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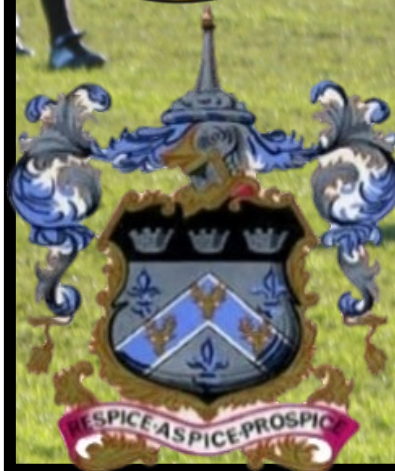
BOOTLE

BUCKS

NEWS

Official Match day Programme £1

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The Northwest Counties League Premier Division

19.02.2013 Kick Off 7.45pm

Bootle Football Club v Squires Gate FC

www.bootlefc.co.uk



History of the Bucks



The original Bootle F.C. were formed in 1880 and played at Hawthorne Road. They were in fact Everton FC's biggest rivals. In 1889-90 Bootle became founder members of the Football Alliance, narrowly missing out on the football league to the blues. That season was the

most successful as we finished league runners-up, reached the quarter-finals of the FA Cup, where we lost to Blackburn Rovers (0-7). When the Alliance merged with the Football League in 1892, Bootle became founder members of the new Second Division. However, despite a respectable 8th place final position, the club dropped out after one season (and were replaced by neighbours Liverpool) and seemingly disappeared due to financial problems.

Football returned to Hawthorne Road when a new club, Bootle Athletic, was later formed with the new team initially playing in the Liverpool Leagues. In 1948 when the club were elected to the Lancashire Combination 2, which was won at the first attempt. However, Bootle struggled in the top-flight and after several tough seasons withdrew and folded during the 1953-54 campaign.

In 1953, the current club was formed as Langton and played in the local leagues. After a very successful spell in the Liverpool County Combination (which we won on numerous occasions) the club reverted back to its better known identity of Bootle F.C. in 1973; and a year later joined the Lancashire Combination, which we won in 1976 and 1977. Bootle then joined the Second Division of the Cheshire County League, which was won in our first season, and we were promoted to the First Division. In 1982 the Cheshire County League was one of the leagues that merged to form the North West Counties League, which Bootle duly joined, becoming a member of the First Division. The club spent most of their time in the First Division until 2000 when we unfortunately dropped into the Second Division. However, despite finishing 6th in 2002, the club



dropped into the Liverpool County Combination. In 2006 the club, with a new ground, were elected back into Division 2 of the North West Counties League. In 2009 Bootle won promotion to the NWCL Premier Division and also won the Championship. In 2009/10, our first season back in the NWCL Premier Division Bootle finished a NWCL highest placing of 3rd. In 2010/11 finished 6th place. They equalled the 3rd place again in 2012. With the ground grading and charter standard status established in 2011/12 the club are looking to progress to the next level.



Club Landmarks

Vodkat League First Division Champions
2008-09

Liverpool Challenge Cup
1964-65, 1975-76, 1978-79

Liverpool Amateur Cup
1965-66, 1967-68, 1973-74

Liverpool County FA Youth Cup
1977-78, 1984-85, 1990-91, 1999-00, 2005-06

Lancashire Amateur Cup
1970

Liverpool County Combination Champions
1964-65, 1965-66, 1967-68, 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72, 1972-73, 1973-74

Lancashire County Combination Champions
1975-76, 1976-77

Cheshire County League Div Two Champions
1978-79

North West Counties League Div Two Runners-up
1992-93

Tennants Floodlit Trophy Winners
1993-94

Vodkat League Challenge Cup Runners-up
2007-08

Vodkat League Reserve Division Winners
2007-08, 2009-10

Runners-up
2008-09

**Liverpool Senior Cup Winners*
1883, 1888, 1889

**Football Alliance Runners-up*
1889-90

Bootle Football Club's YOUTH



Under 18's - West Cheshire League - Manager Richie Boswarva

Under 17's - Liverpool Premier League - Manager Ste Miller

Under 16's - Bootle & Litherland JFL - Manager Alex Grosart

Under 15's - Belvale Junior League - Manager Carl Dale

Under 14's - Hightown JFL - Manager Lee Williams

Under 12's - Bootle & Litherland JFL - Manager Tony Smith

Under 10's - Bootle & Litherland JFL - Manager Darren Carr

Under 9's - Bootle & Litherland JFL - Manager David Miley

Under 8's - Bootle & Litherland JFL - Manager Phil Dobson

Under 7's - Bootle & Litherland JFL - Manager Ste Miller



Bootle FC in partnership with
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To all who enjoy grass roots football, please type in the links your URL on your computer/ tablet and watch the two video links below regarding grass roots that highlighted what is going on in the real world of football

