



The Buzz...

Harborough
Town FC
April 2020

What is happening down at The Hive

We are all in this together!

Even if we can't get together right now, if we all follow guidelines and comply with staying at home, the sooner we will have normality and get back to our football!

Let's all work together as a club to beat Covid-19



@HarbTownFC
HarboroughTownFC.org



PLAY YOUR PART
STAY HOME
PROTECT THE NHS
SAVE LIVES

A message from Laurence Jones, Chairman Of Trustees

Hello everyone,

I hope that you and your families are well and avoiding the coronavirus

The last three weeks have seen an immense change for all of us as we come to terms with the changes to how we live our lives.

At times such as we are now experiencing the HTFC family needs to come together, support each other and the wider community.

One of our strengths as a club is togetherness and for as long as this pandemic lasts the football club will do its best to stay in touch, support you and your families and be relevant to your lives.

We aim to send a newsletter every two weeks. It may well be a shortened version but we will do our best to provide news which attracts both the young and our adult members. If anyone has ideas or content they wish to see in our club newsletter, please get in touch. Please send any content to Simon.stevens@harboroughtownfc.org

Whilst the club is closed Maz, Kez, Simon, and Callum (working from home or outside the grounds) will be working as usual, and we will commence our summer maintenance programme on the pitches earlier than expected.

As a result of the pandemic the goalposts came down on the 23rd March, and this will allow Kez to use the latest addition to the club, a new Verti-Drain 1517 aerator, to commence our maintenance programme on the pitches.

In addition to the external grounds maintenance, we will be carrying out maintenance inside the clubhouse so that when we all start playing football again, the club will be in tip top condition.



These are worrying and challenging times for us all, but our trustees and our staff are fully committed in ensuring that the club takes an active role in keeping our community together.

Let's all be there for each other, and make sure we stay in touch using the new technology skills of video conferencing and tele conferencing to make it happen. I have challenged Maz to make HTFC a "virtual club" during this period and already she is doing her best to send activities out to our members.

Let's use the club as our foundation and get through this pandemic as soon as we can, if we do that we can start playing football again soon.

Stay well, stay safe, and above all let's look after each other.

Laurence Jones
Chairman of Trustees - Harborough Town Community Trust

A message from Ivor McTighe, Youth Chairman

Dear members,

I do hope you, your family and friends are all staying safe and well in these unprecedented times. Of course everyone's well-being is the foremost and upmost importance to all of us and seeing our season prematurely brought to a close I know for many is disappointing, however with the increased nature of what we are all facing, this was not only inevitable but also the absolute right decision to make.

For all players the disappointment of not training and playing football is not lost on us at the club and I would like to thank Maz personally for the way in which she has sought to try to keep all players engaged with the challenges she has been setting – well done Maz and keep up the great work.

For a number of teams I also know the curtailment of the season will be bitterly disappointing where a number of our teams were in excellent shape to win or look to achieve runner-up places within the divisions they played in, and some also pushing for competition silverware having reached quarter-final and semi-final rounds. Also for our cohort of u18s who for many this was their last season of youth football.

Whilst we do have provisionally booked presentation dates in mid-June, it is highly likely that these will be delayed, but we will want to celebrate the season in some shape or form. We will keep you advised of dates when certainty is available to us.

As a family we do not know when we will be back into our loving home of the football club, but we do know the decision has been taken to cancel the grassroots season. For that reason, our pitch maintenance programme has been brought forward, including investment into new equipment to try to help drainage of the pitches which have suffered so much this season with the wet weather. I would like to thank Kez and Callum for their continued work and ensuring when we return that we present the pitches once again in fantastic order.

Rest assured when we can recommence training safely, we will be looking to do so, especially when we will see a number of trials needed for certain age groups, for example, the academy sides which we are seeking to grow for 20/21 season.

I am receiving some enquiries about player fees and how these will be handled. For now, I have suspended any outstanding payment collection for our new members who have recently joined. In addition, for a small number of existing players who have been with us all season, where payments are still being collected, including outstanding player fines, I have paused chasing of those. These do remain owing, however this is not the time to collect or chase for those monies.

For many teams, they would have normally concluded the season at the Easter break, with only a few returning thereafter. When we have greater visibility of our likely return to football, I will, together with my fellow trustees, consider how we approach the season 2020/21 fees as part of the renewal process and taking into account the shortened season we have had.

For now though stay safe and well with best wishes to you, your family and friends.

