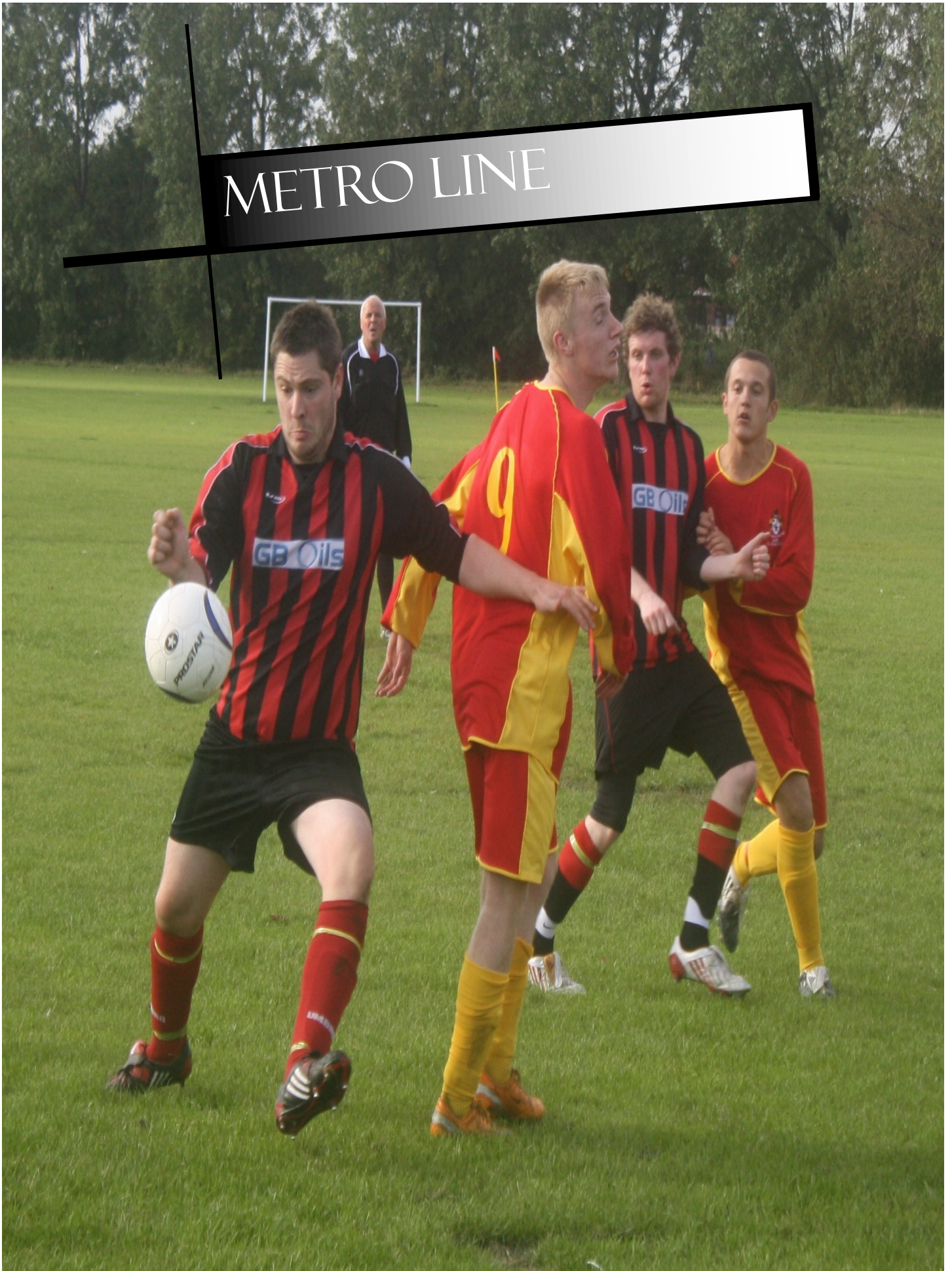


METRO LINE



Issue 1, February 2010



WELCOME

Welcome to the first of hopefully many editions of the revamped Club Newsletter.

This newsletter will incorporate matters relating to our current Club and our pre-merged as Burnage High School Old Boys F.C. and Metro F.C.

Over the coming months we will include articles of current events and a reflection of days gone by.

As well as printed versions, the Newsletter is available online and by email, so if you know of any previous club members of BHSOB or Metro, please forward it to them.

Articles and matters of interest would be much appreciated. They can be emailed to contact@burnagemetro.co.uk.

Russell Hoyte, Club Captain

BOARD OF NOTICING

A long time ago, some guys who ran Burnage decided to start a small group of honours boards to be mounted on the walls of the club house. These boards involved internal honours, Clubman of the Year and external honours including trophies won and those stalwarts of Burnage who represented the club at League level.

These old timers on the boards included many of those without whom Burnage as a football club could not have survived, people who believed in building more than a clubhouse, but also building a spirit and a place where people could enjoy their sport but perhaps as importantly, enjoy the company of fellow travellers.

So many names, so many people and when you make a list, inevitably someone will be missed out and offended. I apologise to you now if I don't mention you but Bob Johnston, Eric Wallwork and Phil

Rakestraw are without doubt the foundations which this club is built on. Names which probably won't mean anything to you youngster, but the reasons you have a club to play for, a clubhouse to meet in are due to these guys and many more.

