

THE MERTON WAY

Merton Football Club

Newsletter 18.05.15



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CANVAS

#THEENDISHERE

The season is over ...well that is we have played all our league games but there is still a lot to do and a lot of club events to be enjoyed and work to be done preparing for next season.

The 1s were a strong side but West Wickham's 1-0 win on Saturday against Poly meant we were relegated on goal difference. Disappointing but we will bounce back as we were not out of our depth and we know what we have to do now.

On the 2nd May the 2s and 3s played their final games against two very strong sides in their division. The 3s drew 1-1 but the 2s went down 3-0 to NUFC oilers who played very well. Unfortunately Dave Quainton dislocated his shoulder and had to go to A and E to have it sorted. He seems to be well on the way to a full recovery and should be fit for next season.

The 4s and 5s both avoided relegation the 5s had a great win 5-1 at home to HSBC with a storming second half being 1-0 down at half time. The 6s again did the club proud by getting over to Ally Pally to play their last game of the season and hold the clubs reputation in tact in fulfilling our obligations in a season where we seem to have been sinned against rather more often than we have sinned.

There are a number of things we need to get sorted at the club during the Summer and a very high priority is some emergency repair work on our main pitch (mobile goals). It has taken a battering when we played on it during the monsoons and as soon as we get some

wet weather I will be organising some Sunday working parties to do some work filling holes with top soil and seeding. Any volunteers are welcome but I would expect the 1s and 2s to provide the bulk of the labour.

It would be good if that coincided with the youth trials. These are on Sunday 17th 24th and 31st May. But I hoping we can start on the 24th by which time some welcome rain, well it will be summer by then, will have softened the ground up.

On the administrative front we need to collect up all outstanding monies from members Eg. Match fees and fines and it would be good if you made these payments as soon as your captain contacts you. We need the money as we are heading for a deficit this year.

We are hoping that we have two more great days at the club - Cup Final Day and Awards' Night when we will have some football matches during the afternoon. These are likely to be inter club matches unless we can find some suitable oppo. We are hoping for a big turnout from members across the club.

When Len has finalised our accounts we will approve these and elect new committee members at our Annual General Meeting which we have provisionally pencilled in for the 9th July.

Thanks
Max



MEET THE COMMITTEE

President

Terry Baker

Chairman

Max Herbert

Deputy Chairman

Simon Clapperton

Honorary Secretary

Mike Reed

Honorary Treasurer

Len Freeman

Honorary Fixtures Secretary

Mark Chappell

Youth Section Representative

Steve Dewsbury

Entertainments Organiser

Alex Herbert

Players' Representative

Lee Lenihan

Webmaster

Matt Haswell

Discipline Officer

Roger Asling

Bar

Peter Kemp

General Duties

Graham Willgoss, David Quainton, Darren Avey

Honorary Life Presidents

Roger Mann, Mark Dix, Roger Asling, Pat Murphy, Jim Murphy, Fergus Murphy, Martin Quinlan, John Gridley, Steve Philpott, Graeme Coombs



WHAT'S GOIN' ON

FA Cup Final Day

Saturday 30th May

Reasons to attend:

- Bar open all day
- Two friendlies to involve everyone who wants a game
 - BBQ
- Watch the FA Cup Final live in the bar

Betting available on:

- 1st Goalscorer with £25 prize
- Time of the 1st goal with £50 prize

Wives, girlfriends, kids, friends, potential new members, all welcome

End of Season Awards Day

Saturday 6th June

Reasons to attend:

- Bar open all day
- President's v Chairman's game
(everyone who wants a game will get one so please let Clappers know if you want to play)
- BBQ
- Watch Epsom Derby day live in the bar
- Live online betting available as well as a Merton FC Tote with prizes including:
 - FREE membership for next season
 - End of season awards presentation
- Watch the Champions League Final live in the bar

Betting available on:

- 1st Goalscorer with £25 prize
- Time of the 1st goal with £50 prize

Wives, girlfriends, kids, friends, potential new members, all welcome



MORE UPCOMING EVENTS...

