



The Newsletter from Currie Star FC

Message from the Chairman



As yet another season comes to a close, we can at least comfort ourselves knowing there is a feast of football called the World Cup, which will no doubt motivate our players to

continue playing and enjoying the beautiful game! We recently held our first ever end of season events for both the juniors and seniors. Both events were extremely well attended and hopefully everyone enjoyed them. The feedback to date has been very positive so it is likely we will continue with these on a yearly basis. Many thanks to all those who organised, helped and attended. Your support, as always, is much appreciated.

As you will all know, we will hopefully start moving some of our boys into the new 4G facility at Malleny Park when building work is completed. This is anticipated to be in October 2014.

However, we are striving to raise £100k to level Kingsknowe and provide us with grass playing facilities to reflect the quality of our Club. This project was giving a MASSIVE boost in recent months, when mystery benefactors approached us and advised they would be willing to donate £50k to Currie Star on the basis that we fundraise the other £50k. Ken Stewart has submitted our application to obtain charity status, which is the first step on what we will be a long journey.

We have many hurdles to jump with the Council re the legality of lets, planning permission etc, but the ball is now rolling and we will all need to pull together to achieve our goal.

This is fantastic news and we will continue to pursue our dreams to have fantastic grass and astro facilities available for our boys.

Gothia 2015 is now only 12 months away. The plan is still to take teams from the 01's / 02's and 03's to this wonderful tournament. Fundraising is crucial, so we can ensure all players are afforded the opportunity to attend, regardless of ability to pay. Please drive this forward as we want as many boys as possible to participate. At a recent meeting with Boroughmuir girls, they advised they already have 56 players signed up to attend, having each paid a £50 deposit. Our aim is to pay for all the boys to attend but this will be dependant upon how your year groups fundraise.

Other achievements recently for our Club came in the shape of David Muego, our Newsletter Editor (and my right arm!) who collected the South West Community Sports Hub Volunteer of the Year. Well done David.

And both Gary McDonald (2001) / Ally Brown (2002) were both chosen to participate in the Queens Baton Relay for the Commonwealth Games. Great achievements and we are very proud of you all.

Right, that's it for now. It is time for all our many players, coaches, and parents to enjoy a summer break, recharge the batteries, and return in August, all guns blazing for another season with the Mighty Currie Star. All the best.

John

END OF SEASON REPORT CARD

Traditionally within Currie Star at the end of each season every age group held their own players event to celebrate successes and thank all the boys, coaches and parents for their hard work during the season. At a recent Club meeting Harry Lawrie from Under19s suggested that instead we should consider a single event for the Seniors and Junior teams, which would allow the age groups to mix. This idea was taken forward and for the first time a combined event for all Senior teams (1996, 1997, 1998 & 2001) and Junior teams (2002 - 2006) was held. Details of these events feature in this season end edition of the Newsletter and on the website.

QUEENS BATON RELAY

We were delighted to learn that 2 coaches from Currie Star were chosen to carry the Queens Baton through Midlothian as it makes its way to Glasgow for the 2014 Commonwealth Games - Ally Brown from the 2002s and Gary McDonald from 2001s (below) carried the baton for a short distance on the 16th June through Roslin and Loanhead respectively. Ally and Gary were pictured and a selection of these can be found on the 'Latest News' section of the website. Gary is pictured below and Ally below right.



THANK SCHUH!!

Dave McLellan from the 2002s was delighted to announce recently that Schuh have offered to sponsor the 2002 match kits for the new season. This means that all three squads will have new Currie Star 'Schuh' kit for the new season. This is excellent. They will also have one set of Currie Star Schuh away kit for sharing between the 3 teams. A massive thanks to all at Schuh and once the boys receive their new strips they will appear in a future Newsletter edition.

SALTIRE AWARD

Ally Brown, Coach with the 2002s Gold team has been working towards his Saltire Award for young volunteers. The top award is given for 500 hours of volunteering and he has completed over 400 hours since starting in October 2012, so not long until he reaches the 500 hour mark, which is a remarkable achievement. We will keep you posted on Ally's progress as he approaches this landmark. Should any other young coaches wish to register and record the time they give to Currie Star please check out the details at www.saltireawards.org.uk. Not only does it look great on your CV but you can also earn Young Scot Reward Points which could entitle you to some fantastic prizes.



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CURRIE STAR SENIORS PRESENTATION DANCE

The first Seniors Presentation Dance was held at Tynecastle Stadium on Friday 6th June where almost 250 players, coaches, and family gathered for a disco and buffet along with the presentation of the end of year awards. John Brock, Club Chairman, hosted the formal part of the evening with awards being presented by Billy Hislop, Vice Chairman.

