**QandA with the Chaplain**

Before we get too far into the 2014/15 season we thought it would be good to ask Arthur Goode, our resident PAFC chaplain, a few questions…

**How long have you been chaplain?**

I’ve been chaplain at Argyle now for three years. We were having a very bumpy ride at the time but things have settled down a bit since, and hopefully we are beginning to rebuild and work our way up the leagues. In fact the pre-season friendly against Swansea was interesting in that Swansea isn’t a huge city and geographically on the outskirts of things much as Plymouth is. Give it time, but similar success isn’t an impossibility…

**Are PAFC your first team, or do you look for another result first?**

All my life I’ve supported Man City, but since moving to Plymouth 11 years ago I am pleased to say that I have converted. Now I’m much more green than blue, and City are very much my second club. I have to say that all the money flooding into City has made it a lot easier for me, and Argyle is a great club to support, with real heart and character and a fantastic history. And dare I say it a fantastic future?

**What do you enjoy most about your role at the club?**

I love getting to know people, particularly the staff and players, and feeling like I’m making a difference. Match day is also great fun, being pitch side before a game and catching the excitement just before kick off.

**What is the hardest part of your role?**

I don’t have the time to do the role justice. There’s so much that I could be involved in that I have to let slide. I also find the frequent change of personnel a challenge – building up a good relationship with someone only to find during the close season that they’re moving on to pastures new. As time goes by the number of results you look for at 5pm on a Saturday gets bigger, and it’s lovely to see old faces visiting on the odd midweek home game.

**Do you suffer from the Saturday night blues if the greens lose?**

Sometimes I can be a bit grumpy but generally with Sunday morning looming large there’s too much other stuff to focus on.

**How does your work as Chaplain affect your work at the Church, and which Church are you involved with?**

I lead the Vineyard Church in Plymouth, and having a role outside of church that involves the ‘real world’ is a very healthy thing that lends a little bit of balance and perspective to my life. I also oversee the South West and Wales Area for the Vineyard group of churches, so at times life can get a bit crazy. When Saturday offers the chance for some family time and I’m sneaking out of the house to watch Argyle there is a certain tension that develops between me and her. I’m sure no-one reading this will have ever experienced what I am talking about…