



## Summer Newsletter

15.9.20

What surreal times we are in at the moment, as far as football is concerned. By now, the Saints would have played at least 4 league matches and supporters would be looking to book a long weekend away at, perhaps, Chippenham Town. We all hope that the league season gets underway as currently proposed next month.

Turning to off the field matters at the club, there has been a clear change in the direction that the club are taking. The new shirt sponsorship deal with the band Enter Shikari is clearly aimed at selling the majority of shirts to followers of the band, something that other clubs have done in recent times. In my own experience, shirt sales to supporters has been dropping for a number of seasons, with fans preferring to buy polo shirts and jackets, which have more longevity in wear terms so this step may well increase sales.

The new club badge has not been favourably received by all supporters. Perhaps, had there been a vote to decide on a new design, it may have looked different but the it is all about opinions. One positive note from the current climate has been the highest number of volunteers working at the ground for many a season, the new patio area being one of the more visible areas of work undertaken. When speaking to the some of the volunteers, I commented that it was important to maintain this level of support on match days, an area where we have often been struggling over recent times.

A few weeks back, I met with Tony Colbourne, the new Head of Communications at the club. He asked me for a view of how things were going at the club. I told him that the price increase in admission last season had caused enormous bad feeling amongst supporters. I went on to explain that, in my opinion, it had undone much of the goodwill that had been built up in the last few years. At the time of writing, the Trust and our fellow organisation Stand By Your Saints have a meeting scheduled with club officials to discuss a number of issues, including how the ground will operate in the coming season. I will keep you informed of the outcomes.

After the longest and most difficult season, for obvious reasons, the results of the 2019/20 Predictions League competition have now been finalised and are as follows

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1. Sarah Hilliard 31 pts (count back) £100
2. Duncan McLeod 31 pts £25
3. Iona Hilliard 29 pts (count back) £10

Congratulations go to the winner, Sarah Hilliard

## 2020/21 Prediction League Competition

We will be in contact regarding this season's competition, in due course.

## **TRUST'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020**

The Trust is required to hold its 2020 Annual General Meeting by the end of November. This is to meet the formal requirements of the Trust's own rules, its registration as a body under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 and the needs of the Financial Conduct Authority. However, we clearly are not able to or would wish to convene a meeting indoors, with a number of people attending.

We are currently looking at the safest way to organise the meeting, while meeting the minimum requirements of the business we need to consider and involving all members. We will need to approve the minutes of the last meeting, the Trustees' Report and Accounts and any motions submitted. Can I ask members to think about any items they would like discussed and get back to Duncan McLeod on 01727 841823 or email [duncan.mcleod.dmc@gmail.com](mailto:duncan.mcleod.dmc@gmail.com) We will be contacting you with further details, shortly.

### **2020/21 Trust Membership**

For the coming season, we have decided to roll membership over so no payment is required. We will, however, accept donations towards Trust funds and include the relevant form to be completed if you wish to do so and an amended Trust Membership Application Form is included with this Newsletter, accordingly.

With all good wishes and looking forward to a successful season.

Ian Rogers  
Chairman  
Saints City Trust