

He's Here He's There He's at the MCDSA Tommy Booth...

1969 FA Cup winner Tommy Booth will be our guest at our next meeting on the 22nd April in the Commonwealth Suite of the Etihad Stadium. Doors open at 7:00pm with the meeting starting around 7:30pm and finishing at 9:00. Free parking is available immediately outside the East Stand reception.

Tommy was influential in getting us to Wembley scoring the only goal against Everton in the semi final and played in every round despite only making his debut earlier the same season against Arsenal in a 1-1 draw on the 9th October 1968.

In his time with City he played in 491 games with only 4 of those coming on from the subs bench, scoring 36 goals. Just before the FA Cup Final, Malcolm Allison described him as "The most promising centre-half in the country. He has superb control, good all round skills, is commanding in the air and possesses two great feet - how can he be faulted?"

As well as the 1969 FA Cup win, Tommy also won the European Cup Winners Cup in 1970 and the League Cup in 1970 and 1976. He was still a regular in defence in the 1981 season but was not selected for the FA Cup Final and left at the end of the season to join Preston North End for £30,000. During his time at Preston he made 84 appearances scoring twice. Injury forced him to retire from playing 1984/85 season. In February 1985 he was appointed as Preston Manager, but resigned in January 1986 as the club was in financial difficulty and results were not going the way he wished. He was replaced by a young Brian Kidd who himself only managed three months in the role.

Following his retirement he set up a Sports Trophy business with his brother and then later became a Satellite and TV installation technician for Granada.

Tommy is now a regular in the hospitality suites on a match day back working for the team he loves and is a regular visitor of Supporters Clubs meetings.



Manchester City Disabled Supporters Association Newsletter



We are back at Wembley having reached the semi-final of the FA Cup. The game will take place on Sunday 14th April with a 4:00pm kick off.

The club has received an allocation of 31,985 tickets. Four categories of match ticket are available to purchase, priced as follows:

Category Price (Adult) Price (Under 16 & Over 65)

Category 1 £60 £50

Category 2 £50 £40

Category 3 £40 £30

Category 4 £30 £20

Disabled £30 (with a free personal free Assistant).

There are a small number of restricted view tickets available for this fixture, which will qualify for a £10 reduction on the above prices. All restricted view seating will be sold last, and supporters will be advised at the point of sale if they are purchasing a restricted view seat.

Please note, tickets will not be available to purchase or collect 'in person' at the Ticket Office for this match.*

*With the exception of Disabled wheelchair users and Ambulant Supporters who will be able to purchase and collect from the Ticket Office, located on the first floor of the City Store.

Subject to availability, tickets will be available online at www.mcfc.co.uk/tickets and by telephone on +44(0)161 444 1894 (option 1, option 1, option 2)** for supporters that meet the following criteria;

- 2012/13 Platinum/Gold Members on the FA Cup Scheme with 8,000 or more loyalty points – Monday 25th March at 9am.
- 2012/13 Platinum/Gold Members on the FA Cup Scheme with 7,000 or more loyalty points – Tuesday 26th March at 9am.
- 2012/13 Platinum/Gold Members on the FA Cup Scheme with 6,000 or more loyalty points – Wednesday 27th March at 9am.
- 2012/13 Platinum/Gold Members on the FA Cup Scheme with 5,000 or more loyalty points – Thursday 28th March at 9am.
- 2012/13 Platinum/Gold Members on the FA Cup Scheme with 3,500 or more loyalty points – Saturday 30th March at 9am.
- Any 2012/13 Platinum/Gold Members on the FA Cup Scheme – Tuesday 2nd April at 9am.
- Platinum/Gold Members with 4,000 or more loyalty points – Wednesday 3rd April at 9am.
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***Tickets purchased over the telephone will be subject to a £2.50 booking fee per ticket and all tickets will be despatched via first class post and sent to the registered address of the purchasing supporter.

•Should any tickets remain; further selling criteria will be announced on the website

Disabled Supporters:

The Club has received an allocation of 100 wheelchair spaces and 100 pairs of walking ambulant/visually impaired seats, both with the provision for a free assistant.

Disabled supporters who meet the qualifying criteria and wish to purchase a ticket should visit the Ticket Office located on the first floor of the City Store or call the disabled ticket line on +44(0)161 444 1894 (option 1, option 1, option 1).

Please note that disabled tickets are not available to purchase online

For additional help or assistance, please contact our Disabled Liaison Officer on +44(0)161 444 1894 (option 1, option 1, option 1) or email disabledtickets@mcfc.co.uk. We are open Monday to Saturday, 9am to 5:30pm (closed Sunday and Bank Holidays).



