# SHROPSHIRE FA GRASSROOTS WARDS

The Lord Hill Hotel, Shrewsbury Friday, 21st June 2019







**#GrassrootsHeroes** 

# WELCOME TO THE SHROPSHIRE FA GRASSROOTS AWARDS 2019

As Chairman of the Shropshire Football Association, I have pleasure in opening this celebration of the achievements of our volunteers during 2018-19 which was my first year as Chairman. The SFA owes a huge debt to our army of volunteers that have created over 15,000 participants including male, female and footballers with a disability.

One of my major concerns over the next few years is to address the on-going decline in the adult male grassroots game. In both Saturday and Sunday football we need to offer our clubs flexibility in regulation and modern venues that can be used 7 days a week. I am determined to develop a Football hub in Telford that is the equivalent of the facility that has been provided at Shrewsbury's Sports Village for over 10 years. We have developed a really effect.

Sports Village for over 10 years. We have developed a really effective partnership with Telford College and are committed to securing over £1million of investment to enhance the football facilities on the campus.

I was extensively involved in the consultation process that led to the creation of two Local Football Facility Plans for Shropshire and Telford which were completed in the autumn. We now have a clear programme of priority projects across the County which we hope to see completed over the next 10 years. If we get the investment needed it will have a transformational impact on the quality of football facilities for decades to come and make a major contribution to the development of all facets of the game.

As the FA Delegate for Shropshire and Member of the National Game Board and Chairman of the FA's Youth participation Committee, I shall do all I can to campaign for a fair deal for grassroots football from the FA and secure governance and development improvements within Youth Football. The FA allocates over £58 million to grassroots football in England and Shropshire receives £280K to support our Local game. In the summer of 2018 the Chief Executive and I presented our 2018-21 Business Strategy which was approved by the FA and has set some challenging targets for us to achieve over the next 3 years which we can only achieve with the fantastic support of our guests this evening.

Finally can I recognise the vital support of our sponsors, we are proud to be associated with UK global who offers a first class service to our clubs and players in their time of need. The Shropshire Star, Salop Leisure, SCS and TJ Vickers are superb local businesses who are committed to the vibrancy of the local football scene and recognised for the quality of their products and services. Many thanks for helping us celebrate the achievements of grassroots football.

**Dave Simpson** 

Chairman, Shropshire FA





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# **PROGRAMME**

6.30pm	Drinks Reception		
7.00pm	Chairman's Welcome		
7.15pm	Dinner is served		
8.45pm	Rachel Unitt including Q&A with Carl Jones		
9.30pm	Community Awards		
10.00pm	Nick Cushing including Q&A with Carl Jones		
11.00pm	Carriages		

# **MENU**

### STARTER

Ham Hock, Parsley and Wholegrain Terrine, Piccalilli croutons

### **MAIN COURSE**

Chicken Breast, Sage and Onion seasoning, pig in blanket, traditional gravy

Or

Vegetarian option

### **DESSERT**

Vanilla Cheesecake, Berry compote

Tea/Coffee and chocolate mints

# THIS YEAR'S GUEST SPEAKERS

Rachel Unitt is an English footballer who plays for FA Women's Championship club London Bees. After beginning her club career with Wolves, Unitt began a long association with Everton in 2000.

A sturdy left back, Rachel has won over 100 caps for the England women's national football team since her debut in August 2000. She represented England at the 2001, 2005 and 2009 editions of the UEFA Women's Championship as well as at the FIFA Women's World Cup in 2007 and 2011. Rachel also has four FA Women's Cup winner medals.

In 2004 and 2006 Rachel was named The Football Association's (FA) International Player of the Year. In 2016, she was inducted into the English Football Hall of Fame at the National Football Museum.



Originally joining the club in a junior role in 2008, Nick worked his way through a succession of coaching positions starting as a schools coach and progressing to the academy setup before transitioning into the club's women's team.

In his first season Nick's City became the first team in four seasons to beat Arsenal to the FA WSL Cup trophy. The following season they went unbeaten in the league with an unprecedented defensive record to win a first league title.

win a first league title.

Nick added to his honours with a personal gong, winning Manager of the Year. Cushing was able to complete his clean sweep of the domestic trophies, winning the FA Women's Cup with a comprehensive defeat of Birmingham City in May 2017 and then winning two cups in 2019.



