

It's just sooo biiigg!

Carlton-Palmer Awards Evening Friday October 21st.

Cost including transport to Histon and back as well as the now-legendary curry and chilli fare of the Railway Vue, is a mere £15. Bring your own beer money. Coach leaves the Exhibition at 7 o'clock and we aim to be at the Vue by 8.30. Please let Sean know if you are coming (232589 or email seanbaker1@mac.com).

Awards so far suggested:

- Left footer of the Year
- Dwarf of the Year
- The (much sought after) 'Ave It Award
- Dummy-Spitting Award
- Groundsman of the Year
- Services to the Club Award
- Young Player of the Year Award
- Injury of the Year Award
- Most inappropriate use of Language

Keep those suggestions coming in – the panel will meet on Monday 17th October to make their decisions.

Paul Clarke Reads Women's Magazines Shock!

Congratulations to young Clarkey on winning first prize in a crossword competition. Having played golf with him recently, the editor can confirm that his decision to invest his winnings in new golf equipment is a wise one. Some in the club might think, however, that a pair of boots that know where the goal is might be more useful.



...ndline and should last no more than two minutes) and tell us who it is. Or Alternatively, text NEWCROSS with the answer, plus your name and address, to the hotline and text messages, and June 27 2005 for postal entries. We will select all correct entries received by the closing dates. The prize is a cheque for £250. To see your entry and gain a better understanding of the magazine readership.

June 27 2005 **new!** 79

AGM Tuesday October 25th.

This year's AGM is in the conservatory at the Community Centre, starting at 8pm. Sandwiches will be provided. Please make every effort to attend.

Any agenda items to Sean by Wednesday October 19th please.

Boxing Day game organised

Bill Handley has booked the AWS for Boxing Day morning and it is planned that we will play the Sunday Night Nomads as in the last couple of years. If you wish to play, please let Bill know (200287 or email bill.handley@ntlworld.com).

Taggy finally scores

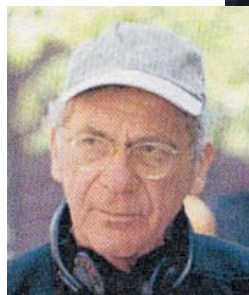
Congratulations to Tony Tagg and his partner, Helen on the birth of their son, Samuel. Young Sam joins our ever-growing waiting list and is pencilled in for his first game for the club on September 29th 2040, when Mike Day is expected to make his farewell appearance

Separated at birth?

The photo on the right shows famous Hollywood director Sydney Pollack whilst below we see our beloved



chairman, Billy Wilson. Henceforth, 'A View from the Bench' will be known as 'A Load of Pollacks'.



Race Night

OG28 was a bit premature in its announcement of a race night on October 14 – something to do with the fact that the Chairman hadn't discussed it with anyone. So, we will be holding a Race Night in the Centre bar on **November 18th**. If anyone wishes to sponsor a race or buy a horse, please contact Andy Smart (07813 071192). Nov 18 also happens to be Children in Need Night, so proceeds from the final race will be donated to that.

Upcoming Matches

- H 23rd October vs. Hemingford
- H 20th November vs. Cambourne (tbc)
- A 4th December vs. Birchanger @ Birchanger
- H 26th December vs. Over Nomads – on the AWS.
- 2006
- H 8th January vs. Cambridge Vets
- A 12th February vs. Cambourne @ Cambourne (tbc)
- H 19th March vs. Birchanger
- H 30th April vs. Newmarket

Please make a note in your diary if you wish to play and let Andy Smart know (07813 071192) if you are available. There is the possibility if hiring a coach for the away games.

Club items for sale:

- Blue baseball caps£5
- Polo Shirts.....£15
- Red (L, XL), Green (L), Blue (M)

Contact Sean (01954 232589) if you want to buy any of the above.

NEWSFLASH

Ryanair are sponsoring Everton with the strapline "In and out of Europe in just over an hour"!

CAPTION COMPETITION



The work of art shown above was photographed by Safe Hands whilst on a fact-finding mission to Prague. No doubt those on the legendary Vets' trip to Prague of 2003 will have their own suggestions for a suitable caption.



The competition in OG27 was won by young Michael Day of Willingham Road, Over. He wins a year's subscription to Old Git and free entry to all Vets' home games this season.

The winning caption:

For several weeks the whole of the Over team hit the deck as a precaution every time Loz shouted "MINE"

Dicko Spots Prague Artwork



VETS ACTUALLY WIN A TROPHY STUNNER!

