

Welcome to the
BOSTON UNITED
Supporters Association



HALL of FAME
PRESENTATION NIGHT

Friday 21st February 2025



Boston United Hall of Fame Presentation Night Friday 21st February 2025

The Boston United Supporters Association (BUSA) in conjunction with Boston United Football Club, established a 'Hall of Fame' in the year 2020 to honour individuals who have made significant contributions to Boston United Football Club over the years.

This initiative celebrates the achievements and dedication of players, managers, and other key figures associated with the club.

The inductees in the BUSA / Boston United Hall of Fame are:

**Paul Bastock
John Blackwell
Billy Howells
Chris Cook
Dave Adamson
Jim Kabia
Paul Casey
Jason Lee
Neil Callery
Gary Mallender
Steve Appleby
Paul Ellender
Howard Wilkinson
Greg Fee
Marc Newsham
Scott Garner**



Paul Bastock



John Blackwell and Chris Cook



Billy Howells



Gary Mallender



Jim Kabia, Dave Adamson being interviewed by Scott Dalton & Paul Casey

**Boston United Hall of Fame Presentation Night
Friday 21st February 2025**

Posthumous Hall of Fame Awards

For the first time this year, Posthumous Awards are also being awarded, with individual commemorative bricks being placed on the Memorial Wall at The Jakemans Community Stadium to remember those who did so much for Boston United in their time at the club.

Ernest Malkinson

Director (1934-1986) Soon after Boston United FC came into existence in 1933, Ernest Malkinson, a local entertainment entrepreneur, was elected to the board. For most of the next 70 years, the Malkinson family, owners of the Gliderdrome Bingo and



Chairman Ernest Malkinson with the team celebrating a victory in the early 70's

Dance Hall, were one of the driving forces behind Boston United as the club established themselves as a major semi-professional side.

Ernest Malkinson was a prominent figure in Boston, Lincolnshire, known for his significant contributions to both the local football scene and the entertainment industry. In January 1934, Malkinson, a local entertainment entrepreneur, was elected to the board of Boston United Football Club. He became the main driving force behind the club and remained so for the next fifty years.

Ernest Malkinson's tenure with Boston United Football Club was marked by significant achievements and occasional challenges.

Under his leadership, the club experienced notable successes, particularly in the 1950s and 1970s. In the 1955–56 FA Cup, Boston United achieved a historic 6–1 victory against Derby County at the Baseball Ground, setting a record for the largest away win by a non-league team against a Football League opponent.



Chairman Ernest Malkinson with the team celebrating a cup win in the late 70's

The 1970s were a golden era for the club. Boston United secured four Northern Premier League titles in the 1972–73, 1973–74, 1976–77, and 1977–78 seasons. Despite these achievements, the club faced disappointment in 1978 when, after winning the league, they were overlooked for Football League election in favor of runners-up Wigan Athletic.

Ernest joined the United squad on their trip to Wembley in 1985, and attended the civic reception the following day, even though he was very poorly at the time.



Bob Lee, John Blackwell, Ernest Malkinson, Gary Simpson & Don Robinson on the balcony of the Assembly Rooms in Boston Market Place for the civic reception following the Wembley appearance in the FA Trophy in 1985.

Summing Ernest up in his autobiography, the late Jim Smith – who’s management career began at Boston - wrote:

“He was a founder member of the league of gentlemen – an absolute diamond. I always said he should have taken over a league club because I think he would have been a great success. But he was happy to do what he did for Boston United and I could never

thank him enough for what he did for me.”

“He always knew how well or badly my teams were doing, and told me mine was the first result he looked for. His wife told me a few years later that his great wish was to live long enough to see me lead a team out in a Cup final at Wembley. I achieved that distinction in the 1986 League Cup final... Ernest Malkinson died twenty minutes after the game finished.”

Pat Malkinson

Patrick "Pat" Malkinson (1941–2016) was a prominent figure in Boston, Lincolnshire, known for his significant contributions to both sports and entertainment in the community. As the chairman of Boston United Football Club and co-owner of the Gliderdrome, he played a pivotal role in shaping the town's cultural and sporting landscape.



The Malkinson family's association with Boston United began in the 1930's when Pat's father, Ernest Malkinson, a local entertainment entrepreneur, was elected to the club's board. This marked the start of a long-standing relationship, with the family overseeing the club's operations for nearly seven decades. Under their stewardship, Boston United established itself as one of the top semi-professional sides in the country.

In addition to their football endeavors, the Malkinson family owned and operated the Gliderdrome, a renowned entertainment venue in Boston. Originally opened as an open-air skating rink in the mid-1930s by brothers Ernest and Sydney Malkinson, the

venue evolved over the years. Following a fire in 1959, it was rebuilt and transformed into a premier music venue, hosting legendary acts such as Tom Jones, Tina Turner, and Slade.

