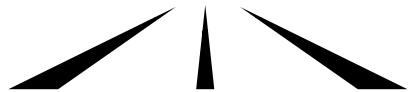


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ON THE
BRINK



*The magazine for the Players,
Supporters, Families and Friends of
Brinklows Football Club
December 2000*

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

THE ANNUAL BRINKLOW 6-A-SIDE TOURNAMENT WILL TAKE PLACE ON SAT 2nd AND SUN 3rd JUNE 2001 AT BARR LANE PLAYING FIELD

THE PRESENTATION EVENING WILL TAKE PLACE ON SAT 23rd JUNE 2001 VENUE TO BE CONFIRMED



SCORECAST !!

Please note that weekly 'SCORECAST !!' sheets are available from the team managers & The White Lion, this is a fund raising event where you predict the correct scores of two games on the weekly sheet (nominally the Sunday and/or Monday games on sky)



EDITORIAL



Letter from the Chairman.

This is the December issue of the "On the Brink" and I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the players, families, officials and supporters of the club a merry Christmas and a prosperous new year. Also to wish all the teams a successful and winning second half to the season as we all know "it's a game of two halves".

I would also like to bring to everyone's attention two of the fundraising activities currently taking place.

Firstly the annual xmas raffle, this raffle is run every year and by now all the players should have received a few raffle tickets to sell. May I ask everyone to do their best and sell these tickets. If all the players or the families sell half a dozen books at a pound it will raise in the region of £300 for the club after costs. If you do not have any raffle tickets to sell please ask any club official who will be more than happy to provide some.

Secondly the football Scorecast. The scorecast has been introduced in order to achieve a regular income for the club. The scorecast is whereby you predict the scores for two of the Sunday Premier matches. The funds are split 30% to the club and 70% to the winner/s, if there are no winners the payout rolls over to the next week etc. All the managers are given the forms to take part in this every week, so please make sure you get yours. Currently we are only getting a response of about £30 - £40 per week, considering we have a club membership of in the region of 130 players this is a poor response.

One of the philosophies of the club is to keep the costs i.e. subs to a minimum, in order to ensure we give everyone in the area the opportunity to play football and be part of a great English sport. As the years go on the costs are ever increasing for running clubs. By doing regular fundraising activities it enables the club to keep the subs very low. Currently at £15 and £25 for league and non league respectively we have the lowest subs in the area. I have heard of some clubs where the subs are £10 per month and one parent had to payout £70 in the first two months for their son to join a team. I would therefore ask you all to support our fundraising activities and enable us to keep our subs unchanged as they have been for the last 3 years.

Thank you for your support.

"Doctor, doctor! Every time I drink a cup of tea I get a sharp pain in my nose."

"Have you tried taking the spoon out?"

**David Gyselynck
Chairman**



Got any good football jokes you want to share? Email them to me at the address below with your name or give them to your Manager & I will try & include them in the next issue.



Somewhere in 'ON THE BRINK' you will find 6 Footballs with a letter in the middle, can you find them? The first is below to help you. Once you have got all 6, arrange the letters to make up the name of a team riding high in the first division.



Paul Wilby
wilby@wilby.screaming.net

CLUB OFFICIALS NAMES AND CONTACT NUMBERS

Chairman David Gyselynck	01788 833480
Vice Chairman Alun Yeend	01788 832579
Secretary/Treasurer Mick Holt	01788 833681
Senior Team Manager Les Ellison	01926 853280 or 07973 249271
Under 14's Team Manager Keith Byrne	01788 832283
Under 12's Team Manager Mick Holt	01788 833681
Under 11's Team Manager Rob Steel	024 7654 2719
Under 10's Team Manager Brian James	07930 547519
Under 9's Team Manager Pete Day	01788 832732
Under 8's Team Manager Tony Glasscoe	01788 833221 or 0770 654123
Under 7's Team Manager John Harman	01788 833262 or 0781 8011355
Magazine Editor Paul Wilby	024 7654 3903



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U7'S TEAM NEWS



We have now split the group up and it now consists of the under 7's and the under 6's. The under 6's being run by Richard Jenkins with the help of Nick Skerrat. The number of Under 7's has meant that we have had to make two teams which will be known as:-

BRINKLOW RANGERS
BRINKLOW COLTS

This will give everybody the opportunity to play. I would like to welcome new signings Ben Stone & Daniel Wood. We are pleased to be able to use the facilities at Bretford which are very good.

