

CHAIRMANS REPORT – Season 2005-06

During the last 12 months both the playing and social side of the Club have gone very well. On the pitch our boys and girls have played very well and all the teams have shown improvement since the previous season, including those who finished near the bottom of their divisions.

Once again, we collected silverware and congratulations go to the under 11 Blues who were winners of Division Two and the under 18s who won the league cup and runners-up in the league. In the County Cup the under 15s once again made the quarter finals, while it was the under 13 Blues who took centre stage by becoming our first ever team to make the semi-finals.

The under 14 girls won their first ever tournament in their last season together and the under 15s did very well in their first season in the Cambridge league.

We had two under 15 boys selected for the Royston Crow League Representative team and two girls from our under 13 girls team selected for the Bedfordshire Elite squad. Plus two of our players are in academies at Rushden & Diamonds and Watford.

This time our boys and girls had two separate occasions for matches with the Arsenal Soccer School teams at Shuttleworth and we had excellent Arsenal match day and training day visits. Also Arsenal paid us a big compliment by bringing their Soccer School to Potton. Our parents were not forgotten, with a successful, if not profitable nights greyhound racing at Peterborough and a very enjoyable Quiz Nite organised by Sally Williams.

Our relationship with Potton United continues to have a bumpy ride, but our use of the Hollow for training and matches as been most welcome. Some of our players from the under 15 and under 18 teams have been involved in matches this season and congratulations to under 15 keeper Aaron Loney and John Menzies for winning awards at Potton United's presentation evening.

We have started on the path to forming links with all the local schools, and joined with Beds FA and Premier Soccer to provide coaching sessions for the pupils at Wrestlingworth and Everton lower schools.

Unfortunately the under 18 whites team had to cease playing in November, which shows how important parent support is, no matter how enthusiastic the manager and players.

I would like to thank all the parents, committee members, managers and players for their hard work and hours of commitment to their teams and the Club, with a special mention and thank you for the following:

Our own version of the Spice Girls, Rachael Lewis (Secretary), Isabella Chatwin (Treasurer), Melanie Skipper (Fixtures Secretary), Sally Williams (Child Welfare Officer) and Annette Lenton (Results Secretary) all kept their sanity and did excellent jobs throughout the season.

Curly Barham for his work with Potton United and Arsenal FC, and who once again thoroughly deserved the Club Person of the Year award.

Martin Evans for designing and operating the Club website, which has drawn a lot of compliments and will hopefully expand with more information during the next year.

Retiring under 14 girls manager David Pugh for his commitment and as was seen at the presentation evening, being very much appreciated by the players and parents. While on the up side David is staying with the Club to help coach the under 9 whites team.

Retiring managers Howie King and John Menzies, who between them have 14 years of management experience. They have carried out a vast amount of work for the benefit of their players and teams, as well as for the Club, and they will both be very difficult to replace.

Also best wishes to all the players from the under 14 girls and under 18 boys leaving our Club to either forward their football with other clubs or go into the big bad world of adult soccer.

Stephen Judd

Chairman