

BLUENOSE SE

FAN OF THE WEEK

ARE YOU A BIG BLUENOSE (NOT WAIST SIZE) DO YOU FANCY BEING MIB'S FAN OF THE WEEK? EMAIL US AND WE WILL REPLY WITH THE QUESTIONNAIRE FOR YOU TO FILL IN. PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO ATTACH A PHOTO. KEEP RIGHT ON!

Name: Tom Kleine

Age: 42 (Born: Season 1969/1970)

Where were you born? In Attendorn, in the Midlands of Germany...;-)

Where do you live? After a few years in Dusseldorf (home of Fortuna Dusseldorf, my favourite team in Germany,) I came back to my hometown Attendorn a few years ago.

What is your occupation? I'm employed at the town council of Attendorn as the Supervisor of the Public Relations Department. I usually make the updates on the homepage www.attendorn.de every day and I write press reports about the news in our town and the town hall. Additionally I'm a journalist for some German Sports magazines and webpages.

Why did you start supporting Blues? My first game was in 2004/05. Home match against Fulham in January. I was there to watch the German Moritz Volz (Fulham) to make an interview with that lad for a German magazine. Volz scored, but it was an own goal. Good for the Blues. But they lost 1-2. I was impressed by the special atmosphere at St. Andrew's and fell in love with the club right away. So a German Bluenose was born...;-)

When did you start supporting Blues? On that cold day in 2005.

What was your most memorable match? Brugge last year...what a fantastic 48 hour trip to Belgium!

What was your least memorable match? Please ask me again in May 2013...

Who was your all time favourite player? Tony Hey. Not because of sporting reasons, but he was the first (and still is the only) German player at St. Andrew's... I hope there will be more German players in the future.

Who was your favourite manager? Arthur Turner, Steve Bruce, Chris Hughton

What would be your greatest ever Blues team? (Not necessarily in sporting terms):

Gil Merrick

Stephen Carr

Steven Caldwell

Matt Sadler

Martin Grainger

Chris Burke



Christophe Dugarry

Tony Hey

Stan Lazaridis

Joe Bradford

Trevor Francis



What is your favourite kit? The German Kit that the Blues wore in the 70's...ha, ha, ha...

To be honest I don't have a favourite kit. I actually wear the one from the 2008/09 season.

What is the best thing about supporting Blues? To be part of one of the biggest clubs in the world. Birmingham City is a sleeping giant. Getting to know

people (like in Brugge and Munich; the positive feedback on my homepage etc.)

What is the worst thing about supporting Blues? I don't understand this question...;-) But seriously: for many German football fans CFC stands for Chelsea, and Aston Villa for Birmingham. This is really annoying. But the worst thing is the big distance between Attendorn and Birmingham.

What is your favourite away ground and why? During my "Groundhopping-Time" in the 90's I've been watching over 70 matches at 53 different grounds in England and Scotland. My favourite grounds are Old Trafford and Egdeley Park (Stockport County). I like the differences.

How do you think Blues will do this season? 10th



WE ARE LOYAL - WE ARE PASSIONATE - WE WILL ALWAYS **B** BLUES

WE ARE LOYAL - WE ARE PASSIONATE - WE WILL ALWAYS **B** BLUES

How do you feel about the club in general? There is always a friendly and very helpful staff, a professional public image and a good youth academy.

If you could pick one season from the past to re-live, which one would it be? The last season. The Blues in Europe was a fantastic experience.

Do you prefer the Premiership or the Championship and why? CC. Harder, faster, stronger... ;-)

If you could have dinner with three people connected to football, who would they be and why?

Bert Trautmann - To talk about his unbelievable life and career and the hard

times as a POW in a foreign country after World War II. After this terrible war, Trautmann did more for the reconciliation between the British and the Germans than many politicians.

Neville Southall - To talk about football in the 80's and dirty goalkeeper jerseys (he was my idol when I was young). In those days that meant "stirrup socks down and off to the football ground" every day.

Neil Lennon - To talk about football and politics.