OG is delighted to report an amazing win for the Vets in the inaugural playing of the Frank Johnson Memorial Trophy at Over Rec. on Sunday August 28th. The competition, the brainchild of Keith White, involved four teams playing 5-a-side in a round-robin on grass. The four teams were: Vets, Crusaders and Nomads, with the U17s making up the numbers late on when the Over first team failed to turn up.

Colin Thomas and Dave Kinzett as ever did a sterling job refereeing the games and the final table looked like this:

Team	P	W	D	L	Pts
Vets	3	2	0	1	6
Crusaders	3	1	1	1	4
U 17s	3	1	1	1	4
Nomads	3	1	0	2	3

Vets' heroes and now proud possessors of medals that would grace any home (even Geoff Rule's): Sean Baker, Andy Carman, Brian Chapman, Steve Rawlinson, Albert Smith and special guest star, playing his first football in 20 years, Dean Tipple.

Message from Old Bill and Safe Hands

It's very hard to believe, I know, but both Martin Dollard and I are 50 at the end of the year (*you might think that, I couldn't possibly comment – youthful Ed*). We would be pleased if all members of the Vets and wives/partners would help us to celebrate on Saturday 3rd December 2005 8 p.m. 'til late. We are not sure of the venue yet but it will be in the village. To help us with buffet catering arrangements please let us know if you will be attending. E-mail bill.handley@ntlworld.com or phone me on 01954 200287.

Message from Muggsy

As usual, Old Git is first with the latest news from around the world: *"Following on from my recent operation and in association with my personal trainer Jack Daniels I am pleased to announce to the world's press that despite gaining weight and still having no ability I shall be returning to Veterans' football in September; exact date relies on my release from the Betty Ford clinic, however this will be kept a low key event in order to reduce the number of press attending should I have a relapse."* – Muggsy

Belgium 2005 Diary

Old Git is grateful to Young Bill for the following article:

5 May 2005

Meet at Café Chapman at 0700. Mark Armstrong reports in sick and can't travel. Melanie sleeps in so we have no sandwiches to go with the coffee. Set off on an empty stomach. Car kitted out with Safehands SatNav. Stop at motorway service area at Folkstone. Bobby Gould also has breakfast but sits with his back to us not wanting to embarrass us by asking for our autographs. Booking in at Norfolk line in Dover and then into French territory at Dover! We say "bon voyage" to the French passport controller. Relatively sober crossing although boat delayed due to engine problems. Arrive in Dunkirk about half an hour late but dual carriageway all the way to Reimst. Good progress except when Bob was driving – he had difficulty getting past a horsebox on the Brussels ring road (he kept trying to get its phone number). Arrive about 4.30 at Hotel Jacquemin (a pub with rooms!). Excellent recommendation by Willy from KSM. Rooms excellent so retreat to bar for some beers. Joined by Willy and friends and more beer. Attend the play-off final to support Millen senior team entering the fourth national league. Lose 4-1 on penalties but we left at full time to attend the street party in Bilzen. Another late night followed by beers back at hotel.

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6 May 2005

Hotel make good attempt at English breakfast. Bar full due to cock chanting match. Much betting and discussion by the locals about the 7 foreigners laughing and drinking plenty of beer. Cultural tours: three of our squad go to Waterloo to see where Wellington put the boot into Napoleon and the rest went to Maastricht to see the world go by. Bob pays his respects to the fallen cavalry while the others remember the soldiers. Meanwhile in Maastricht, Garry complains of being frozen stiff (blames the weather!) so we go inside for a few beers. Back to the hotel and invitations handed out for an eighteenth birthday party that evening. More beers and a short rest before heading off to Tongerlon for a mixed grill. Duff information last year about the nightlife. Taxi driver advises it is the oldest town in Belgium and also has the oldest population. The only people on the streets after 8pm are tourists. Back to 18th party where we are treated to some

Pole dancing and, after a lot of beers, think we meet Meryl Streep.

7 May 2005

Matchday. Lateish breakfast followed by long walk from hotel to Millen (5km). Meet up with Ramsgate Vikings and Chesham Thursday. Three teams combine squads for two matches. Against a team of Belgian post-office workers saw the Brits go down 6-2. Mike Little scored – charging down a keeper clearance and playing a one-two against a post. Brian Chapman telegraphed a few passes but otherwise kept the midfield together. The second game was against the Lunatics from Michelen but the weather was cold so most of the spectators retire to the bar. News reached us that Lunatics played a lady in midfield who was taken out of the game by Mike. When challenged by the opposition Mike showed suitable contrition “If she plays the game, she takes the knocks!” Another defeat followed. Exchange of gifts with the natives followed by more beer. Freddie

the KSM treasurer disappointed we did not bring the “big man” with us this year. Forecasts significant drop in beer revenue. Chicken rogers Mike Little while Bill H and Bob dress up as tellytubbies. Fetish or what? Back at hotel, we put on performance of Snow White and the Seven Dwarves.

