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Somewhere in 'ON THE BRINK' you will find 7 Footballs with a letter in the middle, can you find them? The first is below to help you. Once you have got all 7, arrange the letters to make up the name of a player who once scored from the half way line! Last issues answer was 'KEANE'.



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# SENIORS TEAM NEWS

Hello again, as you read this report another new season is already underway, along with all the hopes and aspirations that are part of it. During the close season there have been several changes within the club, not least the standing down of our chairman, Dave Gyselynck. On behalf of myself and all of the seniors, I would like to offer our sincere thanks for all the fine work that Dave has done for Brinklow in support of our cause of playing football. Cheers Dave!

It is also good to see that, at long last, a slot has been established for a Brinklow reserve side. My best wishes go to all involved for a successful and enjoyable season!

After the success of last year the 1st team now find themselves playing back in Division 1 of the 'Rugby District' Sunday League. A step up in standards and a real challenge for the new season.

On the 1st September at Onley Young Offenders Institution, we were to record our first points of the season. Welcoming three new players into the team, namely Goalkeeper Paul (Freaks) Freakly, and brothers Richard and Matt Allen, it was good to see the side settle quickly into their stride. After taking the lead with 3 good goals from Gaz Moore, Danny Bell and Mark Bird the pace slowed allowing an enthusiastic Onley to get back into the game, half time being 3-1. Into the second half Dave Anderson confirmed our superiority when scoring our fourth but, tired legs allowed Onley to score two late goals, the final 4-3 score line not being a true reflection of the game.

Our next match was away at Winfield Rec. to the 'CRC' the team that beat us in last seasons Hospital Cup Final. After weathering the initial storm we were somewhat unfortunate to find ourselves 1-0 down after 15 mins. This stirred us to produce a good spell of our own, taking the lead thanks to a fine Mark Bird header and a well struck 20 yard shot from Gaz Moore. However, you are not allowed to sit back against a quality side, it being no real surprise that we left the field 3-2 down at half time. Having already lost defender Paul Bale through injury, followed by Andy Reid, it was a reshuffled Brinklow that took to the field at the restart. This was to be exploited by a skilful and hungry CRC side, their class eventually taking over with them recording an 8-2 victory.

The following week was to see us playing at Wolston against last years' Cup semi-finalists The Jolly Abbot. It was a surprised 'Abbot' that took an early two goal lead before Brinklow went on to dominate the 1st half, plucking a goal back from the boot of Gaz Moore, his 3rd in 3 games. Unfortunately we were to concede a soft goal on the stroke of half time, leaving the field at 3-1 down, and finding our thin squad further depleted by injuries. Playing most of the 2nd half with only 9 men, it was Brinklow backs against the wall, but the 'Abbotts' good footballers were to ruthlessly exploit the situation leaving us on the end of an 11-1 hiding!

After the debacle of the previous weeks' performance it was essential that we put our house in order for our next game, at home to last seasons 3rd placed division 1 side, 'Long Lawford'. Although still missing key players through injury we were to be bolstered by two new additions to our squad, namely midfielders Jason Porter and former Brinklow player Stuart 'Sid' Pearson.

After an even first-half Brinklow were to leave the field 2-0 down, having allowed 'Lawford' the chances to score 2 well taken goals. Minutes into the second half the side got the break that their football deserved getting a goal back with a 'slightly fortuitous' deflected header from Paul (Azi) A'Barrow. With our defence holding strong and our midfield starting to win everything, the team gained control, getting their just rewards when Mark Bird (Birdy) equalized with a towering far post header. Unfortunately we were not to make the most of our superiority and chances, it being a relieved 'Long Lawford' side that left the field having earned a point away from home. However, if this was 2 points lost, the plus side is that this game showed that we are capable of competing in this division!

To sum up, with only four games played we are already experiencing ups and downs, but it is still early in the season. On that note I would like to remind all of our players that, apart from our good football, one of the reasons for our success last season was our unity and team spirit. With that in mind, we are hopeful that the coming weeks will see us establishing a good squad of players capable of and committed to playing at this level for Brinklow F.C.

