

SPIRIT OF SHANKLY

NEWSLETTER TO MEMBERS

ISSUE 16



Message from SOS Chair Paul Khan

Hi All, I hope you are well.

It's the run-in, time to strap ourselves in for the final part of Jürgen's journey as our leader. All we can do, as always, is Support and Believe and hope the lads get us over the line in both our remaining competitions and give Jürgen the send-off he deserves.

Thank you to all who took the time to complete the survey and sent in suggested comments and improvements. As I keep saying, we are here to represent every member and each voice is important to the success of the Union.

A whopping 92.1% said we should be campaigning for a decrease in general admission prices for home games. If away tickets can be capped at £30 why can't home tickets? The club had an opportunity to buck the trend and not follow the likes of City, Spurs and others with price hikes for next season but chose not to.

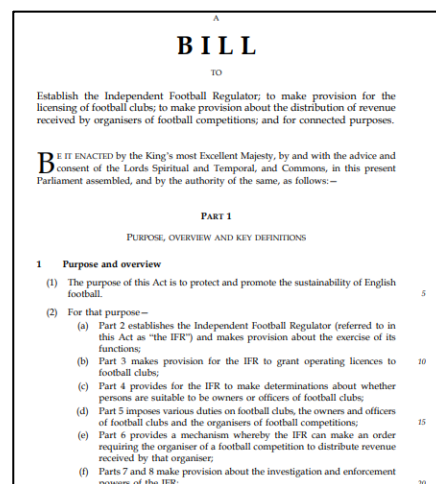
We are all aware of the cost-of-living crisis and with LFC achieving record revenues of approximately £600million last year, we are disappointed with the 2% increase they have announced and we supported the protest at Old Trafford, organised by Spion Kop 1906.

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Supporters Board role in Football Governance Bill

It was a proud moment for SOS when our Supporters Board Agreement with LFC was referenced in the Football Governance Bill introduction in Parliament in March.

Chair of the Fan-Led Review of Football Governance, Tracey Crouch MP, who has met with SOS and been supportive of the landmark agreement that led to the SB, said: *"A significant amount of work has gone into this piece of legislation which will establish a truly independent force in football that will place fans and good governance at its heart."*



Message from SOS Chair Paul Khan

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We will again consult over next steps and will continue to push for cheaper and fairer pricing at Anfield and for more meaningful conversations with the club in future.

Thank you to all who applied for the vacant MC roles. It was great to see so many members come forward with so much to offer and it shows that by reaching out to the membership in its entirety we can unearth great talent. Graham Manley, Brian Pickstock, Neil Pullar and Helen Brown were successful. We are also having conversations with other members who applied to see how they can contribute.

Finally, we welcome the news that bids to fund our ongoing community activities were successful and we owe a big thank-you to the donor organisation, who wish to remain anonymous. If anyone would like to support any of our initiatives, please contact us at clubliaison@spiritofshankly.com

Enjoy the rest of the ride, I'm going to try!

YNWA, Paul

Real Truth Legacy Project & LFC Foundation

Pupils and teachers from Hope Primary School in Huyton were at Anfield in March for a thought-provoking session on the events at Hillsborough, other social injustices and the importance of campaigning last month, as part of **The Real Truth Legacy Project**.

SOS Management Committee (MC) member Ian Byrne MP, and Daily Mirror columnist Brian Reade spoke at the event, along with HFSG member Jenni Hicks.

The response from young people attending was uplifting.



Meet Peggy

Liverpool season ticket holder and SOS member Peggy Pickavant has been going to Anfield for almost eight decades - here she shares her most cherished Anfield memories - including meeting her future husband on the Kop.

"I was one of the first women on the Kop. I was 14 and thought I'd go to the football because I'd find a fella there!" says Peggy, now 92. "I went to Everton first, they were shut because Liverpool were playing at home. So I went to Anfield and the Kop. It was ninepence to get in.

"There was a group of eight women and in the middle was a little old lady in a red coat down to her toes. She said, 'Come and stand here with us. So I did. Another lady in the group, behind the goal, used to bring a flask of tea, sugar, and milk, and cups. I met Tommy on the Kop and I was in love with Liverpool, too."

The Kop romance blossomed and Peggy and Tommy married and had six children. Peggy lost her husband after more than 59 years together, but he is never far from her memory at Anfield.

