our apologies for the timings at last month's meeting. We were all really looking forward to welcoming Liam Rosenior but the very late return from the Ipswich mid-week fixture caused a re-think of the training schedule. Liam was, therefore, delayed and yet further delayed. For those who stayed the course, they would be treated to a fascinating insight into his view on how things are

unfolding at the club. It was well worth the wait but, sadly, not all could stay on. Our apologies.



Liam Rosenior with Richard Beechell



However, we did have a surprise visitor, and former England International too! **Marshall Waddington** agreed to join us on short notice when we knew Liam would be delayed. Marshall, a good friend of mine, was already on site as he is a member of the Showmen community, and this was the day before we opened Hull Fair, 2023! Marshall, who is based in Bradford, has been a part of Hull Fair all his life and his father before, indeed his father was a former National President of the Showmen's Guild of GB.

Marshall is also a keen sportsman. When I called him the previous day, he was on the greens at Ganstead Golf Club, the annual Showmen's tournament before Hull Fair kicks off. In his earlier years he had played football for the Yorkshire Section of the Showmen's Guild, throughout the year they would play fixtures with the different Sections, covering the country. Not just that! They play an annual International fixture with

the Scotland showmen and Marshall had been called up on a number of occasions for the fixture, receiving his International Cap – complete with tassles!



It was a great pleasure to welcome him – despite him being a lifelong follower of Leeds United! I think it also helped our members to understand the people who present Hull Fair and what great people they are.

MEMORABILIA ARTICLE FOR ST NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

This month I am writing about something totally different from my usual subject. Hope you don't mind and find it of interest. From July 1968 to July 1971, I worked as a Civil Servant for the MOD in Western Germany and was based in Monchengladbach (MG). A town some 20 miles from the Dutch border but with the NATO HQ on the outskirts. During the 3 years there I was lucky enough to watch the local football team, Borussia Monchengladbach. They were a team on the up mainly because of a number of young players such as Gunter Netzer and Bertie Vogts. In 1970 and 1971 they won the Bundesliga which was a great achievement as there were much larger, better-known teams such as Borussia Dortmund, FC Koln and Bayern Munich in the league. I have not seen Borussia play since 1971 and it has been a wish of mine for many years to visit the town and see a football match. Before COVID my friend Richard and I had made 3 trips to Holland and Germany to watch football but had not been able to visit MG.

This year my wish came to fruition and on 5th October we flew from Humberside to Amsterdam and then on by train to Monchengladbach, changing at the border

town of Venlo. In 1968 there was no love lost between the Germans and the Dutch so I wasn't surprised at the lack of signage on the station regarding the German train. The platform allocated was outside of the main station, open to the elements and had 6 seats for passengers to use while waiting for the hourly train. The train was busy and on time however, after 10 minutes in Germany, it stopped and was stationary for 40 minutes.

Eventually, we arrived in MG, took a taxi to our hotel and ventured to the Alt Markt (Old town) in the evening, an area I knew well 50 plus years ago. We found a restaurant and I was pleased to order a Schnitzel and fries, washed down with a few German beers. A favourite meal from my past.

We set off in the morning for the stadium to visit the club's museum. In the 70s the stadium was a 20,000-capacity arena with only one grandstand and 3 open sides of standing terracing. The town had grown rapidly in the Eighties and Nineties and amalgamated with the neighbouring town of Rheydt. The population had increased from 120,000 to over 260,000 with over 30,000 overseas residents. The successful football club had outgrown its facilities and in 2004 they opened a new 54,000 all-seater stadium some distance from the town centre. A 3 Euro bus journey took us to an unfamiliar part of the town but as it turned out very near the barracks I worked for a time, which was then in the countryside. The museum was large and based on the ground floor of a hotel and medical centre next to the stadium. It was full of memorabilia, shirts, interactive displays, pictures, a trophy room and a cinema. Each decade of the club's history was depicted. **Just what we need in Hull!** We may not have the honours that some clubs have but we do have a story to tell.

An afternoon at leisure then on to the stadium again for the evening game against FSV Mainz 05.



Thousands of fans used the free return shuttle bus to the stadium and we arrived over 2 hours before kick-

off. On arrival, we were guided to the Fan Park, a large area of permanent tables and seating surrounded by food, drink and souvenir outlets. An amazing area for fans to meet and prepare for the game. The fans we met were friendly and interested in why we had visited their club. 30 minutes to kick-off we made our way to the turnstiles to find a similar situation we found at the bus station; the Germans don't know how to queue. We stood our ground and entered the most fantastic arena with lighting reflecting the club's colours of green and white.