Best wishes to all within the club.

**Barry Wilkinson**

# CLUB OFFICIALS NAMES AND CONTACT NUMBERS

## President

Mr R Chatterway

## Vice Presidents

Mr P Edmunds    Mr T Bramley

## Chairman

Malc Coombs

024 76542474 or 07901 935554

## Vice Chairman

Alun Yeend

01788 832579

## Secretary

Mick Holt

01788 833681 or 07941 724701

## Treasurer

Katie Crane

01788 833187

## Senior Team Manager

Paul Huddleston

07802 422292

Barry Wilkinson

07876 743351

Gary Collins

01788 544530 or 07879 027177

## Senior (Reserves) Team Manager

David McKiernan

01788 832655

Lee Kenney

07790 076475

## Youth Team Manager

Dave Wright

024 7644 7249 or 07831 210561

## Under 16's Team Manager

Keith Byrne

01788 832283 or 07715 940062

## Under 14's Team Manager

Mick Holt

01788 833681 or 07941 724701

## Under 13's Team Manager

Rob Steel

024 7654 2719 or 07785 248964

## Under 11's Team Manager

Pete Day

01788 832732

## Under 10's Team Manager

Tony Glasscoe

01788 833221 or 07770 654123

Neil Huddleston

024 7654 5963 or 07775 524191

## Under 9's (RED) Team Manager

Dave Payne

024 7626 1250 or 07759 876212

John Harman

01455 220717 or 07818 011355

## Under 9's (GREEN) Team Manager

Andy Main

01788 832033



## Under 7's Team Manager

Nick Skerratt

01788 832157 or 07761 424501

## Magazine Editor

Paul Wilby

024 7654 3903

# U7'S TEAM NEWS

A big welcome back to all our players from last season's squad, and also to all the new players who have joined this season, the World Cup is a great advert for football.

We would like to wish all our players from last season who have moved up in age group every success in the league.

We currently have a squad of 17 players which should enable two friendly matches against other teams on each match day ensuring everyone will get a game.

Having carried a large number of players over from last season, we have a good foundation on which to develop our team play, with some very promising new players we are sure to have some great matches.

Our first matches are penciled in for mid October, hence at training we are trying to explain the basic rules of the game and key passing and ball control skills for our new players, whilst for our more experienced players we are developing player awareness and team play.



**Nick Skerratt**



*How do Vampires play football at night  
They use Bloodlighting*



*What goes Blue, Yellow, Blue,  
Yellow, Blue, Yellow, Blue  
A Brinklow player rolling down a hill*



*DID HE REALLY SAY THAT!*

*Ronaldo: 'We lost because we didn't win.'*



**Want to win a Football?**  
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# RESERVES TEAM NEWS

## The Imperial 10 Brinklow Reserves 1

Finally Brinklow Reserves got their eagerly awaited season started, away to The Imperial. Unfortunately, The Imperial got off to a flyer with two quick goals. Christian McTurk got one back from the penalty spot but The Imperial continued scoring with no reply from Brinklow. The final score being 10-1.

## Hillmorton Ex-Servicemen 1 Brinklow Reserves 2

Next up were Hillmorton Ex-Servicemen away in a mid week game. Brinklow looked a completely different team from the one that played the previous Sunday. This Brinklow passed well, held the ball and created many chances. That's why when Aaron Fraser put us 1-0 up just before half time it was well deserved.

The second half saw Hillmorton come back at us and grab an equaliser but Brinklow's heads didn't drop and in the 61st minute Roger Lunt made it 2-1 from a scramble in the 18 yard box. Brinklow held on to win by that score.

