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TONY GLASSCOE
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01788 833221
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Continued from Senior's on Page 11

important game against promotion contenders Avon Mill. Playing away on what many consider to be the Towns worst pitch (Whinfield 3) on a wet & windy morning, the football was never going to be of quality. In fact after conceding a scrappy early goal we were struggling. It was obvious that we were missing the influence of two injured key players - **Azy & Paul Bale**, but the side battled hard in difficult conditions to draw level at half time with a well taken strike from **DA**. Making tactical subs saw us finally starting to create chances with new signing **Big Nev Thompson** proving a handful for the Mills defence and former Avon Mill player **Simon Bullock** a calming influence at the back. Further changes saw us steady our midfield and lead to **Reidy** finding time & space to supply **Gaz** with an excellent ball from which he finished in typical style. To be fair to the Mill their 'never say die' attitude continued to trouble us & yet again we were grateful to Man of the Match goalie **Carl Moore** for several top saves. End result 2-1 to Brinklow.

To summarise - the Seniors are on an excellent run at the moment, but are not being helped by what is becoming a bit of a stop-start season. At the time of going to press we are top of our Division & through to the semi-final of the Hospital Cup, where we play Division One side Jolly Abbott (March 17th). With six straight wins everything is looking good, but football can be a cruel game and without being pessimistic, two defeats could turn our season upside down. However, there is a lot to look forward to, and if we can retain the unity & battling team spirit that we have within the squad then we have a good chance of success.

On that note I would like to make a special mention to the superb attitude of all our players who turn up every week knowing that they are not necessarily going to be a first choice on the team sheet. We have every confidence in them doing a good job, as has already been proved when they are called to do so. This epitomises the spirit of Brinklow Seniors and reminds us all that football is never about any one individual, but very much a team effort.

Our Best Wishes go to all within Brinklow FC

Barry Wilkinson

EDITORIAL



Welcome to this the first edition of 'ON THE BRINK' for 2002, a belated Happy New Year to all!!

I have tried to include more photographs this month which hopefully you will find interesting, I can't get around to as many matches as I would like so if any of you have any photo's you are keen to see reproduced in these pages then please can you give them to your manager who will pass them on - I do promise to return them. Failing that you can Email them to me at the address below.

All the best - enjoy the magazine.

Paul Wilby

wilby@wilby.screaming.net

Somewhere in 'ON THE BRINK' you will find 7 Footballs with a letter in the middle, can you find them? The first is below to help you. Once you have got all 7, arrange the letters to make up the name of a team climbing back up the premiership!



Last issues answer was 'CELTIC'.



A footballing lad named Paul
Could do fabulous things with a ball.
In one of his tricks, With a series of flicks,
He managed to knock down a brick wall



Humpty Dumpty sat on the wall
- so the referee booked him!!



6-a-Side Competition!

The club are looking for people to organise the clubs annual 6-a side competition, if you think you can help out then please contact David Gyselynck on 01788 833480

Football players are the only people who can dribble and still look neat!



CLUB OFFICIALS NAMES AND CONTACT NUMBERS

Chairman David Gyselynck	01788 833480
Vice Chairman Alun Yeend	01788 832579
Secretary Mick Holt	01788 833681 or 07941 724701
Treasurer Katie Crane	01788 833187
Senior Team Manager Les Ellison Paul Huddleston	01926 853280 or 07973 249271 07802 422292
Under 15's Team Manager Keith Byrne	01788 832283 or 07715 940062
Under 13's Team Manager Mick Holt	01788 833681 or 07941 724701
Under 12's Team Manager Rob Steel	024 7654 2719 or 07785 248964
Under 10's Team Manager Pete Day	01788 832732
Under 9's Team Manager Tony Glasscoe Neil Huddleston	01788 833221 or 07770 654123 024 7654 5963 or 07775 524191
Under 8's Team Manager John Harman Dave Payne	01455 220717 or 07818 011355 024 7626 1250
Under 7's Team Manager Nick Skerratt	01788 832157
Magazine Editor Paul Wilby	024 7654 3903



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U7'S TEAM NEWS



The Christmas joint U7's & U8's 5-a-side tournament at the Cov Connection was a great success and all the children had a smashing time playing competitive football followed by party food and games. Thanks to everyone who helped.

We are now looking forward to playing 'friendly' games on a more regular basis. The winter weather has made training difficult, but now we have been given a playing area at Newbold Revel with the use of a marked out pitch for our prospective home matches.

