



THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE **TEMPLE FORTUNE** **FOOTBALL CLUB**



CELEBRATION FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT
FOR THE **JACK KYTE CHALLENGE CUP**
TO COMMEMORATE **45 YEARS OF TFFC**
AT **PRINCES PARK**, OAKFIELDS ROAD, NW11
ON **SUNDAY 29TH DECEMBER 2013**

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It is unbelievable that forty-five years have passed since TFFC was formed one wintry day in 1968. We have come a long way since then, competing in Maccabi Sunday league football for 37 years now. The Club's 45th anniversary is well worth commemorating with another visit to TFFC's birthplace.

This publication has been produced to mark the occasion and includes details of the special commemorative 'birthday' tournament being staged at Princes Park on Sunday 29th December 2013. We intend to repeat the similar event held in 2008 which celebrated the Club's fortieth anniversary.

I have always taken the time to promote the history of this long-running Club, whether in the newsletter, which has been running as long as we have been involved in league football, or via the comprehensive TFFC website. Very few Sunday clubs at this level can boast a history as long as Temple Fortune's so we must never forget our roots and that is why a fourth 'pilgrimage' to Princes Park is so appropriate.

I would like to thank those players who will be involved in the 2013 tournament – as well as the hundreds of individuals who have pulled on our colours over so many years. Everyone has played their part in the continued existence of the Temple Fortune Football Club and I remain extremely proud of how far we have come.

*BY NIGEL KYTE
TFFC CHAIRMAN*

WELCOME





The entrance to Princes Park where Temple Fortune FC staged kick-about during the mid-sixties leading to the Club's formation on 28th December 1968.

HOME HOME HOME HOME HOME

Welcome to
PRINCES PARK

Drive along Golders Green Road towards the North Circular Road end, take the turning into Princes Park Avenue next to where the Prince Albert Pub (then the Harvester) used to be, continue a short way and take first right into Leaside Crescent.

Then turn first left into Oakfields Road, drive up the hill and park by the roadside opposite the old dark green metal gates. Within the confines of the dark green railings to your left is Princes Park, a smallish wooded area of parkland in Temple Fortune, a district of Golders Green, North West Eleven, and part of the London Borough of Barnet.

Two concrete-surfaced tennis courts stand left and right of the pathway bordered by rose bushes, which leads straight down a slight slope to the old wooden shelter with its toilets either side, edged with curved hedges. To the left behind Court One is an area of grass on a slope with quite a few trees, two of which form the goalposts at the top just beyond the path, with another two appropriately placed 80 yards or so down the incline. This area was named the 'bottom pitch' and staged many kick-about and games

between 1966 and 1968. Further up the park, beyond the concreted playground with its original twin swings, roundabout and green 4-seater rocking horse, which have since been replaced by modernised fenced-in amusements, a larger area of mown grass leads onto the 'top pitch'; this lay adjacent between the long-removed grassed-over air raid shelter hills and the small rose garden



near the park keeper's hut located in the top right hand corner of the park.

Small 4 or 5-a-side games were generally played on the 'bottom pitch'; anything between 6 and 11-a-side was staged on the larger area of the 'top pitch', either long ways or across depending on the numbers participating. Jumpers, cricket stumps or poles were used as goalposts.

The Kyte family lived at 'Woodside', No. 1 Oakfields Road (the white house in the centre below), which was located next to the park. TFFC was run from this location by Nigel

and Peter Kyte from 1968 until they both left the family home to move into their own.

Outside 'Woodside' was the famous low brick wall where the Club was formed in December 1968. It was here that four youngsters formed the Temple Fortune Town FC, as it was originally named.

