

ROAR

Hartford Whalers



Booster Club, Inc.



The Official Newsletter of the Lions Supporters Club

A Very Happy and Prosperous New Year to you all, and may everyone's fortunes take an upward turn.

Well, I was challenged recently to name who I thought were the best supporters around the circuit and without hesitation I replied 'the Lions supporters'. We have new members but also a hard core of supporters who have been with us from day one. Such dedication is amazing, considering what they have had to put up with in the past (and present) was not what could have been called encouraging, but they are still there and I think they will be rewarded very soon as regards the position of the Lions. The Lions Supporters Club was formed to help make a better Lions team, and this we are trying our hardest to do by sponsoring the Lions with the printing cost of the programme and sales as we try to help in other financial ways, all, I might add, gratefully accepted by Manager/Player/Coach/General Everything - Steve James.

Running an ice-hockey team, as any team, is a difficult and costly affair, so any help he can get is appreciated. Also, trying to sort out the whims and moods of some players who have their own ideas is naturally enough not an easy task, we all have our moans and criticisms of Steve, but most of us can walk away from a game and forget until next week - but he can't. The moans, groans and bills all stay with him from week to week. Steve will tell you I'm the first one to shout, but all teams get criticism as well as acclaim and I'm also the first to say so if I think they've done it right. Some teams are too terrified to lose, so next time you'd like to moan, just think, "Could I do it better?"

Our Charity Aid for Children with Tracheotomies were very pleased with the donations that have been made and featured us in their magazine. I have also received a generous donation of £25 given to me by Nicky, Steve James' other half, a collection from her family over Christmas. Grateful thanks to all concerned.

AWAY GAMES

I would like to see more people go on the away games. The more who go, the cheaper the trips. We have made good friends over the years at many ice rinks around the country, and many contacts the enquire of US about American trips and we are the bottom team - imagine what it could be like

if we were top. On long journeys or away weekends it isn't really viable to run a mini-bus as someone has to drive it there and back and also it isn't policy to go on the team coach. It is what it says - a team coach and if the extra few people went on the supporters coach it would run every time - as I said, we are here to help the Club money-wise and otherwise not to hinder the proceeds.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

If you are travelling regularly to somewhere, you will know it is a costly business. It has come to my notice that if your partner has an annual BR season ticket (Gold Card) you can get fares at two thirds of the price if you travel after 10 a.m. Children travel for £1, all you do is apply for a Partner's Gold Card (£1) and you can save one third on all off-peak travel within the same network.

BEST WISHES

Letters and telephone calls sent to me on your behalf from:

Jerry Caroon - and the Hartford Whalers
Ty Toki, California Seals - The San Jose Sharks Booster Club
Frank Marshall - New Jersey Devils
Chicago Blackhawks Booster Club
Boston Bruins Booster Club
Norman Clark - Winnipeg Jets Booster Club Chairman

to name some of them. Also Maquari Bears in Australia.

These people all wish us well and get regular mail and information from The Lions Supporters Club. Anyone wishing to know anything about any of these teams, please contact me and I will give you information like I did with the Clock End lads who went to California. It helped them a great deal in making new friends and getting tickets for hockey games easily whilst they were there. I hope to be going again to the 1994 Booster club Convention which this time is being held in Mount Eden, California, the hosts being the California Seals Booster Club. Anyone seriously interested talk to me and I'll supply information - great holiday (NO HOCKEY).

SWAPS

If anyone has any old Tottenham Hotspurs Memorabilia they don't want - or any English Ice Hockey goodies, I would be glad of this for American and Canadian fans. I don't mind paying the postage but it comes a bit expensive when you have to buy the goods. Any items I get in return go into the Club Shop, so eventually benefits the Lions. After all, as I keep saying, that's the idea, isn't it?

If you are interested in doing the Man of the Match Presentation sometime (Steve has left it to Supporters Club members - unless he's got special guests!!) I will do my best to get you a place. Thanks to you all, especially the helpers who give up a lot of time (and money) to keep the things running - better things will arrive, so keep supporting.

All the best,

Mike Cook
Chairman -
Lee Valley Lions Supporters Club

STEVE JAMES - QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: "What are your aspirations for the team for the New Year?"

