

# *new frontiers*

## A York City Fanzine

Issue 22 - February 2014 - Free To Download



Two Cousins:  
Same Job;  
Different  
Worlds:

Billy Fenton:  
Remembered

Loanees:  
Good Or Bad

David Moyes:  
What Next?

City Reserves:  
Darlington and  
Grimsby

Where Are  
They Now?  
Wish They  
Were Here?

Quenelle:  
Racist or  
Silly Boy

Russell Penn, Keith Lowe & John McCombe  
can you follow  
Ashley Chambers, Chris Smith & Jamal Fyfield  
to double Wembley success?

Editorial .....	3
My Perfect Cousin: Little & Large .....	4
Quenelle .....	7
Player Names .....	8
Billy Fenton .....	10
YCS News .....	11
Loanees.....	12
What Might Have Been.....	13
Football Manager .....	16
Cod Army: City's Next Reserve Side .....	17
Darlington. York City Reserves .....	18
Drinking "York" Dry .....	20
TRANSFER DAY MADNESS .....	22
Billy Plutch .....	25
David Moyes .....	26
Musical City.....	28
Quiz Time .....	30
Just About Managing (and more) .....	31
Hold The Back Page .....	32

Thoughts For The Day: City are currently 13th, 4 points behind 8<sup>th</sup> place. The message boards are calling for a solid finish to the season, suggesting between 12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> to show our intent for next season. To show intent, let's make up those 4 points and aim to finish 8<sup>th</sup>.

***new frontiers*** – Established 1992.

Welcome to Issue 22, at 32 pages the biggest one ever.

All views expressed are those solely of the editor or article's author and in no way should be taken to represent the views of York City South or York City Football Club (or any body or person slagged off herein). Correspondence (and articles (hint, hint) for the next issue) can be emailed to [c\\_m\\_forth@hotmail.com](mailto:c_m_forth@hotmail.com)

This download is free: Please consider making a donation to YCFC in lieu of paying for this issue. At the next home game, an extra pint in the social club or a lottery ticket in the car park should suffice. Remember, this is free, do you want City to recruit free transfer players or splash the cash on decent players?

During our original run in the 1990s, we raised over £2,000 and every penny was donated to City's Youth Development Fund.

Back Issues: All digital and most paper based issues are available on <http://www.yorkcitysouth.co.uk/>

Further reading: Like this, then take a look at the [York City South web site](#)

Thanks: To all those who contributed or paid for this issue.

Next Issue: Depends on interest, commitment, articles and on the pitch performance. Articles / ideas / input / criticism always welcome.

# Editorial

*Reality bites. After the excesses of the New Year, one point and no goals from our last 3 games in January means it is one step forward and 2 steps back, or is it the other way round. You decide.*

At our level, maybe that is what we expect, inconsistency. Wins against Scunthorpe and Portsmouth say we can do it, but many good performances are followed by a poor performance or ten, as witnessed by 10 winless games after Scunthorpe.

Equally, the team selection against Chesterfield seemed strange. Were the changes to combat Chesterfield or a shuffle to accommodate missing players? We had too many unnecessary positional changes, inconsistency in selection, which may not have helped us. A more familiar team at Fleetwood and 3 points. Problem solved.

We still have work to do to cement a spot in mid table, although like last season at this stage, we're not completely safe from the bottom 2, just 6 points clear.

It has been sad to witness the departure of 3 of our Wembley team in January. Best wishes go to Ashley Chambers, Jamal Fyfield and Chris Smith for the future, especially when playing against that team which shall not be mentioned. No doubt, if they return to York as opposition, all 3 will get a very warm welcome. They certainly deserve it; goals at Wembley, Grimsby and to keep us in Division 2 mean their names will not easily be forgotten.

The Wembley double winning team <sup>TM</sup> has broken up so quickly, a season and a half later, just 4 remain with City. Most are back in the conference.

I'm undecided as to whether offering 2 and a half year deals to the likes of Russell Penn, Keith Lowe and John McCombe is a good idea. Good in that it provides a little stability to the team's make up, but bad in that all 3 joined us as out of favour squad players from other middling Division 2 clubs.

A year down the line, will they be kicking their heels on match days?

The 2014/5 squad is already taking place. Of the senior players, I believe only David McGurk, Michael Ingham, Michael Coulson, Lanre Oyebanjo and Josh Carson plus youngsters Shaq McDonald, Tom Allan and Chris Dickinson have contracts that expire this year. The rest are contracted through to at least 2015 for good or bad.

We have 3 strikers who can score, a choice of 2 reasonable (for this division) keepers and a bit of variety in midfield. Experience dotted throughout. Enough to make a half decent side. Players who should be holding their own at this level.

My big disappointment (I wasn't expecting top 6) this season has been to see youngsters like Tom Platt and Josh Carson fail to kick on. Carson looked very useful last season and again when he signed in September. What's happened since?

Plenty to grumble about! What's new?

## **My Perfect Cousin: Little & Large**

*It started off as a piece to contrast and compare the managerial duties of Nigel Worthington and his cousin, Brendan Rogers. It quickly morphed into a true live escapade, some stories may be a little (but only a little) embellished, but they're all closely based on real live experiences. If you were there for any of them, you'd certainly vouch for their authenticity.*

Nigel Worthington & City	Brendan Rogers & Liverpool
Here Comes Summer: In former times, the manager Tom Lockie did his players a favour and got them jobs painting houses in New Earswick to see them through the summer. Nowadays, its more likely a case of writing letters and emails pleading for a trial as their City contracts have ended. For the lucky ones, a few free weeks to prepare for a career post football.	Laudable though they are, the Didier Drogba Foundation building a hospital in The Ivory Coast, Jermaine Defoe and his charity work in St Lucia or a number of other top internationals and their charity work, are not something the everyday player can aspire to.
"Boss, my big toe is hurting", if Neil Warnock is the boss, then it is off with his jacket, and without bothering to put on his rubbers gloves, the player is on the couch being assessed. Knowing Warnock, it'll be a gruff "you'll live" verdict. The legions of lower league managers who use their profession qualifications to help their clubs is legendary, Phil Brown joined it last summer (2013) when used his skills to fix the electrics at Roots Hall. PS Better not say anything about Steve Evans (Boston, Crawley and Rotherham).	Stubbed toe? Fixed up with the next available flight to Innsbruck, a week in a 5 star luxury hotel and a daily assessment and treatment. Followed by a week in sunny Sharm el Sheikh, family and physio in tow.
Which reminds me of an occasion in 1978. Start of the season, new signing and just appointed captain has a virus. He tells his manager he can't play the next day, the opening day of the season. A disgruntled manager tells him, he's in playing and just to prove a point, sends his captain onto the pitch to practice set pieces in his suit. Step forward manager Charlie Wright and captain Neil Warnock. After that day, neither had much of a future with City.	"Oh ok, take another few days rest if you don't feel up to it"
Its Tuesday and the Club Secretary is in the office by himself. The office secretary is out to lunch (well she has popped out to the corner shop for a bap) when all h*ll breaks loose. Both phones ring, somebody walks in to the office and a youth coach can be heard screaming "Gaffer, Gaffer, come quick". Step	I don't suppose a top team's Secretary ever has to answer an incoming call, his office staff providing several formidable lines of defence. Anyway, he's probably off gallivanting to London (or warmer climates) for the latest

forward our multi tasking Club Secretary, red faced yes, never blustered, except when it all got too much for him and he swore down the phone at Bobby Robson	Premiership jolly (sorry, meeting) to discuss the new mega bucks TV deal or 39 <sup>th</sup> game.
In the days of City's membership of Pontins' sponsored Central League, the deal meant City and other clubs could stay at Pontins at cost price, Bognor Regis and Skegness, here we come.	Can't think where the big boys will stay, an Emirates 7 (or 9) star or Marriott International hotel. The choice is yours.
Young hopefuls: Turning up in the Tom Johnston days, they'd do their coaching session and as they trooped off at the end, Johnston would pull the odd one aside and whisper in his ear, "Son, I don't think it is worth you coming here anymore". Hopes of a City career cruelly ended.	Even in those days, big clubs would shower hopefuls and their parents with gifts, a new washer for mum, car for Dad, may be a paid scouting position. City? We struggle to afford to pay travel expenses, but if you can get to the ground by 6, you can train with the juniors.
Team selection day; Its been a bad week, defeat, injuries and the forced sale of the star striker mean you field a team with an average age of 19, no sub keeper and 2 16 year olds on the bench to make it look almost full, but at a grand a pop, you can't afford to register any more players to fill the bench to capacity.	Let's take some of our youth players along for the ride, it is good for their development to experience the first team on match day.
Another tangent. Player does his cruciate and is sent across the road to the NHS / District Hospital to do his physio rehabilitation programme. Even there, half crocked, the player's physical fitness and upper body strength far outshone that of a young recuperating York RU 1 <sup>st</sup> XV player.	NHS? Does it still exist?
FA Youth Cup game. Early afternoon and the manager leaves with the youth team for their game at Stoke. An unusual thing happens when the coach draws up half an hour from Stoke and the players troop off for their pre match meal. They're ushered into a posher than usual dining room and served top quality pasta and chicken. Not the usual beans.	Ten minutes later, the Liverpool reserve squad arrive. They're put out by their beans on toast. The hotel staff confused City's red club ties for those of the Liverpool team. At least Nigel and Brendan had a chuckle over their shared beans on toast. Substitute Manchester United for Liverpool and its true.
Scrimping To Away Games (1): Coach departs prompt at 8. Pick up on the A1(M) services, 3 hours on the motorway, lunch, kick off and home by 9. If you miss the coach, we'll send a director round to your house to pick up. City once did this when John Byrne forget the pick up time before an evening game at Rochdale.	Knowing the M25 and M1, Arsenal players probably spent more time in the coach from Arsenal to Luton Airport than they did in the air on their chartered plane from Luton to Norwich for their 2012/3 game.
Scrimping To Away Games (2): With all that kit to wash, save the vouchers on the back of Persil and redeem them for free train travel for	Get a sponsor to pick up a tab for a lucrative pre season tour to the Far East

