

**Wimbledon Football Club Supporters Society Limited
(The Dons Trust)
Minutes of Annual General Meeting**

Sunday 26th May 2002 4.30pm

Wimbledon Theatre, The Broadway, Wimbledon SW19

1. Welcome & Introductions

Chris Phillips welcomed the Members and guests to the first AGM of The Dons Trust (hereto referred as The DT). Chris announced that the membership of The DT currently stood at 1175.

2. Minutes Silence

As a mark of respect for the passing of Sir Stanley Reed a minute's silence was held.

3. Report on Activities Since the Launch of The DT

Membership - Lou Carton-Kelly (Chair of The Steering Committee) confirmed the membership figure and stated that The DT was now the 2nd largest Trust in the country, the largest being Chesterfield with 3000 members. The current target for The DT is 1889 members, this figure coincides with the year Wimbledon Football Club was founded.

Finances - Ron Trayhorn (Treasurer of The Steering Committee) ran through the amounts received and paid out since the beginning of The DT. The first set of accounts were Audited and Signed off by Peter Proto of Proto & Co, Chartered Accountants. If required, a copy of the accounts can be obtained by sending an S.A.E. to The DT.

The Membership was asked to vote on the acceptance of Peter Proto of Proto & Co, Chartered Accountants to continue acting as Auditor for The DT, the vote was carried.

4. Main Activities - Ivor Heller (IH) (Vice Chair of The Steering Committee) Spoke about what The DT had achieved so far, he spoke about the successful launch of The DT merchandise, the Match-day Centre located at Crystals and about the sponsored haircut of Darren Foreman, which raised £500 for The DT. The DT thanks Darren for this very brave action.

5. Forthcoming Events - IH went on to speak about up and coming events that would require participation from the Membership. IH confirmed that The DT would be entering a float at the Mitcham Carnival on Saturday June 8th and that volunteers would be required to help. IH also mentioned that The DT would be represented at both The Wimbledon Village Fair (22nd June) and

The New Malden Carnival (13th July) and again volunteers would be required to help out.

The Launch of The Junior Dons Trust (JDT) Saturday 20th July at The Old Bevonions Rugby Club. IH stated that there would be a JDT working party meeting on Thursday 6th June at The Wimbledon Community Centre, St. George's Road, Wimbledon from 7.30pm and asked that as many people as possible attended.

A football match involving Ex-Players is being organised by IH and Terry Eames, so far the date looks to be the 8th September at Carshalton Athletic. However this has yet to be confirmed.

6. **Do I Not Know That** – The DT was very proud to welcome the victorious Wimbledon team up onto the stage to congratulate them on winning the competition and gave them the opportunity of posing with the very well deserved Silverware.
7. **Election Results** – The following people were democratically elected to the Board of The DT;- Tom Adam, Lou Carton-Kelly, Colin Dench, Roger Dennis, Ray Downham, Richard Faulkner, Ivor Heller, Nigel Higgs, Heather Jackson and Ron Trayhorn.
8. **Constitution Changes** – There were 8 proposed amendments and corrections to the Constitution, all amendments were proposed and seconded and apart from Article 37, were passed unchallenged.

Article 37 previously stated "*Except where these rules say otherwise a quorum is 20 members or 10% of the members entitled to vote at the meeting whichever is lower*" the proposal was that this be amended to "*Except where these rules say otherwise a quorum is 50 members or 10% of the members entitled to vote at the meeting whichever is **higher***". Ian Pollock questioned the amendment and suggested that the '**50**' remain the same but that the '**higher**' should be made to read '**lower**'. This proposal was seconded and subsequently carried.

9. **A Message of Thanks** – IH sent a special message of thanks out to all the people that had assisted in the working parties and a further show of appreciation was issued to the other election candidates that did not get elected to The DT Board.
10. **Alan Keen MP** – Richard Faulkner read out a letter dated 27th March 2002 that had been sent to Charles Koppel from Alan Keen. Letter to be uploaded to The DT Website.
11. **Questions To The New Board** – The Membership were given the opportunity to question The Board.

Sean Fox asked if The Board would be publishing the full election numbers. The Board answered that as soon as this information was retrieved from Mark Brooman it would be made readily available.

The Board made the point of thanking Mark Brooman and the other members of The Election Working Party Group for the work they had carried out on behalf of The DT in the Election process.