<http://www.itv.com/news/granada/update/2013-02-12/petition-to-push-the-premier-league-to-contribute-to-grass-roots-football/>

<http://www.itv.com/news/granada/update/2013-02-11/broken-dreams-part-1/>

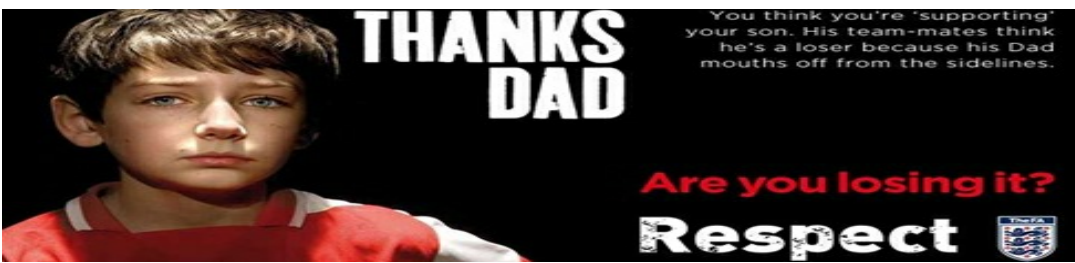
As you may or may not know Kenny Saunders is a Grassroots football coach of Woolton Football Club in Liverpool - one of the top ten community charter standard in the country. They have no facilities, not even a toilet for the 55 teams and 130 4/5/6 year olds. However, this is not about Woolton. This is about the future of Grassroots football.

Together he has put with the help of David Crausby, MP for Bolton, an e-petition to Force the Premier League to back grassroots football. We will release details next friday regarding this on the club website, as well as the Bootle JFL website.

WE WILL NEED YOUR SUPPORT !

Please tweet and e-mail ourselves with your comments on your feelings and support of this cause.

<https://twitter.com/Kenny9Saunders>
Savegrassrootsfootball@gmail.com



An associated committee consisting of elected members:

Chairman
 Mr Frank Doran Jnr
 Deputy Chairman
 Mr Ben Roberts
 Life President
 Mr Frank Doran Snr
 Honorary President
 Mr Joe Benton MP
 Committee
 Mr Bobby Capstick, Mr Dave Ruth, Mr Geoff Frasier, Mr Tommy McKay, Mr Tony McKay
 Head of Finance/ Club Secretary
 Mr Joseph Doran
 Assistant Secretary
 Mr Dave Miley Snr
 1st Team Manager
 Mr Neil Prince
 1st Team Assistant Manager
 Mr James Olsen
 1st Team Coach
 Mr Liam Blakeman
 Goalkeeping Coach
 Mr Paul McCowen
 Welfare
 Mr Darren Carr
 Head of Fitness & Wellbeing
 Mr Lee Stenson
 Media & Communications
 Mr Dave Miley Jnr,
 Youth Football Co-ordinator
 Mr Carl Dale



*Original Club folded in 1893

Today's Teams



BOOTLE

manager: Neil Prince



Squires Gate

manager: Gary Hargreaves

Dean PORTER David POTTER Neil MCQUEEN Michael CARBERRY Phil GREEN Joel POWELL Sean COULTON Neil MURPHY Paul BYRNE (capt) Joe FOWLER James OLSEN Jamie HAY Curtis GILL Kevin BLACK Kevin TOWNSON Billy SMART Michael YOUNG Daniel O'CONNOR Tom FOLEY Lee THOMPSON Jack MCCABE			Neil BEESLEY Tom BENFIELD Alex McKENDRICK Andy RICHARDS Ben FISHWICK Chris BENNETT Daniel MONKTON Dave MCCANN Gareth LEWIS Isaac KUSALOKA Jamie Dacre NAY Jonathan FORBES Joseph SHELMEKDINE Kenny MAYERS Louis MAYERS Nigel TAYLOR Russ MCKENNA Sam FARROW Scott HARRIES Stuart HORN Tom BARTLETT Zac THOMAS
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MATCH OFFICIALS

referee: 

assistant referee: 

assistant referee: 