the team to Aldershot. I recall this being a favoured trick of the Denis Smith era City.	
Last minute FA Cup tie winner = Robbed of lucrative replay.	Concede last minute FA Cup tie equaliser = Not another game we don't need.
1,200 away fans at Dagenham = Great support	2,000 away fans at Stoke. We could do without the hassle of selling the tickets and sending a cheque to Stoke, there is nothing in it for us.
Mascot: Free plus a half time cuppa made by a match day sub for Dad	£1,500 – Prime, or a bit less to walk out holding a player's hand before the game as one of the mascot team.
Sponsor's Box: All the corned beef sarnies you can eat plus 5 free drinks. Injured players and club officials popping in before the game to chat and make sure everything is ok. After the final whistle, players still dripping wet after their showers to discuss the game with you. Last one out, turn off the lights.	Prawn sandwiches (probably with the crusts cut off) and some former player (who the youngsters in your party won't have heard off) as your match day host.
Which reminds name of 1994 and City's pre season tour to Dublin. An evening draw at Shelbourne (if memory serves me right) and it is off to the club bar till closing time. The bar staff clock off and go off home leaving supporters from both clubs to help themselves, put the money in the till and lock up when they're finished. Dawn breaks, 6 in the morning and the impromptu game on the pitch comes to an end, players exhausted (and inebriated), the Guinness is drunk dry and the till is full. A good night was had by all.	No chance. Walk on our grass? Trust you in the bar? Are you mad? Or Stupid? Or both?
Mixed Zones: The Social Club after the game, all welcome	Somewhere where players shuffle through, heads down, hoodies up, trying to avoid eye contact and ignoring journalists as they make their getaway after the game.
Failed player, paid over the odds. No one will want him, so we've got to pay his wages for another 18 months until the end of his contract.	Failed player. Which struggling mugs will cover his wages in their desperate struggle to avoid relegation from The Premiership?
Mid season break. A run and game on the beach at Scarborough when the training ground is frozen. Especially to prepare for a cup game, although that perk seems to be a thing of the past, budget cuts or global warning, take your pick.	5 nights in Qatar.

# Quenelle

*Time for a bit of controversy! I can't get excited about Nicolas Anelka, his gesture and the subsequent furore.*

Before it happened, I'd never heard of the gesture and I suspect the vast majority of people were likewise flummoxed when the story got onto the front and back pages.

There's lots of talk about gestures, nuances and ethnic minorities. Is it anti semitic and / or anti establishment, what do the nuances mean, is it only anti semitic in certain places, can someone use a word when talking to a member of the same ethnicity and does it make a difference if a member of one ethnic minority makes a gesture against a member of a different ethnic minority

Answering the last point first, its definitely no. Regarding the others, personally I'd say a gesture is the same gesture no matter where its performed, but as for the other questions, its a grey area.

The gesture itself, I've seen photos of people doing it with their left arm and their right arm, sometimes touching the top of their shoulder, other times touching the top of their arm, even the heart. Just what is a Dieudonne gesture?

It has been described as a kind of reverse, or inverted nazi salute. Call me naive or innocent, but that's a firm, outstretched right arm pointing slightly upwards and outwards from the body. Anelka's gesture is a limp little arm across the body.

Think about Winston Churchill and his V sign. Change the direction of the palm and it completely changes the meaning of the gesture.

Whatever, the footballing authorities took 3 weeks before they decided to press charges, so unsure they were of their position and the need to get their case in order. Now we're expecting at least another 3 weeks, if not more, before the case is heard. Doesn't sound like an open and shut case to me.

Anelka has been fairly reticent, saying it was a tribute to Dieudonne, one of his heroes and nothing more.

If I was the footballing authorities, I'd have had a word with Anelka, reminded him of his responsibilities, how his actions might be construed by others and tell him to be more careful of how his actions in the future.

Silly boy.

PS Most pointless thing about football? A team scores a goal and rushes to retrieve the ball from the net to make a quick re-start. Its not they who restart and they won't hurry up the opposition. If I was the opposition, I'd let them place the ball on the centre spot whilst I calmly held an inquest with my defence into why we've just let in a goal. It would waste a few seconds and get the scorers wound up.

## Player Names

Just noted Anderson (Fiorentina, ex Manchester United) will wear the number 88 shirt with name of Andow on it. No its not that he can't spell, its just that he is using a made up name, a shortened version of Andowlove, his Instagram handle. Maybe someone could charge him with illegal advertising.

Whatever the craze for names on shirts has surely gone too far.

I can understand why some players, usually South Americans, go for a shortened nickname, I don't suppose Pele would have fitted his full name of Edson Arantes do Nascimento onto the back of his shirt. His name being made up of the first or maternal family name of Arantes and the second or paternal family name of Nascimento. Pele is a nickname.

Even Eusébio da Silva Ferreira, son of Laurindo António da Silva Ferreira, would have struggled to fit his full surname onto his shirt.

Back home:

- Sergio Leonel Agüero del Castillo, has somehow been given permission to use the shirt name of Kun Agüero. Good job his surname doesn't have a "T" at the front of it. Apparently nicknamed Kum Kum as a child, so Kun is a derivation of his nickname. He wore Kun on his shirt at Athletico Madrid and our authorities have taken the view that if he used it in Spain, then he can use it in England. Even so, I doubt if City had 2 Agüeros on their books.
- Ravel Morrison now wears "Ravel" on his shirt, again, apparently given permission by the powers that be to mark a new beginning. Any thoughts what he might wear when his WHU career unravels (no pun intended), "Moro", "Moron" or "Loser" maybe?

### **Mis-spelt Names**

In August 2012, United midfielder Anderson came on as a second-half substitute during a 1-0 defeat at Goodison Park. His shirt sported the name "Andesron", note the misplaced "R" and "S". Surprisingly, he wasn't the first manure player to have his name mis-spelt on his shirt, remember David Beckam, with the missing "H", who appeared for them in the 1997 Charity Shield. Others include David "Betnley" Bentley and Everton's Gerard Deulofeu who had the "L" and "F" in his surname swapped around, although with a name like his. its an easv mistake to make.

There is a law in the Premier League rulebook that addresses the issue directly. It states: 'Each player shall wear a shirt on the back of which shall be prominently displayed his shirt number and above that his surname or such other name as may be approved in writing by the board.' Essentially clubs can write to the Premier League on behalf of the player before the season to request an alternative name and give reasons why.

Apparently at least one request was rejected on the basis it was simply an abbreviated surname that sounded better. My money is on Manchester City, maybe Micah Richards ("Rich") or perhaps Matija Nastasić ("Nasty").



Over in Spain, anything seems to go and anything is allowed to change every season. Guti (real name Jose Maria Gutierrez) changed his shirt name from Guti, to Guti H, to Guti Haz over a couple of seasons whilst Casillas has transformed from Casillas to I Casillas to Iker Casillas.

### Long Names

Retired Dutch international Jan Vennegoor of Hesselink enjoyed a successful career with Twente and PSV and had time with Celtic and Hull City. He had 'Jan', or 'V of H' on his back, not his full surname. Not sure if he was broad enough to have a shirt wide enough to sport his full name or whether he was thinking of the fans and saving them money when they wanted his name printed on their replica shirts

Italian authorities seem to have taken more lax view of the rules to allow Anderson (born Anderson Luís de Abreu Oliveira) to wear a new nickname on his shirt.

Everyone is given a name at birth, their name is also on their passport. It shouldn't be too hard to choose a shirt name based on a player's family name without having to resort to nicknames.

Its much more sensible to just have a surname on the back of a shirt. Or is that just too much common sense for our footballing authorities?

*Further Reading: When researching this article, I came across a 24 page FA rule book covering football kit regulations, going into details of size and colour of logos, permitted advertising, tracksuits and other clothing in the technical area and jacquard weaving. The FIFA equivalent runs to 92 pages. Fun reading.*

### Anomalies

*Chicharito* probably has the most distinctive name, meaning Little Pea. He wore it regularly in Mexico and the Premier League gave permission to continue using an existing name.

*Bryan Ruiz* (Fulham) who wears his christian name on his shirt, changing this season from using his surname.

*Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink* originally wore 'Jimmy' on signing for Leeds in 1997 before changing back to his surname.

*Lassana Diarra*, of Chelsea, Arsenal and Portsmouth fame, had 'Lass' printed on his shirt during his spell at Real Madrid to avoid confusion with Mahamadou Diarra. Its unclear whether it was intended as a shortened version of his first name or described how effective he was when playing in London.

The late *Christian Benitez* had his nickname 'Chucho' on the back of his shirt throughout his professional career, including his spell at Birmingham City and translated to 'pesky mutt', another thing for the FA to worry about if we start employing foreign nicknames.

*Jordi Cruyff* used his forename at times to separate him from the surname made famous by his father, Johan. On the pitch, it was easy to spot the difference.

*Stelios Giannakopoulos*, The Ex-Bolton midfielder, went for 'Stelios', that one was easy to understand.