Merton Youth Football Club

PLAYERS NEEDED for all ages for 2015/16 season

Football Trials – Sunday 17th, 24th and 31st May 2015

Merton Youth Football Club will be running SIX youth teams for the season 2015/16. There will be teams of Under 9s, 10s, 11s, 12, 13s and 14s. Players of above average ability are needed for all ages.

The teams play in The Surrey Youth League, one of the best youth leagues in the country, and the home matches are played at Joseph Hood Recreation Ground, Martin Way, Raynes Park, SW20 9BU on Sunday mornings during the season which lasts from September to May. This is well organised competitive football.

Merton Youth Football Club is part of Merton Football Club, both are FA Charter Standard Clubs and run to the highest standards. Each youth team has a qualified FA coach and will have organised training.

Players are needed at all ages from 8yrs to 13yrs old. (School Year 4 to 9 for September 2015)

TRIALS will be held at Joseph Hood Recreation Ground, Martin Way, Raynes Park, SW20 9BU at the following dates and times:

Sunday 17th, 24th and 31st May from 11.00 am to 12.30pm

If you need any further information or to register interest you contact:

Steve Dewsbury

t: 07875 275 663

e: kenzoplumbers@yahoo.co.uk

Further information about the club can be found on the club's website www.mertonfc.co.uk



RAM'S HEADS UP



I'm back with my crazy mind... what goes around in there this week:

Thanks to Facebook, we now know what everyone's bathroom looks like.

The trouble with being punctual is that nobody's there to appreciate it.

You know you're getting old when you stoop to tie your shoelaces and wonder what else you could do while you're down there.

Doing nothing is hard, you never know when you're done

A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory

Without nipples, breasts would be pointless

The difference between In-laws and outlaws? Outlaws are wanted.

Always borrow money from a pessimist. He won't expect it back.

TV of the week – C4
Death in Paradise – 5/5

Song of the week
Close to You –
Maxi Priest

EDITOR'S WORST HAIRSTYLES EVER!



Black eyebrows, black moustache... blonde perm please!

The hairstyle:

The distinctive blond hair, coupled with his flamboyant technique on the ball, made him one of Colombia's most recognizable footballers, and arguably, one of the most recognizable footballers around the globe historically.

The Player:

Carlos Valderrama is a Colombian former football player. Valderrama was tactically speaking a deep lying playmaker, which is a fundamentally different role than that of the traditional classic number ten player.

NET IS WORKING



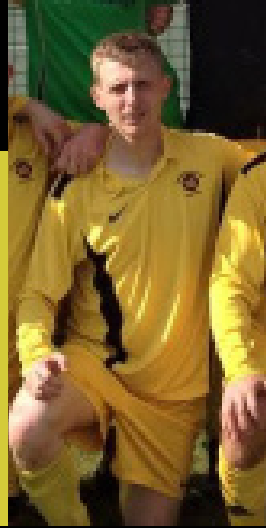
JOB VACANCY

NEAL DAVISON is looking for a sales professional or anybody with a keen interest in fitness with an outgoing driven personality. Selling health club memberships in Kensington Olympia with a basic of £17k and potential earnings of £26k based on hitting targets.

Anyone who feels they are interested should send Neal Davison a text on 07994 495918.



INTERVIEW WITH NEAL DAVISON



FACT FILE

TEAM: 4XI

POSITION: Centre midfield (but can play in any position the team needs)

BIRTH DATE: 20th December 1979

BIRTH PLACE: a hospital (Tooting)

CLUBS: Merton - Battersea Ironsides - Battersea Old Firm - Battersea Lions - Merton FC

1. Tell us who is Neal outside of the club. What do you do, how would you describe yourself?

I manage a Health club and Spa and enjoy growing successful teams. I'm fairly easy going and approach almost every situation with humour. Some might say a little sarcastic.

2. How did you end up at Merton FC?

Back in the day (1997) I was looking for an adult team in the wimbledon area and a friend of mine Gavin 'safe hands' Frost introduced me from there I have spent many years at the Hood.