A: "I would like to see us climb at least 2 -3 positions which, in this League, is quite possible. With a run of results it can lift us and although we have lost a number of games, the players we added to our squad over Christmas have given us vital experience and character."

Q: "Would you like to comment on those player changes?"

A: "Well, unfortunately, Roman pretty much upped and left us and to be honest the last couple of games he played his heart was not really in it. We would have had Eso back to replace him, but he hurt his knee ligaments, so we were lucky enough to be put in touch with Michel who has got a fine pedigree, both home and abroad, and is a strong character. I was also extremely pleased to sign Brian Biddulph who adds some great toughness to the blue line, whilst having a very experienced head for the game and finally Big Gary McLoughlin, who adds some more toughness to the second line at 6ft.5ins. All three are very different characters, but are all useful squad members."

Q: "How do you see yourself involved with the Lions over the next few seasons?"

A: "Well, I do enjoy playing, but it's starting to lead more and more to me ending up in either purely a coaching role or a managerial role. But only time will tell in either case, but for the time being, it's a bit of all three."

Q: "How do you view the League at present?"

A: "The Lions have had a couple of good results against Telford and Slough, both of whom have beaten or drawn with top sides, so ultimately I think that anybody can beat anyone and I think if we can start to regularly take points off teams such as Romford, Medway, Telford and Slough, we could go for one of the play-off spots, depending on the B.I.H.A. not moving the goalposts."

Q: "What about the team's Junior Development?"

A: "Well, this season with limited resources we've used youngsters like Jon Beckett and Neil Stower more and more and they have worked incredibly hard. Jamie has done a superb job in goal and I think that both Adam Lamb and Howard have found it to be invaluable experience."

Q: "What about bringing in the crowds and sponsorship?"

A: "We found the free ticket games we operated before Christmas worked exceptionally well, with the imports working very hard going to schools and companies handing out tickets and promoting the Lions. Ultimately, it's up to the team playing well to keep them in here but we certainly will be trying that again."

On the sponsorship front, British Engine have done a superb job again this year. As to whether they continue in the same capacity after this season is entirely in their hands but at the moment they are very happy

with the exposure they have received and the image they have created has been excellent."

Q: "Finally, do you have a message for the fans?"

A: "Certainly. I believe the supporters deserve a special mention. They've had a pretty tough few seasons and I can understand when they get unhappy at losing, but a large number have stayed incredibly loyal to the Club as a whole. Also, I'd like to praise the tireless work of the Supporters Club in fund raising and support and all I can say is that as a team we will try our best and our hardest to climb the League and win as many as possible."

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHARITY DONATIONS

On behalf of A.C.T I would like to thank everyone who has sent either a personal donation or the proceeds of a group fundraising event.