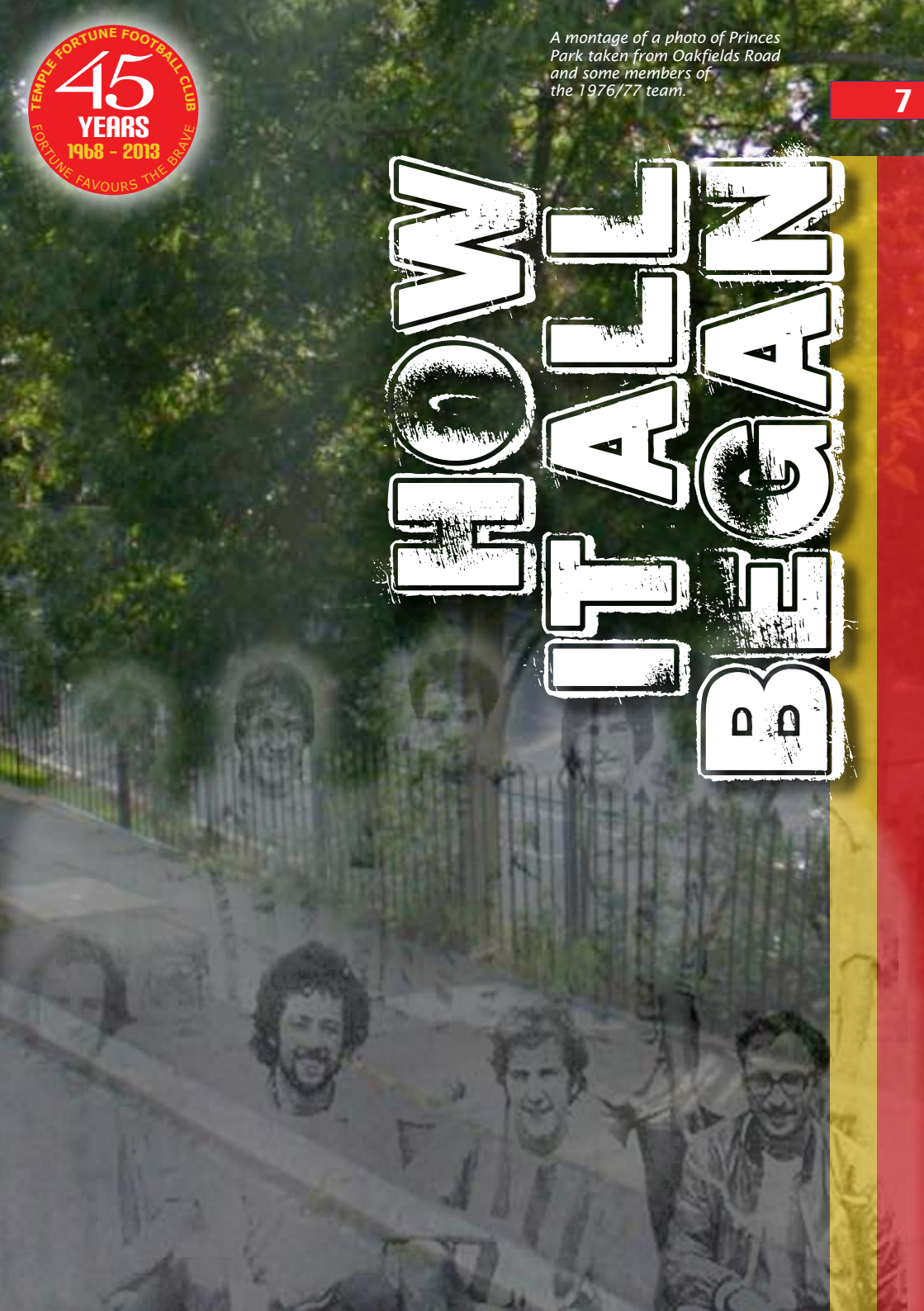
On Sunday 29th December 2013, 45 years after founding the Club, there will be a pilgrimage back to Princes Park NW11, where it all began so many years previously. A return to home, sweet home! 🇪🇺





A montage of a photo of Princes Park taken from Oakfields Road and some members of the 1976/77 team.

HOW IT ALL BEGAN



In the mid-sixties, a group of friends met every Sunday morning for kick-about at Princes Park, a small park in Temple Fortune, NW11. Around the autumn of 1968, a few members of the group split away to start up a team named Princes Park.