# Billy Fenton

*Spring. City fan's thoughts turn to one thing. Pencil in hand, ready for action, time to vote for clubman of the year. We look back at the life and times of Billy Fenton who gave his name to City's player of the season trophy.*

Born in the north east in 1926, Billy Fenton was destined for a career in football from an early age. He turned out for Barnsley towards the end of World War 2 before making a name for himself as a left winger with the Horden Colliery Welfare, a strong amateur side in County Durham.

For the record, he's not to be confused with "B Fenton" who played for City during the war, that was Benny Fenton, the flamboyant West Ham and Charlton forward.

Professional football beckoned and Billy was to join the exodus from the north east to Lancashire to sign for Blackburn Rovers in December 1948.

Joining just as they'd just been relegated from England's top division, he spent nearly 3 years with Rovers. At 1.75m (5 foot 9), he was a good height for a winger of his era and had pace to burn. He made 33 league appearances, scoring 7 goals without ever making a first team spot his own.

He joined City in May 1951 and in his first season set a club record of 31 goals in a season, a record twice equalled by Arthur Bottom, but never bettered to this day.



Times were tough at York. Leaving behind a modern semi with garden in Blackburn, Fenton and his wife, Margo, moved into a terraced house in Heslington Road with no hot water or inside toilet.

Undoubtedly, he is best remembered for his role in our 1955 FA Cup run when he scored 3 goals (including goals against Blackpool and Spurs (see photo above)). He gave a man of the match display against Spurs, his pace causing problems

throughout. He gave England right back, Alf (later Sir Alf) Ramsey a torrid afternoon, his speed and guile provided 2 assists to go with the goal he scored himself.

Individually, the 4 goals he scored in our 5-4 win at Carlisle in November 1954 remains to this day one of the finest ever displays by a City player. In 7 seasons, with City he made 257 league appearances, scoring 118 goals. Only Norman Wilkinson and Keith Walwyn have beaten that.

After City, he played for Scarborough and was associated with local amateur football whilst working as a draughtsman in York.

He died suddenly, aged 46, in June 1973.

Within months, plans were formulated to create a City Player Of The Season award.

Awarded annually since April 1974, The Billy Fenton Memorial Trophy has been presented to York City's Clubman Of The Year. To this day, Billy's widow, Margo, has presented the trophy.

In 1955, City's front 4 of Fenton, Arthur Bottom, Norman Wilkinson and Sid Storey were feared throughout the footballing world. I doubt if ever again we will see such a formidable strike force wearing City shirts.

In Fenton's day, teams ran much larger squads than today and virtually no youth teams. Consequently, smaller clubs like City profited when players in their early to mid 20s were released. Most of City's 1954/5 Happy Wanderers side started off at larger clubs, failed to make the grade and found their way to City. In those days, the transfer system meant players were attached to their clubs even after contracts expired. In some extreme cases, clubs held onto a player's registration and didn't offer him a contract meaning no games and no money.

Watch Arthur Bottom and Norman Wilkinson plus Happy Wanderers On Film on the [York City South website](http://www.yorkcitysouth.co.uk)

## YCS News

We've an upcoming series of social meetings and fun nights, all welcome (please check our website <http://www.yorkcitysouth.co.uk> nearer the time for further details and confirmation)

- **Saturday March 15: City v Wycombe.** YCS are sponsoring a box on the day we present our own player of the season award, tickets from £35, Email [YCFCS@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:YCFCS@hotmail.co.uk) for details.
- **Thursday March 27: Social evening and darts competition at The Sheephaven Arms** 2-3 Mornington Street, Camden, NW1 7QD.
- **Thursday May 29: Social, AGM and quiz at Old Doctor Butler's Head, 2, Masons Avenue, London, EC2V 5BT (upstairs function room).** All new quiz featuring "The Hardest City Round Ever" and "Higher Or Lower".

Sorry, you've (probably) missed David Stockdale at our February meeting. The latest in a long list of City figures at our meetings, including Dean Kiely, Jon Champion, Douglas Craig and Sophie McGill.

February 19: YCS member Andy Naylor makes his Countdown debut on Channel 4.

Coming Soon: YCS player of the year voting, check our web site and your email for details.

Branch membership is open to all living south of York, just £10 a year (concessions and life membership available). Email [goodearlay@yahoo.com](mailto:goodearlay@yahoo.com) for further details.

## Loanees

I wasn't too keen on our pre Xmas loan babes' side. OK, one or 2 were good, especially in their first few weeks.

Our team lacked identity and when our FA Cup game came around in November, we had to bring back 3 or 4 of our own players when the loanees were refused permission to play by their parent clubs.

All we did was to provide a platform for their youngsters to get some first team experience. Then they were off.

Think back to last season, Adam Reed came down from Sunderland, he helped to keep us up. When he was released by Sunderland, his ability was well known at our level. We didn't have the financial muscle and couldn't offer the career opportunities that big money Burton could offer.

Give me a Danny Parslow, even a Chris Smith any day. They're our players. They've a contract (or had) with York (and probably hope for a new one at the end of it). They're committed and want to do well for their long term careers, which can only help City in the medium term. We can identify with them, they can identify with us. They give us hope, we know what to expect and nobody gets too excited.

Think back to any of our successful sides. Few had many loanees in their ranks. The Wembley double winners fielded just one loanee, Ben Gibson. We can assimilate one or two without the team losing its identity.

Anymore and we start to lose our identity. They contracted players will be always looking over their shoulder, hoping its not them that the manager seeks to replace with a short term signing. On the training pitch, it must be difficult to work on the formation and tactics when the team is always liable to lose a player back to his parent club at short notice.

Young loanees give us false hope, any good and they are back home very quickly, never to be seen again. Ben Gibson, 3 months, then off to Tranmere on loan. Luke O'Neil, 4 months and then off to Southend.

If they're any good, they leave us, if not, more often than not we are lumbered with them and if they throw their toys out of the pram, they can be recalled by their parent club at a minute's notice. Chris Kettings, where are you now?

CONTINUES PAGE 15

### Star Loans

I was going to do a side panel with some of the successes who'd played on loan with us, I struggled.

*Michael Ingham:* Went on to play in The Premiership and for Northern Ireland.

*Michael Proctor:* Striker, around as the same time as Ingham under a deal with Sunderland. Looked set for a long career, but lost his way.

*Steve Murray:* Classy young midfielder signed by Denis Smith from Cloughie's Forest. Later signed for Celtic and won a six figure court pay out after his career was ended by a bad tackle in an Old Firm game.

# What Might Have Been

*How many ex City players are still playing at Football League level? More than you think.*

David Stockdale;

Ben Purkiss, Darius Charles, Byron Webster, James Meredith;

Nicky Wroe, Neal Bishop, Andre Boucaud, Martyn Woolford;

Jon Greening, Matty Blair:

Subs: Paul Robinson, Mike Duckworth, Danny Racchi, Jon Parkin, Chris Beardsley

Spoilt for choice for the keeper's shirt. The gloves must go to David Stockdale who is keeping for Fulham in The Premiership, 7 years after being released by City. Mixed feelings when he was released by Billy McEwan, but in hindsight it probably saved his career. Talk of England and squad call ups now seem a distant memory.

In defence, we've a pair of Division 1 full backs who refused terms immediately after Wembley triumphs. Ben Purkiss left City for our victors, Oxford in 2010. He never quite made it there, but via a spell back in non league football, he ended up at Walsall and Division 1 in August 2012. Still there, he has made over 40 appearances for them. At left back is James Meredith, now a Bradford City full back although he missed out on another day out at Wembley when glandular fever prevented him playing for The Bantams in last season's Carling Cup Final.

Central defence features Bryon Webster and Darius Charles. Like Stockdale, Webster lost his way after a promising start City. Via Scotland and Czechoslovakia he ended up in The Championship, first with Doncaster and now with Yeovil, sharing in their Wembley play off success in May 2013. You may or may not find details of Darius Charles' City career. He joined City from Ebbsfleet along with Michael Gash and Neil Barrett in June 2009. His girlfriend didn't fancy York and the deal were cancelled 2 days later. Now at Stevenage, he is a regular in their Division 1 side, playing both centre back and centre forward and with a reasonable scoring record.

Not bad, 4 defenders, all playing above our level.

Midfield features 3 players we sold on for a combined fee of about £200,000. Martyn Woolford's sale netting most of it. A leading light at Scunthorpe, he was helicoptered to Bristol on transfer deadline day in 2011 to sign a City deal and joined Millwall 2 years later. At all 3 clubs he has played in The Championship. Andre Boucaud left City for those who we don't mention, he soon fell out of favour there (*Ed – no one likes it there*) and moved to Division 1 Notts County where he is a regular midfielder.

At County, last season, he played alongside Neal Bishop. Bishop rejected a new contract (just like he did when he left City for Barnet) and joined Championship side

Blackpool in August 2013. He has made a fair few Championship appearances in both midfield and at right back.

They are joined in midfield by Nicky Wroe, he only had a few months with City but proved to be a free scoring midfielder in the conference before joining Torquay. Upwardly mobile, he's moved into Division 1 with Preston and now Shrewsbury.

Up front Jon Greening and Matty Blair are paired together. In common are Champions League / European Cup winner's medals. Jon got his in 1999 when a non playing sub for Manchester United whilst Matty can only look at the one his Dad won with Aston Villa in 1982 and dream of what might have happened if he'd stayed with City.

