

Sunday 19th September 2010.

Brentham Veterans v Holiport Veterans.

Team:-

Mick Eames

Mark Langley-Sowter

Dave Sellers

Paul James

Dave Grose

Neil Graveney

Tom Rice

Eamonn Malone

Nigel Green

Mick Duffy

Colin Matthews

Subs:-

Tony Georgiou

Jon Rhodes

Pete Hoban

On a grey and windy Autumnal day, Brentham Veterans were entertaining Holiport Veterans from Ascot for the very first time. Dave Grose had injured his foot while running on the morning of the game (what's all that about - running before a game! Some Veterans don't run DURING a game!). Mick Eames was celebrating his 250th appearance for Brentham Veterans and was presented with a priceless certificate and frame (it didn't cost anything) before the game. Mr Eames was appointed Captain for the day and the Welsh Tossers won the toss and decided to turn the teams around so Brentham lined up defending the bowling green end of the pitch.

Holiport kicked off and had the majority of the early possession, although it was Brentham who were creating the better chances with Colin Matthews and Eamonn Malone both firing wide when in good positions in front of the Holiport goal. On 20 minutes the visitors took the lead when indecision in the Brentham defence allowed a Holiport striker to pick his spot giving Mick '250' Eames no chance. Brentham responded by taking the game to Holiport and fine work from Matthews saw him break through the Holiport defence and hit a fine drive that rebounded off the Holiport keeper's near post and out to safety. On 30 minutes, Holiport were awarded a dubious free kick around 35 yards out on the left hand side of the Brentham penalty area. An excellent delivery saw the ball elude both defenders and strikers alike before the ball nestled in the corner of the Brentham net. 0-2.

Mark Langley Sowter had to retire lame, although a post match investigation found Marky Mark had had an hour's sleep the night before after gallivanting around Chiswick with Kate Moss, disgusting behaviour before an important game! Pete Hoban was introduced for Oliver Reed in front of his Daddy. Brentham still pushed forward and from a Matthews corner, Duffy had a header blocked on the Holiport line and his follow-up shot was pushed around the post by the agile visitors keeper. On 40 minutes, a Holiport attack saw a cross from wide on their right wing fired into the Brentham penalty area where a deft flick by a Holiport striker saw the ball end up in Mick Eames's net to give the visitors a flattering 3-0 lead. Andy Capps blew for half time with Brentham 0-3 down, an unusual position for the team to be in, but superior finishing saw the visitors in control.

Half Time : Brentham Veterans 0-3 Holiport Veterans.

Brentham kicked off the second half in determined fashion and the injection of Jon Rhodes's pace was giving concern to the Holiport defence who had pace in abundance. On 52 minutes a mazy run from midfield by Eamonn Malone saw him beat three players before he was finally dispossessed in the Holiport area, however, the loose ball fell to Colin Matthews who finished from 12 yards - 1-3 and game on! Unfortunately, within 10 minutes Holiport had regained their three goal cushion when for the second time in successive weeks a Brentham defender was caught the wrong side of an opposition striker, this time the Holiport forward went on to square the ball to his strike partner who scored with ease - 1-4.

Brentham refused to lie down and a surging run down the right wing by Jon Rhodes saw him deliver an excellent low cross into the Holiport area where Tom Rice met the ball with a diving header from 6 yards out, but somehow he directed the ball wide of the visitors goal. The visitors then had a 20 minute period where they ran Brentham ragged. Paul James and Pete Hoban were doing there utmost to repel wave after wave of Holiport attacks and Tony G cleared one shot off the Brentham goal line with Mick Eames well beaten. Eamesey also had to make three of four fine saves to keep the score down, but Holiport were also guilty of a lack of quality in front of goal compared to their first half finishing.

With time running out, Brentham gave themselves a glimmer of hope in the 84th minute when fine pressing from Jon Rhodes saw him dispossess the Holiport right back before he crossed to the unmarked Colin Matthews who showed great composure to round the visiting keeper before firing home. 2-4. Time eventually ran out for Brentham who on the day were beaten by the better team. Holiport won the first half convincingly, however, at least Brentham won the second half!

Thank you to everyone who took part.

Full Time: Brentham Veterans 2-4 Holiport Veterans.  
( Matthews 2)

Next game 26/9/2010 Home v Kew Association.