



SENIOR TIGERS

www.seniortigers.org.uk

Chair & Newsletter Editor: Rev'd Allen Bagshawe
allenbagshawe@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER no. **42**

March, 2024

Welcome to all our Senior Tigers.

Our special Senior Tigers' Day, March 7th:

I do hope you are looking forward to our extended March meeting. **Thursday, March 7th** in the Kingston Suite (West Stand) at the MKM Stadium.

Complimentary Tea/coffee on arrival, from 10.00 am to 11.00 am - self-service!

*During the morning **John Hawley** will examine and value your valuable item (one per person, please) - from 10 am to noon.*

*David "**Burnsie**" Burns will be present and at some stage, Richard will interview him.*

The Bar will open at 11.30 am until 1.00 pm and Lunch will be served from 12 noon for all who have booked with Barbara (over 130!). Important, please collect your Lunch Voucher on arrival.

Doors open for the afternoon session at 1.00 pm allowing time to purchase your tea/coffee tickets and, of course, your Raffle tickets.

The afternoon programme begins at 1.45 pm.

*Following updates and notices, we have two special presentations to make. One to the representatives of the local **Teenage Cancer Trust**, acknowledging our recent gift of 4 bedside televisions to the team on Ward 33. The other is the donation of £200 to Trish Scott and her team from **Stepping Stones**. This charity was chosen by the lady who made those lovely covers which we*

sold at the Christmas Lunch. Refreshments will be served early before our afternoon treat, which will be the chance to meet two players, one a rock in our defence and the other, our recent debutant to the professional game.

*They are **Alfie Jones & Matty Jacobs**.*

As always, they will be interviewed by Richard.

*The **Raffle** will be drawn at about 3.30 pm.*

Bookings for the May Luncheon (May 2nd) will be taken at the meeting. You have received the menu from Barbara, but a reminder for you: Lemon & Thyme Chicken followed by the acclaimed Salted Caramel Apple Crumble plus tea/coffee. Wow! The price is £23 for members (that includes a members' discount). Guests will pay £25.

Player of the Month/Season

Our Club Captain, **Lewie Coyle**, was the one to catch the eye in January. He collected 74 votes from our members, well ahead of the second player, **Tyler Morton**, who received 45 votes. In third place was newcomer, **Matty Jacob**, picking up his first 13 votes for his debut month. Stepping up from the Juniors he can be well pleased with his arrival at this level. One for the future.

Overall, **Jaden Philogene** continues to lead the way over the season, thus far. He has 217 votes, **Captain Lewie** follows with 160, **Tyler Morton** in third with 126, and **Liam Delap** has 117.

The Memorabilia Team

by team member Helen Carter

February 2018 (Memorabilia Day) was the starting point for our project when collectors of Hull City shirts, programmes, and items of trivia (some quite valuable) came together to show them off to our members. Scans and photographs were taken of over 400 items, details of members who had collections were gathered and so the project was born.

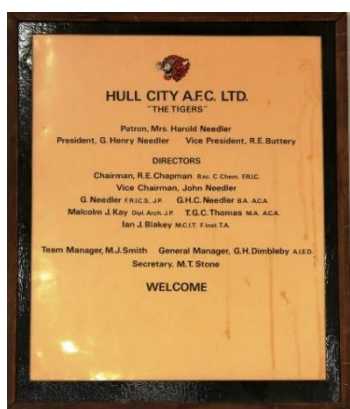
The Memorabilia Story is on our website and this includes a video of the day in 2018

<https://www.seniortigers.org.uk/memorabilia-story/>

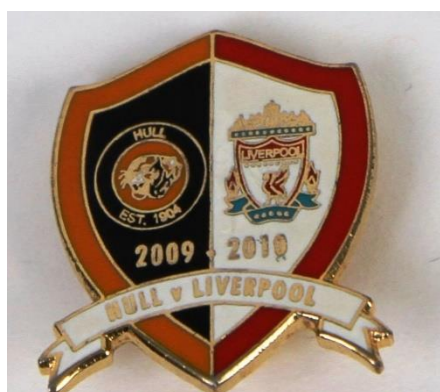
We want to record the club's Heritage & History through the many items fans have collected over the years. It is amazing to see what some fans have kept as souvenirs of their support of the Tigers and in some cases during roles they have played for the club, the Boothferry Park years.



Courtesy of Peter Lincoln
1960's



Courtesy of Tony Sturdy
1950's



Courtesy of Tony Conway 2010's

Tony Conway drives the project, **Rob Wilson** is the keyman for display on the website www.seniortigers.org.uk/memorabilia and in addition, there is a small army of helpers **Stuart, Brian Brenda, Lorna, Ken** and myself.

