

*The Normidian  
Magazine  
Season 2011/2012*



THE  
**REFEREES'  
ASSOCIATION**



*May 2012*

## COUNCIL 2011 - 2012

### **PRESIDENT**

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E-Mail - president@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

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### **VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Vince Yeudall 2, Churston Gardens, New Southgate, London, N11 2NL 020 8245 5695  
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### **SECRETARY**

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E-Mail - secretary@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

### **TREASURER**

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### **SOCIAL SECRETARY**

Position Vacant

### **MAGAZINE EDITOR**

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### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

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**MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS:** Please send to Ken Goldman – by e-mail if possible.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS:** Please notify Gary Cobden

### **HONORARY AUDITORS 2011-2012**

Jim Taylor 020 8560 8262 Tim McGowan 07793 402610

### **LIFE VICE PRESIDENTS**

|               |                |                 |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| George Basten | Peter Dace     | Ken Goldman     |
| Terry Hayne   | Robin Jagot    | Brian Langstone |
| Mick Osborn   | Arthur Stewart | Tony Ward       |

Visit the North Middlesex website at:- [www.northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk](http://www.northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk)

**THE NORMIDIAN** is the Official Publication of North Middlesex referees Society, and is published nine times during the football season, between September and May.

**The next Meeting of the North Middlesex Referees' Society will take place at Holtwhites Sports and Social Club, Kirkland Drive, Enfield, Middlesex at 7.45 pm on Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2012 when there will be a double bill of the AGM and an FA award to Tony Ward for 50 years service, presented by Colin Downey former Referees' Secretary to the FA.**

### **EDITORIAL**

To blow or not to blow that is the question. Whether it is nobler in the mind to guess on being correct or suffer the slings and arrows of verbal and written abuse is something that must be pondered at length. Why all this paraphrasing from Hamlet when he wasn't even a referee? Well there have been several high profile calls on referees recently in the Premier League to make difficult decisions on penalties that have been criticised for their giving and also for their not giving. With so many players willing to go to ground at a feather's touch, or conversely adept at taking a dive, whatever the referee decides is being questioned in such a way as to undermine the officials at quite a rate of knots which in turn percolates down to the lower divisions and eventually to grass roots. Likewise there have also been a number of goal-line decisions got wrong at the top but hopefully that problem will be a thing of the past when goal-line technology is introduced as it will be for the highest levels of the professional game. However that may cause even more problems for officials at grass roots levels without that technology, but with players who watch televised games, seeking to pressurise that balls have or have not crossed the goal-line between the posts.

Mention earlier here of whistling, there was an interesting discussion at the last monthly meeting as to how much whistle to use. Whilst the general consensus that the "less whistling the better" was the best motto to abide by, nonetheless there was little time to discuss whether that meant that there was also less management of the game. Perhaps a further discussion point for the future?

This being the last magazine of the season it behoves me to thank all those who have contributed and especially those serial contributors who have made things easier for me such as Keith Hiller; Observer; Gary Cobden and Charles Lifford. I look forward to them and others contributing for next season as do not forget that this is your magazine and what goes in or does not is dependent on people being willing to send in articles or letters.

Ken Goldman

Editor

## **FROM THE CHAIR 2012**

Another season comes to a close and perhaps a time to reflect on our year as a Society, Unfortunately we have to record the sad loss of Arthur Stewart, a Life Vice President, and of course the sudden loss of our Vice Chairman Vince Yeudall , both people who were stalwarts of this society and will be sorely missed .

On a brighter note we have had an excellent season of speakers. It would not be fair to mention anyone in particular, but they all gave us smashing evenings and I must say that I have enjoyed them all and thank them for their time and effort. Also big thanks to Jeff Till, Michael Mackey and others who made this possible. I still am amazed by the lack of attendance at our meetings and cannot see how newer referees can learn and so progress to higher levels without the collective experience passed on through our meetings.

This season we held a marvellous long service awards presentation dinner for some of our worthy members. This was a really enjoyable evening attended by our members, their families and friends, and friends from the F.A and County Associations. It was a night when I and my fellow councillors were proud to be officers of North Middlesex Referees Society. We have one more award to present this season and this will be at our AGM. The award will be to Tony Ward who, as our other recipients, truly deserves this award and I hope you can all make the effort to attend.

I would like to congratulate our members who have gained promotion and also those who have been awarded cup final appointments. To those who were not successful, please try again. It will be even more rewarding to those who persist and succeed.

Finally a big thank you to the officers of the society for all their hard work in the ever increasing difficult times we now operate in. So don't forget the A.G.M. Have a good summer and good luck for next season.

Tom White

Chairman

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## Are once again pleased to support North Middlesex Referees Society in Season 2011/2012



### **Membership Fees for Season 2012/2013 are now due!**

Apologies for the repetition, but this is a further repeat of my annual message. For those of you who have already renewed your membership, thank you – the Referees Association are issuing membership cards for the ensuing season. For those of you still to renew, your membership subscription for Season 2012/2013 became due on 1 April 2011, and is now overdue. If you have not paid, and you receive your magazine by e-mail, you will have already received another renewal form this way; for everybody else, a further Membership form is included with this month's Normidian.

Regrettably, for the new season it has been necessary to increase Society subscriptions for the first time in eleven seasons – the last occasion being season 2001/2002 when base subscriptions were increased from £9.00 to £10.00. Council has agreed an increase for season 2012/2013 of £1.00, meaning that the base subscription will increase to £11.00. At the same time, there will be an increase in subscriptions for members who receive their magazine by post to £13.50 - the differential will increase to £2.50 to help offset the increased costs of producing and distributing a paper based magazine. Over this same period of time since subscriptions were last increased prices have risen around 38%.

The Referees Association has held its subscription at £16.00 this year, and the Referees Association has now introduced some additional, voluntary benefits – details later.

### **Membership Fees payable are as follows:-**

#### • Full Members

- **£27.00 if your magazine is received by e-mail and £29.50 if your magazine is received by post.** This includes your Referees Association fee of £16.00 including the Insurance Premium of £4.00. If you are over 75, you are not automatically covered by the Insurance Premium, and your fee payable will be reduced by £4.00. However, if you fall into this category and you wish to purchase insurance cover, this can be arranged on request. Please contact me for a proposal form which you need to complete and return to me.

#### • Associate Members

- **£11.00 if your magazine is received by e-mail and £13.50 if your magazine is received by post.** You must pay your Referees Association fee through another Society, and this should be shown on your Membership Form. Alternatively, you may join as an Associate Member if you have other interests in football related work – please indicate as such on the Membership Form.

#### • Junior Members

- **£15.50 if your magazine is received by e-mail and £18.00 if your magazine is received by post.**  
For Members under 18 years of age at 1 April, and it includes your Referees Association fee of £10.00.

Individual fees payable are shown on your personalised Membership Form. You are reminded that you will not be covered by the Referees Association Insurance after 31 May 2012 unless your fees have been paid to the Society by that date. Please complete and return your Membership Form as soon as possible. You need to bear this in mind if you will be refereeing late season or early pre-season games.

