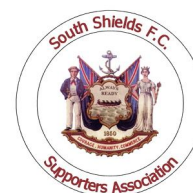




Newsletter of the South Shields FC Supporters Association

ONWARD AND UPWARD



THE SEASON IN RETROSPECT.

An analysis of the season, may perhaps for many lead to a conclusion that it really was a season of the proverbial two halves, and to others perhaps a case of 'if only'When one looks at the season in perspective, perhaps it may be said that if only for the enforced circumstances of a long break due to bad weather, and the resultant interruption of a 12 match unbeaten run that may perhaps have continued into the New Year, there is no telling what might have been. Pre Christmas we enjoyed considerable success and at times also a 'rub of the green' that was not in evidence last season and rode our luck on occasions to reach third top of the league. However, with at times insufficient strength in depth, due mainly to financial considerations, for adequate replacements like for like for important injured and suspended players, the team performances were somewhat different when play did eventually resume, and a eight match run of disappointing defeats followed. It could be perhaps justifiably argued also that a real lack of local indoor training facilities contributed to a fall in player fitness levels. But whatever conclusions are arrived at after all such debateable considerations, credit is given where credit is due and fully deserved for overall progress that the season has provided, though it has certainly been a season of contrasting fortunes, with ups and downs and twists and turns.

Early exits from cup competitions were indeed a major disappointment, but these in part were redeemed by the League Cup semi-final defeat of Whitley Bay on Monday, April 26th that gave the club its first cup final since 1996. This splendid 2-1 win over the FA Vase holders and again this years Wembley finalists was the second victory at Filtrona Park this season over the Bay and was for many THE game of the season. The winning of the Brooks Miles Memorial League Cup against Ashington one week later at the Dunston UTS FC Stadium on Monday, May 3rd is a real achievement to be applauded and a tangible mark of progress. With the scores level after extra time at 2 : 2, there followed the drama of a penalty shoot out, with Shields eventually triumphant winners at 6 : 5, with a most handsome trophy and medals for all the players. So many hearty congratulations are extended to the management staff, the players and the committee whom together have made this fine achievement possible for we supporters to enjoy. The season has thus ended on a high note, and made us proud indeed of our club.

For next season, to build on current progress on and off the field, to see the squad of players at the managers disposal suitably reinforced, to advantage the club's financial viability, to see the supporters association continue to grow in numbers, such are the hopes and aspirations we all as supporters entertain. For better times to enjoy, to work for success, being always positive and optimistic, to continue our efforts to build up the resources of the club in all our combined activities, such are our aims. For being "Aal togitheor like th' folks 'o Shields", we will hopefully achieve our ambitions, there being no substitute for hard work, the rewards at the end make such committed endeavours all the more very well worth while.

Our sincere thanks therefore to club committee, team management and players, and to all our members and generous sponsors who have all contributed this season, a heartfelt thank you for all your individual and combined efforts to promote the wellbeing, image and success of SSFC. Here's to next season, with best wishes and good luck and enjoy the summer.

ERRATA. THE OPEN DAY EVENT IS CHANGED TO SATURDAY MAY 29TH, PAGE 3

END OF SEASON PLAYERS PRESENTATION AND AWARDS SOCIAL EVENING.

This traditional annual function will be held on Friday, May 7th at Filtrona Park, commencing at 19:00 until late. Admission tickets price £3.00 are available from Gary Crutwell on 07947 480054, Bob Scott on 07920 554377, John Prendergast 0191 4545850 day, 0191 4200338 evening. The entertainment will be a band, disco, bingo, raffle (with donated prizes as usual please, thank you), and buffet, and so a grand evening is in prospect for us all to enjoy.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The AGM will be held on Wednesday, June 16th, further details will be announced in due course. All members are invited to attend and to thereby participate in the debate and decision process of important matters and election of officers to the committee.

CLOSE SEASON PITCH AND GROUND WORK PROGRAMME.

Remedial work on the top road side corner of the pitch, goal mouth and 18 yard line area will be done to complete the drainage programme from last close season, plus other ground improvements. Details will be made known in due course with respect to these specifics and for volunteer help requests etc from supporters as, where and when required.

THE GOLF OPEN TOURNAMENT.

