



FROM THE MILL

The Newsletter of the Stags Supporters Association



Season 04/05

Issue 1

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Welcome to season 2004/05!!

So another season begins in the up and down life of a Stags Supporter!! The last three seasons we have witnessed a dramatic promotion, a depressing relegation and the joy and then despair that is the play-offs. Let's hope the lads manage to do things the easy way this season.

MTFC Open Day

SSA will again be organising the MTFC Open Day, on Sunday 1st August, 10am to 4pm. Admission, as always, is free and the players will be present having come back from Bath that day. Other attractions, including the popular Field Mill tour will be available, plus entertainment for all the family, including a bar!!

Annual General Meeting

The SSA AGM will be held in the new Supporters Bar at Field Mill on Monday 9th August 2004. Starting at 7.30pm, the event is open to all SSA Members.

Renew Now

We'd like to thank all those who have renewed their membership from last season. We already have well over 700 members but having reached over 1,200 last season, there are a number of you yet to renew. Not only do SSA offer exclusive discounts, use of our Away Travel Service and ticket priority, we also invest heavily into MTFC in a wide variety of areas. As explained below, we have already invested almost £10,000 in the club during close season, all of which directly benefits the supporters and playing staff of our club.

Supporters Bar/Investment in MTFC

As you are probably already aware, MTFC has a new supporters bar. This is something we have been campaigning for since the redevelopment of Field Mill and the closure of Studs. In order to secure the bar, we have agreed to invest some £8,000 on bar fittings, a lease to secure the bar for supporters use over the coming seasons and we are also paying for Sky Sports. The bar will be open during pre-season matches and opens at 12 noon to 2.45pm then after the match to 6.30pm on Saturdays, midweek matches the bar is open from 6.30pm. Only SSA Bar members will be allowed entry and it is a no-smoking area. In addition, we have paid over £1,000 for re-seeding of the top pitch at Field Mill to allow the players to train and practice on a good quality playing surface.

Membership

Current membership totals: Amber 197, Blue 328, Junior 216 – TOTAL = 741.

MTFC History CD

SSA are delighted to announce the release of the definitive history of Mansfield Town FC on CD Rom. The CD includes a copy of the book "Mansfield Town – The First 100 Years" as well as copies of the updated Managers and Players Who's Who and a copy of the History of Field Mill magazine. The CD is available on our website, at the Open Day and from the Supporters Bar.

Away Travel

Again SSA will be taking coaches to every competitive fixture this season and once again our members will not pay more than £15 for any of our 23 League 2 away trips. Below are the departure times and prices for the first 6 away fixtures:

Date		Opposition	Depart	Cost
Wed 11 Aug	v	Oxford Utd	3pm	£12 (adult) £10 (U16) £6 (U10)
Sat 14 Aug	v	Chester C	11am	£12 (adult) £10 (U16) £6 (U10)
Sat 28 Aug	v	Grimsby T	11am	£10 (adult) £8 (U16) £5 (U10)
Sat 11 Sep	v	Cambridge	11am	£12 (adult) £10 (U16) £6 (U10)
Sat 25 Sep	v	Scunthorpe	12.30pm	£8 (adult) £6 (U16) £4 (U10)
Fri 8 Oct	v	Swansea	12 noon	£15 (adult) £13 (U16) £7 (U10)

SSA Committee

Following his decision to stand-down as SSA Chairman this Summer, every one of us at SSA would like to thank Dave Morris for his outstanding work since our formation three years ago. Under his leadership, SSA membership has trebled and we have invested heavily into MTFC. We have elected former Treasurer Dean Foulkes as his successor. Dean is well known to many SSA Members for his tireless work on the away travel service and for owning just about every piece of merchandise released by MTFC in recent years!!

SSA Merchandise

SSA have recently ordered new merchandise, which is available to purchase via our website at www.stagsnet.net, at the Open Day or by sending a cheque payable to SSA for what you want. Our range at present is:

Item	Cost
SSA Pin Badge (New Style white background)	£2 (50p P&P)
SSA Pin Badge (Old Style blue background)	£2 (50p P&P)
MTFC History CD	£10 (£1 P&P)
SSA Key Fob (Quality)	£2 (£50p P&P)
SSA Key Ring (Leather printed)	£1 (50p P&P)
SSA T-Shirt (various colours & sizes)	Available at Open Day
Discount Voucher Book (QLE)	£8 adult, £4 Junior

Dave Smith

Former Stags manager Dave Smith recently celebrated 50 years in football and in his honour Plymouth Argyle held at testimonial at Home Park on Wed 14th July. SSA felt it important that Dave's contribution as Stags manager was recognised and organised a presentation to Dave on behalf of all Stags supporters. Dave was Stags boss for the Division 4 Championship season in 1974/75 (right), which many Stags fans believe was the best ever Stags side. We'd like to thank SSA Amber Member Shaun Knight, who lives in Devon, for kindly representing the supporters of MTFC and making the presentation on our behalf.