Rugby Town A 14 Brinklow U7's Colts 1
Rugby Town B 3 Brinklow U7's Rangers 0

We played our first fixtures of the new year away to Rugby Town on the 19th of Jan. taking a severely depleted squad containing only two Y2 players. We suffered a heavy defeat in the first game against a very strong Y2 Town A team, who have a squad of 40 Y2 players to choose from, (more than Coventry). The lads battled hard, but had no answer to the organised Town attack, of which the balance of goals were scored from rebounds from our stand in keeper. In the second half the team began to find their feet, but could do little to prevent 4 super goals scored by Town from free play cleanly struck from outside the goal area. Throughout the game the lads never gave up and in the final quarter were rewarded with a hard won goal by Jake Salmon, following his bustling centrefield run.

The second game was a much closer affair. Despite conceding 3 early goals the team certainly showed their immense determination and had the balance of play for the rest of the game, but were unable to put the ball in the back of the Rugby Town net. Lloyd Pulford on his debut for Brinklow put in some tremendous tackles in defence and I am sure he will be someone to watch out for in the future.

We must thank all the players and parents for enduring the bitterly cold conditions. As both Brinklow teams walked off the pitch their faces were rosy red but still smiling, which is why win or lose, we play football for fun.

Unfortunately Richard Jenkins has had to 'retire' from managing the U7's as his new job entails work on Saturdays. We must say "Thank You" to him for all his hard work in organising and training the squad over the past seasons. To keep things moving on Nick Skerratt and Kim Salmon will continue to manage the squad, with 2 matches in February, organised by Richard, we had better get ready!