However, like everything else, things move on. Burnage Old Boys is now an exciting and very active Burnage Metro and those that joined us at the clubhouse have not only brought new players, but they have also brought energy, enthusiasm and commitment. Burnage Metro is the future. The past is a group of honours boards that have now been taken down, but not forgotten. They are stored with Alan Grant who not only appears on the League Honours board but also was very closely involved in ensuring the initial funding of the clubhouse.

Quite a few of us would like to see these boards re-

stored to a prominent place in the clubhouse. We must however recognise that things have moved on and the new club is creating its own history. So us old guys have a cunning plan. We are really not sure what that plan is yet, there are various ideas flying around, but the principle is let's be creative and find a place for our history while taking second place to the future.

Alan (I live in Sydney, Oz and used to play for Toc and Burnage) came up with the idea of raising funds to restore the honours boards to somewhere, wherever that may be. The idea is simple, bribery and corruption. If a good few of us get together, raise a couple or more thousand pounds to the club to restore the honours boards to a mutually agreed place, could the club turn this down? Answers on a post-card to ...

(Continued on page 3)

Inside this issue:

Summer Get Together	3
Best in the North West	4
News from the School	5
Malcolm in the Middle	6
History of the Club	7
A Football Legend	10
Remember, Remember	8

Special points of interest:

- Which former player is likes to be in charge?
- Find out about the School.
- A chance to vote for your greatest Team.
- Who should know better at his age?.



SUMMER GET TOGETHER

There have been two recent events that have allowed former Old Boys, the opportunity to reminisce and chat.

First there was a 70th Anniversary Reunion (19/11/08) in Prestbury, Cheshire, and this was duly followed by a year later by a Clubhouse gathering (25/11/09).



Catching up with old friends.

The main Old Boys function this year will be held on Saturday July 17.

The function will again take place at our football headquarters at Stenner Lane.

If you are interested in attending or wish to offer your assistance in assisting, please contact Malcolm Maginn, by email at contact@bhsob.co.uk, or telephone on 01625 431912.

The next issue will include the Complete History of Metro F.C.; more memories from the past; and a guide to D.S.G.

Don't forget you keep updated with what's happening and view many old photographs on the Old Boys website, at www.bhsob.co.uk.

Remember to register your details to ensure you get future newsletters.

This issue is also available online.

HIT THE POST

In view of the recent vandalism to the existing goalposts, we have secured funding for three new sets from The Football Foundation. However, the maximum amount we can claim is 48%



The way ahead.

of £3k and we must purchase them before 21st February. to claim the amount. We are looking to purchase aluminium posts which can be demounted or wheeled away to a new container for security purposes. The costs of such posts would be around £2,100 per set + cost of container, so we will need to find around say £4k ourselves.

BOARD OF NOTICING



Club honours its greats.

(Continued from page 2)

If you want to join the Restore the Boards campaign, contact me by email at howard.millerman@ntlworld.com and I will rally the troops at every possible occasion. Our job will be to support the club in every way possible while also ensuring the restoration of these important historical records of Burnage. Join the campaign guys, we can do it.

Howard Millerman

MALC PRESIDES OVER THE LEAGUE

It is a great honour for the Club, that its most experienced member, Malcolm Maginn, is this season honoured with the position of League President.

Malc, who despite his senior years, is still as keen as ever, to turn out on a Saturday. And, despite the efforts of his beloved wife, Jean, to restrict his movement on a Saturday afternoon, by confiscating the family car, he will still make the 20 odd mile journey from Macclesfield on the bus.



Manchester F.A.'s President, Frank Hannah presented him with his award.

For Malc, this was a double achievement as last year he was also rewarded for his hard work with a Manchester F.A.'s, 2009 Charter Standard Adult Voluntary Work of the Year award.



THE BEST IN THE NORTHWEST

In August, the Club were delighted to receive the prestigious Club Award after being selected as the Manchester FA's 2009 Charter Standard Adult Club of the Year. After being awarded Charter Standard status in 2007 this was a great reward for the club.



Club Chairman, Maurice Perkins; 1st Team Captain, Mike Eastham and Vets Team Manager, Dave Eastham, with the Manchester and North West Regional Charter Standard for Adults awards.

Assistant Club secretary Malcolm Maginn, who is also the league President for the current season was also rewarded for his hard work with a Manchester FA's 2009 Charter Standard Adult Voluntary Work of the Year award. The club has been given another boost as they have won the North West Charter Standard Club of the Year award as Manchester's representatives against the other FA's in the region. Chairman Mo Perkins said: "The club is currently undergoing a major transition on the playing side and the award shows that all the hard work behind the scenes has not gone unnoticed."

"The club currently has 60 per cent of its playing membership aged under 21 and is providing the local and surrounding areas with much-needed footballing facilities. "We have a five-year development plan that will hopefully means us not just being able to continue to do this, but hopefully improve what we are able to do." League chairman Keith Marsden added: "The club and officials at Burnage Metro have worked hard to achieve these deserved and prestigious awards and it takes our Charter Standard clubs in the league up to 40 per cent and well on the way to the 60 per cent we need to become a Charter Standard League."

