



I N C O D W E T R U S T



The Grimsby Town Supporters Trust Newsletter

Issue 3

June 2005

EDITORIAL

Welcome to issue three of In Cod We Trust. If you're a seasoned Trust member, you'll know it's been a while since issue two dropped through your letterbox. We had meant to get these things out on a more regular basis, but unfortunately that never quite happened, so apologies for that and for not keeping our members, particularly those who live away from Grimsby and/or are without internet access, better informed.

However, the lack of regular Trust news updates is something we are now looking to address, and that's partly the reason for this new-look 4-page newsletter, which we are aiming to publish on a quarterly basis. Whilst it would have been nice to keep producing glossy full-blown magazines like the first two issues, there's just no way we could get one of those out more than once or twice a year, and with so much going on since the launch of the Keep the Mariners Afloat campaign, the need to keep our members up to date with what's happening is now even greater than ever.

Another reason for the revised format is that quite simply we can no longer afford to produce anything flash. Prior to the start of the campaign, part of your membership fee went towards administration costs, e.g. printing and postage. But since the decision was made to plough every penny into the campaign fund, we have had to economise. So from now on, it's back to basics. Black and white, short and sweet, but hopefully packing in all the news and information that you need to know.

Of course there were still some costs involved, and to that end we would like to thank Youngs Insurance Brokers for generously agreeing to sponsor this issue. Check out their advert on page three if you're planning on getting a quote in the near future.

Also, many thanks to Pelham Print, who have done us a good deal on the printing costs in support of the campaign.

We hope you enjoy this issue of In Cod We Trust, but if you have any comments or questions about this issue or the Trust in general, please let us know. The contact details are on page four.

The Editorial Team

KEEP THE MARINERS AFLOAT CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Just under five months into the Keep the Mariners Afloat campaign, the Trust has now raised in excess of **£13,500**. Over 50% of that figure has been raised in membership fees. The Trust's membership has doubled since January and now stands at over 330, with almost 50 new life members having signed up this year. So a big thank you to all our members, both old and new.

Other notable income includes:

1. Over £2000 raised by bucket collections at the Lincoln and Scunthorpe home games.
2. Almost £1200 from a Quiz Night, Race Night and Fans' Forum, all held at McMenemy's.
3. In excess of £600 profit from sales of merchandise, including UTM wristbands, KTMA t-shirts, and books donated to the Trust by Soccer Books in Cleethorpes.
4. £275 donated by exiled Mariners fans group, "It's A Grim Exile".
5. Over £250 raised by a messageboard appeal asking fans from other clubs to make donations to the cause by phoning/texting our premium rate numbers. Many did phone and text, but some made larger donations or became Trust members, including fans from Crewe, Darlington and Sheffield United. And then there was the QPR fan in America who made the magnificent gesture of taking out a life membership.
6. £150 donated following a football match between the Intonet Mariners and Grimsby Town Supporters teams.

Add to that the many other donations both large and small that there simply isn't room to mention and we've made a good start towards reaching the £120,000 target that the Trust has pledged to raise over three years.

But now we have to keep the momentum going, through fundraising schemes and events, some of which you will read about elsewhere in this newsletter, through merchandise sales, but mainly by continuing to increase our membership. Forms have now gone out to 2,500 season ticket holders, and the reality is that if they all joined the Trust, the membership fees accumulated over the next three years would be enough to raise that £120,000 and also give the Trust a massive shareholding in the club.

So if you know a Town fan who isn't a Trust member, you can do your bit by getting him/her to join. Because the fact is that as individuals we will have little impact on the club's future, but together we really can make a difference.

RACE NIGHT ROADSHOW

Following the Evening with Frank Worthington event in April, which whilst a critical success was unfortunately not a financial one, the Trust Board has made the decision to concentrate in future on events which require little or no outlay and don't specifically target Grimsby Town fans or indeed football fans at all.

To this end, we are planning to take our "Race Night Roadshow" out into the community. So we are looking for pubs and clubs in the local area to offer us venues and enough punters to raise significant funds for the campaign. (Based on previous events, a crowd of around 30 will raise about £250 after costs, so we're after numbers in excess of that). All we ask for are a room, a crowd and of course plenty of liquid refreshment on tap to loosen people's wallets and the Trust will do the rest, i.e. booking the race night, running the tote.

We already have a few events in the pipeline, but if you think your local could play host to one of our race nights, then have a word with the gaffer, and if the answer's yes, then please let us know by emailing us at enquiries@gtst.net or telephoning 0870 4322820.

