

# CLAPHAM HALF

*M*

1992



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<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Editor</u>	<u>Social Secretary</u>
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#### E D I T O R I A L

I apologise for the long delay in producing this edition and shall endeavour to do better in the future.

Since the 1991 Association AGM Brian Sanders has assumed the mantle of Chairman and is thoroughly enjoying the experience.

An enormous vote of thanks must go to **John Mansi** who has steered us through some exacting times since our 'divorce' from the College. John has taken up the Social Secretary's job, a post which has been vacant for a considerable length of time. His efforts will be rewarded only if you support the events he organises.

A five-year lease has been negotiated for the Clubhouse at Norbury, providing a base for operations. Last year a new bar was installed, and the kitchen has now been refurbished. Further works are programmed, finance permitting.

The football pitch is held on an annual licence and is used and maintained by the adjoining primary school - St James the Great.

**Mike Brien** is taking a sabbatical from Committee affairs, and more especially as Treasurer. This post is extremely critical to the smooth-running of the Association. Section accounts are recorded by Di Webber. Are you interested? Could you do it? Are you recently retired with time on your hands? young and enthusiastic? If so, please contact Brian Sanders for further details.

Clapper is always easier to produce if contributions are forthcoming. So don't be shy, please.

Mick Power

## CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

It may not be a very original thing to do, and perhaps something similar has already been said, but I must begin my first-ever Clapper contribution as Chairman by paying tribute to my predecessor. John Mansi not only did an excellent job as Chairman of this Association for a lengthy period of time, he did it through what was a very difficult period. We all owe him a great debt of gratitude and one way we can start to repay it is by giving him our support in his new role on the Committee. Details of some of the things John has in the pipeline will be found elsewhere in this edition.

For myself, I have now undertaken a task which perhaps I should have undertaken a good few years ago, but somehow never got round to. (Better late than never?) Had I got round to it earlier I would have been confronted with a very different situation from the present one - the main difference being that only a few years ago we had a flourishing school which sent us, if not a stream, at least a steady trickle of new members. Now, owing to circumstances entirely beyond our control, even that trickle has dried up and, despite our broadening our membership base, I frequently hear the pessimists predicting the demise of our Association.

Well, not if I can help it. And I am absolutely confident that that applies to all the other members of our excellent committee and many others who work so hard to see that we continue and perhaps even go from strength to strength. A membership which is not only bigger but also more active is certainly my top priority and, with the positive help of all our present members, I honestly see that as a realistic aim. Perhaps I can end by reminding you all of our old College motto: Concordia res parvae crescunt (which for the non-classicists among you, or simply those with lousy memories, means "In harmony, small things grow").

-o0o-

## O l d F o g i e s

One by-product, we hope, of the recent vets' football match is some new(?) faces at our Old Fogies bi-monthly meetings at Norbury. Regular attenders already include Dave Slattery, Nino Caraccio, John and Joe Cernuschi, Don Mulvihill, Maurice Ward, John Woollard, Derek Rowe, Colin Garvey, Mick Power and John McGuire. We have plenty of room for more in our refurbished bar, so why not come along on one (or more) of the evenings shown under Diary Dates.

All the best - Brian Sanders

THE CLUBHOUSE THE CLUBHOUSE THE CLUBHOUSE THE CLUBHOUSE THE CLUBHOUSE

The Clubhouse is open every Saturday evening during the Football season and all members are welcome. Additionally, the Clubhouse is available to members for private functions. Contact Alan Webber for details (Tel. 081-650 9762).

The following letter is published by courtesy of the Chairman:

Mayfield 872415  
(STD 0435)

Xaverian Brothers  
Bradley House  
Little Trodgers Lane  
Mayfield, E. Sussex  
TN30 6PW

8.9.91

Dear Brian,

Many thanks for your letter of sympathy. Many thanks for coming to be with us last Thursday and for bringing two more OBs (or was it vice versa?).

My desk is littered with papers (not news!), letters, sympathy and Mass cards. But I have sat down in the hot sunshine this afternoon and scribbled something about Bro. Stephen R.I.P. I surely have not done justice to him but if I waited until I waded through all the other "stuff" on my desk I probably would not have the courage to write another letter much less an obituary. So here it is. Best wishes!

Hastily but sincerely

Yours

Ambrose, C.F.X.

P.S. If you have had a Mass card signed please send it to me and when I think they have all arrived I will send them in a package to his poor sister. Don't worry if you haven't. Just pray for him, for her, and for us, please.

Br.A

#### 6 t h F O R M C O L L E G E

Two cup wins in May this year rounded off a successful season for St Francis Xavier College's soccer team. Under the floodlights at the Metropolitan Police ground in East Molesey the team beat Alleyn's School. The 3-1 victory gave them the Greater London Schools Cup for the second season running. Days earlier the team beat St Charles College from Ladbroke Grove 2-0, to win the London Catholic Schools Cup. Congratulations to Tony Donovan, the team manager and sports tutor, who turns out regularly for the Association.

#### MEMBERSHIP

Produced in this edition is a copy of the poster now displayed in all the feeder schools. Membership is currently standing at 229, and all introductions are welcomed.