3. What was your best moment in your MFC career till now?

Winning this beauty in 98/99!



RAPID FIRE

Player of the season (so far): John Terry and Harry Kane

Childhood Team: Chelsea

Favourite team outside the UK: Barcelona

Childhood Hero: Dennis Wise

Favourite Food: Steak

Favourite Drink: Coke

Favourite Band: Arctic Monkeys

4. If you could play for a professional team, which would be it and why?

Boring Boring Chelsea!! Because it's my boyhood club. I have seen it grow into a club that most people despise, but to be honest Chelsea fans really don't care because it's our period to write our history.

5. Do you have any pre-match rituals or superstitions?

I play first half with shirt tucked in and second half shirt out! Absolutely no reason why.

6. Lastly, share us your thoughts for the rest of the season.

Well that's pretty much it! I'm glad we managed to finish the season with 6 teams. just hoping to get a game this week and looking forward to enjoying the awards evening.



SENIOR SECTION



FIXTURES

(9 MAY 2015)

MERTON FC 2XI VS NUFC OILERS 12XI

SAL INTERMEDIATE DIVISION 2

MERTON FC 3XI VS OLD GARCHONIANS 3XI

SAL JUNIOR DIVISION 2

MERTON FC 6XI VS ALEXANDRA PARK 10XI

SAL MINOR DIVISION 5 SOUTH

MAN OF THE MATCH: THE WHOLE TEAM

For the last game of the season the 2s entertained the team that finished second in their division but were regarded by our side as easily the best team in the division and against whom they had enjoyed a really good game earlier in the season even though they had lost 3-1. The Oilers are a new club that are born out of Nottingham Uni and their three teams have gone through the divisions to reach the top in a very short space of time. The only irritation is that they settled on an all yellow strip for their club colours and so for this game and because the 3s were wearing the 2s normal blue change strip the 2s wore our clubs ceremonial dress of white shirts and black shorts, appropriate as this was to be Will Ts last game before he goes to oz and possibly Crusher's too (for a season anyway??).

We started in lively fashion and had a very good shout for a pen when we capitalised on a rare defensive mix up but a defensive block denied us. Jase was winning the ball in the air and Will's pace was always threatening but the Oilers were solid in defence and took control of the game through the midfield. The first goal came from a well delivered curling free kick awarded for a perfectly good Ben Cook tackle. It seemed the only way to defend this was to head it decisively into our goal by one of our own who shall remain nameless. This happened towards the end of the first half and it was 2-0 early in the second when we lost possession and fanned about till their man took charge

and smacked it into our goal. Dave Hitchcock and Connor had been very solid in defence and Liam was having one of his best games getting very involved in midfield and supporting the MMH Crusher who was again outstanding. That was the point when I left. I wasn't doing a Terry because this was a good entertaining game of footy but DQ rather than head our first goal had gone down in a writhing heap and had to go to hospital. I am reliably informed that the final score was 3-0 and we continued to create and miss 'sitters' and their 3rd goal was unstoppable. Crusher was 'Man Most Handsome' again.

Whilst at St Georges DQ had his dislocated shoulder x-rayed put back in and it disobediently popped out again put back in again and x-rayed again. But by 7.30 he was in the recovery position (ie having copious quantities of alcohol in The Swan and working up an appetite for the obligatory end of season curry. I sloped off to bed unaware of the dramas at the hospital where the doctor had wanted to cut DQs white shirt off his back to save him the pain. Can you imagine that ... what are they thinking about. Do they train these doctors??

Well that is the end of a slightly disappointing season. Having come down from the 1st Division it is disappointing to finish in the bottom half particularly when at half way we were well placed. Thanks to Wilgo, CHJ, Marc and Sherbs who helped run the side and the team generally had a lot of fun.



