



Bury Relics Annual Review 2023

A view from the top from President Keiran Tilley



A very Happy New Year to Everyone.

After a very strong previous year for Bury Relics in 2022 the New Year began well with a superb presentation evening at Radcliffe Borough on 27th January 2023.

This was in some ways a false dawn as on 22nd February 2023 we sadly lost a very respected and admired member of the Relics family, Jerry Shuttleworth a key player in our successful over 70's squad. Jerry played a big part in our over 70's successes in 2022 and is sadly missed by us all.

The spring season in the GMWF league was disappointing by Relics expected standards with only our over 65's getting runners up and the only trophy for our cabinet.

The autumn season was a little better With the over 60's Stripes who had shown a lot of potential getting a much deserved runners up along with the 70's who despite injuries and absences also managed a runners up trophy.

For me the other stand out from 2023 is that we now have two England players in the Relics squads. Along with Keith Bibby carrying on with his England Parkinson's team duties Terence O'Rourke, our over 70's Skipper, has played for the England over 70's team and gained his first Cap in Dublin.

Well done to you both the Relics family are very proud of what you're achieving

I would like to close by saying a big thank you to all your committee members who work tirelessly mostly behind the scenes on behalf of Bury Relics. Lastly to all Relics players and families thank you for being part of the Relics who will hopefully continue to grow in the same manor, supporting each other on the journey.

Yours in Sport, Keiran Tilley, President, Bury Relics Walking Football.



President Keiran hangs up his walking boots.

A special mention for Keiran who has decided to hang up his walking boots and call it a day, playing wise. He will continue with his non playing activities

Keiran started the Relics in 2017 and has grown it into one of the most respected teams in the GMWFL. Well done for all you have achieved on the field Keiran. Your presence on the pitch will be greatly missed. See you on the touchline in 2024.



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Presentation Night 2023

Once again last year started with the Presentation Night for the previous season (2022) held on 27th Jan 2023.

A reminder of the recipients of last year's awards ...



- Over 60's Stripes Eddie Ford,
- Over 60's Whites Keith Swain,
- Over 65's Gaz Sweeny,
- Over 70's Keiran Tilley.

A special Unsung Hero Award went to Keith Swain for all he does in the background.

Overall Player of the Year went to Tex O'Rourke.

Remembering Jerry Shuttleworth



Jerry passed away on 22nd February 2023 He was a respected and admired member of the Relics squad.

He was a key member of the Relics over 70's team that had such a successful Spring 2022 season, winning the Greater Manchester Walking Football League (GMWFL) over 70's title on 2nd June 2022 and the Walking Football League Alliance (WFLA) Champions Cup on 11 June 2022.

Jerry's last appearance for the Relics was in the GMWFL over 74's tournament on 18th July 2022.

Greater Manchester Walking Football League

Spring Season 2023

Over 60's Whites (GMWFL Div 1)



The last game day (4 matches) of the Greater Manchester Walking Football League (GMWFL) Spring 2023 season for the Relics over 60's Whites had the usual drama and controversy.

The Relics started the final day in second spot in the table, one point behind leaders Club Kingsmaid, and on level points, but better goal difference, than third place Wakefield Wanderers. A three-way fight for the title was about to unfold. Unfortunately results didn't go the Relics way resulting in the Relics finishing in 3rd spot.

Over 60's division 1		P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Club Kingsmaid	16	7	9	0	9	30
2	Wakefield Wanderers	16	9	8	2	6	26
3	Bury Relics	16	5	8	3	8	23
4	Manchester Corinthians Reds	16	2	7	7	-7	13
5	Rochdale AFC Strollers	16	0	8	8	-13	8

Over 60's Stripes (GMWFL Div 5)

The Relics over 60's Stripes struggled in the first half of the season gaining 4 points in the March fixtures, and no points in the April games, but turned it round to be unbeaten in the May and June games only conceding 1 goal in the last 6 games.

Over 60's Division 5		P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Roach Dynamos	12	5	5	2	4	20
2	Ribble Valley	12	4	5	3	6	17
3	Wakefield Wanderers	12	3	4	5	-8	13
4	Bury Relics	12	2	6	4	-2	12

Over 65's (GMWFL Div 1)

Another exciting season for the over 65's. The Relics started the last day of 4 games in second place, just 4 points behind Club Kingsmaid. Good results and 8 points on the day wasn't enough for the Relics to overcome Kingsmaid and the Relics had to settle for second place just one point short.



	Over 65's Division 1	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Club Kingsmaid	16	7	8	1	11	29
2	Bury Relics	16	7	7	2	10	28
3	Bolton Arena	16	4	5	7	-10	17
4	Preston North End	16	1	12	3	-3	15
5	Manchester Corinthians	16	1	8	7	-8	11

Over 70's (GMWFL Div 1)

The Relics over 70's where in a similar position as the over 65's as they entered the last day only 3 points behind leaders Blackpool. A disappointing 1 point on the final day put the Relics in third place.