21/10/00 Rugby Town 3 Brinklow 0

On a very cold day the boys had their first defeat of the season. In the first half, going up hill, Brinklow had most of the play with Stuart Day and Craig Payne coming close to scoring. Lee Huddleston and Adam Ford were working hard in midfield, George Harman and Sean Russell had a good first half with Callum Mobley and Daniel Withers coming on as subs. The half time score was 0-0.

In the second half, playing with a different ball, we had a bit of a nightmare. Marking the Rugby players was a problem and it was not long before they scored a few goals. Matthew Pine came out of goal and was the only player who did anything in the second half.

On reflection, taking into account the fact that Rugby Town have 6 teams in the under 7's age group and we played the 'A' team, the results was not as bad as it might have seemed. I think we will put this one down to experience.

Man of the Match Matthew Pine

04/11/00 Weddington Thistles 0 Brinklow 2

After all the rain this was probably the muddiest pitch I have ever seen, with the biggest puddle right in the middle. The boys started off quite positively, with Lee and Matthew in midfield providing service for Craig and George up front. Sean and Adam worked well in defence, with Adam looking like a soldier in camouflage after an encounter with that puddle! Callum and Daniel came on and showed some nice touches whilst Teague had nothing to do in goal. Matthew Pine broke the deadlock with a well taken goal, his first of the season - well done Matthew.

In the second half Teague came out of goal and partnered Craig up front, playing well and making some good runs. Lee and George were both playing really well and had the midfield sewn up. Craig had a few chances but it was just not his day. Matthew made a good save in goal which kept us in front and George made a good effort on goal which went just wide. Shortly afterwards Teague went on a great run and finished off with a very well taken goal.

The lads played much better in this game in very difficult conditions and never really looked in danger of losing. Well done to everyone.

Man of the Match George Harman

If anyone wants the official clothing (hats, cotton fleece etc) get your orders in quickly.

The take up for our combined Christmas party on the 16th at Ryton Connection is going well.

John Harman

“After all the rain this was probably the muddiest pitch I have ever seen”

SOCIAL DIARY AND FORTHCOMING EVENTS

It's the time of year again when we all start to wonder what we're going to be doing for our entertainment over the festive period! With this in mind, Alun and Heather Yeend at the White Lion in Brinklow have put together their usual comprehensive programme of events for us all to enjoy!

Friday 1st December

Join us for live music with Cliff Bywater singing songs from the past and the charts.

Friday 8th December

60's and 70's Disco. With your radical host's Alun and Heather as Mr and Mrs D.J. Come dressed in flares and mini skirts. Prizes for the best fancy dress!

Friday 15th December

Christmas Music Special with the Odd Sods performing live.

Friday 22nd December

Red Nose Ransom Party Night. Rudolph has been kidnapped and it's up to you and your team to find him in time to pull Santa's sleigh.

Saturday 23rd December

Live music with Rowan. Come and enjoy your favourite tunes.

Christmas Eve

Come and celebrate Christmas Eve with Alun, Heather and the gang. Christmas records, hot bites, and lots of surprises in store!

Christmas Day

You don't want to be sitting at home trying to figure out how to work your childrens toys, you want to get down to the Lion and relax. Open from Lunchtime to 5 pm, but closed on Christmas Night.

Boxing Day

The Infamous White Lion Karaoke evening – Loads of fun! Open all day, it's the perfect way to release all that stress built up from Christmas Day.

New Years Eve

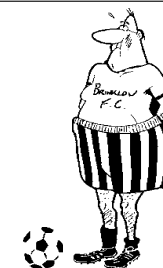
See the New Year into the first year of the 21st Century. A toast at midnight with free glasses of scotch or bubbly, and of course, Haggis! Dancing, Karaoke singing and loads of partying. Free buffet available and mega, monstrous, massive firework display not too late.

Tickets for New Years eve are £5 each, get them quick!

Alun, Heather and Family wish all their customers and readers of “On The Brink” a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.



**LADS
v
DADS**



Boxing Day football Match! - Get him out of Bed, get his kit on & get him down to Barr lane.

K.O - 11.00 am

Recover with Hot Soup & Refreshments at the White Lion after the game.

