

21CD Committee Update

At a recent 21CD committee meeting it was recognised that it had been some time since the last update was sent out to members. As most members of 21CD visit the AUFC website or Message Board, it was decided to publish a summary of committee meetings on the AUFC website so that members of 21CD and AUFC fans in general can be kept informed of the workings of 21CD. It is hoped that by publishing this information, 21CD would appear more open to its members, and hopefully more supporters may be encouraged to become members of 21CD.

The current 21CD committee is as follows:

Chairman: Ron Syratt
Vice-Chair: Alan Sherwell
Treasurer: Brian Metcalfe
Secretary: Ian Pluck
Fund-Raising: Erika Robinson
Committee
Members: Wendy Brandon
Graham Durban
Steve Woodage
Nigel Clowe
Stephen Clowe
Stuart Andrews
Tom Birch

If any member of 21CD has ideas that they wish to discuss, or concerns about the way 21CD is run, please contact any of the committee members listed above.

Starting with a brief update to plans for a new ground in Aylesbury. Meetings have taken place between Graham Read and Steve Kind (Finance Director at Aylesbury College) recently. Following these meetings, it is fair to say that the plans are on course, although there is still plenty of work to be done behind the scenes. The College has a number of ongoing projects at the moment; our new ground is one of them. It is for the college to decide the priority of these projects, but suffice to say, the plan for the new football ground is still on the table, more information will be briefed either by 21CD or the football club as it becomes available.

Membership of 21CD:

At the moment, 21CD membership stands at 66, some of whom live distant to Aylesbury and rarely attend matches. Considering the match day average attendance is around 110, it was agreed that we need to find a way to promote membership of 21CD to supporters who are not currently in the Trust. Membership costs a minimum of £10 per year, although members can choose to pay a sum of their choosing monthly by Standing Order. 21CD funds are used to supplement AUFC's funding when requested by the Board. Importantly, 21CD is the voice of the supporters to the Board, and the higher the membership, the greater the voice. To try to encourage more match day supporters to join 21CD, a flyer was published for the match against Leverstock Green at Christmas. Despite a large attendance it is disappointing to report that not one extra member has joined as a result of this. It has been suggested that supporters may not see the value of paying only £10 per year. In fact this is the minimum membership fee and many members pay significantly more. Surely such a small amount cannot have that much influence on the club? On the contrary, 21CD regularly contributes large sums of money to support the club; more members of 21CD would mean we are able to offer more money to the club which we

would expect to be directed towards strengthening the playing budget for next season. The club is being run in a financially stable condition, so any extra money we can provide would enable Tony to strengthen the squad in preparation for a promotion push next season. As supporters of AUFC, we all want the team to have the best chance of gaining promotion from this league. Every penny we can put in the manager's kitty for players will be vital, and could be the difference between a season like this one, which although it has been very entertaining won't ultimately bring the prize we crave, and a season which with any luck will see some silverware won and hopefully the club back in the Southern League. **To join 21CD see the 21st Century Ducks section of the club's message board.**

50/50 Club:

Membership of the 50/50 club has now dropped to 55 paid up members. This produces an income of £3300 per year. As with 21CD membership, the more members of the 50/50 club, the greater the flexibility for the committee to offer extra funds to the club. At the current level of membership, under the rules mandated for the draw, there will be 3 prizes of £100, £40, & £20 per month starting from April's draw. This will be reviewed as and when membership levels change. It is worth pointing out that the 50/50 Draw is not solely for the membership of 21CD, or even AUFC supporters. It is open to anyone who wishes to join, so please spread the word and encourage your friends and family to join. **To join the 50/50 club, see the "Commercial" tab on the website.**

Fundraising:

Erika has a number of fundraising ideas for the membership of 21CD, however, these will need supporting by a good number of members if they are to achieve their aim of fundraising for the club rather than making a loss, which we cannot afford to do. Erika has done some considerable research since the AGM to identify ways of raising funds for the club. She has costed out options to use Xscape at Milton Keynes, firstly for a 10-Pin bowling event, and also a sledging session on the snow slope. Both events would see those taking part enjoy the event and also a buffet or basket meal, and would be planned for times when children could also be involved (ie school holidays). Those taking part would pay a small surcharge which would go towards club funds. .

Organising a quiz night sometime early in the new season was also suggested. The main problem with this would be to find a suitable venue to hold the event. The main issue would be the cost of hiring a hall. Initial research has shown that the most cost effective option would be the Coldharbour Hall on Fairford Leys. The other option may be to hire the large room at the Bucks CC Sports & Social Club, but this hasn't been investigated yet.

While all fundraising events are obviously planned to bring in extra funds for the football club, it is also hoped that we, as supporters of the football club can get together away from the football environment and get to know each other more, in time strengthening our common bond.

End of Season Presentation Dinner:

This year's end of season presentation evening will be a more formal dinner, rather than the buffet format of the past few seasons. Harding's Restaurant at Aylesbury College has been booked for Friday May 4th; 7-00 for 7-30 sit down. Dress will be smart casual. The format for the evening will be a 3 course meal, followed by the End of Season Presentations. It is also hoped to book a guest speaker for the evening, this is currently being investigated.

To enable the function to be financially viable, it was agreed to charge supporters £25 per head or £45 per couple. Tickets will be available for purchase from Wendy at the turnstile on match

days, or if you can't make it to the remaining matches this season, please contact Ian Pluck by email ian.pluck@ntlworld.com , or Brian Metcalfe at metcalfebrian@btinternet.com .If paying by cheque, please make them payable to "21CD". When purchasing please state your choice of menu so the restaurant can have advance notice. A copy of the menu is attached to the bottom of this notice.

To aid fundraising on the night there will be a raffle. Donations for prizes will be gratefully received. In keeping with previous years, 21CD will run a poll for Supporter's Player of the Year at the last home match of the season (v Royston on Sat 21st Apr), and will purchase a trophy for the winner.

The menu for the dinner is as follows:

Hardings

of Aylesbury College

Starter

Carrot & Coriander Soup

Crab, Avocado & Pink Grapefruit Salad

Feuilletté of Wild Mushrooms in a White Wine Velouté (V)



Main Course

Chicken Supreme with Onion and Oregano Marmalade, Roasted Root Vegetables and served with a Roast Chicken Jus

Best End of Lamb with an Herb Crust, Fondant Potatoes & Roasted Peppers

Penne Pasta with Spinach & Toasted Pine Nuts with a Tomato & Basil Sauce (V)

Whole Trout "En Papillote" With Steamed Vegetables



Desserts

Caramelised Lemon Tart with Fruit Coulis

Poached Pear in Red Wine with Balsamic Roasted Figs

Chocolate & Amaretto Mousse Délice