



The Old Grammarian



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Season 2009 – 2010

Issue 13

Results for the weekend of: Saturday 28 th November 2009					P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 st XI	3-2	BB Eagles	SAL	Laney 2; Berry	8	3	4	1	25	19	6	13
2 nd XI	1-2	Civil Service	SAL	Reade	7	2	0	5	12	17	-5	6
3 rd XI	5-0	Old Owens	SALC	Sterry; Pearce; Penny; Innes; OG	6	3	1	2	16	8	8	10
4 th XI	1-5	Old Isleworthians	AFA	Kucinovic	7	5	1	1	23	10	13	16
5 th XI	1-1	Old Finchleians	SAL	Allen	8	4	1	3	20	17	3	13
6 th XI	1-8	Crouch End Vampires	SAL	North	7	2	0	5	14	30	-16	6
7 th XI	5-4	Southgate Olympic	SAL	Hodgson 2; Finney T; Grostate; Pratt S	8	3	0	5	23	28	-5	9
8 th XI	1-6	Old Parkonians	SAL	Zdybel	6	1	0	5	8	29	-21	3
9 th XI	2-0	Old Polytechnic	AFA	Pratt G; Bertauche								
Ladies					8	2	2	4	14	19	-5	8

Roy's Weekend Round Up

The 1^{sts} kept their winning run going although it was a little tighter than they might have wanted. They have now risen to 6th place with the third best goal difference. Rob Laney has scored 6 goals in the last 5 games and it is good to see two 1st team players up amongst the Club's top goalscorers.

The 2^{nds} made it 4 losses on the bounce and can't really explain this one away as a difficult fixture. Civil Service were second bottom and swap places with EBOG. Most spectators felt that we deserved at least a point but they are going to have to get back their sharpness in front of goal to avoid another relegation dogfight this season.

In contrast the 3^{rds} continued their astonishing run with their eighth consecutive win and the trouncing of Old Owens. It's not often you can say that, but Owens are having a miserable year by their high standards with their 1^{sts} near the bottom of Div 1. The 3^{rds} are undoubtedly our star side at the moment and Lee Sterry is leading by example sitting in 3rd place on the goalscorers' with 8 goals. Remarkable for a central defender! The other central defender, Danny Pearce, has got just one goal, but he did ask me to mention it!

The 4^{ths} were, until a few weeks ago a contender for best side, but have been comprehensively beaten in 3 of the last 4 games, and are now out of all the Cups. Mind you, they were playing a third team on Saturday which reflects the slightly strange 'seeding' arrangements unique to the AFA Cup. The 4^{ths} still sit in a very creditable 4th place in the League, with games in hand, so

have it all to play for if they can snap out of this decline and get back to defending.

The 5^{ths} went into their match against Finchleians 5^{ths} with identical points and identical goal difference. I suppose the smart money would have been on a draw and we remain above them in 4th place 'alphabetically'. Something of a disaster for the 6^{ths} with captain Steve Down away, they seemed to be short of players Saturday lunchtime and with no goalkeeper who dropped out late. This must have had a bearing on why they went down so badly against the second bottom side who now leapfrog them. They are 3rd from bottom now and are the side we can least afford to have in relegation peril.

By contrast, the 7^{ths} produced the result of the day with a fighting performance against the 4th placed side 9 points above them. This unusual result was the exact reverse of the score against the same team 7 weeks ago! The 8^{ths} have had a month to forget with some big scores against and this week was no exception.

The 9^{ths} were more than a match for Polytechnic despite fielding nobody under 40, 4 players over 50 and one over 60! They didn't kill off the tie though until the last 10 minutes. They now join 3 other EBOG teams still in the AFA Cup.

The 'real' (but much younger!) EBOG Vets were disappointed to lose their quarter-final fixture against Old Woodhouseians on Sunday, but after more than 12 hours of torrential rain over Saturday night it was a good decision not to damage the pitches for future matches.

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Another ding-dong goal fest for the 7's this weekend as we picked up back to back wins for the first time since Nelson Mandela was freed.