Ivor McTighe
Youth Chairman

Supporting the Most Vulnerable

There are loads of support networks in Market Harborough to aid the most vulnerable or those in isolation during COVID-19 lockdown. The football club has members and volunteers who are already out there supporting vulnerable relatives as well as neighbours by shopping or running errands such as picking up prescriptions or even having a friendly chat over the phone. Some members have even become NHS Responders to help the NHS and their bigger community. WELL DONE everyone!

If any of our members are frontline workers or relatives who need some support please contact: 07785 614 414. We must keep our community healthy and safe. Compassion, understanding and supporting our community are most important at these uncertain times.

The club is already engaging with its members through various ways – football challenges taking place in peoples gardens for the most active, and to keep others fit. We are looking in the future to set up a virtual quiz where we invite members to join in from their own homes so please watch this space, and with all monies raised going towards our Local NHS Hospital.



Yummy Pubs

We would love to share this great story from one of our coaches, Tim Foster, U6 development coach and U10s Royals assistant coach.

Tim runs "Yummy Pubs" and during this difficult time, even for his business, he and his staff have put together a project to support those in need during these very difficult times.

Please read the message on the following website <https://www.yummypubs.co.uk/> and we hope you can support them. This is a fantastic way to help the 1.5million people in the vulnerable group in this country who will be in complete lockdown for the next 12 weeks. Please share as much as you can to help Tim and his amazing project.

Well done Tim & colleagues from everybody here at HTFC

#StaySafe @thewiremill



Tim Foster (left) and the U10 Royals

Football Challenges

Are you ready for a challenge? Over the forthcoming weeks the club shall be creating some great challenges to practise your football skills and will be suitable for all age groups to participate in. Why not get the whole family involved!

Our first two challenges have had plenty of interest and the children being very creative by using objects instead of cones to do certain challenges.

Below are a couple of our challenges we have previously set:

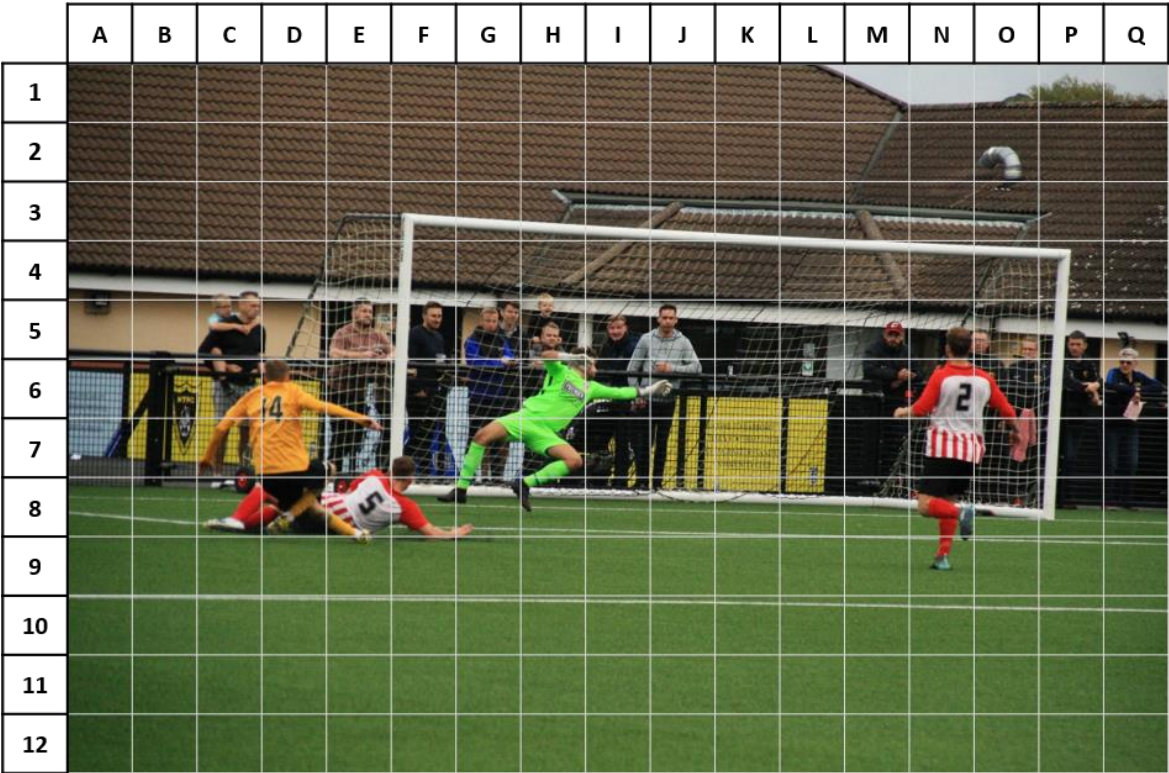
- Challenge 1 – Highest number of Keepie-Uppies
- Challenge 2 – Dribbling and a creating a banner for the NHS Staff
- Challenge 3 – One of endurance and one of skill

