



Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2014

## HOOPS FUND SUPPORTS STORY OF QPR



Octavia Foundation  
Reg Charity No.1065817

### QPR 1<sup>st</sup> Supporters Trust back historic community project

QPR 1st Supporters Trust is donating £8,000 in support of QPR in the Community Trust's intergenerational media project engaging fans, young people and the local community to chart the history of QPR FC.

*The Story of QPR*, being produced by QPR in The Community Trust in partnership with the Octavia Foundation, takes a historical look at the club from the point of view of the R's fans.

The project will provide opportunities for fans and volunteers of all ages and backgrounds to contribute and be involved throughout the research and planning stages. A further 40 young people will be recruited and trained in film-making, media, research and heritage skills as part of the production of the film and other accompanying materials, including a podcast, soundtrack and website.

Andy Evans, CEO of QPR in the Community Trust, said: "QPR in the Community Trust wants to involve young people and fans. We are delighted to be working with QPR 1st in a project that will give the opportunity to local young people to produce their own DVD, interviewing fans about their relationship with QPR and their history of the club.

"This project is particularly relevant as the club prepares to move away from Loftus Road and will provide an important record of the club, staff, players, and fans alike as the club begins a new chapter."

The cheque was presented prior to Saturday's Championship clash with Burnley at Loftus Road as part of the Trust's 20 year anniversary celebrations.

It follows an award made by the Premier League Charitable Fund and the PFA (Professional Footballers Association) to QPR in the Community Trust to support the costs of the project.

"This is a project that will celebrate the close relationship between QPR and its supporters," Chair of QPR 1st Supporters Trust, Stephen Dedridge, added.

"At a time of planned change it is particularly important to look at the heritage of QPR, and what makes us a very special club. That link between the club, its supporters and the communities of west London is an important part of its heritage and vital for the future too.

"QPR 1st has been looking after the Hoops Fund since it was raised by supporters at a time of dire financial crisis for the club ten years ago. Now some of that money is being used to give something back to supporters with what should be an excellent record of the club and its fans."

*The film will receive a preview screening at Loftus Road this summer, before beginning a screening tour of cinemas, schools and community centres across London.*

*A DVD will be available for sale later.*

**Want to get involved in The Story of QPR? Email [qprfilm@octaviafoundation.org.uk](mailto:qprfilm@octaviafoundation.org.uk) for more information.**

**ENDS**

Issued by QPR in the Community Trust

*NOTES TO EDITORS*

**QPR in the Community Trust** is an independent charity that help people enhance the life experience for themselves and their neighbourhoods across west London through sport related activity. [www.qprcommunitytrust.co.uk](http://www.qprcommunitytrust.co.uk)

**QPR 1st Supporters Trust** is the supporters trust of Queens Park Rangers supporters. It promotes the interests of fans to the QPR management and seeks to bring together the varied communities with an interest in the football club.

**The Hoops Fund** was collected in 2003 using bucket collections at QPR home matches at a time when the club was in serious financial difficulties. QPR 1st Supporters Trust has been responsible for the fund since it was set up.

**Octavia Foundation** is a registered charity working in west and central London to support local people during times of personal difficulty or crisis. Our vision is to help establish strong and vibrant communities and to improve quality of life for individuals. [www.octaviafoundation.org.uk](http://www.octaviafoundation.org.uk)

**The Premier League Professional Footballers' Association Community Fund** empowers individual clubs to meet the needs of their local communities in key areas such as education, community cohesion, health and sports participation.

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