Frank (Surname unknown) asked what The DT would do is the MK decision goes against the fans. LCK answered that The DT does have a viable solution.

Cyril Maidment asked that for the next AGM could The Board ensure that the Agenda be sent out to all members a month before the meeting. IH answered that due to work restraints of The Steering Committee and also the current situation it had not been easy to produce, however The DT Board would endeavor to circulate this information earlier if at all possible in the future.

Geoffrey Hammond asked whether or not the £20,000 losses per day quoted by Charles Koppel were in fact true. LCK answered that at the FA Commission the figure was quoted as £22,750 per day, LCK said that she had requested details of the various figures put forward by the Club to the FA Commission and was told to refer her request for information to Mr Koppel, Olswang (WFC solicitors) and also Deloitte & Touche.

12. **Any Other Business** – IH requested that The Membership talk to The Board, as it is their Trust that they are representing.

Ian Pollock asked if The Board had decided whom they were going to co-opt, Ray Downham answered that no decision had been made on that yet.

13. **Close** – A prize raffle ended the AGM

Minutes taken and re-produced by

Heather Jackson (Secretary)

Minutes approved by

Lou Carton-Kelly (Chair)



the
DONS
Trust

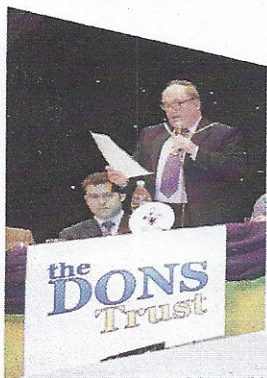
April 2002. Issue 1.

The Dons Trust Launch

Wimbledon Football Club has a treasured history of memorable days. 4th May 1963 and 14th May 1988 spring to mind. Well, I would like to add one more: 10th February 2002. For a club with "no fans" there certainly were a lot in attendance at Wimbledon Theatre on the 10th February for the launch of The Dons Trust. People started gathering outside the Theatre a good half an hour before the scheduled time and once the doors were thrown open, it was easy to see how much love there still is for our little local team.

Those helping out on the day had arrived several hours before and set up the registration desks, merchandising counter, decorations and attractions. The pre-event planning and organisation, that had been going on for months, were being put into action and we were all starting to see the fruits of our labour. As the constant stream of people flooded in and the numbers swelled to well over 1000, we knew that the launch was going to be the major success we had all hoped and prayed for. It really lifted us all to see the loyal supporters and generations of local people joining together in the fight to save our club.

A shower of yellow and blue balloons from the upper circle heralded the start. Chris Philips was a fitting MC who captured precisely the right balance of light hearted banter and formal introductions for the invited speakers. First the Mayor of Merton, Councillor Stuart Pickover. A true football fan, he recalled fond memories of meetings between Wimbledon and his home team Burnley.



Mayor Pickover



Dickie Guy
Wimbledon Legend

Next up was Brian Lomax, the inspiration behind so many Supporters Trusts around the country. His message was that football is a "Community Thing" not a plaything for the rich. If businessmen can buy into football, then local fans and communities should have the same right through the vehicle of Trusts. He praised the

efforts of WISA and the Dons Trust and held up the Wimbledon fans as an example of all that is special about loyal supporters.

Then followed a special moment for all supporters. Whether they were long standing for many years or more recent converts, everyone put their hands together and cheered the "parade of heroes". Ex-players Terry Eames, John Leslie, Dickie Guy, Roy Law, John Martin and Jeff Bryant quite clearly still care about the club and treasure their part in its past. The whole event was punctuated by enthusiastic applause, but there was no bigger cheer and unanimous standing ovation than that afforded to Allen Batsford, the man who took a dream and made it an unrepeatable reality.

Andrew Judge, the leader of Merton Council, endorsed the Mayor's earlier support and promised to continue the fight to make a return to Plough Lane a real possibility.

contd...

Dear Founder Member...

Welcome to the first ever Dons Trust newsletter, complete with up-to-the-minute news and information about the Wimbledon Football Supporters Trust.