To start there were 5 year service awards handed out to players and coaches across all age groups recognising their loyalty to the Club. For each age group there were awards for Player of the Year (as voted by the coaches), Players Player of the Year, Top Goal Scorer and Most Improved Player. There was a Coach of the Year award given to Paul McGovern for his great achievements this year with the Under 16s - the team won the Division 2 League Cup and came second in the League winning promotion to Division 1.

The Under 16s were also presented with their Division 2 League Cup cup plus those players who did not make the final 16 and didn't get a trophy on the night were awarded with a trophy to reflect their efforts over the season as part of the squad in getting the team to the final.

Iain Morris received his award for 15 year's service to the Club in many differing roles, and David Muego his award for Volunteer of the Year from the South West Edinburgh Community Sports Hub. The final presentation of the evening went to Issie Blue who was presented with a bouquet of flowers by Charlotte Brock, daughter of John. Issie has given many years of hard work and dedication to Currie Star and has recently had to give up her involvement with the Club. Issie will always be held in high regard by everyone at the Club.

A special thanks must also go to the parents from Under 16s and Under 13s who put on a fabulous spread for everybody there. We hope that everyone who attended enjoyed themselves and we would welcome feedback through your Head Coaches if that was a better way of reflecting and celebrating the season past. All the winners names and pictures can be found on the website 'Latest News' section.

1998s UPDATE

This spring the 1998s have been on a storming unbeaten run, culminating with two great achievements: finishing in second place in the League, with guaranteed promotion to the First Division for U17s football next season; and their triumph in the Division 2 League Cup Final, where, after a tense evening's football, they triumphed on penalties over Fernieside FC.

A terrific achievement by all the players and coaches, who have worked so hard all through the season and really deserve this success. Thanks also to parents, family and friends for turning out in force to cheer the team on in the final on a damp and chilly evening.

They've also continued to strengthen the squad and welcomed goalkeeper Charlie Brice and defender Euan Smith. Both have made important contributions to the run-in during the latter part of the season.





STAR PLAYER PROFILE

Every edition of the Newsletter features an interview with a 'Star' Player. In this edition we have not one but two players - Cameron and Euan Scaife from 2003s and 2006s. We asked the boys (pictured below) a few probing questions and here are their answers.



Cameron

1. My favourite position Centre Midfield
2. My favourite football team is Hibs
3. My favourite player is Falcao
4. My best goal scored was a long dribble from defence then round the goalkeeper against Lochend
5. I also do swimming as well as football
6. My ambition is to be a footballer
7. My favourite holiday destination is Turkey

Euan

1. My favourite position is right midfield
2. My favourite football team is Chelsea
3. My favourite player is Paulinho
4. I have an Xbox and my favourite computer game is Fifa 14
5. My favourite movie is Home Alone
6. My funniest moment on the pitch was when I was trying to cross the ball but I slipped and the other person kicked it in my tummy.
7. My friend James really makes me laugh

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The inaugural South-West Edinburgh Community Sport Hub was held on Friday 16th May at Edinburgh Conference Centre, Heriot-Watt University. The Hub Awards were held alongside the annual Heriot-Watt Sports Union Blues and Volunteer Awards, which recognises the sport performance achievements and volunteering of those within the Sports Union. Michael Cavanagh, Chairman of Commonwealth Games Scotland, was on-hand to award four Hub winners, one of whom was David Muego from the 2001s.

John Brock, Currie Star Chairman, who nominated David said "David has been instrumental in the growth of Currie Star Football Club helping the club achieve SFA Quality Mark of Community Award. Tasks included in David's 'jack of all trades' volunteer remit are club newsletter, fundraising and club administration. David also helped develop the Club's new website and is responsible for the on-going website maintenance. While on a trip to Gothia Cup in Sweden last summer, David created a blog for parents to keep up-to-date, which added great value to the club's service."

On winning the award David stated: "I was surprised and delighted to receive the Volunteer of the Year award at the dinner on Friday."





FOOTBALL FESTIVAL UPDATES

On 10th May, Currie Star 2004s took part in the Tranent Colts FC Annual Football Festival. The team, coached by Dougie Walker, met at 8.30am for the pre-tournament warm up. Heavy rain didn't dampen the spirits as the boys looked forward to the three games that lay ahead.

First up was Edinburgh South, in what turned out to a close, end to end game. The Currie Star boys took time to get going, though they eventually found their rhythm with some good passing moves, the game finally ending with both teams sharing the points in a 1-1 draw.

With only five minutes for a rest, Currie Star then went straight into their next game against home favourites Tranent Colts. A game of ebb and flow looked like it was heading for a 0-0 draw when it was decided by the best bit of play of the game. Calum picked the ball up in his own half and then went on a brilliant run into the Tranent half. He drew the opposition defence towards him before picking a perfect pass to release Patrick, who in turn beat the keeper with a confident finish. 1-0 to the Star.