This new venture by the football club was held on Friday, April 23rd at South Shields Golf Club on Cleadon Hills with 16 competing 4 man teams and was a great success, with excellent weather, and prizes including a week in Portugal for two at a 5 star hotel, 2 days at the Belfry for four, £1,000 of clubs, cash awards for first, second and third, boxes of spirits and boxes of golf balls. The top prize of £20K for a hole in one at hole number one was not won, but survived two close calls - and Gary Steadman actually holed in one at hole ten in a practise round the day previous, well done Studs! We hope all competitors enjoyed the tournament, and thank them for their support and we extend our most sincere thanks in grateful appreciation to all the sponsors for their generosity with prizes, their support and encouragement, and to the golf club for hosting the event and for fantastic hospitality. The event will be held again next year and is sure to be once more a resounding success. Well very done indeed all concerned.

AN OPEN DAY - FOR SPORT, FUN, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY.

This Summer event will take place on Sunday, May 30th at Filtrona Park commencing at 10.00am and the main features will include the following. An under 16's football match with a team from Holland 'Odin 59' versus a South Shields representative side, kick-off 2.00pm, and various competitions including a 6-a-side under 8's and under 11's football knock-out, a speed mark inflatable goal, hit the crossbar, beat the goalie, bric-a-brac stalls, bar and canteen facilities, tombola, supporters stall, raffle (donated prizes please) and possibly other attractions. FREE PUBLIC ADMISSION. The event will be publicised in the Shields 'Gazette' and with posters widely displayed around the town for public information, and it is hoped to attract a large attendance.

COAST TO COAST SPONSORED BIKE RIDE.

This new fund raising venture by the supporters association six man bike team with a back up crew will make the journey from Whitehaven to Roker over the weekend of June 11th – 13th a total distance of 135 miles. By way of support and encouragement for the gruelling task facing our intrepid team of riders, sponsorship forms are readily available, and we ask you to please give generously to this fund raising venture, thank you indeed.

PRE-SEASON FRIENDLIES.

Details of the full pre-season programme list of friendlies will be announced in due course, when the complete list is finalised.

SPONSORSHIP ASSISTANCE FROM MEMBERS

In the current economic climate, supporters association members can also help the club's finances by helping the drive to attract sponsors, for ground advertising boards, match day programme adverts, sponsor a game, sponsor a player, etc etc, the packages available on offer are extensive and cover all manner and aspects. If you would like to help,- in any way, please ask for sponsorship literature from Gary Crutwell on the usual mobile number which would be greatly welcomed and very much appreciated, thank you.

WEEKLY CASH DRAW UPRATE AND EXPANSION.

It is very much hoped that the scheme can and will be increased with more input and assistance from all concerned, to advantage the weekly take for the club budget and the prize money on offer. This is an important part of our fund raising, and all are asked to make a special effort to please help as possible, with ticket sales on a regular weekly basis to family and friends. A little extra help from many WILL make the difference.

CLUB COMMITTEE MEMBERS WANTED

The club committee needs volunteers as new and additional members, to help the club with the various jobs that are as ever very important 'behind the scenes'. If you are such a person, and maybe also have a friend who could be interested, or know of any such person - please contact Gary Crutwell, club committee chairman and you will be warmly welcomed and thanked.

SUPPORTER'S ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

The current membership total is now 223, and the target is 500. The committee asks all members during the close season to try their level best to recruit one new member and more wherever hopefully possible, amongst family members, neighbours, social and work friends and acquaintances. The larger the membership, the stronger the association will become in all respects, remember if you never ask, you never get. Thank you for all your efforts.

SEASON TICKET APPLICATION FORM 2010 – 2011.

An application form with full details will be made available soon, for your attention, interest and information. If you are a member of the Supporters Association, a price concession is made available to you, if you are not, then why not join and save yourself a few quid ?

THE GOAL BUSTER

Sincere thanks to Steve Franchi and his willing helpers for running the 'buster' throughout the season, and for you the punter - your support. We hope for both once again when the new season commences. All fund raising initiatives are important, and your support is as ever greatly appreciated, and you could be lucky and win the £100 prize.