AGENCY THREAT TO CLUBHOUSE

Some of you may be aware of an ongoing matter that we are having relating to Clubhouse with the Environmental Agency. Here is a brief update as to where we stand.

1. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY PROPOSALS - We are due to have a further meeting with the Agency Monday, 18th Jan. 2010 at the clubhouse, with representatives from BMFC and Toc on behalf of DSG. Our view is that the

three options tabled so far (encompassing wall around clubhouse / Raised lounge / new clubhouse), we should reject the wall option as this would have too many restrictions and we will push for the raised



The Clubhouse is under threat.

- lounge option (new clubhouse unlikely in current climate).
2. However, the Agency will push for the wall option as they believe it is the cheapest solution for them. We have costed the options as follows:- Flood wall £236,403; Raised Lounge £332,848; New clubhouse £1,186,763 which have not yet been tabled with them.

3. We need to gain as much support for our preference as possible, from local Councillors, our 'in-house' legal guys as the Agency has the ultimate powers and are under pressure to arrive at a mutually acceptable solution.
4. We have listed our concerns with the wall option.

A GOOD WALK RUINED

For all those would be golfers out there, as part of a two part summer get together, John Howarth has kindly suggested that if there is sufficient interest, we hold a golf day.

If you interest please contact Russell by email or telephone 07876 688978. For those less adept, there will be a crazy golf day arranged!



A chance to test your golfing skills.



THE SCHOOL

Burnage has a long established reputation for excellence stretching back 70 years. Amongst our old boys we can number Sir Roland Smith (Chairman of Manchester United Football Club,) Lord Foster (the world famous architect,) Michael Croft (Founder and Director of the National Youth Theatre) and maintaining the sporting link Manchester United's Wes Brown.

On the 10th January 2000 a new chapter in the school's history opened. After being on two sites for over sixty years we left the Parris Wood Road site and are now operating on the Burnage Lane site only. For the previous eighteen months building work on this site had been directed to the provision of additional teaching facilities. The existing 1933 building has been added to with a brand new two-storey building housing Maths, English, Lan-



Main Building.

Burnage Media Arts College is not however an institution trying to live off fading laurels, but rather your local community high school striving to improve standards for academic excellence, behaviour, performance and dress. The school is committed to developing the most modern education based on traditional values of respect for others, hard work and discipline. This is now being borne by continued improvement in our results, especially at GCSE.

We firmly believe that Burnage Media Arts College is an improving school and one that can offer an outstanding education to your son. This has been confirmed by our OFSTED Inspection, in September 2002, where the school received high praise, as well as by our GCS results that rose from 21% to 42% in 2004. This prospectus, together with other publications, gives some insight into how we run our school and what we are trying to achieve. I would encourage you however to visit the school so that you can see our facilities and talk to our staff and students.

guages, Art and Design, Music and Drama. There is also a large 'Study Centre' which acts as the learning centre for the whole school and a focus of much of our research and challenge activities.

The City Council has sold the Lower School site which is being used to develop private housing.



The Sports Hall.

The building of the Sports Hall, which will complete the three main buildings of the Burnage Lane site, came into operation during April 2002.

POACHER TURNED GAMEKEEPER

Steve Deighan joined Burnage High School Old Boys Football Club in 1985, as the home ground Simon Playing Fields was just round the corner from his parents house. Steve played at BHSOB until he was forced to retire due to injury. Steve's son began playing junior football in 2008 and Steve discovered that there was a lack of facilities and football coaches to train the youngsters.

He was talking with one of his best friends, who is a qualified referee, who suggested he should take the referee's course as this would teach



Big times ahead for Steve.

Steve an appreciation of the rules of the game and he would learn a great deal on how to manage people on the football pitch. After this talk, Steve enrolled on a referee

course at Lancashire FA and qualified as a referee and turns out at Burnage when they have need for a referee. He has also qualified as a level 1 football coach and intends on completing the next level to increase his knowledge of the game. This ensures Steve is still involved in grass roots football even though his ankle injury has prevented him from playing.

His mentor, Dean Mohareb, says "We have high hopes that Steve will be a Senior County Referee in the future."

Joe Aylward

SPONSOR ME?

To enable the production and distribution of this newsletter, we welcome any assistance that you are able to offer.

If you interest please contact Russell by email club@burnagemetro.co.uk or telephone 07876 688978.



MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE

Malcolm Maginn a Sporting Legend. At an age when many of his peers have settled for the pipe and slippers couch potato regime in life Burnage Metro FC star Malc Maginn is still enjoying life in the fast lane of amateur soccer as he enjoys life living in Macclesfield.

Malc celebrated his 68th birthday in December but will still carry on with his sporting philosophy of 'playing as long as I can', enjoy the 'beautiful game', appreciate the skills and when not playing only watch the top matches.

It all began for Malc at Green End Junior School then Burnage Grammar School back in the 1950's following a family sporting tradition as Mal's dad played top amateur soccer and his cousin Wilbur Cush played for Northern Ireland in the 1958 World Cup.

Since then he's played what he reckons must be well over 3000 games of amateur soccer split equally between outfield and goals.

He played on the same Manchester Boys team as Nobby Stiles but his sporting hero has always been City's legendary keeper Bert Trautmann and one of Malc's most precious memories is to have had his photo taken with Bert in 2000.