The next opposition were a big physical team, although Currie Star were not intimidated and used their skill and close passing to keep the ball moving forward. Pablo found Calum in the box,

whose shot was parried by the keeper. Pablo though showed the presence of mind to follow it in and was able to steer the ball into the back of the net from close range to earn another 1-0 win. Currie Boys tried in vain to find the equaliser, however the players of the match Ollie & Ewan were excellent, using their pace and skill to constantly close down and take the ball from the opposition forwards. All in all, a great time was had by all. To finish the tournament undefeated was a fantastic achievement and special thanks go to Coach Dougie. All the boys taking part received a mini trophy to remember the day by.

The 2003 Silvers attended the Dunbar Colts Football Festival on 21st June with the boys and their families enjoying 4 games in the sunshine against Musselburgh, Dunbar and North Berwick. All players received a medal. Coach Dracup thanks every body for an enjoyable day out and hopes the boys have a great and deserved break over the summer.



OH BROTHER!

We have something of a record for Currie Star with 3 brothers playing in different year groups! Jay Lovie plays for 2002s with Sam playing for the 2003s and brother Max with the 2006s.



CURRIE STAR JUNIORS PRESENTATION

On a sunny day that threatened a few times to rain, the first Juniors end of season event was held at Kingsknowe. Due to the amount of kids in that age bracket the idea of a BBQ was quickly parked and an "It's a Knockout" type event was held instead (see below).



Each year group raced against each other, hopped against each other and dribbled against each other. It was great to see so many smiles and also great to see so many parents turn out to support their kids and their teammates. Some mums also did some home-baking which was much appreciated. Billy Hislop, Club Vice Chairman, did a magnificent job with the medal ceremony and wrapped the event up with some great words. A fantastic day had by all. More pictures can be found on the website.

CHARITY SUPPORT

Colleagues in Lloyds Banking Group, Etrick House, South Gyle held a World Cup Launch party on Thursday 12th June, aimed at raising money for their Charity of the Year, Alzheimer's Society and Alzheimer's Scotland. In total, £317.69 was raised which was doubled to £635.38 with matched funding which is a fantastic amount. The events included a 'Beat the Goalie' competition which was a great success. Jane Park, organiser of the event said, "A massive thanks to Currie Star FC who kindly loaned a set of goals to use on the day."

HERIOT WATT UPDATE (Scott Dargo)

Achievements this year include Scottish Student Sport Club of the Year, Club President (David Hodges) winning the Community Sport Hub Young Volunteer of the Year 2013/2014 Award, BUCS 4A and BUCS 9A Division Winners, raised over £1,000 while donating money to the Sports Union's charity Penumbra and re-built a strong relationship with Currie Star FC.

The 1st Team season contained many highs and many lows, performing excellently in the BUCS 1A University league narrowly losing out on the title in the last game of the season and also getting defeated by Stirling University 1's on penalties in the Queen's Park Shield Final. The East of Scotland League was filled with mixed results but sadly resulted in the relegation from the premier league to the first division.

The Under 21's had a great season, winning the BUCS 4A and coming 2nd in the South East Region League scoring 30 goals in their last six games whilst the Under 19s ended on a high with some very good performances, winning the BUCS 9A league in their debut season and also reaching the semi-finals of the Plate in which they narrowly lost to a team from a higher division.

The link with Currie Star has proved to be a great success so far, with several players from Currie Star making their Heriot-Watt debuts towards the end of the season - Liam Walker, Shaun Munro, Connor Lawrie & Callum Campbell. A few Heriot-Watt players also played for Currie Star in their final game of the season.

The Currie Star players who have stepped up to play for Heriot-Watt have also not looked out of place for which great credit must be given to the coaches at Currie Star. This is a partnership which will continue to reap massive rewards for both parties and one that it is hoped will continue for many years to come!

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FUNDRAISING NEWS

After such a fabulous trip to Gothenburg in 2013, our 2001s players didn't need much encouragement to continue fundraising for their next trip to the Gothia Cup in 2015 raising the sum of £1,100 from bag packs to date. At Costco the boys greeted the customers at the door and they generously gave to the boys.

At Asda the boys each did a 2 hour shift, which was apparently 'hard work' & 'exhausting' but the customers were all happy to have help with their shopping from the smiling 2001s. Callum Shand was even given a Solero ice-cream from a customer who was very pleased with his packing skills (see below)! Many thanks to Paula Richmond for organising this fundraiser and for supervising the happy packers!



Thanks, as always, must go to all our partners, sponsors, parents, coaches and supporters who make it all possible through their support and hard work.



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Thanks to everyone who contributed to this edition of the Newsletter. The Newsletter will only work going forward if we continue to get input from every age group. If you have any ideas or suggestions for future editions of the Newsletter please contact david.muego@sky.com. Remember, it is your Newsletter!!