What will challenge 4 be?
Find out by following us on:



Spot the Ball

Can you find the ball in the picture below of Dan Forbes vs Anstey Nomads, taken by our friend and roving reporter/photographer @Finbarr57



Spread the colour....

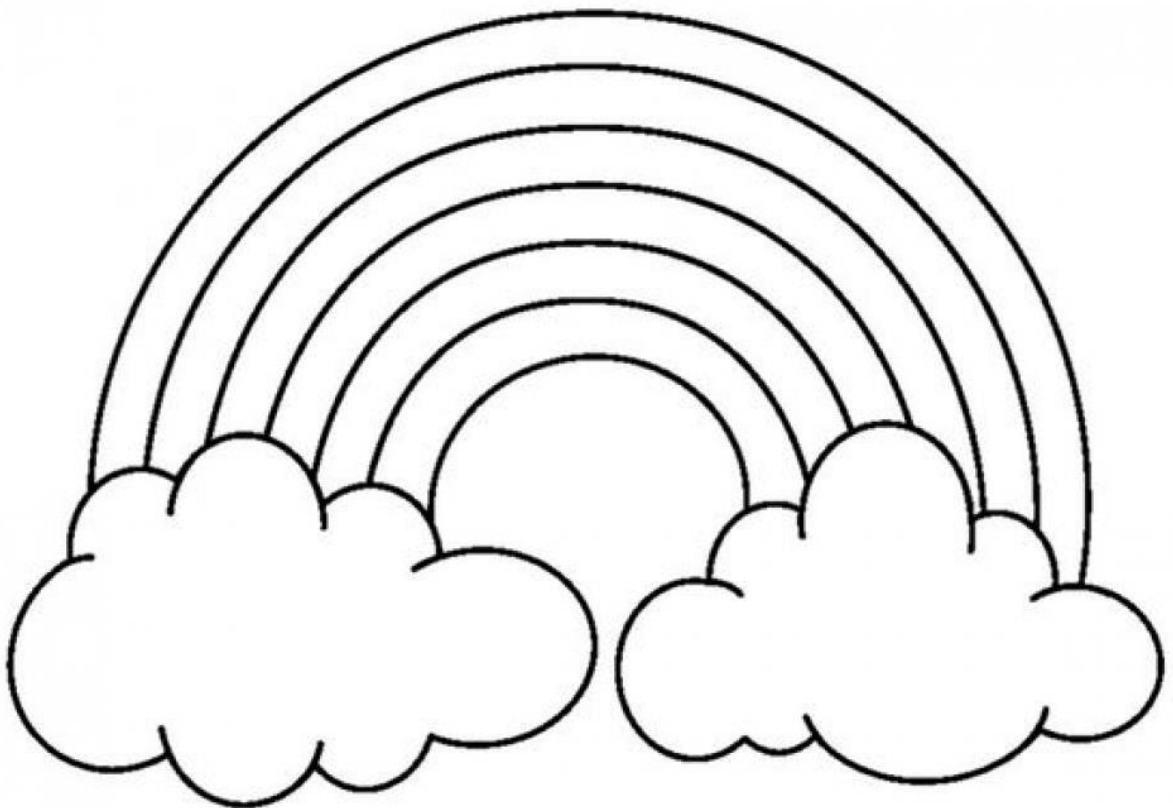
Started recently in Italy where local children were encouraged to draw and colour rainbows and place them in the windows of their houses, with the aim to make people smile while they're walking by, and to also offer a message of hope.

Rainbows are used as a symbol of peace and hope as they often appear when the sun follows a heavy rainfall. They serve to remind us that there is a light to follow even after dark times.

Not only will it give the children something for them to do while they are off school, but also it is great for them to look out for when exercising, as well as spreading a message of hope to others whilst observing the current government social distancing guidelines.

Children across Harborough are now joining in and drawing rainbows and placing them in the windows of their houses during the coronavirus outbreak.

Why not colour in the rainbow below, place in your window and go on a hunt to see how many more you can find whilst doing your regular exercise.