Some members also opted to take advantage of the Referees Association Physiotherapy Insurance this season. Where appropriate, this is also indicated on your membership form, but as this is a voluntary subscription, this is not included in the figures quoted above, and you are free to delete this from the remittance shown due if you so desire. If you have not taken advantage of this cover in the past, and now wish to do so, please add the appropriate fee to your remittance and indicate as such on your membership form. If you require more information about this cover, please let me know, and I will let you have the relevant information.

You can also take this opportunity to join or rejoin the Society One Hundred Club – just complete the appropriate part of the membership Form, and include the additional remittance with your membership fee.

It would be appreciated if you could you all check your details shown on the Form, and amend any information that is shown incorrectly. Please also specifically check e-mail addresses shown carefully, as a few that we have on file are occasionally resulting in rejections. Additionally, please check that the NPD Number (Registration Number) where shown is correct, and complete it if it is missing from the Membership Form. The number can be found on your County FA Registration Form. If you are not currently registered with a County FA, please indicate on your form as Not Registered. Please also indicate where requested whether you are an Assessor; Examiner; Instructor; or Mentor.

You may wonder what benefits you get from your membership of North Middlesex. Outlined below are some of the visible – and invisible – benefits of membership:-

#### **Visible Benefits other than Society Meetings.**

1. The Normidian – full of articles, news and information on refereeing and other topical matters.
2. Mentoring of new referees.
3. RA and other kit supplies available at meetings and to order.
4. Society Website - also packed with up-to-date information on the Society.
5. Monthly 100 club draw; Christmas social; and other social events.
6. RA Conference.
7. RA Website.

#### **Invisible Benefits - behind the scenes and available if needed.**

1. Representation on the MCFA Council; the MCFA Referees' Committee.
2. Representation to the RAE through the AFA Referees' Association.
3. Advice, support and representation if assaulted, charged or suspended.
4. RAE Personal insurance when officiating or attending refereeing business.
5. RAE Representation on the FA Council.
6. RAE Representation on the FA Referees' Committee.
7. RAE representation to the FA Refereeing Department.
8. RAE Service awards

**Gary Cobden**  
**Honorary Treasurer**



#### **Presidents Message**

In my first season as President I have been fortunate to oversee a Presentation Dinner back in October when several of our members were presented with Long Service awards from both the Football Association and the Referees Association, with the final award to be presented after our forthcoming Annual General Meeting. Unfortunately, during the course of the season we also saw the passing of two of the stalwarts of this Society:- Arthur Stewart who was one of our founder members, and Vince Yeudall who was our current Vice Chairman. Both colleagues will be sorely missed.

I would like to also take this opportunity to thank all my colleagues on Council for their support in ensuring that this Society continues to be successful; to members and colleagues – if you have been successful in promotion or achieving your goals for the season, then well done; if you have been unsuccessful, then try again next year, and if any of us on Council can help you, please ask.

I hope you all have a good break in the summer, and look forward to welcoming you back to Holtwhites for the first meeting of the new season on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

Gary Cobden



### **Plum Appointment**

Spartan and South Midlands Football League – Anagram Records Trophy Semi-Final  
Milton Keynes Wanderers v Baldock Town Referee Martin de la Fuente



## **HENRY TILLY LTD**

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### **North Middlesex Referees Society for Season 2011/2012**

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### **Change of Headgear for Society Member Don!!**

Society member Don Stewart visited Los Angeles recently with other members of his family, including his famous brother Rod. Pictured early in their visit, Don is seen with Rod sporting his usual tartan headgear. However, it seemed that Rod was none too happy with his brothers choice of hat, as he was also pictured later sporting a smart new trilby chosen by his brother!



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# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of North Middlesex Referees Society will be held on Thursday, 17th May 2012 commencing at 7.30 pm at Holtwhites Sports and Social Club, Kirkland Drive, off Holtwhites Hill, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 0RU

## Agenda

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To CONFIRM the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.
3. To CONSIDER any matters arising therefrom.
4. To RECEIVE a report from the Secretary.
5. To RECEIVE a report from the Treasurer together with the audited accounts.
6. To RECEIVE a report from the Honorary Auditors.
7. To RECEIVE any reports from the Council and Officers.
8. To CONSIDER any change to the Society Rules.
9. To ELECT Officers and Council for the ensuing year.

The following people have been duly nominated and seconded:-

|                 |                     |                   |                |               |             |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| Chairman        | Tom White           | Vice Chairman     | Ken Goldman    | Secretary     | Robin Jagot |
| Treasurer       | Gary Cobden         | Editor            | Ken Goldman    | Gear Supplies | Percy Brown |
| RA Delegate     | Tom White           | Training Delegate | Michael Mackey |               |             |
| Council Members | Martin de la Fuente |                   | Terry Wilson   | James Morris  |             |
| Vice President  | Stan Rosenthal      |                   |                |               |             |

10. To ELECT Honorary Auditors who are currently Messrs. Tim McGowan and Jim Taylor
11. To CONSIDER the following motion –  
That this Annual General Meeting places on record its thanks to the Officers and Council for their work during the past year, and express appreciation of the conduct of the affairs of the Society.
12. Any Other Business

## Robin Jagot

Honorary Secretary  
24 Tiverton Road  
Potters Bar  
Hertfordshire  
EN6 5HY



## North Middlesex Referees Society - One Hundred Club - Season 2011/2012

Draws for March and April were made at the last Society meeting. There are currently 49 shares subscribed for the season, meaning a monthly payout of £34.30. Cheques for the winners are enclosed with this month's magazine; if you receive your magazine by e-mail, your cheques will be posted to you.

### March

1st 33 Robin Jagot £19.60 2nd 23 Terry Hayne £9.80 3rd 43 Arthur Pearce £4.90

### April

1st 28 Peter Peters £19.60 2nd 9 Dave Chapman £9.80 3rd 2 Gary Cobden £4.90

If you have already rejoined the Society and would like to join the 100 Club for Season 2012/2013, please complete and forward the form below. If you have not yet renewed your membership, and would like to join the 100 Club, you can do so by indicating on your membership form.

### NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY 100 CLUB

I wish to purchase.....share(s) in the NMRS 100 Club at £12.00 per share per season.

Please find enclosed my cheque/postal order for £...00 to cover the subscription for 12 months.

Name..... Signature.....

Society Use - Numbers Allocated.....