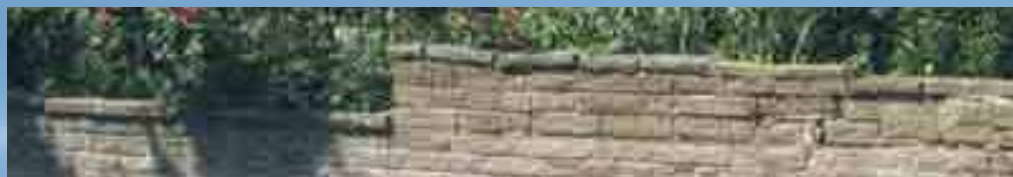
On 28th December 1968, four other players, namely Michael Rook, Robert Silverstone and brothers Nigel and Peter Kyte, decided to form their own team. They sat on the low brick wall (pictured below) outside the Kyte family home in the descending gloom after another kickabout in the Park and discussed their idea. Unable to use the obvious name of Princes Park, the young foursome called the new side Temple Fortune Town. TFT, as the team was affectionally known, took part in small-sided matches to begin with.

The first 11-a-side match was played on Sunday 25th October 1970 at Hampstead Heath, where TFT beat Princes Park Juniors 12-4.

In 1971, the name was shortened to just Temple Fortune and a set of yellow shirts was bought from Pullens



of Temple Fortune Parade for only £14! Temple Fortune continued to play the occasional friendly match but towards the end of the 1972/73 season, the idea was for the Club to progress into proper league football. In June 1973, founders Nigel and Peter Kyte, joined by brothers David and Jeremy Lobl, held a meeting to decide whether or not the team should join the Maccabi (Southern)



The Club's original 'HO' in Oakfields Road, next to Princes Park, where the Kyte family resided for 45 years or so.



Football League (M(S)FL) for season 1973/74. A split vote defeated the proposal just prior to the M(S)FL's Annual General Meeting.

Because of this setback, Temple Fortune went into a decline which saw the Club stagnate for a couple of years, playing very few games. However, on 18th February 1976, the Club was revived by the forming of a new Management Committee. Temple Fortune completed the 1975/76 season by playing five

friendlies, three of them against existing M(S)FL teams. Winning four and drawing one, this encouraging start paved the way towards a successful application being submitted to join the M(S)FL for the 1976/77 season.

At the Club's first AGM at the Alyth Youth Club NW11 in June 1976, Nigel Kyte was elected as Chairman, an office he still holds to this day, whilst Peter Kyte took on the role of General Secretary in which he remained for



the next 15 years. Affiliating to the London Football Association, Temple Fortune purchased a new green and white kit and were allocated Parliament Hill Playing Fields for home matches in the inaugural league season.

The first historic M(S)FL match was played on Sunday 5th September 1976 against fellow-newcomers Bushey United. Fortune went on to finish the debutant season in 7th out of 13 teams. There followed 37 years of competing in the M(S)FL, running two teams for 21 of them.

Temple Fortune became founder members of the Maccabi Masters

Football League – for ‘veterans’ – having run an Old Boys team for six years. Temple Fortune Old Boys took part in MMFL football for the first time on 17th October 1999.

Now the Club will celebrate its 45th birthday on 29th December 2013, an achievement of continued longevity of which we are immensely proud. A fourth commemorative pilgrimage back to Princes Park will see a repeat of the football tournament last held five years previously to mark the occasion. Such a marvellous milestone speaks volumes about TFFC’s excellent reputation and high ranking status within Maccabi sport. 🇺🇦



The Club’s oldest photograph, looking like a faded pic from the 19th century! From left to right, back row: Richard Batten, Andy Gold, Matt Cohen, Jack Rochon and Alex Burns. Front row: Peter Kyte, Paul Squires, Danny Espinoza and Barry Borman.





8 9 1 THE D TEAM

Jack Morris clears the ball during a First Team game in season 2010/11 when Temple Fortune won the M(S)FL Second Division championship 25 years after first accomplishing the same feat.

... THAT GREW INTO REALITY!

BY NIGEL KYTE, CO-FOUNDER

IN THE YEAR nineteen-sixty-eight, the sport of Association Football was enjoying good times in this country. Only two years earlier, England had won the World Cup.



The national team also finished third in the European Nations Cup, as it was then called, having lost narrowly to Yugoslavia in the semi-final. A couple of months previously, Manchester United had defeated Benfica at Wembley to capture English football's first European Cup prize.

In 1968, we drooled over the talents of George Best, Bobby Charlton, Denis Law, Jimmy Greaves and a whole host of great stars. Grounds attracted large attendances nationwide with 50,000 plus regularly flocking to Anfield, Old Trafford and White Hart Lane, amongst others. Yes, 1968 was a good year for our National Game.

Which probably explains why the young kids of that era could not get enough of their favourite sport.