A SOUVENIR OF THE 2009 – 2010 SEASON

Our colleague Iam Burn whose blog photos we have all greatly enjoyed during the season presents an opportunity to purchase a new team photograph, in various sizes, also available on a stylish canvas print, and mouse mats, T-shirts and jigsaw are also included in the product range. Printed by photobox using high quality materials, in gloss or matt finish. All profits will go to the football club. If there is a demand, match photos from during the season could be added. Treat yourself to this superb souvenir for home or office. Please contact Iam on 07917 432501, e-mail charleysays@blueyonder.co.uk <http://www.photoboxgallery.com/burnitphoto>

BOOKS FOR YOUR INTEREST AND PLEASURE.

Two book projects by the Supporter's Association are in process of compilation, and are hoped to be available for sale by Christmas. One is a pictorial history of the club with a large selection of team photographs with all relevant text and captions and the other a history from the earliest recorded years of the original club in the late 1880's to the advent of election to the football league in 1919. Much important material in both has never been published before, and will be comprehensive and historically unique, and of great interest to supporters and the wider football orientated general public in the locality and far beyond and will be much welcomed.

THE NEXT NEWSLETTER.

This will be available for distribution at Filtrona Park on the first Saturday home game of the new season, and as usual will include items of interest concerning the club, team prospects, forthcoming events, current news, topics of information, 'blast from the past' historical material, etc etc and an excellent FREE read for all supporters association members.

WELCOME TO THE LAST GAME OF THE SEASON

BY JUSTIN PERRY

ASSISTANT TEAM MANAGER

I would like to start by saying thank you to the Shields faithful who have supported the team through thick and thin this season, for Gary and I it's the best support in the Northern League by far. Although it's been character testing at times we have progressed on and off the pitch, at a time when clubs are finding it hard to survive let alone compete on a weekly basis, I put this down to hard work put in by the committee and supporters.

What has been achieved this season? I think we all would have taken at the start of the season to finish 8th and to have a cup final. Although I bet there are the few so called supporters we all know them by their aliases who are yet again eating humble pie. If you are one of the doom and gloom brigade who continue to criticise the club on a weekly basis, next season could you try to do it with at least some dignity? I could have chose to not address this issue but I hope my words are not wasted on them, but the better side of my nature has shown them some courtesy, why I don't know. I guess time will tell, lets hope they have the intellect to do the same.

The current squad has done well thus far but we will need to work and train harder next season if we want to continue to progress, I am sure we will see a few new faces pre season to add to the already talented young players we have at the club. Players I feel need to be mentioned are Stephen Ramsey who has had a good season and started to show the potential that Gary and I have seen in him, another is Tony Coe who will get better and better the more he listens. We already have good players whom Gary and I are building a team around, we just have to get more experience, which will come in time and hopefully get rid of some naivety in our play.

Thank you as always for your loud continued support.

Have a good summer,

Regards Justin.

REFLECTIONS ON THE SEASON

As the 2009/10 season draws to a close it is a good time to reflect on how far we have come as a club over the last 4 seasons.

Studs has been in the managerial hot seat at South Shields for three and a half seasons, the first season saw us finish one place below the promotion places in 4th position; in his 1st full season at the helm Studs led us to promotion to the 1st division of the Northern League for the first time in 9 seasons. The first season in the Northern League's top flight was a long hard struggle but at the end of the season we retained our place in the 1st division; for some the season long battle against relegation was deemed a failure however the realists amongst the Shields supporters survival was seen as another step forward in the life of the club.

Off the field the committee has also had a battle to attract the level of sponsorship required to operate in the Northern League, not only to survive but to push for League honours.

In the close season a mammoth task was undertaken to install new drainage in the worst areas of the pitch in an attempt to reduce the number of games postponed due to waterlogged pitches, I must admit there were times when I thought we would never get the job done.

The support offered by the Supporters Association both financial and physical was greatly appreciated by the committee and without your support the work would not have been completed.

It was somewhat disappointing to find that people purporting to be South Shields supporters began knocking our efforts from the comfort of their armchairs.

Pre season came and went with a series of indifferent performances and once again the usual culprits were writing off the season before it started.