**Gary Cobden**  
Honorary Treasurer



**NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY**  
**Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31 March 2012**

| <u>2011</u>                | <u>INCOME</u>   | <u>2012</u>     |                 |          |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| 1,062.00                   | By Subscriptions (89 Full Members; 7 Associate Members) | 1,016.00        | -4.33% Worse    | (46.00)  |
| 6.29                       | .. Bank Deposit Interest                                | 6.40            | 1.75% Better    | 0.11     |
| 75.27                      | .. Donations  | 103.00          | 36.84% Better   | 27.73    |
| 99.00                      | .. Raffle Proceeds                                      | 77.00           | -22.22% Worse   | (22.00)  |
| 170.00                     | .. Advertisements                                       | 270.00          | 58.82% Better   | 100.00   |
| 233.00                     | .. Social Events  | 348.68          | 49.65% Better   | 115.68   |
| 134.80                     | .. 100 Club   | 138.60          | 2.82% Better    | 3.80     |
| 245.15                     | .. Gear Sales Surplus                                   | 45.56           | -81.42% Worse   | (199.59) |
| 31.77                      | .. 50th Anniversary Book                                | 25.00           | -21.31% Worse   | (6.77)   |
| 34.17                      | .. Miscellaneous Income                                 | 18.59           | -45.60% Worse   | (15.58)  |
| <u>2,091.45</u>            |   | <u>2,048.83</u> | -2.04% Worse    | (42.62)  |
| <b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>  |   |                 |                 |          |
| 591.21                     | To Normidian Expenses (including Postage)               | 638.43          | 7.99% Worse     | 47.22    |
| 36.99                      | .. Postage/Telephones/Stationery/Misc                   | 29.44           | -20.41% Better  | (7.55)   |
| 360.00                     | .. Hire of Meeting Halls                                | 360.00          | 0.00% No Change | 0.00     |
| 150.00                     | .. Guest Speaker Expenses (inc NMRS Books)              | 113.00          | -24.67% Better  | (37.00)  |
| 0.00                       | .. RA Conference Delegate                               | 92.15           | 100.00% Worse   | 92.15    |
| 227.00                     | .. Life Vice Presidents                                 | 232.00          | 2.20% Worse     | 5.00     |
| 90.60                      | .. Miscellaneous Expenditure                            | 147.42          | 62.72% Worse    | 56.82    |
| 70.27                      | .. Presentation Expenses                                | 0.00            | -100.00% Better | (70.27)  |
| <u>1,526.07</u>            |   | <u>1,612.44</u> | 5.66% Worse     | 86.37    |
| 565.38                     | <b>GROSS EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</b>          | 436.39          | 22.81% Better   | (128.99) |
| <b><u>DEPRECIATION</u></b> |   |                 |                 |          |
| 55.18                      | Internet Domain Name                                    | 52.60           | -4.68% Better   | (2.58)   |
| 0.00                       | Sage Accounting Software                                | 62.40           | 100.00% Worse   | 62.40    |
| 70.00                      | Gear Stocks (Note 1)                                    | 68.00           | -2.86% Better   | (2.00)   |
| 174.93                     | 50th Anniversary Books (Note 2)                         | 114.00          | -34.83% Better  | (60.93)  |
| <b><u>PROVISIONS</u></b>   |   |                 |                 |          |
| (21.53)                    | Provision for Corporation Tax (Note 3)                  | (27.91)         | 29.65% Better   | 6.38     |
| 200.00                     | Provision for Presentation Evening (Note 4)             | 50.00           | -75.00% Better  | (150.00) |
| 86.80                      | <b>EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</b>                | 117.30          | 35.14% Better   | 30.50    |
| <u>86.80</u>               |   | <u>117.30</u>   |                 |          |

Note 1:- To write down the value of shirts and shorts not necessarily saleable. (2011 - Same).

Note 2:- To write down the value of Anniversary Books not necessarily saleable. (2011 - Same).

Note 3:- The Provision charge is an adjustment to the existing provision. (2011 - same).

Note 4:- To allocate funds to cover costs associated with May 2012 Presentation Evening. (2011 - October 2011 Presentation Evening).

Prepared By  
G. J. Cobden ACIB  
Hon. Treasurer  
07 April 2012

Audited and Found Correct  
T. McGowan  
FJ Taylor  
Hon. Auditors

**NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2012**

| <u>2011</u>  | <u>LIABILITIES</u>                              | <u>2012</u>      |
|--|---|------------------|
| <b><u>GENERAL FUND</u></b>   |   |                  |
| 10,948.91  | Balance as at 1 April 2011                      | 11,035.71        |
| 86.80  | SURPLUS for Year                                | 117.30           |
| 300.78   | Provision for Corporation Tax (See Note 1)      | 272.87           |
| 200.00   | Provision for Presentation Evening (See Note 2) | 50.00            |
| <u>11,536.49</u>   |   | <u>11,475.88</u> |
| 3,170.88   | <b>BENEVOLENT FUND</b>                          | 3,119.88         |
| <u>14,707.37</u>   |   | <u>14,595.76</u> |
| Represented By:  |   |                  |
| <b><u>INTANGIBLE ASSETS (At Cost, Less depreciation over life)</u></b> |   |                  |
| 9.82   | Internet Domain and Webspace                    | 61.10            |
| <b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>   |   |                  |
| <b><u>BANK:-</u></b>   |   |                  |
| 924.09   | Current Account                                 | 401.23           |
| 3,127.92   | High Interest Account                           | 3,078.46         |
| 9,611.90   | Bonus Saver Account (See Note 3)                | 9,916.76         |
| 156.60   | PayPal Account                                  | 68.03            |
| 382.87   | Cash/Cheques in Hand                            | 895.00           |
| <u>14,203.38</u>   |   | <u>14,359.48</u> |
| <b><u>STOCKS</u></b>   |   |                  |
| 966.66   | Gear  | 870.48           |
| 595.00   | NMRS Book                                       | 456.00           |
| 6.58   | Magazine  | 18.57            |
| 0.00   | Social  | 10.29            |
| <u>1,568.24</u>  |   | <u>1,355.34</u>  |
| 93.93  | Payments in Advance (See Note 4)                | 93.54            |
| 0.00   | Debtors (Gear See Note 5)                       | 15.60            |
| <u>93.93</u>   |   | <u>109.14</u>    |
|  |   | 15,823.96        |
| <b><u>Deduct CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>                               |   |                  |
| 716.00   | Subscriptions in Advance                        | 802.00           |
| 452.00   | Accruals and Other Creditors (See Note 6)       | 487.30           |
| <u>1,168.00</u>  |   | <u>1,289.30</u>  |
| <u>14,707.37</u>   |   | <u>14,534.66</u> |
|  |   | <u>14,595.76</u> |

Note 1:- The Provision charge includes an adjustment to the pre-existing provision. (2011 - same).

Note 2:- To allocate funds to cover costs associated with May 2012 Presentation Evening.

(2011 - October 2011 Presentation Evening).

Note 3:- The Balance for the Bonus Saver Account includes £3,119.88 relating to the Benevolent Fund.

(2011 - £3,170.88).

Note 4:- Payments in Advance represent accruals for Normidian Postage and Hall Hire. (2011 - same).

Note 5:- Debtors relate to monies due from Gear Sales (2011 - None).

Note 6:- Accruals and Other Creditors relate to 100 Club prepayments plus monies due for March 2012 draw, and Advance Donations received. (2011 - 100 Club prepayments and Advance Donations received.)

Prepared By  
G. J. Cobden ACIB  
Hon. Treasurer  
07 April 2012

Audited and Found Correct  
T. McGowan  
FJ Taylor  
Hon. Auditors

## **Treasurers Report for Season 2011/2012**

On the previous page you will have seen the Society Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2012. I am pleased to report that this season the Society has again returned a surplus but, as last year, this is only due to the support of a few members – mainly members of Council and their friends and family – who attended the Quiz evening organised by the Society at the end of March. Without the income from this event, the Society would have reported a small profit of £90 which would then have been eliminated by Depreciation charges and adjustments to existing Provisions.