## Brinklow Reserves 4 C.R.C. Sounds 8

C.R.C. Sounds were our next opponents. It was our first home game of the season. We started well, going straight into a 2-0 lead. C.R.C. came back to 2-2 but almost instantly we went 3-2 back in front. However it wasn't to be our day as C.R.C. equalised and then not only took the lead, but went on to score more, beating us 8-4. One major factor was injuries. By half time Manager, Dave McKiernan, had had to use all 3 substitutes. However after Wednesday's win this defeat was still hard to take.

## Brinklow Reserves 3 The Crown 0

Our final Wednesday game was against The Crown. Brinklow played well, always threatening to score. It was Alun Yeend who grabbed the first. He ran down the left and lobbed his shot over the stranded keeper. It was a well taken goal from the experienced midfielder.

Mark Bird, filling in for one game, scored the 2nd and Martin White finished things off with an amazing long range effort that left the keeper with no chance.

## The Bear 2 Brinklow Reserves 4

The 5th game we played was away to The Bear. Brinklow shot 2-0 in front thanks to both goals from Christian McTurk. The Bear grabbed one back to put a bit of pressure on us. Spencer Wells though, made it 3-1. Again The Bear got another. This time they attacked, wave after wave. All the lads held on though and when keeper, Brian Bullock, hoofed it up field The Bears defence panicked. The ball bounced off one of their defenders heads and Spencer Wells' over head kicked it into the back of the net for his second. The end score 4-2 to Brinklow.

**Lee Kenney**

*David and Victoria Beckham were on vacation in the depths of Louisiana. Posh wanted a pair of genuine alligator shoes, but was very reluctant to pay the high prices the local vendors were asking. After becoming very frustrated with the 'no haggle' attitude of one of the shopkeepers, David shouted, 'Maybe I'll just go out and catch my own alligator so I can get a pair of shoes at a reasonable price!' The shopkeeper said, 'By all means, be my guest. Maybe you'll luck out and catch yourself a big one!'. Determined, David and Posh turned and headed for the swamps, set on catching an alligator. Later in the day, the shopkeeper is driving home, when he spots Beckham standing waist deep in the water, shotgun in hand. Just then, he sees a huge 9 foot alligator swimming quickly toward him. He takes aim, kills the creature and with a great deal of effort hauls it on to the swamp bank. Lying nearby were several more of the dead creatures. The shopkeeper watches in amazement. Just then the Becks flips the alligator on its back and frustrated, shouts out, 'this one isn't wearing any shoes either!'*



# YOUTH TEAM NEWS

Firstly, many thanks to everyone concerned at Brinklow, for their assistance in making our move from Binley Woods possible, without the help of the Committee and other Brinklow team Managers it would not have taken place. Hopefully, establishing a Youth side, will enable the club and players to have continuity from junior football right through to Senior level.

The lads have enjoyed pre-season training with the Seniors (Thanks Huddy) up at the Revel, which has helped us settle in and feel welcome. The facilities and standard of training have been excellent and improved our level of fitness in preparation for the new season.

We have participated in friendly matches against Senior sides, which has done our lads no harm at all and it has been interesting seeing the skill and pace of Youth against 'Meat Heads' from the likes of Ryton.

Thanks to the Seniors B' Team 2 v 5 Brinklow Youth for the friendly game, I think friendly is the right word!!! But next time Dave / Alan, can you fix the hole in the net, which would have made it six!

## Rugby Town 5 Brinklow Youth 0

A tough opening game to the campaign, against one of the best team's we will face this season. Unfortunately, due to a two week lay off, because of holidays etc, we were simply not up for it!!! Although the Rugby Town Manager felt that the score line was not a true reflection on our performance, as we held Rugby Town quite well until the last quarter of the game, creating some good chances of our own throughout the course of the match.

## Brinklow Youth 6 White Hart Youth 0

This was our first home game of the season and what a performance, which saw us dominating the game throughout. We had several chances to score, hitting the post twice and had a goal disallowed allegedly because the referee wasn't ready for the free kick to be taken!!!