Richard Jenkins, Kim Salmon & Nick Skerratt

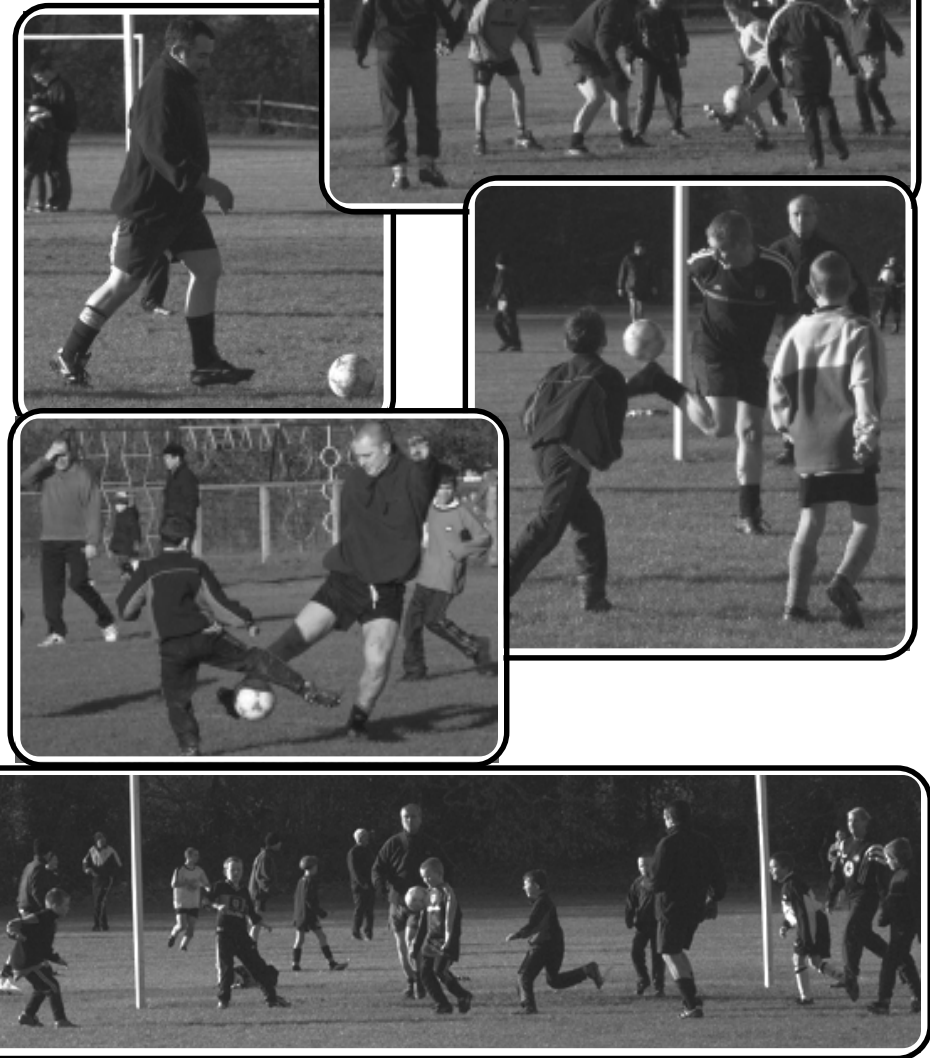


LADS v DADS



A thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all on boxing day, the peak of which was Dave Gyselynck's cracking own goal plus a fortunate 'in off the post' at the correct end. With Bob Sud getting 6.0 from all the judges for a brave attempt at a triple somersault on an icy pitch, everyone went home with a smile on their face!!

Anyway, enjoy the photo's.



Want to see more? Then have a look at the following web address:-
<http://icd.internetphotoservices.co.uk/wilby@wilby.screaming.net>

U8'S TEAM NEWS



Whitley Juniors 0 Brinklow 1

Brinklow came out winners in a very fiercely fought game. The game started brightly enough with Craig Payne and Matthew Pine both having good chances, Brinklow were creating chance after chance and it was just a matter of time before we scored, and it came just before half time after a real mazy run and a fine finish from Sean Russell.

The second half was a lot more evenly matched with Daniel Withers who was in goal, having to make probably his one real save of the game. Lee, George, Sean and Craig making sure Whitley didn't have many more chances, whilst at the other end Joe Kemp had probably his best game for a long while. I thought Whitley were a very physical side, perhaps too physical at times but our boys proved more than a match for them and deserved to be the winners.

Man of the Match Sean Russell
(fine display topped with a superb goal. Well Done!!!!)

Report by Dave Payne.

Dear players and parents

Now the new year is here we think it is time we increased the football the boys are playing. Dave Payne has organized for Friday night training at Caludon Castle school. Matches will take place on Sunday mornings. Could you please ensure that if your son is not available you let me or Dave know on the Friday before the game.

Team selection -

We have graded the boys based on ability with a hard core of six or seven players as first choice. We will rotate the rest of the players, ensuring everybody gets a game. On match day we will take ten players to the game, making sure everybody gets a reasonable amount of time on the pitch.

Here are the matches and training dates and times for the next few weeks. Please enter into your diaries or calendars at home:-

Friday 25 th January	Training 6.15 - 7.45pm at Caludon Castle School
Sunday 27 th January	Home game Brinklow v Grove Farm 10.30am K.O. meet 10.00am St Margarets school Wolston
Friday 1 st Feb	Training 6.15 - 7.45pm at Caludon Castle School.
Friday 8 th Feb	Training 6.15 - 7.45pm at Caludon Castle School.
Sunday 10 th Feb	Home game Brinklow v Bulkington 10.30am K.O. Meet 10.00am St Margarets School Wolston.
Friday 15 th Feb	No Training - Half term.
Friday 22 nd Feb	Training 6.15 - 7.45pm at Caludon Castle School.
Sunday 24 th Feb	Home game Brinklow v Stoke AT7 10.30am K.O. Meet 10.00am St Margarets School Wolston.

John Harman

*How did the football pitch end up as triangle ?
Somebody took a corner !*



Continued from U9's on Page 6

began to think it just wasn't going to be our day. The game was becoming very physical, but our lads were giving just as good as they were getting. Jamie and Alex were rarely troubled at the back and new recruit Stephen Brannen added some extra resource in midfield. Joe Partridge came on for Alex Stage and suddenly there were just 3 minutes on the watch. Tommy Glasscoe broke through from midfield yet again but this time he managed to skin the Whitley defence to go one on one with the keeper, sending the parents into frenzy mode as he just managed to tuck the ball away for a thoroughly deserved equaliser. Matthew Wilby put in a another fine display of brave and talented goalkeeping to help Brinklow share the points at the final whistle.

After a string of away games we have finally got some home fixtures coming up in February, so we look forward to a bit of touchline support from family and friends to help cheer us on to a strong finish for our first season in the league.

