



# The Old Grammarian



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Season 2009 - 2010

Issue 11

Results for the weekend of: Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2009					P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 <sup>st</sup> XI	3-0	Norsemen	MAFA	Laney 2, Bullet	6	1	4	1	17	16	1	7
2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	1-2	Nottsborough	SAL	Goymer	5	2	0	3	11	14	-3	6
3 <sup>rd</sup> XI	5-0	Crouch End Vampires	SAL	Mabey 2; Harris P; Garrard; Sterry	6	3	1	2	16	8	8	10
4 <sup>th</sup> XI	2-2	Norsemen	SAL	Siddique R; Kucinovic	6	4	1	1	19	10	9	13
5 <sup>th</sup> XI	2-4	Old Parmiterians	OBC	Allen; Nayee K	6	4	0	2	19	15	4	12
6 <sup>th</sup> XI	PP	Alexandra Park	SAL		5	2	0	3	13	17	-4	6
7 <sup>th</sup> XI	PP	Old Actonians	SALC		6	1	0	5	14	21	-7	3
8 <sup>th</sup> XI	0-10	Southgate Olympic	SAL		4	1	0	3	4	19	-15	3
Vets	3-2	Bealonians	LOBC	Innes; Allen B; O'Brien								

## Roy's Weekend Round Up

The weather seems to be saving it's worst for the end of recent weeks and it chucked everything at us last weekend from driving rain to gale force winds. However, it was another payback day for the pitch drainage, and all 3 games were on at the Club and surprisingly good football was played on a surprisingly good surface.

The 1<sup>sts</sup> laid on a great Cup performance to impress the watching 'seniors' who had gathered for Dave Allen's 60<sup>th</sup>. They saw good football in gale force winds, which can so often reduce games to a farce. Both teams tried to use the conditions to their advantage keeping the ball on the ground until they had chance of a downwind shot or a curling cross. The game was probably won in the first half when EBOG worked the ball patiently against the wind up to Laney on the top wing. Rob cut in on to his right foot and swept the ball home for a priceless lead just before half time. With the wind behind them, EBOG never looked like losing and one of Steve Weldon's many accurate free kicks caused mayhem in their defence and Laney spun and rifled home a pure opportunist goal. It remained for Bullet to justify his nickname by stroking home a free kick for the third. Although our forwards were not on the scoresheet this week they worked unselfishly to make targets and won the free kicks that finally won the game. In particular, Rob Harris was on the end of at least a dozen fouls, but he just got up, dusted himself down, and got on with the game. If we can maintain this mature temperament and the much improved defending, then silverware is not out of the question yet despite the poor start. Norsemen are top of the table but were made to look quite ordinary by a side which has abundant talent and team spirit.

The 2<sup>nds</sup> were very unlucky to come away with nothing from 3<sup>rd</sup> placed Nottsborough. They were 1-0 up when, of all people, Tom Nelson missed a penalty! Dave Goymer got the longest successful shot of the season at an estimated 60 yards!

The 3<sup>rds</sup> set about their chase of the top two with an emphatic win at Crouch End with Captain Lee Sterry showing his 3<sup>rd</sup> place on the Goalscorers list is no fluke! The 4<sup>ths</sup> were leading against the top of the table side but, although they should have won, a point is no disaster.

The 5<sup>ths</sup> were also ahead but let it slip against a strong Parmiterians side and went out of the OB Cup. The 6<sup>ths</sup> were one of the many teams to suffer from the inclement weather and, far more surprisingly, the 7<sup>ths</sup> whose game was cancelled on Friday morning at Gunnersbury Park, which is almost never unplayable! I wonder if all the games were called off there? The 8<sup>ths</sup> had another frustrating day against a strong Southgate Olympic side.



The Vets played at the Club on Sunday despite more overnight rain. They moved on to the next round of the LOB Cup thanks to late winner from Gary O'Brien making a welcome return to EBOG after too long away. It looks like they'll be meeting the winners of William Fitt and Hale End in the quarter-final. Pictured left are Goalscorers Innes, Allen & O'Brien.

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A magnificent (!) day at Alan Drive, with wild rain and gusting wind making for interesting conditions on the Top Pitch and remembering the events much harder to recall in the morning. Even the appearance of Nick Finney in the changing rooms before to address, or in this case, undress JT, buoyed the team, ready for the challenge in the OBC.

The 5xi took to the task well with a game plan to not only tackle our opponents but also the weather. Kicking with the wind in the first half it was extremely difficult to create any decent chances. The pitch drained the legs and the ball fizzed along the grass making life extremely difficult for our front men of Patel and Allen who tirelessly attempted to work the goal with the limited service due to the wind. Parmis had the chance to use the wind, one drive which was cleared off the line by Captain Warne. Sadly EBOG fell behind but responded well with goals from Allen (nearly a Suant goal) and a peach from Nayee which looped over the keeper aided by the wind.

The second half was more defined in terms of tactics, with the wind against us we would be able to play the ball which would hold up in the wind. Midway, Ben Allen was replaced by Ricky Payne who was sporting at least five T-Shirts and two jumpers and a forced change with Sam Patel (hamstring) being replaced by Pete Whittaker. Our opponents appeared not to have fathomed how to get the best out of the conditions however they capitalised with moments of where we'd switched off momentarily and equalised to take the game into extra time against the run of play.

At this stage we still looked comfortable but seconds into the first period of extra time Taz was unable to continue due to injury. Cometh the hour, cometh the newlywed, with unlikely substitute Kuniewicz slotting into left-back much to the excitement of Alex Williams. EBOG didn't create any chances and with Parmis pushing men forward they forced a number of corners which curled towards the goal due to the wind, luckily Kuniewicz headed one dangerous curler off the line. Parmis stole two late goals towards the end of extra-time, the first coming from an EBOG error and the other in the last moments as EBOG in attacking tried to level the score.