Our approach to this game, was totally different to our opening match of the season, every player was up for it and we managed to score 3 goals in each half, scorers being Chris Ward 2, Andy Houston 2 and 2 cracking goals from Arran (Thierry) White.

The lads are really looking forward to our next game and we are planning to start midweek training, which will probably be at Ernsford Grange or Stoke Park School in Coventry. Training will be on the 'All Weather' pitch outside, so if there are any other Brinklow teams wishing to share the pitch with us, please contact myself on (Mobile 07831 210561).

I feel a good season lies ahead of us. We have some quality players and a good team spirit. We are probably one of the youngest team's in our league, with most of our lads being not yet 17, they will find themselves playing against lads that are closer to 18 years of age. We are looking forward to our next game, to hopefully get our season off and running with a victory!

Finally, I am still looking for a couple of good Youth team players to complete our squad, so if anyone knows of 16 or 17 year old players that are looking for a club, please give me a call on (Mobile: 07831 210561).

## Dave Wright

*Posh Spice was involved in a "little incident" whilst trying to reverse her car. She received a large dent in the side, so took it to be fixed. The bloke told her to blow in the exhaust pipe and the dents would come out. She took it home and was trying to blow out the dents, when David came out and said "What are you doing?"*

*She replied "I'm trying to blow out the dents."  
David said "don't be silly - you have to close the windows first."*



## DID HE REALLY SAY THAT



**Stan Collymore** 'I faxed a transfer request to the club at the beginning of the week, but let me state that I don't want to leave Leicester.'

**Alan Shearer** 'I've never wanted to leave. I'm here for the rest of my life, and hopefully after that as well.'

**Lee Hendrie** 'I took a whack on my left ankle, but something told me it was my right.'

**Robbie Earle** 'If you're 0 0 down, there's no one better to get you back on terms than Ian Wright.'

**David Beckham** 'My parents have been there for me, ever since I was about.'

**Ian Wright** 'Without being too harsh on David Beckham, he cost us the match.'

**Bryan Robson** 'We're going to start the game at nil-nil and go out and try to get some goals.'

**Joe Royle** 'If it had gone in, it would have been a goal.'

**Bobby Robson** 'Well, we got nine and you can't score more than that.'

**Colin Todd** 'I am often interested in players but I never say so, although I am looking for a striker and a midfield player.'

**David Pleat** 'We just ran out of legs.'

**Bobby Robson** 'It wasn't going to be our day on the night.'

**Craig Brown** 'I strongly feel that the only difference between the two teams were the goals that England scored.'

**Bryan Robson** 'If we played like this every week we wouldn't be so inconsistent.'

**John Toshack** 'Winning all the time is not necessarily good for the team.'

**Ian McNail** 'We got the winner with three minutes left, but then they equalised.'

**David Kemp** 'Some of our players have got no brains, so I've given them the day off tomorrow to rest them.'



# U9'S TEAM NEWS (RED LEAGUE)

<b>Brinklow</b> 12	<b>Wyken F.C</b>	<b>0 (Friendly)</b>
<b>Brinklow</b> 8	<b>Morris Rangers</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Whitley</b> 4	<b>Brinklow</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Brinklow</b> 7	<b>Dunlop</b>	<b>1</b>



Our one and only friendly before the season started was as the score suggests a very one sided game which the team easily won. The goals coming thick and fast, Matthew & Lee both grabbing three goals each, Craig and Shaun scoring twice, Stuart and Danny both got one a piece.

**Man of the Match Stuart Day**  
(Superb passing)

The next game we were up against Morris Rangers, who started quite brightly before we got going and began to take control of the game with some outstanding football racing into a four goal half time lead. Shaun Russell grabbing a first half hat-trick that Michael Owen would have been proud of. Matthew Pine scored goals in both halves, but also played his part in at least two other goals. Craig Payne scored twice, one of which was an absolute cracker from well outside the area, Shaun Russell then got back in on the action with his fourth goal of the game. Apart from the goal scorers George Harman had a very good game along with Joe Kemp, Stuart Day and Danny Wood who played really well and put some excellent crosses in, one leading to Shaun's fourth goal.