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nwcfl.com

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reusch
LOVE YOUR SPORT



The manager of Bootle Football Club

Hello and welcome to the Delta Taxis Stadium and a warm welcome to Gary Hargreaves and all from Squires Gate's team, staff and supporters for tonights Northwest Counties Premier Division.

Back to league action today after a typical cup game on Saturday. After going a goal behind the lads really rallied round and it was good to see us win in the manner we did. We looked strong near the end and that is telling me the fitness is coming back.

We know a bit about todays opponents after playing them away just a few weeks ago. While it was a good result up on the Fylde coast, we must be wary that we perform just as well tonight as we did previously. Last nights result with Runcorn and St Helens shows that.

Our league form has been patchy to say the least however we have not had a consistent run of games and that has affected us. I'm very optimistic that after a run of games we will be back to our very best and within touching distance of the top place in the table. We are currently ten points behind, and although we have numerous games in hand on the top two, we need the points from them games.

I'd rather have the points on the board than having to worry about games being played. We are still in with a shout of the league and 2 cup comps at the end of February which shows we are doing the right things here.

We must all stay positive, from the players to the supporters and the committee. If we keep together we will win this league.

Up the Bucks!

Princey
NEIL PRINCE



nwct	Completion	a	04/08/12	0-2	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Coulton	Black	Blakeman	Hay	O'Connor	Prince	McCabe	Kilroy	Thompson	Young
nwct	Wigan RP	H	07/08/12	2-0	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Coulton	Black	Blakeman	Hay	O'Connor	Prince	Thompson	Young		
FAC	Alsager	H	11/08/12	4-1	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Coulton	Black	Blakeman	Hay	O'Connor	Smart	Thompson	McCabe		
nwct	Winstford	a	14/08/12	0-2	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Coulton	Black	Blakeman	Hay	O'Connor	Prince	Young			
nwct	Stockt'S	H	18/08/12	2-0	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Coulton	Black	Blakeman	Hay	O'Connor	Thompson	Prince	Green	Young	
nwct	St Helens	H	21/08/12	2-2	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Coulton	Black	Blakeman	Hay	O'Connor	Thompson	Prince	Young	Gray	Green
FAC	Mossley	a	25/08/12	3-0	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Green	Coulton	Black	Blakeman	Hay	O'Connor	Gray	Prince	Young	Kilroy	
nwct	Colne	H	01/09/12	2-1	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Kilroy	Coulton	Black	Young	Hay	Foley	Gray	Prince	O'Brien		
nwct	Runcorn T	H	04/09/12	1-0	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Kilroy	Coulton	Black	Blakeman	Hay	Thompson	Gray	Gray	Green	O'Connor	Foley
FAC	Bamber Br	H	08/09/12	1-2	Porter	Green	Kilroy	Carberry	Coulton ©	Black	Blakeman	Hay	Young	O'Connor	Gray	Essery	Pudren	Foley
nwct	Padliham	a	08/09/12	1-1	Porter	McQueen	Kilroy	Carberry	Coulton ©	Black	Blakemen	Hay	Prince	O'Connor	Young	Gray	Foley	Kilroy
nwct	Silsden	H	22/09/12	2-1	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Green	Black	Blakeman	Hay	O'Connor	Thompson	Foley	Kilroy	Adamson	Olsen
FAC	Maine Rd	H	08/10/12	1-2	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Kilroy	Coulton	Olsen	Blakeman	Hay	O'Connor	Prince	Foley	Adamson	Black	Green
nwct	Stockt'S	H	13/10/12	3-2	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Coulton	Black	Blakeman	Hay	O'Connor	Prince	Young	Adamson	Foley	McCabe
nwct	Runcorn L	H	16/10/12	2-0	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Coulton	Black	Blakeman	Hay	O'Connor	Prince	Young	Green	McCabe	Adamson
nwct	Stone D	a	20/10/12	0-1	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Green	Black	Blakeman	Hay	McCabe	Prince	Adamson	Young	Olsen	Kilroy
Icup	Runcorn T	H	27/10/12	3-0	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Green	Black	McCabe	Hay	Foley	Prince	Young	Kilroy	Olsen	Adamson
nwct	Bacup	H	03/11/12	2-0	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Green	Olsen	Thompson	Hay	Foley	Prince	Young	Adamson	Kilroy	Fowler
nwct	St Helens	a	06/11/12	P-P														
nwct	Stockt'S	a	10/11/12	0-2	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Green	Black	Prince	Hay	Foley	Blakeman	Prince			
Icsc	Cam Laird	H	13/11/12	1-0														
AV	Thackley	a	17/11/12	3-1	Porter	Murphy	Byrne ©	Carberry	Green	Olsen	Blakeman	Prince	Foley	Young	Adamson	McQueen	Kilroy	Thompson
nwct	Congleton	H	01/12/12	3-2	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Green	Black	Prince	Hay	Foley	Thompson	Young	Adamson	Kilroy	Olsen
nwct	Silsden	a	08/12/12	1-2	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Green	Black	Fowler	Hay	Foley	Madin	Young	Thompson		McCabe
Icsc	Ashton T	a	18/12/12	0-1	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Green	Black	Fowler	Hay	McCabe	Madin	Young			
nwct	AFC L'Pl	a	26/12/12	1-2	Porter	McQueen	Byrne ©	Carberry	Green	Black	Fowler	Olsen	Foley	Madin	Young			
nwct	Bacup	a	05/01/13	2-4														
nwct	Wigan RP	a	12/01/13	2-1														
nwct	Runcorn L	a	29/01/13	3-2														
nwct	Squires G	a	02/01/13	0-4														
nwct	Winstford	H	09/02/13	P-P														
nwct	Norton Utd	a	12/02/13	2-1														
nwct	WD&C	H	16/02/13	2-1														
nwct	Squires G	H	19/02/13															
nwct	Maine Rd	a	23/02/13															
nwct	Ashton A	a	26/02/13															
nwct	AFC Bl'p'l	H	02/03/13															
nwct	St Helens	a	05/03/13															
nwct	Norton Utd	H	12/03/13															
nwct	Barlrick	a	16/03/13															
nwct	Ashton A	H	19/03/13															
nwct	Glossop	H	23/03/13															
nwct	Alsager	a	26/03/13															
nwct	Glossop	a	30/03/13															





