



PRESS RELEASE

The Football Supporters' Federation

EMBARGOED 00.01 Sunday October 5 2008

FSF NEWS: England keeper David James wins fans award [EMBARGOED 00.01 Sunday October 5 2008]

England keeper David James has been announced as the winner of the Football Supporters' Federation's (FSF) Columnist of the Year 2008.

Malcolm Clarke, chair of the FSF, will today (Sunday October 5) present the award pitch side to the England goalkeeper prior to Portsmouth's Premier League game with Stoke City at Fratton Park.

James' column has consistently covered a diverse range of topics, from his own performance to ticket pricing, from climate change to the commercialisation of the game. They are a unique insight into the mind of an elite athlete who understands many of the average supporter's concerns.

Malcolm Clarke, Chair of the FSF, said:

"David's columns are not only brutally honest but in equal parts insightful, funny and educational. He has consistently entertained, informed, and surprised our members. How many other players would refund supporters out of their own pocket after a poor display? David James did."

"I'm delighted the FSF has chosen David as the recipient for this year's award, it also follows a magnificent year on the pitch for him. As a Stoke City fan though, I must admit, I hope his standards aren't quite so high today!"

David James' award for Columnist of the Year is one of two the FSF have handed out this year.

Tony Kempster, who for more than a decade has run an acclaimed football website from his home in York, has won the annual Services to

Supporters award from the FSF. The award is given each year to people who have performed an outstanding service to the benefit of football supporters.

Tony's website, which can be viewed at www.tonykempster.co.uk, provides unmatched information on results, gates, tables, fixtures and even distances to grounds, from the Premier League right down to step seven of the football pyramid.

- ENDS -

Notes to editors

For further info see below contact.

The Football Supporters' Federation (FSF) is the national supporters' organisation for all football fans from England and Wales comprising over 142,000 individual fans and members of local supporters' organisations from every club in the professional structure and many from the pyramid. For more info <http://www.fsf.org.uk/about-the-fsf.php>

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