The season started somewhat indifferently as we made little progress in the major FA competitions, losing at home to Benfield in the FA Cup and away to Bridlington Town in the FA Vase, there was some success on the domestic front and an unbeaten run of 10 games saw us sit in a lofty 3rd position at Christmas; the run started with a superb 1-0 victory at Penrith which was celebrated long and hard as is our tradition on the long trip to Cumbria. Unfortunately the progress was halted by the winter weather and following an enforced break due to the glorious British weather our form took a major dip at the start of the New Year.

Once again the detractors came out of the woodwork to slag off the team, management and committee, a major disappointment as we put in 100's of unpaid hours to keep a team worthy of representing South Shields afloat.

In November 2009 came what was to be a major turning point to our season, having lost at Ryton in the League Cup on penalties following a 2-2 draw after extra time we were restored to the competition as Ryton had played an ineligible player; subsequent victories over Bedlington Terriers and Tow Law brought Whitley Bay to Filtrona Park for the League Cup semi final. An end to end contest saw us progress to the Final and a game against Ashington at Dunston.

Win lose or draw the season will be yet another step forward, our first Cup Final appearance in 10 years and our highest league position 13 years.

I would like take this opportunity to thank all of our true supporters who have stuck with through thick and thin and also the supporters association who have increased the profile of the club throughout the year.

Also I would like to show appreciation to the sponsors who have provided vital funds to enable us to compete in the Northern League.

No club can survive without the unseen hard work of dedicated committee members so thanks to Dick Bailey, Darren Wright, Kevin Law, Gerry O'Reilly and last but certainly not least our Chairman Gary Crutwell.

Thanks must also go to John and Vi Rundle for providing us with a venue that is the envy of most clubs.

And of course without the management team of Gary Steadman and Justin Perry supported by Andy Morris and all of the players that have worn the Claret and Blue this season we would not have had the successful season we can now reflect upon.

Highlight of the season, the superb victory over Whitley Bay is high on the list but for me the first half demolition of Bedlington Terriers in what was in my opinion the best football we have played this season that will live long in the memory. Whilst there have been some low points I feel this is the time to look at the positives from a long hard season as we look to build for next season.

Enjoy your close season and I look forward to seeing you all again in July.

As ever we remain "Onwards and Upwards"

Phil Reay,
Club secretary

SUPPORTER'S ASSOCIATION CHAIRMAN'S REPORT BY MICK VINEY

As the end of the season approaches it's a natural time of reflection. We all do it. We've probably been airing our feelings and opinions regularly throughout the year, but only now, as the end draws near do we get the (almost) complete picture of the season, and therefore only now can we properly look back and measure our successes, or failings. Our progress, or our regressions.

Work commitments have meant that I have missed more games than I want to since the turn of the New Year. This means my own feelings about the season may be much more rosy than are others. As I sit here writing this it's in anticipation of a semi final against the Bay. It's in expectation of a top half finish. It's with memories of two outstanding runs in the league, which for a brief, heady moment had us touching 3rd place. My memories include another great away day, and win at Penrith, and I have the absolute joy and pride at twice scoring 3 goals against the Vase holders and this years finalists.

MY memories of this season are predominantly good ones, and I can without doubt offer my congratulations and thanks to all those who wore a Shields shirt, to all those who organised, trained and worked with those players to produce those memories, and to all those who work behind the scenes to ensure we have a club at all.

As I said earlier, I've missed chunks of the season. During my absence the team hasn't had the greatest of runs.....(Perhaps my participation is more valuable than I realised).....with 7 consecutive defeats. This of course is never a good thing. Nor is the drop from top 3 to mid table that it caused, and admittedly I wasn't there for a lot of this, so maybe that's why my rosy glasses fail to tarnish, BUT....I still can't see this as anything other than a good season, and I'm disappointed at the intensity of response by some to that downturn, if only it had been matched by equal pleasure and positivity during the good runs. I'm not going to labour the point, but until the entire season is done any run, good or bad, is merely a snapshot of current form.....and is temporary. We need to view the season to the end and then, and only then come to a judgment.

This season we will have achieved a better league position than last year. Which was an improvement on the previous, which itself was better than the one before. So to those who question the direction we are moving in I say look at a bigger trend than the few short weeks. Look over the whole of the last season, or two, or three, or four. Then decide upon the direction we are going. Then decide if we are progressing. You are right not to be complacent, you are right to demand more.....but first acknowledge how far we have come.