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THE BUCKS ARE NEXT AT HOME ON:

**Saturday 2nd March
V AFC Blackpool
(3pm KO) in the NWCFL
Premier Division**



**Saturday 12th March
V Norton United
(3pm KO) in the NWCFL
Premier Division**



**Tuesday 19th March
V Ashton Athletic
(7.45pm KO) in the NWCFL
Premier Division**



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As at 19/02/2013



2012/13

Tuesday 19th February
2013

Premier Division

AFC Blackpool v Bacup

Borough

Ashton Athletic v Wigan

Robin Park

Bootle v Squires Gate

Colne v Barnoldswick Town

Glossop North End v AFC

Liverpool

Winsford United v Maine

Road

First Division

Ashton Town v Atherton

Collieries

Irlam v Formby

Rochdale Town v Nelson

Wednesday 20th February
2013

First Division

Cheadle Town v Chadderton

	P	GD	Pts
1 Runcorn Town	27	36	57
2 Maine Road	27	24	56
3 Padiham	25	32	55
4 Bootle	22	20	47
5 Runcorn Linnets	27	10	47
6 Colne	27	26	45
7 Congleton Town	25	24	43
8 Winsford United	23	24	43
9 Barnoldswick T	24	22	43
10 Stockport Sports*	30	15	41
11 Glossop NE	26	9	40
12 Alsager Town	29	-1	37
13 Norton United	26	-18	35
14 Wigan RP	25	-5	33
15 AFC Blackpool	25	-8	33
16 AFC Liverpool	21	-4	26
17 Silsden	25	-18	26
18 Ashton Athletic	27	-30	20
19 St Helens Town	24	-31	20
20 Bacup Borough	22	-16	19
21 Squires Gate	28	-32	17
22 Stone Dominoes	27	-79	10

Kick off times are 3pm Sat, 7.45pm
midweek unless stated otherwise



Review Of League Management Committee Structure

At the monthly meeting of the League Management Committee on 12th January, a decision was made to consider restructuring the Committee, and the associated decision making processes that are currently followed.