**Man of the Match Shaun Russell**  
(four great goals –Well done!)

Our game against Whitley saw us get soundly beaten and goes to prove that if we don't concentrate on our game, play to our strengths of passing and moving and are brought down to the level of these sorts of teams - just shows what can happen. Enough said about this but lets try and learn from these mistakes.

**Man of the Match Craig Payne**  
(Battled hard)

The boys were really up for this game against Dunlop and played some excellent football. George and Stuart in commanding form at the back with Mathew Mooney rarely troubled. At the other end Matthew Pine ran Dunlop ragged with some dazzling runs before opening up their defence not only once but on several occasions, scoring three outstanding goals. Lee and Shaun also got a goal each before half time.

In the second half we took our foot of the pedal and let Dunlop come back into the game, sneaking a goal with possibly their only shot. After that we stepped up again and scored twice more with goals from Craig Payne and Glen Wright. If we can perform like this week in week out, I would be very pleased. Well done boys, keep it up!

**Man of the Match Matthew Pine**  
(Outstanding display)

I would also like to say well done to the boys for our superb performance at the Lillington Tournament, our 'A' team winning the trophy and our 'B' team being runners up.

**Dave Payne**



Q: Why will Liverpool never win the League?  
A: They keep scoring Owen goals



# U16'S TEAM NEWS



On Sunday 22nd september 2002 the under 16's had their biggest win ever since records began, they beat Allesley Athletic **18-0** at Floyds fields. This was a well deserved win with all the lads playing brilliant football to secure this comprehensive win. The goal scorers were Peter Sharpe 5, Ryan Byrne 3, William Allen 2, Grant Manderston 2, Sam Lunt 1, Gareth Yeend 1, Paul Lewis 1, Alex Pouncett 1, Luke Morton 1 and Jack Wiggins 1. In Fact the

only out player not to score was one of our previous top goal scorers Rajen Patel. A special mention must go to William Allen who scored his first ever goals for Brinklow after being with the team for 7 years. **Well done William hope there's more to come!**

The first game of the season was away to Christ the King which we lost 3-1, this was an unbelievable result as we were all over them for most of the game, it took a lot of help from their referee to get this result, but I'm sure our revenge will be sweet at Barr Lane for the home fixture. The goal scorer for Brinklow was Gareth Yeend.

Our next game was against Finham Park Rangers on 15th September which we won 3-2 again we played some very good football in which the winning margin should have been a lot greater. Scorers in this game were Ryan Byrne, Peter Sharpe and Jack Wiggins. If the lads carry on playing as they have been for the first three games I can see this being a very entertaining season for us.

Can I welcome Jack Wiggins and Anthony Whiteley to the club and hope they have a great season with us.

## Forthcoming Games

Sunday 29th Sept	Bedworth Athletic - home
Sunday 6th Oct	Sporting Athletic (Cup) - Away
Sunday 13th Oct	Chaperfield Colts - home
Sunday 20th Oct	Yenton - Away

Next years tour is already in the planning, it looks as if were on our way to sunny Cornwall, so watch this space for further details.

All subs must be in by Sunday 29th September or else. Please make cheques payable to Brinklow Junior football club. Indoor training will commence on Thurs 17th October at Avon Valley School, Rugby.



**Keith Bryne**



A man from Liverpool, England, was touring the USA on holiday and stopped in a remote bar in the hills of Nevada. He was chatting to the bartender when he spied and old Indian sitting in the corner. He had tribal gear on, long white plaits and a wrinkled face. 'Who's he?' said the scouser.

'That's the Memory Man.' said the bartender. 'He knows everything. He can remember any fact. Go and try him out.' So the scouser goes over, and thinking he won't know about English football, asks 'Who won the 1965 FA Cup Final?' 'Liverpool' replies the Memory Man. 'Who did they beat?' 'Leeds' was the reply.