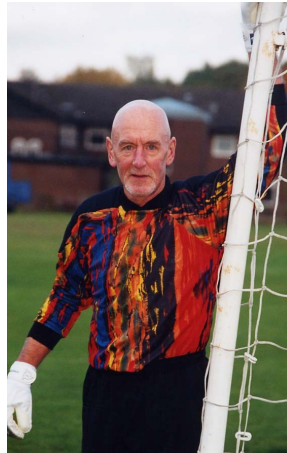
Malc was also in the same class at school as John Thaw and was once selected ahead of him to take a leading role in a school play.

His amateur career spans a number of leagues with several cup and league successes along the way.

Among the leagues he has played in are the SE Lancs, Macclesfield and District, East Cheshire but mainly in the Lancashire Amateur and Lancashire and Cheshire Leagues with Rusholme, West Didsbury and latterly Burnage

HSOB, which merged to form Burnage Metro in summer of 2002, with Malc then secretary of Burnage HSOB.

The playing highlights which stick in his mind are a trip to Lisbon with Macclesfield leaguers Railway View where he played against Casa Pia, once Portuguese Cup



Malc still turning out for the Club.

winner scoring his side's only goal in a 1-5 defeat and also scoring eight against Macclesfield Town Reserves.

His latter playing years have been spent between the sticks for various Burnage teams and he has enjoyed being the custodian for the successful new Burnage

Metro C team this season as they look for honours in the L and C Division F.

Malc still looks to put a lot back into the game, which has given him so much pleasure and he has enjoyed taking part in the administration of the new Burnage Metro FC which runs five teams on a Saturday playing at Didsbury's Simon Playing Fields.

Burnage Metro FC secretary Maurice Perkins said: "Malc is a footballing freak."

"He is fitter and has better reflexes than many players a third of his age and he is a real inspiration both on and off the pitch and the club are very fortunate to have someone of his ability and enthusiasm."

But soccer playing and administration are only a part of the Maginn sporting life.

Malc is also an avid distance runner and uses this interest to raise funds for many deserving causes such as Christies, NW Kidney Research and Shelter.

He began his marathon career in 1982 taking five hours to complete the Macclesfield Silk Marathon.

In 1990 he took part in the New York Marathon, completing the course in 4h15m and six years later completed the London Marathon in 4h 30m raising over £1200 for Christies.

In 1997 he took part in the Great North Run and he has taken part in over 20 half marathons raising thousands of pounds along the way.

And just as a variation Malc enjoyed a bungee jump in Cairns in 1994 and took part in the Dragon Boat Race earlier this year and he also abseiled the Boddington's chimney in 1999 and no doubt has more exciting events to contemplate in the future.

This season Malc was honoured to become the League President for the Lancashire and Cheshire Amateur League.

"It is a great honour for myself and the Club to hold this prestigious position. And although I can't quite get used to turning up a ground and not playing, I'm enjoying visiting all the Clubs throughout the League".

What next for the Burnage Metro superstar? "Well, I'm still hoping for a call up for the Inter League Team!!"

"Malc is a footballing freak"

enjoyed being the custodian for the successful new Burnage



Mal with last season's League President, Bob Stafford.



THE HISTORY OF THE CLUB



PART 1: THE B.H.S.O.B. YEARS



THE HISTORY OF THE CLUB

Burnage High School opened its doors to its first pupils in 1932. By 1936 the first boys were leaving and by 1938 a sufficient number of the 1st and 2nd eleven soccer players had left the School for an Old Boys Club to be viable.

A meeting was therefore convened on 17th October 1938 in a room hired for the purpose in a house on Stockport Road, Longsight, opposite Pownalls Daisy Mill. The Daisy Mill still stands, but the birthplace of the Burnage Old Boys AFC has been demolished and replaced by more modern buildings and by an open space.

The meeting was attended by some 30 teenagers, with some of their dads, and one of the masters from the School as Chairman designate. The presence of the elders was of great merit in keeping teenage feet on the ground and explaining that the English F.A. Amateur Cup was not just around the corner.

On that evening the Club was founded and after loud, long and abusive discussion, the title Burnage High School Old Boys Association Football Club was chosen, in preference to Old Burnageians AFC. Old Burnageians lost out since the majority considered that few people could pronounce it, and none would be able to spell it. Friendly matches were played for the rest of the 1938-39 season and then the Lancashire Amateur League elected the Club to membership for the 1939-40 season. The Second World War inter-

vened, the Lancashire Amateur League suspended its activities, the Club played friendly matches for a time, but quickly the members went off to war and the club went into hibernation for 5 years or so.

However, the School and the parents kept things on ice during that time and accumulated sufficient funds for those returning from the war to be able to start up the Club



Founder Members G.H. Johnson, Gerald Sattin and Roy Spencer

again promptly in 1946. Regrettably, not all the pre-War members survived.

The momentum generated by the returned warriors and a number of their parents was quite amazing. The Lancashire Amateur League commenced operations again, Burnage were still members of it, and 1946-47 saw a full season of League fixtures.