Membership Secretary is John McGuire, 73 Weighton Road, SE20  
(Home tel. 081-659 7376).



### Leathem's Best-Ever XI

Publication in the latest "Clapper" of John McGuire's best-ever 1st XI has prompted lively discussion in the Clubhouse at Norbury.

Publication in the latest "Clapper" of John McGuire's best-ever 1st XI has prompted no discussion in the Clubhouse at Norbury.

There you have it. Two points of view; the argument rages on. Or not.

Anyway, because it is universally (well, globally, anyway - no extra-terrestrials yet found with an opinion) agreed that leaving me out was a grave error of judgement, I have conceived of a side to beat the aforementioned greats.

Unlike John's team, which comprised mostly jelly, wine and tissue paper, qualification to my THUGS XI requires guts, determination, muscle, sinew and sod-all regard for anybody's safety while on the field of play. Poofs, whingers, gifted ball players, Old Salesians and anyone else of a nervous disposition should read no further.

KEVIN "CHARLIE" BOND is first into the frame. Sticks to his man like shit to a blanket. Summed up nicely by one opponent: "That bloke's a nutter".

RICHARD "CHEZ" JANUSEWSKI: never slow, always late. As Garvey said: "Most players go over the ball, Chez goes over both balls".

TIM "TEMPER TEMPER" HIXSON: likes to get his own way, just like when we used to play with his ball. Known as the "Norbury Butcher" because he played at Norbury and was in the meat trade.

MICK "THE KILTIMAGH BLUBBERER" McLOUGHLIN: This man created such a reputation south of the river that cries of awe were heard every time he took to the field. Similarly, whenever he travelled north in cup games they would cry "Eee! he's a dirty bugger!" In later years the north/south consensus produced the unanimous roars of "Ee-awe, ee-awe".

At this stage enter your Captain, DAVID "MAD BOY" LEATHEM: first man to piss blood and score a goal at Kew Association. I put myself in this distinguished team because I feel like it. Any problems should first be discussed at Sinjuns, Josephians, Fincunians, etc.

RICHARD "TUBBY" LUCAS gets in easily on qualities like no vision and no steering capabilities. Played to constant refrain of "Oi, ref, get hold of him!"

JOHN "PIKEY" RYAN Love is never having to say you're sorry; being an Old Xaverian is never having to face John Ryan. Off-form recently, not having killed a man for three years. Received monthly royalty cheques from the inventor of the Pooper-Scooper.

JOHN "come off it, ref!" MANSI: soccer's answer to the dentist. He's always painful, but he's so nice about it. A bit of a Donkey but it doesn't affect his football. Something to do with a special jock-strap.

PAUL "OOF" HIXSON: easily the hardest player to grace the Norbury pitch. Paul got away with it because the ball kept going into the goal. The first time I ever saw a man with no toe-nails.

PAUL "BABY-FACE" WILLIAMS: all talent and temper. Measures 5 feet 2 inches from any given point on his body to any other given point. Hates full-backs, goalkeepers, referees, his brothers, and disciplinary committees. Fair enough.

Goalkeeper FRANK "THROBBING GRISTLE" BARETTA isn't a thug at all, but the opposition don't know that.

Subs:

JOHN "JOHN" McGUIRE: come off it, John; look at that hooter! 1st Reserve

JOHN "SPOTTY" McGOWAN: very talented player who found Old Boys' victims too soft and ventured into higher divisions. Commits murder on the blind side and is later sent off for "bunny" to the referee. (Every week!) Therefore only substitute.

LAWRENCE "DANDY LOL" MULLANE: much more scary to women and members of his own team, but warrants a place on the bench. Motivational skills do not clutter up his armoury.

Play this team in any formation, it doesn't matter. They will beat everything from John McGuire's Best to Mandela United.

Next issue:- Twelve greatest players we never had. Featuring Winston "I missed the bus" Gibbs; Carlos "I think the tendon's gone again" Freeze; Joe "I'll play if you beg" McElligott; and Serge "A tracksuit, a groin support and a charisma by-pass" Cefai.

#### BIG BAND NIGHT

When I was advertising this Jig at the Club people were saying to me "What sort of Big Band?... how many in it?... will they fit in the Club?..." Well, they did fit in - although with standing room only and more steam than in a sauna. I think everyone enjoyed the variety of music that was played for them by 'Gerry De Casey's Streatham Based Big Band' currently on tour in LA (lower Addiscombe!). Yes I did panic a little as everyone arrived and started unpacking their music stands - stands for beer - most important music kit! Everyone ready and it was straight into a bar for nothing and off with arrangements from Glen Miller, Count Basie, Weather Report and, much to the "tourists" delight, Frank Sinatra's "New York New York" sung by Verdi - his stage name of course!

Some fine players were present in the Band that night - too many to mention. The keyboard player should have been doing the Des O'Connor show but when he heard about the jig at Norbury (close to where he lives) & the very late bar he said "Stuff Des, I'm going back to my roots." We were very lucky to have Sean O'Sullivan's father "Mort" dust the cobwebs off his Irish saxophone and sit in with the band. Other famous musicians who actually did play for us on the night don't want to be mentioned in this report because most of them are



employed by Andrew Lloyd Webber and should have been in the pits at the West End doing his shows - again the attraction of the very late bar. Musicians thrive on the amber brew. My thanks go out to them all, even though we had to pay them.

