



South East Poolies News - February 2019!



Hello and welcome to the February edition of the newsletter, which is only our second ever. The first one had positive reviews and there are things that we would like to add moving forward to keep things fresh, interesting and relevant. I have a few ideas, but it's important that we develop this slowly. We will however start with a new feature this month which is our 'Pools and Me' article, which Alan Drew has kindly written for us. Within the South East Poolies we have a great bunch of characters, and I would like that to be the foundation of this newsletter. As you will see by the articles below, February has been quite a month.....



Ticket Match

Now I'm going to start out with, I really don't know what happened! The club once again has run a great offer of a £30 Club Ticket. This is aimed at schools, teams and groups and allows 11 children and 1 adult to watch the HUFC v Dover Athletic game. Last time we managed to donate 2 of these to local sports teams with the help of Nick Skinner. I thought that we could do the same but possibly increase this to around 5. Things got out of hand and as I write on the morning of 28.02.2019 we currently sit at 34 donations, which is 408 tickets. These have been donated not just by members but Pools supporters from around the UK and even local businesses. Why is it so important? Well a few reasons really, in particular;

This time last year the club nearly went out of business. The new owners came in and have made great efforts to rebuild the club. They have backed us, we have to back them.

Kids getting involved in sport is a huge benefit to their development and society in general. Whatever we can do to encourage that is a positive move, but they are also our supporters of the future.

These groups are run by fantastic people, who work tirelessly to engage young people in positive activities, often in their own time. This is a little help and thank you to them for their amazing work.

Donations are open until 1900hrs on 04.03.2019 and can be made [here](#). We will work hard to match any donations with a local group.

Thank you to everyone for their help with this so far.



Merchandise

The order is just going in for some more duts, caps and a couple of polo shirts. I do have some stock items of polo shirts, just get in touch if you are interested. We are also ordering a rucksack with the SEP badge on it. The current flag bag is hard work and not great when we are carrying the often additional items that we now have i.e. polo shirts, etc. El Tel is the one usually trusted to carry this so it will also give him space for his camera!

As mentioned previously the next item will be the 10 year pint glass and coaster!

Hartlepool Weekend

Everything is in place and there will be 17 of us making the trip for the Dover Athletic game on 09.03.2019. On the Friday night we will taking on the HUFCSA at Pool and Darts in the Corner Flag from 1900hrs. Feel free to come along for what is always a great night.



Lenny Johnrose Fundraiser

As per the last newsletter, I have x20 tickets which are priced at £10 each. This will take place in the Catholic Club on the 09.03.2019 from 1900hrs. 16 of these are committed to the group travelling up, so I have 4 spare. Just let me know if you would like one.

Player of the Year 2018-19

Voting is open to members for the 2018-19 Player of the Year Trophy. Voting will close at midnight on the 01.03.2019. This will give me time to get the trophy made up before the Hartlepool Weekend.

Barnet- Details to go on the website in the coming weeks.



Pools and Me - Alan Drew

My dad took me to my first 'Pools game in 1959, when I was seven. How can I be so sure that it was then? Well, maybe I did go a bit before, but it was that game against Barrow that stands out for me. The result was 10 (TEN) – 1 to Pools. How could I ever support anyone else after that!

I was born in the shadow of The Vic, just off Murray Street, and would often sit in the back yard on Saturday afternoons waiting to hear a roar from the 8,000 or so supporters who'd just seen a goal. The town was football mad then. Everyone went.

Apart from the local derbies with Darlington, we never got to go to many away games. My dad was probably working. They had a bakers shop down Middleton Road so if he was busy my Uncle Lenny took me to the match. However, one day in 1966 we drew Huddersfield away in the FA Cup and my dad had got tickets as well as seats on the supporters' bus. We were on our way to the ground with our sandwiches, pies and a thermos flask of tea to drink (I was fourteen at this point!) only to hear that the game had been called off on account of bad weather and everyone was heading back home. What a disappointment that was. So we went to my nan's where we ate our grub and listened to the other games on the radio!

Players I remember from these years were the amazing Amby Fogerty, goalie Ken Simpkins, Bobby Folland up front and of course Tony Parry, Brian Clough's first signing. My dad and I met him at The Engineers Club in 2009, just before the centenary dinner, and as it turns out not long before he passed away. What a lovely man he was.

Pretty soon it came to the time when I moved away from the town – I went to teach in London – but I still got to any games I could. Orient, of course, Aldershot, Southend, Colchester and the like.

Obviously when my son was born, he didn't get a choice about who to support and along with my dad we would go and stand at the Town End whenever we

could. It can't possibly be the same for him as it was for me but it's great that we still go to games when possible. Again, Orient is a regular, as has been Maidstone and some of the other Kent teams these last two years. I'm pleased to say that he was there with me when we went to The Millennium Stadium in 2005. What a day out that was. It could all have been so different

So one day, about five years ago, I walk into that awful pub at Orient for a quick beer before the match and this Poolie guy tells me to take my time as the team are stuck on the M11 in some traffic jam and the game is going to be late starting. Before long, I've parted with a fiver and am a member of The South East Poolies. That man was Stu Miller and I've never looked back. The numbers are rising, currently close to forty or so (49!), and every match is an event.

As they say at The Vic, I'm a Poolie Till I Die.

General

I thought that last month was busy, but I was wrong, this last week has pretty much taken over me! It has been a huge team effort to get this far, with not just the group of SEP members involved, but the Pools support in general. We have had some standout support from non-members, who I will thank in due time as they really have been a huge help. March promises to be just as busy with the Hartlepool weekend and some upcoming away games. But just think back to this time last year, we were possibly days away from not having a club. Now we have a one that is slowly making progress on the pitch, but off the pitch is being run with an actual strategy. Community engagement is vital to moving forward, but that comes from both sides. We know that this club is great, now once again lets show that to the football world.

Thank you all for your time,

Never Say Die

Stu Miller

www.southeastpoolies.com



[Web Version](#)

[Preferences](#)

[Forward](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

Powered by
[GoDaddy Email Marketing](#)®