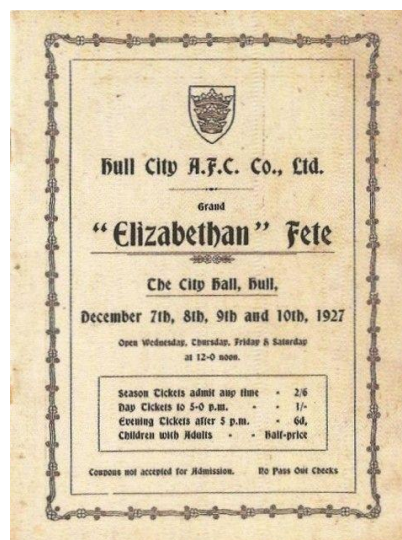
Why did I get involved? Obviously, a big interest in Hull City but having seen the museums at Manchester United, Liverpool and Sheffield United on Senior Tigers outings I realized Hull City Football Club don't have anything and if something wasn't done so much would be lost forever.

Would you like to become involved if so, please speak to any of the people mentioned above at a Senior Tigers meeting, (if you don't know who we are ask Barbara) and we will be happy to chat with you. We will explain more of what's involved and we will be able to find something you can help us with. The use of a computer or the ability to take photos would be of benefit.

Next is an article put together by team member **Stuart Tomlinson** from a publication owned by collector **David Bond**.

I have been a member of the Senior Tigers Memorabilia group for several years now and in that time, I have developed a range of skills that I didn't previously have. My speciality has become the scanning and editing of vintage broadsheet newspapers and Players Picture Cards taken from the scrapbooks of several collectors and preparing them so that we can display them on our website.

Whilst scanning collectors' items I have come across some very interesting information relating to our football club. One of these items was a brochure for a fete held over 4 days back in December 1927 at the City Hall in Hull.



The 70 pages mainly consisted of the exhibitors' adverts including a brand new four-door Morris saloon in blue or beige for £185 from the Paragon Motor Company and a lightweight pocket Mac for 21 shillings from the Asbestos & Rubber Company (now called ARCO). Amongst the various adverts, however, was a nine-page handbook that covered the Tigers' early years from 1903 to 1927. Those nine pages included a

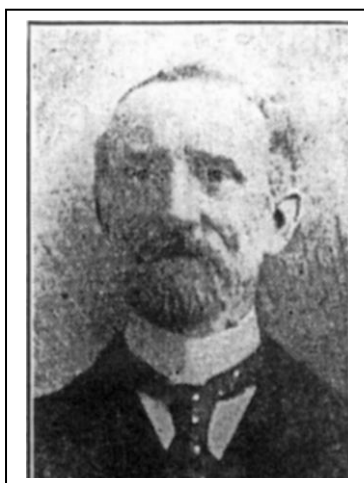
mine of information about Hull City's early directors and players, financial information and the club's progress throughout the football league.

Although the idea of developing a football league club had been around for some time it was not until the 24th June 1904 that the Hull Daily Mail reported on the minutes of the annual general meeting of the East Riding of Yorkshire Football Association, which had been held the previous evening, that an announcement was made.

The **Pioneers of the Hull City Football Club Ltd** were:

Marcus Andrews, (certified teacher); James Barraclough, (ship owner); John Henry Bielby (builder); John Emmerson (assurance superintendent); Benjamin Saunders Frost Junior (fruiterer); William Gilyott (wharfinger); William Hay (advertising agent); Richard Henry Hobbs (manager); Frederick Arnold Levitt (furnisher and decorator); George W. Lilley, J.P. (surgeon); Ernest Morrison (advertising agent); John Ramster (club manager); Thomas William Shaw (managing clerk); Alfred Edward Spring (commercial traveller); and Percy Edward Wrightson (coal exporter). William Gilyott was elected chairman and Dr. George Lilley was vice-chairman.

A photo of the 1904 team with the Directors appears at the end of this newsletter.



**Hull City's
First Chairman,
William Gilyott**

William Gilyott was a prominent businessman based in Hull. He owned a large warehouse on the east bank of the river Hull close to the present-day Scale Lane bridge. He was also chairman of the

Grosvenor Hotel on Carr Lane which served as the unofficial Hull City headquarters and where the club held its AGMs for many years until it was bombed during the Second World War. He was also closely associated with the Hull F.C. (rugby club) as a chairman, director, shareholder and prominent supporter since the early 1890s.

It was something of a surprise, therefore, to see his name some 3 months later as the chairman of a brand-new local concern – and a sporting rival at that. Gilyott,

despite having no known affiliations or background in football, assumed a leading role in the affairs of this new enterprise. Whether he had decided to sever his formal links to the rugby club or whether he was asked to be chairman of a new football club is unknown. Whatever the reasons for his change of club and code, it seemed mutually beneficial to Gilyott and the fledgling new club.

