



The Hinch to welcome in the new year

Andy Hinchcliffe will be our first guest of 2013 at our next meeting on Monday 25th February in the Commonwealth Suite at the Etihad Stadium. Doors open at 7pm.

A product of the club's youth policy, Andy Hinchcliffe went on to make a total of 139 appearances for Manchester City between 1986 and 1990, scoring 11 goals. He was part of the team that beat Manchester United 3-1 on aggregate to lift the FA Youth Cup in 1986 and quickly progressed to the first team along with a number of local lads, including David White, Paul Lake and Steve Redmond. At the age of eighteen he was given his debut by manager Mel Machin in the opening game of the 1987-88 season against Plymouth Argyle (a 2-1 win at Maine Road) and went on to establish himself in the side for the next three years, becoming a firm favourite with the supporters for his marauding style of play up and down the line. Although known primarily for his powerful free kicks and accuracy with a dead ball, he earned a reputation as an attacking left back and was probably one of the first defenders to graduate into the modern-day wing back.

Andy's first season saw City finish in 9th place in Division Two whilst progress was made in both the League and FA Cups before defeats at the 5th and 6th rounds respectively. Hinchcliffe was on the scoresheet in both competitions, his first City goal coming in an impressive 2-0 away win at Wolves in the League Cup 2nd round, whilst in the FA Cup he netted in a 3-0 victory at Huddersfield Town as City won through to the 4th round at the third time of asking. The following season was a productive one for both club and player, with Andy grabbing five league goals as City returned to the top flight, despite a late season wobble which produced just one win from their last six games, with a second place finish behind runaway champions Chelsea. A season of consolidation followed as City finished in 14th spot in Division 1 whilst there were disappointing early exits in both cup competitions. The undoubted highlight of the season came as local rivals United were swept aside 5-1 in September 1989, Hinchcliffe giving a five fingered salute to the crowd and endearing himself to the Maine Road faithful forever after he had scored the 5th goal. His last game for the club was in the final game of the 1989-90 season against Crystal Palace, when he came on as a substitute. He subsequently left to join Everton in July 1990 for a fee of £800, 000 and went on to win an FA Cup winners medal in 1995 whilst with the Merseyside club.

After playing at the highest level of the English game for sixteen years he was forced to retire from professional football in March 2002 when he suffered a serious knee injury whilst playing for Sheffield Wednesday. Andy also gained seven international caps for England, making his debut in September 1996 alongside another debutant, a young David Beckham, in a World Cup Qualifier against Moldova. As a measure of his enduring popularity at City Andy went on to work as a football commentator on local radio in Manchester, providing expert analysis on all of City's games alongside Hugh Ferris on Key 103. Andy now works for Sky Sports.





Stadium Tour

Following the success of the Stadium Tours for Disabled Fans in November we will be running them again in February. The tours sold out very quickly last time so if you do want to attend you need to book your place early.

The only difference between our tour and the standard tour is the speed of the journey round the stadium. The disabled tours take a route that works better for using lifts to change floors and with the majority of the party needing to use them there are slight delays getting the group back together each time we move to a different level. Those that attended preferred being in a disabled group rather than feeling they were slowing down a standard tour. A full report of the tour was in our last newsletter, if you missed it it is available on our website

http://www.mcdsa.co.uk/tour.html or if you don't have Internet access contact Mark and he will send you a copy of the newsletter.

The tours will run at 11:00am and 2:00pm on the 10th February, the cost is £9 for adults £7 for concessions with 1 free carer per paying disabled visitor. To book your place simply ring 0161 444 1894 and choose option 4 then option 2 if you are unable to use a phone email dianne.hill@mcfc.co.uk you need to state you want to book for the MCDSA Tour, which time slot you want and provide details of your access requirements i.e. number of wheelchairs in party, hearing or sight impairments etc. If you would prefer to pay at the stadium you can do so by going to the West Stand (Colin Bell) Reception between 9am and 5pm any day of the week except match days and ask to speak to the stadium tour team. As we need to ensure there is sufficient staff to accommodate us we wont be able to sell tickets on the day of the tour, so please book early.



City in the Community

The Blue Santa stroll was a great success again in December with just over a thousand fans including a good number of our members, dressed in Blue taking a gentle stroll round the stadium raising much needed funds for City in the Community.

Paul Lake writes "I just wanted to say a big thank you to all branches for the fabulous support that you have shown City In The Community so far this season. Funds raised from the Premier League trophy visits, the annual Santa Stroll and annual subscription donations has been fantastic helping make many memorable moments for many vulnerable young people throughout Manchester while truly depicting the spirit of our amazing fans at Manchester City Football Club.

With your help CITC has managed to engage with

over 220,000 young people, over the past 12 months, in some of the most deprived areas nationally. Funds raised have helped engage with a diverse range of people in many ways ranging from programmes that provide evening activities to combat anti-social behaviour to life changing projects giving unemployed residents from the local communities a chance to gain life skills and opportunities at their Community Club.

Without your continuous support this would not be possible. On behalf of all of the staff at Manchester City FC & City In The Community, I'd like to wish you all a happy 'blue year!' Best wishes Paul'



Christmas Meal



Our Christmas Meal was a great success again with Jeff Whitley, Nigel Gleghorn, Ian Cheeseman and Les Chapman our guests on the night. Ian took on the role as compere interviewing the guests for us and running the raffle. The guests then circulated round the tables to ensure everyone had chance to speak with them direct as well as get photo's and autographs. City Match Day Photographer Roland Cooke was also there to help capture the night for us in pictures.



















An Evening With Carl Tilson

On Saturday 16th Feb 2013 Carl Tilson will be celebrating his 26th birthday and wants to raise much needed funds and awareness for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy and two fantastic charities Action Duchenne and Joining Jack.

In a nutshell Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy is a terminal muscle wasting condition which affects all muscles, death usually

occurs before the age of 30. There is currently no cure for DMD, but for the first time ever, there are promising therapies in or moving into clinical development.

We wish to invite you to celebrate with us another year milestone of Carl living with Duchenne. Will you be joining him on the 16th of February?

To purchase tickets for this event all you need to do is donate a minimum of £5 please note there will be lots of things going on like auctions and tombola, plus live entertainment etc Please leave your name when you donate and you will be on the guest list if you have bought more than one ticket please leave a message with their names http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/TeamAction

Venue - Radcliffe Borough FC Bury Manchester M26 3PE Start 7pm - late, if you don't have internet access Carl can be contacted through MCDSA using our contact details on page one



Mal O'Mahoney, pictured here before the final game of last season between brother Harvey (L) and husband Bob (R), died aged 61 on 2nd December after a short battle with pneumonia. A lifelong Blue, Mal was overjoyed to get a Seasoncard when she and Bob moved from Dorset to Bury in 2003 just as the new stadium was opening and later came to appreciate the wheelchair facilities provided in East Stand Level 1. Mal truly loved the Blues – 'her boys' as she called them – and is greatly missed by family, friends and members of the Disabled Supporters Association.