FOOTBALL WORD TEASER

The answers to the following 24 questions are all English Football League clubs

Eg. Heavyweight Toilet

LUTON

1. Wild Dogs
2. Professor of Rollers
3. Glass Mansion
4. Male Meadow
5. Animals Car
6. Dirty Water
7. Push and Weight
8. Males Together
9. Steel City Days
10. Always on Hundred
11. Famous Bun
12. Not an Eastern Dish
13. Where Henman met the Wombles
14. Detectives need them
15. Famous Football Brothers
16. A Vehicle surrounded by Water
17. Opposite of Dull Off
18. Cotton Factory own Barrier
19. Lock the Door
20. Royal Leisure area Guardians
21. Smashes Up Cars
22. They put the X in Savings
23. Far east Connection
24. Famous Jockey

U8'S TEAM NEWS



Unfortunately, the under 8's have only managed to play one game during November, with bad weather forcing the cancellation of three games. The only surviving fixture was the home game against Wyken, and it was certainly a bit of a cracker. The whole Brinklow team decided to put all the training ground stuff into practice, and as well as some solid defending from

Jamie Huddlestone and Joe Partridge, we saw some of the best passing moves the team has ever played. Neat one – two's, ball to feet, and good ball control meant that Brinklow had possession for long periods. Sam Skerratt again played well in the left back position, and scored a superb goal after some flowing passes set him up for a top corner shot which left the keeper no chance.

Eventually Brinklow found themselves three up with six minutes to go. But Wyken were not about to roll over, they found inspiration from their supporters who cheered them on to pull back all three goals and save a point. Three all. The pain was clear to see on the faces of every Brinklow player. Yes, we were all disappointed to draw a game that we clearly should have won, but on the positive side, it was the best football I have seen from the team this year, and we can build on that and win some more games – assuming the weather lets us play again sometime !

“The best football I have seen from the team this year”

Of course the single most important thing about a Saturday morning is that the team enjoy themselves. Spirit and determination are sometimes hard to find on a cold wet morning, especially when you've had to drag your old man out of bed complaining about his hangover. But if you think that's bad enough, spare a thought to us poor Coventry City fans who have to go out yet again on Saturday afternoon, when its even wetter and colder, and the football is as much fun to watch as the manual recount of election votes in Florida.

Did you know that:

The most senior appearances ever made by a professional footballer is 1,390 by Peter Shilton, and the most goals ever scored is 1,281 by the famous Brazilian, Pele.

Oh, and by the way Coventry City have been in the premiership (or the old division one) for 30 years. Not a bad record eh? So far anyway.....

Tony Glasscoe

Neil Huddlestone

Goal celebration of the Month goes to Zack Bevin -



U9'S TEAM NEWS



Bretford

For the foreseeable future, training and home matches will take place at Bretford (next to the Village Hall). If the weather takes a turn for the worse, we can always go into the Village Hall. For this reason could all the lads try and remember to bring a pair of clean trainers with them, as socks are too slippery and boots are banned in the hall. Although space at Bretford is limited, the underfoot conditions stand up better to the elements and this helps with the continuity of training and playing of matches.

Training / Matches

We have now done lots of training and, although the two matches to date don't reflect the hard work and commitment the boys are putting in, they are all playing some very good and attractive football. After Christmas we have lots of matches lined up, so our lack of match fitness and experience will be shaken off and the deserved results will follow.

Christ the King v Brinklow Pumas	3 - 1
Christ the King v Brinklow Tigers	2 - 1
Brinklow Pumas v Kenilworth Wardens	1 - 2
Brinklow Tigers v Kenilworth Wardens	2 - 2

Xmas Presents

Please remember the Club have merchandise available for Xmas presents, fleeces, hats etc. Manager's tip for stocking fillers – shin pads with ankle protection!

Xmas Break

The last training session of 2000 will take place on Saturday 16th December. We will re-commence in the New Year on Saturday 20th January 2001.

Due to other commitments I have been away from several training sessions and matches during November and would like to say a big thank you to John Cramp, Ged Wood, Bip Sud and Gary Wilcox for 'holding the fort' during this time. Apologies to Gary Wilcox for omitting him from the November edition of 'On the Brink'.

Peter Day

*Did you hear about the football team
who ate too much pudding?
They got jellygated!*



A Evertonian and a Sunderland fan are walking along the street outside and suddenly the Sunderland fan says "ooh, look at that dead bird!" The Everton fan looks skywards and says "where?"



*Two Derby fans are walking along. One of them picks up a mirror, looks in it, and says "Hey, I know that bloke"
The second one picks it up and says "Of course you do - its me!"*

SENIORS TEAM NEWS

Since my last report the Seniors have suffered a somewhat frustrating time, being able to play only 2 games due to the weather, especially as we had won 3 games on the trot and further strengthened the squad.

