

Darlington Football Club Supporters' Group

"Our Club - Our Future - Our Choice"

Chairman: John Tempest

DFCSG



So, what's been happening with our Supporters' Groups of late? Most importantly, the merger of the Darlington FC CIC, Darlington Supporters' Trust and Darlington Supporters' Club was completed, resulting in the birth of the Darlington FC Supporters' Group and for the first time all of the supporters' interests are now represented by a single incorporated body.

We proudly boast a revamped logo (above right) which is consistent with Darlington Football Club's corporate branding and we have also set-up our own user-friendly website at

www.darlingtonfc supportersgroup.org Take a look, there's lots to see that will be of interest to the supporters of our club. You can also access our site by clicking on our name directly beneath the 'Glenwood Paints' banner on the home page of the official club website. In addition, we have bought a nice new roller banner (right), so you can't miss us at the Fans' Table in the bar of the Main Stand. In conclusion, if you want to know more of what Darlington Supporters' Group is all about, come and talk to us - we're here at every match.



John Tempest, Chairman



Your **Fundraising Group** is still going strong and was over the moon when the fixtures were announced, as we are now able to schedule events. In the planning stages we have in mind a race night, a charity/Back to Darlo event in the Turks Head (dates tba) and a Christmas party (provisional date Dec 5th).



This season we are aiming to work closely with the club's very own Darlington Youth FC to ensure events don't clash and to provide them with support - and vice versa, of course. We are always open to new ideas and would warmly welcome some new volunteers into the group. We meet on the first Monday of every month in the Dolphin Centre Bistro at 6:30pm. See you there!

Jo Cameron

DFC FANS' LOTTERY

Since 1st September 2014, the Fans' Lottery has raised almost £8,000 for the football club, with an equal amount paid in cash prizes. Since the scheme was started in 2012, £22,000 has been handed to DFC.

Each month we currently pay 3 weekly cash prizes of £50, with a monthly "Superdraw" of £475, although it is expected that with a few more new members this will increase to at least £500. It costs £5 per month for each entry, with payment by Standing Order, or an annual payment of £60.

If you wish to join, then application forms are available from the Supporters' Group table in the Heritage Park bar on match days, and from the Dolphin Centre club shop on weekdays.

Alternatively, they can be downloaded from the internet, using this link:

<http://www.darlouncovered.com/StandingOrderClub1883.pdf>



If you are not already a member, please join and help our football club. Remember, after paying prize money, **ALL** profits go to the Darlington Football Club.

Colin Tinkler

Answers to Players Quiz: 1. Les O'Neill 2. Harry Kirk 3. Chris Harker

"Darlo Matters"

Editor: Steve Rees

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Darlo Matters



Issue 4



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Boardroom Talk



Welcome everyone to *Darlo Matters 4* and to a brand new season. I would like to thank the volunteer editor of *Darlo Matters*, Steve Rees, and all the contributors, for their time and commitment in putting together this fans' newsletter.

**GLENWOOD
PAINTS**

As a club, we have worked tirelessly both on and off the pitch during the close season and I'm delighted that we have made a very good start to the new league campaign.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I'm also highly delighted that *Glenwood Paints* are the new first team shirt sponsors for this season. The deal re-establishes a long standing partnership between Glenwood Paints and Darlington Football Club as the club looks to continue to grow its presence back in Darlington. Glenwoods identified the Quakers as the ideal partner, having been greatly impressed by our achievements in rebuilding the club, both on and off the pitch, over the past 3 years. They recognise our steady rise through the divisions to become an established semi-professional club with aspirations of achieving league status once again in the not too distant future. It shows how far we have come in the last few years, and I'm convinced that this new partnership will help take our developing business profile to a whole new level. Charlie Greenhalgh, Managing Director at Glenwood Paint Supplies told me, "I have supported this club for over 50 years. This is a great opportunity for us and I am excited to be involved in helping DFC get back to where we wish to be."

Dave Mills, Director



Hi, Everyone!

I thought I'd take the opportunity to let you know a little bit more about one of our volunteers. Many of you will know Glen Bowes from running the Away Travel with Mary, selling programmes and 50/50 tickets as well as working in our club shop as the only man - poor Glen!!! Here's a photo of Glen and Mary on duty at Quaker Retail in the Dolphin Centre



Glen started following football in the 1940s when he lived in West Auckland and he remembers living near "Dowdy" Simpson. Dowdy played for Darlington FC and Glen pleaded to go and watch him - he duly went to Feethams to watch his first game and that was it, he was hooked! Glen remembers standing on the grass bank behind the goal before the Tin Shed was built and, if the football wasn't very good, he would go and watch the cricket!

One of Glen's favourite games (apart from going to Wembley) was the League Cup game against Derby County when Darlington lost 5-4 but gave a brilliant performance. Glen and his friends decided to have a pint before catching the train home but hadn't realised that 22.00 was 10 o'clock, so they missed the train back to Darlo. The next train was 5 o'clock in the morning so they slept at the station! When he got home Mary was waiting for him at the front door with the rolling pin!! Another lasting memory for Glen was watching a Darlo v Carlisle Cup replay at Newcastle which was the first match ever under floodlights.

QUAKERRETAIL

See you in the club shop soon, I hope.

Lynn Jasper



An Opportunity To Help Yourself and Your Club: Have You Signed Up Yet?