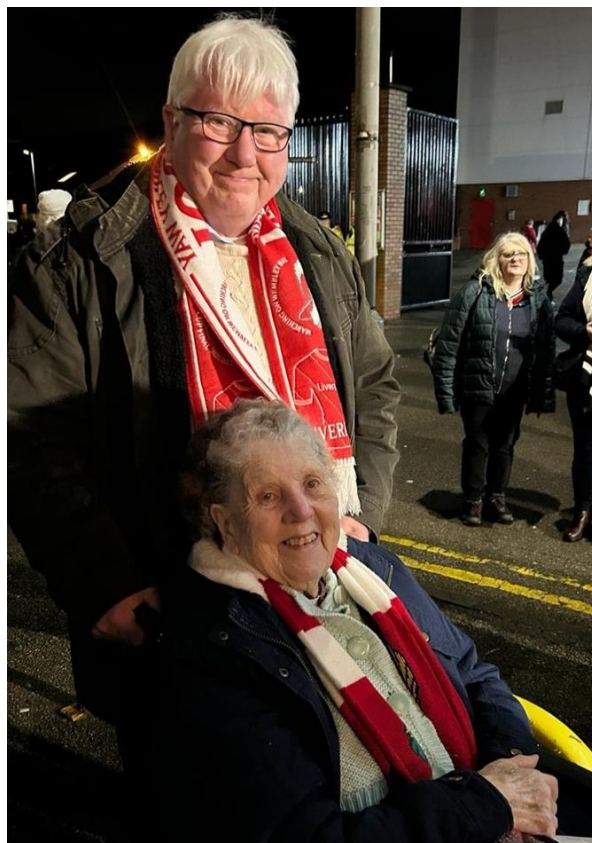
"I love singing Scouser Tommy and You'll Never Walk Alone - I look up at the sky and sing it to Tommy."

Today, Peggy goes to the match with her sons Malcolm, above, and Graham, but it's not an easy journey. She's now in a wheelchair, which she stores in the Fans Supporting Foodbanks van during the game and then has to walk to her seat in the Main Stand. She is on a waiting list for a wheelchair space in the ground.

"I've been getting help from SOS reps, who've been brilliant and the situation reminds me of when I was a teenager on the Kop. We campaigned for women's loos to be installed and got them - hopefully I'll get a wheelchair seat soon!"

Peggy has seen all six of Liverpool's European Cup wins and her and Tommy travelled everywhere to watch her beloved Reds.

"I've got 12 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren and nine great-great grandchildren. But I've been watching Liverpool for 78 years and I'm so committed I say to my kids if any of you get married when Liverpool are at home, I won't go to your wedding. I love Liverpool."



The Kop's Last Stand anniversary

On 30 April, it will be 30 years since the last match in front of an all-standing Kop. The Reds played Norwich in the final home game of the 1993/94 season and the old stand was awash with flags and banners showcasing our illustrious history.

And it's time to dig out the old flags and silkies again as fanzine RAOTL and Spion Kop 1906 are organising a flag day when we play Tottenham on 5 May.

Spion Kop 1906 posted on social media: *"The close of the season sees the 30th Anniversary of the Kop's Last Stand, the culmination of the initial Kop Flag Days. The world's most famous standing terrace was about to be lost and its passing could not be allowed to go uncelebrated.*

"The Kop never looked finer. To commemorate this we intend to resurrect the Flag Day idea as a way of sending Jürgen Klopp off into the future with all our best wishes, admiration and love.

"So if you have a flag or banner, bring it along. Wear that old scarf or hat you usually save for Finals. Let's make The Kop and Anfield look the part for one of Liverpool's finest ever servants.

"Danke Jürgen. Wir lieben dich. We are so glad that you were a Red!"



Carabou Cup Final follow-up

Thanks to everyone who contacted us about the trouble they experienced getting into Wembley for the Carabou Cup Final.

We contacted LFC with the concerns raised and [you can read the feedback here on our website.](#)

Solidarity with museum staff

SOS are proud to feature in the Museum of Liverpool as part of the club and city's history. But a few weeks ago we asked the museum to remove our exhibits from display in support of PCS North West members on strike.

Our support did not go unnoticed, with PCS North West posting on social media: *"Fantastic show of solidarity from @spiritofshankly. NML have underestimated the strength of feeling and level of support for our campaign in the city and beyond. Time to PAY UP."*

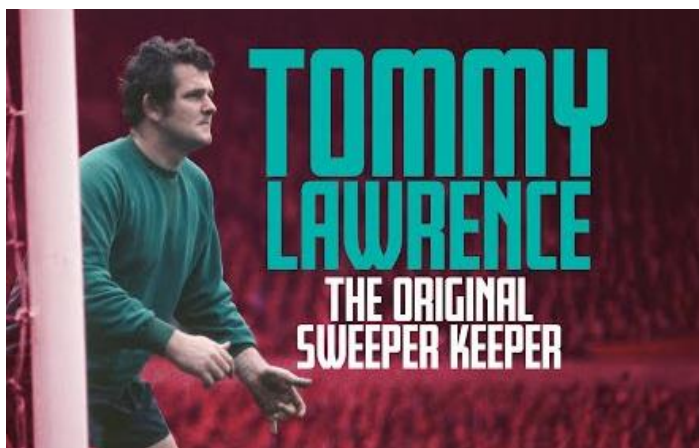


Keeper Sweeper launch

Former players, fans and family enjoyed a great night at The Church for the launch of Keeper Sweeper - the story of LFC great Tommy Lawrence.

All profits from the night were donated to SOS former players' fund.

[You can watch highlights in the video below or on YouTube.](#)



Drop-in advice service extended

The weekly advice sessions at [Homebaked](#) organised by SOS in partnership with Vauxhall Community Law and Information Centre have been extended and will be available each Monday between 9.30am and 3pm.

Experts will be on hand to help and support with benefit, debt, and housing issues.

In the five months to the end of March, 42 people were helped at the morning advice service with £278,987 secured in financial gains - made up of welfare benefit applications advised by Vauxhall Law Centre and a result of funding from SOS.