'And the score?' '2-1' 'Who scored the winning goal?' 'Ian St.John' was the old man's answer.

A few years later the scouser went back to the USA and tried to find the Memory Man. Eventually he found the bar and sitting in the same seat was the old Indian only this time he was older and more wrinkled. Because he was so impressed the scouser decided to greet the Indian in his native tongue. He approached him with the greeting 'How'

The Memory Man replied....'Diving header in the six yard box.'



# U14'S TEAM NEWS



Well here we are again start, of the new season, the summer break seems to be getting shorter, pre-season training has gone really well, myself and Martin are trying to get the team to play more of a passing game this season, not like last year where we seemed to be playing long ball all the time. I think this was due to a slight lack of confidence in the team.

The pre-season friendlies have gone really well winning all three and I think the confidence is on the way back.

Friendly Matches:

<b>Brownsover</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Brinklow</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Hillmorton</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Brinklow</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Clifton</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Brinklow</b>	<b>4</b>



I would like to welcome Daniel McDonald, and Shane Orton to the U14's and welcome back Daniel Timms, hope you can stay injury free this season. But most of all I would like to say a big thanks to the players from last season who all stuck with the club for this season.

I'm currently looking into a tour away this season if anybody has any ideas then please let me know.

The U14's would like to wish Alex Baker a quick recovery from his illness & hope to soon see his 'gloves' back on the field!!

## Go Karting

I would like to organise a sponsored karting night for the players to try and buy each player a training or drill top. The idea is for each player to raise £35 – this would pay for the karting and top, please let me know your thoughts on this.

## Training

We will continue to train at Barr Lane on Friday's at 5:30 until 18<sup>th</sup> October then we will move indoors to Avon Valley School – 5:30 until 7:00 There will be a small charge of £1 per night.

## Annual Subs

These are now due, £30.00 please make cheques payable to Brinklow Football Club.

## Fixtures

29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	– Away to Allesley Aces
8 <sup>th</sup> Sept	– Home to Rugby Town Cup
13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	– To be arranged
20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	– Home to Coventry Irish

## Half Term

Please let me know if you are unable to play half term week.

## Mick Holt



*David Beckham had a near death experience the other day when he went horseback riding. Everything was going fine until the horse started bouncing out of control. He tried with all his might to hang on, but was thrown off. With his foot caught in the stirrup, he fell head first to the ground. His head continued to bounce on the ground as the horse did not stop or even slow down. Just as he was giving up hope and losing consciousness, the Woolworth's manager came out and unplugged it!*



# U10'S TEAM NEWS



<b>Brinklow</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Pinley</b>	<b>3 (friendly)</b>
<b>Christ the King</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Brinklow</b>	<b>2 (friendly)</b>
<b>Wyken</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Brinklow</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Brinklow</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Christ the King</b>	<b>2</b>

Welcome back to all players, supporters, families and sponsors old and new. The under 10's have certainly had something of a rollercoaster start to the new season. Pre-season training saw several players making huge improvements in ability and technique, and as we worked on the passing and movement element of our game there was a lot of confidence in the air from players and parents alike. In addition we have recruited a couple of new players to the squad as we build towards the 11 a side target next season, and with the help of 2 new sponsors, we have managed to get the team kitted out with a complete new strip and waterproof jackets.

Our first friendly against Pinley saw Brinklow romp into double figures with a smooth and attractive style of football that has become the trademark of this team over the last 3 seasons. First class performances all round, and although it could be said the Pinley side were a little weak, Brinklow took full advantage and fully deserved the double figure goal tally (I lost count of who scored how many that day).

The second game against Christ the King provided more of a test on a difficult pitch (rock hard, no grass) and Brinklow played neat football throughout but struggled to make the final ball count. Strong performances from Jamie Huddleston and Zack Bevins eventually wore down the opposition and Tommy Glasscoe slotted away two clinical finishes in the last 10 minutes to secure us a two nil win.

