






The Centenary Legends “Promotion” Tour Programme



Portugal, 18th - 23rd May 2011



INSIDE...

-  **Whose hot and whose not at beach bat n ball**
-  **Meet the back room staff & team**
-  **All the important questions answered inside...will Wellsey lose another pair of sunglasses? Will Wilgo turn brown? Will Tilley remember his boots?**



CONTENTS

The “REAL” Governor Speaks

**Meet The Backroom Staff
(Yes we did say backroom staff!!)**

Tour Itinerary

MEET THE TEAM

Player Profiles

‘The Centenary Legends’

So we are doing it again. Welcome one and all!!

Last year’s tour to the Algarve to play in the Algarve Trophy was deemed a success so here we are.

However it did leave me wandering what it was we did well and what it was that we could improve on!



Well our strongest suit was ‘Partying’ and ‘Golf balling’ and ‘Beach Leisure activities’. We came up a bit short on Footy and we were a bit ugly at ‘Reveille’. Arriving two days in advance, I think we became over-acclimatised and we were at our physical peak at Gatwick.

It was downhill from there on and some went faster downhill than others. So we’ve strengthened the squad this year with players who can handle their drink and should acclimatise better. And all we need to do is cap off the season by winning the Algarve Trophy – which is something we could certainly do (especially if we can at least be in bed by 3am, Saturday morning) I like the way the fixtures have fallen. We need to just go a little careful on Friday night as we have our three big games on Saturday. So it’s all systems go to cap off our Centenary season with a trophy.

It has been a great season for Merton FC – and in particular for the 1s & 3s. No one can deny that the 2s always had a mountain to climb this year after their incredible achievements in the last 3 years under Lofty & Reedy. But it is because of their sterling efforts that despite the 2s relegation from the top division this season, the club as a whole has still been able to achieve one of it’s major ambitions – to have the top three senior sides in their respective division twos. Which was one of the first targets / ambitions that we set 10 years ago!

And so with this in mind & with the Firsts gaining promotion and the 3s winning the title we are already - ‘The Centenary Legends’. So lets do it!

Meet The Backroom Staff



David “Potter” Rayner

AKA: Potter or Dave

Role: Official Tour Photographer

Strengths: Putting, red wine, sleeping in the sun & Photographing wildlife

Weaknesses: Red wine & sleeping in the sun

One area we fell down badly on last year (apart from football and sobriety) was keeping a historical record of our exploits. By some amazing stroke of good fortune we have been able to acquire the services of Dave as the ‘Official Tour Photographer’ and he will be bringing some serious long glass with him. Dave like Ian is a long term family friend of the Herbert household – and also like Ian has a son in the squad – Christopher Rayner. Dave is better known throughout the Algarve for his incredible bird photography but such skills are easily transferable to the sports field – as long as no unexpected bird life decides to conduct a fly by during the games.



Ian Cairns

AKA: (Tiger)

Role: Assistant Goal Keeping Coach

Strengths: Putting, red wine, betting

Weaknesses: Long Irons, Abstinence, red wine & betting

Once again you will be delighted to know that we have secured the services of Tiger Cairns. Last year Tiger was always there to advise on beverages - but this year he has an expanded role. Having seen the emotional crises that some of our numbers went through as we struggled to come to terms with football on foreign soil, Tiges (at his own request) has taken up the role of Assistant Goalkeeping coach. Tiges has always been brilliant on working angles in whatever he does and this experience will be invaluable. He will also provide a Counselling service to DannyBoy should anything untoward happen - as it has in the past!!