On with the disco music while we set up the second band of the night - yes, what value, and only £2.00 on the door - where were you if you weren't there? we give great value for money! Yes, our "In House Band" to cover some of those (our favourite tunes). Here I would like to thank Joe Art & John Williams, Pete Boland & guest players. the vocalists Eamonn, Mary and other microphone-shy people deserve my thanks too. Anybody who fancies singing with our "In House Band" should call our agent - no auditions needed, we'll play any song you like.

The band finished and it was back to the disco, time for a drink before the bar was empty! Thanks again to all those who help with these gigs; they are not easy to organise so your support is paramount - the Club needs it.

Cheers, Mickey Burke on Drums.

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<u>D A T E S   F O R   Y O U R   D I A R Y   -   1 9 9 2</u>		
		<u>Contact</u>
March 29	Clapham Vets Challenge Cup and Lunch 11.30 Kick Off at Norbury	John Mansi
April 3 17-22 27	Old Fogies Night - 8.30 at Norbury New York Tour Football Dinner	Brian Saunders Vic Roskowski Mick Burke
May 24	5-a-Side Championship	John Leathem
July 5 29-3 July	Mayfield Picnic Cricket Tour to Minehead, Somerset	John Mansi Ben Benedict
July 3 12	Old Fogies Night - 8.30 at Norbury Barbeque at Norbury - 12.00	Brian Saunders John Mansi
Sept 27	Vets League Cup Challenge & BBQ 11.30 start at Norbury	John Mansi
October TBA	Golf Association Championship	Eamon Taggart (0737557505)
Oct TBA Oct TBA	Race Night Association Annual General Meeting	John Mansi Eric Tope
November	Annual Remembrance Day Service	Brian Saunders
December 6 19	Kiddies' Christmas Party Club Party Night	John Mansi John Mansi

CLAPHAM OLD XAVERIANS' NEW YORK TOUR 1992  
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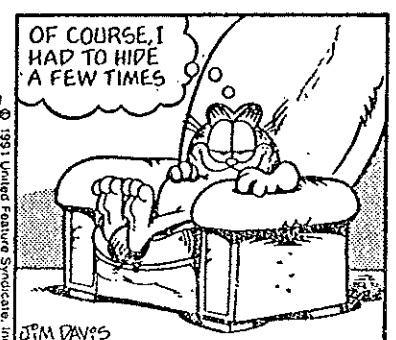
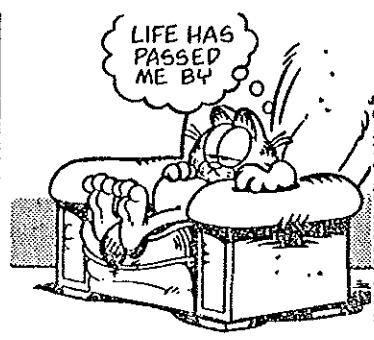
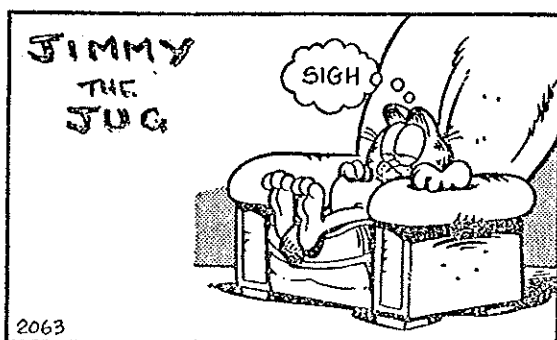
Having sampled the delights of such as Ilkley (Bar t'at), Long Eaton (Violent encounters of the third kind) and Lowestoft (the reason the Vikings stopped invading), the Old Boys got really ambitious in 1989 and went overseas, to Dublin. The shock of finding that the pilot was not a Macdonald, as had been the case in all previous tours, seemed to unbalance all but the most insensitive O.X., and since that pioneering flight, the world has been our lobster, Rodders my son.

After two more flying trips, a return to Dublin and a groundbreaking Glasgow tour, we got really bigheaded; this April 30th thirty-three tourists will board Plummet Airways Flight 1313 to New York.

Obviously the prohibitive cost of such a venture could have prevented some (all?) of the established tour veterans from coming along so a fund-raising scheme has been devised to cushion the blows. A Race - Night, raffles, Karaoke shows (part sponsored by Tom Purcell), Band Nights and "other activities" have been scheduled. The projected cost of £350 in total (hotels & flights) will, I hope, be mitigated by at least £100 per person. Should the Tour Committee be successful, it is to be hoped that similar methods of fundraising could be employed to bolster the Association's waning pile.

SO.....if anybody out there has any smart ideas for sponsorship, or even fancies sponsoring team bags, tour shirts or anything at all, please call me, David Leathem 081 653 7345, or Arthur Williams 071 351 0402 or Vic Roszkowski 081 670 8235.

