

TRUST MATTERS

Fratton Park experience should be a memorable one for families

Pompey Supporters' Trust board member Dan Fearnley, 37, has been following the Blues for more than 20 years, after watching Jim Smith's men battle to a 2-2 draw against Blackburn Rovers at Fratton Park in January 1992.

Fearnley, who previously held a position on the Trust board before his role was compromised by setting up his own business, last week regained his place on the committee following the 2014 electoral vote.

It's fantastic for me to be back on the Trust board.

Some of you may remember that I had the pleasure of serving on the committee between 2011 and 2013.

I took the tough decision to withdraw from last year's elections as I'd recently set-up a new business and wasn't sure I could devote the time and attention required.

I ended up looking at it and thinking: 'Can I give the Trust the time and energy it needs?'

A year down the line, though, and the business is going well and I feel I can once again make a difference.

When I was on the board previously, I took responsibility for the community share team but I made it clear in my candidate statement that I would be focusing on a different area this time round.

Recently, I have been really enjoying going to the football with my family.

We have got four season tickets in the family section for myself, my wife, my son Sam, who is nine and daughter Ruby, who is six.

Sam is particularly passionate and will be a mascot for the upcoming Dagenham & Redbridge game.

With all of that in mind, I wanted

by **DAN FEARNLEY**

e-mail: info@PompeyTrust
Twitter: @PompeyTrust



to see what I could do this time round to improve the family match-day experience and beyond – with a business head on as well.

There was a situation last year where my son wanted to have his birthday party at the club.

But, for one reason or another, and this is no fault of the club, we really struggled to arrange anything.

We couldn't do an official party, which was crazy when you think that you can go to a bowling alley or cinema and they will offer you all sorts of special packages.

So I've thought I can kill two birds with one stone with my passion for my family and the club also.

That's one of the key things I'm looking to bring to the table – improve the match-day family experience and get more families along to Fratton Park.

I'm planning to sit down with the commercial team and I've spoken to Micah Hall (commercial marketing manager) about my ideas and proposals.

It has got to be a viable commercial enterprise by the club.

I understand that corporate and hospitality is focused on heavily, as well as kiosks and bars on a match day.

I just hope to bring a bit of knowledge to provide an impetus with regards to an overall family experience and then keep the momentum going.

As promised, I will also continue to offer constructive challenge to the board to ensure the widest views of all fans are represented.



Pompey Trust board member Dan Fearnley would like to see more Pompey-supporting families – like Sandra Marks, Andy Marks, Harrison Hutchence and Jasmin Haughan, seen above – enjoying the match-day experience at Fratton Park

Unanimous call for Trust board continuity in 2014 election vote



Ashley Brown, left, and Mark Trapani, centre, were re-elected

The votes have been counted and verified and the results are in (for another year at least).

I can now reveal, for those of you who don't know, that the 2014 Pompey Supporters' Trust (PST) election saw candidates Ashley Brown, Michael Saunders, Mark Trapani and Pam Wilkins hold their place on the board.

Daniel Fearnley (see above), was also re-elected after a one-year absence.

Thanks also go to David

by **JOHN KIMBELL**

e-mail: info@PompeyTrust
Twitter: @PompeyTrust



Maples for standing, who we shall hope will feel able to assist the board and the PST in the future.

For those who are curious, I can also report that the voting turnout was relatively low, though higher than last year at 16 per cent.

To be honest, we'll take that as a positive thing and

an indication that if people don't want change, they are not going to vote.

Equally, if they were upset by the way things were going they could and would have used their vote.

Those who did vote, voted wisely to keep our existing members and it's also great to have Dan and all of his experience and knowledge back on board.

When I first joined the PST board I didn't know what to expect, so Dan being re-elected saves that

catch-up period of trying to work out who does what and what is going on.

So, the official voting board is now set for next year and will be unveiled in all its glory in our AGM at Fratton Park.

The event is currently planned for September 29, although that date is yet to be 100-per-cent confirmed.

The AGM will be a great opportunity to meet the board and better understand what the PST have done over the last

year and how we plan to ensure the club progresses in the right direction in the coming year.

We are expecting a decent turnout from shareholders and members, and also from club officials as well.

Tickets are still available on the PST website at pompeytrust.com/news/2014-election-result.

We are also planning an informal PST dinner for shareholders and members with more details to be announced shortly.