Starting with Richard's favoured 4-4-2 formation (favoured as it is the only one he knows) we knew we'd be in for a game as Southgate put us under pressure early on. It was therefore not a surprise when they took the lead through their brick outhouse of a striker who charged through, knocking aside anything in his path, which unfortunately included me too. Despite my beefcake status, we decided it would be better if Grostate marked this bloke from thereon. We gradually got a foothold in the game and deservedly drew level when Hodgson was taken out by the keeper in the area. He got up to despatch the resulting penalty, sending the keeper the wrong way. The rest of the half was fairly even other than a Finneyesque clearance from Kuniewicz which went in totally the opposite direction to where he was facing. Cattlin got a hand to it but it landed the wrong side of the goalline and we changed ends 1-2 down.

What had been a concern in the first half was the amount of time their midfield had been given. Richard rectified that by bringing Boyce back in to midfield, the idea being that you need a compass and an A-Z to find your way around him so he would simply block all of Southgate's routes to goal.

This certainly did the trick and we began to take control of the game. We levelled through a beauty from Hodgson who swivelled and curled a shot in to the top right hand corner from the edge of the box. That spectacular effort was then matched by Simon Grostate. From a free kick just outside the right hand edge of the box, he smashed the ball in to the top left hand corner to make it 3-2 to us. At this point there was about 20 mins left and Southgate decided to throw the kitchen sink at us. They moved to a 3-4-3 formation and really unsettled us for a while. Just when it seemed we have rode out the storm we conceded a very dubious penalty. Firstly it appeared that the guy had just run straight in to Ben Moss rather than Ben fouling him, secondly it looked like incident was outside the box. Still, once a ref has made up his mind, that is that. Southgate converted and it was all square with about 12 mins to go. Almost immediately we conceded again and it seemed the self destruct button had been hit. 4-3 down with ten left to play. Normally this would lead to an inevitable EBOG defeat, but we are made of stronger stuff nowadays. The feeling of injustice over the penalty seemed to spur us in to finding another gear and we went after Southgate again. Some sustained pressure resulted in Boyce breaking in to the area and his half cleared shot fell in to the path of Finney (again, I'll be modest and not use first names) who leathered it home from all of 1 yard to make it 4-4. There were still 6-7 mins left at this point and we could see Southgate visibly wilt, having lost the lead for a third time in the game. That was all the encouragement we needed and with barely 3 mins left to play Derby went through one on one, rounded the keep and sent the EBOG crowd (of 3) in to

raptures.

Now we were ahead there was no way we were letting go and the final whistle was greeted with the sort of ecstasy reserved for world cup finals.

To make the day complete we then went to Brentwood to see Darren hit someone quite hard a lot of times and win this nice belt with a picture of the Duke of Wellington or someone on it. Now he's got two belts there is bound to be a big fight between Nuckey and Suant over who can borrow the gay pride Commonwealth belt he also holds. After all, he can't wear them both at the same time.

SCRIBE: Nick Finney

Team: Cattlin, Grostate, Finney N, Lynch, Bryant, Culkeen, Moss, Finney T, Kuniewicz, Boyce, Hodgson, Pratt.

SAL – 23/11/09



EBOG 2nd XI 0 – 1 Polytechnic XI

It was a wet Wednesday morning when Postman Pat made his regular visit to my property. I opened the weekly newsletter with real haste, eager to see which team I had been selected for. Ahhhh, still in the 2's, that'll do. As I glanced through the team, I saw many regular names. We had a strong team.

Now where on earth are we playing, could it be a much deserved home game.....No! Another 7 hour return visit to a team in the middle of nowhere was on the cards. And to make matters worse, Callow was back in the 7's. Could things get any worse..... yes they could. At around 11.00 on Saturday morning I got a text from our 3rd in command. Admiral Nelson was short of oarsmen and needed me to find out if the uglier Ricketts was available to prop up the rear of the boat. Typically, Ricketts junior had been drafted elsewhere to fight greater battles away from our shores. On arrival to our clubhouse, our merry band of men had reduced to a crew of 10. And then things got even worse.....Matt King appeared.