As Hull FC's tenants, it made sense for City to have someone on the board who knew the workings of the rugby club directorate and who could foster a stable and secure relationship with them. Hull would be less likely to mistreat one of their former directors and maybe even be able to exert some future influence - sadly this proved not to be the case when it came to sharing the same football ground!

Despite his good connections, Gilyott was unable to broker the peace between the rival codes in the city as in March 1905 when the Northern Union pressurised Hull into locking City out of the Boulevard on the eve of an attractive friendly match against FA Cup holders, Manchester City. If the clock was ticking on City's residence at the Boulevard, unbeknown to Gilyott, it was also marking time on his chairmanship. The decision to seek a ground away from the interfering and obstructive Northern Union meant that City moved a few hundred yards away, on the other side of Anlaby Road, to the Circle, home of the Hull Cricket Club. As with the rugby ground, City needed to guarantee a smooth and conflict-free existence, and Gilyott made way for a new chairman, the wealthy Alwyn Smith, who was a director of City's new landlords, the Hull Cricket Club. Gilyott stayed on the board as vice-chairman.

The son of a Hull master mariner, and for many decades a dynamic figure in the city's port traffic, Gilyott had no known background in football and as such, it seems unlikely he had been in the social orbit of the other founders (ship owner James Barraclough excepted) or involved in any football networks. His formal connection with City ceased at the club's AGM in June 1909 when it was announced he would not be seeking re-election as a director due to his increasing business commitments. During the evening tributes were paid to Gilyott who responded in kind, shedding a little light on his time at the club and revealing the nature of his football background.

Clearly, not someone who had been fully immersed in the game's culture, he confessed he still had not completely understood the offside rule, even after 5 years as a director and expressed the wish that the club was promoted to the top tier as soon as possible as, in his opinion, they had not been sufficiently supported

by the paying public in the Second Division. Gilyott made mention of 'Messrs Levitt, Barraclough, Bielby, Shaw, Crompton, Hay and others' who had brought Hull City into existence. This was a public acknowledgement of the instrumental roles played by a handful of the sixteen founder-directors. He again obliquely referred to his past involvement with Hull FC, maintaining that 'personally he should always retain a love of Rugger. It was a grand sport but he was bound to admit that Soccer was its equal, if not superior.'

In preparing this article I gratefully acknowledge the assistance of David Bond for the loan of his copy of the Elizabethan Fete brochure and additional information from Nicholas Turner's book 'Now Tigers' and Wikipedia for information on William Gilyott.

~ ~ ~

Donation to our local Children's Cancer Unit:

Barbara Wilkinson recently delivered **4 new Televisions** to the **Teenage Cancer Trust** at Castle Hull Hospital. They will replace the ones that have broken down and ensure that young people can watch TV programmes or play interactive Games, making a valuable gift at what must be such a difficult time.



Members of Staff from Ward 33 receive the Televisions. A colleague will be joining us on our March Members' Day.

You will all be aware by now that the Senior Tigers have been asked by the football club to host the first event of the club's 120th Anniversary year. The club was born in June 1904 so on 6 June we will be holding

a Memorabilia and Heritage event in the Kingston Suite.

We know we can fill the room with programmes, magazines and shirts from the 1940s to date. However, we want to make the event a little more special by displaying interesting and unique items that supporters have saved, items relating to the club's heritage and achievements. The older and rarer the better.

We are asking all members to be on the lookout for such items and to ask family members, friends, acquaintances and fellow supporters to search out items that will be of interest to City supporters.

If you can help or know of people who can please contact the Memorabilia Team or members of the Senior Tigers Committee via the "Contact Us" page on the Web site or call **Tony Conway** on 01904 489495