Football programme collectors amongst our readers may be interested in the historic Gretna v Rochdale (Scottish club in F A Cup) programme which contains a full-page congratulatory message from the Old Xaverians.



## OBITUARIES

### Brother Stephen, C.F.X. 1910-1991

Brother Stephen (Daniel Dunn) was born in Newcastle-upon-Tyne of an exemplary Catholic family. I believe he had some brothers and sisters, being survived only by a widowed sister, Isabel, still in Newcastle. He entered the Congregation of the Xaverian Brothers in 1927 though he had been for some time an aspirant at St Francis Xavier's, Deeping St James, Lincolnshire. He took his temporary vows in 1929 and was finally professed in 1932. Thus he was a Xaverian for 64 years.

He taught, until his retirement in 1976, in the Xaverian schools at Bootle, Clapham (in three periods, I think), Manchester, and Mayfield. The years following his retirement from full-time teaching were mostly spent at the former Brothers Scholasticate at Strawberry Hill, Twickenham, and latterly at the Brothers' retirement house - "Bradley House", Mayfield. Inter alia he occupied himself with making and repairing rosary beads for distribution and writing letters to heads of states where necessary to further the work of Amnesty International. Peace and Justice were very dear to the heart of Brother Stephen.

Those Old Boys who were taught by him will surely remember him as a strict but just disciplinarian. He was hard on others but even harder on himself. He was conscientious in all that he did to the point of scrupulosity. I felt that this had a deleterious effect on his health - physical and mental. As a religious he was meticulous in his observance of the way of life. For instance, to avoid contact with worldly influence he declined to attend University when he had the opportunity. Instead he opted to study for an external honours degree in French of London University. That was indeed doing it the hard way!

In late middle life his health deteriorated; he had several complaints and spent many periods in hospital. Those who knew only the feeble Brother Stephen in recent years would find it difficult to believe that he had been a good soccer player in his younger days (not surprising for a "Geordie"!), but also no mean cricketer (very surprising for one from the N.E.!). In the 1940s in Manchester I recall his founding a "Don Bosco Club". During school holidays he used to go off cycling with groups of boys, staying at religious houses, to encourage vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Towards the end of July of this year he had a slight stroke which left him incapacitated in his left arm. He was admitted to Pembury Hospital, Kent, on July 29; his condition deteriorated rapidly from 11 pm on August 31, and he died at 10.10 am on September 1, having recovered sufficiently to receive Holy Communion two hours earlier. R.I.P.

One of the parishioners of St Thomas of Canterbury, Mayfield, is reported to have said that Brother Stephen remarked: "I owe everything to the Xaverian Brothers". Last Thursday afternoon there lay on the clay of the Weald above Brother Stephen's coffin, here in our cemetery, a solitary spray of red roses with a card which read: "In memory of Brother Stephen, with fond memories. Rosemary". This lady, as far as I know, had known Brother Stephen only since October of last year. I think these two events form a very worthy obituary in themselves.

Br. Ambrose C.F.X.  
Mayfield - 8 September 1991

Mgr David Greenstock

David Greenstock (Don David to his many friends) was Rector of the English College at Valladolid in Spain from 1964 to 1975 and involved with the college for the greater part of his life as a priest. The English College at Valladolid was founded by Catholic recusants in 1589 for the training of priests for the English mission. It became the home for a large number of English priests who fled the country during Elizabeth's reign, including the Benedictines Mark Barkworth and Ambrose Barlow. The college is one of the oldest continuous links between England and Spain, a link that survived the aftermath of the Spanish Armada.

David Greenstock was born in Dublin in 1912 and, after completing his studies for the priesthood in England and in Spain, was ordained for the Diocese of Southwark in 1936. He served as curate in St Leonard's, Deptford, and in Chichester, and his experiences during these years were of great value when he himself became responsible for the teaching of future priests. The English Seminary in Spain had remained open throughout the Second World War under the care of Monsignor Henson. After the War, Greenstock was appointed Vice-Rector of the college and took a Doctorate of Divinity at Salamanca in preparation for the arrival of the new intake of students in 1947.

The immediate post-war years in Spain were a harsh period with many shortages. During this time many of the students at the college appreciated the good-humoured encouragement they received from him in their six-year course of preparation for the priesthood.

Apart from his teaching Greenstock developed many other interests. His books on Catechetics (Christopher's Talks), published in the early Fifties, were well received and are now recognised as being well ahead of their time. His major work was a translation from the Spanish of a Preacher's Encyclopaedia prepared by Angel Herrera, the Bishop of Malaga. It is unfortunate that subsequent liturgical changes deprived this work of the attention that it deserved. He was also a regular contributor to a number of theological journals.

Part of the college farm at Viana de Cega was cultivated as a market garden and Greenstock achieved an international reputation for his work with rare plants, insecticides and garlic.

Apart from his work at the college, for many years he was well known to the British community in Madrid, where he used to conduct an annual retreat. He also had many friends and contacts in the city of Valladolid.

Following the death of Monsignor Henson, David Greenstock was Rector of the college from 1964 until 1975. On his retirement he remained resident in the college and was visited regularly by his former students and his many friends. He was also able to continue with his specialist research work. It was always a delight to visit him and to listen to his views on a wide range of unusual topics.

