

The Lease to the ground given 1968

The original trustees were

*Kenneth Barlow, Gordon Wood, James McGowan,
Eric Howard Dearden, Michael Robert Pilkington.*

Our Honorary club members:

*Emlyn Hughes OBE Ken and Dorothy Barlow and Family, Alan Howarth,
Robert Pilkington and Family, D. Windsor, Bill Pepper. J.Hesketh
David Lloyd, Steve Hunt, Colin Stansfield, Mike Cliffe, Mike Goacher.*

Your current Management Committee:

President: Colin Stansfield

Club Chairman: Steve Hunt

Vice Chairman: Malc Quilty

Treasurer: Kelly Newton

Minute Secretary: Mike Cliffe

Social: Tony Gorman

Members Secretary: Dave Nuttall

Football Chairman (seniors) Malc Quilty

Cricket Chairman: Mike Mills

Football Chairman (juniors) Phil Law

A BIG THANK YOU TO

ALL OUR SPONSORS OVER THE 50 YEARS

Thank You to our brewery Marston's for all their support



Walshaw Sports Club



"Where it all began"



"Game of dominoes in the first members room"

*Bringing and supporting sport in the community
for over 50 years*

**50th ANNIVERSARY
19th May 2018**



Members we were proud to honour over the years:

Bob Pilkington, whom we named the changing rooms after. Geoff Ormerod, of whom the ground was named after, and Ken Barlow, who now has the function room named after him.

Recently, we were extremely pleased to be the recipient of another successful grant which allowed us to refurbish and upgrade the five a side facilities and to fully level the cricket square.

We are always striving to improve our general facilities and in the last two years we have also fully refurbished the clubs toilets and washrooms. Regarding the ground lease, we have now secured the clubs future longer term, as, after a number of meetings with the council, I managed to have the ground rent reduced to a peppercorn rent of £1 per year. I am certain that our founder members would definitely have approved of this!

We should all be proud to have our thriving club, giving sport and social facilities to our community. Our current sporting sections are:

Junior Cricket - with teams from under 9's to under 18's, and the recent enrolment into the ECB All Star's programme for 4-8 year old's.

Senior Cricket - First, Seconds and Third teams.

Junior Football - From our future stars, then teams from under 7's up to under 16's and including 3 ladies/girls teams.

Senior football - First and second teams.

Over the years we have had Rounders, golf, darts dominoes and also a rambling section, and currently have the new section in our club.... a big welcome to our ladies darts team.

We sincerely hope that our current sections, members and volunteers, have maintained the great work that was initially started by our founder's when they established our club way back in 1968.

As you can see, from the early ideas and dedication of our founder members, the club has gone from strength to strength. (And as our crest says Progress) I hope you agree that is what we have all strived for and achieved.

Here's to the next fifty years.
Steve Hunt (Club Chairman)

Fifty years of our achievements.

Fifty years ago, a group of men had a thought, - to start a sports club! With just over £1000 they started a club that many members, - social, sporting and the community, have enjoyed for 50 years.

We must also thank the ladies, as in these early days, they were very instrumental to the club with cricket teas and general refreshments, which gave the club a community feel-good factor.

I ask myself could this happen in today's society? I think not.

From early beginnings, and hard work by all, Walshaw Sports Club became established as we know it today.

It was the cricket section that was first playing games on Sycamore Road, and then two years later, the football section was formed.

With the lease on Sycamore Road finalised, The club house was officially opened May 30th 1968 by Tom Finney O.B.E (Ex Preston North End and England) both sections enjoyed their sport. With the changing rooms erected and opened by Cedric Rhodes in 1970). The next addition to the club was the new members room, and opened in 1985 by Emlyn Hughes OBE (England and Liverpool captain) The 'Fun Club' started in 1984, producing a week of shows each year until 2006, whereby during this time they greatly contributed financially, to the operating cost of the club. One massive contribution from them was when they had a project to "Raise the Roof"! Not only did they raise the roof with their performances, they did, literally, raise the function room roof, by building a new roof over the old flat roof. This not only gave the club a better profile, it also significantly helped us all, as we had spent many hours patching up, and trying to stop the leaks to the function room from the old flat roof.