ITINERARY

<p><u>WED 19 MAY</u></p> <p><u>17.00pm SHARP – Meet Gatwick</u> 21.45pm – Land Faro 22.45pm – Check in Hotel <u>23.15pm – Hit Town / Party time</u></p>	<p><u>THURS 20 MAY</u></p> <p><u>09.00 Team Breakfast</u> 10.30 Beach 13.00 Lunch / hotel <u>14.30 Beach</u> 16.00 R&R time <u>19.30 Team pre-dinner drinks</u> <u>20.00 Team Dinner</u> 22.00 Party Time / <u>Second half of Squad arrives</u></p>	<p><u>FRIDAY 21 MAY</u></p> <p><u>09.00 Team Breakfast</u> 10.30 Beach 12.30 Lunch / hotel <u>13.30 Beach Session Cont</u> <u>14.30 Beach Bat n Ball Comp</u> <u>15.30 Beach Cricket Comp</u> 17.00 R&R time <u>19.30 Team pre-dinner drinks</u> <u>20.00 Team Dinner</u> 22.00 Party Time</p>
<p><u>SAT 22 MAY</u></p> <p><u>08.30 Team Breakfast</u> 10.00 Football Tournament 17.00 R&R time <u>19.30 Team pre-dinner drinks</u> <u>20.00 END OF SEASON TEAM DINNER</u> 22.00 Party Time</p>	<p><u>SUN 23 MAY</u></p> <p><u>08.30 Team Breakfast</u> 10.00 Football Tournament 14.30pm R&R time 15.30pm 1st Half Of Squad Departs <u>20.00 Team Dinner</u> 22.00 Party Time 02.00 Kiss Nightclub</p>	<p><u>MON 24 MAY</u></p> <p><u>09.00 Team Breakfast</u> 10.00 Beach 11.00am Bat & Ball competition 13.00 Lunch / hotel <u>14.15 All squad departs for Faro airport to return home</u> <u>14.30 CHECK IN ALGARVE TROPHY WITH EASYJET</u></p>

NOTE:
ITEMS IN BOLD
NOT TO BE
MISSED –
PUNISHMENTS
APPLICABLE!



MEET THE TEAM

DANNY WELLS

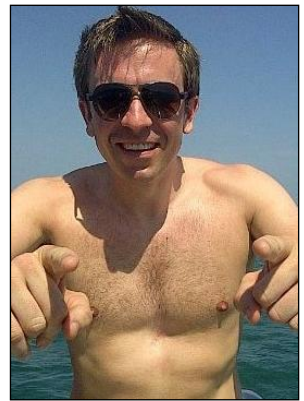
AKA: WELLSEY, DANNY BOY

Position: GOALKEEPER

Strengths: kicking, hatricks, downing pints, winning over management, cougars

Weaknesses: The three Cs - Catching, Crosses & Cougars

Tour Responsibility: Director Of Beach Activities



Danny Boy Wells has set his sights on achieving a few fundamental goals on this years tour! We took some time out with our man to find out what they are....and why he is anything but - “Just a regular guy”! We sat down with him at one of his favourite hideouts St.Cassien delicatessen in Wimbledon Village –where if possible he seems to spend most of his working mornings!

Whilst making it his own personal business to “never lose to a Gladkow” - The first goal became quickly apparent – and that was not to lose a pair of £150 sunglasses in the sea, within the first 5 minutes of arriving at the beach. It was his excuse that had to be noted “ I was just too excited – I didn’t know whether to swim first, play beach footy or get the bat n ball out.” Amidst the confusion our man went straight for the sea – with his brand new ray bands. He came out – they did not! Its worth mentioning that also this year a pair of Dolce & Gabannas and Christian Dior sunglasses have met similar deaths - there is a lesson in there somewhere!!

Finally it has become his new focus to catch his first cross, during match play on foreign soil. This begs the question whether one has actually been caught yet on domestic soil – but we will give him the benefit of the doubt. I’m sure no one forgets the final game of last years tour - when a tame cross, floated its way into the Merton area. Under no pressure & with Merton 5-0 up, this was meant to be the moment of glory! Subsequently the (off target) Cross was shouldered, palmed & I believe headed into his own net by our lovable keeper!

But it has been a great year for Wellsey leading the 3s to the league title. As expected he has done it in his own style and character that have made him a true Merton legend over the years. And whilst crosses may not be his strong point I assure you his left foot ,shot stopping and character is!

IVAN GLADKOW

AKA: Vanny / Mr Talky Sensitive

Position: Left midfielder

Strengths: The First 70 minutes / Eating It!!