18 seconds

5th April 2023, Relics v Tameside, the Relics (Keith Bibby) scored 18 seconds from kick off. Six passes, the opposition didn't touch the ball. [Click here to see the video.](#)

	Division 1	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Blackpool	16	7	8	1	6	29
2	Manchester Corinthians	16	4	11	1	5	23
3	Bury Relics	16	3	10	3	0	19
4	Rochdale AFC Strollers	16	1	11	4	-3	14
5	Tameside Striders	16	1	8	7	-8	11

Greater Manchester Walking Football League

Autumn Season 2023

Over 60's Whites (GMWFL Div 1)



In a very competitive league with probably the best 5 teams in the North West, the Relics consolidated their position in the league with a fourth place finish. It was tough going on some match days but the players should be congratulated for their performances.

	Division 1	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Kingsmaid	16	10	5	1	12	35
2	Fleetwood Town Flyers	16	9	5	2	12	32
3	Wakefield Wanderers	16	6	3	7	1	21
4	Bury Relics	16	2	5	9	-15	11
5	Manchester Corinthians	16	1	6	9	-10	9

Over 60's Stripes (GMWFL Div 5)



The Relics Stripes started the GMWFL Autumn season with confidence due to the excellent finish to the Spring season. The confidence was not misplaced as they pipped Wakefield for second spot in the league on goal difference.

	Division 5	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Ribble Valley	12	6	5	1	9	23
2	Bury Relics	12	4	4	4	0	16
3	Wakefield Wanders	12	5	1	6	-4	16
4	Bolton Arena	12	2	4	6	-5	10

Over 65's (GM*WFL Div 1)

The Relics over 65's started the final day of the autumn season in 3rd spot in the league, 4 points behind the leaders and 1 point from second place. Despite some good performances and 7 points on the day they couldn't improve on that position.

	Division 1	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Bolton Arena	16	7	7	2	8	28
2	Manchester Corinthians	16	7	5	4	2	26
3	Bury Relics	16	6	7	3	4	25
4	Blackpool	16	1	10	5	-6	13
5	Preston North End	16	2	5	9	-8	11

Over 70's (GMWFL Div 1)

The Relics couldn't emulate the feats of the previous year, but finished in a solid second place in the league.



18 seconds

5th April 2023, Relics v Tameside, the Relics (Keith Bibby) scored 18 seconds from kick off. Six passes, the opposition didn't touch the ball. [Click here to see the video.](#)

	Division 1	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Manchester Corinthians	16	9	7	0	12	34
2	Bury Relics	16	6	8	2	5	26
3	Rochdale Strollers	16	4	7	5	0	19
4	Manchester Citizens	16	1	8	7	-10	11
5	Blackpool	16	0	10	6	-7	10

WFLA National Cup.



The Relics over 60's had a bye to the 2nd round which they lost to Bolton Arena 0 – 3

The over 65's beat Preston 4 – 0, and Kingsmaid 1-0 on the way to the Northwest Regional final which they lost 1 – 0 to Blackburn. The Blackburn goal ironically scored by Relics player Ian McCann

The over 70's beat Salcom 2 – 0 in the first round but lost to Corinthians 1 – 0 in Round 2

GMWFL Over 60's Martin Dawson Trophy

The Relics finished 4th in a tough group A with 6 points (W2, L3) so failed to progress to the finals.

Personal Highlights

Graham Walton

Over the weekend of 8th / 9th July, Relics player Graham Walton (back row, 3rd from left in photo) represented the Walking Football Association (WFA) North West region in a walking football tournament played at Coventry. The North West team won the competition on goal difference.

Congratulations to Graham from everyone at the Relics.



Tex O'Rourke. England Walking Football Community (EWFC)



Following his debut for the EWFC in Dublin on 8th July 2023, Relics over 70's skipper Tex O'Rourke has now received his first international cap for that appearance. Congratulations Tex from all at The Relics.



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Keith Bibby England Parkinson's Walking Football Team



Keith continued his England Parkinson's Walking Football team experience with appearances in competitions held in

- Liverpool at Marine FC's stadium, in May
- Guernsey in September

Ian McKinnon

Also congratulations to Relics member Ian McKinnon who has passed the GMWFL league referee's course and becomes the first Bury Relics Club Referee. He is now able to referee league games (when he is not playing for the Relics of course) Following classroom tuition, and practical sessions refereeing club training games Ian has become a qualified WFA referee.



2023 Summary GMWFL

Spring 2023

Over 60's Whites third
Over 60's Stripes fourth
Over 65's GMWFL Runners up
Over 70's GMWFL third

Autumn 2023

Over 60's Whites, GMWFL fourth
Over 60's Stripes 2nd division 5
Over 65's GMWFL third
Over 70's GMWFL runners up

Finally

Thank You

And finally our sincere thanks go to Tower Family Healthcare for their continued support of the kits and web site.

Also our thanks go to Radcliffe FC for their tremendous hospitality in using the facilities at The Neuen Stadium for training each week, friendly games, social events, and the annual presentation night. Thank You.



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