



BRISTOL ROVERS **BLUE DIAMOND CLUB**

The Luncheon Club for Senior Gasheads & Friends

August 2018

Hello Everyone

The new football season is now well under way, as are the preparations for the Blue Diamond Club's new season of lunches. We trust everyone had an enjoyable summer break wherever it took you and whilst the heat may not have been to everyone's satisfaction, it was at least enjoyable to sit out in the open in the evenings knowing that it was going to be warm and dry, coupled with leaving things in garden confident they wouldn't get wet overnight.

The Late Summer Luncheon

is on Thursday 20 September 2018 at The Memorial Stadium - 12 noon for 12.15 pm. As for the previous lunch, please note the slightly earlier start so that we can hopefully wrap up events by 2.45 pm

The Guest Speaker

is the one and only Bobby Gould, who really needs little introduction to you all, not only having played for the Gas but then subsequently managing the team in two spells for the Club. He will certainly keep us entertained with tales from his times with some top clubs in the country as well as his memories of Eastville and Twerton Park.

The Meal

- ☆ Tomato & Basil Soup
- ☆ Chicken Supreme in a Cream Sauce served with New Potatoes in Parsley Butter and seasonal vegetables
- ☆ Lemon Meringue Pie with cream, or Fruit Salad
- ☆ Tea/Coffee and After Dinner Mints

Excellent value at £20 per head

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

How to book

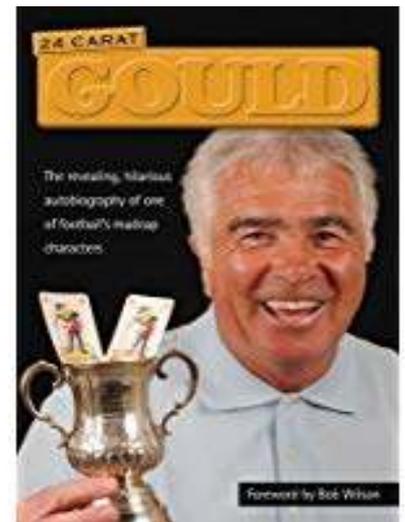
Simply transfer £20 per head into the Blue Diamond Club bank account

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 for his address details



Bookings close on Thursday 13 September 2018

To reserve a table (of 10-12)

Please email rogerbrinsford@bristolrovers.co.uk with the names of the guests on your table once they have all paid.

Raffle prizes for the September lunch

We are constantly trying to provide attractive and unusual prizes and the raffle in September will again be no exception. We must congratulate Andrew Baker for his most imaginative choice in securing these super prizes which have already been donated:

- ☆ Gift voucher from Almondsbury Garden Centre
- ☆ 2 x passes for Orpheus Cinema, Henleaze
- ☆ An afternoon in the Radio Bristol studio alongside Geoff Twentyman on Saturday Sport
- ☆ Two passes for a non-feature race day for Chepstow Racecourse
- ☆ Match day hospitality in an Executive Box v Scunthorpe United on Saturday 17 November, courtesy of Sharon Dunford
- ☆ Prize from Thatchers Cider
- ☆ Basket of fruit (cost circa £15)
- ☆ 2 x annual passes for the Grand Pier, Weston-super-Mare

Full details will be on your table.

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

Sponsorship

Once again we wish 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 will again be at your table but if you require further information in the meantime, you can visit their website www.cjcomputing.com or email sales@cjcomputing.com. Tel: 0117-962-4553

Thank you for your generosity

We very much appreciate your extraordinary generosity in purchasing raffle tickets in the draws. Over the three Luncheons last season, you raised a staggering £1,625, all of which has been donated causes close to Bristol Rovers and their connections.

This means we have been able to pass on:

- £400 to Bristol Rovers Community Trust for their 'Extra Time' project
- £500 to Bristol Rovers Academy for educational purposes
- £500 to Myotonic Dystrophy Research
- £200 to provide refreshment facilities in the Bristol Ambulance Medical Room
- £25 to St Augustine's Church, Downend for letting us 'borrow' their Organist for the Christmas Carols

Manhattan to the Mem - Round the World

Gashead's Motorcycle Charity Ride for Myotonic Dystrophy Research

We were approached a couple of months ago with a request to support the 'Manhattan to the Mem' Charity Motorcycle 'round-the-world' adventure.

Rovers fan, Dave Fletcher, has parked his life for six months to embark on this extraordinary expedition in support of Myotonic Dystrophy Research. He set off with his pal Gary Rice last May, heading for the start of the journey in New York.

They are travelling 20,000 miles around the World, heading west for 205 days across the USA, South Korea, Siberian Russia and Mongolia, following the ancient 'Silk Route' home, on their Husqvarna 701 motorcycles.

You can track their progress, which Dave regularly updates, on their online blog

<http://2wheeladventurer.com>



Here's Dave, who happened to bump into a Russian Mascot. Amusingly, not only was the mascot dressed in blue but also carried the initials 'BR' on his shirt. Not sure about the colour, though!

After setting off at the beginning of May, the two riders, Dave Fletcher and Gary Rice, are due to return in November and the Football Club is being asked to honour them on the pitch at one of the matches that month.

What an extraordinary and memorable expedition for the pair!

Our Spring 2018 Lunch

Some fairly heavy snowfall (for Bristol!) meant that our 1st March Luncheon had to be postponed and was eventually held at the beginning of May.

Nevertheless, we still had over 100 guests sit down to lunch followed by a very entertaining forty minutes with Gas Legend and Radio Bristol Sports Editor, Geoff Twentyman. This is an ideal opportunity to personally thank Geoff not only for his time on the day but also allowing us to speak about the Blue Diamond Club forthcoming functions on his Thursday 'Having a Gas' programme.

Also, for providing an extraordinary prize for our raffle; an afternoon watching Geoff in action live on air with his Saturday Sport programme is going to provide the winner with unforgettable memories.



The photographs of the gathering have been kindly taken by Committee Member, Mike Tremlin, who has captured the essence of the afternoon. Further pictures are on our website www.brdbc.org.uk



A mention here, and our thanks, to Martin Bull, who very kindly produces the photographs here and on our website.

Christmas Luncheon 2018

Anwar Uddin and Adam Tutton, Rovers Community Trust Chief Executive, are the joint guest speakers in December. You will remember Anwar as our central defender for a couple of seasons from 2002 to 2004 before sustaining a serious groin injury. He is now the Diversity and Campaigns Manager for the Football Supporters Federation and he and Adam will speak on their work in the Community, both locally and nationally.

The date for your diaries is Thursday 6 December when we shall hopefully conclude the festivities with another round of carol singing. You know the words. All you need to know is when to stand up and when to sit down!

The Committee

Chair: Roger Brinsford

Secretary: Mo Bell

Treasurer: Alan Cavill

Committee Members: Andrew Baker & Mike Tremlin

Master of Ceremonies: Alan Cockayne

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

Website: www.brdbc.org.uk

Enquiries: rogerbrinsford@bristolrovers.co.uk