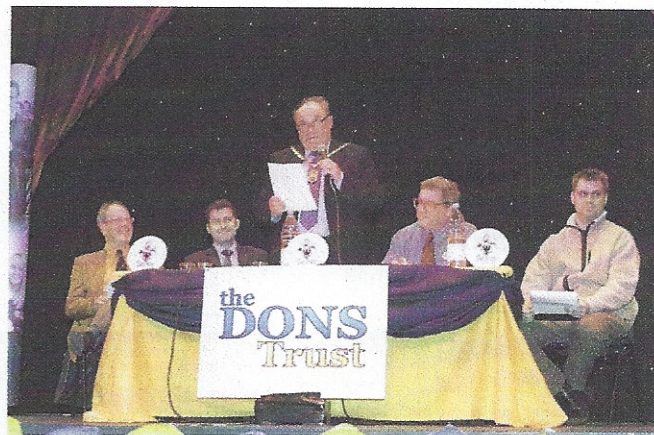
The first piece of exciting news is that in just over a month since the Launch over 1000 people have become fully-paid up members.

To read about the fantastically successful Launch Day turn to page three. Also inside is information about the forthcoming elections, the much-sought after merchandise and how to order your FA Cup photo reprints.

On Sunday 21st April The Dons Trust will be playing a friendly football match against Merton Council. The match will be played in the morning before the Wimbledon v Barnsley league match. Hopefully this could mean two wins for the Dons in one day! The Council have also said they will supply a venue – IN MERTON! Players are still required for the game so if you fancy representing the Trust e-mail Matt Flynn (matt@thedonstrust.org) or Warren Harvey (warren@thedonstrust.org) alternatively see one of the Trust representatives at the Matchday Centre in Crystals.

The Dons Trust will continue to operate throughout the close season, and will be making appearances at many events throughout the Borough of Merton and the surrounding area. Other forthcoming events in the pipeline include a Golf Day, a match against Crystal Palace Supporters Trust and perhaps a game against some ex-players. We will bring you more details when we have them.

Finally, we would just like to thank a few people: Wimbledon Community Centre, Wimbledon Theatre, KPD Printing, Supporters Direct, WISA, Yellow and Blue, Crystals and everyone else who has helped in some way or the other. But most of all, thank you to YOU, THE MEMBERS.



l-r: Lord Faulkner, Dave Boyle, Mayor Pickover,
Brian Lomax and Chris Philips.



Lord Faulkner of Worcester

"A new stadium in Wimbledon will ensure that Wimbledon Football Club remains at the heart of our local community. It will stop every home match feeling like an away game."

Roger Casale, Wimbledon MP, was present and his message of support was read out, which received a massive endorsement, not least for his staunch support demonstrated through the debate about football franchising he initiated in Parliament.

Dave Boyle, the Supporters Direct caseworker for Wimbledon, carried on with his own message that a football club isn't the property of the legal owners, it's the cherished possession of the fans and local community who are the moral owners.

Lastly, we were treated to a rousing speech by Lord Faulkner, a lifelong Wimbledon fan and leading light in the enfranchisement of supporters in the increasingly money oriented professional game. The full transcript of his speech can be found on the website.

The prize attraction in the Grand Auction, a framed photograph of THAT goal in 1988 signed by Lawrie Sanchez himself, was sold to Mark and Jo Lewis, for the staggering amount of £3,700.



Mark Lewis
receives his new treasure!



Purpose

The Dons Trust is a democratic, not-for-profit organisation, committed to strengthening the voice of supporters in the decision making processes and Wimbledon Football Club, and strengthening the links between the club and the community of Wimbledon and the surrounding areas.

Aims

The initial aim of The Dons Trust is to raise as much money as possible. This will open up several possibilities. The Trust may wish to purchase shareholdings in Wimbledon Football Club, or may want to part purchase a plot of land, or help finance the construction of a new stadium in the local community!

Feedback and queries

To give us your feedback on any aspect of the Trust's operations or policies, to offer your skills, time or expertise or to ask any questions, don't hesitate to contact us. E-mail info@thedonstrust.org call 020-8540-7396, write to us at the address below or speak to a Trust representative at the Matchday Centre located in Crystals at Selhurst Park.



Heroes of the Yellow and Blue

FA Cup Photo Re-Prints

Below is a price list for reprints of photos taken with the Axa Sponsored FA Cup at the Launch.

