

Flooding in Upton

Mini-soccer for our under 9, 10s & 11s has been seriously disrupted due to the recent flooding and the club is extremely grateful to **Hanley Castle High School** and **Upton and Hanley Cricket Club** who, working in partnership, made sure we could fulfil our league commitments using 'The Glebe' with changing facilities in the cricket pavilion. The club and the school have invested in new, aluminium goal posts which are now used regularly by our under 12s Lions and Colts teams who compete in the Mercian league. It is one of the best junior soccer

facilities in the county!

Thanks also to **Graham Holmes and Hanley Swan F.C.** for the frequent use of their pitch this season. Much appreciated!

A big thanks to the **Three Counties Rotary Club 'Flood Appeal'** who donated £1,000 to the club to help us financially to meet the costs of flood, damaged equipment, hire charges etc.

Thanks also to local club supporter **Paul Thompson** from Ryall who donates to the club each season! If you would like to sponsor the club or a specific team please do get in touch!

Hopefully, the Upton Sports Pavilion will be back in action in time for 'World Cup Day' following a complete re-fit. Welland's **Liam Pickering** (u12s Colts manager) and **Andy Whitton** (u9s Lions manager) are now members of the pavilion sub-committee (with Upton Rugby Club, Upton Youth band, Young Farmers and Upton Town Council) helping the refurbishment to run smoothly.

Special thanks to **Keith Follett** (u10s Colts manager) for wading into the bunker to rescue kit!

For your diary

CUP SEMI FINALS:

Welland Juniors have four teams through to the Mercian League Cup semi-final, so please do come along and give the squads your support.

Sat March 1st - Leigh & Bransford v Welland u9s Lions
Welland u10s Lions v Oldbury Park (Upton).

Welland u11s Lions v Blackpole Saints (Upton).

Sun March 2nd - Welland u12s Lions v Droitwich Spa Eagles (The Glebe).

Good Luck!

CUP FINAL DATES

(To be played at Malvern Town's Langland Stadium)

SUNDAY 27TH APRIL ALL BOYS & GIRLS MINI SOCCER PLUS GIRLS UNDER 14'S

SUNDAY 4TH MAY ALL BOYS YOUTH FOOTBALL PLUS GIRLS UNDER 13'S

FOOTBALL WEEK

'District Sports Services' are running an 'Easter Football Coaching' course from Tuesday 25th March to Friday 28th. This is for children aged between 6 and 13 years and will be at 'The Hill Centre', Upton, run by experienced and FA qualified coaches. Please contact Neil Bond for more details on 01684 592363 (9.30 until noon) or mobile 07813 316526.

WORLD CUP DAY!

The clubs end of season tournament and presentation for ALL club members will be held on the Upton Sports Field on Saturday 10th May, commencing at 1pm. Not to be missed!

FUN RUN

WELLAND'S fundraising - 'FUN-RUN' will be on Saturday 19th April - everyone is invited to take part from all age groups! Details to follow from Jackie: please do get involved as this is our top fund raising event! There will be two fundraising carboot sales in Welland so please volunteer to help with teas & coffees or as a marshal to assist with parking.

AGM

Everyone is invited to the club's 'Annual General Meeting' which will be held at The Hill Centre, Upton on Friday 27th June, commencing at 7.30pm.

WELLAND'S 'Player signing on days' for next season:

Two sessions planned commencing at 10am:

