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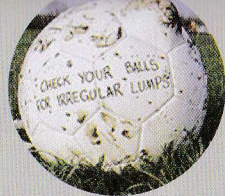


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# Keep Your Eye On The Ball

THE CAMPAIGN FOR MALE CANCER AWARENESS



## facts

- Testicular cancer is the most common cancer amongst young men between 20 and 35 years of age
- It can also develop in boys as young as 15 and also in older men
- About 1 in every 500 men will develop testicular cancer and there are about 1,600 cases in the UK every year
- The number of cases has almost doubled in the last 20 years and scientists are still researching why the incidents continue to rise
- Up to 96% of cases if testicular cancer can be cured if caught at an early stage
- Regular self-examination will help with early detection and hence increase chances of survival
- However sadly in a recent survey it was revealed only 14% of men check their testicles regularly

## campaign quotes

We would like to thank everyone who has put so much work into this match, especially to Shakey and everyone at Shrewsbury Town FC. We are delighted that the stars from Dream Team have given up their time to play and will also like to thank Andy Ansa for agreeing to play the match. Awareness of testicular cancer can really save lives and this type of an event is a fun way of raising more awareness as well as vital funds which go directly towards supporting research into male cancers. ALISON MORGAN - EVERYMAN CAMPAIGN

So here we are at the end of another seasons football, a time to look back and reflect on the triumphs and tribulations of the previous months. From the Keep Your Eye On The Ball campaign's point of view, we have seen many triumphs in this our second year.

A number of players have got behind the campaign over the past two seasons, the likes of Ginafranco Zola, Ryan Giggs, Steven Gerrard, Sol Campbell, Ashley Cole, Jamie Redknapp, Tony Adams, Thierry Henry, Robert Pires and Freddy Ljungberg have all pledged their support and have all helped to make a difference to fighting testicular cancer. There has also been a number of football clubs from the Premiership to the Conference that have instigated fund raising days and events to pledge their support to football's Keep Your Eye On The Ball campaign. Today is a day for fun and football and I am sure that every one is going to have a fantastic time. I would like this opportunity to thank Simon Shakeshaft AKA Shakey for his time, efforts and commitment to this cause. I know it is one that is dear to his heart and have to say he

is an unbelievable force when it comes to working on the campaign. Everyone who has worked with him really does take their hat off to him and his tremendous efforts. Thanks also to Andy Ansa from the Dream Team for agreeing to this event and the guys at Everyman especially Alison Morgan and Matt Andrews for all their energies on the campaign. Finally thanks to the players from both teams without whom today's event would not be possible. They are giving up their time to entertain us all for what I hope will be a cracking good game of football. Lets have fun and not take our eyes off the Keep Your Eye On The Ball campaign. SIMONE POUND - PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLERS ASSOCIATION

To raise awareness of men's cancers is important because men are too proud to speak or find it too hard to talk to anybody about it. It is vital to break down barriers, to

bring it out in the open and for men not to be embarrassed about it. TERRY KIELY (KARL FLETCHER) - HARGHESTER UNITED, SKY ONE'S DREAM TEAM

We at Dream Team are aware of the Keep Your Eye On The Ball campaign and are 100% committed to the cause. We are proud to be associated with the campaign and it is a huge commitment for us.

We feel we can get the word out to a lot of men and achieve something by doing so. Events like today aid awareness and raise vital funds which is something that is very important to us. ANDY ANSAH - HARGHESTER UNITED, SKY ONE'S DREAM TEAM

Don't be ignorant, don't be fearful and don't be embarrassed about it. Take your eye off the ball...it could save your life. SIMON SHAKESHAF - SHREWSBURY TOWN FC

## Karl Fletcher Interview

Club captain KARL FLETCHER gives an exclusive interview to STFC's SIMON SHAKESHAF

**SS - Fletch, you are currently the longest serving player having progressed through the youth team, but four years ago left the club to go to Real Majorca. What's the reason for the early move in your career?**

**KF -** I was told by coaches that I had a very bright future in the game and that I was becoming a big fish at Harchester. I personally felt that I needed a change to test myself against foreign opposition and try and raise the standard of my game

**SS - But you only stayed there for half a season. Why was this?**

**KF -** The change of lifestyle and the language didn't help me to fit in. I'm a confidence player and it is very difficult to be accepted by fans abroad if you don't become an immediate success - they tend to get on your back - and this is what happened to me.

**SS - So you returned to Harchester and have experienced over the past four seasons many many ups and downs. What was the biggest achievement for you at the club?**

**KF -** By far, winning the FA Cup was the best. Firstly to be involved in a FA Cup Final was fantastic but to win it was even better. It's every boys dream and I did it. The most disappointing thing though was the shooting of team mate John Black. It was a massive shock to me as I was standing next to him when he was killed.

**SS - So that must have been a low point. What others have there been?**

**KF -** My lowest ebb at the club was when I was accused of the murder of the previous club chairman. I sought refuge through football at the time and it was a relief to be on the pitch where I felt my form had improved partly due to my relationship with the Harchester fans.

**SS - You were later found not guilty of the murder charge which must have been a huge relief. But you have also lost some close friends in a couple of the tragedies that the club has experienced over the past few seasons. How has this affected you?**

**KF -** The loss of Sean Hocknell in the plane crash was a massive shock to the system. He was my best mate and we used to live in the same house. Coming to terms with his death was very difficult initially. Also losing my friend Scott Lucas was another big blow. But I have got over it and become a stronger person.

**SS - You come over to other fans and players as very arrogant. Is this a true reflection of your real self?**

**KF -** I'm a very vain person. I love the adulation of the fans at this club and I thrive on the stick I receive from opposition supporters. One of the reasons I came back to Harchester United is that I like being a big fish in a little pond where as at Real I was not which I found difficult.

**SS - You have played at some massive ground during your 6 years in top flight football. Which is your favourite?**

**KF -** In Spain it has to be the Nou Camp, home of Barcelona and Parma's stadium in Italy in European competition was also impressive. Back home Ibrox in Glasgow I adore but the ultimate experience in the Premiership has to be playing at Old Trafford.

**SS - So after playing at these massive stadiums, how comfortable will you feel playing at Gay Meadow?**

**KF -** I'm really looking forward to it!!! It takes you back to your roots as a youth player. It's reality. It's what football is all about. The game, the crowd on top of you, the muddy surface, the smell of the raglex, the dirty changing rooms all in their own way give you a real buzz. It will make a change from being treated like a Prince as usual.

**SS - As a striker, you have said you are a confidence player. You must fancy your chances against most defenses. Who has been your toughest opponent?**

**KF -** Rio at Man Utd, Marcel at Chelsea and Hyypia at Liverpool are all tough cookies in the Premiership. But by far the best defender in the world to me is Fabio Cannavaro, the Italian international. He has great pace and reads the game brilliantly.

**SS - Andy Ansa rates you against any goalkeeper in the world. Which one have you had least success against?**

**KF -** I haven't got a great record against Peter Schmicel. He's a big intimidating player who during his career has been the best in the world. Although I didn't score against him, I have fond memories playing against him in the FA Cup Final win over Man Utd.

**SS - Finally Karl, what are your thoughts on the Shrewsbury game?**

**KF -** Firstly I want to say that the lads are taking it very seriously and personally I am a bad loser. I anticipate getting the rough ride from the Shrewsbury defenders and expect stick from the home crowd. But ultimately I hope to deliver the goods and enjoy the day.

**SS - Karl - I'd like to thank you for your time. It's been a pleasure. Good Luck.**