

## Mariners Trust Notes For The Crawley Programme.

Good afternoon and welcome to today's game against Crawley Town. We would like to extend a warm welcome to those of you travelling up from Sussex in this festive season and hope that you have a safe journey home.

At this time of year our thoughts also turn to those who fly the flag for the Mariners from afar. There is a sizeable "exile" population who make regular journeys to The Park as well as hundreds who help to swell the away attendance wherever Town are playing. As a supporter based organisation we are constantly looking for ways to improve the match day experience for all our fans and we will continue to strive to include all Town fans regardless of where they live.

By necessity at this time of year these notes have been written before the full programme of Boxing Day fixtures and we are very aware of the difficult situation our Boxing Day opponents Macclesfield Town find themselves in off the field. There is never a good time to be dealing with the uncertainty that everyone involved with their club is currently facing. We extend our heartfelt sympathies to players, staff and, as a fans based organisation ourselves, their supporters who are all too often powerless at such a time. Hopefully there will be a happy outcome and our next notes will be talking about events on the field on 26<sup>th</sup>. December.

We understand that our own situation is causing our fans some concern. The problem as always is that there is a wide opinion out there of what should happen by way of a solution. The Mariners Trust do not have a magic wand to make the situation better. As a Supporters Trust we remain supportive of the efforts being made by Antony and Ben to improve our standing and there are signs that the team are playing a better standard of football albeit without the crucial element of sticking the ball in the net. If that situation changes and the club begin a search for a new manager in earnest then our representatives on the board of the football club John and Dave will be fully involved in the decision making process.

Whilst the result of the game against Scunthorpe was very disappointing it was great to see Blundell Park virtually full with a cracking atmosphere. We would like to thank all the fans who supported our bar facilities both before and after the game and those who bought tickets for our highly successful Christmas Draw which took place after the final whistle in the Players Bar.

Compliments of the season to all Grimsby Town supporters.

The Mariners Trust Board.