MERTON FC 3XI

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OLD GARCHONIANS FC 3XI

MAN OF THE MATCH: THE WHOLE TEAM

The 3s last game of the season was against the division champions Old Garchonians. Right from the start they looked a good well organised side. Both sides took a little time to settle down. We had a scratch side drawn from all parts of the club and so were a little disjointed. It was a fairly even contest but with OGs definitely on top and creating the more chances. An unlikely centre back pairing of Snooks and Ricardo operated well to hold some lively forwards. A good move and finish saw OGs go one up and they had chances to make it 2-0.

One of the highlights of the game, apart from our goal, was their forward clearly in an offside position being

unable to resist tapping a goal bound shot into the empty net and so making sure it did not count to make it 2-0. He was so far offside even he did not argue and he had argued about everything else. Shortly after that we equalised with a good move out of defence and great finish from Darcy. Both sides had chances to make it 3pts, OGs rather more than us. They were a good strong side who should do well in the higher division. It has been a struggle this season for our 3s but the club is very grateful to some of the stalwarts who have stuck with it through thin and thin. So thanks to Tony P, Darcy, Jamie Scott, Ryan Gresty, all of whom have helped in organising aswell and our keepers Arturs/Ryan. It will be better next season but thanks for the commitment.



MATT HASWELL x 2

MAN OF THE MATCH:
EVERYONE INCLUDING THE REF!

The last game of the season for the 6s and it had to be played and it had to be a North London game.

With the bare 11, only 4 of the regular 6s playing and help from present and past members we arrived at White Hart Lane (Community Sports Centre). Pulled into the car park to find that there were no changing rooms, strip down on side of pitch and had to pay £1.50 for the car park!! As all the team turned up Manager for the day Matt was wondering if Nuno had got the wrong location and was waiting at the actual White Hart Lane stadium!! Turns out he wasn't available; think he is scared of crossing the river?

The team was in a dilemma as Alexandra Park 10s only needed a point to get promoted, do we go out and cause them misery or do we lose and not have to travel this far next season, but the team went out and gave it their all.

Ten minutes to kick off and there was no ref, luckily there was an Ally Pally member who was a qualified ref to step in who done an excellent job and was fair to both teams.

With some new faces Manager Matt selected the best formation he could a 4-5-1, with a midfield of a combined age of 138, Angus, Martin and Matt. Matt won the toss and select that we kick with the wind at our advantage. We started off well; both teams had a few chances, Matt and Pete nearly getting a goal from corners. The first goal came from them when a shot came in, our keeper parried the ball and their forward followed in the rebound. We continued to press from the kick off when Ricardo got taken down midway in their half, Matt stepped up to knocked the ball into the box, which ended up going direct

and looping over keeper and into the back of the net, yes the usual type of cross come shot that Matt has. Ricardo pulled up with a hamstring injury and we went down to ten men but held on to go into the second half 1-1.

A quick team talk at half time and a bit of deep heat on Ricardo's hamstring and we started the 2nd half with the wind against us. This was a tougher half as legs tired, Alexandra Park attacked us and we had not a lot up top as Ricardo was struggling to move but bravely battled on so we had 11 on the pitch. They continued to attack and made the score 4-1 and as time went on knew that they had the points and promotion was nearing. We manage to claw another goal back with another Matt Haswell free kick. Their defender got pulled up for a handball just outside their area, with a four man wall Matt hit a daisy cutter, ball went under the wall and in bottom corner. This put Matt 2nd top goal scorer for the 6s; if we played more North London games could have been top goal scorer as Nuno wouldn't have played that many games and not got as many goals!!

Not long after this the ref blew for full time and Ally Pally 10s got their victory and promotion. Congratulations to them and thank you for getting promoted so we don't have to travel to North London next season. We all got changed on the side line, and like the Burchells we didn't have a shower after the match.

Big thank you goes to all that travelled to North London for the game and Angus and son for travelling from just round the corner. Men of the match go to Pete and Zou for their determination and battling in defence.



Merton Football Club

Joseph Hood Pavilion, Joseph Hood Recreation Ground, Martin Way,
Merton, London SW20 9BU