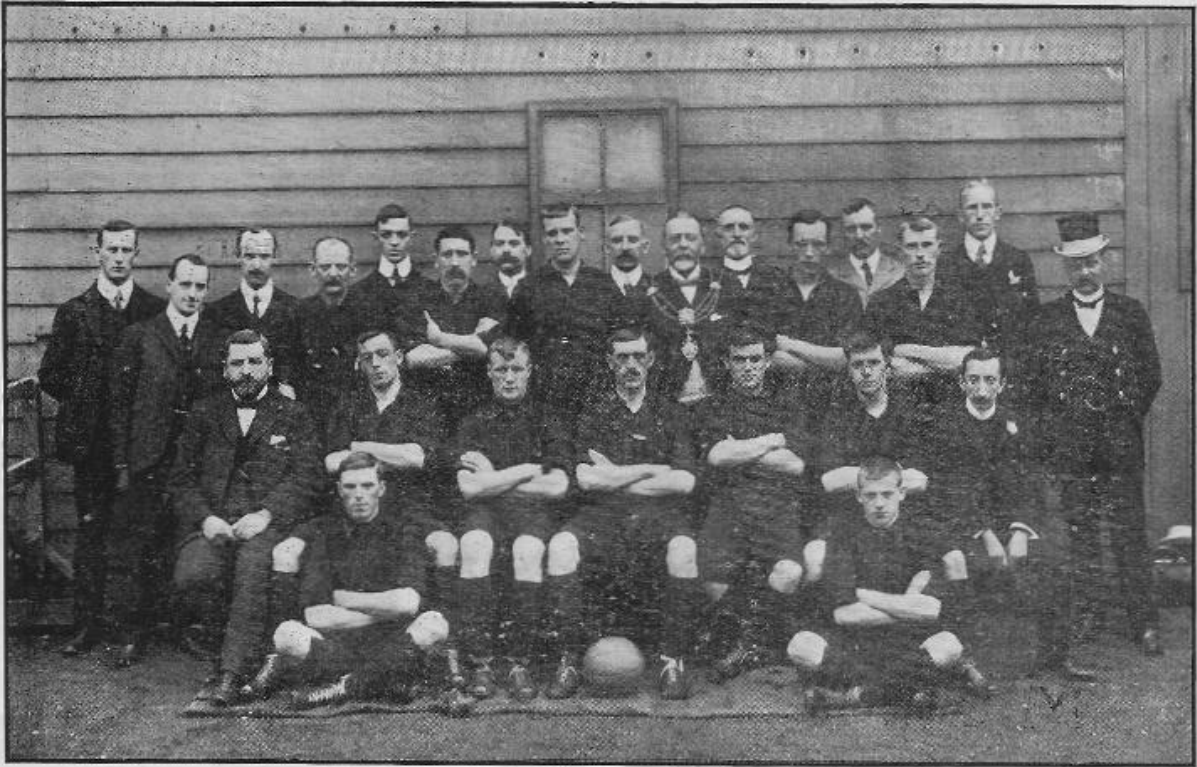
~ ~ ~



Pat Ellis receives her "Nanny Pat" Tiger shirt to mark her dramatic appearance on TV!



"Nanny Pat" thanks our February Guests, Regan Slater & Billy Sharp.



Thurs., 1st. Sept., 1904.

Front Row—Andrew Raisbeck, H. Wilkinson.

Photo by R. T. Watson.

Second Row—The late Dr. G. W. Lilley, J.P. (Vice-Chairman), F. Wolfe, G. Rushton, G. Spence, P. Howe,
— McKiernon, Mr. B Crompton (Secretary).

Third Row—W. Leach (Trainer), — Leiper, J. Whitehouse, T. Jones. F. Martin, E. Rodgeron (Mayor's Beadle)

Back Row—Mr. B. S. Frost, Mr. E. Morison, Mr. A. E. Spring, Mr. F. A. Levitt, Mr. J. H. Bielby;

The late Mr. J. Ramster, The late Alderman W. Jarman, J.P. (Mayor), The late Mr. W. Gilyott (Chairman),
Mr. J. Barraclough, Mr. M. Andrews.

Hull City Team – 1904

The above photograph shows the directors of the newly formed Hull City F.C. co Ltd., along with the Lord Mayor of Hull (Alderman W. Jarman) and the Mayor's Beadle (E. Rodgeron) together with the initial playing squad.

A treat ... Bridlington Town v. Pontefract Collieries – Saturday, 23rd March (3.00 pm k.o.)

With no fixtures for Hull City on this day, there is an opportunity to support local league football. Why not join Bridlington Town for the day? It will mean a lot to their Chairman, our friend and Senior Tiger, Pete Smurthwaite, who has 'carried' the club for some years. The proposal is that we Sponsor the matchday Programme and enjoy an afternoon cheering on football at the grassroots level. We would love to encourage Senior Tiger members to come along and swell the crowd. We have a minibus, with room for about 10 spaces on a first come basis. There are also a limited number of hospitality passes which will include Pie & Peas and drinks. The Sponsor package is £23 or to pay at the turnstile it will cost Senior Citizens just £5 (£8 if they are still a little younger!). If you are interested, please contact Allen (details at the top of the Newsletter).

Looking back:

After all our meetings a report is published on our website, www.seniortigers.org.uk, where you can recap the story of each afternoon, usually accompanied by some wonderful photographs. Last month's report not only reminds us of the visit from our reigning Player of the season, **Regan Slater**, and **Billy Sharp**, but the unexpected bonus of a visit from **Rob McDonald**. Our Secretary, **Shirley Cormack**, faithfully records the meeting and she hopes that you will read the report. To view the report please click [here](#).

Photographs from the February meeting include Regan being presented with his Player of the Season Trophy by Ron Betts, Rob McDonald being interviewed by Allen and a wonderful backshot showing the audience engrossed with Richard's interview with the two former Blades. Many thanks to **Dave Cormack** who has taken on the role of Official Club Photographer.