8 May 2005

Late breakfast. Can't believe the cost of accommodation, food and drink. About £90 all in per person. Sprint to Calais to pick up discounted refreshments. Both cars loaded down but public sector car takes the bulk of the load. On to Dunkirk where security checks create miles of traffic queues – mainly heavy goods vehicles. We therefore overtake on the ‘right’ side of the road and force our way in at the front. Just about make the ferry and arrive eventually in Over about 8.30pm looking forward to work next day (*‘work?’ – Ed*).

Over Vets v Over Touch Rugby Challenge Day

Over Rec. Saturday June 25th

Back in June on a bright Saturday morning, a group of Vets took on the Wednesday night touch rugby crowd at football and rugby. After a five minute lesson in the finer points of touch rugby, the first game got under way and as expected, despite the presence of such rugby luminaries as Martin Kent, we were roundly beaten.

No problem of course as we would no doubt win the football by a country mile and honour would be satisfied.

Sadly we were wrong.

However, thanks to the bbq that was held afterwards, we managed to raise £60 for the PTA.



Photo shows Vets and Rugger lot before the rugby game. Note turncoat in the middle (luckily his rugby passing was no better than in football) as well as ringer second from right in the white t-shirt.

Vets' squad: (back row l to r) Dave Tassell, Chas Cook, Richard Dickinson, Peter Dean, Dave Reed (front) Andy Carman, Tony Tagg, Sean Baker, Martin Kent, Bill Handley

MATCH REPORTS

Old Git believes in giving young writers every opportunity to have their work published. It is in this spirit that we are very pleased to be able to present the following report submitted by young Charles Cook of Cox's End, Over. This is a piece about the last-minute game organised for Cup Final morning back in May for a touring team from Penshurst, Kent, whose tradition it is to travel away for a morning game followed by an afternoon in a pub somewhere watching the cup final. Keep those reports coming in, young Charles! Educationalists among you will note his loose adherence to such common niceties as 'punctuation', 'grammar' and 'spelling'.

Its Wednesday morning and Cambs FA have been approached by a bunch of "p***heads" from Kent who want somewhere to play football and watch the Cup Final afterwards on a big screen, as the key word was "p***heads" they contacted us here in Over to see if we could help? Now I think they were called Pinehurst United and ideally they wanted 11 a side on grass, as it was we had to scrape a team up that was a "dream team" with out the dream and play them on the astro. Representing the Vets was Tass, Chas and the Tagmiester, from the Pops we had Mr Wilkinson, mix in 2 lads from the Ex, a teenager from Swavesy and we were away. The Centre were unable to close the roof on the "Dome" and the match was played in torrential rain, this, and as excuses go helped the Visitors to give us a 5- 1 spank, we played some neat football for a scratch team but lacked goal scoring opportunities, as ever at the other end we conceded sloppy goals, including a controversial penalty awarded by Colin "Clive" Thomas against Chas who was later seen to buy him a drink, a lte consolation from Taggy gave us some respectability. Afterwards a good 5 hour beer session ensued and like in the morning the best team did not win the Final, had to smile, fantastic atmosphere in the Centre, great day for football (fnnar fnnar)
PS Bill Wilson joined in the drinking at around 2 pm
Chas

**The Editor reports:
Sunday 28th August 2005
(Over Rec)**

Over Veterans.....1 (0)
Irish Mike
Over Colts U17s1 (0)
Some Whippersnapper

Great performance from the OGs, who should have won but for a perfectly good

goal, disallowed when Andy Carman chased a goal kick, which ended up bouncing over their keeper's head into the net. Andy was in an offside position (just on the halfway line) when the keeper released the ball and despite not touching it or even getting within 20 yards of ball or opposition keeper, was ruled offside by a linesman supplied by the opposition. But are we bitter?

**Bill Handley reports:
Sunday 25th September 2005
(at Great Wilbraham)**

Cambridge Veterans.....1 (1)
George
Over Veterans.....3 (1)
Dean, A Carman, D Carman

The first game of Over's season saw the club's youth team policy paying dividends with youngsters Robin Barton, Dave Carman, Paul Kynoch, Mark 'Deano' Dean and Duncan Norman all playing significant parts in this victory over old rivals Cambridge. After a false start to the season against Newmarket when just about every player in the club was visiting his mother and the game had to be cancelled, Over were able on this occasion to field a strong side.