Please visit my homepage: <http://big-bcfc.iimdo.com/>

And on facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/bi>

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE MIB's FAN OF THE WEEK PLEASE EMAIL US AT:

davethomas@madeinbrum.freemove.co.uk or
mibfanzine@orangehome.co.uk

BLUENOSE QUIZ

1. What is the name of Leicester's home ground?
2. Leicester have never won the FA Cup. True or False?
3. Why are they nicknamed the Foxes?
4. What is the nearest club to them with a nickname of an animal?
5. Leicester's premier rugby club is located within one mile of their ground. What is their full name?
6. What former Blues captain has managed Leicester City?
7. What is the nearest football league club to them?
8. Who is their longest serving manager who took them to FA Cup and League Cup finals?
9. Which ex Blues player is currently on the Leicester books?
10. Which England left back played for Leicester City?

WE ARE LOYAL - WE ARE PASSIONATE - WE WILL ALWAYS **B** BLUES

BIRMINGHAM CITY BY ANDY MUNRO MATCH MUSINGS

NO OLD PALS ACT FOR CLARK - Another home game against a Yorkshire team playing in red brought the same result as before, and although we didn't lose 5-0, we were at times, technically clueless, although I suppose unlike last time, we didn't just give up the ghost.

The game started with Blues lining up 4-5-1 and while I understand using that tactic for some away games, Huddersfield must have been rubbing their hands at this negative tactical statement. While it was good to see Redmond back in the fold, Clark's continued loyalty to the increasingly mediocre Wade Elliott is beginning to look like the Bruce / Damien Johnson love child scenario. Also, I have to say that if I was playing one up front, it would not be a 5' 8" centre forward whose first touch would make Cameron Jerome's look like that of Messi.

Right from the off, we looked as nervous as kittens and misplaced passes put us on the back foot, and worryingly Curtis Davies was twice muscled off the ball. In fact, we had Butland (again!) to thank for some fabulous saves allied to some wasteful finishing from the Huddersfield forwards, although they still managed to chalk up an all important opening goal. A particular concern in defence was the young Albion loanee Hurst who was poor in his distribution and was blowing hard just to keep up with play. In midfield we were woefully ineffective with Fahey not at the races (is he still injured?) and I particularly felt sorry for Burke who struggled manfully despite being surrounded by opposition defenders as soon as he had the ball. Redmond was not at his best either, but it says it all that he was still our best player shots-wise, seeing a shot rattle the woodwork.

Near the end of the first half Blues fans were predictably chanting '4-4-2' and 'Oh Nicola Zigic' and he came on for the second half. Initially, the big man started to cause problems in the opposition defence. With Redmond and Burke going up another gear, things looked set fair even when Fahey was substituted for Mullins...why not for the 'creative' Ambrose, goodness only knows? Unfortunately, Ziggy clumsily put in a kamikaze tackle and inevitably saw red. Quite frankly, he should be fined a minimum of two weeks wages which would teach him a sharp lesson and save us a few bob at the same time. Despite this, we had a real go and were unlucky not to draw level, despite a worrying injury to Curtis Davies who probably wouldn't have been in the position to get injured if Ziggy had still been playing up front...thanks Ziggy! Mitch Hancox came on and was one of the few bright spots from another depressing home reverse.

I suppose its easy to blame the manager but if you look at Blues on paper, they are a stronger side than either Barnsley or Huddersfield. In fact, the Town supporters were chanting 'There's Only One Joe Bloggs'.. it wasn't exactly that but it might as well have been because apart from loanee Beckford and Benno on the bench, they were all comparative unknowns. That leads one to the conclusion that its a combination of poor tactics and a lack of motivation, hence all the roads of blame leading to the Manager's door. Whilst I don't pretend to know the answer while Clark is still at the helm, I would ditch some of the loanees and give youth its head. Hancox, Packwood, Redmond and Asante are all worth a blast in my opinion, not least because they would have the backing of an increasingly cynical and critical set of supporters. Either way a relegation battle looms with the nightmare combination of Clark and Carson.

WE ARE LOYAL - WE ARE PASSIONATE - WE WILL ALWAYS **B** BLUES