October 29th, following a 3-0 win over Newmans, we travelled to Newbold to face a physical and extremely verbal Barley Mow reserves on what seemed a very large pitch in bright sunshine and blustery wind. However, fielding a rearranged side due to injuries & unavailability we produced a totally committed performance in which there were some splendid highlights. The 1st half was a scrappy affair with Brinklow playing by far the best football without really creating chances, until...cometh the moment cometh the man!. Following another spell of pressure and a good layback from the edge of the box invited "Azy" to step forward and unleash a tremendous 30 yard thunderbolt into the roof of the Barley net. Surely a contender for goal of the season! Unfortunately though just before half time we failed to clear our lines and the Barley equalised. Only minutes into the second half Brinklow attacked again, Gaz picked the ball up in his own half wide on the right, he set off on a diagonal run that due to a combination of skill and determination saw him go past four players to arrive on the left hand side of their box. Although he had a man to his left and looked set to pass, Gaz had other ideas and turned sharply to clip a fine shot over the Barley keeper. Goal of the Season contender no. 2. Within minutes we scored our 3rd and decisive goal when debutant Ralf Wilkinson, at 16 the youngest player on the pitch, fired through a crowded penalty area to make the score 3-1. This was the cue for Barley to stage a spirited comeback, forcing the Player-Manager to concede a penalty that Huddy got a hand to but couldn't keep out. However an under pressure defence stood firm with Les more than making amends for the penalty with 2 crucial goal line clearances to earn a well deserved 3-2 victory.

**“Surely a
contender for goal
of the season !”**

Our next game was at home to Ryton Albion, with Chalkie back from injury and new signing Rich "Titch" Twining we were able to field our strongest team thus far. There were several disappointed players on the sidelines but any good team needs a strong squad to fall back on and all players are needed.

To say we got off to a good start would be an understatement, we were on Fire!! 4 goals up in the first 15 minutes, all coming from excellent flowing football. The best of the goals coming from Chalkies turn and chip from the edge of the box. However, by half time, due to some slack defending we had allowed Ryton to pull back to 5-3, but into the second half there was only going to be one winner. The conclusive moment came with Man of the Match Titch's well executed lob over the keeper for his 2nd goal of the game. This was definitely our best performance of the season, with the excellent touchline support enjoying some quality football from a team in which Mark Bird was again outstanding. Hopefully despite the enforced bad weather break we can carry this form into our next game at home to 2nd placed Yelvertoft on Dec 17th. Brinklow are well placed in 5th having won 5 and lost 3 in their 8 games so far.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL AT BRINKLOW FC

Barry Wilkinson & Les Ellison



*A burglary was recently committed at West Ham's ground and the entire contents of the trophy room were stolen.
The police are looking for a man with a claret & blue carpet.*



U14'S TEAM NEWS



Who said life is tough at the top, because the under 14's certainly had a tough month to cope with. In our last four games we have played three of the top teams and one from the mid table. All said and done I think we have come out of it fairly well, having won two and lost two. Even with our two losses, our league position is still excellent. Nine games into the season we have played nine, won six, lost two and drawn one. We have also had our fair share of players missing for various reasons e.g. holidays, injury or illness, lets hope with all the players now back we can get back on a winning run.

Brinklow 5 AT7 3

A good result away from home. With two goals from Gareth Yeend upon his return from European duties. Two goals from Peter Sharpe, one of which would win goal of the season on Match of the Day. To finish it off George Ashwell scored an excellent goal beating three players before slotting it in the back of the net.

Brinklow 0 Hillmorton 3

Three goals to nil does not reflect this game. The team was the better side however we could not get the all-important goals.

Brinklow 6 London Road 4

Brinklow started this game in fine style, scoring two early goals. London Road slowly came back into the game after getting one goal back. Brinklow then took control of the game again and scored two more goals, but London road came back again to score before half time. The second half London Road came out with all guns blazing scoring two quick goals to make the score four each. Eventually Brinklow sorted themselves out and went on to win the game six goals to four. Goal scorers were Gareth Yeend 2, George Ashwell 2, Ryan Byrne 1, Peter Sharpe 1.

Brinklow 1 Sporting Athletic 5

Our biggest defeat of the season so far, even though we played very well in the first half and going one nil up, thanks to a good goal by Steve Stanley. The second half was a very different story with Sporting starting to intimidate one or two of our players, which resulted with the referee removing one of the opposition players from the field. This incident and the heavy pitch took its toll on our players and eventually we lost the game.