When first founded, the Club was able to play on the School 1st XI pitch, but the effect of the anchoring of a barrage balloon to a concrete block on that site persisted for some time post-war, also. The Headmaster of the adjacent Green End Primary School very kindly allowed the use of their pitch for a while, but then it became necessary to strike out into the bold, bad world of pitches for hire. Sojourns at the Godfrey Eamon Playing Fields in deepest Reddish, Cringle Fields in Levenshulme, Mellands

Playing Fields in Gorton - various "one night stands" on Fog Lane Park, Christy and Hough End Playing Fields etc. etc. - occupied the years to 1952. In that year a pitch on The Simon Field in Didsbury became available every other week. Burnage were running two teams, so homes venues were, for a time, split.

Very quickly, however, the pitch at The Simon Field became wholly available to Burnage. Subsequent to this, the Club commenced to expand from two teams, to three, to four, and finally to five teams, taking over all three soccer pitches on The Simon Field. (One of these disappeared when the present Clubhouse was built.)

During all this time, these factors were, of course, secondary to the raison d'être of the Club - the playing of amateur association football. The choice of the Lancashire Amateur League as the vehicle for the Club's aims and ambitions proved to be the right one, most of the clubs in the League being of similar backgrounds, philosophies and aspirations. The League itself in those days was regionalised North, Central and South sections



1958-1959 1st Team.

- which was necessary because most people worked on Saturday morning and travel was by public transport. Burnage playing Accrington with a 2 p.m. kick-off was just not on!! Nowadays, the Fourth Divisions remain regionalised as North and South, but the Premier, First and Second Divisions with

(Continued on page 9)



1942 School Team.



THE HISTORY OF THE CLUB

their respective Reserve Divisions, and the Third Divisions are, of course, countywide.

From its entry into the Lancashire Amateur League in 1938 the Club required 21 years to win its first trophies. Then in 1958-59 it hit the jackpot and gained:- 1st Division Championship; 2nd Division Championship; 2nd XI Cup Runners-Up; 3rd Division Championship (the 'A' Team); 3rd Division Runners-Up (the 'B' Team) and



Bob Johnson with 1958-1959 Trophies.

The Aggregate Trophy for the best Club performance in the L.A.L. The Club moved to the Lancashire and Cheshire League in 1999. A move aimed at developing the local youth element back into the Club. It is essential if the Club is to continue to develop it must encourage and nurture the development of younger players. Sadly there was a decline in the reliable playing numbers at the turn of the millennium and the Clubs future was in great doubt.

A change of Leagues in the Summer of 2000, to the Lancashire and Cheshire Amateur League, as long distance travel became an issue, did little to relieve the strain on the Club.

The start of the new Millennium saw Burnage with some serious decisions to make, as its future seemed doomed with its massive

overheads, at its Fletcher Moss base.

By luck, more than by any active recruitment, a merger was stumbled upon and with the Burnage Club on the wane and the Metro



1992-1993 1st Team.

Club on the up, there seemed lots of merits on the two outfits combining their resources together.

The two Club Committees met in the Winter of 2001, and engaged on a series of meetings to see if there was any value in a merger.

By the Spring of 2002, a full agreement was reached, and Burnage Metro Football Club was established on 1 June 2002 following the merger of Burnage High School Old Boys Amateur Football Club and Metro Football Club.



2002-2003 Club at League Presentation

Both clubs resigned from their existing County FA's, Cheshire for Metro and Lancashire for Burnage and successfully applied to Manchester County FA for affiliation.

There was League and Cup double success in the first season, for the Fourth Team, as the newly founded Club made its mark im-

mediately.

The Club has continued to win trophies and has become an established member of the League.

Off the field, the Club was excellently managed, which led to them successfully being given F.A. Charter Standard in December 2007. This was a prestigious achievement for the Club and has meant that it can continue to reach the highest standards in the League.

Further F.A. success followed in July 2009, when the Club was



Club receive the F.A. Charter Standard Award in December 2007.

awarded the Manchester F.A. Adult Charter Standard Club of the Year. This was soon followed in August, by the North West Regional award.

The Club currently has partnerships with local junior Clubs that allows us to maintain its desire to be an iatrical part of the local community.

Now boasting eight teams, which include an Under 18's team and a Veterans Team, all Open aged groups are catered for.



Burnage Metro F.C. 1st Team 2009-2010.



BOB IS A FOOTBALL LEGEND

Bob Johnson died; aged 75, after a lifetime devoted to football. But he will always be remembered for axing Roger Byrne -who went on to become Manchester United and England captain.



Bob receives his Long Service Award.

Frank Whitehead, former secretary of Burnage High School Old Boys team, which Bob once skippered, said: "That move may just have inspired Roger to

switch from winger to full back, the position in which he became an international legend."

Bob, a founder member of the old boys squad, was an engineering executive with the Simon Carves company and travelled the world working on major contracts. His father helped found the school's old boys' association and the soccer side.

Bob was secretary and treasurer of the team at 18 and held official positions with the old boys for 60 years, apart from war service in the Fleet Air Arm. The FA honoured Bob with its long-service medal in 1995. He was Vice-president of the Lancashire Amateur League and held the Lancashire F.A. 25-year service award.

Roger Byrne, one of eight Busby Babes who perished in the Munich plane disaster 40 years ago, was a former Burnage High School lad and played for Bob's old boys team.

Another former club secretary, Eric Wallwork, said: "Bob was respected not only by his own generation, but by all the youngsters who joined the Club."