Nicholas Rothern

David died in Valladolid on 10 October 1990. He attended the College between 1922/27 and lived in Hydethorpe Road, SW12.

### Denis Gamber

When the Old Boys' Football Club formed a 4th XI to play a year of friendlies, before joining the League, they approached Denis to captain the side. This he did - not knowing that the goalkeeping rule had changed and they could no longer run around the penalty area! He captained a side of schoolboys, young Old Boys, and older crocks. He was often forced to buy drinks for the whole side.

Denis was in the same year as Henry Pinsent, Tony Morrish and Pete Hughes. Working for Lloyd's Bank, he received rapid promotion to Manager and Inspector. The funeral was held at St Ann's, Banstead, on 24 December 1991, and attended by Brian Sanders, Colin Garvey, Nick Caraccio, Phil Schwenk, Peter Hughes, Derek Rowe, Henry Pinsent and Eric Tope.

### Terry Chute

We were saddened to hear of the death, at the age of 55, of Terry Chute, who attended the College from 1947/52. Terry, a Chartered Accountant, was Chairman and Chief Executive of Photo Me International. He passed away on Christmas Eve, 1991. We extend our sympathies to his widow, Pauline, and their two children.

### Alec Begley

Former pupils and colleagues alike will be saddened to hear of the recent death of Alec Begley who taught at the College for over 20 years. Always a lively presence in the staffroom, Alec taught English, Italian and Geography, and for some time was the School Librarian. He also took part in one memorable school journey to Paris. (On a personal note, the Chairman remembers being told by Alec, regarding an A-level Italian literature essay, "Your work is trite or tripe, Sanders. Take your pick.")

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### G O L F

Club Championship for 1991 was held at Coulsdon Court on 25th October. This now annual event is generally oversubscribed. Anyone who is interested in competing and is not on Eamon's mailing list should contact him on the number given in Diary Dates.

# CLAPHAM OLD XAVIERIANS ASSOCIATION



*Be in touch with your friends*

*join your association*

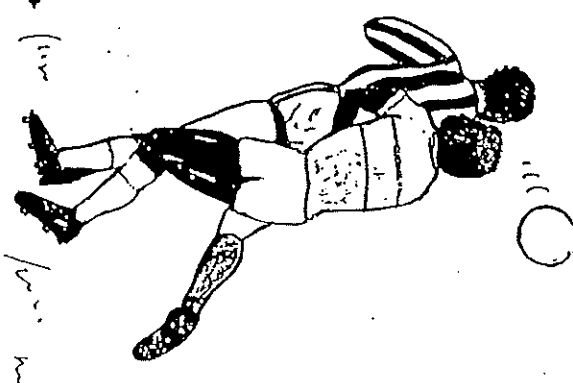
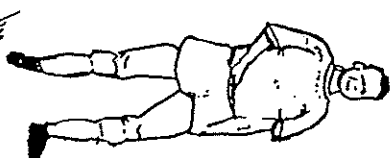
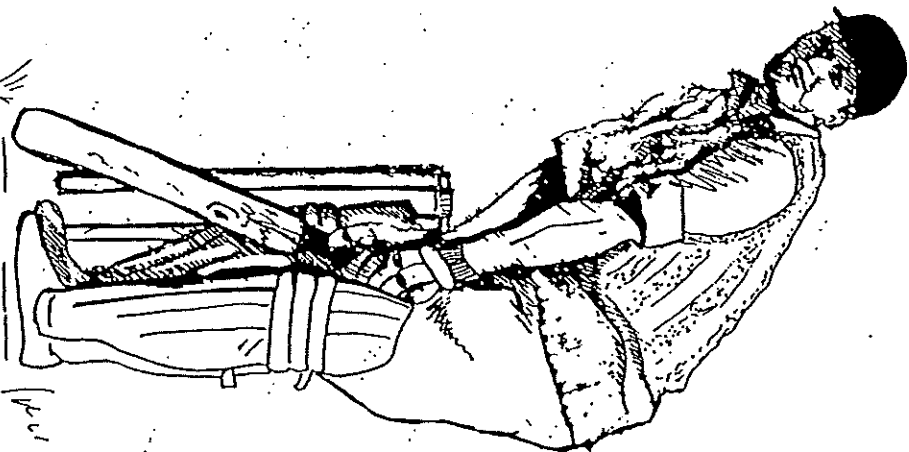
*- football teams*

*- cricket teams*

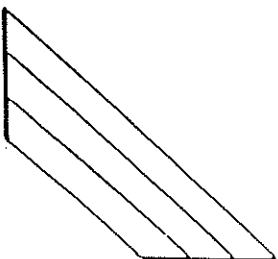
*- clubhouse*

*- bar and social events.*

*(The clubhouse & bar available for hire)*



CONTACT



## FOOTBALL - CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Well, the season got off to its usual Clapham start with the "I'll be fit by Christmas" attitude, which for some of the sides proved to be the wrong one. Next season we will try to get all sides at least three friendlies before we go into the league programme. Training has now been moved to Norbury and for the present is under temporary lighting. Please make an effort to attend these training evenings - and of course the bar is open afterwards.