# **TABLE PLAN**

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NAME	TABLE NUMBER	NAME	TABLE NUMBER
Mr Nick Cushing and Shev	1	Pete Gough & Mandi Gough	10
Carl Jones and Rachel Unitt	1	Amanda Ferrington & Paul Ferrington	10
Roy Waterfield	1	Shaun Clews & Melissa Clews	10
Dave and Pam Simpson	1	Paul Lewis & Laura Lewis	10
Dave Regis & Tracey Rogers	1	Bianca Davies & Nick Jones	10
TJ Vickers	2	Eddie & Michele Gough	11
TJ Vickers	2	Harry & Julia Powis	11
TJ Vickers	2	Phil Davies & Danny Powis	11
TJ Vickers & Mark Jones	2	Paul & Sara Jehu	11
Darren Beech & Jason Simpson	2	Niel Jones & Simon Robinson	11
Shropshire Star	3	Martin Clarke & Andy Davies	12
Shropshire Star	3	Sharon Thomas & Nicky Hawkins	12
Lee & Zoe James	3	Patrick & Sarah Evans	12
Mark Green & Gail Rance	3	Jay Halbert & Grant Hindle	12
Eric Parker & Guest	3	Rachel Evans & Guest	12
Martyn Davies & Chloe Cooper	4	Robert & Rachel Foster	13
Steve McCormick & Paul McMullen	4	Rob Dutton & Abby Marshall	13
Mike Tranter & Maureen Tranter	4	Anthony Boughton & Ian Preece	13
Mr & Mrs Bradley	4	Lisa Sandford & Zoe Griffiths	13
Natilie Trevor & Mark Corbett	4	Tori Vespa & Eve Bailey	13
Les and Trish Bristow	ξ.	Jack & Amanda Reynold's	14
Kevin & Lesley Edge	5	Liam Reynold's & Chris Heath	14
Dave and Margaret Rowe	5	Dave Tranter & Mick Burrows	14
Graham Arrowsmith & Jim Reynolds	5	David Pye & Stephen Tranter	14
Dave & Sue Ralphs	5	7 Video	14
Keith Davis and Ms Davis	6	Mark & Lisa Reilly	15
Ciaran & Andrea Hanna	6	Richard & Tina Screen	15
Nobby Sandles and Guest	6	Simon & Karen Lee	15
_	6	Simon Hedaux & Nicki Powell	15
Mel & Paul Drakeley Mick Parton & Cathy Jones	6	Nick Blakeway & Elaine Cumming	15
_	7	Cliff & Delier Taylor	16
John & Margaret Edge	7		16
Alan & Jane Davis	7	Mick Murphy & Jayne Lawton	
Lesley & Meryl Jones	7	Frank & Pauline Mellor	16
David & Margaret Dodd	7	Clive & Cath Jones	16 16
Neil & Pam Williams	8	Doreen Johnson & Cliff Furnivar	
Peter Wilson & Holly Davies		Jessica Morgan & David Barnett	17
Francesca Vitale & Anna Overton	8	Richard Barnett & Tracy Barnett	17
Regan Gough & Charlotte Hope	8	Declan Allen & Stacey Enefer	17
Georgia Davies & Jess Davies	8	Liam Walton & Zoe Case	17
Ciaran Burns & Pam Kirkby	8	Adam Jones & Susan O'Malley	18
Mike & Margaret Hames	9	Ian & Katie Evans	18
Bernie & Jan Butler	9	Sean Hall & Lisa Hall	18
Adam & Becky Reid	9	Sarah Chappell & Darren Stephenson	18
Stuart & Fiona Dryden	9	Shuan Taylor & Dean Langford	18
Lynette Williams & John Dayus	9	Covered at time of print	

# WHAT WE DO

Founded in 1877, the Shropshire FA is the governing body for all Football in Shropshire. A non-profit making organisation – it is an association of member clubs and players who appoint a Board of Directors to administer their affairs.

Shropshire FA currently has over 1000 affiliated teams and almost 300 registered referees. The County runs 8 Cup Competitions and provides a service to a football community of 50,000 people within Shropshire. Shropshire FA is responsible for both the governance and development of football across all areas of the County. Football governance covers administering the game, affiliation, insurance, discipline, competitions and the development of referees.

The Shropshire FA Football Development Team run an extensive calendar of coach education courses including Welfare, Safeguarding Children and Emergency First Aid. Football Development is responsible for ensuring football is accessible for all groups, as well as ensuring a suitably qualified and supported workforce of volunteers. The FA Charter Standard programme is a key aspect of club and league development, along with facility development and accessing funding and investment for the grassroots game.

