



CHAIR'S REPORT 2025





Welcome to the 2025 Warmley Rangers Annual General Meeting.

This is a general report on what's been going on at Warmley over the last 12 months, and aims for the next 12.



*There is no failure...you
either win or learn*



Security for the future

Geordie will be going into the details of the club finances in his report, but suffice to say the income and outgoing look reasonably healthy on an ongoing basis.

It's important that we build up a decent reserve for emergencies. COVID showed us that, and you never know what's round the corner. In addition, the best security of tenure we can get from Futura Academy is a seven year lease which can be ended early with 6 months notice.

At the last AGM we made the difficult decision to raise subs for some age groups. Thanks to this, we have judged that we have enough in the bank to have completed and started a number of projects to improve your club. More later.

Thanks to Geordie for his hard work, especially around claiming Gift Aid - a very manual and tedious, but lucrative process.

Lease

The frustration continues with agreement of our lease with Futura, however we believe we are now very close to agreement, with just a very few items to finalise. We are working on the assumptions the agreement will be signed early in the new season.





Developing our community #GreenArmy



Sadly Shelley Sears has made the difficult decision to step down as Club Secretary.

Shelley has done a great job over the last couple of year, particularly in ensuring that all registered players are correctly paying subs, which was a bit of a mess when she joined.

Happily Shelley will be continuing in the many ways she helps in other roles including as one of our famous dinner ladies!

So once again we are looking for a new Club Secretary. I think this roles needs splitting out to make it less time consuming, so I am also looking for a Registrations Secretary to take on the job of continuing to make sure the players lists are in line. With our new Admin system TeamFeePay, this should become much easier from now on.

Other important roles available include Social Media Manager, to help to keep letting the world know how great our club is. Also Fixtures Secretary to organise pitch allocations, and lots of other things to do too - if you can spare the odd hour, we'll find a job for you!

Many thanks to Kris Allen and Lewis Denford-Spray for taking on the roles of HML and AYL secretary respectively.

And of course thanks to everyone who goes above and beyond to keep our club not just running, but growing and improving. You are all amazing.



Warmley @ 50



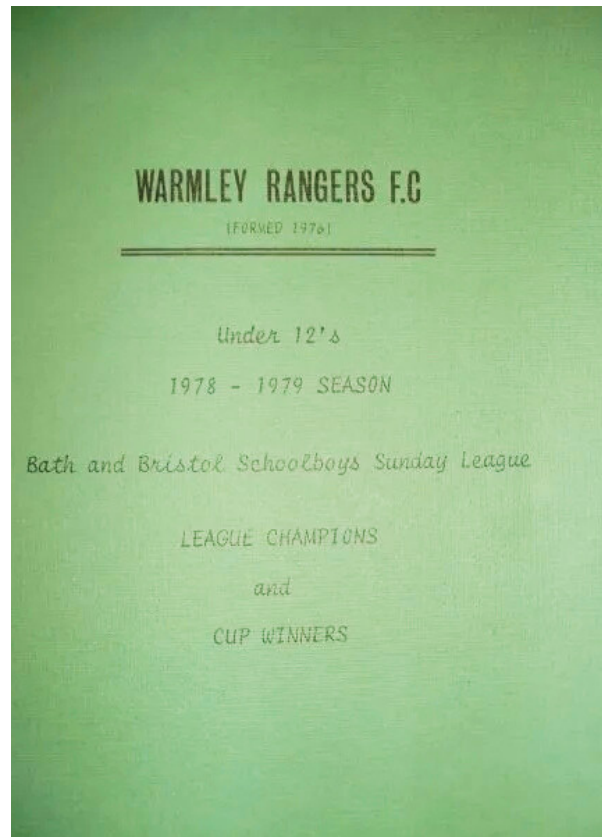
2026 marks an incredible anniversary, one we all need to celebrate.

That's right, it's my 50th birthday in December!

Also, it's the 50th anniversary of Warmley Rangers FC founding in 1976 when we were formed playing at the Grange School.

The fact that we are still here and thriving is testament to our founders and all those that have taken stewardship of the club since then, when I'm immensely proud to be one of a long line of Chairs that have have done so much for our community through the club.

Now is the time to start planning how we would like to celebrate. Any ideas or offers of support very welcome - otherwise, look out for further announcements.





Developing our teams

We welcome 4 new teams this season:

Our new under 7s - 2 teams under Lee Knight and Andy Higginson. Thanks guys for stepping forward, and welcome to all the new kids and parents to their football journey with Warmley Rangers.

This is the last 5v5 under 7s team we'll have as next year under 7s will play the new 3v3 format. It'll be interesting to see how that works out.

After a year as a development team, our under 10 Whites have stepped up to be a full team in the HML, under Dom Murphy.