A review has been ongoing for several months and was instigated in response to County FA suggestions at the recent meeting with the County FA Chief Executives in our area.

The guidelines followed have been issued to all Leagues in the National League System, and are mainly taken from the FA League's Incorporation document, the aim of which is to standardise the methods of operation within Leagues across the country.

After considerable discussion, the NWCFL Management Committee agreed that at present, no reduction in the numbers on the Management Committee was required, but a revised structure of appointing various sub-committees was to be considered.

League Secretary John Deal explained the rationale behind the proposed changes.

"The main benefit that we believe will be derived from the creation of sub-committees is that it would allow detailed discussion on a number of topics, and result in proposals being presented to the Management Committee for ratification.

"It is felt that under the present system, certain items are not dealt with in detail, and perhaps not as promptly as is desirable. Also, on occasions no definite decisions are made after being debated by the full committee.

"Myself, the Chairman, and Vice-Chairman will draw up proposals for the various sub-committees, for presentation to the Management Committee in the near future.

"The number of sub-committees has still to be agreed, but the starting point will be categories proposed by the County FAs in a guidance document they issued to us a few months ago.

"They propose a League Management Committee along the lines as we have now, and underneath the main MC, the League Officers and an Awards Co-ordinator would report to the MC, and on the same level there would be a number of sub-committees reporting to the MC.

"At the moment we are looking at these being as follows: Finance, Rules Revision/Compliance, Discipline, Respect, Development and Grading.

"The sub-committees will be comprised of current members of the League Management Committee, and while the exact working methods have still to be agreed, we are looking at the possibility of these sub-committees meeting initially

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website of the Northwest
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once a month, and consequently there may be less of a need for the full Management Committee to meet on a monthly basis, like they do now.

"We have also, with input from committee members and officers, produced a document outlining the roles and responsibilities of the Management Committee and Officers. These will be used as guidelines for officers in those positions and can be altered as required.

"We have also agreed that one representative of the Chief Executives of the County FA's be invited to attend the Management Committee meetings bi-monthly, on a trial basis for a period of one year. It is hoped that this will help to address some of the issues that arise between the League, its member clubs and County FA's, and we are looking forward to using this as a method of improving and refining the methods by which we work with all the County FA's within our region.

"I believe that these changes will allow the Management Committee to focus their attention on major topics and take away the mundane business which is as now discussed each month.

"I must point out that this is still in the discussion process, and no definite decision has been made for its implementation. There are various views from other Management Committee Members and whatever decision is made, it will be considered in the best interest of the League".

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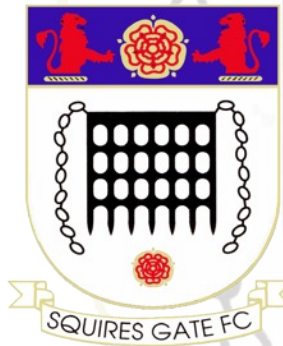


Our Visitors today....

From a district in the town of Blackpool on the Fylde coast in the county of Lancashire, England. It is located at the south of the town near the boundary with Lytham St Annes

Squires Gate were formed in 1948 as Squires Gate British Legion FC and competed in the Blackpool & District Amateur League. They won the leagues Rawling Shield in their first season. The name of the club was changed to Squires Gate FC in 1953. They won the leagues First Division in 1955–56 and

SQUIRES GATE



1956–57; also the Blackwell Cup in 1958–59 and 1959–60.

They spent the 1960–61 in the Fylde District League, winning the Fylde Cup and losing finalists in the Bannister Cup.

The following season they moved up to the West Lancashire League where they spent the next thirty years. From 1961 until 1980 they were in Division Two and were promoted in 1981 as champions. In the 1986–87 season they won the Richardson Cup.

They were elected into the North West Counties Football League for the 1991–92 season, joining Division Two for the 1991–92 season. Squires Gate won the leagues Fair Play Award for the 1993–94 season and were losing finalists in the 1997–98 Division Two Trophy.