The first league outing at Wyken however, did not go according to plan. Right from the start Wyken were aggressive in midfield and played a very direct attacking game with crosses and through balls flying in at every opportunity. Brinklow struggled to find any shape in midfield to cope with this and were quickly punished with two early goals. Although the team started to settle after this, Jamie Huddleston and Alex Stage were exhausted by the constant pressure and a third goal before half time made a comeback all the more unlikely. Despite courage and determination from the likes of Tommy Glasscoe, Zack Bevins and Tommy Hyde, the second half saw heads drop and more goals conceded. I know this team is full of character and has the ability to move on from that result, so we have to learn from our mistakes that day and focus on our next games.

The home league game against Christ the King saw an improved performance by the team. The movement of Jamie Huddleston to midfield added some steel & with Alex Stage & Joe Partridge providing a sound defensive partnership the result was never really in doubt. Zack crowned a fine performance with a well taken hat-trick and Alex Clayton came on showing great strength & speed just when the midfield were starting to tire. Tarun Sud ended up playing in most positions on the field & Taylor Cross came on to cover well at the back. Matthew Wilby added to this with another solid performance in goal. Overall a deserved win, however we will have to improve if we are to make progress in the top league.

I must extend a warm welcome to new recruits Taylor Cross and Alex Clayton, and also say a big thank you to our kit sponsors this year, Hyperformance Events and Premier Micro Services.

This coming season will be a huge challenge for us as we grow our squad and build for 11-a-side football next year, and players and parents will need to be patient as we go through that process.

Finishing on a high note, we should pay tribute to the team for last seasons achievements when they finished 6<sup>th</sup> in the league and reached two semi finals and two finals in six-a-side tournaments.

**Tony Glasscoe**



## U11'S TEAM NEWS

**Start of season review** - Once again the lads are off to a flying start. Three games played, three games won, 20 goals scored, 3 goals against. After struggling in pre-season friendlies, the lads have turned things around with a lot of hard work and application. Being their debut season at 11-a-side, with large pitches, offside etc they've had to adapt and learn very quickly. To their credit, winning the opening

three games in emphatic style has been their reward for the commitment shown in training.

**Training** - No complacency, more hard work and concentration are still required to keep the run going. It's imperative that all the lads attend all training sessions if they want to play matches regularly. Amongst other things, we will be working on specific moves/tactics in training with the express intention of using them in following matches. As a result, if the lads miss a training session, it is unlikely they will play a part in the subsequent match. As part of the long-term plan to build a successful team, we are working on the lads' fitness. No matter how skilful the player is or how good the tactics are, if players are unfit, then we will struggle as a team. Consequently, in training, we are pushing some of the lads near to their limits. We are very conscious of this and are keeping a close eye on it, but if parents could ensure that their lads don't come to training on an empty stomach and they have plenty of drinks with them, this will be of great help. Also with the colder & damper days arriving and the increasing physical demands being placed on the lads - can those with asthma problems please ensure inhalers are brought to training.

**Time keeping** - With the limited amount of time available for training and before matches it is important that the lads arrive in plenty of time and are ready to start at the scheduled time. With the way training is structured we cannot start properly until everyone has arrived. Lads arriving 5 -10 minutes late at training or before a match are holding up everyone and eating into valuable time.

**Jordan Thompson** - Over the summer Jordan Thompson has joined the Under 11s squad. He's arrived on these shores from Australia. Over there, they play 11-a-side football from the age of 9!! Can I publicly welcome Jordan and his family to Brinklow Football Club. In the table below you will see Jordan already has proved to be a valuable addition to the squad.

**James Withers** - No doubt everyone has heard that James is about to have an operation which will keep him from playing for a month or two. We wish him well and hope for a speedy recovery. We look forward to seeing him back at training soon as possible.

**New kits** - The new kits should hopefully arrive by mid-October. The delay has been due to having special collars put on to standard shirts coupled with the supplier not sticking to agreed deadlines. However they are being chased on a regular basis and fingers crossed will be available in 3 to 4 weeks time ready for the press launch.

