

BORO MEMORIES DAY 2011



An oral history partnership from the University of Hertfordshire and Stevenage Borough Football Club

RAGS TO RICHES STORY

They were the GIANT killers...



...who chased dreams and against the odds won all the important titles.



It came to the attention of a team of historians at the University of Hertfordshire. Sixteen students and members of staff decided to act.



It was the stuff of legends and the stories were passed down through the generations.



They parachuted into the Lamex Stadium.

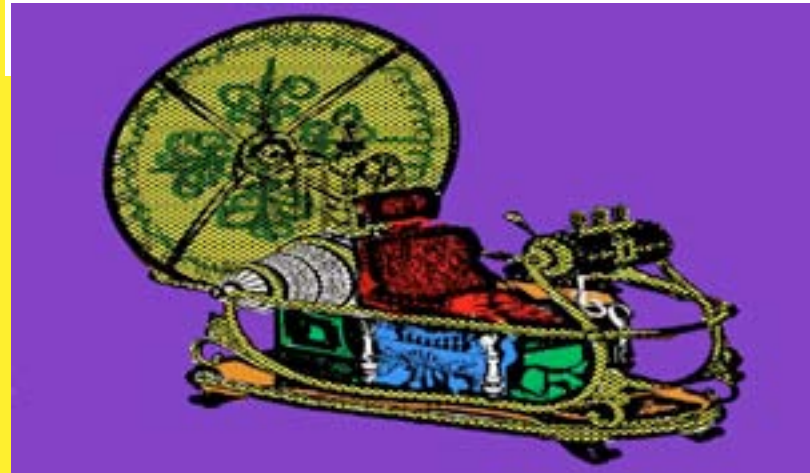


They wanted to preserve the memories for posterity, so they filmed and recorded interviews with fans, ex-players and ...

...and members of staff, who brought their tales and memorabilia.



It was a form of time travel...



... and they created a treasure trove of memories.



HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I BEEN ASKED TO RELIVE THE FAMOUS EVENTS OF 1966?

It was a day that caught the attention of the local media and other footballing legends like Sir Geoff Hurst.



It was a day that brought people together and cemented the success of a team and a community





 Craig Reid
Striker




 Chris Beardsley
Striker




 Jon Ashton
Defender




 Mark Roberts
Defender



 Scott Laird
Defender



 John Mousinho
Midfielder

“ Two Borough legends:
Ex Manager, Paul Fairclough
and record goal scoring Striker,
Martin Gittings, (1980-1995, 397
appearances, 209 goals). ”

FAVORITE PLAYER



Click TV to watch a short YouTube video

THE GAFFER TALKS

An interview with the legendary Paul Fairclough

I was manager here from 1990. I did it for ten years in two spells. I'd just passed my full FA licence and I believed that was going to make me the next Alf Ramsey of my time, but. I believed the professional game was closed.

"I knocked on several hundred doors. So I decided to find a vehicle that could help me achieve what I wanted to achieve. And that was to go through the Football League steps of winning enough games and championships to get into the Football League. So I saw an opportunity. There was a vacancy at Stevenage Borough. I contacted the then chairman Ken Vale and went for an interview in the council chambers in Stevenage and was told in no

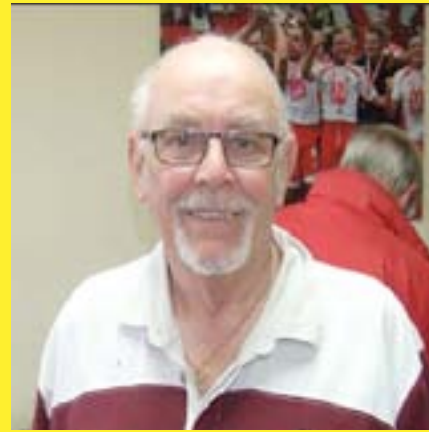
uncertain terms that a promotion was on the agenda, in the first season. And that's where it all started for me. The chairman then, was and still is a great friend of mine. He's a brusque Yorkshire man, very dour, a Sheffield Wednesday supporter, which is obviously the reason he's so dour. He was very keen, having been a previous Mayor of Stevenage he was very keen to keep things bubbling with the town and we were very like-minded, so we jumped into bed and got on with the job. I was very excited about the whole thing. It was a step up from where I'd been at Hertford Town. We'd had a very successful season there. We'd won the [Herts Senior Cup](#). I was confident and in a good mood to attack things."



I was told in no uncertain terms that a promotion was on the agenda. ””



Click TV to watch a short YouTube video



“ The event is a great tribute to not only the players and the managers of the past but also recognition of the dedication and passion of those who formed the club. ”

Martin Gittings

FANS PHOTO GALLERY

This is just a small selection of the photographs taken on Memories Day. To see more visit the

Photo-Gallery

THE MAGIC OF MEMORIES

An interview with the legendary Paul Fairclough

Andy Green is the PA announcer at Stevenage Borough Football Club. He's been associated with the club for over 15 years since he first moved to Welwyn Garden City and noticed, "there was a little club up the road playing some interesting football that was going places."

By day Andy's identity is somewhat more serious. He's Dr. Andrew Green, Research Fellow at the University of Hertfordshire and historian with a specialist interest in oral history, to the lay person that's capturing peoples' memories and preserving them for posterity.

Andy explains why he is so fascinated by this particular type of research: "Memories can be so fleeting. It's like grasping at images through mist. One minute they are there and the next minute they are gone. If we don't record them they are lost forever.

"Football, particularly is memory-rich. It's great to recall games we have watched, games we have played, the highs, even the lows, those great players, the moments of intense drama. There is so much to talk about with regards to Stevenage Borough Football Club. We need to preserve our story."

8 HOURS
16 HISTORIANS
29 OCTOBER 2011



University of
Hertfordshire



Heritage Hub

The **Oral History Day** at Stevenage Football Club is an example of our work in this field. If you are a business or other organisation, the University's Heritage Hub can run a similar event for you. You may have a special occasion coming up in your company and want to record the memories of your staff, colleagues and customers for posterity. The recordings can

be made into several formats including written transcripts and digital sound and picture versions for uploading onto websites. Oral histories are a great way of adding depth to your company's archive as they capture actual memories of people associated with your organisation, recorded verbatim.

We can also advise you on

researching and developing an archive for your company that can be used to preserve its past achievements and provide inspiration for future activities.

For further information please phone us on

01707 285887 or email

eh.heritage@herts.ac.uk

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY

Stevenage Chairman, Phil Wallace, recalls his favourite Boro moments.

Cat Gill writes: "We came back from two goals down to win 3-2. Our final goal being scored two minutes from the end of the match."

Designed by Cate Cox and Mimi Tessier

On the MA in Journalism and Media Communications