



## The Luncheon Club for Senior Gasheads & their friends

January 2018

**Hello everyone and a very happy New Year to you all and your families.**

Our Springtime Luncheon will soon be upon us, so here goes with what is coming up, plus of course a look-back at our Christmas festivities.

### **The Spring Luncheon**

is on Thursday 1 March 2018 at The Memorial Stadium - 12 noon for 12.15 pm. Please note the slightly earlier start so that we can wrap up events by 2.45 pm

### **The Guest Speaker**

is none other than Gas Legend and Radio Bristol Sports Editor, Geoff Twentyman, who will need no introduction to you all. Geoff will reminisce on his time with the Gas and the Twerton years, and give an insight on his career under the radio spotlight.



### **The Meal**

Wild Mushroom Soup with tarragon

Roast Topside of Beef with a Madeira Sauce

Blueberry Crumble Cheesecake or Fruit Salad  
and cream

Excellent value at £20 per head

*Vegetarian and Vegan options are available. Please email [rogerbrinsford@bristolrovers.co.uk](mailto:rogerbrinsford@bristolrovers.co.uk) for details if either you, or any of your party, wish to take up this option*

### **How to book**

Simply transfer £20 per head into the Blue Diamond Club bank account

Sort code = 30-84-75

Account = 54242268

*Please add your name in the reference box*

If you wish to pay by cheque, please email [alancavill@btinternet.com](mailto:alancavill@btinternet.com) for his address details

**Bookings close on Thursday 21 February 2018**

### **Reserve a table (of 8-12)**

Please email

[rogerbrinsford@bristolrovers.co.uk](mailto:rogerbrinsford@bristolrovers.co.uk)

with the names of the guests on your table once they have all paid.

## **Raffle prizes for March lunch**

We are constantly trying to provide attractive and unusual prizes and the raffle in March will be no exception. Some super prizes have already been donated:

- Family day ticket for a Gloucestershire County Championship match
- Clifton College - a 6 month adult membership to their Sports Centre (value approx £230)
- Voucher for Bath Races
- 2 x South West Stand match-day tickets to Bristol Rovers v Blackburn Rovers game
- A prize from Pattersons
- Bottles of wine

and there are promises of many more to come. Full details will be on your table

Perhaps this is the appropriate time to record our thanks to **CJ Computing (Systems) Ltd** for their continued and generous sponsorship of the Lunch.

A flyer giving details of the Company's business activities was on every table at the last lunch and will again be at your table for March but if you require further information in the meantime, you can visit their website [www.cjcomputing.com](http://www.cjcomputing.com) or email [sales@cjcomputing.com](mailto:sales@cjcomputing.com). Tel: 0117-962-4553

Your support for sponsors and donors of raffle prizes is and will be much appreciated

## **Thank you for your generosity**

Through your extraordinary generosity in purchasing raffle tickets in the draws, we have now been able to make donations towards:

Bristol Rovers Community Trust to support their "Extra Time" project enabling them to take members out on day trips. The Trust do not receive any external funding for this and we have been very happy to assist now with two donations.

Refreshment equipment for the spectator safety medical staff to enable them to prepare hot drinks during their duty hours at The Memorial Stadium. This was drawn to our attention after a spectator earlier this season needed to receive treatment in the medical room and who was quite surprised that the staff on duty were not able to make themselves a warming tea and coffee.

As you will read further down, we shall be concentrating our efforts in March towards the Academy on the next European tour.

We have now made donations of an amazing £925 from our two Luncheons so far and obviously we shall continue to do so at forthcoming functions. So, a huge "thank you" to you all for your contributions.

## Presentation of refreshment equipment to Bristol Ambulance ahead of the Bradford City match



Blue Diamond Club Chair, Roger Brinsford, presents the Bristol Ambulance Operations Manager, Gareth Evans, with some of the refreshment equipment purchased from funds raised by guests at the Christmas Luncheon. Also in the photograph are Blue Diamond Committee members (L to R) Andrew Baker, Alan Cavill (Treasurer), Mike Tremlin and Mo Bell (Secretary). On the right, Rovers Safety Officer, Dave Parker, through whom the Blue Diamond Club made the arrangements

## Helping the Academy on their next European tour

From the raffle at the forthcoming Spring Luncheon, we wish to make a contribution towards free-time educational and cultural visits whilst the Academy are on their next European tour. Last October, players from the Youth Development phase of the U16's and mixed U14/15's undertook a tour of Poland and Germany with matches against high quality local opposition to further their footballing education.

Jonathan Henderson, Academy Manager, said at the time that it gives players a challenge to play against unfamiliar opposition who will provide a variety to the style of football traditionally experienced at home. Furthermore, the biggest returns Jonathan saw was the opportunity for development from a personal and social perspective which he feels is of greater importance of the players.

The full article can be read here [www.bristolrovers.co.uk/news/2017/october/26.10.17---academy-trip/](http://www.bristolrovers.co.uk/news/2017/october/26.10.17---academy-trip/)

## Our Christmas Lunch

Some photographs taken at the Christmas festivities at the beginning of December.



112 guests sat down to a traditional festive lunch beautifully prepared by the catering staff at The Memorial Stadium. BRFC Chairman, Steve Hamer, was the principal guest and after entertaining guests with some footballing anecdotes, he finished with a Q&A with MC, Nick Day.

The afternoon was concluded with the singing of carols culminating in a hilarious if somewhat chaotic rendering of the Twelve Days with many guests not knowing whether they should be standing up or sitting down.

The photographs in this newsletter have been kindly taken by Committee Member, Mike Tremlin, who has captured the essence of the afternoon. Further pictures are on our website [www.brfdc.org.uk](http://www.brfdc.org.uk)





## **The Committee**

Chair: Roger Brinsford

Secretary: Mo Bell

Treasurer: Alan Cavill

Committee Members: Andrew Baker & Mike Tremlin

Master of Ceremonies:

Alan Cockayne

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*The Bristol Rovers Blue Diamond Club (BRBDC) is an independent non-profit-making organisation run by elected volunteers. It aims to foster the spirit of Fellowship and Goodwill among retired Supporters of Bristol Rovers Football Club and their friends and to promote social activities for them such as luncheons*

*Full details can be found at [www.brbdc.org.uk](http://www.brbdc.org.uk)*

**Website: [www.brbdc.org.uk](http://www.brbdc.org.uk)**

**Enquiries: [rogerbrinsford@bristolrovers.co.uk](mailto:rogerbrinsford@bristolrovers.co.uk)**