'Joe Partridge came on for Alex Stage'

Tony Glasscoe



A well-known footballer and his wife recently decided to take a holiday at a nudist camp. He was asked to referee the camp football match but, surprisingly, he declined the offer. 'Why did you refuse to referee that match?' asked his wife. 'I wasn't too happy about where I had to carry the spare whistle,' replied the husband



Continued from U13's on Page 9

penalty, easily converting past the helpless London Road keeper. Shorter afterwards a lovely ball from Carter provided Joe Shore the only chance he needed to increase Brinklow's tally to 3. This was really Brinklow's best spell in the game with the lads at last taking advantage of the windy conditions. James Parker hit a rasping shot but pulled it just wide, but shortly afterwards Danny Carter was substituted for a while due to injury, and it seemed to break Brinklow's momentum. London Road made the score 6-3, then Dale Huddlestone made a marvellous diving save only to see the rebound to go in to make it 7-3. The game was effectively over with one last chance falling to Alex Baker who hit a great shot, but the keeper on this occasion was equal to it pulling off a good save to deny any further Brinklow goals.

The man of the match was Danny Carter, who was instrumental in all the Brinklow goals, and posed a real threat everytime he pushed forward.

'James Parker hit a rasping shot'

Malc & Mick



U9'S TEAM NEWS

Happy New Year everyone ! The under 9's have had something of an extended break, with only one league game in the last six weeks due to xmas holidays and bad weather leading to games being called off. We have tried to make the most of this time by working on our attacking play as much as possible. Most people who watch us play regularly will know that we often play good exciting football through midfield but occasionally let ourselves down once we get the ball into the box, so we have tried to work on some new tactics up front to improve this. At the last count we were fifth in the league, so with some improved finishing we should be aiming for a top four position by end of season.

I would like to welcome Stephen Brannen to the squad who joined during the last couple of weeks, and who I am sure will be a valuable addition to our attacking midfield.

Anyway, having missed a few weeks without competitive football, I fully expected us to go into last weeks away fixture against Whitley looking a bit rusty. How wrong could I have been ? Considering the fact that we were playing with a ball that was too big (size 5 instead of 4) and heavy (medicine ball I think), and the fact the pitch was like a waterlogged allotment, we had a storming game. The first half saw a determined Whitley side take advantage of some hesitant defending by Brinklow to take a 1-0 lead into half time. Apart from this Brinklow had played with lots of spirit and really dominated the midfield. Tom Morrison and Tom Glasscoe were in no mood to let this game slip away, and Tommy Hyde started to show his real strength in the centre of midfield during the second half. We created so many chances within the first fifteen minutes of the second half that I

After Christmas we were glad to be getting a re-arranged game under our belts, at home to The Peacock. We hadn't played for several weeks & it showed in a poor 1st half performance, coming off the pitch at 1-1, thanks to a goal off **Toolies belly!** Admittedly it hadn't helped the side being asked to play a new formation, but after re-adjusting to our tried & trusted system, we started to look more like ourselves. Pleasing to say the lads eventually strolled to a 4-1 win with further goals from **D.A., Birdy & Micky Bullock**, and a game that could have been won by a greater margin, as some of the side seem determined not to score this season (mentioning no names) **Si Bullock & Danny !!**



Want to see more? Then have a look at the following web address:-

<http://icd.internetphotoservices.co.uk/wilby@wilby.screaming.net>

SENIORS TEAM NEWS

On the 2nd Dec we found ourselves at home to SF Rangers, a team that we had beaten 3-0 earlier in the season. Our previous weeks game had seen us thump Ryton Albion 5-1, so expectations were high. At the time we were 2nd in the league and SF were 3rd, so this was a big game. For the 2nd week running we set about our game in the desired fashion & quite simply brushed aside a reasonable footballing side with ease. In fact, after **Gaz Moore** had given us a 1-0 lead, the only hiccup in the day was a "slight" loss of control from within the management. After we missed a good chance to go 2-0 up (something we'd been doing too often) there was an explosion of 'verbal expletives' from the dug-out! This was the cue for **Barry** to take a long, thoughtful and somewhat apologetic walk around the pitch. Sorry lads! Fortunately our next goal was not long coming, again from **Gaz**, shortly followed by our 3rd from **Birdy**, alias **Mr Angry**, setting himself up outside the box he hit a belter. A perfect answer to any suggestions from the touchline! With half-time approaching the team tended to relax, giving SF the chance to pull one back with a good goal. Into the 2nd half the side soon regained their composure, strolling to a 6-1 victory with a further 2 goals from **Gaz** and a belting header from **Paul Bale**. At the end of the day all the other results went our way & we were very pleased to be Top of the League at last.