**Subscriptions/training fees** - Subscription fees for 2002/2003 are now due. If there are any problems with payment please let me know. As far as midweek training is concerned, for admin purposes it would be very helpful if training fees could be paid 6 weeks in advance.

Thank you to everyone who contributes to the running of the team. From John Cramp for his excellent refereeing and assistance, Ged Wood and Gary Wilcox for their help in training and matches, those who help 'run the line' and all the parents who help set up and take down the goals. Many thanks.

**Well done lads keep up the good work!!!**

**Peter Day**

## U13'S TEAM NEWS

Pre-season and things were not looking good for the Under 13's. With only eight players signed on for the start of the season it was difficult to see how we could stay with the league. The boys were approached to see what they wanted to do and it was agreed that we would try to bring the number up.

One week to go till the first game and the numbers had swelled to twelve, so we decided we would start the season and see if we could bring more boys in. Following the first game we found another two boys to bring the number to a level that should see us through the season. So I would like to thank the boys for their support and rallying round to maintain the Under 13's at Brinklow.

So to the first game, remember we only had 12 signed on!

### **Coundon Court 7 Brinklow 7**

One of the most entertaining matches I have watched in junior football and Brinklow with only eleven of the twelve available! We played Coundon Court in our only pre-season friendly with only eight players, it was a fairly one sided affair, which was why I think we caught Coundon napping at the start of the league game. Brinklow looked composed on the ball and the Manager was thinking that perhaps we should start every season on the brink! First corner to Brinklow and Coundon failed to clear with the ball coming to Harley Steel who put the ball away for Brinklow's first goal of the season. This was followed by ten minutes of constant pressure from Brinklow which brought another three goals with two from Dan Gyselynck and one from David Brannon.

At this point it took some determined work by the Coundon striker to bring Coundon back into the game and with a better performance Coundon managed to pull two goals back. Unfortunately they both came from a mistakes from the Brinklow players, but at half time the Manager was happy with the lads performance.

Second half and at this point we should mention the grass, uncut for a few weeks it was not good for the football or the boys legs. Coundon started the stronger and scored early making it 3-4, but Brinklow held together and fought back scoring again with Dan Gyselynck getting a hat trick! Again Coundon came back to make it 4-5, and Brinklow looked a little tired and deflated at the back. Then from the kick off Brinklow passed the ball about at the back, then down the left side to get the ball to David Brannon in the box wide on the left. From here it looked as if David had no where to go, with three defenders around David pulled off a shot to score what could be the goal of the season, score 4-6.

The next five minutes and Brinklow were hoping for the final whistle, unfortunately there was a good ten minutes to go. Coundon with four subs available looked the fresher and put pressure on which, Brinklow with tired legs, found unable to prevent Coundon pulling the score back to 6-6.

From the restart Brinklow again pushed the ball forward passing well and after some strong tackles got the ball into the Coundon box which brought a rash tackle for which the referee awarded a penalty. David Brannon was given the honours to see if he could equal Dan Gyselynck's hat trick and despite a good effort to save the shot by the keeper the shot was too strong. Score 6-7. At this point not only did the players want the whistle, the manager did too. Coundon had a different objective and pushed forward catching a tired team to score and bring the game to a fare result.

**Man of the Match David Brannon**

### **Brinklow 1 Coundon Cockerels 8**

Second game of the season and Brinklow faced a reformed Coundon Cockerels, a strong team with boys that would have looked comfortable in the under 14's. Brinklow managed to hold Coundon back and scored first, against the run of play, from some outstanding play by James Mercer in midfield who slotted the ball through for David Brannon to score. Coundon pressed on managing to score before half time.

Second half with Coundon playing down hill and Brinklow looking tired the score line tells the story. Brinklow show signs of playing good football but look in need of a good workout on fitness.

**Rob Steel**