

# THE MERTON WAY

## Merton Football Club

Newsletter 10.04.15



It's a MEXICAN wave, not an English one!!

# CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

## THE NOT SO LONG GOOD FRIDAY

**T**here is a lot to comment on this weekend because a lot did not happen. There was no Long Good Friday. Disappointing because our usually reliable opposition let us down and we did not have enough players to play an inter club game. That is disappointing because it can be a good bar day.

Also we did not publish 'The Merton Way' because Ram did not receive match reports either in time or at all. So we all enjoy reading the Merton Way and of course that means someone has to write something so please volunteer to write your match report and give it to your captain/manager to forward to Ram by the Monday evening.

The fact is at Merton we need more help to administer the club. There is now so much more administration that needs to be done to keep us street legal. There is of course team selection, affiliation, charter standard requirements, CRB, Coaching badges, First aid, training, pitches, fixtures, kit, discipline, fines, subs, accounts, training, website, Merton way, Facebook, events, quizzes, awards, bar, catering as well as recruitment for players etc etc. So we need volunteers to help with one off jobs or to see what can be done.

Also at the end of this season we lose one of our major stalwarts. Mike Reed has been our long serving Secretary. Mike made a comeback at Old Parks for the 3s a couple of weeks ago, after a 2 year absence through injury. Family commitments have necessitated Mike moving over that way and as a consequence he feels that he can no longer carry on as our secretary and must put some roots down over there. We fully understand that and wish him and his family well, but the loss will be keenly felt. Mike has been a real asset to the club for fourteen

years. He has served Merton in the most committed way on and off the field. On the field playing wherever and whenever he was needed and off the field as a diligent hard working secretary. Mike has done so much to hold the club together and also build the club up. I just hope he moves back over this way sooner rather than later. But that means we need a new club secretary to start work as soon as possible and anyone interested should contact me sooner rather than later to discuss the role. In fact as I have said we need more people generally to get involved and help run the club.

The 1s was the only game played over Easter and they had the tough job of playing Old Wilsonians. They put up a spirited performance losing 5-1 but were well in the game till 10 mins after half time and played well till the roof fell in. Will Taylor scored our only goal but it was a terrific effort.

The previous weekend (unreported) the adults had to rely on the resurgent 6s to bring 3pts in with another win over HSBC 7s. The club was suffering from a lack of players and almost all our sides were down to the bare eleven. The 1s lost away at table topping Garchonians and the 2s drew at home 2-2 with Bank of England. The 3s had the unenviable task of a double header at Old Parks and although they lost both games all eleven are a credit to the Club for their spirit. 4s lost at home 0-2. We had better results on Sunday with the U11s winning 3-2 against Bedfont Athletic and the U8s beat Carshallton Athletic 3-2 to complete a very successful season for Marcello, Tony and the lads.

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](http://www.mertonfc.co.uk)



## RAM'S HEADS UP



**This week I thought I'd crack a few jokes:**

My parents divorced because my mother had an affair with a demolition man...  
**Home wrecker!**

I was so excited when the hosepipe ban was lifted...  
**I went my plants.**

I put my clothes on the line earlier.  
**I think my gambling addiction has gone too far!**

I've just been assaulted by a troupe of mime artists...  
**They performed unspeakable acts on me!**

I hate jokes that rely on visual imagery...  
**I've had it right up to here with them.**

I'm not happy with the results of my cheap circumcision...  
**It was a total rip-off!**

**Film of the week – Sky**  
Fast Five – 5/5

**Song of the week**  
James Bay  
– Hold Back The River





# INTERVIEW WITH LIAM STEVENS

(OR IS IT RYAN. WHO KNOWS?)

## FACT FILE

**TEAM:** Team Handsome (They've obviously relaxed the entry criteria)

**POSITION:** Utility Man

**BIRTH DATE:** 09/11/1989

**BIRTH PLACE:** Shrewsbury

**CLUBS:** Admaston (Telford), Cedars Park (Suffolk), Homerton College (Cambridge)

## RAPID FIRE

**Player of the season (so far):** David De Gea  
- Utd would be scrapping with Leicester without him.

**Childhood Team:** Shrewsbury Town

**Favourite team outside the UK:** Wisla Kraków

**Childhood Hero:** Stone Cold Steve Austin

**Favourite Food:** Middle-Eastern

**Favourite Drink:** Predator (when Richie Moore drinks it)

**Favourite Band:** No favourite



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

Born in Shrewsbury and grew up in Telford, Shropshire. Since leaving seven years ago I've lived in Cambridge to study Chemical Engineering - then have lived in Suffolk, Liverpool, Leeds, Zürich and now here with work. Currently run the planning team for Hellmann's, Colman's and Maille at Unilever in Leatherhead. Big fan of Shrewsbury Town FC, travelling, reading, boxing and Richard Eggleston when he is being nice - but my main sport growing up was crown green bowls (genuinely).

