



Under 7's, 8's and 9's all show strength in the RWBL January trophy event with medals and trophies galore - See page 3 for the full story!



### Thanks Ridgeway!

A big thanks needs to go to our sponsors **Ridgeway Newbury** and personally to Craig Clapham for continuing his sponsorship and support of our Club and players for another 3 years.

And don't forget all AFC Newbury parents get an extra £500 discount off a new car too!



**THINGS** are shaping up for 2015 to be the club's biggest year yet, as Chairman Lee McDougall sets out here.

The Club has reached 300 players for the first time since the Club was formed, an amazing achievement for an organisation that is run entirely by parent volunteers! But it's the quality of coaching we provide that counts and that's why I am especially proud that all 29 of our teams are led by over 50 fully qualified FA coaches - all of whom commit an enormous amount of time week in week out. Please remember to support them each week, whether its setting up, taking down the goals and respect barriers or helping with the admin. The

more time your coaches can spend coaching, the more fun your kids will have and the more they will learn.

We do need your help to keep the Club running, so please see the articles about our vacancies and our fundraising activities that need your support.

Enjoy the rest of the season and good luck to all teams!



### Even more FA Level 1 qualified coaches!

With so many managers and coaches needed for all our squads, the Club arranged to run our first **FA Level 1 Coaching Course** and we are delighted to confirm all 11 passed their coaching exam. This also included an Emergency 1st Aid test and a Safeguarding Children qualification. It's great news to have another generation of parents getting involved to continue the good work for youth football.





## Your Club Needs you #1 Committee Vacancies

Our **Treasurer** Peter Lambert has very graciously continued to manage the clubs finances, even though both his boys left last season to play rugby. However we urgently need to find a successor!

We are therefore looking for someone to fill his shoes. You don't need to be an accountant to join us but just have some book keeping skills to pay out expenses, bills and track incoming payments etc via on-line banking. Peter is willing to shadow anyone who wishes to join so you will not be left on your own.

Another position which will become vacant at the end of this season is the **Club Secretary**, filled for many years by John Stewart, who now needs a rest ! The Club Secretary is a key role for the Club, pretty much the front door and mail box for all club communication. John is willing to support any takers for the following season and we would really love to hear from you if you are interested or want to know more

## No more mud patches or long grass!

With the problems of poor weather and damaged pitches the Club have managed to secure use of the FIFA **Park House 3G pitches for league matches**. We are the first Club to have the opportunity in this area. Due to pitch sizes available this benefits the U7 to U10 age group and this, although in its infancy, seems to be working well.

## Any ideas?

Please do get in touch with the committee if you have any feedback, ideas or suggestions on any of the items in here – or anything else! This is your club!

## Dates for the Diary:

### Easter School Holidays

We will be running our Goalie development training sessions again, with Lawrence Gillard at Stockcross. Further details to follow

### AFC Newbury Penalty Shootout Fun Day

Saturday 9th May 2015 at Speenhamland Primary School, Pelican Lane, Newbury.

This is our main fundraising event of the season and an opportunity for all our members and their families to come together for a fun filled day.

### AFC Newbury End of Season Presentation

Sunday 14th June at Shaw Social Club

The highlight of many players (and parents!) season, this annual event is where awards are given to all children who participated and further trophies also awarded where the players and parents have a chance to place their votes.

## R.E.S.P.E.C.T –

### find out what it means to me...

Positive behaviour is really important on, around and off the pitch, both for players and supporters.

The FA has five Respect codes of conduct, not just for players, coaches, team managers and club and match officials, but also for spectators and parents/carers.

The Spectator Respect Code asks for supporters to be a good example to the players, respect match official decisions and encourage players to do the same, applaud effort and good play as well as success, not criticising mistakes, let the coaches do their job, and remember that

## Managers Curry Night!

All good football coaches, managers and even fundraisers need to let off a little steam at Christmas and our 'Curry Night' was the biggest yet, with nearly 30 coaches and committee members attending. That's a lot of poppadoms... and even more beer! (and of course the inevitable selfie)





## Your Club Needs you #2 Stockcross Pavilion Fundraising Volunteers

Over the past couple of years our Committee have worked tirelessly to get a pavilion built at Stockcross. This has been a difficult task with numerous setbacks.

The joint project with Speen Parish Council has now ended with the Council voting not to continue due to escalating build costs.

Not being the types to give up, the AFC Committee have secured new funding from Greenham Common trust who have agreed to grant £40k towards our much scaled back plans, on the condition that we will need to raise another £40k ourselves.

The Committee will vote on whether to proceed with this plan in the near future, but we can only do this if we have enough support from parents and friends of the Club to help fund raise and share in the organisation of the events. If you would like to know more or would like to offer your support, please email the team on [afcnewburyfc999@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:afcnewburyfc999@hotmail.co.uk) with offers of help or ideas.

## Under 7's, 8's and 9's with medals and trophies galore !!

Teams from AFC Newbury under 7, 8 and 9 competed in the Reading and West Berkshire League winter trophy tournament which took place on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> January. There were almost 60 teams competing in the tournament.

In the under 9 competition, Boys Red were the overall age group runners up. Colts White also came very close to a trophy, finishing with a very respectable runners up position in the Championship League.

As for the under 8's, AFC Newbury Boys Red were crowned overall age group winners, taking top spot in the Champions League. Boys Pink also took first place in the Premiership League.

In the under 8 Championship League, the final game of the day was between Colts White and Boys White. A win for either team would have seen them crowned as League champions. It was a nail-biting finish with a brilliant atmosphere both on and off the pitch between both teams and supporters. The score ended 3-3 which was enough to secure a League win for the Colts White. This took the tally of trophies to three for the under 8 age group. Boys White held a very well deserved runners up slot.

For the under 7's age group there were runners up medals for the Boys White in the Premiership and for the Boys Red in the Conference League.

Overall, our teams from AFC Newbury finished with four sets of runners up medals and three League champion trophies. Well done to everyone!

## Want to know more? Useful Web Sites

We realise that for many of you, your child's football with us is just another hobby or club and for some of you it's a really important part of your child's life. At AFC Newbury we pride ourselves on being a fully inclusive club, our aim is to provide football for all in the local community, in a safe and fun environment and to help develop the children to be the best they can be.

As an FA Standard Charter Club, we have strict guidelines we follow and adopt, from our coaching approach, to our adoption of the Respect Campaign and from our Safeguarding Children Policy to our Club Constitution

If you want to know more about our Club or about the FA's guidance to Youth Football and its coach and player development programme, please look at the attached links. There is an excellent guide for parents and carers too, with some useful short video clips.

[www.newburyfootball.co.uk](http://www.newburyfootball.co.uk) The AFC Newbury homepage  
<http://www.thefa.com/respectguide/> Parents Guide to Youth Football  
<http://www.thefa.com/my-football/player/respect> FA's guide to Respect  
<http://www.thefa.com/my-football/player/youth-football> The FA guide for youth football