Our next game saw us away, on one of Whinfields better pitches, to Rugby Workers. Our first priority was to remind the side that to remain in pole position, in what is proving to be a very tight league, we have to perform consistently and not be over confident. This left the Management somewhat wondering about the merits of Sunday morning teamtalks, as with 20 minutes played it was a question of who was the most bemused as the workers were 3-0 up! However, such is the spirit and resolve within the squad now that when the lads finally woke up, we battled our way back into the game producing 2 good fast moves resulting in 2 good finishes from **Gaz Moore**. At half time we were 3-2 down but confident of getting something from the game. Late on though we were still a goal down, but after switching the team around to good effect we created space for 'goal machine' **Gaz** to hit a curler into the top corner. 3-3. With **Azy & Birdy** shining in midfield the lads responded and continued to press forward resulting in **Gaz** scoring his FOURTH goal of the game for the 2nd week running and **Toolie** scoring with a trademark back post header to clinch a 5-3 victory and an amazing comeback.

After Christmas we were glad to be getting a re-arranged game under our belts, at home to The Peacock. We hadn't played for several weeks & it showed in a poor 1st half performance, coming off the pitch at 1-1, thanks to a goal off **Toolies belly!** Admittedly it hadn't helped the side being asked to play a new formation, but after re-adjusting to our tried & trusted system, we started to look more like ourselves. Pleasing to say the lads eventually strolled to a 4-1 win with further goals from **D.A., Birdy & Micky Bullock**, and a game that could have been won by a greater margin, as some of the side seem determined not to score this season (mentioning no names) **Si Bullock & Danny !!**

Jan 13th saw us playing our long awaited Quarter Final of the Hospital Cup match against Division One side Barley Mow, and what a game it turned out to be! Playing on a neutral pitch at Featherbed Lane, a confident and battling Brinklow side stormed into a 2-0 lead within 20 minutes, striker **Dave Anderson** firing home 2 excellent volleys. Barley soon pulled one back making for a tense atmosphere & the game flowed from end to end. Approaching half time the Brinklow appeals for a penalty were rewarded thanks to some sharp eyed refereeing. A very cool **Paul A'Barrow (Azy)**, stepped forward to send the keeper the wrong way to give us a 3-1 half time lead. Within 10 minutes of the restart Barley were level at 3-3, with a well struck goal & a justified penalty. At this stage it looked as though they might take control, but along with some fresh-legged subs, the lads dug deep & continued to battle in what was still anybody's game. At 90 minutes & the score still 3-3 we went into extra time. Although we thought we were getting the upper hand, the football still flowed with both sides creating chances and grateful for top saves from their keepers & the woodwork being rattled. Brinklows **Andy 'Thierry Henry' Reid** was causing all sorts of problems for the Barleys defence as much as their 'Pie mans' long throws were troubling our back line. The game started to look like it was going to penalties. However, if ever something special was needed to win a game then that's what we got! Finding space in midfield, **Mark Bird** set off on a run towards goal, holding off several challenges on the way. Nearing the edge of the box he let loose a thunderous left foot shot that gave their keeper no chance. Even after this the game was not over and we were grateful to keeper **Carl Moore** for 2 tremendous blocks to help us secure an excellent victory, in a match where all the members of the team were used and played a big part.

After the euphoria of the previous weeks cup win it was back to League business and a very

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U15'S TEAM NEWS

Can I start off by wishing you all a Happy New Year and I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas. Not much football played due to the Christmas holidays but of the ones we have played we beat Finham Park 5-3 in the cup. A hat-trick scored by Grant Manderston and two from Gareth Yeend. This result means we are now in the quarter final of the cup due to be played on Sunday

3rd Feb against Hillmorton Wanderers Juniors.

Our next game was against Jaguar, final result being a 4-4 draw. We should have won this game as we were 4-2 up with only 15 minutes left on the clock, but due to us having no subs the lads just ran out of steam allowing Jaguar to clinch a draw with the last kick of the game. Our goals were scored by Ryan Byrne, Ragen Patel, Luke Morton and Grant Manderston.

Our final game over the Christmas period was against Whitehart. This team are top of our league losing only one game this season so far and that was to us in early September. Whitehart were looking for revenge and they certainly achieved their aim by beating us 9-0.