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Merci Monsieur Dixie

By A Gardener



It was February 1797 when a force of 1,400 soldiers from Revolutionary France landed on the South West coast of Wales. Their intention was to encourage a rebellion amongst the local population who they hoped would then join them and help to capture the nearby port of Fishguard.



However, the local militia remained loyal to crown and held back the invaders while awaiting reinforcements to arrive from Bristol. The local females, says local folklore, then donned their national dress, black stovepipe hats and red capes, and reinforced the ranks of their menfolk on the hillside. The French commander, mistaking them for British infantry, promptly surrendered and his army was marched off in to captivity. So the French attempt to capture Britain, for the time being, had been repulsed but the next time they landed, unarmed in Liverpool, they would win over the local population.

The date was August 1933 when the French International Ladies football team were greeted at Liverpool Town Hall by a party of civic dignitaries and entertained to lunch. The visitors were then transported, along Townsend Lane, to Breck Park Stadium in Tuebrook where the match was to take place. The location was bathed in bright sunshine when the two sides took to field before a crowd of five and half thousand people who gave the French invaders, who were much more attractive than the 1797 variety, a warm Liverpool welcome. The start of play was delayed by late arrival of Jill Hutton the England captain, (a Ladies privilege perhaps,) before a great cheer announced the appearance of Dixie Dean who had kindly consented to start the match. Andy Tucker, Everton assistant trainer, took charge in middle, while Stevenson and Kavanagh, both players with the same club, acted as linesmen. The Everton legend then posed with the two captains before, after setting the play in motion, he returned to his seat in the stand. England was to prove to be the better of the two sides and, eventually, won the game by two goals to nothing. Jill Hutton, the England captain, gave her side a half time lead with a shot which a shot that passed low to the right of A Jacquel in the French goal. The home side, it was reported, were more combined thought the visitors worked well together but did little trouble to Miss J Cunliffe in the English goal. The scorer of the second England is not clear because it came from a "scrambling affair" with the Misses A Lynch and E Hodgkin's rushing the ball over the line. England continued to mount the pressure giving Mademoiselle Jacquel the busy task of holding down the score. Nevertheless the French goalkeeper soon earned the cheers of crowd by showing many praiseworthy efforts in keeping out point blank attempts at goal until the final whistle signalled the end of the game.

So it was that the second French invasion was over but Gaelic ladies, it would appear, had enjoyed their visit much more than their male excursionists of 1797.



They won the 2001-02 season Division Two Trophy and then the following season they missed the runner-up spot on goal difference but were still promoted to Division One following the demise of Stand Athletic who had originally been promoted as Division Two champions. They reached their highest league placing in the 2005-06 season also reaching the quarter finals of the FA Vase then last season, under the Management of Andy Clarkson, Gate improved still further on their best ever placing, finishing sixth in what is now the Premier Division.

On 10 March 2007 Squires Gate played a home match against FC United of Manchester at Curzon Ashton F.C.s ground. The club had approached Blackpool F.C. about playing the game at Bloomfield Road but the ground was not available. And so they played the match in Ashton-under-Lyne, as it was felt that FCUM fans were more likely to attend with the match being staged in the Greater Manchester area. A crowd of 1,650 saw Squires Gate lose 0-1 and Squires Gate earned about £7,000.

To cap a very impressive 2007-08 season, Squires Gate were delighted that no less than nine of their members were honoured with long service awards: Albert Hamer, George Diggle, Roy Westhead, Brian Hugill and Brian Addison all collected Football Association Order of Merit mementos for 50 years service; and Steve Bellamy, Mick Farrer, John Maguire and Tony Hornby received 30 years awards from the Lancashire FA. All these stalwarts are still active in the service of their Club.

Groundsman Brian Addison was judged the best at our level in the Northern Region, and a magnificent third nationally at the FA Groundsman of the Year presentations in London last September, and his pitch is clear evidence of his commitment. As Chairman Stuart Hopwood said, " We believe in a sure and steady programme of improvement of our facilities, and we now feel that with an award winning pitch, dressing rooms which are amongst the best in the League, and a pleasant, air-conditioned Clubhouse, we have a lot to be proud of, and the future looks good for Squires Gate FC.





How do you want to be remembered?