I'd like to thank **John McGuire** and the Team Captains for collecting annual subs. This is always a problem, but even at £20.00 it is still very good value in comparison to other clubs. On the point of finance, we need everybody's help in raising money for the Club. Thus your support at functions organised by our friends is expected. If you can't come you should still support by buying a ticket. Unbelievably, there are players at this Club who haven't sampled the variety of beers on sale in our newly-refurbished bar, all at very reasonable prices. So if you are one of those players it is about time you made the effort to put some money behind the bar. Also on Saturday **Briony Webber** has a selection of hot food for sale and deserves your custom. So please make an effort to get to Norbury for at least a pint and meet some of the other players who you will almost certainly end up playing with (some of them are very funny!) in more ways than one.

I make no apology for harping on about money. We really do need all your help and support to keep the Football Section going - socially and financially. Our congratulations go to **Alan Webber** for being given an Oscar for his performances in black last season (why is he always drinking White Swan when he gets back to Norbury?). Thanks also to **Eddie O'Brien**, **Derek Rowe**, **Luke Tope**, and all the other people who do the important work to keep you lot playing soccer on Saturdays.

That's it for now; keep enjoying your Football. Me, I'm off to learn 15 songs for the next jig at the Clubhouse.

All the best, Mick Burke.

## F O O T B A L L   S E C T I O N   -   T E A M   R E P O R T S

### 1st XI

Once again a disappointing first half to the season. Early season injuries and inconsistencies left the Ones with only 7 points by Christmas and out of both cups. But hard work and consistency in team selection has resulted in 5 wins from 7, leaving the team on 19 points with 4 matches left.

Several players have had good seasons but are certainly capable of more. However, special mention should go to a newcomer to the side this season, **Peter MacRae**, whose performances in the back four should be an example to everyone.

To ensure good results for the remainder of the season the hard work and discipline MUST continue.

JL 1st XI Captain 91/92

## 2nd XI

With half a dozen games to go the 2nd XI find themselves in the lower half of the division and needing a couple of victories before the end of the season. Generally the team has played some very good football and most of our defeats have been by the odd goal. Defeats have tended to be down to missed chances, bad luck, and the good old-fashioned "cock-up". Consistency has been a little lacking, as shown by a famous victory over Meadonians (their only defeat of the season) and defeat against Fisher (bottom, having already beaten them in the cup 4-1). Despite the preponderance of defeats over victories, sport has been very good and drinking in the bar afterwards has seen a combination of familiar and new faces - the latter featuring .. Malcolm Conway, Bill Stuart, and Liam O'Dwyer. The more familiar names include Eddie O'Brien, Dave Leathem, Colin Brown and Tony O'Shea.

J Davorn

## 3rd XI - The Story So Far

Well, it's been an interesting - not to mention eventful - start to the season, with consistency being the catch-phrase: consistently losing games, consistently losing players to the 2nd XI or through injury, consistently finding that players "don't want to play for the 3rd XI".

After a slow start which saw us lose our first five league games (and me consistently assuring Derek Rowe that there was nothing to worry about), we had our AFA Cup run, defeating Citibank 2-1 away from home. Spurred on by this victory we continued with our amazingly consistent performances in our next two games - losing both.

This led us on to our other cup run, the LOB, which saw us totally out-play Old Uffingtonians for most of the game - except the mandatory Clapham Mad 15 Minutes, during which they scored 3 goals. Eventually, largely due to a splendid hat-trick by Vice-Captain (and Fat Cat) Brendan Williams, we managed to defeat them 4-3. On the back of this stirring triumph we managed to put together a string of 4 defeats out of our next 5 games, managing not to lose to John Fisher with the best team I'd picked all season (John Fisher failed to turn up!). All this time I continue to assure Derek that "a change is gonna come!". To date, the 3rd XI has featured 52 players, usually (but by no means always) 11 at a time, and scored 17 goals with Captain and Vice-captain leading the way with 5 each.

STOP PRESS

We've turned the corner. On Saturday 4th January 1992 the 3rd XI won their first game of the season (I told you, Derek) with very nearly the team as per teamsheet. With some of the players that have missed the early part of the season beginning to make their comebacks and with, I hope, the return of such people as Neil Keogh, Brendan Twomey, Steve Brady, Bernie Marquis, and Simon Pickering, there is no reason why we in the 3rd XI should not win most of our remaining games and avoid relegation. We have more than enough players to be a strong club ... where are they?

Ade Bertie



PS I must thank Mickey Burke, Brendan Williams, Derek Rowe, Eddie O'Brien and the committee who have almost all given me the greatest of help, support, advice and encouragement (and all that stuff).

#### 4th XI

At this mid-point of the season things are going quite well. Unfortunately we were beaten in the quarter-final of the LOB Cup against Vaughnians after being 1 up with 30 seconds left, only to concede an equaliser and lose on penalties. That's showbiz, as we say in the Fours. Never mind, in the league we have only been beaten once.