Grassroots football continues to change, with many different varieties of the game now being played across the whole of the community, irrespective of ability, gender, ethnic origin, and by able and disabled alike. Never has the demand to play football in quality facilities and safe, enjoyable environment been so high.

The Shropshire FA is committed to making participation an enjoyable and safe experience for all involved in whatever capacity within the game.



# **ABOUT THE AWARDS**

2019 will mark the Ninth year of The FA Community Awards (now Grassroots Awards). The awards aim to recognise and reward people across the country that make a difference to grassroots football in their local community – the people who dedicate their time to developing tomorrow's young talent and help ensure safety and best practice in tens of thousands of clubs up and down the country.

The awards offer a chance to all those involved in grassroots football to shout about the person, or team of people that have made a real difference to their experience whilst playing or just being involved in the beautiful game. Winners are awarded at a local, county and national level so there's plenty of opportunity for grassroots football heroes across the country to be recognised.

Grassroots football is at the heart of the national game and every week across the country, people dedicate their time and energy to provide a professional, fun and rewarding football experience for the local community. We are delighted that The FA give us the opportunity to recognise these clubs and individuals with the Community Awards and believe this is a great opportunity for us to celebrate the dedication and commitment shown by clubs, coaches, players and volunteers across Shropshire.



# **GRASSROOTS DISABILITY COACH OF THE YEAR**



### **IAN PREECE**

lan Preece work tirelessly to provide football and sporting opportunities for those with disabilities and challenging behaviour. With the support from Telford Juniors Football Club, this has allowed Ian to provide weekly coaching sessions for adults wanting to play the game. Ian now sees around 40 participants coming along to these sessions and from that he has setup 2 Disability Teams, who now play in the FA Three Counties Ability Counts League, where once again they finished first in the League and won the Cup FOR 2018/19 season.

It is with lan's enthusiasm that he supported The Shropshire FA to run a Level 1 for people with a disability. He gave those that attended from the club the opportunities to coach which ultimately helps with the development of the volunteer workforce within the club, particularly supporting the Disability section.

Anyone that has met lan will know how enthusiastic he is and how he will go out of his way to ensure everyone is made to feel welcome. He ensures everyone is treated equally and gives everyone the chance to play. He even purchased football boots for players who did not have any playing gear.

lan is now delivering the SSE Wildcats programme for girls aged 5-11, where he hopes to provide football opportunities to female players with a disability.

# **GRASSROOTS COACH OF THE YEAR**



### **ADAM JONES**

Adam has developed Girls teams within Broseley Youth Sports FC and given them a chance to play and train in a safe, progressive and inclusive environment. In their first season, the girls have reached the finals in the league competition. Adam also supports the other 150 children in the club and is seen most nights carrying equipment, painting lines on pitches and supporting other coaches in training. In addition, Adam supports young people to get involved in grassroots football through coaching and refereeing. Spending all of his free time coaching, training, teaching and enabling grassroots football, Adam supports children of all abilities to play football. Adam is the reason that children return week after week even when they are losing matches. He is the reason that coaches turn up in the snow to train with their teams.



### **DECLAN ALLEN**

Declan has been at AFC Telford United for 4 years. Over the past 2 years he has been the manager of the Under 18's side. They have seen 6 players progress into the first team, which has seen progression and development throughout their youth to adult player pathway. During the 2018/19 season, the Under 18's have won the Midland Junior League for the second year followed by Success in The Shropshire FA Youth Cup & Midland Junior Premier League Cup to complete a treble winning season. The success the team has experienced is excellent and had a positive effect on the players deserve the special mention. A number of colleagues also recognised Declan as they feel he goes over and above the duty and attention to detail to bring success to his team and players. Declan now leaves the football club to take on his next adventure with Shawbury United Football Club.



### **PAUL LEWIS**

Paul is an excellent coach who is always striving to learn new things and better himself. He is respectful of the team/parents/ supporters/opposing teams and this respect is definitely mutual. Paul is inclusive of all players and value what each brings to the team. He is progressive and works hard to achieve the best he can be, whilst giving the best opportunities to the boys. Paul has taken the team to play Man City at the Etihad, Stoke City which has created many memories for them. Paul is joined by his son Harvey Lewis who are together manager and assistant of Paul's middle son's Charlie's team Mereside Marvels U12. They are not only father and son but great coaches to a wonderful team. Paul works tirelessly and Harvey is in full time college but the efforts they put in to football are second to none. Harvey has just completed his first coaching badge at 16 and they hope to do a Level 2 together next year. They have coached the boys since under 9's and they have just reached their first cup final (Charity Cup) in May.