Junior Membership holders:

We appreciate that there may be a significant difference in loyalty points between junior supporters (under the age of 16) and their parent(s) or guardian(s).

A very limited allocation of tickets will be made available to 2012/13 City Kicks Platinum and Gold Members for purchase together with a qualifying adult Membership holder.

At the point where the adult qualifies, they can also purchase **up to TWO junior ticket regardless of the junior's loyalty point status.**

Please note, this option is only available to supporters purchasing over the phone, and all juniors must be accompanied by an adult (aged 18 or over).

Once this limited allocation has been sold, no further tickets will be available and all junior Members must then qualify in their own right to purchase a ticket. Members will be advised at the point of sale when the limited allocation of tickets available to junior members has sold out.

Please note: If the supporter number used is that of an adult, then only an adult ticket may be purchased. This also applies to under 16s and over 65s.

Coach Travel

We will be using Thomas Cook for our MCDSA Coach trip to the Capital City. To book your tickets please go to <http://www.thomascooksport.com/Football/Premier-League/Manchester-City/Manchester-City-Domestic-Travel> and state MCDSA Member together with your access requirements in the box provided. If you are not able to book on-line please ring Thomas Cook on 0844 800 9900. Coach tickets will only be sold to supporters who get a semi final ticket, but you can register now with Thomas Cook to ensure you don't miss the bus...

Wembley Stadium has been built to the highest specifications offering every visitor an unrivalled event-day experience. Wembley's Access and Inclusion strategy has been developed in consultation with statutory bodies, [Level Playing Field](#) and other relevant groups. Their Access and Inclusion strategy has been developed from the initial principle that the design of the Stadium should be inclusive to all.

Wembley Stadium is proving to be the ultimate match-day experience for visually impaired football fans thanks to an exclusive 90-minute commentary service.

In terms of their facilities for disabled visitors, World Stadium Team (the Stadium's architects Foster and Partners & HOK Sport) designed facilities following consultation with specialist user groups (including Level Playing Field), Sport England and Brent Council. The design is in keeping with legislation and relevant guidance documentation including the Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds 1997 (the Green Guide).

There are three stations servicing Wembley Stadium.

Wembley Park

- Wembley Park is on both the Jubilee and Metropolitan underground lines. Currently the Metropolitan line is not accessible for wheelchair users, however, selected Jubilee platforms and trains are. Contact TFL for further information.
- Wembley Park has step free access between all the platforms and street level. There is also limited step free access between the platforms and trains. This is available on all platforms except platform 5 (southbound Metropolitan line) and provides complete or near step free access between the platform and train for one carriage only in the immediate area around the lift.
- Signage is provided on the platforms advising customers to wait in this area for level access to the trains.
- Five new lifts have been installed at this station to allow for wheelchair access from the ticket hall to Olympic Way.
- All ticket counters at Wembley Park are low-level for wheelchair users. There are induction loops and audio enhancements for hearing impaired passengers.



- Information in Braille is centrally available with information on the London underground network.
- If you require assistance at the station please ensure you call ahead.
- TFL travel information: 020 7222 1234/ customer services: 0845 330 9880. TFL text phone - 0207 918 3500. TFL have provided approximate journey times from Wembley Park to mainline national rail stations.
- Visitors can call for 24 hour information on 020 7222 1234 or text phone on 020 7918 3500. This includes up to date information regarding step-free access (i.e. any locations with defective lifts) and service disruptions. Lifts from platform level take passengers up to the ticket hall. Cross the ticket hall to enter the lifts which will bring you down to Olympic Way. From there, it's approximately 600 metres to the Stadium

Wembley Central

- Wembley Central is on the Bakerloo underground line and the London Overground line.
- Wembley Central station has low-level ticket machines for wheelchair users and there is a gate next to the ticket barriers for wheelchair access. Platforms 1, 2, 5 and 6 have tactile edges to assist visually impaired passengers.
- There are customer information screens on the concourse and on platforms 1 & 2 to assist hearing impaired passengers.
- For event day return journeys - the customer access will be via different station entry point.
- None of the platforms at Wembley Central have step free access at the moment but there is a proposal to install lifts to platforms 1 and 2 as part of the redevelopment of the shopping centre above.
- London Overground customer services: 0845 601 4867

Wembley Central is a 2km journey to the Stadium. Exit the station via the stairs to street level. Turn right at the exit and the Stadium route will be signposted and marshalled on event days. Follow the road up to the main triangle junction. Using the pedestrian crossing, turn left at the junction. Continue up towards White Horse Bridge and enter the Stadium via the Bridge entrance.