The season is drawing to an end, but as I write this it is still not yet done and there are still chances of some glory. My hope for the coming seasons are simply that we continue on the path we are enjoying and that we continue to build, progress and grow, and that we supporters remember in the bad runs that they have proved to be mere blips in form. My hope for this season is that by the time you read this, we still have a cup final to play in.....and to be writing in late April that we still have hopes of silver is testament to a damn good season to me.

Let's continue to get behind OUR team, and let's enjoy the journey.

SUPPORTER'S ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

As the season draws to a close it is almost time to reflect and evaluate the efforts of our team, the team management, the committee and indeed our own contributions as supporters. Opinions, views and on occasions high expressed emotions have been exhibited during the 2009-2010 season and I would expect nothing less. I have to say however that meaningful conclusions are best made at the seasons end.

I feel in many ways it has been an unusual season exhibiting extremes from both ends of the football spectrum. For example we enjoyed a magnificent 8-1 win at home to Bishop Auckland on 14th November but conversely suffered an 8-1 defeat at the hands of Shildon some two months later.

Equally we enjoyed a great run of nine wins and one draw between October and December before experiencing seven league defeats in a row during the early part of 2010.

In spite of these peaks and troughs I feel our season has been progressive and largely successful. We look destined for a top half finish and have also reached the final of the Brookes Mileson Memorial League Cup. Would we like to move things forward next season – yes. Can we move things forward next season – yes, but only if each supporter does their uttermost to help our team.

We need to look at ways of boosting our membership (it currently stands at 223). We need to find additional ways of involving sponsors, and new methods of influencing fund raising and promotional work.

If you care about your football club then you need to find some way of becoming more involved.

Finally, I would like to send my personal thanks to our players, officials and last but by no means least our magnificent supporters who have collectively helped the football club enjoy a much-improved season.

While in many ways I am reluctant to use words such as spite and jealousy these things do exist in some but I am proud to say that the spirit within our club has risen to the surface regardless.

By the time this newsletter goes to print this season will be all but over, but no doubt most of you will already be looking forward to the next one.

Well here's looking forward to it with you.

Yours in sport,

John Prendergast.

THE LIFE AND CAREER OF 'WARNEY' CRESSWELL by the editor Bob Wray.

Warneford Cresswell was given this unusual name because it reminded his father of his own Devon origins. Born in South Shields on November 5th 1897, he was to become one of the finest full backs of the inter-war years and the possessor of an enviable reputation. He is particularly remembered as a most stylish player and regarded as the complete defender, reliable, skilful, prompt and ever of a cool and unruffled demeanour, with finely judged tackles whose intelligent measured clearances were unsurpassed, and being resourceful in most everything he did and invariably successful. He was selected for an England international cap which brought distinction to South Shields AFC and his home town, the only player with the club ever to be awarded this honour. His most striking characteristic was the ability to anticipate, with superb judgement and to make perfect clearances. One of the classic defenders of the game, he was the forerunner of the modern style of full back, with a wonderful sense of both position and timing. He was a fast mover and thinker who could quickly marshal the men in front of him. When he kicked the ball forwards, it usually landed exactly where he wanted it. He had the gift of anticipation, astounding forwards by being in crucial positions even before the ball had been delivered. Defensively he was not for the full-blooded tackle, but prepared to jockey his opponent into impossible positions.