# **GRASSROOTS SUPPORTER OF THE YEAR**



### DAVE TRANTER

This season alone, Dave has attended over 300 matches undertaken at all levels of the game. From junior football to semi pro and pro matches. A significant amount of these games take place throughout the county where Dave is well known to the clubs and always supportive to the clubs staff and volunteers. He also volunteers his time at Wellington Amateurs FC where he provides support on a weekly basis to the ground staff and fulfils any jobs that need undertaking.



### **MEL DRAKELEY**

Mel is always cheerful, positive and supportive of every child both on and off the pitch. Mel takes an interest in everyone and always takes time to listen to others. She runs the Shrewsbury Juniors U14's tea stand raising hundreds of pounds every year for the team. Mel has become the hub of the team and all the supporters congregate around her. People describe Mel as kind and generous.

# **GROUNDS TEAM OF THE YEAR**



### **ELLESMERE RANGERS FC**

The work undertaken by Alan Davies and the rest of the team at the club should not go unnoticed. They provide a good playing surface throughout the season catering for the first Team, Women's Team and a under 18 team playing midweek fixtures. The pitch is also hired out for county cup semi-final matches. All those involved are volunteers who also undertake general upkeep of the ground on a weekly basis such as cleaning and painting and making sure all areas of the ground are in good order for the match day experience.



### MARKET DRAYTON TOWN FC

Last season the Volunteer ground staff provided hundreds of unpaid volunteer hours working on all areas of ground maintenance. The playing pitch was in excellent condition for the majority of the season despite the hottest summer for years and a wet winter. 20 cup finals were held on the pitch after the final league game in April taking place throughout May and including The Shropshire Junior League Finals, The Shropshire Girls & Women's League Finals, The Shropshire Schools and Colleges Finals and The Telford and District Schools Finals. The ground staff were still working on the pitch right up until May 24th. The other major undertaking last season was the FA Enforced extension to the changing rooms. With an average age of over 70, Footings, framework, block work, the roof, electrics and cladding were added and completion took around 5 weeks. A remarkable achievement which was an off the field requirement to retain the clubs step 4 status.



### SHIFNAL TOWN FC

The main pitch at the club has always been in good condition and this season was no different. The bringing back into use of a previously unusable pitch was a great achievement by Owen and the groundstaff. The club now has two excellent pitches which will provide football for adult and junior teams.

# **GRASSROOTS CLUB OF THE YEAR**



### SHIFNAL TOWN FC

Shifnal Town FC are quickly becoming one of the most progressive and determined clubs in the county. The club have taken itself from a position which was ready to fold last year and transformed it into a Grassroots Football Hub. With the help of a group of business men, the ground and social club has had a fantastic facelift for all to see. For visitors that saw the old place they are amazed at the development in less than one year. This transformation has had all the community come together thanks to hard work of Mike Tranter and his team. The club now boasts a Young Guns club for children from the age of three up to seven years that has 40+ children participating and enjoying football.



### SHREWSBURY JUNIORS FC

7 years ago the club ran 15 boys teams up to 16 years old, they now run 28 teams consisting of Boys, Girls, U18's, Men's and Women's teams, playing across 7 different leagues. The club strongly support respect, 2 of the young members recently delivered the fa kick it out campaign message at the leagues futsal day. Developing their adult's teams for the young players to continue their journey with SJFC but winning isn't everything. SJFC fully support the FA's ethos, football is for everyone not just for the best. Managers are passionate and they know they change people's lives. Managers are then supported by the club committee, who work tirelessly not only for the club but raising money for local community charities. The Club sees itself as a community project not just a football club. Through support and belief, volunteers have improved their lives with self-belief, gone onto further education and even improved their jobs. More importantly many of the clubs young members have become referees, volunteered with the Shropshire FA Youth Council which gives them more confident and giving them direction in life.



