

Welcome to the 2025 AGM.

Firstly, a massive thanks to our committee for all their hard work over the last 12 months.

A special thanks this year to Steve Housley who is stepping down after many years as Fixture Secretary.

Steve has also been instrumental in arranging many friendlies and festival teams. Choosing players to take part, especially in the more competitive fixtures requires a fair amount of diplomacy whilst managing Members expectations. Steve's experience in team management will be sorely missed as well as his measured council at Committee meetings. Thanks Steve!

Also, thanks to our unsung heroes who make our sessions run smoothly.

Andie Harkness & Tony Bettison for their continued help setting up the Dronfield Sessions.

Malc Emberton, Jim Slavin and Graham Turner who support Roger at Hasland.

To Steve Gleadall for his 'Off the boards' column. I know Steve has retired the article, but I'm hoping he'll resurrect the Amelo daily reports again this year, but this time actually reporting from the Team hotel.

But my final thanks and gratitude go to those Members who supported other members through their ill health and personal grief.

I'd like to welcome Darryl Davies to the committee. Darryl has established an over 50s team, with the objective of participating in an evening league.

The over 70s are also investigating the possibility of joining a league.

Just a few highlights from another eventful year.

- Our oldest player, vice president and original founding member Eric Bagshaw celebrating his 86th birthday.
- We had 4 good days out in the Mel Pullen Cup competition against Matlock, Mansfield and Worksop.
- Our League squad continued to compete well in the East Midlands League, and I hope we will be able to report on 2 other teams in the coming year with the 50s & 70s
- Also, we had several successful Joint sessions with the Ladies team, The Spirettes.
- A Wednesday morning last May saw many of us play on the hallowed pitch at the SMH
- Several Members enjoyed another visit to Holland and The Almelo tournament, albeit one player short 😊
- Many of us had a good time when we supported the Walking Football Championships at the SMH.
- But I'm sure many will agree, the highlight of the year, was the 2 days at Queens Park when we played The Australian Walkaroos followed by a knees-up in The Boythorpe pub. In summarizing those two days, I quote Alan Templeton, the Walkaroos Manager, who stated, "You might beat us on the pitch, but you'll never beat us in the pub." 😊😊😊

Thank You & over to Ian.....