We can name a 5 man bench. Pride of place goes to Paul Robinson, the England international keeper, now restored to the Blackburn goal after a year out with illness. City released him as a 16 year old when Andy Warrington was blocking his path (yes, really). We've 2 of our former youngsters on the bench. Mike Duckworth is now a rising star at Hartlepool having made the right back shirt his own following his transfer from FC Halifax in August 2013. He was released by City in 2010; some thought him more deserving of a professional contract than Jamie Hopcutt and Dean Lisles who did sign short lived professional contracts in 2010. Alongside him is Chris Hogg, recently forced to retire after a serious knee injury, he made 165 appearances in The Scottish Premier League for Hibs and Inverness Caledonian Thistle. He started his career in City's youth system, indeed he captained England's Under 15 side whilst with us. As a 16 year old, he made a £150,000 transfer to Ipswich where he progressed through the England age sides up to the Under 19s but failed to make the grade at Portman Road. A spell at Boston followed before making the move to Scotland and a successful career. Maybe lacking a little in height for a centre back, he was a solid, sturdy defender who could more than hold his own in the air.

Midfield sub is Danny Racchi who played for Kilmarnock after leaving City and is currently playing for Valur in Iceland's top flight. To round off the squad, we have 2 strikers in Jon Parkin and Chris Beardsley. Parkin left City for £150,000 and seems to have played for nearly every club, including Stoke in The Premiership. To me he's best remembered for a Jonathan Pearce quote during a BBC mid week live game, "Parkin is making ground through the middle, at his speed, he'll be in the box by Saturday". Chris Beardsley's City career never recovered from a broken jaw at Grays, although he's since played for various Division 1 and 2 teams and scored against us in November 2013 when on loan at Bristol Rovers.

Not forgetting the back room staff:

Managers: The qualifications of John Ward are well known. But I'm going for Graham Potter. Potter, City's left back between 2000 and 2003 has guided Sweden's Ostersunds FK to 2 successive promotions. Last season, they finished a respectable 10<sup>th</sup> in Sweden's second tier, the Superettan League. Under Potter, they play 3 at the back and won much acclaim for their stylish possession football.

Assistant Manager: Chris Brass



**Coach:** Alan Groves teamed up with Avram Grant at Portsmouth and West Ham. He returned to Bournemouth as coach where he had 7 months as manager in 2012.

**Physio:** Remember Mark Sertori, our ex Halifax midfielder, signed in 1999. He wasn't very good but I recall him being our midfield enforcer (to put it politely). A trained masseur, he was an England masseur at the 2010 World Cup in South Africa. Formerly with Newcastle, he is currently with Manchester City. To cover an injury crisis, we can call upon Stuart Walker, the Aston Villa physio, eagle eyed readers may recall him making 2 appearances in goal for us in our Division 2 days in the mid 1970s, others may best recall him for the horrendous howlers he made in those 2 games.

**Chief Exec:** Mark Cartwright who is fulfilling that role at Stoke. Appointed in late 2012, he seemed instrumental in the departure of Tony Pulis. At City, he never graduated beyond our intermediates and left us in 1991. Bit part spells at Stockport, Wrexham, Bury, Brighton and Shrewsbury followed before retiring in 2001.

**Youth Team Coach:** Ricky Sbragia. Former City Youth Team Manager role he later held at Sunderland and Manchester United. Currently fulfilling a similar role with Scotland Under 19s.

### Loanees (continued from page 12)

When recalled, we are left with a hole in our team. Recall the player who wasn't considered good enough first

time round, or go back to the loan market. It's a lose lose situation.

Throw in the fact that our loanees have no sell on value to us, injury cover excepted, what's the point?

Nowadays, many loan deals mean City covering all or part of the loanee's wages so its not a case of something for nothing. One loanee was costing us a grand in week in fees to his parent club during our Conference days..

Loanees have a place in lower league football, especially when we have no reserve side, but we can't afford to be used as a short term dumping ground for precocious youngsters who have no sell on value to City and if they are any good, won't be around for long.

Over the years, we managed to pick

Changing the subject, loanees probably also stunt the development of our home grown players.

More and more I'm thinking, without a reserve side to develop our own youngsters, what's the point of a youth policy. Time and time again we see the step up from 18 year old intermediate football to professional footballer / thuggery / body builders is a step too far.

Would a young John Byrne, Jon Greening or Richard Cresswell make the grade with City today?

several decent players out of lower league and amateur football. There are always more to be found, although I accept you're as likely to find a Jameel Ible or Ben Everson for every Richard Brodie and Martyn Woolford, especially if you don't do your homework.

# **Football Manager**

*Many summers ago, I had an encounter with 2 characters. Really strange it was. They said they'd written a new PC football game where you are the manager of your favourite club...*

They sent me a list of 30 City players, including a lot of juniors and told me to rate them. Some had been released in the summer. Against each player were 25 columns and I had to enter a rating for each attribute, a total of 750 data items.

With no guidance on how to rate players, I may have overstated some of their attributes. Wasn't sure whether to rate them as players at our level, or in comparison to Premiership and international players. I proceeded to rate them, in my view reasonably, on a one to twenty scale for each of the 25 attributes.

As for the juniors, some I'd never seen play, had never heard of them and wasn't sure if they were left or right footed! It was like using a pin and hoping for the best.

Our strike force in those days was Jon McCarthy, Paul Barnes, Paul Baker and Glenn Naylor. I probably rated Tutill higher than I should, likewise McMillan and Hall. Paul Stephenson was definitely overrated. If you play the game and trawl through our juniors you will find some real bargains.

Personally, I found it daunting to rate our players and thought how boring it would be playing the game and having to sift through hundreds, maybe thousands, of players to decide who to sign. The blurb suggested you'd assemble a team from all the real players from all the top teams in Europe and take your team from the minor leagues to European football.

Having co-authored it (in a minor way), a copy of Championship Manager arrived a few months later. It even listed me as a contributor along with 100+ names who supplied stats for their club.

As soon as I loaded the disc, I was addicted. Playing as York City, winning promotion to the top flight was easy.

Steve Bushell was a 20 goals a season man for 10 seasons. Paul Baker would always come off the bench and get me a goal. Paul Stephenson, Paul Barnes and Steve Tutill were soon England regulars. I managed to find a free transfer right winger from Blackpool reserves who easily scored 40 goals a season.

Sometimes I sold Steve Tutill. The first edition did not have a very clever transfer system engine. It was easy to hold out against the first bid, get other teams interested and get into an auction situation, eventually selling Tutill (and others) for well over one million pounds.

As City rose up the leagues, it was easy to develop a rich vein in cheap and effective Spanish imports, something which the PC game predated reality by about 10 years.

For some reason, I was never asked to grade the City players in any later version.



## Cod Army: City's Next Reserve Side

*Unashamedly pillaged from Grimsby's excellent fanzine, Cod Army and first published on January 13, 2014. Check out their fanzine at [www.codalmighty.com](http://www.codalmighty.com)*

GRIMSBY Town manager Paul Hurst has confirmed that another York City player is joining the Mariners – and admits his Minstermen fixation won't end there.

The arrival of Jamal Fyfield from Bootham Crescent this week will take the Mariners' ex-York contingent to five alongside Scott Kerr, Patrick McLaughlin, Chris Doig and Alex Rodman.

"I haven't actually seen Jamal play," said Hurst earlier today. "But he's been on the books at York City, so that's good enough for me.

"Jason Walker's approaching the A180 as we speak, and then we'll be taking a look at Matty Blair and Danny Parslow. We're also expecting York City's kit man and coach driver on trial next week, followed by the tea lady at the end of the month."

Having signed basically the entire promotion-winning Minstermen team of 2012, Hurst intends to go a step further and transform his team into an out-and-out York City tribute band.

"If you look at outfits like the Bootleg Beatles and Australian Pink Floyd, they've made a great success," the Town manager said. "And by reassembling York's promotion-winning Conference team, there's no reason why we can't do the same.

"We've got the personnel. Now we intend to perform cover versions of all their biggest hits from that season.

"There's the 7-0 romp against Kettering. The 6-2 away at Salisbury. And we'll finish the set with the FA Trophy and play-off final double. We're looking at the O2 Arena for that.

"Hey, and you know them tribute bands that have really clever names like Oasish and the Counterfeit Stones? Well, we're planning to rename the club New York City FC! Do you get it? We'll be like a new York City!" concluded Hurst, before tailing off and mumbling a bit.

Meanwhile civic and Anglican leaders in Grimsby have denied that the recent renaming of St James' Church as Grimsby Minster forms part of a concerted effort with the football club to imitate the city of York.

"What?" said North East Lincolnshire Council leader Chris Shaw, hastily closing the lid of his laptop. "No, ha ha, of course these aren't plans for a railway museum and chocolate factory."

# Darlington. York City Reserves

*Re-printed here is an article that first appeared in issue 6 of **new frontiers** way back when, in December 1993. Then, we were more than likely to offload our has beens to Darlington*

When I started supporting York City, in the late 1960s, we were bad. 3 consecutive re-election campaigns just about summed it up.

It was some consolation that we weren't the worst. Hartlepool, Rochdale, Halifax, Barrow, Bradford Park Avenue and Darlington were down there with us. Usually just below City, although we were bad.

At least we had somewhere to exile our worst players. Most found their way to Darlington, sooner or later. Around 30 in the last 20 years.

Talking with a Darlington fan the other day, he told me how he had bought Dave Batters' excellent "Complete Record" book so that he could look up the careers of the vast number of City players who found their way to Feethams. It got me thinking too, of all the players who have graced (even disgraced) the shirts of City and Darlington over the years that I have been watching City. I counted almost 30 names, some names I had completely forgotten about. Most players (and I use that word loosely) went from City to Darlington. Worryingly, the trend appears to have been reversed in recent years.