### SHREWSBURY UP & COMERS FC

Shrewsbury Up & Comers FC is a grassroots club that prides themselves on the inclusivity of all players of all abilities. A fantastic group of experienced coaches that always put the physical and emotional wellbeing above results. A parent quotes "My son has played at this club for almost 4 years and his younger siblings attend their little kicker's sessions. We are proud to be part of such a fantastic club!" The club put the children's happiness and enjoyment of the game above results. An all-inclusive club, any ability is welcome and supported and encouraged to progress at a rate that suits their needs. Educating parents and supporters about being respectful on the sideline. The club brings the local community together, children and parents are welcomed to the club in a warm and inviting way. The most important thing is that these children just enjoy football "let them play".

# **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR**



### **ANTHONY BOUGHTON**

Anthony has been a Coach, Welfare Officer and Treasurer over the last ten years with Whitchurch Alport Juniors Football Club. He has helped the club too progress, increasing the club savings more than five-fold whilst installing automated payments to remove the pressure from other volunteers. Anthony has introduced processes to allow the Club to thrive and prosper, recruiting more volunteers and in the last year he has ran the Club whilst both the Secretary and Chairman have suffered illnesses. In the last season, Anthony has managed to run our Club, whilst holding a full-time job. He has stepped-in to fill the gaps due to illness of two committee members this year, often carrying out three roles for months at a time. He has done this whilst constantly being respectful of all club members and league officials. He has been instrumental in starting and developing an U6's session, where he engages with parents/children in equal measure. A guote about Anthony from one of WAJFC coaches, "He is due to stand down at the end of this season, it will be an enormous set of shoes to fill!" Always respectful, Anthony has shown us that we can create a safe, inclusive environment by always behaving with fairness and integrity.



### **PETE GOUGH**

Pete took over as chairman of Meresiders FC 3 years ago and has taken the club to a new level which shows just how much the club means to him. Pete has been excellent to all our volunteer coaches, always making himself approachable/ available whilst ensuring a determination to keep moving the club forward. Pete is not only the Chairman of the club, he also runs 3 teams himself. The hours Pete puts in to the club is fantastic and its shown over the years as Pete has helped grow the club from 4 teams to 15 in a short space of time. Pete is a fantastic man whose heart is in the right place and always finds time for others to help along in their Grassroots Journey.



### **ROBERT FOSTER**

Rob has mentored many coaches on how to be inclusive, supportive and progressive whilst at Whitchurch Alport Juniors FC. Some children have a disability or have health conditions, Rob is determined to ensure that all children are included regardless of their physical abilities. Rob never stops working for the football club despite suffering with the debilitating condition, Multiple Sclerosis. There are days when he struggles with this yet he still goes out in all-weathers to coach players or mentor other coaches. He is an absolute shining star within the local community. A quote from Whitchurch Alport Juniors FC "The club would not be here without him. He is W.A.J.F.C."

# **RISING STAR OF THE YEAR**



### **REGAN GOUGH**

Regan has successfully won awards in previous Shropshire FA recognition evenings. Regan continues to very much drive forward, through refereeing as he's put in for promotion and through helping the Shropshire Youth Council. He interacts with everyone young and old, always polite and sensible. Regan at the Shropshire Junior Football League Futsal Festival wrote and presented the Respect/ Kick it Out campaign and delivered it with the youth council to all in attendance. Regan is a valued member of every group he supports, The Shropshire Youth Council & The Shropshire Referee Association. Regan is polite, respectful he is a role model ,to his peers , elders and very much his family.



### **HOLLY DAVIES**

Holly has been a member of the Shropshire Youth Council since it was born in 2014, becoming Vice Chairperson then taking on the role of Chairperson three years ago. She is a very determined, passionate, caring, motivated individual, who strives for excellence from herself and the other members of the Youth Council. Her enthusiasm for every task she undertakes is excellent and infectious. Holly is involved in football within the County as a Referee, (officiating at the Women's County Cup Finals), Coach and Player. Holly represented the English FA last year in a visit to Georgia to promote youth participation. Holly is Chairperson of the Youth Council, a group of young people whose aim is to inspire, empower and most importantly provide a voice for all children and young people to influence change and develop a lasting legacy in football for Shropshire.

Holly has been a member of the Football Futures Programme since the age of 14, representing Shropshire FA at St Georges Park for the FA National Football Futures Leadership camp in 2015 and again in 2016 for the FA National Football Futures Academy. Bringing the skills she learnt there back to the County.



