

MATCH REPORT

Vets 5 (0) v (0) 1 Over Gonads

Smith 2

Baker

Carman 2

AWS; Boxing Day 2003

Team: Safe Hands; Baker, Dicko, Chapman, Handley, Howard; Smith, Rawlinson, Rule; Carman, Sean Davey

A sterling effort from the lads on a windy Boxing Day morning. We held them to 0-0 in the first half and then our youth and superior fitness told in a surging second half performance. Safe Hands played a blinder in goal although he was undone in the 10th minute of injury time when, ambling out of his area with his hands making a "T" shape for Time, a sneaky daisy-cutter from the Gonads somehow crawled its way past him before nestling contentedly in the middle of the goal.

Other notable performances came from Merv the Swerve who was very solid at right back and Brian Chapman who only turned up to watch but was sent home for his boots.

Mention must be made also of Albert's first goal, which was (*why?* - Ed).

New Member

Welcome to Tony Tagg, who has now joined us, replacing Bill Wilson who has been forced to retire. Bill of course remains with the club as Chairman and joins our ever-lengthening list of ~~piss-heads~~ social members.

Waiting List

The current waiting list comprises (in order of joining): Alun (Martin Dollard's neighbour), Kenneth Kewley, Rod Haynes, Laurence Parker, Simon Jarvis, Sean Davey, Neil Blanchflower, Mark Nichols.

Krom en Stijf Veteranen Millen (it says here) because . . .

Belgium here we come

Over Vets are currently one of two English based clubs to be invited to the Football Happening near Maastricht between 20 - 23 May 2004 involving 64 crack veteran teams from six European countries. Ryanair have done their best to stop us getting there by booking us on the wrong date, then deciding not to fly to Maastricht from January and finally changing the flight times of our rebooking to Charleroi.

Chairman Bill, our equivalent of Roman the Russian, has assembled the biggest playing squad for an overseas trip by the Vets.

Players

Bob Bainbridge (player manager)
 Bob Milne
 Andy Smart
 Ian Purkiss
 Mark Armstrong
 Mike Little
 Andy Buck
 Neil Blanchflower
 Brian Chapman
 Mark Nichols (*player? are you sure - Ed*)
 Geoff Rule
 Steve Yearsley
 Andy Carman
 Chas Cook
 Martin Dollard (see also officials)
 Paul Clarke
 Martin Kent
 Laurence Parker

Officials

Chairman - Bill Wilson
 Chairman (rtd) - Bill Handley
 Security Garry Swain
 Foreign Policy - Richard Cox
 Kegworth press - Alan Johnston
 Touch Judge - Martin Dollard

Chairman Bill said "I felt sorry for Bob last year trying to get a squad together which had more than its fair share of injuries and I promised him the resources to do the job. We are playing two matches in a festival of football. There is no trophy. Bob is under no pressure and the committee have given him a vote of confidence".

An excited Bob enthused, "The Chairman has backed me all the way. I expect to win the trophy in Belgium with the calibre of squad at my disposal. There has been an injection of youth, a good blend of experience, and four tour virgins to make up the squad. I know that if I don't pull it off this year my job is at risk".

"Bob's attention to detail is to be admired," says Secretary Sean Baker. "We have identified the type of accommodation Bob is demanding. Hotel De Zwarte Stok in Millen is an award winning agritourism project in Belgium and our lads will be accommodated in a refurbished stable block". Head of Security Garry Swain is taking no chances: "The officials have been booked into higher level accommodation to reflect the extremely important socialising and public relations effort that goes into a tour like this. We shall be lucky if we get to see any football." (*see www.malpuruus.be*)

The Vets have been assured of a warm welcome from the host club *Krom en Stijf Veteranen Millen*. Their Chairman Willy Hauben (yet another Chairman Bill!) reported that 20 extra barrels of beer were ordered when Over Vets entered the festival.

Watch this space for more updates.

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 REPAIR KIT**

Contact Dicko

In the Future

The weekend that some of the club are heading off to Belgium, by coincidence we have a Belgian team visiting us (Hasselt). The plan at the moment is for them to arrive sometime on Friday May 21st for a game early Friday evening. Would everyone not going to Belgium,

please keep this night free, both for the match and also for any post-match socialising (likely to be a bite to eat and drink in the village). We will also need a referee/linesmen, so any volunteers welcome (you know who you are!).

A View from the Bench

Although I went to the AGM for a free sandwich, I came away having been voted in as the new Chairman of the club while I was asleep. Then the Ed. invited me to write a regular column for OG.



Given the amount of time I have spent on the bench I thought the title of this column is appropriate.