I suppose the mid 1970s saw the peak of the exodus. City in Division 2 had a big squad. Relegation back to Division 3 in 1976 saw a massive clear out. City freed 8 players, 3 went straight to Feethams. **Barry Lyons**, a record signing back in 1973 led the way. 2 other players who had never re-established themselves in City's side after long term injuries, **John Stone** and **Dennis Wann** went with him. All 3 had played prominent parts in City's 1974 promotion side. **Barry Lyons** oozed class on the right, his ball skills making up for his advancing years, setting **Ian Holmes** and **Brian Pollard** away on many mazy runs. Full back **Stone**, a former prolific scorer for Middlesbrough Intermediates never recovered his form after receiving a bad knee injury in a tackle with **Barry Swallow** and a Sunderland forward. At Darlington he recovered his form and later made a £30,000 transfer back to Division 2 with Grimsby. Likewise, **Dennis Wann**, who never regained his exceptional pace after breaking a leg, was a regular in his 3 seasons at Feethams.

At the end of 1976, they were joined at Feethams by **Jimmy Seal**. He spent 4 seasons at York. He did very little in his first season. He only managed 3 goals. He came good in his next, the promotion season when he was joined by **Chris Jones**, they were joint top scorers with 17 goals each. **Chris Jones** also managed a brief long spell at Darlington at the start of 1978. By this time, another former City forward, **Eddie Rowles**, had also spent a couple of seasons at Feethams. **John Peachey**, a hero with his goals in City's 1973/4 League Cup campaign had 2 spells at Feethams. First on loan and then a full season. Although near the bottom of the division, the ex City contingent were regular scorers for Darlington, at times their side fielded 5 ex City stars.

Around this era, Darlington's result would be the first I would look for when I got back from City's game. Almost without fail, an ex City player would have scored for Darlington.

Today, the **Seal - Jones** partnership is still going strong in York veterans league soccer. In their heyday they rivalled Bristol Rovers Warboys - Bannister for goals.

At that time, football's Bermuda Triangle for experienced players involved York, Darlington and Rochdale. **Seal**, **Jones** and **Wann** each also had a spell at Rochdale before being lost to The Football League. A similar triangle for young players involved Middlesbrough, York and Darlington. **Graeme Hedley** and **Don Burluraux** both took this course out of the Football League.

**Barry Lyons** fared better. He returned to Bootham Crescent, first as a popular youth coach before being appointed to the manager's chair in 1980. He reverted to youth coach when losing his job as manager and finally left football in June 1982 to become a hotelier. Undoubtedly, his best move as manager of York City was to sign **Keith Walwyn** for an absolute giveaway of £4,000.

As one crop of ex City players left Darlington, another was arriving. **Alan Kamara** and **Peter Bainbridge**. 2 young players whose chances had been limited at York. **Kamara**, at right back never seemed to fit in on the right hand side of City's defence, he should have done, he had **Peter Lorimer** playing (and shouting at him) in front of him. At Darlington, he was a regular, making 134 appearances. Spells at Burton and Scarborough followed. Last season, he was appointed assistant manager at Halifax. 13 years after his league debut, he was still playing league soccer, evidence of at least some talent. **Bainbridge** made only a handful of appearances for Darlington.

As **Bainbridge** went to Darlington, **Derek Craig** made the opposite journey. 2 seasons as City's regular centre half did little to endear him to the City supporters.

City's current youth coach, **Ricky Sbragia**, who led his young charges to the FA Youth Cup quarter finals last season also had a spell at Darlington. At the start of the 1985/6 season, he had a month at Feethams, on loan, while regaining full fitness following a back injury.

More recently, the links between the 2 clubs have continued. Brian Little led Darlington back into the Football League and then to the Division 4 championship before moving onto pastures new at Leicester. His little brother, **Alan Little** was appointed York manager in March 1993.

In January 1973, City's struggling Division 3 side, who always seemed much fitter than their opponents, lost their coach, **Billy Horner**, who returned to Darlington. At Feethams, he made several more appearances in Division 4 and was later promoted to manager.

Before that, the links were already in place. City's displaced keepers went to Feethams. **Tony Moor**, **Gordon Morritt** and **John Mackin**. **Moor** being by far the most popular. A regular at Feethams for 7 seasons. I've grouped **John Mackin** in with the goalkeepers. Yes, you're right, he was a right back, but as a schoolboy he was selected to play in goal for the English Schoolboys, he had to decline the offer as he was Scottish. He played 2 games on loan to Darlington. At York, he was a regular over 4 seasons forming a strong full back partnership alongside **Phil Burrows**.

Another keeper to find his way to Feethams was **Mike Astbury**. Having ousted **Roger Jones**, he lost his place in City's goal following a serious facial injury, he joined Darlington in 1986 and made 38 league appearances for them. Around this time, Darlington became City's recuperation side. As well as **Sbragia**, **Steve Senior** and **Chris Evans** found their way to Darlington. **Senior** a loan move, he returned to spend another 2 years as a City regular before a transfer to Northampton and a higher grade football. The popular **Chris Evans** made a permanent move to Darlington. Around the same time, 2 of **Denis Smith's** lesser signings also moved to Feethams. **David McAughtrie**, of whom great things had been expected at Bootham Crescent, having been chased by **Smith** for over a year, and **Hugh Atkinson**, who did virtually nothing, had undistinguished spells at Feethams before drifting out of league soccer. They were joined at Darlington by **Stewart Ferebee** who had made 13 appearances as a City striker at the start of the decade before drifting into non league soccer. A further short spell at Halifax followed. At Bootham Crescent, one of his colleagues had been **Phil Taylor** who resurfaced at Feethams after a spell in Belgium football.

The late eighties saw the start of a worrying trend. Former Darlington players finding their way to Bootham Crescent. **Kevan Smith**, a £45,000 signing from Coventry, had a disappointing season at Bootham Crescent before a free transfer back to Feethams. Undoubtedly, he is far more popular at Darlington (at least among the supporters) than he ever was at Bootham Crescent.

Last season saw **John Borthwick** at York. A free transfer signing he made a bright start to his City career. His heading ability making a big impression. Unfortunately, he couldn't sustain his form and lost his regular place. He was a non playing substitute in City's Wembley triumph and was granted a free transfer the following week. The trend continues. **Gary Himsworth**, who was given a free transfer by York joined Darlington in the summer when freed by Scarborough. It came as something of a surprise when **John Bird** freed **Himsworth** as he had often sung his praises. At York, his slight teenage frame often took a battering out wide on the left wing. At Scarborough, he gave a series of man of the match performances when moved into central midfield.

Behind the scenes, the former City secretary, **Tom Hughes** had a spell with Middlesbrough before moving to Darlington. New manager, **Alan Murray** is another ex City man, albeit, a loan signing who made 4 appearances in 1972.

## Drinking “York” Dry

*YCS members Ray Goodearl and Dot Brown are on a one couple crusade to visit every pub in the country with “York” in its name.*

With many visits clashing with City games its been a labour of love in more ways than one. City defeats are matched in equal measure with the sight of boarded up (or demolished) pubs. Even worse is to find pubs which have become part of dreary chains.

The defeat at Bury on December 30 gave Ray and Dot the opportunity to spend a few nights in the north and cross more pubs off their list. Ray takes over:

*Big effort on the 'Pub' front over the New Year, combined with the disasters at Accrington and Bury, and the dodgy success at home to Morecambe. After Bury match, we stayed in Ramsbottom, Oh dear, Lancashire in the rain, mist and gloom is not pretty. Anyway to drown our sorrows we did a tour as follows. Duke of York, 109, Heyside, Royton, Oldham, OL2 6NB, open but on its last legs, publican not interested, no customers, a sorry place. Duke of York, 126, Colne Road, Burnley, BB10 1DY, it was boarded up and in very poor repair with sold sign, would guess for re-development. Lancs & Yorks, Station Road, Bamber Bridge, Nr Preston, PR5 6LA, boarded up, but sign for business opportunity for pub management, but evidently planning applied for small supermarket. York Hotel, 96, Nutgrove Road, St Helens, Liverpool WA9 5JL. in good order, Sky etc, but arrived not during opening hours, so will visit again probably on way to Rochdale in April. York, 114, Newport Street, Bolton, BL3 6AB, open and apparently thriving according to landlord (drunk at the time!!).*

The right side of the Pennines and things got a bit better, the “highlight” being “Yorke”, Ramsgill (Nidderdale) near Pateley Bridge, HG3 5RL which is now a very high class Michelin eating house where one beer and a soft drink was £6 including a bowl of special crisps all delivered on a silver tray!!!

Not sure what was worse, the Bury defeat or the lowlights of Lancashire / back streets of Yorkshire.

On their travels again, they ticked off a Northampton pub boarded up when they were there in April 2013, but recently re-opened. Ray's comments might suggest a lack of customer service:

*Whilst at Northampton we popped around to Duke of York in St Andrews Road. It is now open (but only just). Called in on Saturday before the match, didn't open till 3pm, called back on Sunday didn't open till 2pm, we went inside at 2.10pm, deserted, no one behind the bar, took some photos and came out again.*

A pub with no beer I've heard of, but a pub with no staff is new to me (unless your include Shelbourne (see “My Perfect Cousin” on page 4).

January 2014 also saw a first. A sharp eyed YCS member noted a 'Duke of York' public house in Stoke, not previously on Ray's listing.

January ended with a trip to Hartlepool, Ray's earlier valentine gift to Dot.