Weaknesses: The Golf Ball, E.G, Dresses like a dick to games...in an attempt to look fashionable



Yes, Van might give it out like no one else, but boy does he take it!! His clothes, his banter, the fact he (still) lives with his grandmother, and, of course, the Golf Ball (more on that later). In a team full of massive lads, Vanny goes out of his way to be one of the biggest characters in the changing room.

Unfortunately for him, our man Van has found notoriety once again this season for being made of glass. Despite starting the year absolutely on fire, injury has cruelly cut short Gladkow senior's involvement. And when he does start games, his ongoing struggle with building any sort of stamina means he rarely makes it past the 70-minute mark... Vanny, remember: it's okay to go for a run after work a couple of times a week!!

Yet it all started so well – after Max (deservedly, it must be said) picked Ivan as Merton's Player of the Tournament in Portugal last year, Vanny carried that momentum with him into the start of the league season. After Cameron's reign on that wing, we finally had a determined, strong and skilful left-sided midfielder who passed! It's fair to highlight Vanny's performances as a major reason behind Merton's early form.

As expected, Van took it all in his stride, exclaiming after winning our first match of the season 5-1: "I'm starting games! I'm not getting golf balled! Life couldn't be better."

Which brings us to the real reason why Van is, in many ways, 'The Main Man' at Merton: his very special – almost magnetic – relationship with the Golf Ball. Ivan, pint in hand, is irresistible as a target, and is fondly remembered for having to bosh seven (count them) beers before the midnight hour on one night on tour last May. Back to dishing it out as well as taking it – if you do find yourself with GB in pint on tour, you are almost guaranteed to find Ivan whispering in your ear "Could you do me a little favour..." in a quiet, 'Mr Talky Sensitive' voice, followed by a screeching demand in strained vocals to "*****ing EAT IT FRESHER!!"

Ivan, what can we say? Portugal loves you, big guy!!

SIMON CLAPPERTON

AKA: Clappers, King George V1

Position: Centre Half

Strengths: leadership – full stop

Weaknesses: still fails to find the post match gb funny, collecting his clothes from the centre of playing fields

Tour Responsibility: To Lead



It's a case of one management training course too many for Clappers, who has a certain penchant for delivering his pre-match team talks and half-time bollockings like he is presenting at a quarterly meeting. In his signature step-repeat style, Clappers accentuates the positive by lingering on the middle words of any sentence. Observe:

"We can't go out there thinking today is going to... to be easy. We've got to work... to work hard. We've got two very good... very good wide men, who we need to get... to get the ball to quickly. When we played this lot at home, we were dominant in... dominant in the air, where we had a lot... had a lot of joy."

Does our captain have his own speech therapist tucked away in central London, just like Colin Firth in *The King's Speech*? Or does he, in true management style, simply need to assess his core competencies, look at the big picture and touch base with reality? And is this how he speaks to Sally??

Clappers has – once again – had a simply awesome season of totemic leadership at the helm of Merton 1st XI, and marshalling a magnificently stingy backline. One of the most consistent players in the team, we should also thank him for willingly taking on the task of organising us all every week. We know it gives few people greater satisfaction that we have achieved promotion. Curiously, Clappers' greatest contribution this year came away at Southgate Olympic, telling the ref to 'just walk away' and stop arguing with the opposition. Its fair to say that few deserve promotion more..!!



CHRIS RAYNER

AKA: CJ / RAYNER

Position: Left back, left midfield, striker

Strengths: Left foot, Banter, laid back appearance & showboating at beach volleyball

Weaknesses: Tequila & Spoof

Tour Responsibility: Left Footer

And so welcome to Chris Rayner. Some may recall his exploits a few years back, as a 9 man Merton side defeated Old Ruts 1st XI 3-0, in the presidents cup on boxing day! A sublime cross from Chris creating the third goal for Craig Bull. As Cameron Clarke once said of Chris Rayner (having had to play against him) “this guy is deceptively good”. Well Cam & Merton boys he is a master of deception – as the picture above clearly shows. He uses such techniques as appearing uber relaxed, ultimately chilled & annoyingly unperturbed to draw unsuspecting opposition into the illusion that he isn’t even trying or bothered. The fact is – most of the time he probably is and the results from such an accomplished player are very ,very effective. PS do not give this man a tequila at any stage!!