Pat Malkinson's tenure as chairman of Boston United was marked by both achievements and challenges.

One of his cherished memories was witnessing Boston United play at Wembley in the 1985 FA Trophy Final.... and seeing the club finally promoted to The Football League in 2002.

Reflecting on his experiences, Pat once remarked, "There was something special about matchday in our house. It was all about the football. You looked forward to the games and booked your holidays around the season... that's how it was."



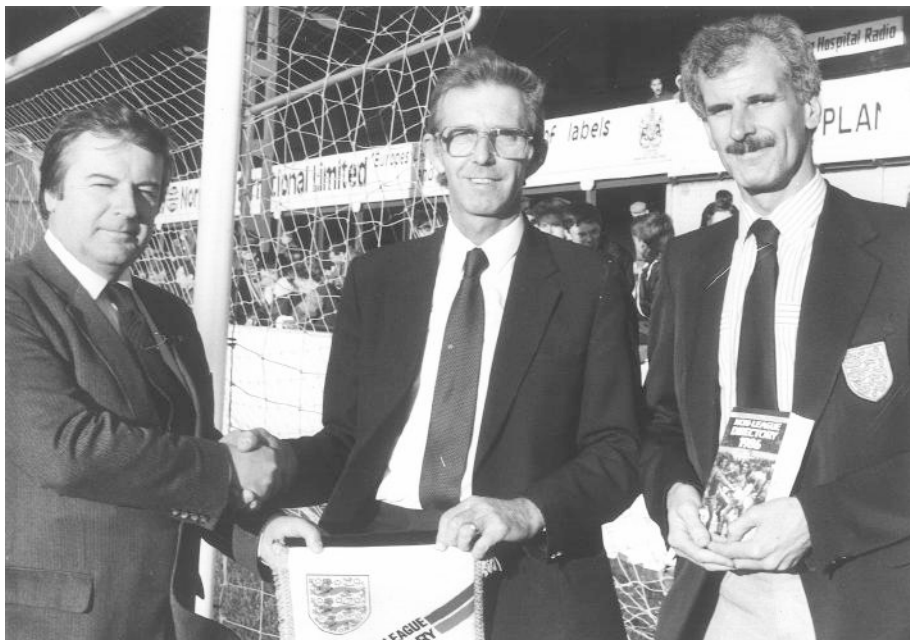
Pat would like this photo, here he is receiving cheque for sponsorship of the FA Trophy semi-final from Shane Caulfield Marketing Director of Fogarty, Havenside, Boston

However, his love for the club continued and he could often be spotted on matchdays opening the fire exit from the Gliderdrome and looking out on the pitch, sometimes watching his son-in-law Paul Bastock in goal for the Pilgrims, but generally just taking in the matchday atmosphere.

The bottom line is that without the Malkinson family there would be no Boston United.

Pat Malkinson passed away in 2016 at the age of 75, leaving behind a legacy deeply intertwined with Boston's sporting and entertainment history. He is survived by sons Andrew and Christopher, daughter Anne, and seven grandchildren.

We are pleased to see that many of them are here tonight to help us say thank you to the Malkinson Family.



Pat receiving the award of Non League Directory - East Midlands Club of the Year 1986 from Editor Tony Williams and FA President Adrian Titcombe



Pat Malkinson welcoming new manager Peter Morris to York Street in 1991



Pat was proud to wear the tie and blazer of his beloved club

Arthur Mann

Defender (82-83, 83-86) Signed from Mansfield Town. Began his career with Hearts but in 1969 was transferred to Manchester City for £65,000, then a record for a Scottish defender coming across the border.

Following a three and a half year stay at Maine Road, Arthur was transferred to Notts County for £15,000 where he stayed for seven seasons making over 240 appearances.

He then moved to Shrewsbury Town for £30,000 but left after only four months to join Mansfield Town in 1979 in a £36,000 deal, three years later he joined Boston United.

After one season with the Pilgrims when he was voted "Player of the Year" in the 1983/1984 season he left to join up with his former Notts County teammate Don Masson at Kettering Town, but returned to York Street after only three months with the Poppies.

He took over as manager at end of 83/84 and led the Pilgrims to the FA Trophy Final at Wembley in 1985. Unfortunately The Pilgrims lost 2-1 to the Conference Champions Wealdstone in the final.



Arthur Mann in Man City colours following his move from Hearts



Arthur Mann in Wembley kit

Player Manager, Arthur would probably have played in the final, but he had broken his leg earlier in the season, and had not fully recovered.... and knowing Arthur he would not have denied another player the opportunity of playing at Wembley, even if he was fit!