*If you want to romance the wife, take her to Hartlepool for the week-end, delightful place!!!! Called at The Vale of York in Carlton Minott, near Thirsk, on the Friday afternoon, money spent on the pub recently, a good pint, and future looks good. In the evening, Dot and I went out for a meal to The Duke of York in Firtrees, near Crook, again money spent on the pub, it was very busy, local food and local ales. Should have gone on Saturday evening rather than Friday, as a Saturday night in Hartlepool is an eye opener. Scary! We stayed in the York House Hotel in Hartlepool, which is not on the listings. But after chatting to the owners it now a B & B (not an hotel open the public), a drinks licence was applied for in 1905 from the records they had about the place, but it has not been a pub for many years. On the way back we called in at the North Yorkshire Brewery in Pinchingthorpe, a 15 barrel a week producer, we purchased a case of a dozen bottles, after the manager had shown us around.*

Check our web site for further information, see <http://www.yorkcitysouth.co.uk> including a full list of all the pubs.



Photo: Ray outside The Duke Of York in Gosberton, Lincolnshire, one of 74 pubs with that name on his list.

# TRANSFER DAY MADNESS

*This nearly happened on January 31, transfer deadline day. Any resemblance to players, managers and any team near you is purely intentional. With financial constraints its a strict one out before one in policy, but with plenty of deadwood at the club, that should be easy enough. Or should it? Deadwood anyone?*

05:59: Neil is woken, he turns and switches off his alarm. It continues to ring, he picks up the alarm and flings it across the room. Its still ringing. He realises its his mobile. "Wanna top striker, Mark Rankin's deal to Grimsby has fallen through", its Harry the agent. Its an early start to transfer deadline day.

07:15: Neil arrives at his office and a few calls to some continental agents to see if Neil can net the star striker he desperately needs before the English agents wake up from their excesses of the night before. Nothing doing, although one agent did ask which tube line is York on.

09:00: PFA call, they've 198 players looking for new clubs.

10:00: 25 calls made and no one wants to sign Kris Dicks who can't even make our bench.

10:05: By chance, Kris Dicks walks into the office.

"Boss, I'm not happy, I'm struggling to even make the bench now, I want out".

Neil taps into his calculator, breaking into song, "5 grand and you can go now, go now".

"Make it 7".

"OK, 4", snaps Neil.

"Yes", Kris Dicks accepts redundancy package in lieu of contracted wages. Neil has saved City 4 grand and the player with his tax free pay off is able to go and join anyone he wants. He might follow Donny Blunkett to Cambridge City, but is more likely to end up at Grimsby. One unwanted squad player out, 5 still to go.

10:40: 47 phone calls later, Neil has rung every club in Division 2 and The Conference, no takers for any of his 5 unwanted. The best he was offered was for us to pay 110% (wage plus employers National Insurance) of one of the player's wages to make a loan switch and 2 offers to swap our unwanted for their unwanted.

10:45: Agents have their use. Neil phones 10 of them. Within 20 minutes they've been onto all of the 5 unwanted. Suddenly the 5 unwanted are wanted. The agents' smooth talking patter has got all 5 lined up with Conference North clubs, the agents' charm convinces each of the 5 that Conference North is on the up and their new clubs will be back in Division 2 by the end of next season. All 5 are off City's books by 5pm. Agents have a use after all.

11:00: PFA call, they've 192 players looking for new clubs.

11:30: Sophia pops her head around the door, ready to wheel and deal. Her brother has sent her down to sweet talk any potential signing who has doubts. Pity Messi, Rooney and Ronaldo are not in the area.

12:05: "Hi, Neil, I just signed a new right back do you want our old one", it doesn't take Neil long to say no, he's already got 4

12:10: "How much do you want for Mark Coulton?" asks the Hartlepool manager. He's out of contract in June and could leave for nothing. City have held off offering him a new contract. If we go down, we can't maintain his current wages, if we offer him less, he won't sign, City can't win. 10 minutes later, Coulton walks into the boss' office and announces he's signed a pre contract agreement with Hartlepool and will leave in June. Hartlepool 1 City 0.

12:11: Time for lunch, an indigestion tablet. Before he's swallowed it, the phone rings. "Do you want Georgie Toft again?". A quick call to his agent reveals Georgie wants guaranteed



first team football, hotel accommodation for the rest of the season, image rights and a 3 year deal on more money than our top earner. No deal.

12:30: After delicate negotiations over 3 days, young striker Tim Woodcock arrives for his medical. He's quite a coup, tipped for England honours, but struggling to even get in to the reserves due to a striker surplus. Neil rings Orchard United and asks them to fax through the papers to sign. "Sorry, deal off", injury crisis and Tim makes his first team debut tomorrow. Remember 1977? Cloughie cancelled Tony Woodcock's proposed transfer to City due to a Forest injury crisis. The knock on impact is that Neil has to call our neighbouring Conference North club and tell them our deal to give them our young reserve striker who hasn't made the grade is off. If you've ever bought a house, you know how it works.

13:00: Physio reports Nick Papp has sprained his thumb in training. Desperate calls to 9 Championship clubs trying to sign a keeper, any keeper, on loan. Demands include a grand a week loan fee (Hi Birmingham), covering wages of £1,500 a week, guaranteed first team football and a request for Les Butcher on a free in exchange.

13:05: PFA call, they've 172 players looking for new clubs.

13:30: Urgent call from agent Harry. Meet me at Trowell Services and we can do a deal for Jim Noone (pronounced No One). Neil has been after him all season. He's too busy to leave his war room, sorry manager's office, so he asks chairman Jackson to do the deal. On arrival, he buys a coffee and waits. Time passes, no agent, a phone call establishes the agent was waiting on the other side of the motorway with his player, but gave up and went and flogged the player to County whilst Jackson was drinking his coffee.

14:30: Neil is desperate for a midfield dynamo. The local wise crack suggests he tries Halfords. Neil tries his former club. With the staff turnover they've had, no one remembers who Neil is and was to them.

15:05: PFA call, they've 166 players looking for new clubs.

15:40: After prolonged negotiations, Neil thinks he's done a deal. Charlie Darry who he's been chasing for 18 months is offered to him. Charlie has previously turned him down for various reasons, the deal is almost tied up, Charlie has one more question, "Down here, my girlfriend works in the club office, can she have a job in yours, it'll help the change from Kent to up north". Neil has to say no. Deal off, girlfriend will be lonely up north stuck inside all day with no one to talk.

16:30: A car pulls up in the car park. The driver is on his mobile. Hoodie up, he seems agitated as he makes numerous calls. Neil's phone rings, "If you ever speak to Peter Odacentreback, I'll report you to The FA". Car pulls out of the car park.

17:00: PFA don't call, they go home at 5.

17:10: Its Premiership club South Ham United on the phone flexing their muscles, they're ringing all Division 1 and 2 clubs who haven't netted any transfer sale income in the window, "Hi, you must be desperate for cash, we'll give you 2 grand each for each of Tom, Dick and Harry". Neil slams down the phone, he's not accepting peanuts for the stars of his youth team, even if he has no money.

17:15: Realising that the 5 unwanted have left leaves Neil sort, he panics. What if we have an injury crisis, what if the players have a loss of form (Ed – what form?). A quick check on youtube and that Hungarian striker does have a bit of potential, maybe. Desperate calls to his former club establish his new number. 27 frantic phone calls and faxes follow. Arrange medical, get results faxed here, there and everywhere, get medical sign off, get international clearance, get draft contract approval from legal, sign contract, fax it on, get it signed by all parties, get it back, get FFA international clearance, fill in registration form, send all papers to The FA, at all the time keep the chairman informed and big up the press release. Job

done, one in. No, arrange flights, airport taxi pick up, accommodation and sort out someone who knows some Hungarian.

18:30: No time for tea. Mobile rings, “Arry ‘ere, need a tip top defensive lynchpin enforcer, I’m a free agent”, Neil has never heard of him and engages in small talk as he does a quick search through the player database stats website, they indicate a young player who never made the grade, Neil asks him, “What made you think of us”, “Keith Lowe taught me all I know”, Neil hangs up abruptly.

18:50: To make up numbers, Neil signs a young midfielder from amateur football in Dudley. He won’t cost much in wages and has bags of potential (and FC Halifax were also interested so Neil had to act fast).

19:00: Calls to cousin Bren go unanswered, no chance of a youngster on loan if he can’t get through.

19:05: Neil calls one of his former captains now living in Sunderland and asks, “Seem any good non league players in the area recently”. Good try Neil, but no luck.

19:10: In desperation, Neil googles Hoddle’s Spanish academy, maybe he can find the next Adriano Moke or even Michael Duckworth. No.

19:15: Checks his notes from last May’s released premiership teenagers trial game in Barnet, maybe there’s one who he half rated at the time that might still be available. Yes, he fancied Barry Green but felt he was well stocked with centre backs, not so now. Google Barry Green and he’s struggling to get a game for Pickering Town, scrub him off the list.

19:20: Neil rings his contact at Football Manager to ask if he can recommend anyone and told no one in his price range.

19:25: Shifts through City match reports, anyone in the opposition who stood out. Trouble is, against City, too many stood head and shoulders above City’s standard.

19:30: Gives up, turn off main mobile, that way, agents and other managers can’t contact him, he can’t lose any more players.

20:00: Gets home, door stepped by YEP journalist asking if he’s about to make a signing.

22:55: “Wanna do a deal, any deal?” Its been a quiet window for the Spurs as their agent rings Neil’s private number to try to justify his worth.

23:00: The window closes. 323 outgoing calls, 265 incoming calls, 2 players in, 6 out, one more going in the summer. The day is done.

23:05: Last call of the day and its from agent Harry. He wants to do a deal and can change to the time on the contracts to before 11. Neil says no.

Not a bad day, deadwood out, no new has left who Neil wanted to keep, but it would have been good to have got in a bit more quality.