We have to thank the Fun Club, who each year worked so hard on their performances, and gave us all so much enjoyment. Truly Missed.

Then, in 1998, the football section was increased, when Greenmount Rangers joined the club, and became Walshaw juniors.

With the large influx of sporting members, it was decided to improve our facilities. We therefore commenced with our application for a grant from the Football Foundation in 1999. They obviously shared with us our dreams, and we were extremely grateful to receive a £35,000 grant.

However, this was only a portion of what we required, as our plans were to build a five a side training facility, and to upgrade our existing changing rooms. We achieved both of these with money contributed from the club, and with a great deal of effort from members and volunteers, working well into the night on a number of occasions. This facility was then opened by Sam Allardyce in 2001.

Onwards and upwards, the next facility we needed to upgrade was the cricket score box, and again with a great deal of help from members, our new score box was built.



Ken Barlow

CLUB HONOURS TWO OF ITS STALWARTS

TWO MEN who played a major part in putting Walshaw Sports Club on the local map have been made honorary life members in recognition of their many years service to the now flourishing club.

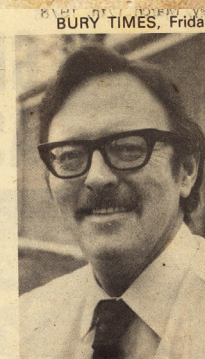
Ken Barlow, a playing member, treasurer and chairman of the football club, and Bob Pilkington, for ten years treasurer of the cricket club, joined forces when the two sections amalgamated in 1965 to form the sports club now situated in Sycamore Road.

Ken, 45, of Hilda Avenue, Tooting, has been chairman of the club since its inception and for fourteen years prior to the amalgamation he was

an official of the football section.

Forty-one years old Bob, of Coleridge Road, Greenmount, has been dealing with financial matters at Walshaw for the past 23 years. He joined the cricket section in 1951, became treasurer four years later and was appointed sports club treasurer in 1971. He retired from playing after completing 25 years with the cricket section but continued to act as section treasurer.

The two officials were elected life-members at the club's annual meeting. The only other member to be so honoured is former president Mr James C. Kenyon.



Bob Pilkington



54 BURY TIMES, Friday, December 22nd, 1978.



My thoughts and thanks

Firstly I would like to thank our founder members, whose foresight and dedication started our club that we are all still enjoying today. It is extremely hard to thank all individuals and for this I apologise, but it would be remiss of me not to mention a few that I was proud to have worked with.

Our founder Chairman Ken Barlow who guided the club in the right direction for over 25 years, Ken put so much of his life into making the club one of the best in the area, and with his Management Committee gave the club a strong foundation.

Within the Management Committee was our President Geoff Omerod a true gentleman who always had time for everyone also Bob Pilkington club treasurer and who gave so much of his time making sure the facilities on the field were second to none. And of course many more who gave their time over Ken's tenure, a massive thank you to all.

Ken was a very hard act to follow and my next thanks goes to Bill Singleton who took over the Chairmanship from Ken and with his Committee carried on the good work.

Our third Chairman was Colin Stansfield who initially took over as acting Chairman then voted in as Chairman and in his nine year tenure carried on in the clubs tradition, thanks to Colin and his Committee. Colin is our current President.

I myself was proud to work alongside Ken, Bill and Colin, and equally proud when I was voted in as Chairman in 2005. And I must thank my Committee for their hard work.

I must also thank the sections Chairmen and their committee's and also the many volunteers that have given their time and hard work over the 50 years and carried on the good work set by our founder Chairman and his Committee.

THANK YOU ONE AND ALL
Steve Hunt (present Chairman)



**M.C for the evening
Mike Cliff.**

**Acknowledgement:
Steve Hunt (Chairman)**

Grace:

Malc Quilty: (Vice Chairman)

Toast to the club:

Bill Singleton (Ex Chairman)

.....

Gala Buffet

.....

Entertainment

No 1 Tribute to Neil Diamond

By

James Norton

D.J. - Paul Walker