Wembley Stadium

- Wembley Stadium is on the Chiltern train line. The Chiltern line travels from the Midlands, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire.
- London trains on this line depart from Marylebone station. Refer to the station link above for detailed departure points. Please note these may change for major event days. There are departure boards on each platform.
- If you are a wheelchair user, please note you will need to call ahead to Chiltern Railways to ensure a wheelchair ramp is on standby to facilitate access from the train to the platform.
- Chiltern Customer Services: 08456 005 165.

Wembley Stadium is approximately 740 metres to the Stadium. Exit the stadium via the lifts to street level. Turn right and access to the Stadium is possible via The White Horse Bridge.

Shuttle Bus Service

Wembley Stadium offers an accessible transport facility for disabled visitors on event days. This service operates between Wembley Park Station and the stadium. To take advantage of this service please visit www.brentct.org.uk or phone 0203 114 7022.

Buses To The Stadium

The following buses run from Wembley Central and Wembley Park station to the Stadium: - 83, 92 and 182. On major event days it is not advisable to get the bus from these stations because the traffic towards the Stadium is likely to be highly congested. Please note, not all buses that travel to the Stadium are fully accessible. For more information visit <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/modalpages/2605.aspx> or please call London Buses customer services on 0845 300 7000.



Signage

There is clear signage at all three stations and on the motorways, public highways and pedestrian routes, to help direct visitors to the Stadium with large text and our distinctive arch logo.

Parking

Provision has been made for accessible parking spaces. These are available in both the Stadium car-parks. These are available to Blue-Badge holders and will need to be booked in advance. Please contact City and Suburban Parking at the following website address: www.gotocsp.com to reserve your place. Please note that as all passes must be pre-sent, the cut off date for requesting a pass is 72 hours before an event.

Dial-A-Ride

This is a service provided by Transport for London (TFL). On match days dial-a-ride is available for disabled passengers who live in the Wembley area and who are attending events at the Stadium. This is a door to door local service for members of the dial-a-ride scheme. Dial-a-ride contact details: 0845 999 1 999. For further information visit the [TFL Website](http://www.tfl.gov.uk).

There is an accessible entrance at every set of turnstiles for wheelchair users, semi-ambulant visitors and those accompanied by assistance dogs. All turnstiles are manned by trained stewards.

There are two dog relieving stations (next to turnstiles B & M) located on the east and west external public concourse. See Level 1 Map for details.

An auditory enhancement system providing coverage of the seating bowl and public concourse areas has been installed. The system will provide event commentary, information and emergency announcements. Wembley Stadium provides a specific commentator for sensory impaired visitors. Headsets are available to book by emailing accessforall@wembleystadium.com.

The outer concourse area and ramps are smooth surfaces (tarmac and block work) for ease of access. Wembley Stadium is proving to be the ultimate matchday experience for visually impaired football fans thanks to an exclusive 90-minute commentary service. Read a review on TheFA.com. All information desks and kiosks, bars and points of sale have induction loop facilities. There are over twenty lifts and thirty sets of escalators in the new Stadium. Dedicated, accessible lifts are sized for two wheelchair users, personal assistants and an attendant. In the event of an evacuation accessible lifts will continue to operate. There are accessible lifts at the entrance points of the Stadium serving all levels. There are a number of Wembley Stadium wheelchairs available for loan. If you require a wheelchair, please go to one of the information desks on Level 1 or Level 5. There are 147 accessible toilets within the Stadium. Access to these toilets will be controlled by use of a RADAR key (if you require a key please go to the information desk or ask a steward). There are seven ATM machines located around the Stadium, all at accessible height. At each kiosk there is an accessible queue point and counter space are available for wheelchair users. Signage, tactile and visual indicators within the Stadium are provided where appropriate. All stewards will be trained in assisting disabled visitors. One of the modules on their steward training programme is dedicated to assisting disabled visitors. Each wheelchair platform will have a dedicated steward to provide assistance where required. Accessible public telephones are located on all public concourses. There are ten information desks distributed across Levels 1, 2 and 5.

Powered Wheelchairs

Powered Wheelchairs and Powered Scooters are permitted into the Stadium on Event Days; but please note the following:

- The maximum permitted speed for powered wheelchairs or scooters is 4mph.
- The maximum size permitted for powered wheelchairs or scooters is; length 1200mm (including footplates) and width 700mm.



TAXIS:

All London Taxis are wheelchair accessible. You will have to check with individual local minicab firms to see if they supply accessible transport.