Frank added: "Bob was a wonderful man who did so much for the Club.

"He followed the team home and away, and could not have been more pleased when he had pleasure of seeing the First team being promoted to



Bob Johnson with 1958-1959 Trophies.

the First Division seven years after relegation. "You could have confidence in and rely on him for advice and help. The Club will remember him with affection."

He was a true footballing legend.

THE TEAM OF THE CENTURY (... WELL 64 YEARS AT LEAST!!!)

It's a debate that raged for many a night in the Albert Club, who's the are the best players to wear an Old Boys shirt.

Will it be the wily Gage between the sticks or maybe Woodcock from the modern generation must be in with a shout for the best keeper; whilst will Byrne's cameo in the 50's nudge him ahead of Johnson; Rakestraw or Foulkes; Turner or Wallwork; Salmon or Chapman; Johnson or Yardley? The list goes on.

So for the next few months we are carrying out a poll.

Either vote by post; email or by text.

Simply state your name, then your choice a goalkeeper; a defender; a midfielder and a forward.

Voting is only open to players who played for Burnage High School Old Boys.



A Team of the generations.



FIRSTS UP FOR THE CHALLENGE

Burnage Metro in its 7th Season after the amalgamation of Metro and HSOB, saw the summer re-signing of veteran former striker Paul Costello (on a free from NRWMC), to join Craig Worthington as the striking partnership up front for the 1st Team. A strong back line of Joey in nets, Sam - the even older Gaz Jones, Chris Skeffington, Nick Griffiths and Paul Johnson, joined an attacking midfield of captain Mike Eastham, Matt Gittins, Chris Griffiths, and Steve Garvey. The evergreen Ged Perkins returned for another stint, as did Roy Campbell, Martin Flood, Loz McHugh, Trevor Kelly, Chris Baugh and Tom Scott have made up the squad for this season.



1st Team Manager, Colin Small hoping to challenge for promotion to the Premier Division.

The team started off well, unbeaten in the first five games in the league with 13 points from a possible 15. However, a loss to a poor Gatley side where - to be honest no one could hit a donkey's arse with a banjo let alone the onion bag with a football; saw the first loss of the season. We did seem more interested in arguing with one of the player's granddads on the touch-line, who had a little too much to say for himself.

The side picked themselves up a week later to beat Chorltonians 3-0, a fine display by everyone following a defeat in the cup by the same side a few games previously. But a heavy loss 0-4 to Newton Heath - short on players, mistake by Gaz Jones and then Sam, lack of commitment and heart from us all.... followed by a last minute equaliser for a 2-2 draw at Eagle, after some attractive football. Winning 2-1, with two minutes to go just keep possession, a strong tackle from Cossie tracking back led to a throw in for them, which went down the line, across and in the net -

Moral?? ATTACKERS SHOULDN'T MEDDLE IN DEFENCE....
A battering of Irlam Steel 4 - 1 with two goals in the top right corner from Cossie and a carrier bag covering some dog shit on the pitch, the first goal went to a rampaging Matt Gittins and Craig Worthington got the other. We went five points clear with a derby win 2-0 away to Parrswood with strikes from Cossie and Mike E. We then knocked holders Heywood St James out of the Manchester FA Amateur Cup with a 3-2 win - Cossie (2) and Garvey on target but not before Nick Griffiths scored the contender for the "own goal of the season award" from 2 yards out at 1 mph. Then a horribly shocking defeat of the season 8-1 by Milton FC - on a day when not one player did enough. We expected the worst when we drew Failsworth Dynamos in the next round

shot from outside the box after running past the keeper who was in no mans land to go 1-0 up. They then scored two to take the lead but time running out Garvey equalised to take the tie to extra time. A poor refereeing decision to award a throw to Failsworth, which they scored off to go 3 -2 (he later admitted his mistake when asked politely). However, with the last kick of the game, Cossie turned in from 6 yards following a hopeful ball into the box - ELATION - then the dreaded penalty shoot out. Penalties - Garvey Blobbed, Cossie scored, and Worthy blobbed - whilst they scored all of theirs. This was however a marked improvement from the Milton Game.

Some funny moments worth mentioning - Worthy has a £150 belt he felt the need to wear to the changing rooms (why?) - we took the piss. Garvey turned up after a spray tan once - we took the piss. Col threatened to start in goals once - we took the piss. Tips for the future? More vocal on the pitch. More social off it. Match report

after every game like we used to do (Cossie has volunteered to do this, as long as we find his No.9 shirt - it has gone missing - it will most likely be with Garvey (who collects Metro kit so that he can sleep in it evidently - bring it all back to the club young man!)



Burnage Metro 1st Team

of the Manchester Amateur Cup. No one expected us to challenge as well in this game, but a Cossie goal scored after a run down the right and



SECONDS AIMING FOR A QUICK RETURN

The 2009/2010 season started with a whole new look for the 2nd team.

New management team of McGreevy (very Senior) and Hamlett; and a complete new squad from the previous season.

A much younger squad of 16 players, 8 players aged 20 and under, oh! and Tony Martin.

The season so far has been very good the team seems to have a never say die attitude winning quit a few games late in the second half (or maybe fitness and youth carries us through).

The only disappointment would have to be the cup run or lack it! Dumped out in the first round by Cheadle Hulme Villa from a

division below us they just played the long high balls and we couldn't cope with it.