### **JACK REYNOLDS**

Jack at 19 years old has coached for 5 years now, first with FC Hodnet and now with Prees Junior FC. Jack's key values for his coaching philosophy are progressive and inclusive. Players who play for his U13 Girls side were really shy and nervous when joining but Jack is always so welcoming and encouraging to bring out the best in his players. He makes training and match days fun. At the start of the season when the U9's girl's manager left he took them on until they found a replacement and is always helping other coaches when they are busy by covering their training sessions. He is always there early to set up and always the last to leave. He cares passionately about Prees and the kids he coaches. Jack is always fair and encouraging. He is always respectful to. To run 2 teams have a full time job and still have the commitment he does at 19 years old is a great achievement.

# **RESPECT AWARD – WE ONLY DO POSITIVE**



### SHROPSHIRE JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

The Shropshire Junior Football League delivered a dual Rainbow Laces campaign with a Kick It Out/We Only Do Positive campaign at its 2019 Winter Futsal Respect Festival. On 10th February The Rainbow Laces and Kick It Out campaign's took place by the league promoting equality, inclusion and diversity along with the Georgia Williams Trust and SFA Youth Council delivering short presentations with interactive role play in sharing the message "We Only Do Positive" Over 250 players (many wearing rainbow laces), coaches and supporters received wrist bands, Kick It Out badges/stickers and T-shirts to "Make Sport Everyone's Game"

The SJFL have a Respect partner that promotes respect not just in football but also the wider community and uniquely include the two parties in the league's logo/badge with Georgia Williams Trust. The trust provides the league's Respect Awards and Respect winners receive their awards at the SJFL Presentation Day held at Shrewsbury Town FC as part of Community Trust Partnerships. The league Implements Respect Marshalls and are the only league to become a partner on the Shropshire County Council 'Hate Crime' Commission – Kick It Out Shropshire County Working Group.

SJFL also co-opted a member of Shropshire FA Youth Council onto a league in (2016) and continues to support the valid work of these young volunteers especially as key partners to deliver Kick It Out/We Only Do Positive campaign. The League received a Mayor of Shrewsbury's Awards - Gold award in recognition of the league's continued achievements towards enhancing the wellbeing of young people in the area. Since the new millennium SJFL has raised over £29000 for the League's Charity Fund and gifted 65 children's charities.

# **GRASSROOTS MATCH OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR**



### **JESSICA MORGAN**

Jess became a football referee three years ago after wanting to get involved in football in some way. Since this time she has refereed at the three counties female inclusivity event at St Georges Park, allowing over 100 disabled footballers to compete together. Jess is a very determined individual - she had no previous football involvement, yet in three years has gone from refereeing children to adult football and achieved her level 6 promotion in March. Jess referees every week despite suffering from fibromyalgia - a chronic pain condition. Just refereeing one match can mean a week in pain and struggling to even get out of bed. Yet Jess does this week in and week out because she knows that without her, each week a football game may get cancelled. Jess turns up week in week out, offering to do games at short notice and always commits 100% to the league when work allows. She is always looking for more opportunities.



### **MARK REILLY**

Mark is one of the first officials you turn to when compiling appointments as in addition to being excellent at acknowledging fixture and reliable, he always provides thanks for the appointments and is very good at contacting of AR's. He is a serving police officer and ex-Army soldier and this is evident from the manner he conducts himself and his demeanour which is respectful yet determined where necessary. That said he is very inclusive and shares knowledge and information freely to colleagues. Mark is the epitome of all that is best as an official in grassroots, local football. He offers advice to colleagues, he is respected by players and clubs. he will "turn out" at very short notice to enable games whether it be as the Referee or Assistant Referee. He clearly is passionate about the game and administers the laws of the game fairly and firmly whilst maintaining good relations with players, coaches/ management. One reflection of this is that he applied for and successfully achieved promotion to level 5.



### **REGAN GOUGH**

Regan has continued to move forward with refereeing, this year he officiated in the Shropshire Junior Football League/ The Shropshire Girls & Women's Football League, The Staffordshire Girls League, The Warwickshire Girls League, The Shropshire Premier League, The Shropshire Premier League, The Shropshire Minor League, The Shropshire FA Women's Summer League and refereed every hour of the boys/girls futsal. On top of this he officiated at County/Schools and Trials events and the end of the season finals. Regan is a very popular lad. He takes his refereeing very serious and will listen and take advice whilst providing advice to help children when he can. He's very positive and has become involved with the Shropshire RA, where he's become their youth representative. If Regan had the chance he would officiate every day from the start of June till the end of May.