We have a blend of Age and Youth. In fact, against Woking we had four 15-year olds and two 40+ers, and the rest somewhere in between. Matthew Arnold has been excellent in goal and the defence has been sound, with John Mansi orchestrating as only he can. Dave O'Shea has put a bit of Tooting steel into midfield and as for goals they've been shared as we continue to play 'total football', with Ben & Matt Benedict, Jim & Mick McLoughlin, Paul & Tim Hixson, Tony Donovan, Kev McKenna, Eamon Taggart all hitting the back of the net, including four in one match against St Mary's by Matthew Benedict. Hopefully the team will remain more settled now and we can look forward to a successful second half to the season and winning the league and giving it loads at the Old Boys Dinner.

Ben Benedict

#### 5th XI

At the time of writing Clapham's 5th XI are doing quite well: 12 wins, 2 draws, and no defeats have put them clear at the top of Division 6 South.

Early exits from both the AFA and LOB Cups enabled the boys the cliché of "concentrating on the League". Huge slices of luck in those early weeks of the season plus the skilful harnessing of resources by new captain Vic Roszkowski allowed the team to successfully negotiate the first half-dozen matches unscathed. A 3-3 draw in the face of a second half onslaught against powerful Old St Marys Res gave the side a belief in their ability to be real contenders. Regular personnel, a consistent style of play and the confidence gained from winning have done the rest.

Goalkeeping has seen sterling performances from Matthew Arnold, Pete Holliman and Steve Parker. Powerful defensive displays at fullback have come from Pete Donoghue, Dave Murphy and Paul West. Centre back and sweeper have been the domain of Richard Januszewski and the ageless John McGuire. In midfield there is the tireless running and goals of Andy Brannon, the tackling and effectiveness of Clive Stitson and, back in the Clapham fold after 10 years, the subtle probing skills of Mick Butler. Debutante Luke Roszkowski, another newcomer in Ian Stidworthy, and Dave Faulkner, make up a free scoring attack with enough skill, pace and strength to embarrass the toughest of defences. And what of the erstwhile skipper I hear you say? Well, besides being inspirational, he's played in most outfield positions and scored 10 goals including a hat-trick at the above-mentioned St Marys.

So far, so good; however a six-game run in against mostly top-of-the-table opposition will be a severe test of resolve. It will take a desire to win, strong hearts, cool heads and more slices of luck, to turn what has already been achieved into the ultimate dream.

#### 6th XI

The 6th XI was formed in October solely to play friendlys for the remainder of the season with the possibility of league football next. The nucleus of the team consists of some older, but by no means over-the-hill, players complemented by younger less-experienced, though enthusiastic, schoolboys.

We have played nine games - Won 4, Drawn 2, Lost 3. Our goal average is: For 32, Against 19. Not bad results, I think you will agree - a good middle-of-the-table performance. Our best result (9-0) was against CUACO (and we missed a penalty) when Jeremy Waldron scored 4. His total is 10 goals in five games.

Generally, however, the results have been a lot closer, with most games decided by the odd goal. We have had some enjoyable games, notably against West Wickham, Witan and the 'Outcasts'. The side is reasonably settled at the moment, but if anyone is available and feels he is fit enough, please contact me.

Dan Condon

#### F O O T B A L L   A G M

The Football Annual General Meeting was held on 19 May 1992, with Brendan Williams being elected Captain. The 6th XI have achieved league status and it is proposed that a 7th XI be formed. Vice-Chairman of the Old Boys, Eddie O'Brien, has volunteered to captain the side, which it is hoped will consist of lads from the feeder schools.

A number of our players already referee for the feeder schools and a copy of the current poster displayed in school is contained in this issue. Players of all ages/abilities are welcome and are invited to join the pre-season training at Norbury.

The only team captain to change for the coming season is in the 2nd XI, where Colin Page takes over.

#### Clapham Old Xaverians' 5-a-side Trophy

In the context of our new recruitment drive, the first 5-a-side competition for the Clapham Old Xaverians' trophy took place at Norbury on a gloriously sunny afternoon in May.

Three of our feeder schools - Bishop Thomas Grant, Sacred Heart, and St Thomas the Apostle - sent two teams each and, after some keenly contested matches, ably refereed by John Mansi and Martin

Boyd, Bishop Thomas Grant emerged as the proud winners of the superb trophy, with Sacred Heart winning the plate competition.

It is hoped that with more time available to organise the next competition, probably in September, more schools will be represented. In the meantime, this was a good start, with a good deal of interest generated in the schools taking part. Our thanks are due principally to Eddie O'Brien for all his hard work organising the event, assisted by Serge Cefai and Scotty McDonald.

#### P E R S O N A L I A

> Eric Tope met Fr Michael Chandler and Fr John Condon at the Peckham Friary recently. John is running a Franciscan group in Canterbury and Michael is his trusty assistant.

> Clyde Davis seen on the touchline of the 32nd Cubs football matches in Norbury Park on Saturday mornings.

> Spotted in Glasgow - Kevin Ridge (1976) - cycling down the Shettlestown Road.

> Congratulations to Stan Miller, who passed the 'knowledge' recently.

> Great to see both Peter Brown and Will Pepper played through the Vets football match on Sunday 29 March.

> Congratulations to Spencer McGuire having obtained Law Degree from Liverpool University.

> The year's Cricket Tour - Somerset & Minehead - fixtures are being arranged by Aidan Downing (Mick Duffy's year?).