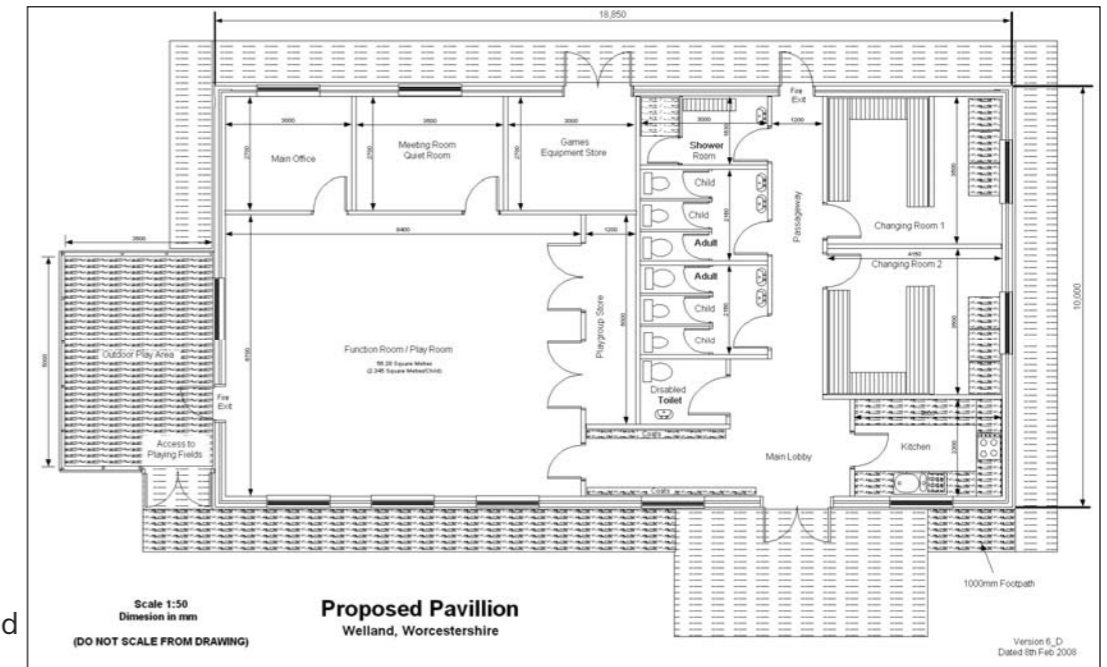
Sat July 5th and Sat July 12th - 11-a-side at 'The Hill' and mini-soccer 'Upton Pavilion'.

WELLAND JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB NEWSLETTER

for more information visit the club's website at www.wellandjuniorfc.co.uk or call us on 01684 310582

Spittlefield Pavillion - latest!

Last year the junior football club was awarded £70,000 by **Worcester Youth Support** towards building a much needed pavilion here in Welland. The project is still very much alive, working with the Parish Council trying to resolve a number of legal issues associated with the 'Countryside Alliance' (formally known as 'Doorstep Greens') with respect to building restrictions and access. It is very likely that the football club will join with the 'Welland Pre-School Group' and combine our



resources to increase the utilisation to 7 days. **Jeff Carlisle** has produced this draft plan which will be resubmitted for Planning Permission, soon. If you would like to become involved or volunteer your skills, please

do get in touch. There will be internal fitting, plumbing, decorating and landscaping to do as the project progresses. Welcome to **Steve Tustin** who has also recently joined our committee focusing on grants and funding.

JUNIOR FESTIVAL ORGANISERS

The WFA run training sessions JFO (Junior festival Organiser) for young members who want an introduction to coaching from the age of 14. Here are the dates for 2008, why not join **Sam Bassett** (under 14s) and **Jamie Wellham** (assisting with the

under 13s) who are already booked on?
JUNIOR FESTIVAL ORGANISER COURSE FEE
Kidderminster
Tuesday 25th March: £15.00
Worcester
Monday 23rd July: £15.00

WFA 'MENTOR PROGRAMME'

Following on from JFO the WFA encourage junior members to link with a club and gain experience by assisting with coaching, officiating, behind the scenes running of a club, IT support. Keep an eye open for newly qualified Andrew Heapey who regularly referees our mini-soccer games in Upton and Amie Saunston working with the girls football centre.

UNDER 13s on TOUR!

Recently back from a match day outing to watch Leeds United at Elland Road, Welland's under 13s (who play their home games at the Hill Centre, Upton) will be visiting Perranporth AFC for a friendly game, barbeque and fun packed weekend, during May. The team are currently doing extremely well competing in 'The Mercian Festival Sunday league'. The squad have also been evaluating player's skills in accordance with the **FA Soccer Star Challenge Award Scheme**

The challenges focus upon six essential soccer techniques: Running with the ball, Turning with the ball, Speed (Changing direction without the ball), Dribbling, Heading and Shooting. The tests reflect technical ability of the players in these techniques. What are the main benefits of the Soccer Star Challenge?

- They are fun and they do capture the children's imagination.
- Add value to a soccer programme



From the left: Simon Wellham, Myles Powell, Joe Bruce, Toby Mitten, Ryan Williams, Peter Manion, Joe Hargreaves, Mikey Catherall, Billy Taylor, Adam Lowe, William Howells. Front Row: Alex Fairweather, Ben Morgan, Will Chambers, Luke Wellham, Gareth Howells, Charlie Lloyd, Jake Lee and Jack Pullin.

for boys and girls.