As a typical eager 14-year-old, I lived for my football. In 1968 I was watching the emergence of Arsenal's great double-winning side and tried to emulate my heroes in my local park. Together with my brother Peter and various friends, we looked forward with unwavering relish to our weekly kick-about at Princes Park, a smallish area of parkland in Oakfields Road, Temple Fortune, London NW11. If homework and day light permitted, we would meet midweek after school to slog it out amongst the trees on our sloping



pitch by the tennis courts. Oh, those were the days! For quite some time we enjoyed our National Game in that Park before deciding to form a team. The day of reckoning was the 28th of December, nineteen-sixty-eight; after yet another bruising Princes Park encounter, with the light drastically fading, we walked wearily up Oakfields Road to the first house past the Park where the Kyte family resided, namely 'Woodside' at house No. 1. On the low brick wall (pictured below), four of us discussed the important issue at hand: what shall we call our New Team? Princes Park? Golders Green? Oakfields? Temple Fortune? Do we add United, Albion, Rovers, Wanderers, Hotspur (God forbid!) or Town?

Well, the obvious name of Princes Park was taken by another group of players who formed their own separate team at around the same time. Golders Green was too large an area to be represented by our small rabble. As for Oakfields, "why should they have their road name and not mine... or his?" (Well, that's what the others probably thought at the time!) So it just had to be Temple Fortune. Yes, our area. Small enough for us

to use the name, we felt. As for a second name, the only one which sounded reasonable was "Town". Temple Fortune Town Football Club. Or "TFT" as we fondly called our newly formed club during bursts of enthusiastic footy talk!

Three days before the end of a great footballing year, the TFT was born to further unite our thriving, fanatical interest in Association Football. Who in their wildest dreams would have thought that, nearly 45 years later, that same little Club would still be in existence? Not its founders, that's for sure! Since squabbling over the Club's name in 1968, Temple Fortune FC has come a long way. Out of the embryonic stage of friendlies came a new league team, adding the attraction of regular competition to a keen desire to gain rapid success. That was in 1976 when we joined the Maccabi (Southern) Football League which had been running for some seventeen years or so.

And now, as we look back over the Club's many seasons, we ourselves have been competing in the M(S)FL for over 35 years, climbing from the lowest division to the top, and moving up and down the league with



a fair degree of regularity. Different seasons have brought different eras of team composition: for instance, there was the 'Andy Batten team' in the early league days, the 'Stephen Bourne team' which successfully kept together for a good five or so years, and the 'Tony Stock team' which won two divisional medals during another five-year spell. All were influential captains who gave excellent service to the Club, together with their own regular group of team-mates. Temple Fortune has not been the most successful of clubs but for organisation, atmosphere, friendliness and overall enjoyment we have been second to none. Which says much for the level of loyalty shown by so many players.

Yes, I've enjoyed my many years of involvement with Temple Fortune. Even after all these years, I still get a kick out of running the Club and seeing players enjoy the game as it should be enjoyed, in the name of the Temple Fortune FC. How long it all will continue I cannot say. Probably for as long as Peter and



I stay dedicated to the Club's cause, who knows? All I can say is that my love for our National Game, and this little Maccabi (Southern) Football League club continues. Maybe not as fervently as a starry-eyed, soccer-mad fourteen-year-old about to share in a team's founding in 1968, but nevertheless, my Temple Fortune Football Club love affair relentlessly drags on!

By pulling on a Temple Fortune shirt in whichever era you were able to participate, you automatically became part of the original nineteen-sixty-eight dream. You are one of well over 650 players to have represented this Club during Temple Fortune's lengthy history and you should find your name listed on the TFFC website as a permanent record of your involvement in the 'A to Z of Players' section.

The Temple Fortune Football Club. One of Maccabi football's longest established and best run Clubs. Unbelievably, we've survived four decades; that, to me, is a really excellent achievement indeed. 🇪🇺





Lee Fegan (number 2) faces a penalty kick by Phil Small during the 40th Anniversary Celebration Football Tournament on 28th December 2008 at Princes Park.



4000 1100 2000 2000 PRINCE PRINCE PRINCE

On a dry but cold winter's morning on Sunday 28th December 2008, exactly 40 years to the day that the Club was formed, a commemorative tournament was successfully staged at Princes Park, the home of TFFC's origins.