As has been previously reported to members, we have found it necessary to increase subscriptions for the coming season by £1.00 for those members who receive their magazine by e-mail and by £1.50 for those who receive their magazine by post. Magazine costs have increased this year, due to the fact that we produced nine issues again as to eight in the previous season. The printed magazine costs approximately £1.60 per issue per member per month inclusive of postage, and this means that those members receiving an electronic magazine are subsidising those members who receive a printed magazine. Your Council therefore agreed that the differential should be increased so the costs of the printed magazine are virtually covered by the fees of those receiving it. However, we were not anticipating such a large increase in postage costs from £0.36 to £0.50, and Council is now exploring other options in order to keep the costs of the printed magazines down.

Other expenditure items that deserve comment are Miscellaneous Expenditure - there was an increase of £50.00. Included in this figure are a donation in memory of Vince Yeudall; Christmas Social expenses; Memorial Shield engraving (for Vince Yeudall and Arthur Stewart); and a new bar for the Presidents Chain of Office. In 2010/2011 there were only Donations and Christmas Social expenses. There were no Presentation Expenses this season - the Presentation Dinner held in October was run on a non profit basis, and the small profit made on the evening of just over £60.00 has been donated to the Royal London Hospital Kidney Patients Association, your President's chosen charity. Also this season, we incurred expenses in relation to our delegate attending the Referees Association Conference. It should also be recorded that most of the Officers and Council make no claims on the society for out of pocket expenses incurred during the season.

On the income side, I have already mentioned the income from the Quiz evening; however, Subscription income is down, as we have five fewer members this season. We have been fortunate enough to attract an additional advertiser during the course of the season but this additional income cannot be guaranteed in the current economic climate. Gear Sales income reduced this season due to much reduced sales compared to the previous season.

This season we have again written down the value of the 50th Anniversary Books that we hold in stock. These books are now recorded at £4.00 each (as opposed to an original cost price of £6.47) and we still have a stock of 114 books. We hope to further reduce the value of these books in future seasons. We have also taken the opportunity to write down further the value of the coloured shirts and black shorts that were purchased many years ago; we now hold 68, and the book value of these has been written down by a further £1.00 and they are now valued at £2.00 each. The shorts are being used as occasional raffle prizes; however, it is likely that the shirts will be unsalable. Additional write downs relate to the Internet Domain Name and webspace (the purchase of which is renewable every two years) and the purchase of new Accounting Software.

We have a small Presentation evening scheduled to follow the Annual General Meeting in May 2012 when we will be presenting Tony Ward with his FA 50 Year Service award, and have therefore made a small provision to offset any costs that may be incurred in connection with the evening; and our Provision for Corporation Tax on interest has been reduced due to falling interest rates.

You will note from the Balance Sheet that the Benevolent Fund balance has reduced this year; two donations were made during the season totalling £51.00. Overall, the Society is in a very healthy financial position, with available cash balances, excluding the Benevolent Fund, of £11,200.

Should you have any questions on the accounts, or any other financial matter connected with the Society, please contact me in advance, or raise a question at the Annual General Meeting on 17 May.

At the time of writing, the accounts are currently with our Auditors, whose report will be available at the Annual General Meeting.

**Gary Cobden**  
**Honorary Treasurer**



## NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY

### Annual General Meeting of NMRS held at The Holtwhites Sports Centre Enfield on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2011

**Apologies:** Roger Fox, Stan Rosenthal, Mick Osborn, Peter Bailey, Charles Lifford, Vince Yeudall and John Metselaar. The Chairman welcomed Lauentiu Hantea who had recently completed his referee training to the meeting and hoped this will be the first of many. A presentation then took place by our President Terry Wilson to Life Vice President Peter Dace of a tankard inscribed suitably with the words of officiating in 3000 matches from October 1972 – March 2010. Peter thanked the members present which had come as a complete surprise to him.

**Minutes of previous AGM** meeting: These were signed as a true record.

**Matters arising:** There were no matters arising.

**Secretary's Report:** Secretary informed the meeting that over the last season there had been an increase in attendances, most notably the April meeting with the visit of former World Cup Referee Jack Taylor. An excellent attendance was present at Mick Osborn's MSA evening in December. One hopes it will continue for the future. The Secretary took the opportunity to thank the officers and members who had helped to keep the Society on a firm foundation. Membership had fallen but this is a trend with all Societies nationwide. It is interesting to note that the total RA membership now stands at just over 10,000 members, and since the formation of the RAE the RA have lost over 7,000 members and several well known Societies.

**Treasurer's Report:** The annual accounts were presented to the meeting and an overall loss over the year was £81.74. The loss was considered minimal considering that no functions had taken place to help boost the funds. It may be appropriate to consider next season to hold fund raising events which Council will discuss at their next meeting. The Chairman congratulated our Treasurer once again for an excellent set of accounts, which was endorsed by members. Our Auditors, Jim Taylor and Tim McGowan had duly checked the accounts and stated how healthy and accurate the Society Accounts were. Finally, the Treasurer asked the members to ratify the Society subscriptions for next season. This was endorsed by the members present that there shall be no increase in subscription charges for next season.

**Editor's Report:** The Editor wished to place on record his thanks to all those who had contributed and sent articles for the magazine over the season. Particular thanks to Peter Dace, Mick Osborn and one of our anonymous members whose articles were very much appreciated over the season. The Chairman thanked Ken for all his hard work over the season.

**Election of Chairman:** The election of Chairman duly took place and President Terry Wilson asked for nominations. Tom White was once again elected as Chairman for season 2010/2011.

**Election of Officers:** The following Officers were elected 'en bloc'. Proposed – John Nobleman, seconded Paul Keown.

The following Officers were duly elected: Vice Chairman Vince Yeudall. Secretary Robin Jagot. Treasurer Gary Cobden. Editor Ken Goldman. Training Officer Stan Rosenthal. Gears Supplies Percy Brown. RA Delegate Charles Lifford.

**Election of Council Members:** Michael Mackey Junior; Martin De La Fuente; and James Morris were duly elected.

**Election of Auditors:** Tim McGowan and Jim Taylor were duly elected.

Graham Weaver proposed a vote of thanks to the Officers and Council members for the past year's work.

**Any Other Business:** The Secretary informed the meeting that certain members can apply to receive the Football Association 50 year Award and also the Referees Association 50 years and 20 years Award. Applications by the Secretary will be put forward to both Associations in the very near future.

The Chairman reported the sad loss of one of our former members Ray Holmes due to a recent tragic works accident. It was reported also that Terry Flack's wife Sue had been suffering from ill health. Peter Dace informed the meeting that Paul Taylor has now retired from the Football League and would contact him in the near future. The meeting was

informed that a new Referee Development Manager had taken over at MCFA and one of his first tasks is to visit all the local Societies including North Middlesex.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10 pm which was followed by a General Knowledge Quiz presented by the Secretary.