Monday Feb 3: Neil arrives at the ground in a high spirits after a good 2-1 away win on Saturday. He hasn’t taken his coat off when Lev Yalcin, a former player, now an agent in Turkey, rings. We’ll give you a hundred grand for Les Butcher your star striker. Although the British transfer window has closed, its still open in Turkey. Its takes a supportive chairman to tell the agent where to go. He is adamant he is not selling his top striker when its impossible to buy a replacement. Turkey, Scandinavia, Russia and Brazil are just some of the countries which have a different transfer window despite FIFA creating a uniform window.



# Billy Plutch

*Having successfully transferred from the terraces to the York City South web site, Billy Plutch now brings his half formed opinion and incoherence to **new frontiers**.*

## 2014

January 14. **Financial Fair Play**; The deadline for filing 2012/3 returns came and went on December 1st. As ever, no news on what they say, rumour has it one D2 club spent 95% of income on wages, way in excess of the 55% limit. Can we be told who? Sanctions anyone?

January 12. **John McCombe**; 2+ year contracts for McCombe, Lowe and Penn. Stability yes, but none were more than Div 2 squad players at their last club. Let's hope we don't have to pay them off after 6 months in our stiffs a la Craig Clay (or heaven forbid, if we get promoted and seek a better class of player).

## 2013

December 28. **Nicolas Anelka**; Never heard of the Quenelle before today. Makes me wonder what obscene gestures I've been doing all my life without realising.

December 27. **Shaq McDonald**; Moses Ashikodi Mark 2?

December 25. **Christmas Cracker**; I pulled one! Q: Why can't a car play football? A: Because its only got one boot.

December 20. **Ollie Banks**; December's Football League Young Player Of The Month, having scored 11 goals from midfield since joining Chesterfield at the start of the season. The same Ollie Banks we had on trial in July 2012 and deemed not worth a contract. Times like this when you wish for a reserve side to nurture young talent.

December 10. **Snow Go**; Galatasaray / Juventus abandoned due to snow, the pitch was barely covered. Ridiculous. I also see UEFA have invented their own rule. Match abandoned, game restarted from the point of abandonment. Not sure who I wanted to win, Turks or Italy, never an easy choice. Just feel sorry for Donny (yes, really). They were leading 3-1 at Charlton after 26 minutes when their August league game was abandoned due to torrential rain. Come November and Charlton win the re-arranged game (the full 90 minutes) by 2-0.

December 8. **Desert Storm**; What do you get if you see a Hartlepool fan with sand up to his neck? More sand.

December 8. **For Sale**; Manchester United lampshade. Looks good in the middle of the table.

December 1. **Match Fixing (2)**; Reports of 70 grand to arrange a red or yellow card are just plain silly. Do it for nothing, just back Lee Cattermole to get a card, it works every time.

November 30. **Match Fixing**; Everyone is bleating its happening all over. Easy solution. As the bookies license the fixtures, all the authorities have to do is to refuse to license them and the bookies are stuffed. Easy? It would be if the authorities didn't want their copyright fee.

Read more at <http://www.yorkcitysouth.co.uk/plutch.htm>

## David Moyes

*Would you trust a manager wearing a grey jumper under his suit? Written, when spending some idle moments trying to fill time in preparation for this summer's World Cup, see if you spot what I mean, that is if you can read between the parallel lines.*

Half a season in and David Moyes hasn't really set the world alight at Old Trafford.

Way back in March 2009, ever since Liverpool went to Old Trafford and trounced the home side 4-1, the defence has looked dodgy and short of pace. Remember how Torres and Gerard ripped the home defence to shreds, Ferdinand and co were made to look pedestrian, very pedestrian. What's happened to the defence since that day? It has got older, 5 years older and no new signing has yet made a defensive position his own. Evans is still hanging on, Buttner never made it whilst in one way or another, the great big white hopes Smalling and Jones are no more than bit players.

Last season, only the world class form of Rooney and Van Persie masked deficiencies elsewhere in the team. This season given their injuries and other distractions, United have looked like an average, very average side.

Maybe Fergie was hamstrung by a lack of cash, it would help to explain the club's reluctance to splash out big in the transfer market during the Glazier years. Van Persie at the start of last season and Mata in January come to mind, but when compared to the other contenders, a drop in the ocean. Even Arsenal can boost a signing to dwarf both of them.

Last season United and this season City have shown that 4-4-2, with 2 very top strikers can still do the business. Chelsea, Arsenal and Spurs take note. Why do you think Liverpool are on the up? Two top scoring strikers

Up front, no one can diss Rooney and Van Persie, at least when they're fit and focused. Every year, I wonder whether we've seen the best of Rooney, every year, he's come back and shown he's still world class, but at 28, he is not one for the future. I wouldn't want to commit £60+ million for him in wages for a new lucrative 5 year contract. If I was United, take £20 million before he goes past his sell by date.

Mata will not be the start of a quick fix. He might be the midfield calamari, a more complete overhaul is desperately required. Take the back 6, I'd rip it to shreds. Have any got a future? Even Carrick at 32 won't be around for long.

Across the city, there is a nasty little bunion. City blues are set to dominate Manchester if United don't act quickly. Who would have thought that fans of Liverpool team of the 80s, 11 titles and 4 European Cups in the 19 years to 1990, would still be dreaming of their next league title 25 years later.

Mata's signing will be cited as an example of big names still wanting to join United. Is it a one off, a player desperate to get some action in the run up to The World Cup?

Picture this, come summer, without Champions League football to offer, will United find it easy to add world class players to their squad? To my reckoning, they're at least 6 players short of getting back to the top. Is Moyes the man for the job?

At Everton, Moyes spent 11 years and probably had about 11 good half seasons, mixing relegation fodder form with Top 4 form nearly every season. 4th place in 2005 being his best finish, it was immediately followed by elimination at the qualifying round stage of the next season's Champions League.

How come Moyes gets a 6 year contract? Longer than any Fergie signed.

Roberto Martinez succeeded Moyes, and immediately had the Goodison fans in raptures as he took the team up a notch or 2. Ross Barkley and Seamus Coleman blossomed from fragile youngsters into top class players. At the same time, watch Manchester United's players in the Sunderland penalty shoot out. Completely bereft of confidence, full of fear.

Does that make your think Moyes is the man for the job?

To restore United's position, it will take more than auto americans with their cash and plastic. Letters and emails will be written to the papers and social media forums before its resolved.

The class of 92 was a freak of nature, not seen since the Busby babes. In between they produced their own players, Steve James and Tony Young spring to mind. Readers will remember them in our Division 2 team under of Wilf McGuinness, they weren't good enough for Old Trafford and they certainly weren't good enough for us.

There might be the odd one coming through the ranks. It will take major signings, Denis Law in the 60s, mass Docherty signings in the 70s, a Roy Keane in the 90s spring to mind as refreshing a decent squad, making United difficult to beat, separating the chaff from the wheat. To the Beatles, money couldn't buy them love, in today's football, money can't buy success, it can go a long way, but it takes culture, harmony and organisation to really succeed. Think Barcelona or Bayern Munich, a brand of football brought success, even Manchester City with their money have only been elevated this season with a settled and harmonious side. Mancini spent, Pellegrini bought the style, organisation and team spirit to bring success.

I hope Fergie doesn't make a call me plea asking to return after nearly 27 years in charge. I feel it will be a long job to restore United's premier position and I wouldn't like to see his reputation tarnished.

How can Moyes trump Fergie's he walks like he don't care, smooth as silk, cool as air with his doesn't know your name, follow me attitude. Who knows, maybe he will go insane and out of his mind.

PS: Whilst Mata doesn't fill United's most obvious deficiency, perhaps Moyes signed him for a new, previously unexplored role. After his Chelsea departure, Mata wrote the Chelsea fans a 1,000 word letter of thanks. Has Moyes signed Mata to ghost write his resignation letter?

Mata's position in the United team? The juan behind the front 2.

# Musical City

A balmy August summer night, a morose and grumpy Robert Lloyd, The Nightingales are back in town, Ted less.

Robert is down, he has no label ready to commit to releasing The 'Gales soon to be recorded new album, his former guitarist hasn't replied to the offer to re-join for the summer tour, records labels just want him to reform The Prefects and just about no one has turned up in trendy Islington to see the band.

He needn't have worried, the new songs were every bit as good as the previous set. The hardcore followers were sated. The new album is due out around April. Buy it, see them in a town near you in April.

Either side of the gig, I got to see Spizz for the first (and second) time.

It had been 33 years earlier that he'd had the first number one in the new indie chart with "Where's Captain Kirk?" An unassuming man off stage, on stage, short in stature, dressed all in black with his middle age spread hanging over a poncy black belt buckled with a green LCD display scrolling details of his next gig, he's not your average rock star.

It was predictable set, and nothing wrong with that when you've a crack back catalogue like he has. The old hits were mixed with the old album tracks, coupled with a few new songs and Pistol / Clash covers, you get the picture. The band enjoyed it, the audience certainly did, what more can you ask for?

Support was provided by Spizz's daughter's band. So good were both acts, I caught up with them both 4 weeks later at a small pub venue just off Smithfield meat market. Same togs, same set list, total enjoyment.