Seventeen players in total took part in the four-a-side event, selected into four teams kitted out in various Temple Fortune shirts. Meeting at 9.45am behind one of the Park tennis courts, the tournament started with a welcome introduction by Club Chairman Nigel Kyte which was as follows:

"There can be nothing more fitting to celebrate the Club's 40th anniversary than to play football on the very

pitch where it was formed. So this morning's commemorative event here at Princes Park has enormous significance to the founders of Temple Fortune Football Club, and to Stephen and Brian Melzack who also played here during their boyhood. But more than that, it offers other Club Members the opportunity to share in a sense of history.

Peter and I are delighted to welcome all of you to this important location



The First team's Jonathan Cohen tries to find Jon Fisher during the game against Old Boys 'A' which the Firsts surprisingly lost 6-1.



which was so instrumental in the Club's formation. Here we kicked about amongst the trees for a number of years before founding the Club. I would like to welcome in particular the Melzack brothers who were a part of our earliest days. They lived opposite the Kyte family home which was No.1 Oakfields Road.

At stake for this fun tournament is the Jack Kyte Challenge Cup, a competition which has run since Jack's passing in 2003. Many a time he would walk around this Park with his wife Ruth and their boxer dogs. Jack's keenness for photography gave the Club a legacy which has played a big part in the TFFC history; his work can be seen throughout the website.

Thank you for being a part of the 40th anniversary of Temple Fortune Football Club. We sincerely hope you enjoy the occasion."

Nigel then briefly explained the pitch extremities and rules after which the tournament kicked-off for real. At 10.10am, the first group game of six commenced amongst the trees, where a group of youngsters staged many a kickabout forty years previously, leading to the Club's

formation. Soon into the first fixture, the Old Boys 'B' team opened the scoring on the leaf-covered sloping pitch against the Founders' team, the first goal of 48 to be converted in the group stage. Whilst the Founders' team lost all three of their games, the other three teams each won two games and drew on points. Therefore, the specified rule listing the order of qualifiers in the event of a tie determined that the First team lost out on a place in the Final.

With the sun shining brightly by this time, the Final pitched the Old Boys 'A' team against their 'B' team counterparts. In the last group game, the 'B's had surprisingly won 7-1 but the Final was a much closer affair. Rob Benson, guesting for the Old Boys 'B' team, gave his side an early lead which they held onto until the last couple of minutes when Yali Mamouri equalised from Lee Fegan's cross, the 50th goal of the morning!

The contest went to a thrilling penalty shoot-out in the 'higher' goal in front of one of the tennis courts. All eight kicks were scored before the Final went to sudden death. Yali Mamouri squeezed the ball past Phil Small to make it 5-4 to the Old Boys 'A' team,





followed by Lee Fegan, who had very nearly saved two previous penalties, diving to his left to keep out Rob Benson's spot kick.

So the Old Boys 'A' team jubilantly celebrated a hard-fought victory in an entertaining and keenly contested tournament. After a bottle of champagne had been opened and everyone had toasted the Club's 40th anniversary, Nick Waitsman, the Club's Vice-Chairman, presented commemorative plaques to each participant, before handing the Jack Kyte Challenge Cup to victorious Old Boys 'A' skipper Lee Fegan.

Yali Mamouri, recently back from his homeland Morocco, knotted 11 goals in the tournament (including one tremendous overhead kick on the volley), with Rob Benson finishing second top scorer on 10. John Fisher, Daniel Natoff and Andy Montlake were other hat-trick scorers. Apart from one heavy foul on Phil Small by Yali, Brian Melzack was the only player to suffer a worrying injury when an accidental collision with team-mate Peter Kyte left him with a bloodied nose (fortunately bruised and not broken). Other than a brief spat between recent new dad



Andy Souber and Phil Small (which ended in handshakes, of course), the tournament was played in a commendably sporting spirit and enjoyed by all.

Said organiser Nigel Kyte afterwards: "Without doubt, being back at Princes Park, where many an embryonic game was played on this very pitch in the mid- to late-sixties, was the only fitting way to celebrate this

incredible milestone. I would like to thank all the competing players for making the effort to attend this special commemorative event. Also Jonathan Davidoff and Nick Waitsman who braved the cold to watch it, Mike Shorvon for assisting me with the organisation and my brother Peter and his son Bennie for taking the photos. Altogether it was very enjoyable... see you all at Princes Park in five years time!" 

