In the intervening period between the last issue and this the supporters association appears to be moving forward with some momentum, the enthusiasm for the club is tremendous to see and hopefully the hard work of getting flyers out across the town will bear fruit. It has been apparent that our gates have fallen in recent games; this may be due to a combination of poor publicity in our local paper and bad weather, whatever the reason hopefully your campaign will re-invigorate supports and also take the word to a new army of support.

On the subject of support the players are most appreciative of the vocal encouragement from our supporters particularly at away games when very often we outnumber the home support and when we don't we are certainly louder.

The enthusiasm of the supporters was there for all to see at the away game at Esh Winning last Saturday, I was approached by one of their committee and he was very envious as they were struggling to get people involved to promote their club. The club in turn are pleased to support initiatives that will bring in much needed revenue and it is important that supporters realise that any extra revenue brought into the club will be used on strengthening the squad. On the issue of strengthening the club will only bring in players who will add a different dimension to our play and not players to increase our number count.

We now look forward to a critical period of the season with some tough games during the festive period which could shape the rest of the season, continue to get behind the lads as we will push towards a top three place and promotion to division 1. Once again thanks for your loyalty and support, enjoy your football and have a good Christmas.

Phil Reay

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat, 8th December

Norton & Stockton Ancients AWAY

Sat, 15th December

Darlington Railway Athletic HOME

Sat, 22nd December

Whickham AWAY

Sat, 29th December

Sunderland RCA HOME

Sat, 29th December

Supporters Christmas get together. Join us in the clubhouse after the match for a mince pie and punch.

Sat, 5th January 2007

Team Northumbria. AWAY

Let us know of any events or dates that you'd like to have included here.

Well hello again supporters,

just a few things this month to keep you up to date with, on the signing front we've being in for a centre half and a centre forward but got beating at the post by Jarrow Roofing and Ryhope unfortunately. So we are still on the look out (watch this space) i just need a little bit more strength in depth. On the games we've had of late Esh and Penrith i just think we are getting punished for every mistake. The penalties were definitely the right decisions but what about our two which we never got at 0-0 and we all know goals change games. I'm sure throughout a season these things level themselves out so this second half of the season we'll be alright when we make our charge up the table. On the playing side Mick Rodenby works one in three Saturdays Brock is working some Saturdays. Hal Graham who many people probably forgot about has just being told he'll be out for the season with cruciate ligaments so our sympathy goes out to him.

I'm pleased for cat, coming in and being steady, Scroggins and Oates being outstanding with their tackling and work rate, Feasy with his penetrating runs and young Ramsey doing his bit holding the ball up and getting a few goals on the way. As a whole I'm delighted with the squad of players we have but I know we need a little strengthening which I'm doing my best to get the right players in.

South Shields FC Forum

Got an opinion? Why not air it and read what other Shields supporters think at

http://www.southshields-sanddancers.co.uk/mariners/forum.htm