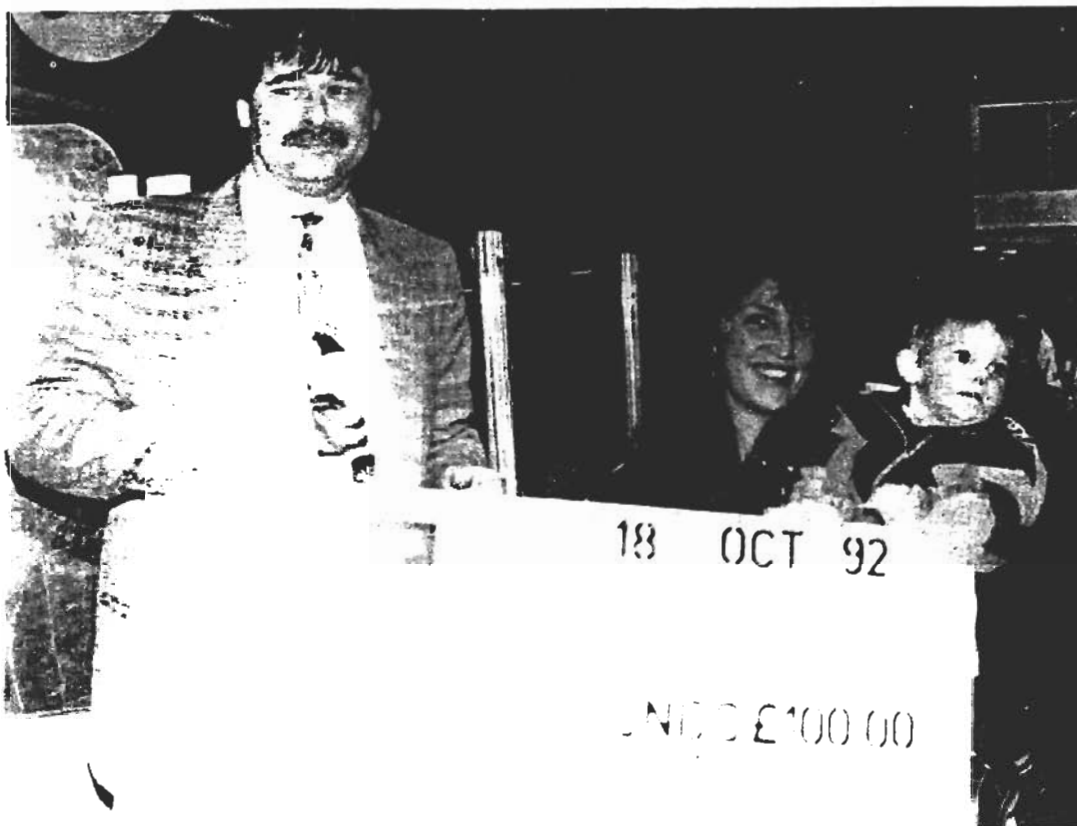
Our thanks go also to those members who make regular donations through "Give As You Earn" or "Payroll Giving" for their continued support. Because no names are attached to donations made in this way I am unable to make our thanks more personal.

Thanks go to:-
MARK FURNIDGE for a fabulous £251.63
SUE TOBIN for her two donations totaling £400.00
DEAN HARRIS for another £90.00
* *LEE VALLEY LIONS who roared in with another £100.00* *
MRS Gill for her £5.00 donation
D.A. NAISBIT and his local Scouts and Guides group who raised a magnificent £700.00 at a Fancy Dress Quiz Night
J HENDERSON of the Cranmore Play Group who sent a £10.00 donation

Finally may I take this opportunity to wish everyone:

"A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR".

Terry Foster
Treasurer.



Baby Michael Cook and his Mum Julie accepting a cheque for £100.00 on behalf of ACT. Thanks go to you both and also to everyone concerned with this marvellous donation.

TRIVIA

Overheard in the rink on game night, a supporter to Sam Cook, aged nearly five years:

"Sam, do you like ice hockey?"

Sam's reply: "Yes, I do.

Supporter: "Who is your favourite Lions player?"

Sam's reply: "Steve James of course - he winks at me through the glass."

DID YOU KNOW??

When Lions played Swindon on March 8th 1987, they scored three goals in 12 seconds. Goals were timed at 39.14, 39.20, 39.26. All three goals were, remarkably, shorthanded goals. During the same game, which Liions won 29-10, they scored three more in 17 seconds.

Wayne Gretzky earns more wages and sponsorships in a season than the entire Liverpool football team does.

The first ice surfacing machine ever built (Zamboni) was bought in 1936, not by an ice hockey team but by figure skater, Sonja Henje, to take on tour with her.

BELATED HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!...

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1ST	DAVID MASSEY
2ND	PETER DALLIDAY
26TH	SHEILA FURTWANGLER
31ST	SANDY TINGEY

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

17TH	REG SCOTT (GOAL JUDGE - CLOCK END)
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AWAY TRAVEL COACHES TO:

SATURDAY	JANUARY 23RD	BASINGSTOKE
SATURDAY	FEBRUARY 13TH	TELFORD
SATURDAY	FEBRUARY 20TH	MEDWAY
SATURDAY	FEBRUARY 27TH	SWINDON

BOOK NOW. LET'S FILL THE LAST FEW!!! 0992 88782

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR CLUB

SHOP DISCOUNTS FOR SUPPORTERS CLUB MEMBERS / POWER PLAY NOW HALF PRICE

ON PRODUCTION OF YOUR CARD!!

LOST DOG



3 LEGS, BLIND IN LEFT EYE,
MISSING RIGHT EAR, TAIL BROKEN,
RECENTLY CASTRATED . . .
ANSWERS TO NAME OF "LUCKY"