*The victorious team!
From left to right,
Gideon Wetrip, Lee
Fegan, Yali Mamouri
and Andy Souber.*



TEMPLE FORTUNE FOOTBALL CLUB
45
YEARS
1968 - 2013
FORTUNE FAVOURS THE BRAVE

Peter Kyte wears Temple Fortune's original shirt from the very first M(S)FL season, namely 1976/77. His son Ben (left) adorns a new shirt in 2006 to mark 30 years in the M(S)FL.

20

BY BAR FOR TEMPLE NUMBER



FACTS & FIGURES

2 championships won by 

15 promotions collectively

65 seasons played by all 3 teams

2 cup final appearances

9 semi-final appearances

24 quarter-finals

5 msfl player of the year awards

11 msfl rep team honours

53 players with 100 or more apps

22 players with 200 or more apps

10 with **300** or more apps

6 players on **400** or more apps

2 with **500** or more apps

684 players wearing tffc colours

1,009 1st team matches

of which **684** are league games

37 1st team league seasons in total

21 2nd team league seasons

14 old boys team league seasons

54 serving officers on man.com

1 msfl team sec. of the year

3 runners-up: msfl 1, masters 2

5 third places: 1sts 3, 2nds 2

10 fourth places: msfl 5, masters 5

1,918 matches played by all three teams

of which **1,333** are league games

4,976 goals scored in total by all tffc teams ever

25,000 hits on the tffc website on 18 June 2013 

All figures are correct up to the end of the 2012/13 season.





Brian Melzack, one of Temple Fortune's original players in 1968, returns to Princes Park for the 2008 tournament.

TEMPLE FORTUNE RETURN TO PRINCES PARK



Five years after the 2008 tournament, the Club are returning to Princes Park to celebrate its 45th anniversary. A similar event will be staged amongst the trees on Sunday 29th December 2013.

The Club first held a special invitation four-a-side game at Princes Park in 1993 as part of TFFC's Silver Anniversary celebrations. Played on the very same pitch which hosted so many kickabouts in the embryonic days, it was a sentimental occasion particularly for Nigel and Peter Kyte to be back playing on that famous sloping patch! The participants, mainly Honorary Members who had given long service to the Club, all wore old TF kits and received framed captioned photographs to mark the occasion. The Club commemorated 35 years of existence in December 2003 by staging a second invitation small-sided game at Princes Park.

So the 2008 return to the Club's birthplace, the third such commemorative occasion, drew 16 players competing in four teams on a sunny but chilly morning on TFFC's actual birthday. The tournament was won by the Old Boys 'A' team comprising of Lee Fegan, Yali

Mamouri, Andy Souber and Gideon Wetrin. The 2013 visit back to the Park will give Club Members past and present a chance to play on the hallowed sloping patch with trees dotted around, as bizarre a setting for football games as can be imagined, just as the Club's earliest players did all those years ago.

On Sunday 29th December 2013, four teams will take part in another tournament for the Jack Kyte Challenge Cup, similar to the event held five years previously. The tournament runs from 10.00am to approximately 12.30pm and players are welcome to join TFFC management for a complimentary drink afterwards at The White Swan in Golders Green Road, NW11. It's a short drive to the pub – drive to the bottom of Oakfields Road (to the right as you leave Princes Park), turn right into Leaside Crescent, turn left into Princes Park Avenue. Turn left into Golders Green Road and the pub is located on the right.



All players taking part are kindly requested to stay for the presentation, whether playing in the Final or not. Teams will be as listed on the TFFC website (click on the centre of the home page) but may be subject to change on the day.

Each player will receive a special engraved memento to commemorate taking part. A full schedule has been included below. Finally, many thanks for agreeing to be a part of the Club's Celebration Football Tournament to mark birthday number forty-five!