TfL also produce a varied selection of documents and aids to help make your journey as stress-free as possible. These include audio tube maps, large print colour tube maps, large print black and white tube maps, a guide to all TfL transport services (available in Braille, large print or audio CD), a toilet tube map, bus maps, blue badge parking information and information on booking wheelchair-accessible taxis and minicabs. www.tfl.gov.uk

MATCHDAY ARRANGEMENTS

Brent Council will provide temporary traffic and parking management measures which include events at Wembley Stadium. These temporary measures may include one-way streets, road closures, waiting or loading restrictions, parking bay suspensions and extending hours of operation within controlled parking zones Please bear this in mind when planning your journey and allow extra time for traffic delays especially for road closures around the stadium

Congestion Charging

Wembley Stadium is outside the congestion charging zone, which also only operates on week days. If you are considering staying down south and travelling in to Central London you might cross in to the zone. If you hold a valid Blue Badge in the European Economic Area, you're eligible to register for a 100 per cent discount, even if you don't own a vehicle or drive.

You can register up to two vehicles that you would normally use to travel within the charging zone. This could be your own vehicle, or one you travel in.

If you need more information on Congestion Charging, you can: • Visit cclondon.com. • Phone on 0845 900 1234. If you are calling from outside the UK, please dial (+44) 207 649 9122. • If you have hearing difficulties and use textphone, please dial 0207 649 9123.

M6 Toll Road

The M6 Toll road on Sundays is £4.80 each way for cars and £9.60 for Van or Coach.

If you are disabled or an organisation which transports disabled persons you may be entitled to a toll exemption for your vehicle when using the M6 toll.

The Mobility Exemption Pass (MEP) allows free passage of the *nominated vehicle on the M6 toll only. If you think you may be eligible for an MEP, you must apply to Midland Expressway Limited as no other evidence of disability (eg Blue Badge) can be accepted.

*(the nominated vehicle is the one exempt from Road Tax)

To qualify for exemption you must be on a higher rate of disability living allowance and be road tax exempt.

For a vehicle to be exempt from payment using an MEP, the disabled person must be in the vehicle identified on the MEP. At their mainline plazas, please use the Attended Lane where your MEP pass will be checked by a member of staff; at their ramp plazas, please press the call for assistance button and your MEP pass will be checked via CCTV.

There is a £15 administration fee for the pass which lasts 3 years so it is only worth purchasing if you expect to use the toll road more than three times in the 3 year period.

To apply for a pass visit <http://www.m6toll.co.uk/pricing/exemptions/> or ring 0870 850 6262 (select Option 2)



North West Powerchair Football League commended

Manchester County FA are delighted to announce that the North West Powerchair Football League has been awarded The FA Charter Standard League Status.

The award was presented to League Secretary Jamie Clayton in the company of members of the league committee, players and Sam Bull, National Development Manager for The Wheelchair Football Association. Manchester FA League Development Officer Lorna Bennett was delighted for the NWPFL.

“This is an excellent achievement not only for the league, but for Powerchair football in its entirety,” she said. The fact that volunteers, parents and clubs are coming together from all over the country to provide such a high quality, safe and fun playing environment deserves the highest form of recognition we can give.”

The NWPFL has demonstrated its commitment to growing participation by providing appropriate competition and training opportunities for players and teams, while also running the game efficiently and effectively through The FA Full Time administration system.

Also ensuring that trained referees are used and that they understand the importance of their responsibility to manage the game and assist players to learn and understand the WFA laws of the game, the NWPFL is fully deserving of their award.

League Chairman Mark Clayton explained that the credit lies at the door of all involved.

"The input from member clubs and the dedication shown to achieving Charter Standard Club status in their own right is a testament to the partnership which is fundamental to the leagues success," he said.

"We are delighted to receive the award on behalf of everyone involved, from the coaches, to the referees, to the parents and to the players.

"There is a considerable amount of off pitch organization which goes on behind the scenes and I thank every individual that contributes to making this happen."

Congratulations to everyone at the North West Powerchair Football League!

The NWPFL currently provides monthly fixtures for 13 teams in two divisions catering for abilities across two speed settings. For more information on how to get involved please contact League Chairman Mark Clayton:

chairman@powerchairfootball.co.uk.

If you want to know more about The FA Charter Standard League Award, please contact MCFA League Development Officer Lorna Bennett: lorna.bennett@manchesterfa.com.

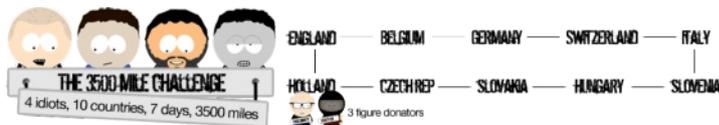


Paul Lake paid a recent visit to the Big S.