His career started in back lane football play, and at both Stanhope Road and St. Oswin's Schools from an early age he showed promise and potential. He was a fine runner at school, and made his mark as an athlete, and won a medal for being the school athletics champion. On the formation of the school football team in September 1908, his ability was recognised although he was only 10 years of age in a team of 14 year olds, and he became an automatic choice. Just before his 11th birthday he played in the first inter town match between South Shields and Tynemouth boys at Hawkeys Lane, North Shields, and also in the return two months later. By 1911 he had captained South Shields schoolboys in all their games that season, versus Tynemouth, Sunderland (twice), Ryton (twice), Newburn and Carlisle. His versatility was shown by the fact that he played in seven different positions. Stanhope Road school team under his captaincy won 15 out of 16 games, with a goal record of 103 against 8. In 1910 South Shields first entered the English Schools Shield competition and were beaten by Manchester in the quarter final. The team also included Robert Bainbridge, who 40 years later as Councillor Bainbridge was secretary of South Shields AFC and is credited for selecting the name of 'Mariners' and is commemorated in Bainbridge Avenue, Simonside. From Stanhope Road he moved to Westoe Secondary School, and cricket entered his life, and he became team captain, and was asked later to join South Shields cricket team, but he chose to pursue his football ambitions. His rise to prominence was rapid, from his career beginnings as a centre half with school and South Shields schoolboy town teams. He was selected to play for Durham County in 1910, and an England trial followed, and thereafter the honour of playing for the national schoolboys X1 on April 1st, 1911 against Wales at Birkenhead.

Following his school years he became a trainee schoolteacher, but his spare time was devoted to mastering ball control and developing his technique, and even at the age of 17 sought to be a perfectionist. He played for South Shields Parkside FC for one season, for 2/6p (12½d) per week, and in 1914 joined North Shields Athletic as the club offered him first team football and South Shields only a place in the second team. Here he remained until he was 18, when he joined the Army and was stationed in Edinburgh, where his football ability was again immediately recognised and he guested with Aldershot with the Royal Artillery and played for the Army Command X1, and also Tottenham Hotspur.

Following the war, he was offered terms with Spurs and also a tempting offer from Newcastle United, which he both declined, and it was South Shields good fortune to gain his signature on a transfer from Hibs, who held his registration, and for a remarkable fee of £15! He became an indispensable stalwart with the Seaside, and a great crowd favourite at Horsley Hill. With South Shields enjoying life as a member of the Football League Second Division, his career and ability and prowess as an outstanding player developed, and he became immensely popular with the Horsley Hill club supporters. He gained his first England international cap on March 14th 1921, and his place in local football folklore is assured as the first only and ever South Shields registered player to be accorded the honour. There was a period pre Christmas 1921 when Shields led the division by five clear points and hopes were at fever pitch that promotion was in the offing and tantalising prospects of derby games against both Newcastle United and Sunderland were a distinct possibility, but form dipped and the opportunity was lost. South Shields at this time was regarded as having one of the best defences in the country, with no club in either division having conceded fewer goals. So it was an absolute bombshell when a British record transfer fee of nearly £6,000 was offered and accepted from Sunderland manager Bob Kyle. This was regarded as a disaster by South Shields fans and by the local public at large. The reasons for his transfer were best known only to the Shields board of directors, but the circumstances could only have been financial as the size of the offer could not be refused. He was transferred on May 3rd 1922, and had played a total of 98 games for South Shields since his debut in 1919.

He subsequently played 182 games for the Roker Park club, and during the next five years made a great name for himself and whilst with Sunderland accepted the advice of good friend and team mate Charlie Buchan to change from right to left back, this further enhanced his all round game, and he developed into one of the finest full backs of the inter war period. On February 3rd 1927 he was transferred to Everton then aged 29. In his first full season with the Goodison Park club, he was credited as being the provider for many of Everton's incomparable centre forward Dixie Dean's record of 60 league goals, plus 3 in FA Cup competition and 19 in representative matches, a phenomenal total of 82 in one season! Pinpoint crosses for a brilliant header of the ball to the dashing cavalier helped create an all time unsurpassed record. Warney stayed with Everton until 1936, and played in 306 games, and on the occasion of his league record-breaking career 500th appearance was honoured with the captain's armband in the game against Arsenal at Goodison Park. Amongst his club honours are listed English League Championship winners medals for 1928 and 1932, second division champions 1931, and FA Cup winners 1933, and also the Charity Shield. He played in five inter league games, but surprisingly won only seven England international caps, and only one honour evaded him – an England v Scotland international cap.