> Congratulations to Nick Scott on retaining his seat and post. Michael Knowles was not so lucky, suffering an 8.8% swing in the Nottingham area.

> The Norbury Bar is supplied by Brendan Walsh and Gerard Amura. You can catch them any time on their mobile - 0860 805190

C R I C K E T   S E C T I O N   -   1 9 9 1   S e a s o n

Saturday 1st XI

At the end of the 1990 season - the first season in the Slazenger league for a COXCC side - the general feeling was that it had been an interesting baptism, with the team gradually finding its feet in an unaccustomed arena. The hope was that the following year would see a real development and real progress made.

To a very large degree, these hopes were realised. If it was perhaps optimistic to feel that promotion was on the cards, it has to be admitted that a rise from mid-table to 5th position in Division 3 represents a very creditable performance. If that sort of improvement can be maintained, who knows?

A lot of the credit for the team's achievement must again go to skipper Ben Benedict. Leading not only with his apparently endless enthusiasm but also by example, Ben had a fine all-round season. Scorer of the only century recorded, a fine 122 n.o. against Carshalton, he also made three 50s and was by a long way the leading wicket-taker. A great "double" of over 500 runs and more than 50 wickets speaks for itself. Considerable contributions were also made by a number of other "all-rounders" which the side is fortunate in having.

Mick Duffy, Stan Miller, Chris Smith, Serge Cefai, Neil Pinder and Steve Brady all, at various times, performed well with the ball, and the first three named also had many good moments with the bat. It is interesting to note that Mick Duffy shared in all the highest partnerships for the first five wickets. After what was, for him, a patchy first half of the season, Brendan Walsh scored heavily in July and August. With John Hickey "keeping as well as ever", Matthew Benedict developing every aspect of his game, and John Mansi, John McGuire and Carlos Freese often making their presence felt, the team had great depth both in batting and bowling.

There were unfortunately one or two "off" days, like the consecutive Saturdays when the team was dismissed for an aggregate score of 105, and on other occasions the bowling was, to say the least, rather generous to the opposition. If this can be avoided next year, playing in Division 2 in 1993 must be a distinct possibility.

The fixtures for this season are reproduced in this edition and anyone interested in playing should contact any of the captains.

# CLAPHAM OLD XAVERIANS CRICKET CLUB

## SATURDAY 1st XI

May 2	Old Thorntonians 'A'	Home	2.00
May 9	Surbiton Hill Methodists	Away	2.00
May 16	Old Coulsdon	Away	2.00
May 23	Carshalton 'A'	Home	2.00
May 30	West Wickham	Home	2.00
June 6			
June 13	Petersham	Away	2.00
June 20	Sheen Park 'A'	Home	2.00
June 27	Morden Spartans	Away	2.00
July 4	Hanwell	Home	2.00
July 11	Temple Bar	Home	2.00
July 18			
July 25	West Drayton	Home	2.00
Aug. 1	Morden	Away	2.00
Aug. 8	Putney	Away	2.00
Aug. 15	Bank	Away	2.00
Aug. 22			
Aug. 29	Redhill	Home	1.30
Sept. 5			
Sept. 12	Northwood	Home	1.00
Sept. 19	Ham Moor	Away	1.30
Sept. 26	Wallington Cottagers	Away	1.30

## SATURDAY 2nd XI

May 2	Olinda Vandals	Brownacres	2.30
May 9	Ravensbourne Vags.	Mottingham	2.30
May 17 (Sun.)	Marlborough (1870) 4th XI	Dulwich	2.30
May 23	Southbank Poly	Dulwich	2.30
May 30			
June 6	Waringham Pk. Hosp.	Waringham	2.00
June 13	Nat. West. 'Amblers'	Norbury	2.00
June 20	Kelvin	Reigate	2.30
June 27	Croydon Gas 3rd XI	Wallington	2.00
July 4	Private Banks	Catford	2.00
July 11	Olinda Vandals	Brownacres	2.30
July 18	Nat. West. 'Allstars'	Norbury	2.30
July 25	Norwood 2nd XI	Norwood	2.30
Aug. 1			
Aug. 8			
Aug. 15			
Aug. 22			
Aug. 29	Barclays Bank	Ealing	2.00
Sept. 5			
Sept. 12	Carshalton	Carshalton	1.30
Sept. 19			

## SUNDAY 1st XI

April 26	Midland Bank II	Beckenham	2.00
May 3			
May 10			
May 17			
May 24	South Bank Poly	Dulwich	2.00
May 31	Whyteleafe	Whyteleafe	2.30
June 7	Beddington	Beddington	2.00
June 14			
June 21			
June 28			
July 5	O. Whitgiftians	Sth. Croydon	2.30
July 12	O. Colfeians	Lee	2.00
July 19	Ham & Petersham	Ham Common	2.00
July 26	Claygate	Claygate	2.00
Aug. 2			
Aug. 9			
Aug. 16	Wallington C.C.	Wallington	2.00
Aug. 23			
Aug. 30			
Sept. 6			
Sept. 13	Albury	Albury	1.30
Sept. 20	Maori	Worcester Park	11.30

