



hampshire whites

hampshirewhites.com

BRANCH NEWSLETTER NUMBER FIVE

Welcome to the Hampshire Whites newsletter for what was the start of the 2009 season. This is my second season of writing the newsletter and I hope you enjoy reading them. I always like to start the first seasonal newsletter by thanking members for their efforts with the branch over the previous season. Being an active member of the branch always consumes a large amount of personal time and is appreciated by all branch members. So a huge thanks must go to Mark Smith, Chris Rumney, Stu Kneller and Andy Crawford. Without your efforts the branch would not have functioned last season. I also thank the other members whom have helped in some form or capacity either by driving to matches, Picking up the minibus or filling in with other tasks when help was required. There have been some recent changes to the committee with Andy Crawford stepping down as Chairman. Mark Smith will now fill this vacancy. Chris Rumney will continue as branch Secretary for his second season by sending off applications for matches throughout the phases of the season. We also welcome Shelly Sharpe who has kindly agreed to be branch Treasurer by monitoring the branch accounts. I will continue being the branch whore by offering my services as and when required to the branch. This season ahead will be a busy one for the branch due to a certain fixture and there will be plenty of events planned which details of some are enclosed in the newsletter. We also have quite a handful of local matches in and around our county with plenty in the big smoke where the branch will have a huge turnout so the disappointment of not getting promotion is balanced to what lays ahead for this season as a branch.

SNODDY WINS HAMPSHIRE WHITES PLAYER OF THE SEASON AWARD

Last season saw the branch start up its independent player of the season award. This had previously been done in the Premier League days where Phil Townend and Dave Clements awarded Alan Smith with the trophy at the Reebok Stadium if memory serves me right. Following drumming up votes via our Website, Forum and Facebook page we had a clear winner. Rob Snodgrass pipped Beckford to the award. Following getting everyones votes, The branch members who voted for the winner were put into a hat and Stu Knellers name was picked out to present the trophy to Snoddy before the Northampton match. Stu then picked the remainder of his family with Andy and Jack Crawford to present the award as we were given 6 passes to do this by Leeds Utd. What made this even more memorable was that they had to wait for Snoddy to arrive at Elland Road in the players entrance. Luckily he was the last player to arrive so they got to meet all but the whole squad as they arrived and had plenty of pictures taken and got autographs galore which was a nice bonus. The icing on the cake though was that for some reason the glue joining the wooden base to the glass trophy decided to become unstuck and fell apart as it was presented to Snoddy and the picture taken (which is on the website) shows Snoddy trying in vein to hold the trophy so it looked intact for the photo. He later dedicated his scissor kick goal in the 90th minute to the Hampshire Whites. He actually didnt but I think we gave him the morale boost by winning such a prestigious award which gave him the confidence to score such a quality goal.

BRANCH TSHIRTS NOW AVAILABLE.

A huge amount of thanks must go to Wimpy for arranging some branch tshirts with the Website www.retroleeds.com the design is the outline of Hampshire County with a graphic of Ian Baird within the outline and wording Hampshire Whites written above and below. We have a current stock of these shirts and other designs from the website to purchase at the branch meetings so pop along if interested. The retro leeds website did have the design so you can buy direct but have recently upgraded and are yet to put it back on but we will happily look into this if requested.

EVERY CLOUD AND ALL THAT

It was a hard pill to swallow missing out on promotion but what this season has to offer all but compensates for it in my eyes. Yes that's right Southampton Away. How the tables have turned as they goaded us as Alan Thompson was sent off and as we tumbled out of the Championship with points deductions etc. They found themselves in a similar position and are currently gathering points following their deduction. This fixture not only has a huge turnout and get together for the Branch members normally in the Eagle pub it also gives us an opportunity for Leeds on the Road (more details to be announced). This plan has recently been mentioned in the lufc programme.

THE HAMPSHIRE WHITES NOW HAVE A DEDICATED MOBILE NUMBER FOR ALL BRANCH RELATED ISSUES WHICH IS 07501 337929

HAMPSHIRE WHITES ONLINE

WEARELEEDS.COM

After the revamp of the Hampshire Whites website we will shortly be looking to freshen up the message board forum. We have currently been consulting members on what they would like to have on there and over the next few weeks plan to get the site more active again.

FACEBOOK

We also have a dedicated Hampshire Whites page on Facebook where we have 115 current members. Once registered just type the branch name into the search bar and it will be there. Also includes a few pictures of away games and other trips.

