

# WINCHMORE HILL FOOTBALL CHAT

Club Copy

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JUNE 41



With Compliments

# WINCHMORE HILL FOOTBALL CLUB

MEMBERS : SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE

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Compiled, Arranged and Edited by GEORGE DEACOCK.

[June, 1941.

## Editorial

We apologise to all our Members for the tardy appearance of this number of the "Chat," which it was earlier proposed to produce just at the end of the football season. There are two reasons for the delay. Through the generosity of the Parent Club we were enabled to go on playing up to the last Saturday in April ; and the fact that the Annual Meeting was held on the 6th June, persuaded us to wait and include a report of it. We hope to issue our next number at the end of the cricket season, but the gap will be filled by the usual monthly Bulletins.

It is most pleasing to be able to state that co-operation throughout the various Sections of the Club progresses famously. Two instances of this are the election of Mr. F. H. Bowles to the Committee of the Football Section, and the election of Mr. L. J. W. Smith to the Management Committee of the Parent Club. There is a very keen spirit abroad in these days, and membership is increasing rapidly. The reason for this is not far to seek. Contact is being made whenever and wherever possible with those seeking membership of a first-class Club, former members are rejoining, members of neighbouring clubs which find it impossible to carry on are coming forward, and the ground and amenities are being maintained at a high standard. In fact it is doubtful if any other club in this district now can boast pitches and courts in better condition than ours. Opportunity has also been taken at recent Annual Meetings to elect suitable Members, hitherto working only in one Section, to the Committees of others, and the basis of the Management Committee has been broadened. Younger members have been encouraged to offer their services for work in various directions, and the whole atmosphere throughout the organisation is such as to offer nothing but encouragement to those older members who have held on to this idea for years. Now they are reaping their reward.

Our serving Members increase, of course, as the weeks go by, and others continue to be evacuated, so that hardly a day passes without one or other of them paying us a visit during a period of leave. They are doubly welcome, and all seem to be in good form and spirits. More, too, are being posted abroad now, but it will not be long, we hope, before all are back among us for good, and we repeat our promise to do all possible to keep things going for them until that happy day arrives when "kings creep out to feel the sun again," and when, in the words of A.P.H., all may once more "indulge in joint simultaneous refreshment."

Good Luck and God-speed to the Happy Warriors wherever they may be, and if, when they receive their copies of the "Chat," they feel somewhat nostalgic, let them be cheered by the thought that we too have our regrets at their absence, and do not forget them.

## FOOTBALL TEAM REPORTS.

Following the successful opening months of the season the 1st XI has maintained its match-winning ways, and between the results shown in our last issue and the end of the season we have played a further 18 games, of which 9 have been won, 4 lost, and 5 drawn. The complete details are, therefore, Played 32; Won 20; Lost 6; Drawn 6; with Goals for 154, against 72.

1940/41 has provided some very enjoyable football, although on a number of occasions our opponents, for various unavoidable reasons, have not been up to our strength, and, as before, our chief thanks must go to Hockley, our Team Secretary, whose industry has been as great as ever, and who has been assisted most ably by Welsford. This good work is well typified by the creation this season of a high record for the number of games played.

On December 14th we had our revenge against Broomfield, winning a hard, fast game by 4 goals to 3. The whole side worked well together, the chief honours going to Wiseman and Horwood who, jointly or in turn, effectively shadowed Joe Hulme. On the 28th December we lost a good, even game at home to the R.A.F. (Uxbridge), who paid us the compliment of sending a strong side including six peace-time professionals. Our opponents' extra stamina told, and they scored 3 goals in the closing stages of the game to run out winners by 6 goals to 3. We played another Service XI during the latter part of the season, an enjoyable match with the R.A.P.C., ending in a 5-5 draw. As might be imagined, there was quite a modicum of liquor consumed in the Pavilion following each of these two games with the representatives of H.M. Forces.

We had a close tussle with Kew Association who have a particularly strong combination this season, losing by 1 goal to 2, a game which, in fact, we might easily have won but for a few missed chances. Norsemen, another of our Southern Amateur League Clubs, provided us with two enjoyable encounters, one of which was drawn and the other lost. Against Old Stationers, away, our team claimed more of the game on a heavy ground, very reminiscent of the top pitch at the Hill in the old days, but although holding a clear lead until close on time, we had to be satisfied eventually with a tie 3-3.

Among the other matches played during the period covered by this report doubles were scored over Alexandra Park, Mayfield, Old Owens, and Old Tollingtonians.