#EverythingWillBeOK

Colour me in...



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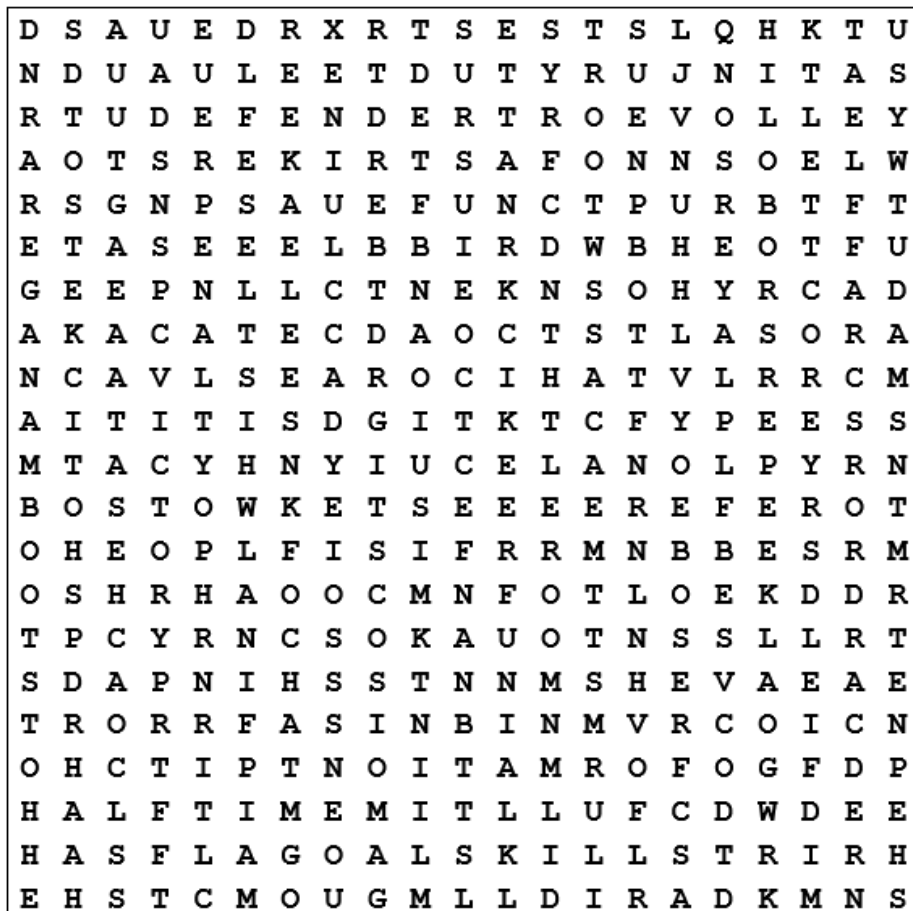
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Football Emoji Quiz – can you name the footballers?

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- 3) Sh 🍷 s 🐕
- 4) 🚫 urd 🧑🏻
- 5) 🚗 🅐 🇩🇪
- 6) ☁️ 🅓 🅐 © 🅐 L 📧 L 📧
- 7) Ⓜ️ 🇺🇸 🧑🏻 🅐🅐 🅐
8. 🅑 @ 🏏
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Answers will be revealed in the next newsletter

Word Search



BENCH
 BOOTS
 CAPTAIN
 CELEBRATION
 CENTRECIRCLE
 COACHES
 COMMUNITY
 CORNER
 DEFENDER
 DRIBBLE
 FINALWHISTLE
 FLAG
 FOOTBALL
 FORMATION
 FOUL
 FREEKICK
 FULLTIME
 FUN
 GOALKEEPER

GOALS
 HALFTIME
 INJURY
 KEEPER
 KICK
 LEAGUE
 LINESMAN
 LOSS
 MANAGER
 MIDFIELD
 OFFSIDE
 PASS
 PENALTY
 PITCH
 PLAYERS
 RAFFLE
 REDCARD
 REFEREE
 SCORE

SHINPADS
 SHOT
 SINBIN
 SKILLS
 STRIKER
 SUBSTITUTION
 TACKLE
 TEAM
 THEBEEES
 THROWIN
 TICKETS
 TROPHY
 TURNSTYLES
 VAR
 VICTORY
 VOLLEY
 YELLOWCARD

Answers will be revealed in the next newsletter

Spot the difference

Find all 8 differences



Answers will be revealed in the next newsletter