



Sammy & Bodger still striking

Dear Ex-Players & Friends

Between them they made nearly 1,000 appearances and scored over 500 goals for Wycombe in the 1960s and 70s. But more than half a century on, Tony Horseman (above right) and Keith Samuels (above left) are still setting the pace for the Wanderers. The former Loakes Park scoring heroes showed their striking talents once more by lifting the coveted Barry Simmonds Trophy at our tenth annual bowls tournament.

The wily old pair, obviously having practised hard together all year, made a stunning start with a 25-shot victory in their opening match. They followed it up with a 14-6 victory over last year's champions Bob Dell and Ian Woodley before turning round a 9-5 deficit after eight ends to pip Ant Dell and Kevin Slatter 11-9. With five other pairs also winning three matches, the Golden Oldies' 50-shot total was enough to lift the silverware.

Stuart Thompson & Bob Donaldson also played magnificently for their three wins but finished three shots further back and had to be content with runners-up spot. Tim & Gordon Anning pulled back 15 shots in their last match but their total of 43 shots was only enough for third place. John Bignell & Alex Steele, the 2015 winners, were fourth on 36 shots. Paul McStay & Jim Palmer made it to fifth on 33 and Alan Ballard & John Anderson must have been disappointed to finish only sixth after their three wins and 31-shot margin.

As always, it showed the competitive nature of our events. No one gave an inch. The referee was called into make some vital decisions. Not even the heavy downpours at several stages could get the players off. There were two other winners. Gordon Anning collared the £30 prize for being closest the jack in our Spider competition. And Prostate Cancer UK will benefit from the afternoon's proceeds as our nominated charity for 2019.

Our thanks as always to everyone at Wycombe Bowls Club for throwing open their excellent facilities. To Chrissie Simmonds and her team for providing another lovely supper. The volunteer bar staff. And to Ray Birch for overseeing the playing format and ensuring the event is run in the spirit of bowls and with some semblance of decorum. A final thank you to everyone who played and to those who, despite the showers, turned up to support.

Another excellent WWEPA event with the first week in June 2020 already earmarked for bowls event No 11. And next up, our annual golf tournament. This is booked for Friday, July 19. More details shortly.

John D Taylor - On behalf of WWEPA



Winners all....

Our intrepid bowlers, and some joker at the front, take a bow before the bowls action begins. Below them left, Bob Donaldson and Stuart Thompson get their runner-up prizes from John Maskell and Alan Hutchinson. Right, Gordon Anning celebrates hitting the jackpot as winner of the Spider competition. Further below, umbrellas to the fore. But nothing could spoil

a great day. despite the rain



Thommo's time

Congratulations to yet another ex-Walscombe player who has joined the managerial ranks. Garry Thompson has been unveiled as the new Bradford Park Avenue boss, two years after leaving the Blues where he made 100 appearances. Thommo links up with Wanderers' former commercial boss Damian Irvine, now CEO at the National League North club. All at WWEFA wish them well.



Charlie remembered

Over a dozen WVEPA members turned up to pay tribute to former Wanderers' teammate Charlie Gale at his funeral last month. A regular at Loakes Park between 1963 and 1971, when he made 502 appearances in a Blues shirt, his loyalty to the club was remembered by our Association President John Maskell. Giving the address on our behalf, Mask reminded everyone what a good player Charlie actually was to make the club's elite 500 Club. And how appropriate that he was a member of the fine Brian Lee side that lifted the Isthmian League title in 1971 -

club.
remembered as the
burning stove that
kept it in his living
days past.
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Adam Velasco, who kindly sponsored our annual dinner last year on behalf of Cherry Red Records, is continuing his association with the club. Pictured here with Matt Bloomfield, his independent record label will enter a fourth season of sponsorship with the Chairboys, having first come on board as shorts sponsor in 2016 before taking up the front of home shirt position last summer for the club's first season back in League 1. An initial one-year contract has now been extended for a further season. Well done Adam, the company's MD and a long-time Chairboys fan. He, like all of us, will be awaiting next season's fixtures which are to be revealed on June 20th.