Of the players, it must be said that the most consistent ones were the half-backs and goal-keeper, but throughout the season the whole team showed a good fighting spirit, together with a reasonably good combination having regard to the fact that on a number of occasions members, particularly in the forward line, had to play out of position. The middle line has proved strong, Horwood and Pearl developing into exceptionally good players, making good use of the ball both in the air and on the ground; and Ernie Wiseman, in addition to his attribute of being able to shoot hard, can safely be said to have two better feet than any other member of the team. Tony Chapman has been his usual cheery, reliable self in goal, performing with great daring both at long and short distances from his base. Our leading goal-scorer was Bailey, and this young centre-forward has shown excellent dash and opportunism in all his matches. His future certainly looks very bright, and with experience of consistently strong opposition, such as will be the case after the war, he should become outstanding.

Unfortunately not many members of the Forces have been able to get away from their duties for that vital hour or two on a Saturday afternoon when they could play for the Hill, but among those for whom we have been happy to provide games are Gus Gowers, Norman Welsford, Frank Hunter, Walker, and Brown.

The 2nd XI had a good season too, but it has not been possible to get out a detailed report in time for this issue. They played 28 games, of which 6 were won, 18 lost, and 4 drawn, with a goal average of 84 for and 114 against. Difficulties with sudden changes in sides were overcome, and the team never played short, even if the 1st XI did sometimes call on players at the last minute.

Everything augers well for next season. We have plenty of good young players to hand, and several others in the offing. From the report on the Annual Meeting it will be seen that the same energetic officials are once more willing to serve, and other things being equal we hope to have as satisfactory a report to present a year hence.

A word as to our two skippers. Great approval was shown by everyone when it was found that both Guettier and Bill Earle were willing to carry on next season. The captaincy of any side is by no means easy just now, and yet these two have managed to instil enthusiasm and plan into their respective sides, and have invariably set an example of 90-minute energy and effort which has reacted constantly on the others. Guettier serves on the Football Committee by virtue of his captaincy of the Club, but now that Bill Earle has joined him there, by election, the help these stalwarts can give will be multiplied. We most earnestly hope that Fortune does not give her wheel a twist and, in the process, deprive us of the services of either of them.

### OBITUARY.

It is with the deepest regret that we announce the death recently of Mr. A. E. C. Thompson, who was Secretary of the Club Cricket Conference. Mr. Thompson had worked heart and soul for Club Cricket for 24 years, since the inception of the Conference in fact, and was held in the highest esteem wherever cricket is played, not only for his work for cricketers but also for his generous nature and his personal interest in all who sought his advice and help. He is succeeded as Secretary by Miss Joan Chumley, formerly his assistant, and Mr. E. C. Dolman will act as Assistant Secretary.

All our members will grieve to hear of the deaths, since our last issue, of Alderman John Joy and "Bill" Edwards of the "Gazette." Alderman Joy had long ago earned the thanks of all local sportsmen for his strenuous efforts to provide open spaces in the Borough. He was himself a very fine harrier, swimmer, and oarsman in his younger days, and realised then the value of sport and the facilities for the provision of grounds on which it could be indulged. He was never actively associated with this Club, but most of our members knew of him, and some had personal contact with him in other spheres. He will long be missed and never forgotten in Southgate and district.

"Bill" Edwards was latterly Sports Editor of the "Gazette," and we several times had the pleasure of seeing him at the Club. He was always out and about among local sportsmen and everyone knew him. The Germans killed him with a bomb one Saturday evening whilst he was returning from town. "Bill," too, will always be a happy memory to local sportsmen. For the time being we understand that the sporting matters of the "Gazette" will be placed again in the hands of our old friend Mr. J. C. Ginn.

## FOOTBALL SECTION—ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Football Club was held in the Pavilion on Friday, June 6th, and, considering present conditions, the attendance was very good. It happened that Norman Welsford was on leave, and we were glad to see him there. The Chairman of the Parent Club, Mr. J. North, and its Secretary, Mr. O. C. Dupont, were also present, and we appreciate the compliment paid to us by these two gentlemen.