Relive the event at shropshirefaevents.com/gallery

# **GRASSROOTS LEAGUE OF THE YEAR**



### SHROPSHIRE GIRLS & WOMEN'S FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Shropshire Girls & Women's League are very proud to be one of the oldest Girls & Women's Leagues' in the Country. Founded in 1992 the League has made huge strides in offering girls the opportunity to play grassroots football. The League, with its recently appointed new committee has gone from 2 years age bands to now offer single years age bands from U8's, U9's, U10's, U11's, U12's, U13's, U14's, U15's and U16's, which includes 13 divisions. This season the League has offered a winter Futsal programme for U8 – U11 and County Qualifiers for U12- U16, with the winning teams going through to represent Shropshire at the Regional Futsal Finals. Thee League also ran Charity and Management Cup Finals across all age groups.

The overall vision of the Shropshire Girls & Women's League is to provide organised football opportunities/competition for participation at grassroots level, ensuring that females of all ages and abilities can play and improve to reach their full potential. The League aims to make their provision safe, enjoyable and accessible to all players, coaches, referee's and volunteers within the beautiful game.



### SHROPSHIRE JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

The League holds Four Charity Trophy Festivals hosted across the county for U10 (27 teams), U11s (22 teams) & U12s (18 teams), Futsal for U7 to U14 (95 teams participated 2019). The League currently has a Mid-winter fixture break December/ January, Consists of development football for U7-U12 (124) teams) Open competition U13-U16 (67 teams) plus Shropshire Charity Cup U13/U14 (86 teams). The SJFL provided its eleventh consecutive Respect Futsal Festival (within mid-winter break) on Sundays (U7-U10) with 95 teams/216 fixtures over 900 players and deliver Futsal to older age groups U12s, 13s 14s (12 team) with 50 midweek fixtures and over 120 players. Also they sponsored Futsal coach and referee's courses all within FACS league's development programme. Referees appointed to U13, 14, 15 & 16s fixtures with 100% coverage by registered referees across all age groups. "Ability is Nothing Without Opportunity" is the league's motto. SJFL were the first league to implement 'development football', Co-opt a member of Shropshire FA Youth Council onto league office (2016) and continue to support the valid work of these young volunteers. Since the new millennium SJFL has raised over £29000 for the Charity Fund and gifted 65 children's charities.

# **GRASSROOTS PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD**



### **GRANGE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Grange Park weren't just happy with providing more opportunities for their own girls to play football, they wanted to offer all girls in Telford & Wrekin the chance to be part of a football team with no barriers (such as cost). The original leagues only had 4 school teams enter but this year they have had a record 17 teams in the Year 3/4 Girls League and a record 24 teams in the Year 5/6 Girls League. That meant T&W had over 400 girl's playing regular competitive football because of the leagues set up at Grange Park. Teachers have contacted Grange Park to inform them that children from their schools have now joined local grassroots teams after enjoying the experience of playing for their school team. The leagues are having a big impact on grassroots football in Shropshire. Girls have joined local Grassroots teams & Development Centres after they enjoyed their experience playing in the school leagues.



### SHIFNAL TOWN FC

Shifnal Town Football and Community club were formulated at the start of the season and straight away the local people of the town were fully behind the project. Working in partnership with the local county FA, the club continues to go forward on and off the pitch. The plan is to transform the Acoustafoam stadium into a football and sports academy that Shifnal and Shropshire will be pleased to utilise. The club has announced plans to spend up to £1 million building a new clubhouse. The two-storey building is set to feature function rooms, a sports hall, first aid facilities, director's bar, player's lounge, referee rooms, offices and state of the art changing rooms. Being built to facilitate a range of sports, the club plans for it to be used as a community hub for the people of Shifnal. The clubhouse is just one part of the plans to facilitate teams of all sports and hold various events - with the implementation of a 3G pitch already in the pipeline. The club also has a walking football team, a ladies team, a disabilty team and a recently formed children's Young Guns Club.

# OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO SHROPSHIRE FOOTBALL



### **MARTYN DAVIES**

Joined Market Drayton Town FC nearly 20 years ago as a player and became the clubs highest ever goal scorer with a career 296 goals spread over 6 promotions through various leagues up to the Northern Premier League. Has managed the Club for 4 seasons including a best ever NPL league place. Always popular with the fans home and away for his great enthusiasm whilst playing or in the dugout. Rarely had any issues with the match officials who he respected at all times. Martyn would be seen at the ground on many occasions doing a variety of work just to make the match day experience better for his players and the club. He would take the training session, pick the squad and drive the mini bus to the away games on many occasions. All this as almost certainly the only manager in the Northern Premier League who took no pay from the club and has kept the club at this standard with a very limited budget. Martyn has now decided to take a much earned break to spend more time with Chloe and his two young boys Ralph and Rufus, both budding footballers.