GEORGE CAIRNS

AKA: CAIRNSEY / GEORGE

Position: Left back, centre half

Strengths: Sport in general, betting on horses

Weaknesses: building sky scrapers out of restaurants outdoor furniture in front of police

Tour Responsibility: To add some sporting perspective, and to ensure no-one spends a night in a police cell.

And so to another relative newbie! George has made it his business over the past twenty three ish years to become damn good at pretty much any sport thrown in front of him. He has played for the 3s under Danny Wells a couple of times this year and is a highly assured footballing - centre half. However It is his beach cricket skills that should cause real alarm . If any person can bowl him out LEGALLY they can forgo one drinking punishment that day! George is a solid competitor and will add a bit of professionalism to the often chaotic footballing scenes on tour. Well at least that's the theory! He is also related to Tiger – rather closely in fact – but u wld never guess it as George is interested in horse racing, gambling, drinking & golf among other things.



Femi Arogundade

AKA: Femster

Position: Striker, Left Wing

Strengths: Speed, finishing & strength

Weaknesses: Wears Gangster Caps

Tour Responsibility: Scoring Goals / Stitching up Sean



A massive welcome back to Femi. A former star of Merton FC some 8 years ago! The prodigal striker has been to America and conquered, among other things The Beer Pong, Gangster Caps and becoming an all American Athlete – the latter being a fantastic achievement. There is no doubt that Merton as a club and in particular the first team are delighted to have Femi back. Femi returned just in time to bolster the 1st team squad and ensure Promotion with some vital goals and tireless performances. As many are aware you can judge Femi's mood by the ridiculous angle at which he wears his caps – so need to ask the big guy how he is in the morning just look at the degree the cap has been pushed to the side! Femi stated he has always wanted to play for the 1st team in division 2 – and now that looks an exciting reality – and more of the same from this man and Merton could be in for a great season next time out.



Sean Summerville

AKA: Sean

Position: Centre Mid / Attacking Midfield

Strengths: Control & finishing / Stitching Femi up

Weaknesses: E.G / Golf Ball

Tour Responsibility: American Representative , setting up goals

Thanks to Femi - Sean seems to have hopped over the Atlantic , taken up residence with Arogundade family – and as a result has been able to add some real class & flair to Merton's Midfield –with some great assists & goals. Also it has enabled us to field yet another player who likes to play in a head band. Sean having refuted to drink early on in his Merton days – finally subsided and like most that give in – our man went big!! Novices to the golf ball and E.G game tend to learn fast – Sean was an exception to this rule – as he went onto bosh at least 10 pints after having not drunk for a couple of months. I have no idea what happened after that. But he has had a huge impact both as a player and individual. Another confirmed “Massive Lad”

GRAHAM WILLGOSS

AKA: Wilgo – Lord Of The Slow Pint

Position: Midfield

Strengths: Skill, effort, Team spirit & selfless in front of goal, not getting golf balled

Weaknesses: downing pints, snacking, time keeping

Tour Responsibility: To Lord Over All Slow Pints



After an unexpectedly long wait Graham Willgoss - for those who don't know - has announced himself as "Lord Of the Slow Pint". Don't fall over in shock just yet – as gracious as this gesture maybe – it is not without good reason. Why you ask? Well where it seems most of our squad seem to fail - Wilgo is very successful at being anally good at ensuring he does not get golf balled – the reality of being golf balled brings with it more issues than just the downing of the pint! Yes it will be painfully slow and pedantic to start with – but it's the epic results we all love seeing. When our loveable enthusiastic member of the squad slips over the edge of his alcohol comfort zone a different animal starts to show. Plus this inevitably leads to a much greater chance of securing him with a second golf ball.

So if you do manage to witness Wilgo being golfballed this tour - take my advice, enjoy it, savour it, perhaps even take a photo of it - because lets face it you probably wont see a golf ball in his pint again - anytime soon!