CELEBRATION FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

9.45am – All participants to meet at Princes Park NO LATER than 9.45am please

10.00am – Welcoming address by NIGEL KYTE, Club Chairman

TOURNAMENT GROUP GAMES (all lasting 10 minutes one way) First named team kicks down slope

10.15am – Group game 1: Founders' team versus First team

10.30am – Group game 2: Old Boys team versus Second team

10.45am – Group game 3: Founders' team versus Second' team

11.00am – Group game 4: Old Boys team versus First team

11.15am – Group game 5: Second team versus First team

11.30am – Group game 6: Founders' team versus Old Boys team

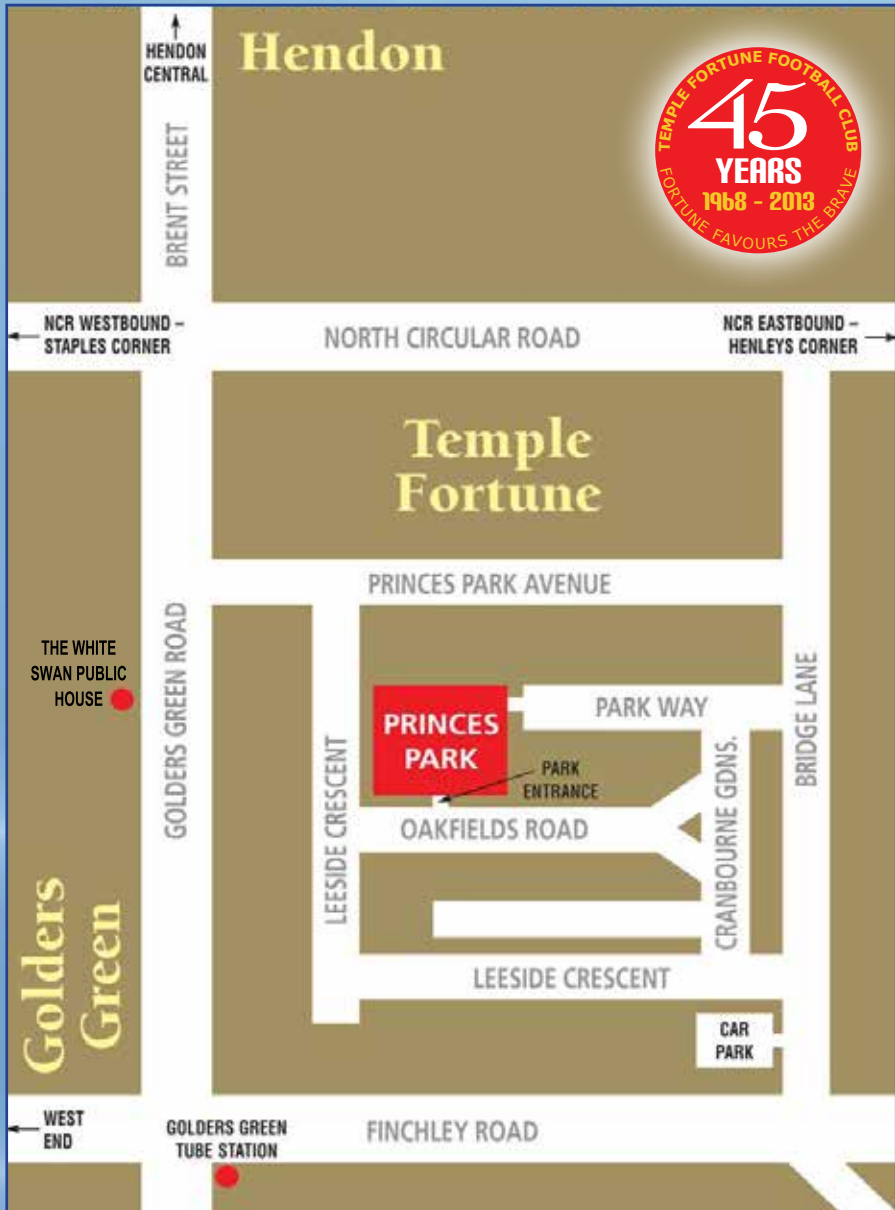
11.50am – **THE FINAL** (8 minutes each way) Group winners versus Group runners-up

12.15pm – Presentation of engraved medals to participants

Presentation of the Jack Kyte Challenge Cup to the winners

1.00pm – Drinks at The White Swan Public House, Golders Green Road, NW11







Temple Fortune Football Club

Founded 1968

Affiliated to the London Football Association
Members of the Amateur Sports Association, Maccabi (Southern) Football League
and Maccabi Masters Football League

Website: www.tffc.co.uk Email: info@tffc.co.uk