The following season, The Pilgrims got off to a poor start and Arthur was relieved of his duties. His assistant and former team mate at Notts County, Ray O'Brien took over as manager.



Arthur in the obligatory managers sheepskin coat



Arthur Mann, player manager of Boston United being well looked after by the nurses at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston.



Boston United manager Arthur Mann receiving the Real McKenzie Whisky Manager of the Month Award from Robert Owen Sales Executive

After leaving the Pilgrims Arthur played for Telford United, then joined up with Alan Buckley for quite a few years as assistant manager at Grimsby Town and later West Bromwich Albion. Arthur came back to York Street in 1990 to play in Chris Cook's Testimonial game alongside members of his Wembley 85 team.



Arthur Mann as WBA Assistant Manager

Born 23/1/1948 in Falkirk. Arthur tragically died in February 1999, following an industrial accident. Arthur will always be remembered by everyone at Boston United Football Club and in football in general as a true gentlemanand he definitely was a lovely, lovely man.



Jubilant Boston United dressing room following the last gasp 3-2 semi-final win over Altrincham to take The Pilgrims to Wembley in 1985

Welcome to tonight's Hall of Fame Inductees

Geoff Snade

Defender (53-66) Geoff started his career with Mansfield Town from school but after completing his national service, he joined his home town club, Chesterfield FC before signing for United at the start of the 1953-54 season at the start of a long and illustrious career with The Pilgrims.

Geoff made over 130 consecutive appearances over the next four seasons, figuring in the famous 6-1



Geoff Snade in United colours



Geoff Snade the hard tackling full back of Boston United second from left



Geoff Snade the Boston United number 3 clearing off the line at White Hart Lane v Tottenham Hotspur

FA Cup victory at Derby in front of 23,757 supporters in December 1955 and the subsequent 4-0 defeat at Spurs in front of 46,185 in January 1956. Our stats people think this may be the biggest crowd a Boston United team has ever played in front of.

His time with United was interrupted by short spells at Spalding, where he played in the side which beat Boston 14-0 in the FA Cup, and Skegness as United hit bad times in the early 60's.

He soon returned to play again for United under Don Donovan before his career was cut short by a knee injury in 1966. Geoff is the only member of the Boston team that played in that historic Cup run that still lives in the town.

In 1983, he suffered a heart attack and had to undergo by-pass surgery but recovered fully and returned to work.

Born 28/03/1933 in Holmewood near Chesterfield.

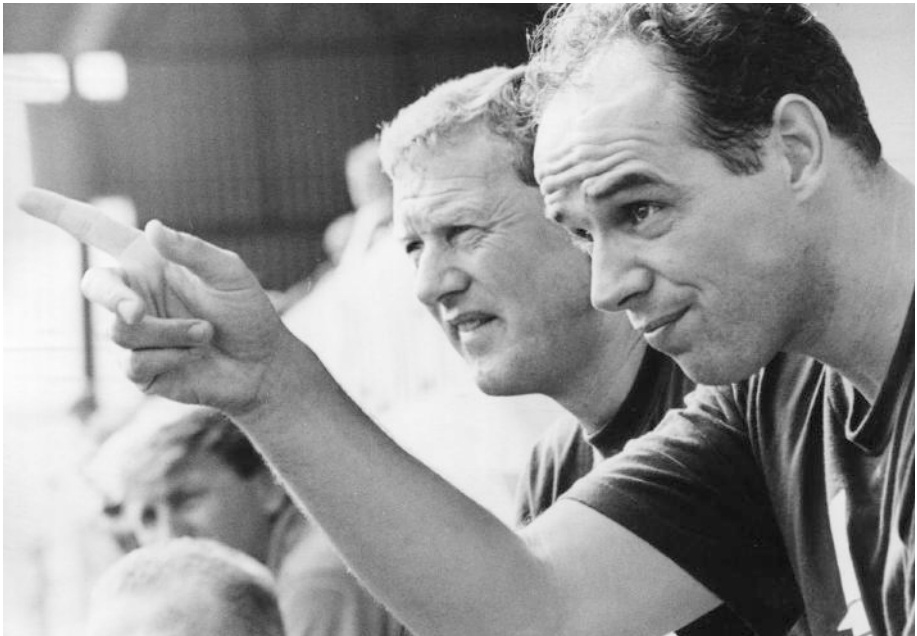
Total APPEARANCES 383 2 GOALS

Ronnie Reid

Forward (1975-1977)

Ronnie also played for Chesterfield, Scarborough and Worksop Town as well as Boston United. He actually came to Boston 4 times - player then assistant manager to Dave Cusack, Mel Sterland and George Kerr for 6 months (in his words.... a big mistake!).

Later went into management at Stafford Rangers, and then became manager of the England Semi-Professional side in September 1996.



