



# The Old Grammarian



Editor: Matt Page

Match Reports Email : [mattpage7@gmail.com](mailto:mattpage7@gmail.com)

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Season 2009 - 2010

Issue 19

Results for the weekend of: Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2009					P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 <sup>st</sup> XI	2-2	Carshalton	SAL	Berry, Laney	10	4	5	1	29	22	7	17
2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	P-P	West Wickham			9	3	0	5	16	19	-3	9
3 <sup>rd</sup> XI	P-P	Westminster Citizen			6	3	1	2	16	8	8	10
4 <sup>th</sup> XI	P-P	Alexandra Park			9	6	1	2	28	17	11	19
5 <sup>th</sup> XI	P-P	BB Eagles			9	4	1	4	24	22	2	13
6 <sup>th</sup> XI	P-P	Norsemen			7	2	0	5	14	30	-16	6
7 <sup>th</sup> XI	P-P	Alexandra Park			9	3	0	6	25	32	-7	9
8 <sup>th</sup> XI	P-P	Alexandra Park			7	1	0	6	10	40	-30	3
Ladies	P-P				7	2	1	4	13	18	-5	7

## Roy's Weekend Round Up

It's over a month since we last kicked a ball and what a dreadful month it was. The worst weather for a generation and, with the tragic loss of Jo and Carrie, it's a Christmas we would want to forget - but probably never will.

Snow first fell midweek and wrote off games on 19<sup>th</sup> December but quickly went away again. Ironically the only Saturday when the pitch was playable in the last 5 weeks was Boxing Day when hardly anybody turned up for the traditional friendly!

On 2<sup>nd</sup> January the 1<sup>sts</sup> very nearly played on the bottom pitch when the sun almost defrosted the bottom pitch. But the snow then came back with a vengeance and the 9<sup>th</sup> Jan call off was a no brainer. And so we came to last week and on Friday morning there were still inches of snow everywhere preventing the lines being marked (a problem that also eliminated all Council pitches). Amazingly by Friday evening most of the snow had suddenly gone leaving puddles and slush. Additionally our pitches were peppered with several mounds of snow from giant snowballs and X-rated ice sculptures create by local kids. These needed to be cleared with shovels and a barrow. It was decided that with the prospect of heavy rain on Saturday adding to the slush, the pitches would suffer irreparable damage if we played at Alan Drive.

So that's why most of you have been idle for the last 6 weeks, but spare a thought for Julian Oxley, who has been constantly monitoring the pitches, and Nick Finney who were far busier than usual. Nick's Mobile

has gone into meltdown over the last few weeks with hundreds of calls and texts from our players and opposition teams enquiring about prospects. Every time matches were called off dozens of calls needed to be made to advise opposition, Referees, Admin etc, and of course Captains, who in turn have to advise all their players. All this work is done voluntarily by those involved as is most of the League management. Bear this in mind when you grumble about paying a modest Match Fee and Annual Sub.

Fortunately there were one or two pitches in London which had both less snow and good drainage and were able to stage a game on Saturday. Carshalton was one of these and a very unfit EBOG 1<sup>st</sup> team set off around the M25. Predictably they performed well in the first half and then fell away drastically and went from 1-0 up to 2-1 down in the second half against the second placed side. They were happy to nick a point late in the game through a penalty won and taken by Rob Laney. Good to see two 1<sup>st</sup> team players topping the Goalscorers chart - a very unusual occurrence.

Part of our current problem that has affected all sides over Christmas is that most Astro surfaces have been taken out of service by the snow so we have had no training or 5 a sides to keep fit. Resilience to bad weather was trumpeted as the chief advantage of Astroturf and why they are used for games in places like Russia. You would have thought that all the staff in Leisure Centres left twiddling their thumbs over the last 6 weeks could have got hold of a broom and a barrow and cleared the snow off the Astro? Probably something to do with Health & Safety!!



020 8449 8477



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After 6 weeks without a game the last place you need to go is Carshalton. But we got on with it even if it meant taken Grandad Boyce.

Neither team started quick as expected but as so often in the last 7 games we were solid all round which has played a major part in the turnaround of our season. We took the lead through Bezza who latched onto Carroll's through ball to round the keeper and put into an empty net. We had a few chances to extend our lead in the first half but that's how it stayed until half time.


Second half belong to them as we didn't get going at all, flat all round the park and tired legs kicking in. We conceded 2 soft goals, one from a corner and one from a long throw. That's how it looked to be staying until a good break away which saw Laney being brought down by the keeper after a good through ball by Bezza. Laney stepped up calmly slotted home to make it 2-2.

So it's a point gained rather than 2 dropped. It's fair to say everyone needs to do their own bit to get fit, other than that a good point and still in a healthy position.

**SCRIBE:** Nick Page

**Team:** Johnson, Carroll, Chandler, Bullet, Langdale, Nayee, Lister, Page, Boyce, Harris, Berry, Laney.

## Leading Goal Scorer

<u>Player</u>		<u>No. of Goals</u>
Berry		16
Laney		12
Allen B; Kucinovic;		11
Sterry;		9
Penny;		8
Lane;		7
Finney T; Lynch D;		6
Chambers; Gale; Innes; Nelson; Siddique R; Suant;		5
Challis; Flannery D; Garrard; Hodgson; Lowe N; Reade; Williams C		4
Bradshaw; Ghani A; Gino; Harris R; Martin; Maher; Owers; Pratt G; Ricketts T; Trim; Weldon;		3

## EBOG Roof Fund

Despite the dreadful weather, Lee Sterry and his firm Deardon Roofing have completed the middle section of the roof! They were up there like a couple of Eskimos before Christmas in blizzard conditions determined to get the job completed by the promised date. Congratulations to them on a job well done, and they can take a rest now whilst we find the money to finish the roof next summer.

We still have the final section to complete next summer, so:

More donations please!

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

This will add a tax rebate of 25% through gift aid.

Anyone who needs any good roofing work doing:

**Deardon Roofing:** 07801 229456; 01992 633535.

Or talk to **Lee Sterry**.

## Unavailability & Dropping Out

All members, 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.

<b>Saturday Manager:</b>	Andy Heath
<b>Lock Up:</b>	Chris Boyce

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Rick Smyth

## 100 Club Prize Winners

October:				November				December			
No.				No.				No.			
1 <sup>st</sup>	174	<b>Chris Collins</b>	<b>£90</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	46	<b>Bob Gair</b>	<b>£30</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	54	<b>Andy Sharp</b>	<b>£90</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	132	<b>Kate Whitebread</b>	<b>£75</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	29	<b>Kevin Hayes</b>	<b>£75</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	20	<b>Mike Brazier</b>	<b>£75</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	153	<b>Paul Freeman</b>	<b>£45</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	114	<b>Tom Rainbow</b>	<b>£30</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	71	<b>Andy Heath</b>	<b>£15</b>

**February draw will be double prizes: £180 could be won with one number  
You can't win it unless you're in it!**

Now is the time of year to buy into 2010. Contact him on 01442 236742; [rick@smyth12.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:rick@smyth12.fsnet.co.uk) or send multiples of £12 to Rick at: **12 Greenacres, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 4LX .**

*Any profits are invested in the Club*

## EBOG Under Snow



Rob Laney and Nick Page on a 2 ton snowball that appeared on the bottom pitch



But how do you move it?  
Answer: You can't!!

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East Barnet Old Grammarians Football Club, Alan Drive, Barnet EN5 2PU

 **020 8449 4329**

[www.ebog.co.uk](http://www.ebog.co.uk)