“Two goals from Peter Sharpe, one of which would win goal of the season on Match of the Day!”



Keith Byrne

Arnold a Coventry fan is walking his dog one day, when he sees an old lamp. He bends down to pick it up, and starts to rub it to clean it. Suddenly, a genie



appears, and says "I am the cut price genie. I grant but one wish" Arnold thinks for a while, and then says "Make my dog, Wanchope, win Crufts" The genie looks at Wanchope, and says "Dont be stupid, look at the thing. Its mangy, its got fleas, its got a bit missing from one



ear, it limps and it smells. I might be a genie, but I'm not a miracle worker" "Alright then", says Arnold " Make Coventry City win the Premier League" The genie stops for a moment, then says "Lets have another look at that dog again"

U10'S TEAM NEWS



Brinklow 1 Wyken 5

This was a game of contrasting halves. Brinklow did not really get into the game in the first half and this cost them a result against a very good Wyken team. Some very good defending from Brinklow but they were always up against it. In the second half Brinklow were a lot better. Still some stout defending from Sam and Thomas plus with James battling away up front we started to cause problems and create chances, but we had left ourselves to much to do.

Man of the Match Sam Wheeler

Chapelfields 3 Brinklow 2

On a pitch that was barely playable both teams played some very good football. Brinklow for the majority of the game had the upper hand, especially in the first half. It was only a superb performance from there goalkeeper that kept us from scoring several goals with some excellent saves. Two goals from Thomas were not quite enough to earn a result from a game which Brinklow deserved to get something from.

Man of the Match Thomas Pye-Ford

Bedworth Juniors 2 Brinklow 2

On a very heavy pitch Brinklow started full of skill and commitment. James Royle put them in front with a well-taken goal. Bedworth pushed forward but found Alex Armitage in excellent form in the Brinklow goal. Thomas Pye-Ford then scored for Brinklow following a good layoff from James Royle and Brinklow took a deserved 2-0 lead. Bedworth pulled a goal back just before half time and Brinklow knew they were in for a fight. In the second half Bedworth pushed hard and it was no surprise when they equalized, However this seemed to spur Brinklow on and with both sides tiring on a heavy pitch it was Brinklow who finished stronger creating two good chances just before the final whistle.

Man of the Match Thomas Pye-Ford

Brinklow 1 Binley Woods 4

As it was half-term week Brinklow found themselves down to the minimum of 7 players with no subs on the morning of the match. In an evenly contested first half Brinklow fought hard and with a score of 1-1 at halftime following a Sammy Shore goal, Brinklow were always in with a chance. However in the second half Binley Woods quickly scored and from then on the team found it an uphill struggle. With no subs the Brinklow seven tired and Binley Woods took full advantage in a one sided second half.

Man of the Match Joe Watt

Brinklow 2 AT7 2

Brinklow started the game well and it wasn't long before James Royle set Sammy Shore up for Brinklow's First. Brinklow kept the pressure on and were soon rewarded with a second fine goal from Sammy Shore.

Second half and AT7 were awarded a penalty, which Alex got his fingertips to but could not quite keep it out. Newcomer Scott Fulton who was playing only his second game for Brinklow was keeping the AT7 strikers at bay with a brilliant defensive display, but it wasn't long before AT7 equalised with a lucky deflection from a corner, the score doesn't really reflect how well Brinklow played who were unlucky not to win this one.

Man of the Match Scott Fulton

Brian James

U11'S TEAM NEWS



Well what a month we have seen some great football and some that we are best not to talk about!

Brinklow Juniors 3 Nuneaton Boys Club 4

Nuneaton Boys started the game more settled than Brinklow and Nuneaton were soon up two nil. The first goal was a own goal from a corner that Brinklow failed to clear and the second came from a mistake by the Brinklow keeper. However Brinklow showed great grit and battled back with two great goals from Phillip Allen with assists from Rory Higgins and James Skelhon. Brinklow came close to going ahead when Dan Gyselynck hit the post from six yards so the score was 2-2 at half time.

Five minutes into the second half and it seemed like deja-vous, as Brinklow were unsettled and Nuneaton looked the stronger team going two up again. At 2-4 Brinklow put up a great fight and in the last ten minutes of the game they were the stronger side pressing hard to get back in the game. Dan Gyselynck and Phil Allen came close before Phil Allen was brought down for a penalty. The penalty taken by Phil Allen looking for his hat trick was saved well by the Nuneaton's keeper but Allen followed up well to score to make it 3-4. Brinklow continued to press hard and from a throw-in got the ball into the box where Dan Gyselynck put the header just over the bar with the final whistle blown. This game was played in great spirit from both sides and The Parents and Managers of both sides would like to congratulate the boys for a fine game.

