

Email from John Berry, February 17<sup>th</sup> 2010

'Hey John!

I really would have liked to be there with you tonight. I knew that, as you are a generous and warm-hearted speedway promoter we would have had no difficulty in agreeing travel money.

That wasn't the problem. The fact is, I no longer count thermal underwear and ski gear among my wardrobe and so had nothing suitable to wear.

Then again, remembering my disaster of a speech on the night of the reunion perhaps it is as well I'm not there in person.

So I'll do everyone a favour and keep it short.

My best memories of you are as a captain and rider. In that order. Nobody should ever forget just what you did for the Witches in the glorious seventies. A decade to remember.

But you were only getting warmed up by the time your riding days ceased. For all of your brilliant riding career, it has been for the tenacity and durability during your years promoting Ipswich Speedway you should be most remembered and appreciated.

The road hasn't always been easy but you have stuck to the task and continue the same philosophy Ipswich Speedway has always based upon. To provide a team, club, amenity - call it what you like - that the people of Ipswich in particular and Suffolk in general can be proud of.

Many congratulations John, and enjoy your evening.'

JB