Overall both teams played well considering the weather conditions, though I believe that we should have taken the oppo, utilising the unstoppable Suant engine more on the wing, to prevent extra time. However, for all the efforts and the tightly balanced nature of the game, the resulting extra-time should have been settle by penalties making for a fairer reward – especially for the spectators who deserve straight-jackets for watched in the rain; Thanks Ben, Kirsty, Bob, Jen and Graham.

**SCRIBE:** Christo Kuniewicz

Team: Caskie, Warne, Lewis, Nicholls (Kuniewicz), A Williams, K Nayee, T Weightman, Suant, Turner, Allen (Payne), Patel (Whittaker).

**Unavailability & Dropping Out – A Polite Notice**

All members, new and old, please note the following:

If you are N/A on a particular or series of dates please mark it in the Unavailability book.  
**DO NOT TELL YOUR CAPTAIN ONLY!!**

Additionally, if you need to dropout;  
**DO NOT DROPOUT TO YOUR CAPTAIN**, please ring the number on the teamsheet.

If you have marked yourself as n/a, please check the teamsheet to ensure that this has been completed as per your request.

**Paul Flannery**



Many people gathered to wish Paul well on his imminent adventure in Afghanistan. If you want to follow his progress, the details are:

Trooper Flannery, 1<sup>st</sup> Royal Tank Regiment D Squadron.

Paul is bravely representing us all in a dangerous place and EBOG wish Paul all the very best wishes and luck for the next 6 months.

<b>Saturday Manager:</b>	Steve Brennen
<b>Lock Up:</b>	Paul Whitebread

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## David Allen 60<sup>th</sup>



A gaggle of older ex-players had an enjoyable gathering on Saturday to celebrate Dave Allen's birthday at the Club. They were pretty much amazed that there was any football to see as EBOG were always the first casualty of the weather in days gone by. They were not only impressed with the quality of the bottom pitch but also the football played on it. Dave bought the 1<sup>st</sup> team a jug after the game and there was a brief exchange of EBOG songs at one point. Much of the 1<sup>st</sup> team were still singing hours later.

## VCR

Many thanks to Richard & Darren Bryant's Dad for coming up with a VHS video recorder. This has sorted us out for the time being but we could always do with a spare.

## Roof

Lee Sterry and his firm Deardon Roofing have done the preparation work on the middle section of the roof but are still being held up by the adverse weather. They hope to start this Tuesday.!

Funding is going well but:

More donations please!

[www.Justgiving.com/ebog-roof](http://www.Justgiving.com/ebog-roof)

Many thanks to the following for their recent donations through the site:

Emily Armer, Matt King; Rob Hodgson; Nick Finney; Amit Vara; Tom Ricketts; Ralph Stringer; Tim Finney; Dave Mason and a recent large donation from Rick Smyth, and of course Waitrose.

Chris Wakefield popped £20 in the pot on his one and only visit to the Club this season. **Keep it coming!** We have now reached 40% of the total required to do the lot!

**Also thanks to significant donations by old fashioned cheque:** Vic Earwicker (twice!); Mike Brazier; Robert Bryant, Ludgrove Lodge and Sandra Skinner.

**Thanks to all for their great generosity.**

## Rob Laney - Yard of Ale



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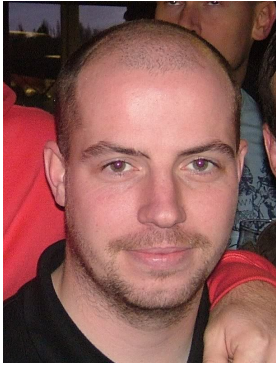
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## Leading Goalscorers

<u>Player</u>	<u>No. of Goals</u>
Berry 	12
Allen B;	8
Kucinovic; Lane; Penny; Sterry;	7
Laney;	6
Siddique R;	5
Finney T; Flannery D; Gale; Garrard; Innes; Lynch D; Nelson;	4

## Little Walters Blues Club

**Mick Hammersley**, a long time former, if inaccurate(!), EBOG centre forward, is now fronting a monthly Blues Club at The Maltings Art Centre, St. Albans.

The **Little Walters Blues Club** aim is to showcase top talent playing all types of Blues from Delta, funk, gospel and Chicago blues. The venue is in a Theatre setting with tiered seating and superb acoustics and sound. The front of the stage has café style tables laid out that give a real club feel and yes there is a bar!

The gig on 14<sup>th</sup> November was a sell out. The next show is On 5<sup>th</sup> December featuring Lillian Boutte & Denny Ilet.

If Blues is your thing contact [www.littlewaltersbluesclub.co.uk](http://www.littlewaltersbluesclub.co.uk) for all the details.

## Dazzling Darren Barker



Undefeated middleweight "Dazzling" Darren Barker will finally get the chance to add the British title to his Commonwealth crown on the 28<sup>th</sup> November when he meets former champ, Wayne "Mad Dog" Elcock for the vacant British title.

Darren Barker has been left waiting for his chance at winning a Lonsdale belt ever since then champion Matthew Macklin vacated the title to challenge for European honours rather than face the unbeaten Barnet man.

The fight will be taking place at the Brentwood Leisure Centre in Brentwood, Essex.

Tickets will be £30 each and for all who want to come on coach it will be a further £5.

For tickets contact either Richard Barker on 07817780003 or Lee Barker on 07866221016.

**Get your tickets ASAP as they are selling fast!**



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