

WESTCOUNTRY BLUES

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Season 2010/2011

www.westcountryblues.org.uk

October 2010

Spare Seats

At the time of going to press there were four spare seats on the coach for the Red S!*!* fixture. If you have a ticket and need transport get in touch with John Derbyshire ASAP.

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Blackpool Tickets



Everton have announced the initial ticket criteria for the Blackpool fixture on 6 November.

As Everton only received 2,000 tickets they have stated that only Season Ticket Holders with four (4) away ticket stubs may apply. Do not contact John Derbyshire for tickets because he will not be able to help you. If any become available (in your dreams) in the future a further announcement will be made.

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Raffle for a Signed Shirt

Paul Sage, one of our members has received a signed shirt from his cousin, who is the kit man at Everton, and asked if we would like to raffle it with all proceeds to go to St Margaret's Hospice. The shirt will be raffled on the coach during our next home fixture on 17 October against you know who, with tickets costing £2 each. For those not attending this fixture and who would like to participate you can let Ronnie know by e-mail or phone and your name will be written on the back of the stub(s) and put into the draw on the coach. If you do pledge to buy some tickets it would be appreciated if you would post the money to:


Ron Wilson
Merrylands
Higher Bullen
Stoford
Yeovil
BA22 9TZ



The shirt is signed on the back. It does not show very well on a printed newsletter.

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Fixtures

 <p>Everton v Red S!*!* SUN 17 Oct - 13:30 k.o.</p>	<p>Travel and Ticket arrangements.</p> <p>Ticket orders closed.</p> <p>Coach Departure Times: 06:30pm M5 Junction 25 (Taunton) 06:40pm M5 Junction 23 (Dunball Layby) 07:15pm M5 Junction 16 (Almondsbury)</p>
 <p>Spurs v Everton SAT 23 Oct - 12:45 k.o.</p>	<p>No Club travel to this fixture.</p> <p>Ticket orders close 2 October.</p>
 <p>Everton v Stoke SAT 30 Oct - 15:00 k.o.</p>	<p>Travel and Ticket arrangements.</p> <p>Ticket orders to John Derbyshire only by 2nd October. Remember to also book your seat on the coach.</p> <p>Coach Departure Times: 07:45pm M5 Junction 25 (Taunton) 07:55pm M5 Junction 23 (Dunball Layby) 08:30pm M5 Junction 16 (Almondsbury)</p>
 <p>Blackpool v Everton SAT 6 Nov - 15:00 k.o.</p>	<p>No Club travel to this fixture.</p> <p>Ticket orders close 9 October.</p>
 <p>Everton v Bolton WED 10 Nov - 20:00 k.o.</p>	<p>'A coach will run if sufficient people are interested'.</p> <p>Ticket orders close 12 October.</p>
 <p>Everton v Arsenal SUN 14 Nov - 14:00 k.o.</p>	<p>Travel and Ticket arrangements.</p> <p>Ticket orders to John Derbyshire only by 20th October. Remember to also book your seat on the coach.</p> <p>Coach Departure Times: 06:45pm M5 Junction 25 (Taunton) 06:55pm M5 Junction 23 (Dunball Layby) 07:30pm M5 Junction 16 (Almondsbury)</p>
 <p>Sunderland v Everton MON 22 Nov - 20:00 k.o.</p>	<p>No Club travel to this fixture.</p> <p>Ticket orders close 25 October.</p>
 <p>Everton v West Brom SAT 27 Nov - 15:00 k.o.</p>	<p>Travel and Ticket arrangements.</p> <p>Ticket orders to John Derbyshire only by 1st November. Remember to also book your seat on the coach.</p> <p>Coach Departure Times: 07:45pm M5 Junction 25 (Taunton) 07:55pm M5 Junction 23 (Dunball Layby) 08:30pm M5 Junction 16 (Almondsbury)</p>

10 Year Badges

As mentioned at the AGM this season is the 10th year since the formation of the Westcountry Blues. To celebrate this achievement we have had a badge produced to be given to the first 120 members joining this season. We have in fact surpassed this number of members already so apologies to those who did not manage to get one.



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Merchandise

A number of members have asked if we could produce more Club merchandise, scarves, ties etc. I have looked at a number of suppliers but the minimum quantities we have to order mean I would need commitment to purchase from members to ensure it is viable. Below are some examples of minimum quantities and costs of some items. If any member would be interested in purchasing any of these items or have other ideas let Ronnie know either by e-mail, phone letter or personally. If we do get enough interest in scarves for example I will be looking to members to come up with some designs.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Silk Ties.	50	£8	These would be diagonal stripes with our Club crest bottom or centre.
Scarves	50	£4	Double sided woven jacquard scarves to our own design.
Bronx Hat	24	£6	I call it a Benny hat with our logo on the front. Any colour.
Baseball Cap	50	£5	Any colour.

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WE ARE EVERTON

Your chance to feature in an exciting new book about your experiences of supporting Everton Football Club.

Everton, in partnership with the National Literacy Trust and Legends Publishing, is producing a new book, WE ARE EVERTON, which will reflect the memories and experiences of supporters both young and old.

Following the Toffees is a way of life for many of us. At Goodison Park or on our travels we experience moments of elation, exhilaration, disappointment and despair ...sometimes in the same game!

