



FROM THE MILL

The Newsletter of the Stags Supporters Association



Season 04/05

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An Evening with the Manager

All Stags fans are invited to an evening with Keith Curle on Saturday November 6th after the Macclesfield game from 6pm in the new SSA Supporters bar. Admission is completely free and Keith will take any questions you might have. A further aim of the evening is to raise funds for the Stags Youth Team.

Have Your Say on SSA

Since handing over the role of Treasurer to Shona Vasper in the Summer as most of you will be aware I have taken over as Chairman of SSA. We have been growing steadily since the merger of SSC and SOS three years ago and I personally believe that through the hard work of your Committee the deal for Stags fans is the best it has ever been. On home matchdays alone we have campaigned for a supporters bar, provided Skysports and Premiership Plus at Field Mill for the benefit of all, pressed for the introduction of televisions and sale of alcohol which is available in the West Stand, the introduction of Ladbrokes, the return of Sammy The Stag, a better matchday magazine and half time entertainment with the Stagettes. On away matchdays our away travel service is proving as popular as ever and we are proud of our £15 maximum price pledge and reductions for children. We have also invested thousands of pounds already into Mansfield Town this season alone and I would like to thank all our amber members whose monthly subscription of £4 a month or more have enabled SSA to grow and given us the power and influence we enjoy today. I would encourage any blue member who could possibly afford just what amounts to a couple of pints a month to consider upgrading to amber membership. You all probably know somebody who is as mad on Stags as you are but perhaps isn't a member of SSA, join them up! The bigger we become the louder our voice. Although we can all be rightly proud of what we have achieved there is so much more we can do together. We are currently negotiating with Keith Haslam on the provision of a brand new brick built club shop at Field Mill which our fundraising will be geared towards in the immediate future. Through the original Team Mansfield agreement we meet with Keith Haslam regularly and would like to hear from you, our members on where you think we should invest your money into Mansfield Town. Would you like to see us sponsor the youth team? Would you like us donate money monthly to Mansfield Town no questions asked or do you think we should have a say where your cash is invested? Would you prefer us to drive away travel prices down further? Do you want us to continue fighting for the return of the North Stand? Do you agree with the police that Field Mill is a safer more family orientated stadium this season? Have you got a business or skill that we could utilise at SSA for the benefit of the fans and / or The Stags? How can we grow SSA? What would make you attend SSA events? What are we doing right and indeed what are we doing wrong? If you have any comments, ideas or suggestions contact us via the addresses shown on the first page of this newsletter. Fans Come First for SSA and we exist to make a difference for you and help make supporting the Stags a better experience.

Dean Foulkes

SSA Launch Christmas Raffle

SSA are raising funds towards the building of a new brick built club shop at Field Mill, a facility that fans can be proud of which will give the club the opportunity to expand their stock. Raffle tickets at just £1 per book are available from SSA Committee members in the SSA bar at Field Mill, and on the coaches to away games. Top prizes including a TV / DVD Combo are on offer, so dig deep. It's for a good cause this Christmas!

Brads Taxis

SSA are pleased to announce a new sponsorship deal with Brads Taxis (07932 445992) the Ashfield based taxi service used by The SSA.

Membership

Current membership totals: Amber 220, Blue 606, Junior 390 – TOTAL = 1216

Supporters Bar News

Our new supporters bar is now proving extremely popular; over 200 fans used the facility for the recent home matches with Lincoln City and Notts County. We remind our members that on Saturdays the bar opens at 12.30pm and also of the changes we have made to membership of the facility, namely that Amber Members can now gain entry on production of their Amber Card and that all bar members can now sign in guests for just £1. Bar membership for the rest of the season is now available to all Blue members for a one off payment of just £10.

Investment in MTFC

Already this season SSA have invested heavily into the football club. In addition to the money we have already announced invested into the new supporters bar, we have further invested money in the new fence erected just before the club shop. This now means that those using our away travel service can park their cars in a secure compound, although SSA and MTFC need to stress that vehicles park completely at their own risk and neither SSA nor MTFC can take any responsibility for vehicles parked at Field Mill. Furthermore, we have just completed a deal to install a new next game board welcoming supporters to Field Mill on the corner of the Quarry Lane End and West Stand, replacing the old Chad sign..

MTFC History CD/Legends Book

SSA have a few copies left 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 and from the Supporters Bar. Also remember that a brilliant new book, written by Steve Bracegirdle and FTYBR's Steve Hartshorn, is now available from Field Mill Club Shop priced at £16.99p.

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 next 3 away fixtures:

Date		Opposition	Depart	Cost
Sat 20 Nov	v	Boston U	12pm	£8 (adult) £6 (U16) £4 (U10)
Tue 7 Dec	v	Darlington	3pm	£10 (adult) £8 (U16) £4 (U10)
Sat 18 Dec	v	Shrewsbury	10.30am	£12 (adult) £10 (U16) £6 (U10)

SSA Merchandise

SSA have recently ordered new merchandise, including brand new pin badges which is available to purchase via our website at www.stagsnet.net, or at the Supporters Bar on match days.

Other Events for your Diary

Curry and Quiz Night – Thursday 9th December in the Sponsors Lounge, Field Mill. Start at 7pm with the Quiz commencing at 7.30pm. Teams of four, with a charge of £30 per team.

SSA Kids Christmas Party – SSA Supporters Bar, Field Mill on Sunday 19th December 2.30pm to 5pm. Bar will be open for parents and admission is FREE.

E-Newsletter

If you wish to receive this newsletter by e-mail then please send us an e-mail to ssa@stagsnet.net and please include your membership number and the numbers of any other adults happy to receive the newsletter to the same e-mail address. Thank you.