

Why Marple Band musical director is a safe pair of hands

THE new Musical Director of Marple Band may, literally, be seen as a safe pair of hands.

The Review Summer issue featured Steve Sutton's appointment, but not many people know that Steve was a top professional goalkeeper.

Derbyshire-born Steve, who lives in the Hope Valley, told The Review about his early life and illustrious career: "Growing up in Hartington in the 1960s was a great adventure with lots to explore, and although the village didn't have a sports field or play area, we really did use jumpers for posts. We then made goals with baler twine knotted into a net on a field at the back of our house where I made my first appearance in goal, probably aged 6 or 7."

Steve's secondary school – Queen Elizabeth's Grammar in Ashbourne – focused on rugby as the main sport but Steve took to that as well and represented Derbyshire at all age groups. When the two schools in Ashbourne merged, games master Barry Greenwood pushed football forward: "Barry managed local senior side Ashbourne Town FC and spotted my potential and put me in the team aged 15. I also represented Derbyshire at football and was asked to go for a trial at Derby County, the league champions at the time."

After trials there and at other clubs, Nottingham Forest came in and after a meeting with legendary manager Brian Clough, Steve signed for Forest in 1977. His first game was at Derby in Kevin Hector's testimonial in front of 22,000: "I played the second half and kept a clean sheet making a few decent saves. Mr



Steve in his role as musical director

Clough said afterwards 'not bad young man, go and get your dad.' They shared a glass of whisky whilst I cleaned the changing room."

Steve, who made his league debut in 1980 and went on to play 257 games for Forest, said: "I had a fantastic career seeing the world, and

meeting football legends and celebrities - Rod Stewart, Elton John, Torvill and Dean, and Princess Diana come to mind. In the mid-to-



Catering for every taste!

MANY people around the country sit down to a delicious home-cooked meal from Dan Stringer every evening.

Busy families, single professionals who don't have the time or love of cooking and elderly clients who don't like preparing a meal for one, all look to Dan to provide a nutritious, balanced dinner for them.

Dan owns Eat Homemade – a successful catering company, based in Marple, that provides frozen home-made meals nationwide.

With an 'excellent' Trustpilot rating and glowing references, the three-year-old business is one of the few that flourished during lockdown.

"I had been in and around the catering and hospitality industry for a very long time. People may remember me from Toast Deli, a coffee shop deli and restaurant that my wife and I used to own until 2012.

"In September 2019, family circumstances meant I needed to work from

home so I gave up my job and launched Eat Homemade," said Dan.

"Basically, it started with me selling the meals that I was feeding my family. It was doing well but then in March 2020 when the country went into lockdown I saw real growth.

"My customers come from all sorts of backgrounds. The three main categories are older people who can cook – like my mother who is a very good cook but takes little pleasure in cooking for one; busy families who are short of time but still want to eat wholesome, balanced meals and single professionals who may have never learned to cook or don't enjoy it and use me almost like a take-away."

However, Dan did notice that his business slowed in the summer months – people firing up the barbecue or going away on holiday saw the demand for his meals drop.

"Eat Homemade is a little quieter over the summer and so I started offering

outside catering last year, and Marple Catering was born."

Feedback has been excellent and Dan is keen to drive this new arm of the business forward.

"I'm happy to help with all sorts of catering work - I offer plenty of flexible options and have catered for lots of different occasions.

"I recently prepared a lunch for 12 at Strines Church – quiche, salad and cake to follow – but I have also catered a wedding for 135 with canapés, three courses and cheeseboard; a barbecue for 160 at a corporate summer event followed by breakfast next morning.

"Whatever the occasion – a wedding, a party, corporate event, christening or funeral tea – and wherever you are based – give us a call.

"We work hard to exceed your expectations, and you won't be restricted to set menus – we listen to you, work with your ideas, and deliver, giving you the freedom to enjoy your event," said Dan.



“ Working with Brian Clough was a great experience and we had great times and fun ”

late 1980s, Forest were a formidable team and I forged lifelong friendships. Although we don't see too much of each other today as we're spread far and wide, when we get together we're transported back in time. Stuart Pearce, Steve Hodge, Steve Chettle, Brian Laws, Des Walker, Nigel Jemson and Nigel Clough are all still in touch.”

“Working with Brian Clough was a great experience and over the 14 years we were together we had great times and fun. He was always on the ball, knew everything going on and certainly voiced his opinions. ‘Steve, son, have you ever played in goal before, because it didn't look like it this afternoon’ came my way more than once. That was his way of geeing you up!”

Steve said moving to Derby in the early 1990s was exciting, but he never hit the same heights as at Forest. Injury finished his career in 1997, and he went into coaching “more by luck than design” at Notts County then at Shrewsbury, Scunthorpe, Leeds United - who reached the semi-finals of the Champions League at the time - Notts County again, and finally back at Forest in the academy and first team.

“I decided Forest would be my last club and when I was asked to leave in 2016, I ‘retired’ to the Peak District and Marple Band as a bass trombone player. I keep in touch with Forest doing match reports from time to time, although I don't really watch much football as too many players roll around for my liking! But I would do it all again without



Steve in action for Forest

a thought.”

“I'm just as passionate about my band as I was about my football; they have both been a very important part of my life.

Marple Band have a concert on Friday 8 October at 7.30pm: Last Night of the Proms, Romiley and Marple Lions, at St Christopher's Centre, Romiley.

Their free Autumn Concert takes place on Sunday 23 October 2-4pm at Marple Senior Citizen's Club, and its Christmas concert is on Saturday 17 December, 2-4pm at Marple Conservative Club. Santa will make an appearance.

If anyone is interested in booking or playing for the band, contact them via their Facebook page, website www.themarpleband.co.uk or email marpleconcerts@gmail.com

By John Pasiecznik



Adventure Film Festival back in town!

ATTENTION all film buffs! The Marple Adventure Film Festival is back in town on Friday and Saturday October 14 and 15 at Marple Scout Hut.

Doors open at 7pm for MAFF 2022 and the first film starts at 8pm.

This charity event showcases a series of short adventure films which are sure to provide inspiration, motivation and entertainment to those attending.

Films being shown this year have already won awards at similar mountain film or outdoor film festivals.

They include a film about an endurance run from Lands End to John O'Groats in under 10 days, the world of Base Jumping, how to cope in Lockdown, hitting the local peaks and an ascent of the Old Man of Hoy.

Hot food and local craft beers will be on sale along with other refreshments.

To get your ticket and find out more information, visit the website www.marpleadventurefilmfest.co.uk

All proceeds will go to the 1st Marple Scout Group.

New carers and cared-for group starts in Disley

DISLEY Friends is a new group specifically set up to support family carers and the person they care for. The group meets every week to have a brew and a chat, join in with activities, get practical advice and hopefully, make some new friends.

The group has been set up by EOLP and is supported by Disley Parish Council and local volunteers. Although the group is based in Disley, visitors from High Lane, New Mills, Kettleshume and beyond will all be made very welcome.

The group will meet every Tuesday morning starting from 10.30am to 12 noon, being held at Disley Baptist Church, 119 Buxton Rd, Disley, SK12 2HA.

If you would like more information about Disley Friends, please contact Frances on 07757 167992.



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