Chairman: .....

@@

**OFF THE POST**

Dear Gary:

I write to thank you for the invaluable help I received from NMRA member Mr Bart O'Toole last night at a MCFA commission.

As a referee I was accused of being a racist and a xenophobic person by a football team.

I feel that I was lucky that I had a high-quality representative in Bart who was extremely knowledgeable in regard to FA procedures.

Bart also presented my case in a very orderly and structured manner and managed to help me convey my feelings in a clear and objective way.

I have always been a member of the RA and I am so grateful that my innocence was found with the extensive help of Bart.

**I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Robin Jagot from NMRS who has also been of great assistance to me in this matter. I asked him some very searching questions and he took these queries away and came back to me at a later date with answers.**

I am so grateful that both of these gentleman have been able to help me with this matter and I can now referee again happily.

Thanks,  
Steve WILDGOOSE  
(NMRA/MCFA Referee)

# *The Adventures of Willy 'The Whistler' Woodwork*

## *Part 18 – Push and pull*

**Match:** Cockfosters Casuals –v- Reds Rovers  
**Venue:** Hackney Marsh – Pitch 165  
**League:** Division Three – Sunday Park League (North)

*Welcome back and here we are in the 72<sup>nd</sup> minute when the Rovers forward has beaten the offside trap played so well by Cockfosters Casuals and is running alongside the Casuals defender. Just as it seemed the defender was winning the race to the ball he collides with my assistant and they both fall to the ground. The forward now with the ball at his feet continues his run towards the Casuals goal. With only the goal keeper to beat he goes around him to score a goal.*

*I blew my whistle as there was no problem with the goal but the Casuals players were far from happy. Some of their players had tended to the injured player who by now had fully recovered and most of the other players were so far from the ball that they never even made any attempt to run back but just stood and witnessed the event. I explained what happened was an accident and that the officials are deemed to be part of the field of play so no offence had been committed. Had the player or even the assistant suffered a head injury I would have stopped play instantly but this was not the case. My decision was not accepted and we eventually kicked off but only after two Casuals players were cautioned for dissent.*

*Rovers continued playing good passing football and another high long ball landed at the feet of the Rovers forward. Two Casuals defenders were chasing the forward and feeling they will not catch him, the trailing defender dived forward and pushed his team mate in the back. The push caused the defender to fall forward which resulted in the defender then colliding with the forward in front who by now was in the penalty area and only the goal keeper to beat. I blew my whistle and thought why does this only happen to me! As if I was on 'automatic pilot' I pointed to the penalty spot. Instinctively that felt right but then being surrounded by players I then had my doubts. Obviously Rovers wanted a penalty but Casuals argued the player who made contact had been pushed and how could I award a penalty for an accident. It could have made for an interesting debate but I had to make a decision and a quick one too.*

*I had already awarded a penalty as contact was made on the forward but what was I to do with the two Casuals defenders. With only the goal keeper to beat this was clearly an obvious goal scoring opportunity but the defender who made contact with the forward was pushed by his own team mate and the contact through no fault of his own was just careless and totally accidental. On that basis I did not even caution the player. But I did produce a yellow card for the defender who had pushed his team mate for unsporting behaviour. Rovers then quoted me about denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity which has to be a red card offence and I agreed with them. I explained every incident is different and this incident*

*was certainly that! Do you agree with my decisions.....would you have done the same as me?*

*Rovers scored from the penalty and we continued with the game. On the very next Rovers attack a Casuals player shouted "Referee, quick head wound". I saw a player on the floor motionless and immediately blew my whistle and summoned for the manager to enter the field of play with the first aid kit. I have often wondered what is the purpose of the first aid kit as they are often years old plus unless they are a qualified first aider would they really know what to do but back to the action.....As if by a miracle the 'motionless' player was now back on his feet, "It's alright ref, I took a blow to the head but I'm okay now". Because I had stopped play I insisted the player leave the field of play. The 'injured' player said "Surely I only have to leave the pitch if I actually receive treatment?" I insisted he leave and told him only to re enter on my signal. Again on the next Rovers attack I heard the same shout of a player having a head injury. On both occasions I did not see any these 'head' injuries. But I thought about it and it all now made perfect sense. I had previously told the players that I would immediately stop play for a head injury and Casuals were using this to their advantage each time their opponents attacked their goal. This was of course unacceptable and I duly went over to the player on the ground and showed him a yellow card. By another miracle he suddenly jumped to his feet. I then told the player if he wanted treatment he would have to leave the field of play. By now the manager was beside me and I told him he was to be reported for entering the field of play without my permission. The manager told me I had 'missed' both incidents but strangely after that there were no more 'head' injuries for the rest of the match.*

*What an education you have had by reading this....you now know that a player is not always sent off if they are found to deny an obvious goal scoring opportunity. But there again would you have awarded the same decision and shown the same cards?*

*Would you have stopped play if a player collided with your assistant?*

*Seventy five minutes played and who knows what could happen next.....*

*Keep on your toes,*

*Regards*

*Willy Woodwork*

*Willy 'The Whistler' Woodwork*

## WHERE DID I GO WRONG?

I changed with the players, nothing unusual in junior football, but as a referee I do prefer to have separate changing facilities. I looked around me trying to sum them up. I like to do this as sometimes you can tell by their attitude what sort of game you are going to have.

This bunch looked an aggressive, uncompromising lot, jovial but rowdy. No one spoke to me. I might just have not been there.

The time came for the kick-off; we were out there on time for a change. I looked for someone I might persuade to run the line for me. In this league they do not get fined for not providing a linesman.

The manager of the home side approached me, a middle-aged man. "I'll run the line for you, ref!" I mumbled my thanks and started to give him my instructions, but before I could open my mouth, "Yes, I know when you take no notice of my signals I will put the flag down", he said unsmiling.

I was taken aback by this remark, but hastened to explain that I would acknowledge all his signals should I wish to let play go on, either because I considered the player was not interfering with play or I wanted to play the advantage.

The game commenced and a stiff cold breeze swept down the pitch. The away side scored and the home side soon equalised. The game was running quite smoothly and I began to think my pre-match fears were unwarranted.

Then it happened! For once I was in the correct position, in line with the last one of the home defenders and on the right diagonal facing the home club linesman. The ball was in the possession of the away side's attackers and about mid-way into the home side's half.

### OFFSIDE

Two of the away team attackers, however, were standing in an offside position. Up went the linesman's flag but as yet the ball had not been played. I put up my hand and acknowledged the linesman's signal. "Wait a minute, wait until the ball is played", I said quietly, knowing full well that the linesman could not hear me.

Then before the ball could be played the tackle came and the ball was played back to the halfway line. Now, in no way were the two attackers interfering with play, but the flag stayed up. The defence screamed for offside, the two attackers seeing their position ran back so they were now on side.

At that moment the ball was played over the home defence, one of the attackers ran forward, met the ball with his head and the ball was in the back of the net.

I awarded a goal and ran towards the centre, leaving angry voices behind me complaining that the goal was offside. The captain of the home team tried valiantly to rally his side: "It was not offside because the referee didn't give it", he cried. "Ha, Ha!" a hollow laugh rang out from one of the defenders, which one I couldn't tell.