Concerns for the management team are the lack of goals from midfield which we are working on with the players they know that because we are constantly nagging them about.

Highlights so far are the younger players especially Callum and Liam, both aged 17, holding a regular place in the team at this level, also well done to Mr play anywhere Tom Scott drafted into the first team just before xmas deserves to be there.



Burnage Metro 2nd Team

Message to Colin and Mo there's no one else worth looking at HONEST !!!

KEEPING AN EYE ON THEIR WAISTLINES

Having turned down initial approaches from various Blue Square/Unibond clubs, messers Jones and Cash decided to cut their managerial teeth in Division C by taking over the 3rd team.

After a hugely disappointing 2008/09 season left most of the five club teams in the bottom three of their respective leagues and following some peer pressure,

we felt obliged to help the club steady the ship and bring a few old and a few new faces in. Following an intensive pre-season regime and a couple of good friendlies the season kicked off with back to



Wayne Jones getting in the swing of things as 3rd Team Manager.

back away victories with the aid of some last gasp goals. Following this were consecutive defeats followed by three wins on the bounce which left us in second place. Once the weather set in our performances became very inconsis-

tent however, we are two wins away from being within top spot so still all to play for.

Having played only a third of our games this will leave a hectic run of games in 2010 however, the depth of the squad (and circumference of waistlines), should see us



The versatile Simon Cash, shows his versatility as 3rd Team Assistant Manager.

okay. Some players could well be hanging up their boots (again) this summer so like the rest, we expect them to put 100% in every week.

Finally, in general, the players have all chipped in with off field duties which

makes life a little easier. The standard of refereeing some weeks leaves a lot to be desired but guess we have to accept this and not be so critical. Let's hope we can get a run of fixtures fulfilled and bring some normality back to Saturday afternoons.



BETTER IS YET TO COME

The new Fourth Team, have found life competitive, in the revamped Division E.

Under last Fifth Team management, of Russell Hoyte and Neil Talbot, the season began with a whittling down process of over 40 players.

This was done fairly, with the squad having eight friendlies and training matches, with everyone getting several run-outs.

There were some standout performances and the return of a few

old faces, as the assembling of a competitive team was undertaken.



Burnage Metro 4th Team

By half time in the opening League fixture against Deans Youth, with us 5-3 ahead, it was obvious there would be thrills and spills for the season ahead.

There's a lot in the tank for the Team and with them lying mid table, if they regain their early season attacking ways they may again challenge for honours.

The big men, captain Danny Rush-ton and a returning Andy Norbury, have showed the way on the pitch. And, the bubbly David 'Barthez' Whitehead has been outstanding between the sticks.

There is a good mixture of young and not so old, with the likes of Jake Leonard, Steve Cavanagh, Matt Lundy and Tom Slevin, showing the Club has a good future.



ONWARDS AND UPWARDS FOR THE FIFTHS

"At the start of the season we were approached by Russell to run the 5th team jointly. After some thought we both agreed and here we are now, nearly half way through our maiden season, rock bottom of the bottom division. In our defence, we've got 7 games in hand...

In the first couple of weeks we struggled for a squad of 11 but now we've got around 25 names down - some old faces and new ones alike, a good bunch of lads.

Our first game of the season was a 5-0 defeat at home to Bedians. It wasn't a great start - 5 conceded in the first half, along with a knee injury to the legendary Malc in net, which meant Andy stepping in with a heroic second-half clean sheet. In fact the second half performance generally was very encouraging - perhaps we'd all managed to learn each other's names by that point!

We continued putting in mostly good performances with a team which was usually thrown together at the last minute, but luck seemed to be with the opposition until we played away at Whalley Range. It was a memorable win since we were 2-0 down before half time and went on to win 4-3 - our first 3 points, with 2 great goals from right-back John Barnett, resulting in a soaking for him after the final whistle.

Away from matches, we've always had a good showing for the 5ths at training. The signs are encouraging and with a few more tweaks and a little time we can see potential for a lot of success for the team and individuals alike. Sometimes

we need to work a bit harder on the pitch and concentrate but we're not too far off. The bad weather came just as we were starting to gel a little bit, so hopefully the break won't have set us back.

We'd like to thank everyone at the club who has helped us out setting the

team up, but in particular Mark Mutch whose input and support both on matchdays and in training has been fantastic, and also Gary Jones who's stepped down from the 1st to lend a hand.

Onwards and upwards - if we win our 7 in hand we'll go top!



Andy Dyson keeping a close eye on things, both on and off the pitch.



Make Way Roger, You're Not Big Enough to Fill Bob's Shirt

Local Manchester football, like its professional Football League counterpart, suffered during the hostilities of the Second World War, with Burnage High School Old Boys, who had only been formed in 1938, enduring a prolonged break from competitive fixtures.

"After being out of action for most of the war years we restarted in the Lancs Amateur League Southern Section in season 1946-47," recalled Eric Shorrocks, the sole surviving founder member of the club, who played for Burnage between 1939 and 1972, mainly at full back.

"It was part way through this season that Roger joined us, preferring in those days to play at inside forward. It was obvious that he was a very talented player, even at 16, but there was also a problem - his size, as he was slightly built.