Finally, Geordie Bulmer's side has reached 9v9 and split into two - Geordie continuing to take the one team, and a new team, the Tigers, forming under Wayne Dyer and Lee Bryan.

The number of youth teams we have now must be close to a record at 25. Although great news, this will present capacity challenges. Please remember to park considerably on a Sunday. If the car park is full, then rather than park on the High Street, SBL Sports Centre is available to us, and you'll normally find lots of space available at Southway Drive. If you do park on the High Street, please try to park on one side of the road only, to prevent traffic jams.

Our Minis for Reception and year 1 school ages, run by Soccer Shooters at SBL Sports Centre on Saturday mornings, need a bit of a push. Please spread the work far and wide. Signup link can be found here <https://warmleyrangers.com/our-teams>

As with other opportunities, such as women and girls, and disabled football, I'm always keen to hear suggestions, although it must be remembered that these things don't organise themselves.



Developing our facilities

Projects



Mark will provide a full update, but over the last season we have seen the clubhouse renovations completed, and preparation for the new changing rooms project started.

This project has stalled while we evaluate options, but we hope to get going on it again soon.

If anyone has any expertise to offer, please let me know.

Pitches

Last season was one of the best I can remember for weather, with very few postponed weekends. The considerable work that has been put in, thanks to grant money secured by Mark and all, clearly helped.

Although the long dry summer has been great for barbecues and tan lines, it's not been so good for the pitches. Lack of grass growth during the summer means that the pitches aren't in much better condition now than they were at the end of last season.

Fingers crossed for kind weather again. There a little things we can all do to help:

- Filling in holes and divots before they turn into puddles;
 - Dressing goal mouths and wet areas with sand
 - Raking up leaves - leaves on the pitch prevent grass growth and drying.
 - Using a hollow tine aerator on compressed goalmouths, when conditions are right.
- There's one in the container.

Also, with the new lease, we are taking on more of the site maintenance ourselves. Luke will be putting together a team of people - let me or Luke know if you can help.



**Warmley
Rangers FC**

Expanded pathway - Adult football



One of the biggest wins for the club over the summer has been the bringing of Men's football back to Warmley Rangers for the first time in years. p.

When we were approached by Jake at Redbridge FC 2 years ago, it was obvious from the start that we looked like a great fit. Redbridge is very local, named after the bridge over the cycle path/railway tracks adjacent to the ground. In addition, the team contains a number of ex Warmley Rangers youth players in it's ranks.

So, from this season, Redbridge will be playing at our site on Saturday afternoons, and have changed their name to Warmley Redbridge. The intention is that, assuming all goes well, from the 2026/27 season, we will formally merge and they will become Warmley Rangers Men's team.

Redbridge are arriving from and already successful 2024/25 season, where they came 4th in the Bristol Suburban Premier league and won the League Cup. Already as Warmley Redbridge they've won the Frys Cup. Proving the early value of our partnership, they included one of our current under 18s players, Lukas Weston, in the team for the Cup - something we, Lukas, and Lukas's dad Lee, can all be really proud of.





Our Tournament



Another incredible tournament this year, over one weekend this time. Some stats from this year:

- 184 Teams
- Around 1,400 Players
- 492 matches
- Up to 2,000 people on site at one time

Our tournament is a joyous event, regularly described by participants as the best organised in the region, and is a jewel in the club's crown.

It's also a major earner of the club - subs would be much higher without it.

Having enough volunteers to run it safely is always a struggle, and it was again this year. It is an expectation of club membership that at least one volunteer is provided for **each child**.

It's always the same date, last weekend in June, which in 2026 will be the 28th and 29th. So please please, put yourself forward, get those babysitters arranged, rope in grandparents and friends! If we get more volunteers we can reduce the length of the stint each is expected to do, which will be more fun for all.





Celebrating our successes



On the pitch successes this season include:

In the Avon Youth League:

- Division 4 title win for our under 16s Spartans, who also got to a cup final

In the Bristol U18 Combination League:

- Division 4 title win for our under 17s.

In the Hanham Minor League there were successes in Winter and Spring Cups.

We had lots of wins in summer tournaments, and it was especially pleasing to see lots of trophies handed out to Warmley teams in our own tournament.



- We had:
 - Gold winners at under 9s;
 - Silver winners at under 11s;
 - Gold *and* Silver winners at under 12s;
 - Gold winners at under 13s;
 - Gold *and* Silver winners at under 14s.

Fingers crossed that all follows through into the new season.



**Warmley
Rangers FC**

Finally



Finally, thank you to all of our volunteers, players and parents, and to all the businesses that donate to the club through sponsorship. There's a huge list that can be found on our website.

Particular thanks this year to Dan Finn for all he's done, and to local business McBraida, who have generously sponsored a number of our teams.

Here's to another successful season. Of course, I'm always happy to chat to anyone about anything.

Thanks

Nick