The game continued and soon thankfully it was half time.

The home side trooped off, still grumbling amongst themselves about the offside goal the referee had allowed. Their manager followed after them and as he passed me I said, "I'm sorry but you put your flag up before the ball was played".

"Yes, I know", he replied. "The ball was played back; that's alright, don't worry about it". He walked away and I heard him trying to convince his side that I was right.

## ARSENIC

He did not appear to be having much success. "Want a piece of orange, Ref?" One of the home side players ran across to me with a piece in his hand. "It's got arsenic in it", said another. I forced a smile trying to show that I considered the remark as a joke, but putting to memory the face of the player responsible for the remark.

The second half started and it was at this stage that I discovered that there were about twelve referees on the pitch. It did not matter what decision I made, someone thought it was wrong.

It was never the same player and they were careful that they did not go too far so that it could be construed as dissent. The game continued and the home team were building up an attack. I was well up with play and the winger had the ball.

From several directions came shouts from his teammates insisting that he should pass the ball to them.

He hesitated, appearing bewildered. "Give the ball to the Ref, he's done nothing all afternoon", came a voice from behind me. I swung round annoyed, to be met by a wall of blank faces.

## SUSPICIONS

I had my suspicions it was that centre forward, but I was not sure. I marked his card in my mind; 'The next time you step out of line mate', I thought. He never did, but you certainly need a sense of humour in this game.

The game continued and I began to wish that either the home side would equalise or the away side would score again to put the result beyond doubt.

I hate results of games ending on controversial decisions, although I felt my decision was right at the time.

I quickly dismissed this from my mind, realising that whatever happened now would not make any difference. As far as the home side were concerned I had made a wrong one.

How long to go? I looked at my watch, wishing the time away hoping that nothing else controversial would happen. It did not and I blew the whistle for time.

There were no further remarks from the home side as I changed afterwards, much to my surprise. A couple of players came up to me and shook hands. "Good game Ref", they said. At least I have some fans I thought. Though needless to say, they were from the winning side. I shuddered to think what marks the home side would give me.

It only went to show how one controversial decision can affect a whole game. If I had booked someone for dissent at the beginning of the game, would it have made that much difference?

PLEASE, SOMEONE! WHERE DID I GO WRONG?

## **IN THE BEGINNING.....**

***The following are general tips and advice to assist newly qualified referees for their first few matches.***

***Here we look at preparation in the week prior to your week end match.***

**Availability** Ensure that you keep a diary of the dates that you have given to the league that you are refereeing on. We all know in advance if we are going on holiday or have work, university or school exams or other commitments. The same for birthdays, parties, weddings, anniversaries and so on. The Referees Secretary of your local league will attempt to plan ahead maybe for the forthcoming month and appoint you on matches. Trust me he has a thankless task. Often not helped if you only realise on the Thursday night before the Sunday that you are going to a party and the date was not closed.

**Closed Dates** Inform your leagues and relevant county Football Association if you are not available for any dates as soon as possible.

**Hand book** Your local league will send you a hand book which will give you the details of all the teams in the league plus where they play, club colours and contact details. Competition rules normally ask the home team to contact you by for example the Tuesday prior to your week end match. They should inform you of the venue and how to find it plus the time of kick-off. The hand book gives you the opportunity to plan ahead in advance for your journey and check that both teams do not play in the same colour kit. Enquire if the match is a league or cup fixture and make sure you check the rules for extra time and penalty shoot-outs. How many substitutes can be used? The hand book from the league will give you the answers.

**The Journey** Don't wait until the day to plan your journey. Find out exactly where the venue is and what buses, trains or underground are close. Check if there are any underground lines suspended on the match day. If you are driving are there any road works planned? Always useful to have an A-Z of London with you regardless of your method of transport. Make sure you know exactly where you are going!

**The kit** Pack your bag mid week for the week end fixture. That may sound ridiculous but to wait until the morning of the match to find the socks have not been washed from last week and the boots are still muddy.....not a good idea. Carry five or six pencils with you, spare whistles and spare boot laces. Nothing worse in the changing room prior to the match and the lace snaps as they are being tied in your hand.

**History** Always good to know the history of the teams. How are they doing in the league? Is the match a top of the table clash or two teams at the bottom?

**Arrival** Give yourself enough time to allow for any possible delays to your journey. Better to arrive an hour early than late. If you are very early always good to read the hand book or even better to read the laws of the game which you should always have in your kit bag.

Please note these are only suggestions but better to **BE PREPARED and PLAN AHEAD.** Next time we will look at the pre match checks.

Enjoy your next match!

***Keith Hiller***

**FA Licensed Level Two Tutor**

## COMING YOUR WAY - SOON! By Stan Lover

### The answer to every referee's prayer - how to diagnose pain levels of injured players – with PainPal.

Medical scientists are working on a simple device to locate and measure degrees of pain in unconscious accident victims, or patients deprived of speech.

Sports medicine experts are studying it as an aid for medics in charge of athletes and players subject to injuries.

For soccer referees such a device could be of huge benefit when faced with the scenario of a player writhing on the field, eyes shut tight, and screaming. He's clutching a leg, an arm, his head, any other body part causing pain.

Referees are not all qualified doctors so cannot be sure what to do. Usually, it's down to visual assessment and rudimentary knowledge of first aid treatment – a sponge here, a stretcher there, etc.

But, is he really in pain – where, and to what intensity? Or is he cheating - trying to con the referee to call a foul, or show a card?

Some players are born actors, able to produce death-bed scenes at the slightest real, or imagined, touch. It's not easy to get it right every time. With threats of legal actions, if they get the diagnosis wrong, referees tend to play safe by stopping play and calling for medical help.

The new device could change all that. For the moment no official name has been chosen. We'll call it **PainPal**.

It will be pocket-size and look something like this ear-applied body thermometer.



### HOW WILL IT WORK?

Without getting too technical, a micro-processor will scan the body's nerve centres. Basics of blood pressure, pulse rate, respiration and skin conductivity, will be instantly measured and compared to certain parameters.

For general applications an **SS** model will locate the **Source** and measure the **Severity** of pain. For sports, and especially soccer, an **SSS** model will diagnose the pain's **Source, Severity, and Sincerity**.

The **SSS** model will function similar to a lie-detector, adding a truth factor to guide referees.

### **Imagine the possibilities;**

- Application – quick insertion into the subject's ear.
- **SOURCE** of injury displayed on-screen against a body diagram
- Varying degrees of **SEVERITY** checked instantly against special parameters on a chart.
- The chart - displaying coloured lights, or graphics - will guide referees to action required eg, allow time for the player to recover; instruct the medics to enter field for quick treatment; call for a stretcher or, at serious injuries, call an ambulance.
- Degree of truth - **SINCERITY** - guides referee to decide a restart with a drop-ball; free-kick; yellow card; red card.

### **ADVANTAGES**

- No guesswork of player injury level.
- Saves time dealing with low level or faked pain
- Immediate guide to decisions, from zero to dismissal
- Eliminates simulation
- Helps coaches decide substitutions
- Referees sleep better.