Under 15's Tour Isle of Wight

All money should have been handed in to either Heather or myself by the time you read this reminder. Further information about the tour will be given out in Feb. We now have 13 players signed on for the tournament and plenty of support from family and friends - Roll on Easter!

'A hat-trick scored by Grant Manderston'

Keith Byrne



Back row Left to right: Keith Byrne (Manager), Martin Russell, Paul Lewis, Sam Lunt, Luke Morton, Ragen Patel, Peter Sharpe, William Allen. Front Row: Grant Manderston, Alex Pouncett, Eddie Allen, Richard Taylor, Gareth Yeend, Ryan Byrne. Missing from photograph George Ashwell.

U10'S TEAM NEWS



I hope everybody enjoyed their Christmas & New Year break. The lads seemed to have re-charged their batteries and are now back into the swing things. The first match of the New Year was against a very good Chaplefield Colts side who went two goals ahead with only five minutes to play. However

in recent weeks, at this stage heads would drop and the result would have been a forgone conclusion, but not this time. The lads to their credit continued to press and battle to the very end (no giving up this time) and were rewarded with two goals in the closing minutes. An important lesson to us all. I hope this bodes well for the rest of the season.

The squad selection for the remaining matches has already been done. I do not know the fixture list but have based selection primarily on previous appearances – with the intention to let the less established players who have not played in many games get more match experience. In doing the selection so far in advance without knowing the fixture schedule, anomalies will occur e.g. a player may not be selected for two/three games in a row, this does not reflect on ability, it is the down side of selecting so far in advance and not knowing the fixtures. But (using this selection method) when that player does play, it is possible that he will play for a number of games in a row and hopefully when he does play, it will be for a reasonable length of time.

Scorers	Man of the Match Awards
Anthony Donnell 19	Anthony Donnell 3
Chris Brennan 7	Chris Brennan 1
Milan Sud 2	Milan Sud 2
Arron Steel 1	Arron Steel 1
Kai Sud 1	Kai Sud 2
Alex Wood 1	Alex Wood 1
Callum Day 1	Callum Day 2
Alex Cramp 1	Alex Cramp 1
	Paul Gannon 1
	Josh Pointon 2

New Players - The past month has seen the introduction of three new players to the Under 10s. Tom Rowell, Ben Trantor and Oliver Connelly. Can I publicly welcome them all to Brinklow Junior F.C. Already they are proving to be valuable additions to the squad.

Training - Indoor training will continue on Wednesday evenings (£1.00 per session - don't forget) for the next six to eight weeks (term time only). This will be supplemented with outdoor training on the first Saturday of every month. Speciality training, focussed purely on positions (goal-keeping, defending, midfield and attack) are at an advanced stage and will only include players who play or may play in those positions. Details will follow shortly

Eleven-a-side - Hopefully everybody by now should know that next season we go to 11-a-side. To aid the transition from 7-a-side, the lads will be getting 'homework' over the coming months to help them understand 11-a-side formations, tactics, offside etc. To assist them (and the coaching team), a series of 11-a-side friendlies will be arranged once the league has finished. It would also be very helpful if some parents would volunteer to be linesmen/women for these matches, as experience in offside situations would help considerably next season, where we will need competent-ish linesmen/women. Please come forward your help would be greatly appreciated.

Mums - Don't forget the sponsored Mums v Mums match. Confirmed dates and details will follow shortly. There will be plenty of notice, so no excuses for not playing the match or having enough time to train!! Lads/dads encourage your mums/wives; it's a date not to be missed. We need to raise as much money as possible. Thanks

Congratulations - Well done to the Brennans of Brandon. Early in the New Year Pam Brennan gave birth to Aaron. Chris seems very impressed and is coping well, as is, mother and baby!!!! All the best for the future.

Bits & Bobs - Would you please continue to let me have your e-mail addresses. It's that time of year when holidays are being planned. I would be very grateful if parents would let me know player (un)availability as soon as possible, bearing in mind the 11-a-side friendlies in March/April and the 6-a-side tournaments in May/June/July.

Peter Day

U12'S TEAM NEWS

Due to the weather (which I don't need to talk about) we have only played two league games since the last 'ON THE BRINK'. We also played a friendly against the U13's and with the help of Alex Pouncett from the under 15's (thanks Alex) who played sweeper and a very dodgy Ref, the score line ended with a respectful score for both sides, the U13's winning 5-2. The U12's would like to thank Mick for allowing yours truly to ref the game! Sorry to all the U13's Parents who may have thought I was a little one sided.

