



## **SHIPSTON EXCELSIOR FC CHAIRMAN'S DINNER** **GEORGE HOTEL, FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2009**

The annual SEFC Chairman's Dinner took place at a new venue this year, with the George Hotel stepping in at short notice when the Bear became unavailable. The staff at the George did us proud, with top service and good food.

A few of the evening's highlights :

6.30pm Guests begin to arrive, with Chairman and Secretary swiftly relieving them of their hard-earned cash and hawking the club ties around

7pm Eli Dingle arrives in his best gangster suit, clutching an "amusing" parody of the guest speaker

7.30pm Sunday boss Mark Schaus records a first when he arrives at the correct establishment

8pm Guests sit down to dinner. Vice Chairman cobbles together a Grace.

8.30pm The traditional Port Race is eventually won by Hainer's table, without a repeat of last year's fiasco when Hainer downed the bottle in one go.

9.30pm The fiendishly difficult "Brain's Quiz" is still being pored over as the cheeseboard arrives. The team of Midland Combination officials + Pete Betteridge eventually triumph on a tiebreaker and reluctantly receive their prize of another bottle of port.

10pm Dermot Gallagher stands up to speak at about the same time that court jester Kevin Kelly begins a campaign of terror, including minor heckling of the speaker, theft of wine from the top table and fingering Adam's ice-cream.

10.30pm Eli Dingle manages to make the question "Would you have sent Beckham off at France 98?" last five minutes. Dermot replies "No" and the Chairman moves on to the next question. Brilliant.

11pm Kevin Kelly turns a delightful shade of grey and stumbles off to closely inspect the toilet pan. After briefly passing out he shuffles off home in the snow (minus his coat).

12pm Guests begin to vacate the premises in various states of inebriation

Many thanks on behalf of all the guests to Chairman Les Hardiman for another great evening.

Thanks to guest speaker Dermot Gallagher, who was excellent, and to the staff at the George for their hospitality.

Neil Harper  
Vice-Chairman, SEFC