MCDSA Member Joy tells me "I arranged it with him a while ago and then it's been cancelled a few times due to the snow.

Paul was brilliant and took time to have a chat with everyone and we all had our picture taken with him which will be in the Glossop Chronicle this week. One of Member's 'Noel' particularly enjoyed his visit and whipped off his coat to reveal his United shirt when the photographer went to take the pic."

The Big S is a support group for anyone who has suffered a brain injury and meets up regularly in Glossop. If you or anyone you know is interested in getting involved the Big S can be contacted through MCDSA.



MCDSA Member Rob Birkett is taking part in a 3500 mile challenge

Crossing 10 countries in 7 days Rob and three of his mates are looking to raise awareness and as much money as possible for Crohns and Colitis uk.

Rob is a sufferer of severe crohns and has lost the majority of his digestive system to the disease. It's been a long hard slog but he has finally found some semblance of remission with a new wonder drug which has enabled him to join us on this epic journey.

So thanks to azathioprine and adalimumab they are delighted to be doing the rally in aid of Crohns and Colitis UK.

So much is unknown about the diseases and there is no cure but this charity is striving to find one. When they are not doing that, they are making the diseases easier for people to live with.

The charity brings together people of all ages who have been diagnosed with Inflammatory Bowel Disease, their families and the health professionals involved in their care.

As a side note MCDSA Secretary Mark Barber has also been severely affected by Ulcerative Colitis. Please support this great cause and help make life that bit easier for sufferers of Crohns and Colitis.

For more details on the challenge and details of how to donate visit www.3500challenge.co.uk





Level Playing Field Weeks of Action 2013



MCDSA and MCFC are pleased to support the 2013 Level Playing Field (LPF) Weeks of Action. It provides us with a real opportunity to show what we have achieved for our disabled supporters, disabled supporters from other clubs and the wider local disabled community.

LPF is a campaigning and advisory organisation working on the behalf of all disabled supporters. Working to share good practice, raise awareness and promote improved access to sports stadiums for disabled fans and disabled people who aspire to attend live sporting events. LPF uses the unique voice of sport to improve access and inclusion for disabled people across a wider society by working alongside sports bodies and government.

The LPF Weeks of Action promote the need for an inclusive and equal experience for all fans, bringing together clubs and fans at all levels of the game. There is a lot of positive work going on around the sports world including work to tackle disability abuse in and around stadia and highlight disability awareness to fans. LPF hope clubs see this is an opportunity to highlight this work.

Statistics provided by LPF state that more than 50% of disabled people in this country have not attended a live sports event or venue. Yet 1 in 4 families include a disabled person and 6 in 10 of the population know a disabled person closely. On the back of a very successful London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games it is clear that disabled people are an important part of sport in this country. It is now important that the legacy of these events is fulfilled and this extends to sports viewing as well as sports participation amongst disabled people.

LPF runs a yearly award scheme recognising people that have made a difference to disabled supporters. There are three awards: one for a disabled supporter who is an advocate for inclusion, secondly one a club employee who is proactive in solving issues for disabled supporters and finally one a volunteer who has encouraged the participation of disabled supporters. The awards are for the great work that they do, often working behind the scenes and without seeking the limelight. The 2013 awards are now open for nominating. It is easy to nominate - just send an email to: info@levelplayingfield.org.uk saying who you are nominating and why they would be a worthy winner. It would be great to have a winner from MCDSA or MCFC so please consider nominating anyone you feel is suitable for an award.

In addition LPF offers a professional and cost effective Access Audit programme designed specifically tailored for sports stadia, venues and arenas with audits delivered by LPF Access Auditors.

Level Playing Field would like to thank MCDSA and MCFC for supporting this annual initiative.

The LPF Weeks of Action run from the 6th to the 21st April 2013. For more information about Level Playing Field, the Weeks of Action to join them or sign up to receive their newsletters, you can go online to www.levelplayingfield.org.uk, email info@levelplayingfield.org.uk or call them on 01244 893584.

Ahead of the weeks of action MCFC have made significant improvements to their web site to help disabled visitors make the most of their visit to the Etihad Stadium, the new access page can be seen at <http://www.mcfc.co.uk/Tickets-and-Membership/Access-Information>

City have used numerous Disabled Mascots this season, demonstrated Disabled Sports regularly in City Square on match days and strongly support MCDSA in all our activities. City in the Community also promote disabled sports throughout the year.

MCDSA have continued to provide a forum bringing together Disabled Fans to meet at the stadium throughout the season with high profile guest speakers in attendance. We also represent disabled fans in discussions with the club to ensure your access needs are looked after and keep you up to date with our newsletters and web site.