This season the U12's have managed to score 43 goals and keeping our goal average positive at +10 (28 from the strikers, 11 from midfield and 2 from defence this has been a good spread through the Team) let's keep the goals coming.

Brinklow 0 Chapelfields Colts 2

When we played Chapelfields away they gave us our worst result of the season losing 8 – 4, we needed to put in a good performance. It did not go to plan! Brinklow having a number of chances to open the score line, looked as if they would draw first blood. After holding out all of Chapelfields efforts, it was disappointing to go behind to a goal scored on the break from a Brinklow attack. This after missing a penalty less than five minutes earlier (third penalty miss in two games)! The second half followed the same plot, unfortunately exactly the same plot! Yes four penalties missed in two games! We will not embarrass the lads by naming and shaming.

Man of the Match Jonathon Turton!

(Yes Jon played his best game to date)

Brinklow 2 Hawks Mill Juniors 1

Missing James Mercer we needed a good performance out of the other midfield players, this was provided by Harley Steel backed up by excellent defending from James Hancox. It was a tight game with Brinklow having the upper hand through the first half, until we were awarded a penalty. The manager had to decide which one of his sharp shooters was going to take it? After some consideration of the likely candidates, the task was given to Phillip Allen leading goal scorer with 14 goals could he make it 15 and bring the penalty miss record to an end????? **YES A GOAL** and one relieved Manager. The second half, with Brinklow playing down hill, the game looked as if it was over following a well taken goal by Dan Gyselynck. After taking an early knock Harley had to leave the field with 15 minutes left to play, which turned the balance of play. Hawks Mill were now winning all the ball and with Harley's sub Jon Turton having conversations about the weather with right back Thomas, things looked bad. It wasn't long before Hawks Mill scored. It was time to get the conversations with Jon onto the sideline with his Dad and Manager, so we sent the rested Harley back on to hold the lead for the remaining 5 minutes.

Man of the Match James Hancox and Harley Steel

Rob Steel



Brinklow F.C.
will be hosting a
PARTY ON THE PITCH
On the evening of
SUN 2nd JUNE
(After the 6-a-side tournament)
With Guests
STIFF JOINTS
Everyone welcome

U13'S TEAM NEWS

Hawksmill 5	Brinklow 1
Mount Nod 8	Brinklow 1
Brinklow 1	Athletic 3
Christ the King 3	Brinklow 1
London Rd 7	Brinklow 3

Fixtures

10th February Home v Dunlop
17th February Away v Rugby Town (at Bilton School)
24th February Home v Mount Nod

Training

There will be no training on Friday 22nd February, we are bowling at the Megabowl (5.45pm). Please let Mick know if you can attend.

London Road Lions v Brinklow u13's

This was actually the first competitive match the U13's have had since the Christ the King fixture back in December last year due to the winter break and postponements because of the weather. Would the long lay-off find the lads refreshed and raring to go? Or would it have a detrimental effect and find them sluggish and lacking match fitness.

The weather conditions didn't help with Brinklow starting the match playing into an extremely strong wind. Within a minute of kick off Brinklow conceded a penalty to the home side that was clinically dispatched to find themselves 1-0 down. The wind was proving to be a real problem. However some tough but fair tackling and some excellent play from Danny Carter in particular showed some great team spirit, but it looked as though our luck was out when a wind assisted cross/shot was lashed past Dale Huddlestone to increase London Roads lead to 2-0. A lovely through ball to Danny Carter found him in acres of space only for the linesman to flag furiously for offside. Danny was too canny though and did exactly as he's been taught and played to the whistle, coolly scoring past the London Road keeper to make it 2-1. Almost as it looked as though Brinklow were clawing their way back into the game, they found the goal difference again at 2 with one of the London Road players chipping over Brinklow's keeper. 3-1 to London Road. The home side were taking full advantage of playing with the wind, and with a looping header made it 4-1. Almost instantly after their goal Danny Carter hit a rocket of a shot that unfortunately just skimmed the London Road upright. Half time 4-1.

Brinklow were caught napping somewhat as the second half started, with London Road playing some very direct football to increase their lead to 5-1. Some good football from both James Parker and Joe Shore followed, offering the away supporters a crumb of comfort, and indeed this spell of pressure resulted in a penalty after Joe Shore was cynically taken out in the penalty box. Danny Carter took the



U13's in their New Kit, Kindly supplied by DRAPERS (cheers Dale).