### **FUTURE DEVELOPMENT**

- Charts and diagrams will personalize each player's psychological reaction to pain (some feel a tap on a leg as a shattered limb; others can withstand crunching tackles without blinking an eye)
- At a possible injury the referee punches player's ID into **PainPal**, before inserting the device into an ear
- Comparison with basic parameters adjusts advice to the referee
- Provide a printout to support referees actions at disciplinary inquiries.

A final report on this project is timed for release at midnight 31 March 2012.

**YOU READ IT HERE FIRST.**

**WATCH THIS SPACE!**

## Last Month's Speaker

Our guest last month was former professional footballer and PFA Chairman Nick Cusack who now works for the PFA in an executive capacity. In addition he is one of the match delegates at Premier league games who gives a football perspective on the performance of the referee in those matches and works closely with the referee's assessor on the day. He explained that in a 15 year playing career he did not always see eye to eye with referees but that since ceasing to be actively involved with either playing or managing he had seen a different side to officiating especially in his current activity. He then explained what he was required to do as well as look at in his side of the referee assessment. This included attending the after-match debrief and considering how the referee had fared on general and especially major decisions; how was his man-management; and then writing a written report to the referee after watching a video of the game. He also had to speak to the managers themselves. He noted that there was an internal league table of referees and the top ones usually got the big games and often there was a slight problem in seeing too many of the same referees. However they did try and send him to see most of the referees in a season. He had now watched over 100 Premiership matches and thoroughly enjoyed what he was doing...He felt that his job was specifically to look and see how the referee had handled or managed things but this was a different perspective to the referee delegate or assessor in that they of course are mainly concerned with the Laws and how they were interpreted. He felt that it was a job shared on an excellent and progressive basis.

On his job with the PFA Nick indicated that it was his responsibility to go to clubs and talk to the young lads about their futures but often they did not listen. The PFA offers a phone number for contacting them if the players do not make the grade or get injured then giving them the chance to take coaching or other courses which could include professional qualifications or many other things.

Finally Nick gave a great insight into his playing career, how it started and mirrored what he had said earlier but in more detail as to his association during the match with officials. He stated that when he played he was not concerned with or even thought about them as he thought that they were part and parcel of the game. Players tended to be more concerned about the crowd, press reports, playing well to get or keep their contracts. However he thought things had changed now and that players tried to dominate referees.

It was another outstanding evening and the Vote of Thanks was given by Tony Ward.



To  
ABS & CRA Secretaries, Life Members, & Board of Management

April 18 2012

Dear Colleagues

The votes cast for each of the candidates were as follows:-

| Name of candidate          | ABS of which the candidate is a full member | Number of votes |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------|
| <b>Mary Byrne</b>          | <b>South Middlesex</b>                      | <b>1546</b>     |
| <b>Paul Field</b>          | <b>Bromsgrove</b>                           | <b>3546</b>     |
| <b>Ken Leach</b>           | <b>Bicester</b>                             | <b>1172</b>     |
| <b>Bart O' Toole</b>       | <b>AFA/Lonsar</b>                           | <b>4563</b>     |
| <b>Arthur Smith</b>        | <b>Bromsgrove</b>                           | <b>4522</b>     |
| <b>John Wilson</b>         | <b>Driffield &amp; Bridlington</b>          | <b>1778</b>     |
| TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTES CAST |   | <b>17127</b>    |

The election process was carried out in accordance with the rules of the Association and the votes cast were counted on 18 April 2012 by RA Board members Colin Harris and John Starkey.

I am pleased to announce that **Bart O'Toole, Arthur Smith and Paul Field** have been elected to serve on the Board of Management for a period of 3 years and will take office on 14 July 2012.

Yours sincerely

*Colin Harris*

Colin Harris  
Acting Chairman

## INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SOCIETY

**The Referees' Association (RA)** is the national body for Referees. The RA is independent of, but works closely with, County Football Associations to ensure that matters affecting referees are discussed and resolved. These include law changes, current interpretation, assaults and other problems affecting referees nationally.

**North Middlesex Referees Society (NMRS)** Is one of some 350 local Referees' societies that are spread all over the country; some are referred to as Societies, others as Branches, Associations, or Clubs. They often work closely with local leagues to aid recruitment, and to ensure that any parochial problems are resolved to the satisfaction of all parties. NMRS meets on a monthly basis throughout the season; Guest Speakers are invited; training sessions are held; social events arranged; and local problems - including Match Incidents - are discussed.

**So what is the link between the Society and the National Body?** All Societies must be a member of a County Referees Association (CRA). North Middlesex, together with the AFA and London Society of Association Referees, form a County Referees Association known as the Amateur Football Alliance County Referees Association (AFA CRA). This Association operates with Officers and a delegate from each Society who, like the Officers and Committee of this Society, are elected annually in a democratic manner. The AFA CRA send a delegate to the locally held annual RA Liaison meeting which reports back to The RA Board, who meet at least four times a year. All delegates and officers of the AFA CRA Committee are elected annually in a democratic manner.

**The National Structure for the Society is:**



As a full member of NMRS you are a member of the RA.

**The Objects of The Referees Association** are clearly defined in their rules, and include:

- provide insurance, and financial support for members
- improve the status and reputation of referees.
- protect members from injustice or unfair treatment.
- promote, educate, train and develop referees in general.
- promote the best interests of the game of Association Football.
- provide guidance and support for members of local Societies.

**What are the Benefits of RA Membership?**

**Insurance** - The major benefit is the Personal Accident Insurance Policy. For a small amount, the insurance policy covers you whilst actually refereeing; travelling to and from a match; attending meetings (including travelling to and from home); attending organised training; and loss or theft of kit whilst at a match. Full details are available to members on request, as it is now no longer a requirement that each member who has paid the insurance premium is supplied with a copy of the terms of insurance. A range of increased benefits are also available - for an additional premium - and members should contact the insurers direct if they wish to take up these benefits. Additionally, active referees who are over the age of 75 can now be covered by the Insurance subject to an additional premium being paid. Physiotherapy insurance is now also available for a premium of £5.00.

**Supplies** - A full range of equipment is available from The RA - and often at a lower cost than if you bought it from a local sports shop. By purchasing equipment in bulk, the RA is able to pass the cost savings on to its members. Publications by top names are also available, along with "The Referees' Association Manual of Guidance" which gives advice to the referee on such varied subjects as diet, law queries, training, pre-match preparation, match control and lots more. "The Assessors Challenge" is another book that forms essential reading for every referee and assessor. It deals with every aspect and quality required for promotion. All items are available from the Society's Supplies Officer - although kit may need to be ordered. The Society's Supplies Officer is also able to supply you with kit and other refereeing items from a range of suppliers to make your purchasing requirements easy.

**Refereeing** is a joint publication of the Football Association and the Referees Association. It is mailed direct to all registered referees by the Football Association. The magazine includes features and updates from the Football Association and items of RA-FA and RA news.