TAKEN ON BOARD

At the Trust's second AGM held at McMenemy's in April, the following members were unanimously elected to the Trust Board:

*Bev Altoft Matt Lewis
Dave Roberts Mike Taylor*

They will serve alongside the existing Board members:

*Dave Otter Rachel Branson
Dean Wright Gill Appleyard*

Since the meeting the following members have been co-opted onto the Board:

*Ed Blackburn Adam Pannell
Emma Gillingham*

Former Board members Mike Green, Kevin Bourne, Mark Thomas and Duncan Hardcastle resigned during 2004/5 due to work/personal commitments, whilst Dave Smith has now also left his position as a co-opted Board member but will be taking on the new role of GTFC/Trust Liaison Officer.

SPONSOR A SOD!

No, it's all right. We haven't gone mad. We're not trying to get you to take out a retrospective kit sponsorship for Stan the Great Coates Speed King or Disco Des.

But how would you like to "own" a piece of Blundell Park? Not literally of course, but a limited number of individuals/businesses are being given the opportunity to sponsor a section of the hallowed Blundell Park turf for the season for a one-off payment of only £50.

WHAT WILL YOU GET FOR YOUR £50?

1. A certificate of ownership (an ideal present for a Mariners' fan!)
2. Your name/company name on a roll of honour in every copy of the Matchday Magazine next season.
3. The chance to win a 2006/07 season ticket (worth at least £285) in a prize draw.

INTERESTED?

Then complete the tear-off slip on the flyer enclosed with this newsletter and send it to us together with your payment.

Alternatively you can purchase your piece of the pitch now by visiting our online shop at www.gtst.net/shop.

DID YOU KNOW?



The Grimsby Town Supporters Trust not only has members spread the length and breadth of this country, but scattered all over the globe as well.

We currently have members in:
Germany, Switzerland, Bermuda, USA, Guernsey, Republic of Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Malta and Norway.



Shop Online and Support the Trust!

If you shop online, then there's an easy way you can raise money for the Supporters Trust at no extra cost to yourself.

By doing your shopping through our webshop, www.buy.at/gtst, the Trust will earn commission on all your online purchases. There are now over 80 retailers affiliated to our webshop, including big names such as Amazon, Play.com, CD Wow, Comet, Eurooffice, Index, John Lewis, Marks & Spencer, MFI, Teleflorist, Thorntons and Virgin Wines. You can choose from thousands of products, and the buy.at search engine will help you find the item you want at the price you want.

In addition, you can also earn the Trust money by booking your holidays, renting cars, opening bank accounts, switching your fuel supplier or subscribing to satellite TV through the buy.at webshop.

You will pay no more than you would have done had you gone directly to a retailer's website instead of accessing it through the Trust's buy.at portal. This is because the commission we earn comes out of the retailers' profit margin – it is their marketing spend.

Whilst 4% of the price of a CD or DVD may not seem much, if every Trust member who shops online made their purchases through our webshop, the commission would soon begin to stack up.

So next time you fancy an Internet shopping trip, why not visit www.buy.at/gtst (or click on the buy.at link on our website) first and see what's available. Every purchase of goods and services you make via our webshop, no matter how small, really will make a difference.



UP THE MARINERS RUMBLE

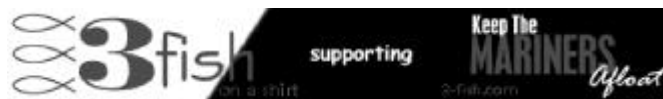
Tickets are now on sale for the Supporters Trust's next big fundraising event, the Up The Mariners Rumble at McMenemy's on Friday 8th July, 7.30pm start.

The legendary Rumble Band will be appearing at the Blundell Park venue in aid of the Keep the Mariners Afloat campaign, with tickets for the event priced at only £10, which also includes a buffet, disco and late bar.

You can order your tickets now by visiting our online shop at www.gtst.net/shop. Alternatively you can send a cheque, made payable to "Grimsby Town Supporters" to:

GTST, P.O. Box 421, Cleethorpes, DN35 7WY, together with your name and address and we'll post your tickets out to you.

There is also a special rate for party bookings, so if you're planning a works night out, please note that for every ten tickets you buy, you'll get one free.



The 3-fish.com website has just launched a predictions competition and 30% of the prize fund will be donated to the Keep the Mariners Afloat campaign, with the remainder going to the winner.

So, if you fancy yourself as a bit of a pundit, visit www.3-fish.com and enter your 1st, 2nd and 3rd place predictions for the Premiership, Championship, League 1 and League 2 and GTST will receive 60p from every £2 entry fee paid. The closing date for the competition is Friday 12th August 2005.

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