



## WANTED



**\$10,000 Reward**

For anyone who can catch the flag breaker,  
beware it could be your flags next.

Continued on next page.....

**One thing for sure is that Alan Bennett is off Duncan Tighe and Karl Evans Christmas card list for a long time, due to his actions in the LFA U14 Inter-League Cup Final.**

This was to be the biggest appointment of Mr Bennett's career so far, as he was Referee for the LFA Cup Final Tie between *Blackburn, Darwen, Hyndburn Y.F.L. Vs Blackpool & District Y.F.L.*

Prior to the commencement of the match, Mr Tighe entered Mr Bennett's changing room to announce that he would be borrowing Mr Evans electronic buzzer flags. Mr Bennett was delighted to be using the flags.

The first-half couldn't have gone any better for Bennett and neither team broke the deadlock. However it was a moment early in the second half which will haunt Bennett for ever.

His assistant Carl Berry called him over after signalling for a throw-in. To his shock and dismay, Berry told Bennett that the flag had snapped, and that the flag would need replacing.

Bennett then ran over to the 4<sup>th</sup> Official and whilst doing this, he realised that he had not brought a spare set of flags out to the technical area. Bennett temporarily repaired the flag whilst his 4<sup>th</sup> Official dashed for a replacement.

As Ex-American President Benjamin Franklin once said '*By failing to prepare, you're preparing to fail*'.

On the other hand people say technology will always let you down, when you don't want it to.

A valuable lesson was learned by Bennett from this game, and that is to always bring a spare set of flags to the technical area.

Back to the game, and the game was level after extra time with the score 2-2. B.D.H.J.Y.F.L kept their nerve in penalties running out 4-3 winners on penalties.

The next day Bennett gently broke the news about the flag breaking incident to Mr Evans by e-mail. Which Evans replied 'its ok mate, I will have to order a new part from Switzerland'.

I'm pretty sure that we all know what Karl felt liked saying ha-ha.

## Society Member Profile

**Name** – Nigel D’Arcy

**Age** – 33

**Years With Society** – 2

**Years Refereeing** – 2

**Current Level** - 6

**Career Highlight** – Refereeing Bolton Boys U15 Cup Final at the Reebok Stadium, or Assistant Referee for a Bolton Wanderers Trial match which included all of Bolton’s stars.

**Sporting Idol** – Steven Gerrard

**Refereeing Idol** – Chris Foy

**Aim for the season** – Gaining promotion to Level 4

**Aim for the future** – To referee in a FA Cup Tie

**Best Stadium officiated at** – Reebok

**Funniest Refereeing Moment** – Halting a football match to convince a Traffic Warden not to give him a parking ticket, and any match involving Winsfield Rovers Manager Jimmy Platt.

**Favourite Team** – Liverpool

**Favourite Holiday Destination** - Dublin



## Match Appointments

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January**

**L.A.L.**

Ashtonians Vs Bacup United – **Gary Finch**

Mostonians ‘A’ Vs Thornleigh ‘A’ – **Keith Swindells**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January**

**L.F.A. Interserve Amateur Shield Semi-Final**

Leigh Athletic F.C. Vs Charnock Richard F.C. – **Alan Bennett**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January**

**L.A.L.**

Old Boltonians Vs Lymm – **Gary Finch**

Old Boltonians ‘A’ Vs Chaddertonians ‘A’ – **Keith Swindells**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January**

**L.A.L.**

Ramsbottom Vs Lymm Res – **Gary Finch**

Accrington Royal Arms Vs Thornleigh ‘A’ – **Keith Swindells**

Howrich R.M.I. ‘A’ Vs Rossendale Amateurs ‘B’ – **Alan Bennett**

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January**

**L.A.L.**

Oldham Hulemians ‘A’ Vs Radcliffe Town ‘A’ – **Keith Swindells**

Tyldesley United Vs Thornleigh – **Gary Finch**

### Upcoming Member Meetings

All meetings fall on the second Thursday of the month and commence at 7:45pm in the Mick Martyn Bar.

NEWS ON UPCOMMING GUEST SPEAKERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY.

11<sup>th</sup> January 2007

8<sup>th</sup> February 2007

8<sup>th</sup> March 2007

12<sup>th</sup> April 2007

A.G.M. 31<sup>st</sup> May 2007

### For Sale

Once again if you require any the legendary FOX 40 WHISTLES, Updated Versions Of Laws Of The Game or SOCIETY SHIRTS then contact :  
Duncan on 01942 516218.

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are pleased to be associated with  
Leigh Referees Society



### Congratulations

Well done once again for Karl Evans. Just recently Evans was appointed Assistant Referee for the U16's Victory Shield International Match England Vs Scotland.

The match determined the winner of the shield, and after falling behind England recovered to win 2-1. The match was broadcasted on Sky Sports and there are even rumours that Karl will be appearing on Celebrity Big Brother in January due to his TV appearances of late.

## The Highlights Of 2006

**As we have ended another year, I thought it would be fitting to list a few things that happened in the year of 2006.**

- The first trophy of the year went to Manchester Utd as they defeated Wigan Athletic 4-0 in the Carling Cup Final.
- ***Chelsea retains the Premiership Title.***
- Arsenal fail at the final hurdle as they lost 2-1 to Barcelona in the Champions League Final
- ***Once again Liverpool needs Steven Gerrard and a penalty shoot out to win the F.A. Cup over West Ham.***
- 17-Year Old Theo Walcott is the surprise inclusion in England's World Cup squad as he has never played in a senior Premiership game.
- ***Once again England flop at the World Cup in Germany, as yet again they lose on penalties in the Quarter-Final to Portugal – Wayne Rooney also got sent-off in the match thanks to Manchester Utd team-mate Ronaldo.***
- Graham Poll ruined his chance of refereeing the World Cup Final when he booked Croatian player Josip Simunic three times before showing him the red card.
- ***Italy win the World Cup after a penalty shoot out win over France – It was Zinedine Zidane last ever game and it ended in disaster as he was sent off for a head butt on Italian Materazzi.***
- Chelsea spends £30m to bring Andriy Shevchenko to the club, in the biggest transfer of the summer.
- ***Football once again produces a bad image when 4<sup>th</sup> Official Alan Sheffield is struck by a coin from the stands in an FA Cup Tie – Mr Sheffield required seven stitches to a head wound.***
- Luton manger Mike Newell declares how sexist he his, when he criticises female assistant referee Amy Rayner for failing to award his side a penalty.



**Have A Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year**