One other thing to look out for this tour is the fantastic competition Wilgo & Wellsey will unknowingly have – to see who comes home the whitest. Wilgo likes to go for the all over factor 40 – approach – Wellsey if he can be bothered normally goes for factor 30 all over – if he cant, he just gets horrifically burnt – which whilst cruel is equally entertaining. My money is on Wilgo!!

Wilgo has had a superb season – his effort, enthusiasm and commitment to the cause has been second to none. To add to this he has certainly found his finishing prowess in front of goal (that or no-one was within passing range) – with among others a fine finish against Lloyds TSB at home on a one on one and a well executed volley from outside the area against The Bank Of England in the final game of the season. It was indeed a very fitting way for Wilgo to end the season, a man who has quickly cemented himself as a real Merton man – which is excellent news for the club!!

JAMES TILLEY

AKA: TILLEY, TILLS, Governor's PA

Position: Midfield

Strengths: heading, team spirit, relaying the governor's orders, getting in the cradle

Weaknesses: contempt for anyone not doing the same, missing matches, grey goose

Tour Responsibility: To remember his boots – head of all water bombing operations

A one-man hotline to the mysterious Governor, Tilley takes it upon himself to instil the same high standards in the team as he expects of himself, on and off the pitch. A big win, for Tilley, means a big night – and he rarely disappoints: James has been known at various times to share with his teammates that he “cannot see/speak/remember buying that second bottle of Grey Goose” on a Sunday morning after a night out. Goose me.

Tilley loves a chat with the opposition (and, on occasion, the opposition supporters), which could have cost him dearly this season. Ash, suffering abuse from the more unpleasant members of the Old Stationers team, began to react with his trademark gusto before Tilley interjected with “leave it Ash – this lot are a bunch of pikeys...”. Gathered in the box to defend a free-kick, almost the entire Old Stationers team turned to glare at Tilley. A diplomatic “sorry boys, bad shout,” was Tilley's grovelling response.

There's nothing quite like the expression on Tilley's face after he's notched one for Merton – if ever there was a clearer indicator that the man loves pulling on a yellow shirt, this is it: he is a picture of contorted, raw joy when he hits the back of the net, as he has done once again so regularly this season. An absolute pleasure to line up with, perhaps Tilley's defining moment of the season came at home to Old Latymerians in a tight 1-0 win. Tills drove the team home through sheer force of will, and even banged in the deciding goal. Our own Mr Reliable (apart from when he buggers off mid-season to Miami and elsewhere), Tilley is a Merton Man through and through who likes nothing better after turning in a barnstorming performance than going straight to The Swan.





KIERON TIDDY

AKA: Alley -Gashy - Arno

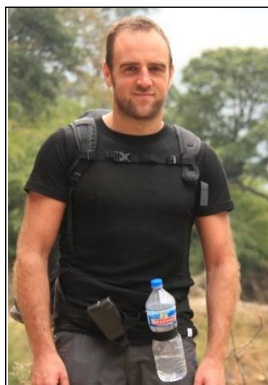
Position: Holding Midfield, Massive Lad

Strengths: His Warrant Card, De-Sensitisation methods, Fluent in Spanish & Italian (chicks love this)

Weaknesses: Finding time to clip his toe nails, Lots of Latin women, losing at bat n ball

Tour Responsibility: Punishment Enforcer

New signing Kieron doesn't give much away but like all good Coppers he takes no prisoners, the paper work and admin are a nightmare. A specialist in de-sensitisation methods for people struggling a little with their new surroundings whilst in Portugal, don't be afraid asking a attractive girl if "she will get off with you" at breakfast will seem normal by the end of the weekend. On the field gritty competitor, don't tell the others but he has pretty much single handedly pushed the Merton 3s to the their Championship. Bred from the same Kennel as Wellsey expect things to happen.