GREAT MASCOT OPPORTUNITY FOR A JUNIOR HAMPSHIRE WHITE

We have recently been contacted by Leeds United and given an amazing opportunity to have a Junior Hampshire White to be an official mascot at the Southampton Away match. If your Child is aged between 6 and 12 years of age and a current member of the Leeds United Members Club and obviously a Hampshire Whites member please email chairman@hampshirewhites.com or call the Hampshire Whites mobile to put their name forward who will be put into a draw for this once in a lifetime opportunity.

LEEDS ON THE ROAD

With a relegation and subsequent failed play off attempt we now have a local fixture with Southampton away. Communication has already been made with Leeds United to host a Leeds on the Road event for the Friday night before this fixture. This will take some time to arrange over the season and confirmation of the event will be sent to all members in due course. Recent events with other branches have seen members of the first team squad in attendance at the function. It looks almost certain this event will be at Fareham WMC and be held on the Friday evening.

BBQ TIME FOR THE HAMPSHIRE WHITES – SUNDAY 2ND AUGUST 2009

A belated thanks must go to Stu and Diane for allowing the use of their house again this season for our Branch BBQ. Luckily the weather held off and was a nice afternoon and obviously thanks to all the members who attended.

FOREST GREEN V LEEDS XI PRE SEASON FRIENDLY

Myself, Mark and Owen Smith along with Stu and Dean Kneller all decided to take the afternoon off and head to the middle of nowhere to watch a Leeds side of Academy / Reserve players plus Sheehan and Huntington against conference side Forest Green Rovers at the end of July. We got there in plenty of time and avoided the car park attendant and didn't have to pay to park. We headed straight for the Green Man bar which was situated under the main stand. After ordering drinks etc we decided to take a little wander around the stadium only to notice one of the entrance gates to the ground was open so we walked straight in and went "pitch side" There was a local reporter there with his colleague chatting to us, The groundsman said hi and not one person seemed to care we just walked into the stadium. We used this time to put the branch flag up on some railings next to the away end and headed back to the bar. We then bumped into some lads from the newly

formed Thames Valley branch, They were there earlier than us and had a few hours worth of alcohol consumption. They were amusing to say the least and very friendly people. As time went by more and more Leeds fans turned up and the bar became quite full even bumping into branch member Chris Bryant. As we headed to their club shop to get a program we were stopped by a lady in a Leeds scarf who asked who was playing in the side. When we announced it was a mix of academy and a couple of senior players she replied "oh so I wont see Beckford today then" not realising the first team was playing at Newcastle. We entered the ground and it was absolutley tipping it down with rain. The pitch side announcer was quite amusing with his west country accent saying how we are all drowned here. The game itself was a bit poor but Tom Elliot showed some good first touches and skill. The attendance was approximately 2200 and the away end was full with Leeds fans of which I vaguely remember us filling a 1/3 of the ground.

***SWINDON AWAY HAS BEEN POSTPONED – NEW DATE TBA**

IMPORTANT NEWS IF YOU DRIVE THE HAMPSHIRE WHITES MINIBUS

To all members who have or will be driving the minibus to matches this season please pop into Hendy Ford in Cosham with both parts of your driving license so they can update their records. This can be done by fax if you cannot get there in person. Thank you.

BEWLEYS HOTEL OFFER FOR HAMPSHIRE WHITES

Leeds United and Bewleys Hotel have teamed up for a special deal for fans. Basically the package includes your room, Match day program and short stadium tour done on the Friday and further reductions if you stay a further night. If your interested in this deal please contact the Hampshire Whites mobile for more details.

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SQUARE BALL FANZINE

The branch has been contacted by the editors of Square Ball Fanzine, You can normally see the sellers outside Elland Road. We have been offered a subscription to this which can be brought at the branch meetings we need to however get an idea of how popular and how many to obtain so please let Mark know if your interested in buying a copy.

AND FINALLY THE FIRST LEEDS OVERNIGHT BRANCH TRIP IS PLANNED

After a short discussion on weareleeds forum the game we have chosen will be for the Southampton fixture at Elland Road. This is scheduled for Saturday 19th December. Although its the weekend before Christmas im sure some would welcome the excuse of not trouncing around shopping centres doing last minute shopping. Or perhaps why not take your family up to Leeds anyway and sneak off to the match and go on a night out afterwards. If your up in Yorkshire anyway why not meet up for a few cheeky lagers. The majority of us are staying at the Premier Inn Leeds City West on the Saturday night and depending on numbers there is a possibility of ordering a coach through Ian Harley for transport. The Premier Inn has been chosen simply for the fact you can pay on the day and the room can be cancelled on the day if any fixture changes etc. If your new to the Hampshire Whites and want more details please contact me on

trem@hampshirewhites.com

DONT FORGET YOUR ALL NEW HAMPSHIRE WHITES CAR STICKERS WHICH ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BRANCH MEETINGS.