Gigs seem to come in pairs these days. Deaf School also made 2 tours late last year to celebrate 40 years in the business. Brilliant as ever, whilst the audience at Spizz and other similar oldies seems to get older with every year, DS are attracting a fair few youngsters (along with the oldies). One newbie, Julie Hamill, felt compelled to write of their August gig in Hoxton:

*I'm ashamed to say it, but I haven't seen Deaf School before. They passed me by in the seventies - well, I was only two when they formed in 1973, and kind of into Andy Stewart - but in the last six months and just forty years later I started listening, and now I can't stop.*

*Crash course/late adoption aside, the natural next step in my schooling of these infectiously quirky big tunes was to see the band perform, so last night I hopped along to Hoxton with three others to watch what wasn't a gig, but some kind of amazing party.*

*We stood near the bar (Suggs was beside us) and had an excellent view of Clive Langer's ripping guitar solo that kicked it off, getting the hard core Hawaiian shirted down-the-front Deafsters warmed up.*

*One of the singers, Enrico, sidled coolly on stage, and began an evening of charismatic storytelling in song, waving his handkerchief and conducting the crowd to fill in the words. It was this interaction, humour and relationship with the fans that elevated the night from a gig to a show, as he threw out the fun and the crowd pelted back love. His co-singer, Bette Bright, stood beside him. Like the name, she is illuminating; and when performing a ballad she easily rivals Shirley Bassey (with the sass of Betty Boop). The band and fans were as one, unable to exist without the other, making the atmosphere one of full hearted happiness, best represented by the almost permanent grin on Ian Ritchie, the saxophonist's face (I don't think he can play without smiling).*

*The sound is part rock n roll (Langer's guitar), part cabaret (Cadillac Jnr/Bright's late night jazz chat/song) but then there's punk, cabaret, pop and 50% God knows what thrown in there by the rest of the band's characters, including 'Rev. Max Ripple' (Keyboards) 'Average' (bass) and the new drummer (Gregg Braden) who played his skins off. Individually, they all seem to do what they want, go off on tangents and play what they like, but these are not tangents, this is part of the plan, and it syncs together with a sharpness that can only be brought from the experience of working together for so long and finishing each other's notes.*

*A highlight was guest singer Kevin Rowland who joined the on-stage party, for 'Hi Jo Hi'. But there were so many highlights...*

Read the full review at <http://deafschoollmusic.com/>

For Deaf School, the year ended with the publication of the Paul du Noyer book "*The Non-Stop Pop Art Punk Rock Party*" detailing their 40 year career. For an avid fan, not a lot of new stuff, but a revealing insight into how a band that had it all could be rejected by the music business and shunned by music fans. Described by Du Noyer, as the second most important Liverpool band after The Beatles, the book charts the rise of punk in Liverpool and how Deaf School influenced the likes of Malcolm McLaren, Holly Johnson, Ian Broudie and many more of Liverpool's later heroes.

To promote the book, another Deaf School tour followed in October. Unfortunately, the London date clashed with The Nightingales / Ted Chippington. Bad planning, but thanks to London Overground, it was possible to catch the best of both gigs.

Watch out for both bands making renewed bids for world domination in 2014.

2014 ended with a trip to The Borderline in central London for a rare appearance by Australia's The Saints. Pre dating Nick Cave as Australia's first punks, they had a couple of hit singles around 1978. The current band still features Chris Bailey the original front man and he's supported by musicians, including a later day Saint and a massive guy in aussie rugby shirt squatting behind a mini keyboard, which looked about one model up the range than the one I bought my 4 year old many years ago. This Perfect Day was the highlight of the set, which was witnessed by other 70s luminaries. The set mixed old album tracks and new material. Give me Powderkey or The Hoodoo Gurus any day.

# Quiz Time

One of York City South's regular events is May's annual quiz night. Try this round from May 2013. Every answer is a player who played for us in the 2012/3 season.

<b>ROUND 1: City Players 2012/3.</b> They all played for City during the season. Name the .....
1. keeper who played for City both before and after the non league years
2. defender who played for City both before and after the non league years
3. midfielder who played for City both before and after the non league years
4. midfielder who returned to City for a second spell in 2012 which ended in January when he left for Luton
5. 30 something who made his Football League debut with City. Clue, one of his former managers likened him to Tim Cahill
6. player who cost City the biggest transfer fee
7. player who started and finished a 5 year sports science degree whilst with City
8. oldest squad member, he never saw a minute of Football League action with City
9. Northern Ireland Under 21 international who joined City from Newcastle
10. player whose father won a European Cup medal
11. player has made over 300 appearances for City
12. player who gained 13 Scottish Under 21 caps
13. player who had loan spells with 2 Blue Square Premier North clubs before making his City debut in March
14. player who appeared in the much maligned and much missed Intertoto Cup for Bradford City in 2000
15. player who has Renaldo as a middle name and once scored a hat trick for England Under 17
16. the left back we signed on loan from Leeds, he who later played for Inverness in The Scottish Premier League
17. the player who is Scarborough's youngest ever goal scorer
18. the player who was our first loan signing from Aldershot
19. player who scored twice on his seasonal debut at Rochdale
20. player who City signed from Maidenhead
21. striker signed from Oxford, he was released in January
22. left back signed from Burton
23. the first City player to receive a red card during a 2012/3 Football League game
24. the player who received the most (7) yellow cards during the season
25. who returned in February for a second spell with City

For more City quizzes look on the [YCS web site](#). Answers on page 32.



## Just About Managing (and more)

*Back by popular demand, a look the wit and words of some of the high profile personalities in our game. Plus, for your added delectation and delight, the words of some others as well.*

"I don't like to make a fuss about it, but its absolutely crazy that we are expected to play a crucial Premier League game just 2 days after we've played an important FA Cup game. We've no time to prepare, Swansea have an extra day to prepare and they're at home". *Rene Meulensteen – 26th January 2014*

It (breast touching) was considered a bit flirtatious at the time (1970s) and no one thought much about it". *Dave Lee Travis in court, 25th January 2014. (Ed – in that case the 70s completely passed me by; Pervy Sub Editor – I thought about it (breast touching) all the time).*

"The performance for 82 minutes was very good". Nigel Worthington after City's 2-0 defeat at Hartlepool on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2014. *Reminds me of the 70s when we had a series of managers praising the quality of our last 70 minutes when we regularly fought back from 2 early goals down to valiantly lose 3-2 or 4-2 Alternatively, if we play well for 80 minutes, perhaps we should consider playing rugby.*

"From John McCombe to Juan Mata", the BBC promoting its transfer web site. Never thought I'd see a City player so closely linked to with world superstar

"I wanted to shore the game up" *Brendan Rodgers on subbing Sturridge after 71 minutes, at 4-0 in the Everton derby match, it hardly needed shoring up and I would think of sub Victor Moses as my ideal player to shore it up – 28<sup>th</sup> January 2014.*

"Coulson admits it was a brilliant hack", *Michael on the tackle that put him out for 6 months? No Andy during the Screws Of The World hacking court case.*

"I want to play for England", that is what John Terry has to say if he wants to be considered again for England. Then its down to the authorities to decide whether to pick him or not. After the 2010 World Cup, Paul Scholes bemoaned not being picked for The World Cup when he'd previously stated he was unavailable. So John, if you want to be considered say so now, don't go whinging in the autumn.

# Hold The Back Page

		<p>Goole's Karl Colley's Eric Cantona style attack on a supporter following a red card lead to his sacking by the club. The opponent was ex City youngster Cameron Stuart. Coley's assistant manager, Curtis Woodhouse, another ex City junior and latter day boxer said, "I'm gutted for him, he's a nice kid". Watch <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BYkJXc-EJW8">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BYkJXc-EJW8</a></p>
<p>Don't applaud the next premiersip club to subsidise their fans' away travel. In August 2013, they were each given £200,000 to subsidise travel in a bid to stem the decline in away support.</p>		
<p>Football has its offside rule. Rugby (both codes) has its forward pass. In Union, <i>"Law 12: Knock-on or throw forward. Definition: A throw forward occurs when a player throws or passes the ball forward. Forward means towards the opposing team's dead ball line."</i> Simple, clear to understand. But nowadays the powers that be have introduced concepts such as relative velocity and direction of arm movement to muddy the waters. Tinkering with the interpretation of the rule means that it is the direction of travel of the passer's arms, not the flight of the ball, which dictates a forward pass. A referee can interrupt a pass that goes forward as being a valid (backwards) pass. Just like football's offside rule, what was once a precise rule has been opened up to unnecessary confusion by the authorities' tinkering. Crazy, crazy, crazy.</p>		
<p>In case you're wondering and have a printed copy of <i>new frontiers</i>, due to health and safety issues, the printed version of this fanzine comes without a single staple</p>		
<p>Quiz answers from page 30: 1 Michael Ingham; 2 Chris Smith; 3 Lee Bullock; 4 Jonathan Smith; 5 Jon Challinor; 6 Jason Walker; 7 Danny Parslow; 8 Paul Musselwhite; 9 Paddy McLaughlin; 10 Matty Blair; 11 David McGurk; 12 Chris Doig; 13 Tom Platt; 14 Scott Kerr; 15 Ashley Chambers; 16 Charlie Taylor; 17 Michael Coulson; 18 Alex Rodman; 19 Michael Potts; 20 Jamal Fyfield; 21 Oli Johnson; 22 Danny Blanchett; 23 None; 24 Ashley Chambers; 25 Michael Rankine;</p>		
<p>I came across <a href="#">Danny Blanchett visits Golden Lights Studios</a> whilst researching this issue. It covers his days as a QPR junior rejection, injury setbacks, Liverpool trial and signing a professional contract with Peterborough.</p>		
<p><i>Brian McDermott.</i> His "sacking" last Friday and Saturday's 5-1 for Leeds is a cue for a story, can't think of that story just now and for once I almost , just almost, feel sorry for the Leeds supporters.</p>		
<p><u>Next Issue:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DNA of a successful City side</li> <li>• City's best ever keeper</li> <li>• David Stockdale interview</li> <li>• Academies and youth policies – Do they work for Chelsea, do they work for City?</li> <li>• Financial Fair Play update</li> </ul>		

Enjoy the game.