Respect

Lose Respect
Lose the game

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Monday-Friday 9.30am-6pm (closing times may be subject to change)

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Please be aware last entry admission is 5pm

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The Stadium Men

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Club colours even posed a problem, red or blue were dismissed for fear of showing favour to either of the 'big two' but then it was discovered that the original Bootle FC wore white shorts, so this colour was adopted and peace prevailed. Bootle Football Club was launched and on it's way.

Secretary-Manager Wally Halsall, ably assisted by trainer Bill Routledge, set about assembling a team together. The Edinburgh pub in College Road, Crosby, was the first port of call and, not surprisingly, this being right next to Marine's ground brought a number of signings. Vin Ronson and Barney Dwyer were both Bootle lads as were ex-Bootle schoolboy players, winger Stan Williams and left-half Stan Miller, full-backs Alf Burnett and Bert Hanson had been on Everton's books before the war.... Other captures were Harry Kevan from Formby and wing-half Harry Downey. The Bootle pivot was Tom Ashcroft from Bootle J.O.C. outfit Penpoll and ex-Hoylake Athletic who for continual knee trouble may well have gone to higher spheres. The rest of Halsall's signings were mostly J.O.C. players and most would only play in the second eleven.'

The goalkeepers spot proved to be the problem position in the early months before Jack Barlow made the position his own. Threlfall, Johnson and local man Ray Swift were all tried although Swift proved a loyal and able deputy over the following years. One custodian that Bootle overlooked was a tall, blonde, ex-prisoner-of-war German, Bert Trautman. Trautman, then living in Huyton, trained with Bootle at the stadium for several weeks but, with the area taking such a heavy pounding during the war, it was decided not to tempt any local bitterness and he was allowed to join St Helens Town and of course moved on to FA Cup and Manchester City folklore.

After a couple of practice matches at Bootle Stadium, Bootle kicked-off their Lancashire Combination days with a second division home game against Barnoldswick and District on August 21st 1948.

The Stadium Men

By Tommy Barnes

'As the 1930's approached it's final months, talk of the revival of a senior Bootle Football Club ripened. The success of the 1938 schoolboys plus the abundance of locally-born players regularly in football league action proved that the talent was available and, Bootle Stadium, opened just a few years earlier, appeared to be ready-made headquarters. A certain German dictator was to halt all such aspirations for the duration of the 1939-45 hostilities but when soccer was back in full swing, the subject of Bootle FC was again on many an agenda.

The possible resurrection became a distinct probability in August 1947 when a meeting was held on the 14th of the month at the home of Councillor Dr. Harris in Merton Road. The meeting was chaired by Councillor C.G. Mack and the prime mover was Councillor Peter Mahon. The common consensus was that Bootle was a big enough town to be put on the football map with its own team and not just an exporter of its many players to other clubs, both professional and semi-professional. Football was in its golden days and Bootle should provide its recently demobbed and entertainment-starved citizens with a good standard of soccer, either to play or watch. It was envisaged that a first team could play in the Lancashire Combination and a second in the Liverpool County Combination. Elected secretary was Wally Halsall, the former Blackburn Rovers and Birmingham City half-back, he was most enthusiastic, foreseeing gates



of 5,000 and eventual entry to the Football League. The idea as a whole was accepted by all those in attendance which included Councillors Simon Mahon, James Spence, H.O. Cullen (Mayor) and Mr J. Hagan. The wheels were put in motion to resurrect Bootle Football Club.'

'The promise of £1,100 sponsorship money from local businesses brought great optimism and the issue of one shilling shares further boosted club finances. After local residents were assured that Bootle Stadium would not be used solely as a football ground, an application to join the Lancashire Combination for the 1948/49 season was made, and accepted.

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BOOTLE FC SPONSORSHIPS 2012/13



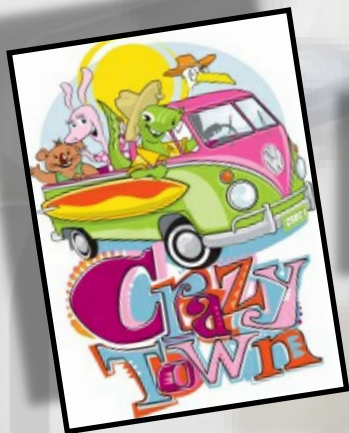
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