

This time last year David Thomas wrote this report, his first as Chairman.

As you all know we sadly lost him to cancer in August and your Committee has, naturally, been hit hard by his passing.

David was instrumental in forging an excellent working relationship between the Football Club and the Supporters Club and for that we will be eternally grateful.

He also had a vision of how the Supporters Club should move forward and, as a committee, we will be striving to bring all of his ideas to fruition. This will take time, but it is our aim that it will be David's legacy.

I don't think any of us realised how much David did for the committee so please bear with us while we pick up the pieces and adjust to life without him at our helm.

The Football Club has undergone a restructuring in recent months and we welcome Mr Hussain AlSaeed to Bristol Rovers and we look forward to seeing what the future holds for the club

We welcomed three new members to the committee this year, namely Clive Marshall, Martin Hudd and James Rudman. Clive is now our Treasurer taking over from Steve Lamble.

The Supporters Club has been busy over the last year supporting the Football Club in selling programmes and 50/50 tickets as well as organising away travel to all games, with the exception of EFL Trophy matches and I would like to thank Leanne Hawkins for all her hard work. This is a thankless task but Leanne manages it superbly.

We are still asked regularly why we don't take cash for the 50/50 any more and as we sell on behalf of the Football Club and the Memorial Stadium is a cashless stadium it is just not possible. Our sellers stand out in all weathers and we appreciate all they do so thank you to all of them. We are always looking for more matchday volunteers so if you think you can help us please call in to our matchday cabin and speak to Jamie

Yet again last season Wael funded free coach travel to an away game, Shrewsbury on this occasion and we thank him for this generous offer

Our cap initiative is an ongoing project. All of last season's first team squad were presented with a cap by Steve Lamble at the Quarters last season with the exception of Nick Anderton who we hope will attend a match in the future so we can present his in front of the Gasheads.

This year's squad will be presented with their caps later this season and we hope to present more at the Former Players Association Dinner in March. We also aim to present some at future matches this season. Details will be on our website and social media

Throughout the last year we donated over £3,800 to various charities. Firstly, as mentioned by David last year, we raised £1,928 for the sponsorship of Nick's cap and this was donated to the club's Go Fund Me page.

As sponsors of Elliott Anderson's shirt in the promotion winning season we were presented with the signed shirt and raffled this to raise money for the Southmead Hospital Charity. This realised the sum of £1,295.

Finally, at the end of last season, the Supporters Club helped out at the charity match for Darby Rimmer MND Foundation, supporting Marcus and Louise Stewart. We asked for sponsors for Marcus' cap and raised £580 for the charity. We would like to thank all Gasheads for their generosity in supporting these very worthwhile causes.

Over the last few months the Supporters Club have funded improvements at the Memorial Stadium, namely an induction loop system, fire alarms in the toilets, improvements to toilet doors and the radar key system for disabled toilets. We understand that there have been reports of some of this work not being up to the necessary standard and we will be undertaking a visit to look at the works in the near future

Over the close season our matchday cabin was updated thanks to James and Dennis Rudman and I'm sure you'll agree the layout is a vast improvement. We have an array of badges, mugs, scarves and old programmes for sale as well as pick & mix sweets for the children (or adults).

Jamie, Janet and James have done a great job of improving our stock with help from John Kayes and I'd like to thank them for their hard work

Our quiz nights have resumed, being held at Begbrook Social Club. Keep an eye out on our website and social media for forthcoming dates

Lastly I would like to thank all of the Committee especially Keith and Clive, who are always on the end of the phone when I need them, for all of their support and hard work this year.

It has been very difficult, for obvious reasons, and I know that David would have been proud of how we have all pulled together in difficult times

Thank you all for your support

Helen Wigmore

Vice Chair