MIKE REED

AKA: Mustard, Kernow, 100% Weird

Position: Midfield, Striker

Strengths: Writing MFC Policies, Crazy Leg Dancing, Stats, Acting Camp, working out who has had more game time then him on tour

Weaknesses: Moroccan Sandals, Images on his phone, Dildos

Tour Responsibility: Stato / Sunbed Advice hotline

We all know Mustard and his performance on last year's tour will go down in folk lore, more for his off the pitch antics than on the pitch, but before he gets angry and pulls out his stat's from last year we all are aware of what his hyper active energy on the pitch can provide and every now and then he completes a pass, get's a shot on target and has even been know to score the odd cracking goal. A Merton legend and definitely has the making to be the clubs next Roger Mann... put's a lot of time for everyone involved and does it with his Merton heart on his sleeve. A true Merton man and an essential part of the team & clubs make-up (pardon the pun!!) If you can't find our man during the day – he will be on a sunbed sweating and tanning – if you cant find him at night – god only knows!!

CHRIS WOODS

AKA: Woody, The Reducer

Position: Midfield

Strengths: Unbeatable in the air

Weaknesses: turrets / too much time spent round the gladkows means Woody now thinks he is really really good looking

Tour Responsibility: To Reduce



Woody is a big fan of togetherness in the squad, and hit upon a novel way of inspiring this quality early on in the season: after last year's tour, Woody was desperate for the return of the Merton Wall. So keen was The Reducer, that he rugby-tackled a punter into the door in the Belle Vue on Clapham High Street while gearing up for a team visit to Infernos. While Woody (dressed as Andre Agassi) laughed, the rest of his team fended off the by now furious victim.

For the uninitiated, the Merton Wall sprung up after Wellsey managed to annoy a particularly unpleasant character one night on our previous jaunt to the Algarve, and formed an impenetrable barrier that not even the hardest of thugs could breach.

On a personal note, Woody will be pleased that Dan Hall has elected to come to the Algarve again this year, once again turning down the opportunity to visit the Dominican Republic with Woody's sister.

For those that missed it Woody was arguably one of the more fired up Merton players throughout the season – which resulted in him developing a serious case of turrets! When venting his anger to fellow team mates...it was often just an indecipherable noise with some strong head banging – but we soon got the gist – Woody was not pleased!!!

Woody has had another stand-out year in the heart of Merton's midfield. Like Kevin Davies in a creative role, he is fouled against just as much as he is penalised for gaining an unfair advantage over the opposition – usually unjustly. Woody just offers too much strength for many opposition players. Rarely has this been more evident than when we travelled to Bank of England requiring a win to clinch promotion – Woody was imperious throughout, setting up our winner with a driving run so typical of his contribution this season. Must deliver!

ALAN CLOWES

AKA: Clowsey

Position: Right, Centre Back

Strengths: Decision Making on the field, Commitment

Weaknesses: Decision making in his car

Tour Responsibility: To compete with Clappers for being the most pissed



Merton's own bionic man, Clowes has a wonderful temperament that means he doesn't take anything too seriously - least of all his doctor's advice that he should 'not under any circumstances be playing football with a metal plate in your head'. Well, Clowes laughs in the face of doctors, and more often than not opposition attackers as they try but fail to find a way past him. It speaks volumes that the most sensible picture we could find for his profile shot was the one above – you think i'm joking...!!!

Unfortunately, any and all south-west London-bound traffic also struggles to find a way past our man as his indecision and willingness to bow to the questionable directions of back-seat drivers (no names mentioned, Ash) results in Saturday tailbacks as far as Kew Gardens.

Clowes's performances at right back are never less than strong, and the fact that he managed to stand out as a star performer in our win at Bank of England - when every Merton Man who took to the field that day raised his game - is testament to his ability.

DAN HALL

AKA: DAN / BOY RACER

Position: Centre Forward

Strengths: Tattoos, looking scary, not drinking much

Weaknesses: getting drunk on very little, misses Sean McCulloch, loud cars

Tour Responsibility: To dance with fat strippers & frighten street entertainers



Welcome back to Dan Hall – the man who literally lives and breathes football (and the odd computer game!!) Dan has had another strong season scoring some cracking goals along the way – not least a spectacular over head kick for the threes away at The Bank OF England. With a keen eye for goal & a habit of drinking a lot less than the rest of the squad Dan will be a key player this tour!!! It is good to have him back and Wellsey has promised him that he can skype Shaun McCulloch at least once a day!! Last year Dan famously chased a street performer into the main bar after appearing to have been mocked by him / little did the entertainer know Dan is a gentle giant at heart!! Good to have you out here!!