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|----------|----|------|---|---------|--------|---------------------|------------|
| March | 14 | 1921 | v | Wales | 0 : 0, | club South Shields, | Cardiff. |
| May | 10 | 1923 | v | France | 4 : 1, | club Sunderland, | Paris. |
| November | 1 | 1923 | v | Belguim | 2 : 2, | “ | Liverpool. |
| March | 1 | 1926 | v | Wales | 1 : 3 | “ | London. |
| October | 20 | 1926 | v | Ireland | 3 : 3 | “ | Liverpool |
| October | 19 | 1929 | v | Ireland | 3 : 0 | club Everton | Belfast. |

During his years at Everton, he was offered numerous foreign jobs, that would have given him security and wealth for life, in Spain, the Canary Islands, Switzerland and Dublin, where in all he was well known, and greatly admired. He also travelled with many FA representative teams. Following his playing career he moved into football management with Port Vale and Northampton Town until late 1938.

From September 1939 he was a Sergeant physical training instructor in the Army and being tremendously fit very quickly rehabilitated himself even at the age of 42 years. He took over an Army side near his Derby base and won three cups in local leagues. From 1944 – 1946 he was an instructor at Northampton Technical College, and then became manager with Kent club Dartford, before returning home to South Shields. He joined the licensed victuallers trade and became a publican in Sunderland 1949-1956. In 1948 he played in the inaugural Good Friday ‘old timers’ challenge match at Horsley Hill for local publican and former South Shields AFC league days team mate George Lillycrop, and thereafter annually until 1957, when aged 60 years decided to retire. With a handicap of eight, he played an excellent game of golf, and was also a good tennis player, being fitter than most men his age. He was also a regular attender at Simonside Hall to watch his old love South Shields, and would get off the bus a mile from home and walk the rest of the way for exercise.

Strangely he never took a penalty, and only played seven times for England, in his league career of 17 years and three clubs with a total of 586 appearances 1919 – 1936. He was a composed and elegant player with few peers at full back, being calm and deliberate and used a wonderful positional sense to seemingly stroll through a game. A full back in the classic mould, and numbered amongst the greatest in the game. He was an elder brother to Frank, who played for Sunderland, West Bromwich Albion, Chester, and Notts County, and father of Corbett who played for Carlisle United and Bishop Auckland of FA Amateur Cup 1950’s fame, and who won many amateur international caps.

Warney Cresswell died aged 75 in South Shields General Hospital on October 20, 1973 after a short illness, and many football league clubs were represented at his funeral. He is a revered name in the history of South Shields Football Club, the only player honoured with an England full international cap. He was a great player of outstanding ability and merit, and a true sportsman of impeccable qualifications, and now of legendary renown whom adoring soccer crowds nicknamed “The Prince of full backs”.





WARNEFORD CRESSWELL , SOUTH SHIELDS AND ENGLAND .

Wales v England , Ninian Park , Cardiff , March 12th 1921 .

This was ' Warney ' Cresswell 's first of seven caps , the only one while with South Shields , and the club 's sole representative for full international honours and only ever cap , amateurs excepted .

Back row .

G . Williams (Sheffield Wednesday) , J . Bamber , (Liverpool) , W . Cresswell (South Shields) , E . Coleman (Dulwich Hamlets) , J . Silcock (Manchester United) , T . Bromilow (Liverpool) .

Front row .

S . Chedgzoy (Everton) , R . Kelly (Burnley) , C . Buchan , capt . (Sunderland) , H . Chambers (Liverpool) , A . Quantrill (Derby County) .



SOUTH SHIELDS A.F.C. 1920 ~ 1921

A FEW QUOTES

Alan Shearer – “You only get one opportunity of an England debut”

David Beckham – “That was in the past – we’re in the future now”.

David Coleman – “Man United are buzzing around the goalmouth like red bluebottles”.

Alan Ball – “The important thing is he shook hands with us over the phone”

Radio 5 goal flash “It’s now 1-1, an exact reversal of the scoreline on Saturday”.

Gerry Francis – “What I said to them at half-time would be unprintable on the radio”

John Motson – “The Argentineans are numbered alphabetically”.

David Beckham – “I want Brooklyn to be christened, but I don’t know which religion yet”.

Mick McCarthy – “I was feeling as sick as the proverbial donkey”.

Malcolm Allison – “You’re not a proper manager until you’ve been sacked”.

FOOTBALL DEFINITIONS.

Striker: faultless, overpaid, box hogging layabout who only misses the goal when he’s fed a bad ball.

Defender: Player whose function is to commit fouls just outside the penalty area.