Players and managers may come and go but it is the supporters who give the permanent character to a club like Everton. And so as a celebration of our fans, this book will reveal the fun, the absurd, the emotional, the passion, the peculiar or the unbelievable that is part and parcel of following the Blues.

Who travels the farthest to get to home matches? Who has seen more matches than anyone else? Who has the funniest or most bizarre Everton tale? Who are our record breakers?

Let us know, so these and many other stories get in to the new book. Real football stories from real football fans... Make sure your memories are included!

If you have a story or set of experiences about yourself, a family member, a neighbour or friend which you feel deserves to go into the book, please get in touch.

Either e-mail your stories to david@legendspublishing.net or via www.tildie.co.uk or post them to 18 Darby Crescent, Sunbury-on-Thames, TW16 5LA. The deadline is 1 October 2010.

Visit www.tildie.co.uk for further information.

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Letters

Below are a couple of stories from Gordon McGovern

Return journey home from Munich

I hit on a good idea over a pint in the Liver Hotel, Waterloo (unfortunately a Kopite pub, but my local as I played footy for them).

We had built up a friendship with a German village football team, TV Westulffen, following them coming on tour to Liverpool in 1980 (there is a programme of a game they played against a Merseyside Celebrity XI which included Derek Temple & Dave Hickson.

Anyway TV Westulffen brought a junior team over to Liverpool during the Easter holidays in 1985. I decided it would be a good idea to go back to Germany with them on their coach get our friend Christoph to get tickets for the game v Bayern Munich and drive us to game. We would then hitch a lift home on one of the Everton supporters coaches. Great plan.

I went with my best mate Peter Reeves , unfortunately again a Red. We duly got tickets and watched the game in the old Olympic stadium and I came away happy with the 0-0 draw. We went to the coach park and tried several coaches with the offer of cash to jump on for the journey home. Not surprisingly looking back all requests were refused and so we were lucky that we were able to crash out at Christoph's girlfriends flat and given a lift to Munich railway station the following morning. The single fare to Victoria left us with about £12 to get food and home to Liverpool from London !! We had been on the train for only 10 mins when a guard came and stung us for £6 as a surcharge because it was an express train, so leaving £6 between us to survive on for the next day.

We had a 4hour stop in Cologne so went to a shop bought some beer, bread and cheese and sat in a nearby children's park. My mate Reevesy, blonde hair, blue eyes got propositioned by a middle aged man but being the Liverpoolian he is declined to supplement our meagre coffers, despite my vocal encouragement. We crossed the Channel by ferry and got the train to Victoria and arrived there early on the Friday morning scraped enough for a breakfast and set about the task of getting home with no money. We were too tired to hitchhike so decided whoever's bank was nearest to Victoria Station had to get money out to pay for train to Liverpool . Remember this was 1985 no mobile phones, we did not have cash or credit cards. Anyway I was feeling smug as only 2 weeks before I had opened a current account with William & Glynns bank in Waterloo whilst Reevesy was with Nat West. Well immediately across the road from Victoria and clearly visible was you've guessed a shiny, pristine William & Glynns bank. So it was up to me to get enough cash to get us home. Remember we had travelled 100's of miles from Westulffen to Munich , spent nearly a day on a train, hardly washed, not shaved, were wearing same clothes so I would not have cut an impressive figure stood at the counter asking for money. All I had to help was my passport. They rang the Waterloo branch who could not place me but remarkably I got about £50 which was enough to get us home safe.

The things you do to follow our beloved Everton.

Flight only to Rotterdam

After winning the 2nd leg of the Cup Winners Cup semi-final against Bayern Munich, probably the best night at Goodison ever, I was determined not to miss the final. After securing a ticket I managed to get a flight only deal to Rotterdam . I went with some supporters who I only vaguely knew and our common friend did not go. I had a small overnight bag in case we found some accommodation. When we arrived in Rotterdam my pals met a girl they knew who was staying in a local hotel. She agreed to store our bags to be collected later. So off we went for pre-match drinks, watch the game and hit the town to celebrate afterwards. Everything was going swimmingly in the bar until there was a disagreement about where to go. We were in a bar near the ground but some of the group wanted to get a tram into the city centre. I was chatting to 2 Dutch lads who had come into town to see what was going on. The next thing I know is that all my so called pals were nowhere to be seen. I was all alone, thank god I had not handed over my passport to their girlfriend. At the end of celebrations the Dutch lads asked me where was I staying. When I told them I was flight only they said I could stay at their house. I agreed only to find I had to sit on the rear parcel shelf of a bicycle for nearly 10 miles. Thank god Holland is so flat. I spent the night at their parents house who did not seem to mind, I think the bike journey must have sobered me up. I had a good nights sleep and as the following day was a Bank Holiday in Holland they agreed to drive me to the airport an offer I kindly accepted. I tried to say goodbye as I did not want them to see my so called friends but they insisted on staying as they knew that I did not have my bag. Anyway you have heard stories about people falling out of taxis drunk, well that is what really happened when they arrived at the airport, notably without my bag. The Dutch family spoke to the taxi driver to find out the name of the hotel and said they would collect my bag and post it to England . This they did and I sent them the Guildas and hoped to keep in touch but either the vision of my friends or the bad feeling towards English fans following the Heysel disaster which happened only a few weeks later I unfortunately did not hear from them again. But what a great experience and unforgettable trip.

Hope these stories were not too boring

Gordon McGovern