**Benevolent Fund** - It is hoped that you never have to apply for assistance from the Fund but, sadly, some of our members do fall on hard times through sickness and other reasons. The NMRS Fund is available to all NMRS members, and the RA Fund is also available to full members.

**Why do I receive two different Membership Forms each year?** You will receive Membership Renewal Forms from both NMRS and the CFA with which you are registered, although not necessarily at the same time. The CFA form will also show the 'three lions' badge of the FA, as the FA now has overall responsibility for the registration of all referees, although you will still be parented by a local CFA. When you successfully completed your six matches, following your completion of the Referees Examination, you were automatically registered with a CFA appropriate to the area in which you live, and this is most likely to have been either Middlesex; London; Hertfordshire; Essex; or the AFA. During your training, you will have been invited to take up Trainee Membership of NMRS. If you want to continue with your refereeing, then registration with a CFA is a compulsory requirement. However, the CFA's and RA-FA are unable to offer you the benefits available locally through NMRS. Whilst your membership of NMRS is entirely voluntary, it is strongly recommended as you will be able to participate in regular meetings held throughout the season - on local territory with the opportunity to discuss relevant local matters; meet and hear Guest Speakers; and receive regular training updates, along with the other benefits outlined above.

**Note**

Abbreviations that are commonly used in magazine articles or in reports at meetings.

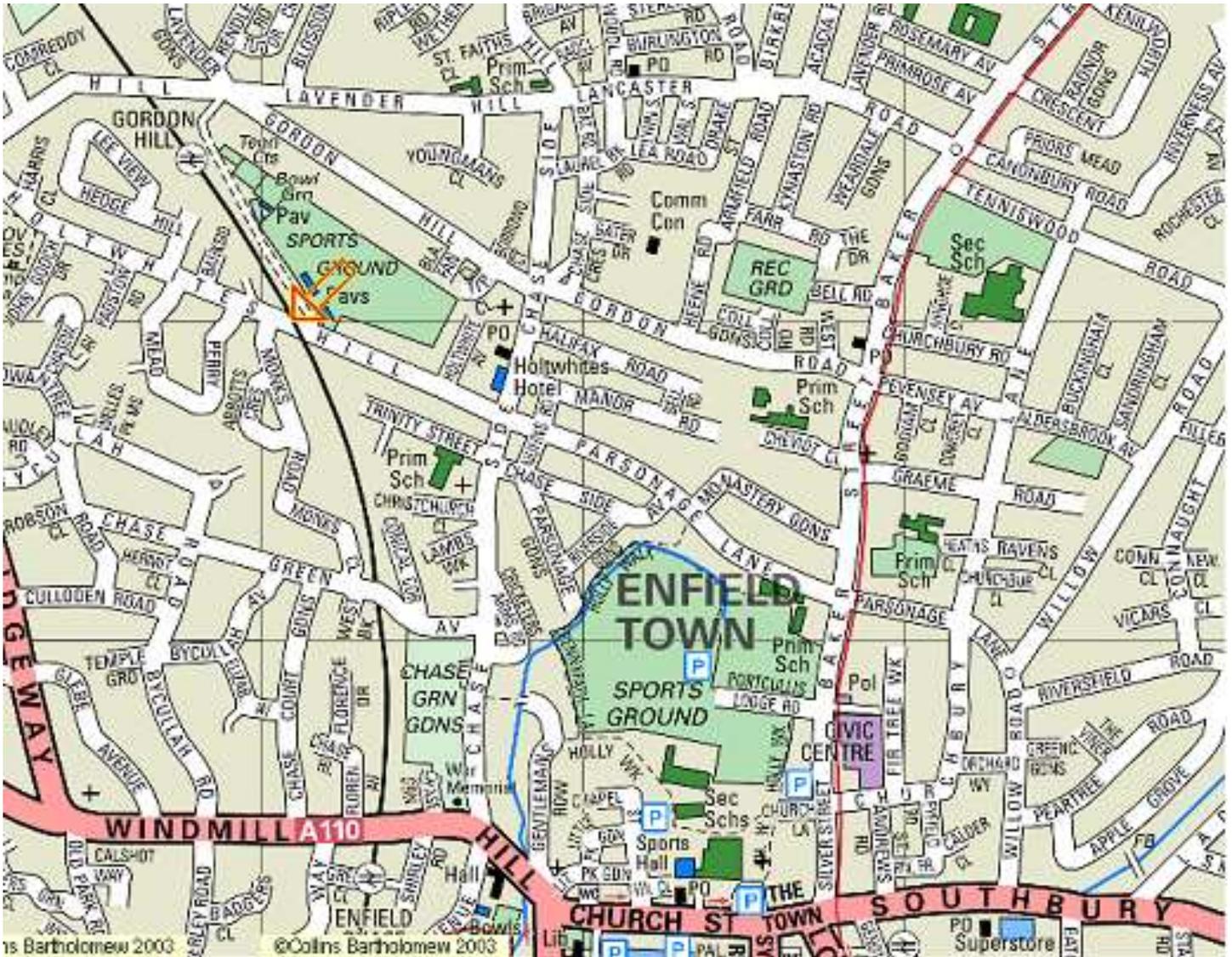
|         |   |
|---------|---|
| AFA     | Amateur Football Alliance   |
| AFA CRA | Amateur Football Alliance County Referees Association   |
| CFA     | County Football Association   |
| CRA     | County Referees Association   |
| LFA     | London Football Association   |
| MCFA    | Middlesex County Football Association   |
| R.A.    | Referees Association  |
| RA-FA   | Referees Association/Football Association partnership for co-operation between the RA and FA. |

**Updated July 2011**

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

Are held on the third Thursday monthly (except October – first Thursday) commencing at 7:30 pm, at Holtwhites Sports and Social Club, Kirkland Drive, Holtwhites Hill, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 0RN  
Telephone: 020 8363 4449

Dates for Season 2011/2012:- September 15; October 6 (first Thursday); November 17; December 15 2011; and January 19; February 16; March 15; April 19; May 17 2012



*The venue is passed by Bus Route W9 and Bus Route 191 stops just a short distance away - direct from Enfield Town, and Enfield Chase; and Gordon Hill Rail Stations are only a short distance away. For fuller directions and how to get to the venue, see our website. See also [www.tfl.gov.uk](http://www.tfl.gov.uk); [www.nationalexpress-eastanglia.com](http://www.nationalexpress-eastanglia.com); and [www.firstcapitalconnect.co.uk](http://www.firstcapitalconnect.co.uk). If anybody has difficulty reaching the venue, and would like assistance, please contact one of the Society Officers – whose details are on the inside front cover.*

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE NORMIDIAN EDITORIALY, OR BY CONTRIBUTORS, DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF THE NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY.

ARTICLES SUBMITTED FOR INCLUSION IN THE MAGAZINE MAY BE AMENDED BY THE EDITOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH EDITORIAL POLICY.

PERMISSION IS GIVEN TO REPRODUCE MATERIAL WITH A SUITABLE ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

THE SOCIETY WAS FORMED AT THE CROWN PUBLIC HOUSE, SOUTHGATE, LONDON, N14 ON 20th JANUARY 1949