Darlington FC has linked up with The Utility Warehouse on their Community Fundraising Scheme, whereby fans can regularly save money, whilst 'earning' the club a constant residual income every month. Fundraising for 'our' club is an ongoing process and this scheme is certainly a 'Win - Win' situation for the club and fans alike.



I recently explained the basics to someone who enquired about the scheme and he asked: "Now I understand how the scheme works and you have shown me the savings I can make, so why isn't everyone doing this?" This is because we need to spread the word. The Utility Warehouse does not advertise on the TV, press or radio but prefers word of mouth. He continued: "So, apart from the cheaper rates, the fact that I'm putting all my outgoings onto one bill, and paying with just one direct debit, will save me so much time. Also, seeing as all the retail outlets I currently use are giving cashbacks, this will further reduce my bill - It's just amazing! This is such a no-brainer for me."



Andrew Matthews

Wherever you live in the UK, you can join this scheme free of charge. Just contact the friendly chaps at The Utility Warehouse's UK-based call centre, and they will talk you through it. Ring them on 0800 131 3000 and give them Darlington FC's unique member code - K42292. If anyone wants to know more before contacting them, I am happy to have a chat. Call me on 07962 221445, or catch me at a match.



The Quaker Continues to Impress and Reap Awards

We're all hugely proud that our popular matchday programme won third place in a national competition last season. After finishing 13th and 5th in previous years, we learned just before the play-offs that "The Quaker" had finished in the top three in the Soccer Club Swop Shop programme awards, with only Marske United from the Northern League and Rushall Olympic from the Evo-Stik NPL above us. There were about 700 entries.

It was a fantastic performance from our team of volunteers, who have produced a consistently high standard of copy in the last three seasons. To finish above every club in the Conference, where some clubs have full-time PR staff, shows how well we have done. We've also experimented with a new title Q Prog, new columns and features, and we hope to introduce some new ideas this season.

We also finished third in the Northern Programme Club awards earlier in the season, so we achieved a "double third." **We'd love to be the best in the country!**

Ray Simpson

After raising over £5000 for the club so far, the Sponsor-a-Goal Scheme returns for a fourth season. Why not come and join us?

People pledge to pay an amount for each goal scored by the club or an individual, for clean sheets, goal difference, in fact anything that can be accurately reported on. If you want to pay a fiver for each game that Ian Watson starts? No problem. How about a couple of quid for Alan White not getting booked? Go on! A tenner for a home postponed match? How creative can you be?

Send pledges to darlogoals@gmail.com, by Twitter to @darlogoals, on a piece of paper to either the club shop or Supporters' Group table in the bar. Payments can be made monthly, in two instalments or at the end of the season. Updates will be given throughout the season via Twitter, The Quaker or Darlo Matters.

Ian Roberts



Home from Home

Darlo exile Steve Wilkinson re-lives his childhood memories of bumping into his Quaker heroes of the 60s on a regular basis.

In the late Sixties, Darlington FC used to own a bungalow in Hartford Road just a few doors down the road from where I lived. Here it was over the years that some of the Feethams' "stars" lived while plying their trade for the mighty Quakers. Not quite in the "gated mansion and multi-Bentley owner" category of the current pampered and overpaid Premier League set, the three that I remember were honest professionals trying to make a living in the lower reaches of the football gene pool.



See if you can guess who they were from the following information: (Answers on page 4)

Blyth born, joined Darlo from Newcastle but never played a first team game for the Mags. Ended up with 35 goals in 179 games for Darlo. Went on to star for Bradford City and Carlisle in the 1st Division before calling it a day at Queen of the South. My main memory: he drove a powder blue Triumph sports car and had a stunning blonde wife.

Although Scottish, this winger made his league debut for the Boro (1 game), had 3 league clubs in Scotland before moving back to Darlo from Dumbarton. After leaving Feethams moved on to Hartlepool, Scunthorpe and Stockport. My main memory: chatted to him while he walked his dog past our garden in 1968 before the top of the table clash with Doncaster away, which we won 1-0 on a Friday night. Couldn't understand much of what he said though.

North-East born goalkeeper who had been on Newcastle's books, went to Aberdeen before doing the rounds of lower League English clubs, most notably Bury. Was coach at Darlington and ended up as a caretaker at Hummersknott School. His day in the "sun" was most crucially Boxing Day 1962 which led indirectly to the launching of a famous managerial career. He was the keeper involved in a life-changing collision with a certain Brian Clough.

Write in to Fan Fare if you have ever lived near any of your Quaker heroes?



Be Assured of Warm Hospitality at Heritage Park

Karen Jesper is looking forward to organising our excellent Hospitality packages for the third season in a row. Although continuing to oversee all matters 'Hospitality' as well as still dealing with bookings etc., she will be stepping out of the limelight on match days in order to watch the football and chat with the fans. However, fear not! She has passed on the reins into the formidable hands of Kym Fryer and Sophie Heartfield - welcome aboard the Darlo Juggernaut!

Karen would like to say a few words: "Another season underway! A step up the league, a step up in playing performance and we're looking to improve even further our hospitality offerings this season with a new team and some familiar faces. A huge thank you to my girls Ash, Elisha, Charlotte and Alicia who have been amazing for the past two seasons. A warm welcome to Kym and Sophie who will be familiar to most of you from helping us out on match days at Heritage Park.

Anyone interested in the hospitality packages, please contact hospitality@dfc1883.co.uk Here's to a great season".

Karen