**2. How did you end up at Merton FC?**

The club upgraded Ryan to version 2.0 at the start of this season after the old version developed some rust from a season on the bench.

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

The short time I spend every week with a view of the MMH trophy.

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

Wouldn't say no to a stint at Barcelona if they felt they ever needed my services. Never say never - hard to draw a comparison between Messi and me - we are a completely different type of player. It's the only team in Europe where I would feel like a pretty big bloke.

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

Attend a group breakfast at Eggs Benedict in South Wimbledon to give and receive compliments from Team Handsome members.

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

Will Taylor to score some goals, David Quainton to get an injury, Richie Moore to tell some lies.

# YOUTH SECTION

## Under 8s

**MERTON FC U8s 3  
CARSHALTON ATHLETIC U8s 2**

An exciting and tense end to the U8's first season for MFC. Undefeated in the league and up against a strong Carshalton team. Both teams played great football, but with a winning goal in the last few minutes of play for MFC, the boys held on to their fantastic record. It was truly emotional and well done to our amazing and brilliant boys.

Man of the Match: JM



## Under 11s

**MERTON FC U11s 3  
BEDFONT EAGLES U11s 2**

NO MATCH REPORT

## Under 12s

NO MATCH



# SENIOR SECTION

**FIXTURES**  
(4 APRIL 2015)

**MERTON FC 1XI VS OLD WILSONIANS 1XI**  
SAL SENIOR DIVISION 1





## MAN OF THE MATCH:

This is a very difficult report to write to give an accurate flavour of the game. The score line would indicate that we were completely out played for the entire game particularly when you add that they hit the wood work four times and Arturs saved a penalty. But it did not feel like that well anyway not till the last 15 mins.

Old Wilsonians are a very good side well organised with plenty of talented footballers. They were quickly into their stride with controlled passing and movement they dominated us right from the Kick off. We held out stubbornly for 25 mins without creating anything much of our own. WE gave away possession somewhat easily in mid field and their player picked it up, ran 15 yards and smashed it home. 1-0 soon became 2-0 with a bit of a defensive blunder. But then we started to get a foothold in the game and pulled a goal back before half time. The ball was played up to Will Taylor whose first touch flew in a strange direction. (It often does) but with his speed Will is often able to get to his first touch before anyone else. Then without ever getting the ball under any sort of control and after a couple more touches to unsettle the defenders he suddenly unleashed a shot from the edge of the box which proved unstoppable. And then we were in the game and either side of half time played pretty well. (H-T 2-1)

Despite the fact that about every 10 mins they hit a post or the bar we were still doing OK. Unfortunately when things were looking interesting we gave them their third goal. But

we were still in it particularly when Arturs saved a penalty spectacularly but after that we flagged a touch and it was a bit 'Keystone Coppish' defending with more woodwork and the ball rolling along our goal line with players from both sides sprawling all over it. Goals 4 and 5 came along during this episode and at the end after some great work from AI G setting up a great opening we missed a sitter. But in between all this OWs excellence, and they are a very good side, we played some good stuff. We had a number of debutants out there; Joe Griffin did an outstanding job at Centre Back, Liam Stevens man marked in mid field. Of the regulars Snooks and AI G were outstanding, Will Taylor worked his socks off and scored a fantastic goal, Rat showed a bit of culture at right back, Arturs saved a penalty and did a lot of other good things. So it was not as bad as it might look and we have 3 more games to play and although we have slipped into the bottom 2 we can still avoid relegation but this will need to involve winning a few games and a return to pre Christmas form. It was a good effort to get a competitive team out on Easter Saturday and for 75mins we were very competitive. John Doe reffed the game pretty well and was well assisted.

**TEAM:** Arturs (GK), AI G, Joe Griffin, Clappers (Capt), Rat, Snooks, Woody, Liam Stevens, Vanny, Matt B, Ryan Stevens, Dave Q, Connor Murphy



## **Merton Football Club**

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