

## **MATCH REPORT V LANGLEY-SOWTER ALLSTARS - SUNDAY 5/9/2010.**

Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2010.

Brentham Veterans v Langley-Sowter Allstars.

Team:-

Mick Eames

Dave Grose

Paul James

Dave Sellers

Tony Georgiou

Neil Graveney

Tom Rice

Eamonn Malone

Colin Livingstone

Mick Duffy

Colin Matthews

Subs:-

John Rogers

Jon Rhodes

Chris Firmin

Mike Miley

Pete Hoban

On a gloriously sunny Sunday morning, Brentham Veterans were opening their season with the now customary game against the Langley-Sowter Allstars, with the Magoo cup on offer for the winners. Brentham were defending the cup after their 5-1 victory last season, although then, there wasn't an actual cup on offer – there was now, and it was nice to look at. One thing that wasn't nice to look at, but it WAS nice to see some things hadn't changed over the Summer, was Dave Grose, who had turned up nursing one of his customary hangovers – and smelling of booze.

With Nigel Green and Marky Mark defecting to the opposition for the day, as well as ex Brentham player Philip Mattimoe turning out for them, not forgetting nomad Vinnie, it still left sixteen players in the Brentham changing room itching to start the season. Brentham took to the enlarged Brentham pitch which was looking immaculate, but were kept waiting for the All stars who had entrusted their kit with Marky Mark's dad, who is a 104, and suffers from memory loss, so he couldn't remember where he had left the kit – hence the delay. Eventually, the Allstars took to the pitch and John Capps called the Big Tosser and the opposition Tosser to the centre circle. The opposition Tosser looked the part, in fact, he looked a complete Tosser. The Big Tosser won the toss allowing the complete Tosser and his team to take the kick off.

The early sparring saw nothing between the two teams, however, the Allstars were creating early chances with Nigel Green marauding down the right wing. Marky Mark had an opportunity to score, but he headed wide of Mick Eames's post. On 15 minutes, Brentham took the lead when Eamonn Malone broke through down the left hand side of midfield before crossing low and hard to Colin Matthews who steered the ball wide of Tricky and into the Allstars net from 8 yards to give the hosts the lead. The lead was increased within 10 minutes when another fine run from Malone saw him find Duffy in the Allstars box. Duffy laid the ball back to Neil Graveney who fired in from 20 yards via the outstretched arm of Tricky who perhaps should have done better. Brentham were by no means playing well, and their passing wasn't finding their own players on a regular basis, which allowed the Allstars to get a foot hold in the game. Colin Livingstone had a chance to increase Brentham's lead, however, his fierce drive was beaten out by Tricky.

On the half hour mark, a Brentham attack broke down and the Allstars went from one end of the field to the other, where Alex (not the Brazilian), fired in past Mick Eames to reduce the arrears. Carl (who is very good) was pushing the Allstars forward in search of an equaliser, and just before half time, it came from a complete Tosser, who else but Marky Mark, who headed past the helpless Mick Eames who had decided to stand still in the knowledge that it was 'only Marky Mark' heading the ball, so he was expecting it to go wide. It didn't. 2-2. John Capps brought the half to an end, with both teams trudging off knowing they were in with a chance of lifting the Magoo cup.

Half time: Brentham Veterans 2-2 Langley-Sowter Allstars.

Brentham began the second half with five substitutes taking to the field, but it didn't immediately make any difference to the passing, which was still poor from the hosts, with the Allstars having the majority of the possession. They were defending well with Vinnie and Philip Mattimoe strong at the back, and Tricky collecting misplaced passes and crosses with ease. Brentham regained their lead on the hour mark when Tom Rice surged through once again from midfield before firing across Tricky onto the far corner of his net for a fine goal. Nigel Green and Marky Mark were still creating opportunities for the Allstars, but Hoban and Miley were their usual double act and were ably supported by Tony G and John Rogers.

As well as the crowd of some 25 people, there appeared to be a sniper in the trees behind the Allstars goal who was taking pot shots at the Brentham players as first Jon Rhodes pulled up lame, and then John Rogers retired injured after he let all of Ealing know he had been 'shot', by screaming in agony like a big girl. Mike McMileyman then left the pitch to stand next to Christian who he had missed so much, he couldn't be apart from her any longer – so he feigned injury. On 75 minutes, Brentham extended their lead when the Rice/Malone combination saw them play a couple of one-two's before the Rice Unit calmly slotted home to put Brentham 4-2 up and install himself as the leading score for Brentham Veterans so far this season. Mr Rice had better 'slow down' with his scoring, otherwise a full back or goalkeeping position beckons.

Brentham were now in control without still playing well, so a fifth goal would have been flattering, so on 83 minutes, they were well and truly flattered when a Brentham attack saw a fine Allstars tackle from Mattimoe, however, the ball deflected off a Brentham player and was creeping out for a goal kick when Matthews slid in to retrieve the ball from the toes of another Allstars defender. Matthews then delivered a fine low cross to Duffy who finished from 6 yards, a bit far out for his liking, but with Rice sprinting ahead in the goal scoring charts the Big striker will take anything on offer this season. Mr Capps soon blew the whistle on a competitive match with the Allstars doing themselves proud, and they can count themselves unlucky to have been beaten 5-2.

Final Score: Brentham Veterans 5-2 Langley-Sowter Allstars.  
(Rice 2, Matthews 1, Graveney 1, Duffy 1,)

Both sets of players, fans and groupies retired to the upstairs patio at the club where the festivities began, and Sir Percy was present to receive a portrait of himself from Colin Matthews for his years of service as a referee in Brentham Veterans games over the years (Sir Percy, not Colin). Allegedly, Sir Percy will be coming out of retirement, so the portrait needs to be taken back off Sir Percy and re-presented back to him when he really IS retiring. The Magoo cup was then presented to the Big Tosser and many raffle tickets were sold, but at the time of going to press, the raffle still hadn't been drawn, so the winners will not be announced until the next match report, but assume all prizes will have been won by the Allstar players (just like last season) A report will also appear at some stage re a certain VIP trip via helicopter/Grosvenor House Hotel (luxury suite)/Selfridges/The Ivy restaurant and the Mercury prize awards.

An excellent day, well organised by Marky Mark (eventually), but where was Les Ferdinand and Dennis Wise?

Thank you to everyone who took part.

Next game v Grafton Veterans (away) Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2010.