ALEX HERBERT

AKA: Sherbs

Position: Right Back, Right Midfield, Goalkeeper

Strengths: intimate knowledge of Albufeira

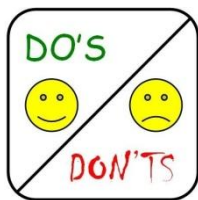
Weaknesses: Spoof , topless departure

Tour Responsibility: Guide & Party Co - coordinator



Taking the mickey out of Alex for going big on an evening/night/morning is a bit like mocking Charlie Sheen for liking a party. It's just how he rolls. And, to quote the US partyman, Alex can often be found 'winning' in any given Wimbledon establishment. That is, unless he is playing his personal favourite parlour game - Topless Departure, in which case Alex will very definitely be losing and leaving said bar shirtless. Always a pleasure to behold - but only because he f**king hates doing it!!

An original Merton Man, Alex's attitude, quality, commitment and willingness to give his team 100 per cent is, in short, part of what makes our team tick. Alex's season was unfairly cut short by a brutal tackle, before which he decided he was going to boss the right midfield berth with a series of stellar performances. Whether Alex starts in his preferred position of right back, right midfield or in goal, our man offers strength. It's what he does. A top man and top player, we are looking forward to welcoming him back to the pitch in Portugal.



REMEMBER GLADKOWS AREN'T THE SAME AS US, THIS GUIDE IS MEAN'T TO HELP YOU AND PROTECT YOU WHILST ON TOUR. SOME SIMPLE RULES.....

Never ask a Gladkow for help – they wont help X

Never introduce a Gladkow to a girl you have just met X

Never to a lose to a Gladkow – if you think you'll lose then don't play them! X

RICHIE OAKES

AKA: Oaksey

Position: Goalkeeper

Strengths: underwear, shot stopping

Weaknesses: Still shouts like a girl

Tour Responsibility: Holding Wellsey's Hand



After a another incredibly solid season between the sticks, countless clean sheets and more shouts of 'Give me fu**ing two' than ever before Merton's talismanic No 1 joins us for his for his debut Merton tour.

It's still not clear exactly which Z list Ozzie boy band the Oakster descends from but his laid back manor and nonchalant attitude to goalkeeping certainly provide enough evidence that the antipodean had some sort of past career in showbiz. If Easy Jet decide to throw in some in-flight entertainment and treat us to a showing of Pirates of the Caribbean, Edward Scissor Hands or Charlie and the Chocolate factory (the new one) please don't get confused. Oaksy is at least four stone heavier than Johnny Depp and you should all remind him (whilst golfballing his Gin and Tonic) that he is in fact a fat Johnny Depp lookalike and not the real deal.

One thing that Oaksy didn't have to spend too much time preparing for tour was his swim ware. Every member of the squad have been treated to a Saturday afternoon showing of Oaksy in his Speedos in the changing room before a game. I still don't think anyone has actually worked out why, but it certainly doesn't stop getting funnier (and slightly weirder).

PETER JENNINGS / AKA: PETE

Position: CENTRE HALF, RIGHT BACK

Strengths: Passing , organising, dependable, choir boy looks

Weaknesses: Can't sing like one, uni chicks, golf ball & e.g

Tour Responsibility: to avoid the golf ball at all costs



Peter is another tour newby! And whilst we still do not know his best position we are finding out by a process of elimination. Never has a man had such a baptism of fire with the golfball than our man Pete. It was as if the thought of such a game seemed grossly unfair to his nature...and so unashamedly Pete decided to be useless at it. After a couple of months where Mondays were still sick days Pete decided to give up going out with the footy boys on a Saturday – and instead hang around student unions on a Friday night – this met with a huge seal of approval from Wellsey & Sherbs. Pete is mr.dependable and puts in a solid and honest shift every time he puts on a Merton shirt. A great guy who leads by example



PROMOTION ACHIEVED!!

**Bank Of England 0 – 1 Merton X1
(23) Ash Adams**

02/04/2011



**Graham Willgoss & Alex Herbert
Productions**