Football is supposed to be part of the entertainment business so I expect it is not surprising that some of our members aspire to joining the Over Players (is it because they think it is another football team?). Sean brought the house down in the village panto in last Christmas's production of Snow White. It's a pity he can't achieve the same success on the pitch. The production this year was sponsored by 7-Up (I am told Snow White thought this was a lemonade drink until she met the dwarves!). However the question on everybody's lips is why Clarke was not recruited for one of the supporting roles? I think Chas will be the next to join because of his acting performances on the pitch whenever anyone brushes past him; our Shakespearean actor, Dicko, is earning an international reputation for his performances as Richard the Turd and I also hear that Bob has expressed an interest in having a small part in Black Beauty if ever the opportunity comes his way.

"Another good performance - pity about the result". A familiar football phrase but it also applies to the Vets' Christmas Party. The comedian was funny and those attending thought the programme a success but only a handful of Vets supported the event. We may need to consider whether there is a demand for non-footballing events in future.

We booked the comedian via an agency. This made me think about whether players' agents would become a feature of Vets' football. According to Safe Hands this is unlikely to be a problem for Over Vets because he considers all of our players can expertly handle themselves already.

My new year's resolution is to ensure the club develops a more attacking style of play. We need to make the most of our scoring opportunities without being overly concerned about keeping clean sheets. This should produce satisfying results in preparation for our overseas tour to Belgium 2004.

Chairman Bill

Editor's note: Bill has now decided to hang up his boots for the last time (which according to Julie makes a change from leaving them on the floor) - a full appreciation of his 50-year career will appear in the next OG.

Time to hide behind the sofa as we reveal the . . .

XMAS PARTY HORROR - THE DETAILS

Accounts for the Christmas party as follows:

Income

Tickets	£740
Raffle	£110
	£850

Expenditure

Hall	£235
Comedian	£800
Disco	£275
Security	£95
Bar Extension	£15
Poppers,	
Balloons,	
Nibbles	£20 (approx)
	£1440

Net Loss **-£590**

Suggestions on how to recoup this thumping great loss, please, on a postcard to the Treasurer.

Farwell Malcolm

Popular seven-footer Malcolm Mackinnon bids farewell to the club he has served faithfully for the past 3 years. Old Git 6 noted in July 2001: "We have also now said a formal 'hello' to Malcolm Mackinnon. Unfortunately no-one told him that part of the initiation ceremony upon becoming a vet was to withstand a challenge from Bill 'Chopper' Handley. Happily, Malcolm's ankle is now out of plaster so hopefully he'll be playing again before his pension's due."



Old Git 10 proudly recorded the story of Malcolm's now-legendary appearance on 'The Weakest Link', where some fiendishly difficult questions on boy bands and the White Cliffs of Dover conspired to see our lad voted off in the first round.

Malcolm is now off on a round-the-world-trip, which will no doubt convince him that Over is indeed the only place to live, but hopes to make one final thursday-night appearance when he stops by in the village in the Spring (we promise to chain up Handley that night).

I'm sure everyone in the club joins me in wishing Malc all the best for the future.

FOR SALE

Billy's Boots

Just put on these boots and let them take you off on a diagonal run, straight to the nearest Guinness tap.

Contact Chairman Bill Jnr. Tel: 202248

Carlton Palmer Player of the Year Dinner - Those Awards in full

Anonymous Donor of the Year Award
Sponsored by the Invisible Man Society
Awarded to: (Censored)

E for Effort Award

Sponsored by Hansons

Awarded to: Mr Chapman (who was presented with a bottle of Oak Ummon)

Big Man in a Little Man's Body Award

Sponsored by Precious Mackenzie

Awarded to: Sex Dwarf

Innovation Award

Sponsored by the Science Museum

Awarded to: Briggys for his Fantasy Football League

Annual John Smith's 'Ave It Award

Sponsored by FA Training Academy, Lilleshall

Awarded to: Muggsy (who else?)

Marie Stopes Award for Family Planning
Sponsored by the Rosie Maternity Hospital

Awarded to: Bucko

One Foot in the Grave Award

Sponsored by the Euthanasia Society

Awarded to: our popular Player/Manager Mr Bainbridge

Foreign Adventurer's Award

Sponsored by the Phileas Fogg Society

Awarded to: Albert, for performances above and beyond the call of duty.

Where Has All the Money Gone Award

Sponsored by the Maxwell family

Awarded to: Dicko, who received 3 bottles of wine in recognition of his long service to the club and an inflatable doll in recognition of his long (*that's enough - Ed*)

How to Look Busy Without Doing

Anything Award

Sponsored by the Civil Service

Awarded to: ex-Chairman Bill Snr, who received three bottles of wine and an inflatable sheep (well, he *is* from Kegworth).

In the Future *cont.*

This year's tournament will be Saturday June 12, 12 noon start with barbecue afterwards for players, Vets' members and families. Assuming it is built by then, we will have the new conservatory at the Centre to ourselves. Details will follow in next OG but as usual, if you want to play, let Sean know - first come first served.

Finally, Old Pretenders are planning a tour to the Cambridge area in late August (probably bank holiday weekend). Visit their website (www.oldpretenders.co.uk) - it is very entertaining and I think it's fair to say they take themselves even less seriously than we do.