Sean Baker, wrestling* with the dilemma of sticking with football or pursuing an 'acting' career by becoming type-cast as a pantomime dame** was obviously still re-living the critical success (he tells me) of Over Players' West End (Doles West) production of 'Cash on Delivery'. He turned up with the blue kit after being told WE-NEED-TO-USE-THE -WHITE-KIT-OK-SEAN. Luckily Cambridge anticipated Over's administrative shortcomings and brought a change of strip. Sean's partial transition from footballer to luvvy became still more apparent during the game when he threatened to walk off*** the stage when Mike Little questioned the artistic direction he was taking. Mike's reaction is unprintable†.

But what of the football? Well, the initial period of play belonged to Cambridge as the Over new boys tried to get to grips with the physical demands and pace of veterans' football. Looking sharp, Cambridge rounded off sustained pressure with a well-taken goal after 20 minutes from Trevor George following a fine pass from Nick Gawthrop. This seemed to jolt Over into another gear and saw a period of ebb and flow with Dave Carman and John Steele enjoying a robust battle for domination in midfield (*Vets' jargon for 'kicking lumps out of each other' - Ed*). Both teams had

chances on goal and both goalkeepers played very well with Jamie Gribble in the Cambridge goal having to pull off a number of agile, even acrobatic (blimey - in vets' football?) saves. Over pressure finally told at the end of the first half, when Deano followed up to score after a Paul Kynoch shot rebounded off the left-hand post.

After spending the first half dragging his bottom lip around the pitch as referee, Andy Carman came on to a standing ovation from Over's travelling support (Garry and Bill) and immediately started to cause the Cambridge defence (*would that be those charged with defending the gardens behind the goal? - Ed*) problems with numerous efforts on goal, using various parts of his anatomy that bought a series of fine saves from Jamie Gribble. Always a percentages man, Andy knew that if he had 100 attempts at goal, one of them would probably go in and so it was, after 30 minutes.

Andy's cousin Dave also had a number of unsuccessful efforts on goal including one shot hooked over the bar from 2 yards that defied physics, before finding the net in style. His goal was a fine one - chesting the ball down, turning and volleying the ball past the diving keeper. Years of Dave Lill's youth training paid off after all.

Another great match with every player having a good game. We look forward to playing Cambridge at home in January. By this time the new boys' honeymoon period will be over: they will have been found suitably rude nicknames and the match report hacks will have ammunition to use in the *Old Git*. If not, they will make it up anyway.

Old Git solicitors insist on the following footnotes:

- * may not be true
- ** possibly
- *** popular rumour has it
- † allegedly

Over: *Barton; Chapman, Little, Parker (c), Baker; Norman, D Carman, Smith, Clarke; Kynoch, Dean; A Carman, Bate.*

Next match - home v Hemingford Sunday 23rd October 2005, KO 11 a.m. Meet Centre 10:30.

Do you remember the nickname Evertonians gave to Rafael Benitez last year?

Rafael Beneathus.

In response, Liverpool are marketing a new Everton shirt with the logo:

Nobody Beneathus.

News from Chesham Thursday

The following email was received from Steve Sumner of Chesham back in July (*hey, no-one ever said OG was topical! – Ed*).

“The Trevor's Day for MSA Tournament that we organised was a great success. 24 Vet teams and 12 U-12 teams – it was so well subscribed that we didn't get to enter a team of our own.

We raised over £7500 for the charity (the final figure is still to be confirmed as some money is still trickling in).

And last weekend CTFC won the Amersham Town Vets Footie Tournament. CTFC managed to qualify second from their group and beat the other group winners 1-0 aet in the semi and then went on to win the final on sudden death penalties.

Here's a piccie of the victorious CTFC team:



Our next game will be down in Ramsgate against those boys we met in Millen.

Hope you have a great summer.

Pass on our regards to everyone @ Over.”

