

NEWS SNIPPETS...

BUS TO ABERDEEN

Elaine Mallory`s unstinting efforts to keep the Travel Club buses running to away matches was given some help from the Trust who underwrote the shortfall in takings on the bus to the midweek cup tie against Aberdeen at Pittodrie. Travelling fans provide invaluable support to the team, and the Trust will be examining ways of supporting away travel, and in particular transport for younger supporters, as part of its action planning agenda. The Trust will sponsor another bus before the end of the season.

NEW WEB ADDRESS

You may have noticed that we have re-located our website to www.berwickrangers.co.uk. The move saves us money each year and is much easier to access now we are under the same umbrella as Berwick Rangers Online, the new website launched in the summer. Our e-mail address has also changed, you can now e-mail us at trust@berwickrangers.co.uk

SHIELDFIELD SIGNAGE

Ever been accosted by a stranger in an anorak looking for directions to Shielfield? Well, the Trust is working to change that. We're in discussions with the County Council and the Highways Agency about replacing existing, tatty directional signs to Shielfield with something a bit more attention-grabbing. Our proposals also include signage from the bypass to the stadium. The speedway promotion support the initiative, which is designed to raise the profile of both Berwick Rangers and the Bandits, and the stadium as a community facility.



TRUST FUNDRAISING

The Trust are in discussion with prospective parties about a number of exciting fundraising schemes. We hope to be able to announce further details to members once these schemes have been developed to the stage where they can be set up and run.

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BERWICK RANGERS SUPPORTERS TRUST

'WORKING FOR CLUB AND COMMUNITY'



CHAIRMAN OFFERS RESIGNATION

Supporters Trust Chairman John Bell has confirmed that he has offered his resignation from the Board of Directors, subject to other Directors accepting the transfer of his guarantee of £10,000. "This decision has not come easily. As someone who has followed Berwick Rangers for thirty years I have been particularly proud to hold the position of Director, and to represent the interests of other supporters through the Trust.

I have tried to carry out this role to the best of my ability, and it has been my hope that all parties associated with the Club, past and present, could be treated with fairness and decency, even where a difference of opinion exists. This has become increasingly difficult.

There are important, and potentially expensive, issues ahead that need to be resolved quickly for the good of Berwick Rangers. It would appear that the opportunity to resolve these issues amicably has now passed- time will tell if that is the case. I regret that the whole Board has perhaps not had the opportunity to contribute to these I very much hope that the Board will welcome another nominee from the Trust to serve as a Director. I also hope to carry on working through the Trust to achieve future stability and success for the Club, and I'd like to thank all those who have been so supportive, particularly so in recent weeks."

The Trust will be holding its next AGM sometime in January- date to be confirmed in local press. Trust members will be notified in writing if an extraordinary general meeting is to be held before the AGM.

STOP PRESS!!!

All Trust members (and anyone who wants to join) are invited to an open meeting to be held in the Black & Gold at 1pm on Saturday 18th December.

Members Newsletter

Winter 2004

Inside:

- All Points North completed successfully
- Show Racism the Red Card Day
- How to join the Trust
- Better Shielfield Signage
- New website address
- Club Shop Take-Over
- Vacancies on Trust Board

VISIT US ONLINE @ www.berwickrangers.co.uk

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In Person:
Trust Society Board Member Gordon Dickson is in the Club Shop every home game, before the match and at half time.

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SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD DAY



The Supporters Trust was delighted to once again support the 'Show Racism the Red Card' initiative on the 16th October, when Ayr United visited Shielfield Park. In 2003 the Trust distributed badges and posters kindly supplied by the 'Red Card' group- no such luxuries this time but a huge thanks to the players and supporters from both Clubs for taking part in good spirit. For more information check out www.srtc.org and www.kickitout.org.

TRUST TAKE OVER CLUB SHOP

From the 1st June, the responsibility for the running of the club shop has moved from the club to the Trust. This is a logical move since the running of the shop has always been undertaken by current members of Trust. The shop will run under a different account to the general Trust account, just as it did when under the wing of the club, and all profits will find their way to the club. The money generated will be additional to the £5000 already pledged to the club this season.



SUPPORTING THE TEAM!

At the start of this season the Trust agreed to raise £5000 towards the revenue costs of the football club, particularly as a contribution towards salary costs. We're pleased to report that £2000 of this has already been handed over and a series of fund-raising events are planned for 2005, including lots of events to be held at the Black & Gold.

ALL POINTS NORTH

The Trust gave a helping hand with an attempt by a group of supporters to visit all 42 senior grounds in Scotland within 24 hours. The "All Points North" event was successfully completed with a couple of hours to spare, and raised a worthy £5000 for Cancer Research and Guide Dogs. A big hand to Trust board member Nick Vagg, who organised a five aside match against the intrepid travellers before they set off on their odyssey from Shielfield on 25th July, together with excellent press coverage. A thank you too to BRFC chairman Robert Wilson who also turned up to see the boys off. We understand that Berwick Rangers were one of the most hospitable clubs they encountered on their travels.



TWO VACANCIES ON TRUST BOARD

An addition to the existing vacancy, a further vacancy has arisen on the Trust board following the resignation of Duncan Black whose university gap year has seen him take up a post in Aberdeen. Thanks to Duncan for his contribution. If you would like to offer your services by joining the Trust board, contact David Cook on (01289) 301716 for a nomination form. You must be a Trust member to be eligible and you need to have your nomination form signed by a proposer who is also a Trust member.

Being a board member isn't simply a case of turning up to a meeting every month. You'll need to be prepared to help raise funds, organise events and work towards strengthening the role of the Trust as a supporter of Berwick Rangers Football Club. Nominations should be returned to David Cook (contact details overleaf).

HOW TO JOIN THE TRUST!



Your football club needs you!

Nick Vagg has been appointed Membership Secretary. If you haven't joined up, or know someone who wants to, point them in the direction of Nick, who can be contacted by either e-mailing nick@berwickrangers.co.uk or meeting him in person- you can't miss him, he's the only Kilt-wearing Berwick fan. Trust membership starts at £2 per month- not much to help keep your local football club alive! You can also download membership forms from our website- www.berwickrangers.co.uk/trust.htm. You can pay easily by direct debit or on an annual subscription.

Diary Dates:

December 31st

New Years Eve
Family Party-
Details in Local
Press

Fri February 11th

The Happy Cats
Black & Gold Club
7:30pm- £10

Fri March 11th

Gangsters of Ska
Black & Gold Club
7:30pm- £10

You can buy
tickets for these
events at the
Black & Gold or
the Club Shop

What kind of
event would you
like to see the
Trust hold? We
are open to all
suggestions and
we are always
looking for
people to help
out with the
organising of
events. Contact
details on the
back page.