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NUTLEY FC NEWSLETTER FEB. '24

It's been another busy and fun couple of months at Nutley FC. The teams have been doing well and enjoying themselves. The club has been growing with new attendees at Wildcats. We've even got a bit of PR recently.

PITCH STATUS 'ADVANCED'

We're very pleased to have achieved an 'Advanced' PitchPower rating on all three of our pitches. We will undoubtedly have ups and downs with the pitches but we very much hope we can maintain this status and are committed to doing so. The [Sussex FA published this lovely article](#) on us (it's nice to get a bit of PR!). A big thank you to all the other ground staff (who couldn't make the photo shoot) and in particular Hamish Norris.



Gavin Paisley and Charlie Stevenson

SECONDHAND BOOT BOX

If you need a pair of football boots then we might have a secondhand pair that does the job for you (free of charge). The photograph below shows the boots we have currently. If you want a pair please speak to the coaches and feel free to have a root around in the box (it's in the pavilion). Equally if you have a pair that you no longer need then it would be great if you could add them to the box please. It's good for the pocket and the planet!



ORANGE AERO PITCH SPONSORSHIP

A local company called Orange Aero, that supplies aero engine components, have very generously donated £5000 to Nutley FC for the pitch improvement project. It really does help a lot when local businesses get behind non-profit organisations like ours. So a massive thank you to them.



END GAMBLING ADVERTISING IN FOOTBALL

We really don't like gambling being advertised by football clubs. We think it normalises a potentially dangerous pastime and shouldn't be allowed in a sport that involves a lot of children. We don't object to adults gambling; we object to gambling being advertised to children and vulnerable adults. As such we support the Big Step campaign which aims to end all gambling advertising and sponsorship in football. If you feel the same way please consider showing them your support and signing their petition.



THE GREENER GREEN

The upkeep of the Fords Green is the responsibility of Fords Green Management Committee (FGMC) and the sports clubs and is performed by volunteers from these organisations. These volunteers are not experts in groundskeeping nor in improving biodiversity. Mistakes may have been made in the past and will probably be made in the future. However, the volunteers are enthusiastic and willing to learn and indeed already have considerable relevant knowledge.

FGMC would like to increase the biodiversity of Fords Green whilst also:

- providing pitches suitable for the playing of stoolball, cricket and football;
- meeting the performance targets of the Pitch Improvement Project funded by the Football Foundation;
- providing a suitable environment for the local community for recreation, dog walking, village fete, etc.

They have identified a number of possible approaches to increase biodiversity at the site. They would like to focus on a small number of these approaches in order to make a start on the project:

1. weeds on the pitches - control using cultural techniques

and only use herbicides as a last resort & then with spot applications;

2. grass length - let the grass grow under the perimeter fence & leave it longer at the perimeter;
3. bird boxes, bat boxes, bug hotels and hedgehog shelters - build and install;
4. shade underplanting between trees on road boundary of native shrubs that are good at supporting wildlife;
5. Buddleia planting in some sunnier perimeter areas;
6. green electricity supplier - investigate switching;
7. Weald to Waves project - sign-up.

Are there any volunteers in the local community who would like to help with this project please? We are hoping that volunteers could: build bird and bat boxes; supply / plant Hazel, Guelder Rose and Dogwood cuttings / bare-root plants; supply / plant some Buddleia cuttings. If you're interested in helping please get in touch with Gavin on chair@nutleyfc.co.uk. We'd be happy to receive any suggestions from people with knowledge of plants, etc.

Here are some [bird boxes plans](#) and some [bat box plans](#).

If you can help please [sign up here](#).



MATCH HIGHLIGHTS

We've been making good use of the VEO camera (thank you again to Robin Scott of MakeReal, Mark Hillen of Sureflow Solutions, Nigel Arnold of Nutley Motor Services, Ben Gretzer and Noel Brightmiles for providing the funds for its purchase). We've starting creating highlights of some of the games. Follow us on our social media channels to make sure you don't miss the next

one .



Nutley v The View 03-Feb-24



Nutley v Polegate Town 27-Jan-24

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT - CHARLIE McCARTHY

Charlie McCarthy has been coaching our girls Wildcats sessions and is managing our emerging U8s girls team. We're very lucky to have Charlie involved. He is a UEFA B qualified coach with a lot of experience in the women's game - he's managed Crawley Wasps, Brunel University, Millwall Lionesses and Fulham as well as delivering sports lessons at local primary schools. Thank you very much Charlie.



GET INVOLVED

Nutley Football Club is a community group. We are all volunteers. We aim to create a fun, safe and inclusive environment for people of all ages, genders and backgrounds to play, volunteer and support football in our local community. We welcome all. You might want to coach, help with the administration, serve teas and baps on match days, help with the facilities or do something else entirely. Here are some ideas of roles you could volunteer for:

Line marking and match day setup - it would be amazing if someone / some people could help us mark out the lines each week and maybe help setup for match days please.

Youth Secretary - work with junior members to ensure their voices are heard. Perhaps you could set up a youth group with regular meetings and a suggestions box, and to bring these ideas to the committee. These meetings could be a couple of times per season for each junior team. This role could empower our junior members and help keep everything positive.

Community Secretary - responsible for organising social events to bring all club members together to enhance relationships within the club and with the local community (perhaps parties, quiz night, end-of-season do).

Cafe Manager - help run our cafe during home games. The cafe creates a fantastic social environment and provides a vital source of income for the club.

Club Secretary - main point of contact for the FA, team managers, clubs and leagues, the Secretary will help look after the administrative duties for the club. We really need someone to take over from Ben S please.

We are a friendly and supportive bunch of volunteers. Please do think about joining us. You will be rewarded by a sincere thanks from the club, a warm glow for yourself and some good karma coming back your way! If you are interested then please contact our wonderful secretary Ben Scott on secretary@nutleyfc.co.uk or 07886 270219.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Nutley 1sts 1999. Chubby is still mowing the grass at the Green and Sean not long ago stepped down from the NFC committee. You can see more photographs [here](#).



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