So we left the clubhouse, with 11 men, no goalkeeper, no subs and no hope. Captain Nuckey, 2nd in command, stirred up some passion within the crew and we took to the battlefield with Admiral Nelson taking up his post between the 2 posts. He propped his bottle of rum up against one post and perched his parrot on the crossbar.

The battle commenced and very soon into the game, our newest recruit, Seaman Swainy, was put through for a clean attack but managed to blast the shot over and beyond his target. It was still early, there would be time to make adjustments to his sights. It was very shortly afterwards that a very similar move saw Master Ricketts clean through, but shiver me timbers, he must have been using the same shooting technique as Seaman Swainy as his shot too went over (but was much closer). Could



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he not hit water from a boat?

It was shortly after this when Polytechnic made a break, attacking from the stern. Chalky, with the turning ability of an oil tanker, was left motionless as his target gained distance from him and put in a deadly cross for their talisman to stick one in to the onion bag. Admiral Nelson was defeated, in fact, he looked a wreck.

Sinking at a rate of notts, the crew were rallied when our very own Reliant Robin was brought down for a deserved penalty. It was too far for Lord Nelson to paddle to resume his normal duties so the baton was passed to Seaman Swainy who had an opportunity to mark his debut. Our debutant was a little lily livered and the shot did not make it past the defending keeper... we later made him walk the plank.

So, despite controlling much of the battle, EBOG's gained little water and did not make the most out of the opportunities that arose. We sailed home defeated.... 0-1.

"11 men on the EBOG's quest,
Yo ho ho and a bottle of rum.
Have you seen the size of Matty Kings breasts?
Yo ho ho and a bottle of rum.

And to top it all off.....the day could have been remember for Callow's return and his match winning goal.....however, no one will forget the second that he smashed the yard of ale into a million pieces....., there is always a silver lining to the darkest of days.

SCRIBE: Tom Ricketts

Darren Barker - British Middleweight Champion



EBOG Darren Barker won the British Middleweight Title with a stoppage win over substitute Danny Butler.

Darren had been due to meet Wayne Elcock at the Brentwood Centre until he pulled out because of illness.

Butler, came into the bout as a late replacement on the back of an English title loss to Darren McDermott and he was out of his depth as Barker won the belt vacated by European champion Matthew Macklin with a seventh-round stoppage.

Darren Barker had great support following him with the majority attended being his local football club EBOG FC.

Goal Scorers



1st XI – Berry, Laney 2



3bog – Sterralizer, Pearce



9th XI – G Pratt, Bertauche

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Roof

Lee Sterry and his firm Deardon Roofing are more than halfway through the roof job despite the adverse weather. At one point last week they had to abandon work for fear of being blown off the roof! Although not yet finished, the middle section of the roof should now be watertight which is great news in view of the terrible weather.

Funding is going well but:

More donations please!
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.

Saturday Manager:	Mike Brazier
Lock Up:	


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 14th November was a sell out. The next show is on 5th December featuring Lillian Boutte & Denny Ilet. If Blues is your thing visit the website for all the details: www.littlewaltersbluesclub.co.uk

Leading Goalscorers

<u>Player</u>	<u>No. of Goals</u>
Berry 	14
Allen B; Kucinovic;	9
Laney; Penny; Sterry;	8
Lane;	7
Finney T; Lynch D;	6
Innes; Siddique R;	5
Challis; Flannery D; Gale; Garrard; Hodgson; Lowe N; Nelson; Reade;	4
Chambers; Ghani A; Gino; Harris R; Martin; Maher; Owers; Pratt G; Ricketts T; Suant; Trim	3
Bradshaw; Carroll S; Dixon; Jakobsson; Lewis; Mabey; North; Parsonage S; Patel; Samford; Seller P; Weightman T; Weldon; Zdybel	2

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