Steve Sumner

VIEW FROM THE BENCH



With this year's Carlton-Palmer awards nearly upon us, I went to an antiques fair to see if there were any

suitable prizes going for a song. I also needed to look for items to put into our, soon to be commissioned, Trophy cabinet (we need to have a cabinet with something in it!). Unfortunately, the only football memorabilia and collectables seller was a purveyor of programmes and the eye-catching displays involved Man U, Arsenal, Chelsea, Liverpool and West Ham with each one having a dedicated folder. However, when I put the seller to the quality test – “Have you got any Over Veterans FC programmes?” – he looked somewhat puzzled. Not even an Old Git in sight. When I asked to see his QPR programmes he produced a dusty box file from under the table with the title “Miscellaneous London Clubs”!!! Clearly the guy was no expert (he was a West Ham supporter which explained why he had them on display) but it was clear from the prices he was charging, £3-plus, that old programmes are worth something so has anybody other than our Ed. got a full set of Old Gits? Who knows what they will be worth in Euros in the years to come? Is it really 10 years since the Vets started?

Overheard comment from banker and OG treasurer Andy Buck this week “I know what a budget is, it has a lot of numbers in it”. To help increase those numbers, please support our forthcoming race night fund-raising event, advertised in this edition.

Exclusive photo proves Spurs' 'goal' wasn't!

Those of you with long memories may remember an incident at Old Trafford at the start of the year when Spurs 'scored' a goal that was not spotted by the match officials. The following was doing the rounds at the time on the internet and is worth repeating:

An FA spokesman after the game absolved the linesman of any responsibility for the apparently mistaken decision not to award a goal to Spurs after a shot from the halfway line crossed the goal line by at least a metre.

“The shot came in from an unusual distance and as such caught the linesman out of position forcing him to race back towards the goal as the play developed”, explained the spokesman, “As he ran, the United scarf he was wearing under his shirt came loose and fluttered up into his face obscuring his view and preventing him from making the call. It was just one of those things.”

In response to further questions from the Press the spokesman explained, “If

they don't already have a United tattoo, most officials on match-day try to wear a scarf or a replica shirt under their regulation kit to show their support for the world's greatest club. The linesman in this case had chosen to wear a United scarf, a common choice that is in keeping with FA guidelines. The root cause of the problem lies not with the linesman but with the players and management of Tottenham Hotspur Football Club who broke one of the most important unwritten rules of the English FA: they placed a shot on target at Old Trafford. Martin Jol is new to this country and perhaps he's not yet familiar with some of our finer traditions. If he doesn't yet understand that for the greater good of the game visiting teams, by tradition, are not expected to try to score at Old Trafford, then our officials are in a position to help Mr Jol make that cultural adjustment.”



Chuckling to himself the FA spokesman added “The goal had to be disallowed to avoid us descending down a slippery slope that would be bad for the national game. It's a fine line the officials have to walk. If they award a goal this week, next week someone might expect to get a penalty at Old Trafford or demand that Van Nistelrooy be booked for diving. Can you imagine? That would just never do. No no no. Shocking, just the thought of it.”

2005 TOURNAMENT ROUND-UP

Over Blues 1 (1) **Over Whites 2 (2)**
Chapman Cook (2)

Kegworth 2 (1) **Ridgeons 0 (0)**
Pete, Graham

Over Blues 0 (0) **Millen 1 (1)**
Hardys

Over Whites 0 (0) **Ridgeons 0 (0)**

Kegworth 1 (0) **Millen 1 (0)**
Graham No. 11

Over Blues 0 (0) **Ridgeons 0 (0)**

Over Whites 0 (0) **Kegworth 0 (0)**

Millen 2 (2) **Ridgeons 0 (0)**
No. 11 (2)

Over Blues 0 (0) **Kegworth 0 (0)**

Millen 1 (0) **Over Whites 0 (0)**
Hardys

SEMI-FINALS

Over Blues 0 (0) **Millen 0 (0)**
Millen won 4-2 on pens

Over Whites 0 (0) **Kegworth 0 (0)**
Kegworth won 4-2 on pens

FINAL

Kegworth 1 (0) **Millen 0 (0)**
Ash (pen)



Incredibly, this lot won.



The lads from Millen – next year they have promised to bring their ladies' team, to give us half a chance of winning.



The team from Ridgeons – presumably the bloke second from left in the front was their driver.

FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Millen	4	3	1	0	5	1	10
Kegworth	4	1	3	0	3	1	6
Over Whites	4	1	2	1	2	1	5
Over Blues	4	0	2	2	1	2	2
Ridgeons	4	0	2	2	0	4	2

Vets' Chairman attempts to bribe match officials – conclusive proof!



Over Blues
(Back row, l to r)
Carman,
Chapman, Reed,
Nichols (gk),
(Front row, l to r)
Day, Rawlinson,
Hay, Baker.



Over Whites
(Back row, l to r)
Tassell, Handley,
Dollard (gk),
Cook
(Front row, l to r)
Rule, Norman,
Little, Sutton.
Tony Tagg not
pictured.