- Free certificates.
- Profile and record of children's strengths, weaknesses and progress.
- Recognise the progress of children.
- Rewards achievement.
- Opportunities for simple goal setting for children.
- The opportunity for children to practice and improve on their previous scores.
- Provides tangible feedback to

parents.

Wayne Rooney and Michael Owen got their 5 stars on this same FA challenge when they were 13 years old. Between the U12's, U13's and some U14's that took part, we had scores ranging from 1 - 4 stars for each player. 7 players managed to get the 4 star award. The scheme will be run again at the end of the season to monitor performance and include new players.

FUTSAL

The county football associations are also encouraging FUTSAL (Futsal is an indoor version of association football. Its name is derived from the Portuguese 'futebol de salão' and the Spanish 'fútbol sala/de salón', which can be translated as 'indoor football'. Futsal is played between two teams of five players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. In addition each team may have 7 substitutes. Futsal is played with a smaller ball with less bounce than a football. The emphasis is on improvisation, creativity and technique.

Welland's under 13s managers **Simon Wellham** and **Will Howells**

have recently qualified; why not join Welland's **Steve King** when he attends the next training session in August?

INTRODUCTION TO FUTSAL COURSE FEE

Worcester:

Sunday 3rd August £20.00

The County FA are also considering small sided summer leagues which may start this summer! Anyone interested in entering a team?

ROLL of HONOUR!

The club has recently had its 'CHARTER STANDARD' renewed for another 3 years! Many thanks indeed to all the volunteers who help week in week out and give up even more of their free time to attend training! Good to see

former players **Oliver Lewis** and **Matt Jan-Janin** back helping with training on a Saturday morning! Next season we will also need help with the under 7s and are looking for volunteers.

Congratulations (and a BIG thank you from Welland Juniors!) to club members who have recently passed (or are in the process of completing) their 'WFA LEVEL 1' coaching Certificate: **Phil Leah, Roger Bent, Jeff Carlisle, Merv Howells, Jackie Smith, Steve Avery, Gary Kemp, Simon Griffiths and Mark Muschamp.**

Well done to **Phil Lewis** who has just passed his 'Level 2' certificate, and is already booked to progress to Level 3!

Good luck to **Andrew Smith** who is doing his Level 2 later this year.

Under 18s – Training hard! Pictured here during a recent training session at Hanley Castle Sports Hall are Welland's under 18s squad who compete in the Stourport & District Sunday League. Featured in this photograph is **Paddy Mullen** (back row - far left) who is currently coaching the side pictured with **Steve King** (Level 2 coach) and **Martin McTernan** (Team Manager back row right) The squad have recently been joined by members of Welland's under 16s preparing to join next season and have recently been making good use of the pitch on 'Spittlefield' for outdoor training sessions.



'Girls Indoor Coaching Centre' - still plenty of places left!

Working with **Mark Hammond** from Malvern Hills District Council the club is organising 'girls only' football with a view to entering at least one team into the Mercian League next season. Former



Malvern Town Manager **Paddy Mullen** is in charge of the sessions working with Welland's coaches **Steve King, Steve Avery, Phil Lewis, Jackie Smith** and newly qualified Junior Festival Organiser **Amie Saunston**. Paddy played professionally for West Bromwich, Worcester City and Hereford United and brings a tremendous amount of experience and enthusiasm to the club! The girls will be playing their first friendly game against 'Cradley Sports' on

Sunday 13th April with a return fixture to be arranged. There are still places left for yr 4, 5 & 6 who are training on Thursday evenings from 6 until 7pm, and yr 7, 8 & 9 who train from 7pm until 8pm. Pictured here are the girls and their coaches taken just before Christmas.

Sessions cost just £1.50 and will run until Easter. A further 5 sessions are being planned to take us to the end of the season.

The girls are still looking for someone to help manage the team and the club would really like to hear from anyone who would like to become more involved. Full (subsidised) WFA training is available through the club and from time to time there are 'Ladies only' courses.

The WFA recognise that recruiting new players and lady coaches takes time and are being very supportive - it is likely also that girls' football will be structured to help develop the game with mini-soccer up to u12s as 7-a-side, u 13s & u14s as 9-a-side, moving on to 11-a-side at u15s.

Many thanks to local Councillor **Tom Wells** who recommended our club for a 'County Young People Grant' of £500 which was used towards funding our new girls' football activity.