“I just don’t understand it”, an Irish footballer complained.” One match I play very well, then the next match I’m terrible”. ”Well’ said his wife, ”Why don’t you just play every other match”?”

- AND A LIMERICK – OF COURSE !

There was a young player from Tottenham

His manners he’d gone and forgotten ‘em

One day at the doc’s

He took off his socks

Because he complained he felt hot in ‘em

TO BE OFFSIDE....

All offside regulations are immediately found to be in favour of the defending team if shortly after the ball is played they all stop in unison, and raise their right arm to the referee and appeal for an offside decision.

WHEN IS OUR ANNIVERSARY ?

Maureen had had enough of Tim’s obsession. “Football, football, football”, she said, “that’s all you ever talk about. It’s your whole life, you never take me out, you never buy me presents, you’re either at a match or watching one on TV. I bet you can’t even remember when our wedding anniversary is”. “Yes, I can”, her husband retorted,” It’s the same date that Real Madrid beat Manchester United in the cup”!

At the end of the day, football means not having to go to ASDA on Saturday

POSTSCRIPT

Please do your bit as a Mariner’s supporter to help as and where you can to assist the efforts ongoing to raise and advance the image, profile and wellbeing of club and association. If we all work together, with resolution and determination to succeed, then our hopes and ambitions will be ultimately realised and rewarded. When you have read this newsletter, and if you do not intend to keep it, do please pass it on to a friend, who might decide to join the association.....many thanks.

SOUTH SHIELDS FC.

Support the Mariners in style,
Wear the colours with pride

THE CLUB SHOP HAS THE FOLLOWING MERCHANDISE ITEMS IN STOCK

AVAILABLE IN VARIOUS SIZES, COLOURS AND WITH CLUB LOGO

- | | | |
|-----|---|---------|
| 1. | Car registration plates with the SSFC logo and the text 'Support the Mariners' Made to order – per pair total | £30 |
| 2. | Fleece lined jackets, heavy duty, ideal for cold weather wear, colour claret | £39 |
| 3. | Nylon jackets, shower-proof with hood, colour claret | £20 |
| 4. | Adult replica SSFC shirts, ideal also for fashion wear | £30 |
| 5. | Junior replica SSFC shirts | £25 |
| 6. | Adult V neck long sleeved woollen jumpers | £14 |
| 7. | Polo shirts, colours black and navy blue | £12 |
| 8. | Polo shirts, colour claret, special offer | £8 |
| 9. | Woollen hats, colours claret and sky blue | £5 |
| 10. | 'Beenie' hats, colour black | £6 |
| 11. | Club scarves | £6 |
| 12. | T-shirts, colours white, black, navy blue | £10 |
| 13. | SSFC Car stickers, two types | £1 / £2 |
| 14. | Biro pens, black or white case | 80p |
| 15. | SSFC Key rings | £2 |

**For sales enquiries outside of match day
shop opening times, please phone
Bob Scott on 07920 554377**

South Shields F.C.



Supporters Association

Application for Membership 2010-11 Season

This supporters association is an independent organisation of supporters, which aim to:

- Act as a collective voice, representing the views of supporters in discussions with the club and others.
- Act as a body to help promote and to support South Shields Football Club on and off the pitch.
- Provide members with benefits.
- Provide a travel club to assist supporters attend away fixtures.
- Arrange social, fundraising, and other events.
- Keep members informed of developments through regular newsletters and other means.

Member Details

Name

Address

Postcode Tel No:.....

E-mail Address Mobile No:.....

(N.B. E-mail address for ease of contact purposes only, for games, team info, meetings, minutes etc. NOT to be passed to any third parties).

Subscriptions for 2010 – 11 season.

£5.00 Adults.

£2.00 Juniors.

Please return this form to: John Prendergast
Membership Secretary
40 Westhope Road
South Shields
NE34 6JT
Tel: 0191 4546850 (Monday to Friday)
Tel: 0191 4200338 (Evenings & Weekends)

Please make cheques or postal orders payable to: **South Shields F.C. Supporters Association.**

If you are able to interest your family members, social friends, neighbours, work colleagues, acquaintances etc. for Association, recruitment and membership, it would be much welcomed and sincerely appreciated.