Ronnie on the bench alongside player manager Mel Sterland the former Sheffield Wednesday, Leeds United, Rangers and England international

Assistant manager to Neil Warnock at Oldham and Bury before becoming Academy Manager/ Reserve team manager at Sheffield United for 11 years.

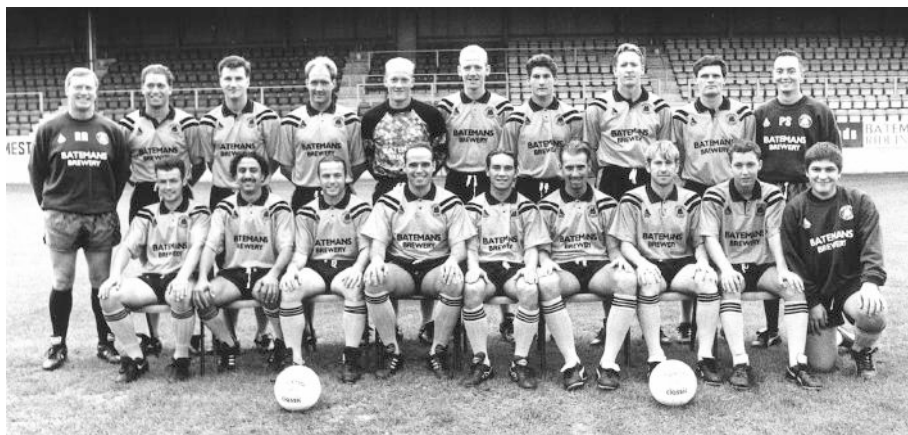
Moved to Hungary to become assistant manager with Craig Short at Ferencvaros for one season before retiring.

All counted, 48 youngsters went on to play at least 25 football league games for various clubs from his time at Sheffield United Academy including Dominic Calvert-Lewin and Billy Sharp. Plus Phil Jagielka, Harry Maguire and Kyle Walker also went on to play for England in World Cup & Euros.



Born 9/11/1944 in Liversedge.

Total APPEARANCES 34 15 GOALS



Mel and Ronnie's Boston United squad pre-season 1995/1996

Martin Hardy

Needs no introduction! Martin Hardy, born on December 12, 1962, in Worksop, England, is a former professional footballer renowned for his significant contributions to Boston United Football Club.

Primarily playing as a defender, Hardy's tenure at Boston United spanned over a decade, during which he became a pivotal figure and long-serving captain.

Hardy joined Boston United in June 1988 from Worksop Town for a transfer fee of £10,000. He quickly established himself as a



Martin scoring with a powerful header at the York Street End

mainstay in the team's defence, making over 450 appearances and scoring 36 goals across his two spells with the club.

Martin played under the management of Mel Sterland, Greg Fee and briefly Steve Evans.

His leadership on the field was instrumental in guiding the team through various league campaigns and cup competitions.

In recognition of his dedication and impact, Boston United honoured Hardy with a testimonial match in May 1999, celebrating his outstanding service to the club. Further cementing his legacy, the club have named one of the four executive boxes at the Jakemans Community Stadium the "Martin Hardy Suite."

Beyond his playing career, Hardy's name remains synonymous with commitment and leadership at Boston United, reflecting his enduring legacy within the club's history.





Martin Hardy pictured alongside former Boston United team mates and Boston United legends who came along to celebrate his well deserved Testimonial at York Street in 1999



Jay Rollins

Born 1/6/1994 Forward
Attacker Jay joined Boston United in July 2015 after agreeing an initial one-year contract at York Street, with a further one-year option.

Signed by Dennis Greene, having impressed while at Armthorpe Welfare. Scoring eight goals as The Pilgrims made it to the National League North play-offs in 2016, he remained in the team as they underwent a transitional season in 2016/17. Rollins finished top scorer with 12, and won the club's Player of the Year trophy.

Once again retained as Boston strengthened for the final season at York Street, Jay scored 6 and assisted twice as United positioned themselves for a play-off push and reached the second round of the FA Cup – before the pandemic put a holt to the Farewell to York Street season.



Jay celebrating scoring a goal at the Town End



Netting in the behind closed doors semi-final against Gateshead, which United won 5-3, Jay and his teammates were unable to make the final step against

Altrincham. Injury limited his involvement from then on in but Jay stayed for two more years before joining Worksop Town, with 186 appearances and 36 United goals to his name.



Jay being chased by our recent new signing.... the returning Brad Nicholson



Paul Ellender, Steve Appleby, Gary Mallender, Neil Callery and Jason Lee.

Howard Wilkinson

Scott Garner, Greg Fee and Marc Newsham

Receiving their Hall of Fame awards

