

Wimbledon Football Club Ltd

Selhurst Park Stadium London SE25 6PY Telephone 081-771 2233 Fax 081-768 0640



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Hearty Congratulations to the Players, Joe Kinnear and the Team Management who again produced an excellent football season for the Club and we finished a creditable 6th position in the F.A. Premier League and reached the quarter finals of the Coca-Cola Cup and our run in the F.A. Cup was finally ended by the eventual winners, Manchester United, in the 5th round. A playing squad of value and quality, sound team management maintaining our policy of seeking, retaining and nurturing good youth team players - assess the results! International recognition was given and congratulations extended to Warren Barton, Peter Fear, Dean Holdsworth and John Scales. Congratulations gentlemen!

Once again our membership of the F.A. Premier League brings about greater opportunities and much needed revenue for the growth and well being of the Club. Our average attendance of 10,473 showed a significant increase on the previous season of 24% and a 50% increase on our first year at Selhurst.

Our Football in the Community programme has gone from strength to strength with a wide range of activities taking place in schools and housing estates throughout the boroughs of Merton, Wandsworth and Kingston. The Club's name is very prominent in these and outlying areas.

With Crazy Gang membership more than doubled, the support given to the Club has never been better. The accounts for the year ended 31 May, 1994, show an operating loss of £700,300 (1993 - £1,012,392) after taking into account net transfer fees. A situation in which the directors are fully aware of the financial implications and the need to maintain good housekeeping.

Stadium

You are doubtless aware of some of the happenings between Merton Council and ourselves. For many years and at considerable cost we have been exploring with them our desire for a new site and stadium preferably in the Borough. No progress has been made and the last consideration for a site was the Greyhound Stadium which, frankly, was the least feasible of them all having regard to the doubt of obtaining planning permission for football and full leisure activities, car parking, etc. finding an alternative site for the dog racing, all very costly, time consuming and having very little confidence in the Council it was decided not to proceed.

Sadly we say we have no confidence in Merton Council's desire to take us back to Merton with the right site and finances but Sam and the Board are still working on the objective of our own custom built stadium perhaps by examining other areas in and around London.

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Plough Lane

Full planning permission was promised by the Council in 1993, they reneged on that agreement for political reasons. We kept pressing to get their reassurance that everything was in order by all the Departments of the Council affected and promises were made for eventually proceeding and assurances were given but at a meeting of the Development Control Sub-Committee they refused the application. This decision was a deadly and serious blow and a stab in the back to us and was not warmly received by the Board. An Appeal is with the Department of Environment which finally is to be presented to the Minister. Protracted proceedings may take 12 months or more.

Sincere thanks to our sporting and well conducted supporters, administrative and matchday staff and everyone involved with the Club, to my colleague Directors for all their efforts in contributing to the well being of the Club. Salutations and greetings to you the shareholders. We are compact, sound, strong and progressive Club providing first class football and entertainment for our supporters.

Stanley G. Reed Chairman