The concourse was full of food and drink outlets and strangely beer in plastic cups could be taken to the seats and refilled by sellers with tanks strapped to their backs. The popular end was occupied by fans with the most enormous flags. There were "safe standing areas" for both home and away supporters. The PA announcer and music encouraged the fans to create an unbelievable atmosphere and passionate support.



When the home team was announced, after every name the crowd replied by chanting the player's first name. It was interesting to witness that music, a vibrant announcer on the PA and beer played a major part in the occasion and building the atmosphere which remained for most of the game. The result was an

entertaining 2-2 draw and afterwards, we returned to the shuttle bus but unlike in Hull where one Park and Ride bus is filled and departs, they filled 3 and 4 at a time.

On Saturday we moved on to Deventer in Holland to see Go Ahead Eagles play Heracles Almelo in the Dutch Eredivisie. As we waited for the train which was 15 minutes late, I thought how much Germany had changed from the impression we had a few years ago. It is a country in recession, a bit scruffy in appearance, with a not-so-efficient railway, with Kebabs replacing Brockwurst and chips, a large immigrant population, poor people combing the streets and public areas (Football stadium, Railway Station, etc) on foot and cycles collecting plastics, bottles, drinks cans, etc and people living rough on spare land in the town centre. However, they do have an enormous passion for football and beer.

Deventer is a pretty, historic city in the middle of Holland on the banks of the IJssel River, with a population of 100,000. Obtaining match tickets for both Dutch games was a hard task with many emails and phone calls. Both clubs wanted me to join a membership at 25 Euros each and didn't have the facility to purchase online as they didn't accept debit or credit cards. Both clubs wanted me to do an International Money Transfer at £25 per transaction. I eventually got them to agree for me to pick the tickets up on the match day.

An afternoon at leisure at the smart hotel on the outskirts and in the town was followed by a walk to the stadium. A fully covered arena of some 9,500 seats with a Supporters Bar in which we gained entrance. An hour before kick-off the place was buzzing with music, a singer and a large bar. The room had many memorabilia items in cabinets and an interesting shirt collection high on the walls for security.



This is similar to what the Tigers Trust are going to create in the Arena entrance and bar area. Before entering the stadium, I had my picture taken with an Eagle, having told the keeper I was a Tiger. The Eagle later flew from the terracing to the centre spot before the kick-off.

The game was a fantastic entertaining, end-to-end game with plenty of skill, pace and endeavour on show. There was no inter-passing in the penalty area between the defenders. It was my sort of game and ended 4-0 for the Eagles. I did enjoy it but I must say I now understand what Liam is trying to do as every long ball from the keeper or defender ends up as a fifty-fifty chance by an attacker or defender and can come straight back. Once again music and beer played a big part in the occasion for the sell-out enthusiastic crowd.

On Sunday morning we took a half-hour train journey to Zwolle to see the local side PEC Zwolle FC play the highly-rated Feyenoord. The well-appointed 14,000-capacity stadium was a bus ride from a very beautiful town centre. A large hotel was attached to the stadium and again a fans bar and outside drinking area. Even though it was a lunchtime kick-off many fans were drinking and to our surprise, there were bars situated on the safe-standing terracing which meant fans were moving about all the time. Feyenoord who had lost 4 days earlier 3-2 to Inter Milan showed their class in a 2-0 win.



We had an afternoon meal in the lovely town centre in a traffic-free area before boarding a train to Amsterdam Airport for the late flight back to Humberside. A great trip with a few surprises about the 2 countries and their football culture. I understand that Acun is trying to arrange a few partnerships with European clubs and there are plans for some redevelopment of the MKM Stadium. There is a lot to learn in Europe about supporter bars, Fan Parks, having a hotel on the complex, building a museum, public transport on

match days, etc. Finally, I would recommend anyone to venture to Europe to sample the way the beautiful game is presented and played in different countries.

Tony Conway

IT Drop-in Sessions hosted by KCOM

Our continued relationship with KCOM has included a number of our members enjoying a learning experience across several IT-related issues all conducted at the KCOM offices in Hull.

As a result, KCOM has now provided an IT Drop-in facility exclusive to the Senior Tigers. The arrangement is every 3rd Monday of the month the Learning Zone at the KCOM offices in Carr Lane, Hull will be dedicated to Senior Tigers members. Members can visit the Learning Zone at any time between 10-00 a.m. and 12-00 p.m. No appointment will be necessary so anyone who has an IT problem, either with accessing and using the internet or using a PC/Laptop or any handheld device, mobile or tablet, can visit the Learning Zone where KCOM staff will answer your questions and help to resolve any problems you may have. The KCOM staff will also help with using the internet to shop, online banking, book tickets for events and holidays or anything about how to search and use the internet.

The first session is on **Monday 20th November 2023** from 10-00 a.m.

If you have any queries or would like more information then please contact Rob Wilson by clicking web@seniortigers.org.uk