# **ABOUT OUR SPONSORS**



The Shropshire Star continues to play a fundamental part in not only the county's football scene, but also the very fabric of its communities. The UK's fifth biggest selling regional newspaper, ahead of the titles serving cities such as Birmingham, Nottingham and Leicester, the Star is privileged to be involved with the Shropshire FA Grassroots Awards.

In any given week, a dedicated team of more than 100 journalists, photographers and correspondents cover every part of local life from education to the latest eateries, local government to youth football plus everything in between.

www.shropshirestar.com



UKGlobal Broking Group was formed following a management buyout of COBRA Corporate Solutions from COBRA Holdings plc in December 2011. The group's FCA regulated insurance broking arm, UKGlobal Risk Solutions Limited, has offices in Surrey and Manchester which have both achieved ISO9001 accreditation, reflecting the quality and service we provide.

We combine a technically precise approach to constructing an insurance programme, with a strategic approach to the procurement of insurance from the traditional and non-traditional insurance markets. This means that in many cases we are able to establish more appropriate protection at a reduced cost.

www.ukglobalgroup.co.uk

### www.tjvickers.co.uk





Football is always a hot topic of conversation at TJ Vickers. Within our team of 50 staff we have fans of most of the big teams (and Wolves too) and the banter is regularly exchanged.

We are also supporters of local football having sponsored several local teams over the years and also advertise with both Shrewsbury Town and AFC Telford.

We sell the latest Fiat and Suzuki cars and offering great value garage servicing with the emphasis on providing an excellent service that you only really get at a long established family business staffed by local people. We carry a wide selection of quality used cars too with pictures and descriptions available on our website.

### www.tjvickers.co.uk



Salop Leisure started life as Salop Caravans in 1966. For over forty years, as the company grew, our showroom and offices were at Meole Brace in Shrewsbury. In 2006 we built a brand new, state of the art, caravan showroom and service centre at Emstrey, just outside Shrewsbury on the A5 - making us the premier caravan holiday home, touring caravan and motorhome dealers in the Midlands and Mid Wales.

As a company we have strong links with football in Shropshire from grass roots right through to professional level. Being sponsors of the Shropshire Schools competition, junior football league and one of the main sponsors of Shrewsbury Town Football Club.

We are very proud of our links within the community and central to our support of local football is the belief that it greatly enhances the lives of young people, nurturing and supporting them in their dreams and ambitions.

www.salopleisure.co.uk



We are a local company that has grown over the last 20+ years providing mechanical services to many customers trading as Shropshire Cooling Services Ltd. We have over the past 20 years provided Refrigeration and air-conditioning Sales, Service & Maintenance for many clients both locally and nationally.

Over the last few years we have broadened our range of services that we provide and we have recently re-branded the company as 'SCS Group' to better reflect our activities. We are proud to be local and we are equally proud to support local football.

www.scsgroup.info

# HOUSEKEEPING

### In the event of a fire:

- Please ensure that you are familiar with your nearest Emergency Exits.
- If you discover a FIRE raise the alarm immediately via the nearest 'break glass' or by informing
  a member of staff.
- In the event of an emergency during the event please leave the building immediately.
- DO NOT attempt to take anything with you. On exiting, move well away from the building to
  the marked assembly point at the front of the hotel on the car park, as directed by hotel staff.
- DO NOT attempt to return to the building until either the venue's fire evacuation controller or the Chief Fire Officer gives the all clear.

**Security:** Please be aware of your personal property and keep your valuables with you at all times – leaving belongings unattended can encourage thieves.

# **WITH THANKS**

The Shropshire FA Grassroots Awards 2019 were made possible thanks to the support of a number of people and organisations. We would like to thank all of those involved:

- Our guest speakers
- Master of Ceremonies, Carl Jones
- Shropshire Star's Editorial team and art department
- · Yarrington for their event production, design and photography
- Our hosts The Lord Hill Hotel, Shrewsburg
- Our sponsors and supporters
  - Salop Leisure
- SCS
- McDonald's

- TJ Vickers
- UKGlobal