"Most of the opposition, such as Old Chortonians, Chadderton G.S.O.B., Old Traffordians and Manchester University contained mature men, many of whom although having been out of the game for a period of time and perhaps not entirely match fit, had the physical presence to give anyone a hard game.

"Because of this physical aspect of life in the lower regions of the football world, the selection committee, made up of myself as team captain and three others, had to make the difficult decision of whether to persevere with Roger. After much debate it was agreed to drop him.

"In those days, few of us could boast possession of a telephone, therefore team selection was carried out by informing those selected by postcard, so when no card dropped through the Byrne letter box, Roger knew his fate. "As we had no second eleven in those days (we field five teams now) Roger had to look elsewhere for a game and subsequently turned out for Ryder Brow in the Manchester Lads Club League. This was a more suitable level of football for a player of his age and build."

A slightly different tale of Roger's Burnage days and departure to Ryder Brow came from former Hon. Secretary of the Burnage Club and a player for over four decades, Frank Whitehead, "Although I joined the Old Boys after

Roger left," began Frank, "the tale of Roger's time at the club is an 'apocryphal' one within our club, aimed at embarrassing Bob Johnson, a man who played an enormous part in the development of Burnage H.S.O.B., when he was alive.

However it certainly appears to be based upon fact as ascertained by contemporaries of Bob and Roger.

"Basically, Roger joined us from school and Bob Johnson was club captain, who represented the Lancashire Amateur League at the time. Hence Roger was asked to play full back rather than left wing, since Bob occupied this latter position. Apparently this was not a problem because at School,

Roger had progressed to the 1st XI as a full back but at that time Derek Waistall, a rather well-built stopper and much bigger than the young man playing above his years, occupied the defensive role and so Roger was moved to the left wing!

"At that time, however, Bob Johnson was injured, but when he regained his fitness Roger found himself out of the team. As he matured physically though, he was able to move to his favoured defensive role, "I have always understood that Roger played for Burnage and Ryder Brow simultaneously," continued Frank, turning out for us on Saturday and on Sunday he played for Ryder Brow. Certainly, many boys who preferred to watch the professional game on Saturdays played on Sundays, with some strong teams emerging, drawing scouts from professional Clubs. Roger was 'spotted' in this fashion."



(Taken from: 'Roger Byrne - Captain of the Busby Babes', written by Iain McCartney, and published by Empire Publications.)



BE LUCKY

Currently the Clubs main form of fundraising, is through the Lucky 7.

It can provide a free game of football the players who complete a sheet, i.e. they do not have to pay match subscriptions and it helps provide the club with another source of income to offset the costs of operating throughout the season.

All winnings are paid by cheque.

How does the Lucky 7 work?

- ✚ Each sheet has 7 fixtures and 14 lines. 10 of the 12 lines are "sold" to your family, friends and/or work colleagues at 50p a line.
- ✚ Each line of 7 fixtures has to have a prediction of a home win (marked with a 1), a draw (marked with an X) or an away win (marked with a 2). Some people will have one line, some people will have two. Either way, you sell the ten lines for a total of £6.
- ✚ The two lines marked up as the Agent, are free lines for the person selling the sheet. Usually you!
- ✚ The person or people who successfully predict the seven results, win or share the pot.
- ✚ The pot is clearly marked on the sheet for that week and the amount never drops below £100.
- ✚ If there is no outright winner, the club adds £25 to the total and we distribute another set of fixtures for the following week.
- ✚ If people can sell more than one sheet (due to demand or that you are a good salesman) then it increases the revenue for the club and provides the Agent with more free lines for them self.



The Lucky 7 is the Clubs major source of income.

What happens to the Lucky 7?

- ✚ A player who sells a complete sheet and hands in that sheet along with their £6, to a member of the Management Committee before 3pm, will not have to pay any match subscriptions on that Saturday.
- ✚ When the results come through, the sheets are checked and we announce whether or not there is a winner and the process begins again for the following week.

How do I get a copy of the new Lucky 7 sheets?

- ✚ The Lucky 7 is written on a Sunday usually and distributed by email or by post on a Monday morning.
- ✚ If you want to receive a copy, either make sure that the club has your email address and you can print a copy off somewhere, or ask for a copy in the post.

What is in it for the Agent?

- ✚ As a former player you can continue to contribute to the Club as well as challenging your own football knowledge.
- ✚ If you have any friends who want to be Agents, who are not club members in any way, they get an added bonus. If they sell a winning sheet, the Agent wins a bottle of booze! This is to encourage people outside of the club to sell sheets for us.



BURNAGE METRO FOOTBALL CLUB

Simon Playing Field
Ford Lane
Didsbury
Manchester
M20 5RU

Phone: 07876 688978
Fax: 0871 522 7491
E-mail: webmaster@burnagemetro.co.uk

Strivin for Success

www.burnagemetro.co.uk
www.bhsob.co.uk



Advanced Childcare Independent Fostering Agency

Can you make a real difference to a child's life?

Have you got the energy to secure a child's future?

Become a foster carer with Advanced Childcare and earn up to £390 per child per week



If you would like to become a foster carer please contact:

Mark Costello on 0161 430 0200 / 07918 058 293
Advanced Childcare Ltd, 1 Stuart Road, Bredbury, Stockport, SK6 2SR