*5"x7" cost for 1 reprint: £6.50 including postage cost of 2-10 reprints: £4.50 each inc postage *8"x6" cost for 1 reprint: £8.50 including postage cost of 2-10 reprints: £6.50 each inc postage *10"x8" cost for 1 reprint: £12.50 including postage cost of 2-10 reprints: £10.50 each inc postage *12"x8" cost for 1 reprint: £14.50 including postage cost of 2-10 reprints: £12.50 each inc postage.

Please send a cheque to the address below, made payable to: The Dons Trust and quote your order number on the back of the photograph. Please allow up to 21 days for delivery from receipt of order.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please use this form to amend your details, or if you know they are all correct then pass the form onto someone who might want to join!
I wish to join: I wish to amend my details:

Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

County _____

Postcode _____

Telephone Number _____

E-mail Address _____

I am hereby signing up to be a member of the Dons Trust for the first year fee of £25

Signed _____

Date _____

AMOUNT PAID:

You may include
a donation here
if you wish

PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Cash ☐ Cheque

(Please make cheques
payable to The Dons Trust)

The Dons Trust
42 Buxton Drive
New Malden
Surrey
KT3 3UZ

For office use only:

DB _____

MEM# _____

CA/CH _____

DON _____

Matchday Centre

The Dons Trust is extremely pleased to announce the opening of the Dons Trust Matchday Centre, which is located in the family-friendly "Crystals" club at Selhurst Park. The Centre will be open from 12 midday before and after every "home" game and is located up the stairs between the main Box Office and Sainsbury's. We aim to make this a real focal point for the Trust and will be introducing activities to entertain young and old. There will be steering committee members available to answer queries about the aims and progress in achieving them and, of course, the much sought after Trust merchandise will be there to tempt you. Crystals has disabled access via a lift situated next to the Club Shop. Please do come up and say "hello".

It's A Community Thing

www.thedonstrust.org

AGM and Elections

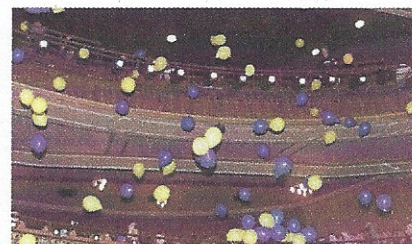
Prior to the launch, a steering committee of 12 members were elected to guide the Trust through it's first few months. Elections for a new committee to take the Trust forward in the coming two years are scheduled for May. Enclosed with your newsletter are a nomination form and an explanation of the election procedure. The results will be announced on Sunday, 26 May 2002 at Wimbledon Theatre which is the venue for the Trust's first AGM.

There are exciting times ahead for the Trust, and you are part of that. To have your say, make sure you vote!



Junior Dons Trust

Arrangements for the Family Fun Day, where the section of the Trust for the under 16s will be launched, are well advanced. The Old Bevonians Rugby Club on the A3 near the Coombe Lane flyover, has already been booked for the 20th July 2002 for what should prove to be another amazing day for The Dons Trust. In case the grown-ups can't agree about who's driving, a free bus will be provided between Wimbledon and the venue on the day. If you would like to run a stall, you are very welcome, please contact us with your ideas or volunteer to help by emailing JuniorDons@thedonstrust.org or writing to 'Junior Dons Trust', 42 Buxton Drive, New Malden, Surrey KT3 3UZ alternatively speak with a Dons Trust representative at the Matchday Centre in Crystals.



Yellow and Blue balloons fall from the heavens

Merchandise

Rugby Jersey
(XXL,XL,L,M,S)

Quartered White/Navy £35

Gold £30

Navy £30

Youth Navy £20

Woman Skinni-Fit

T-shirts (one size)

Blue with white trim £12

White with blue trim £12

Ski Hats £10

'Back To Plough Lane' Road Signs £5

Pens £1

Navy Hooded Zip Tops £29

(XXL,XL,L,M,S)

Polo Shirts (XXL,XL,L,M,S)

Navy £20

Yellow £20

Youth Navy £13

Navy Tote Bags £8

China Mugs £5

Enamel Badge £2

"W" car stickers £2

Key Rings £1

"Bring the Dons Home" Car Stickers 50p

Badges 50p

Send orders to:
The Dons Trust
42 Buxton Drive
New Malden
Surrey
KT3 3UZ



Please send your order to the above address – but no money! You will then receive a confirmation of your order along with the balance you need to pay. Or alternatively browse through the merchandise at the Crystals matchday centre and buy it all there.