



Southport & Formby Quiz League

A member of the Merseyside Quiz Leagues

NEWSLETTER

January 2025

General Secretary
Dag Griffiths
 Strathdene
 High Lane
 Ormskirk
 L40 7SL
 01695 577660



The late
 Ian Wainwright of
 E Street Band

Obituary
 overleaf

MQL Challenge Cup: 2024-2025

Both our entrants have qualified for the knockout stages starting with the quarter-finals on Wednesday 12th February. **Wings** will play Bishop Eton of the Liverpool League and **E Street Band** will play Soapsuds of the Wirral League.

Postponements

Teams are reminded that postponements should be for good reasons e.g bereavement and illness. Also it is a requirement that the divisional secretaries must be involved in the process. In the case of the cup competitions and the handicap league the organiser (currently the General Secretary) should be notified of any problems.

SFQL Dates for 2025

The following dates have been set:

1) MIMIR Heats/Eddie Conway Cup

19th February at Formby Cricket Club—7.30 pm start

2) Don Standing Cup/Maurice Jefferies Plate *

24th/25th February – 3rd/4th, 10th/11th, 17th/18th March

* Draw will be made on February 3rd

3) Handicap Cup

Round 1 - 24th/25th March - QF on 31st March/1st April

4) Presentation Night**

9th April ** Including Handicap Cup Semis and Final and Pairs Competition - Formby Cricket Club

Final League Tables: December 2024

DIVISION 1

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Casablanca	12	10	0	2	20
Formby Sports	12	10	0	2	20
Wings	12	8	0	4	16
Fishermen's Rest	12	5	1	6	11
Aardvark Zetland	12	5	1	6	11
E Street Band	12	3	0	9	6
MPs	12	0	0	12	0

DIVISION 2

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Grapes of Wrath	12	9	0	3	18
Quads	12	8	1	3	17
Southport Grasshopper	12	8	0	4	16
Mixed Blues	12	7	1	4	15
ExPats	12	4	0	8	8
Exams	12	2	1	9	5
Cavallette	12	2	1	9	5

Congratulations to Divisional Champions: Casablanca and Grapes of Wrath

Casablanca retained the First Division title edging out Formby Sports on head to head results. Of the two promoted teams Aardvark Zetland fared much the better and as a result E Street Band ended up in one of the two relegation slots.

In Division Two, Grapes of Wrath and Quads secured the two promotion spots. Relegated Cavallette found the going tough but Southport Grasshopper were one point short of making an immediate return to the top flight.

HANDICAP LEAGUE 2025

This began on 6th/7th January. Handicaps have been worked out and all teams notified. Full details (fixtures, results and table) are on the website.

<http://www.sfquiz.org.uk/fixtures.html>
<http://www.sfquiz.org.uk/tables.html>

David Wright 1942- 2024

Harry Owen writes : Our Quiz League lost a long standing member when David Wright died on Friday 30th August 2024, eighteen days before his 82nd birthday. Over the years David would tell his team that he was born on the same day as the TV sports presenter, Des Lynam. I don't think they ever exchanged cards.

David was born and bred in Coventry but by the 1970's he was living in Southport, a place he felt comfortable in. Being a keen follower of cricket, football, horseracing and general knowledge quizzes he had more than enough local opportunities to keep him busy.

By the time I joined the Quiz League in 1975 David was involved with the quiz team at the Bold in Churchtown. While quizzing at the Bold David was part of the team that won the Radio Merseyside Quiz Trophy in 1990. When the landlord Dave Dobson moved to the Zetland it was Dave who proposed that we moved with him. Loyalty was one of the Dave's qualities that he showed in abundance.

Back in the 1990's David showed his love of cryptic crosswords when he applied to appear on ITV's 'Crosswits' that was fronted by Tom O'Connor. His celebrity partner was the England Ladies Cricket Captain, Rachel Heyhoe Flint. They made a perfect team and Dave won a holiday in Tenerife.

For a number of years Southport and Formby had a Sports Quiz League with S&B CC entering a team. Dave's formidable team included himself, Cyril Thomas, Derek Ainsworth and Neil Izzard. With Dave as captain the games were always competitive!

Later in life he lost his enthusiasm for quizzing but he was still an essential member of his team by becoming the regular question master. In that role he was clearly spoken but a strict interpreter of the quiz rules. He also continued to set questions for the league sets. His sets had a good mix of his favourite subject areas: cricket, football, golf, snooker, horseracing, classic radio and TV comedies, narrow gauge railways, National Trust properties, current affairs and yes, real ale breweries and beers.

A quizzer from another era. But, when he was taking part he was always noticed and respected.



IAN WAINWRIGHT

The quiz league also lost another long-serving member in the autumn. At the beginning of October we heard the sad news that Ian Wainwright of E Street Band had died at a far too young an age,

Ian joined in the league in 1996 with the newly formed West Lancs Squash and Rackets Club. Whilst at the same venue, the club and the team had two name changes - namely the Waterfront and Trainstation.

Along with Geoff Hedley, Ian was a constant member of the team as the team moved to the London as the London Boys, later becoming the London Loungers. He continued his association with the team as they moved to the Zetland as E Street Band in 2013.

As a quizzer his strengths were sport and popular culture.