Man of the Match Phillip Allen

Exhall Tigers 9 Brinklow Juniors 0

No Comment!

Man of the Match Dan Gyselynck

Brinklow Juniors 7 Ernesford Dynamos 1

This was the battle of the giants at the bottom of the 'A' league and what a game it turned out to be for the home team! Brinklow started with great confidence pressing forward from the whistle and it wasn't long before the parents saw the first goal scored by Rory Higgins. Ernesford did not look too unsettled at this point winning a corner which resulted in a goal and was the only time during the game that Brinklow looked asleep. However they got on with the job and went back into the lead with a goal from James Mercer to come in at half time leading 2-1. In the second half Brinklow had the wind behind them and took advantage of it pressing Ernesford at every opportunity. Goals came for Brinklow in the second half for James Skelhon, Harley Steel x 2, Rory Higgins and Phillip Allen. This was a great performance by the whole Brinklow team. Referee Tom Kelly should also get a mention, who had a great game. Well we finished the month on a high and let's hope we can carry it through December!

Man of the Match James Skelhon

Goal Scorer's

Phillip Allen	5	James Mercer	2
Harley Steel	3	James Skelhon	1
Rory Higgins	2	Malachy O'Keefe	1
Dan Gyselynck	2		



Rob Steel

U12'S TEAM NEWS



Brinklow 2 Whitley 2

A competitive match played in difficult conditions – Brinklow were 2 goals up going into half-time thanks to a fine headed goal from Striker Joe Shore and a high lofted shot from defender Josh Tailby, fooling the Whitley keeper and dropping into the back of the net. Second half Whitley staged a spirited comeback scoring twice in quick succession to level, but from then on both sides were unable to break the deadlock.

Man of the Match was Dale Huddleston for a fine performance in goal to thwart the Whitley attack.

Brinklow 1 JFK 2

It was certainly 'brave the elements' time for the meeting of Brinklow U12's and JFK at Barr Lane fields – a very muddy pitch and occasional driving rain making the outcome of this game anything but predictable. Both teams started brightly with some good attacking moves, but it has to be said that JFK put the Brinklow defence to the test from early on, with some strong attacking play.

Historically Brinklow had never beaten the visitors and the home supporters were wondering if this could be the day. However, with prolific goal scorer Joe Shore unavailable for selection, Brinklow knew that they would have to pull something special out of the bag to lay that particular ghost to rest. Unfortunately, Brinklow failed on several occasions to clear the ball from defence quickly enough with JFK taking advantage of the situation to gain a 2-0 lead. Brinklow certainly had JFK on the rack for the latter part of the second half, with some hope of getting some sort of result after Sean Drake had scored to make it 1-2. Towards the end of the match Brinklow also rattled the JFK bar but just couldn't slot the ball away to level the score.

Keeper Dale Huddleston had an outstanding game in goal with two wonderful saves to prevent JFK increasing their lead. The second save from a well taken free kick was one that any goalkeeper would have been proud of earning applause from both sets of supporters. For his efforts he was a well deserved man of the match. Had there been an award for the muddiest player on the field, he would have won that too, hands down!!

The final score of a very competitive game, Brinklow 1 JFK 2

Malc

BUTLINS

We have been accepted into the Tournament at Minehead on 25th – 28th May. Full payment of £63.00 per head must be paid to Mick Holt by 30th January 2000. Full details of accommodation etc will follow shortly.

Mick Holt

A man receives a free ticket to watch Manchester United. Unfortunately, when he arrives at Old Trafford he realises the seat is right at the back of the stadium. About halfway through the first half he notices an empty seat 10 rows from the pitch, right on the halfway line. He decides to take a chance and makes his way down to the empty seat. When he arrives, he asks a man sitting next to the empty seat, 'Excuse me, is anyone sitting here?' The man says no. 'That's incredible! Who in their right mind would have a seat like this and not use it?' he says.



'Well the seat belongs to my wife, says the man. 'But she passed away. This is the first game we haven't been at together since we got married in 1967.' 'That's really sad,' says the man, 'But couldn't you find a friend or relative who wanted the seat?' 'No, 'the man replies, 'They're all at the funeral.'