There was no printed report circulated, as in past years, giving members a résumé of the season's activities, nor were the accounts circulated in printed form. These departures from established practice were necessitated by economy demands. Both Report and Statement of Accounts were passed round among members present, and both were accepted as highly satisfactory under all the circumstances. Special thanks were tendered to Hockley for his gallant and successful efforts in giving us one of our most satisfactory seasons for some years, and indeed only those who have had similar work to do in the past could possibly estimate at its true worth the time and trouble involved during war-time. It may be safely said that the good results were due primarily to him. Welsford also received his due measure of congratulation on a very good Financial Report; stringent economies have become necessary, but his judgment has resulted in a fair balance being struck between essentials and non-essentials, and members can have no cause to complain of his parsimony. The fine work done in running the canteen, by Mrs. Welsford and Mrs. Williams, was cordially acknowledged by everyone. These two ladies worked often under considerable difficulty, but never once did they fail to produce some sort of refreshment—mostly in plenty—for players and spectators alike, and it is pleasing to know

that they are both willing to undertake this onerous job next season. Thanks were expressed to George Deacock, who continues to help us enormously, if very unobtrusively, by ways and means known only to himself, and who has never failed to respond to any call for his help. The name of Cooper, our groundsman, was hailed with acclamation, as his achievements were obvious to everybody. No praise can be too high for the manner in which he worked to keep the ground going, and, often without any help at all, to remove all trace of the craters which were left as a memento by one of Adolf's fly-by-nights. With such a group of keen helpers there is no wonder that the Club is flourishing.

The Financial Statement showed a working deficit for the year of £51, and this, although regrettable, would certainly have been greater but for watchfulness by the Treasurer. It must be remembered that our normal peace-time deficit was always far in excess of this figure, but the Parent Club has been most generous in allowing us a reduction in rent, and this is a big factor in permitting our invested balance to dwindle not too rapidly. The subscriptions were up by over £6 on the year, which shows that Welsford was far from being asleep. Our balance in hand is now reduced to some £160, sufficient for three more seasons if it is not augmented, and the fact that we have this nest-egg is good proof that the prudent policy adopted by the Committee in recent years in matters of finance is now justified during the rainy days. The Committee will be considering possible schemes for raising revenue between now and the commencement of next season, as it is realised that to increase income is fundamental. Before passing from the Accounts it should be noted that Guettier, as Auditor, received the members' thanks for the able manner in which he prepared the Financial Statement, and for his advice tendered to Welsford whenever it was requested.

The following Officers were elected for the present year. President, Miss Paulin. The Vice-Presidents were elected en bloc as is customary, but on this occasion they included Len Thompson, and when it was learned that he had particularly wished to become a Vice-President his popularity jumped higher than ever, and he was individually elected unanimously. On nominations being asked for for a Chairman, McLeod immediately spoke from the Chair announcing his resignation from that office, and requesting that his name should not go forward. He explained that he found increasing difficulty in attending Meetings, and he did not consider it fair, unless he could do so, to hold office any longer. He himself proposed that Hockley should succeed him, and the members had no hesitation in supporting this nomination unanimously. Mac pointed out that Hockley had shown himself a hard-working and capable official for many years, taking on one job after another, and handling each with conspicuous success. Other members spoke to holding the same sentiments, and it is felt that we are very fortunate in having someone ready to hand to follow on Mac's long and successful record. Mac himself was not allowed to relinquish the Chair without his services to the Club being freely acknowledged. It was recalled that he had been Chairman since the inception of the Football Club—over 21 years—and that he had first held office in the Winchmore Hill Club 26 years ago. Some of the stormy scenes were recalled when his advice and guidance smoothed everything over and enabled wise decisions to be come to on matters vital to the existence of the Football Club, and it was also not forgotten that he had been capable of taking set-backs merely as incentives to further effort. It is well that younger members should realise what a tremendous influence Mac has had on establishing the Club in its present strong position. We have no doubt that we

shall often still require his wise advice, and we assure him we shall not hesitate to ask for it.

There was no opposition to the re-election of Leslie Brown as Secretary and Welsford as Treasurer. Both have done good work, and it was lucky for us that both were willing and able to continue in office. The selection of Team and Match Secretary looked as though it might present difficulty in view of Hockley's election to the Chair, but members were so anxious that Hockley himself should accept re-election that he agreed to do so, and thus earned their further appreciation. There could be nobody better, and if members will support him in every way they can and make his work easier that is all the thanks he seems to expect. The re-election of Guettier as Auditor enabled the working officials to remain constituted as before, a state of affairs highly to be sought after in these times.

The Committee was elected as follows: F. H. Bowles, A. Chapman, W. E. Earle, Charles Grant, L. J. W. Smith, L. Thompson, and W. Williams. This looks well-spread and strong. It is good to see Chapman and Bill Earle on the Committee as representing the playing members, and Thompson will surely have much good advice to offer on the administrative side. Williams is a quiet but persistent worker on the Club's behalf, and will be an acquisition on the social side. The election of Freddie Bowles is another step in the right direction as far as liaison with the Parent Club is concerned, and will be welcomed throughout the Club. On Charles Grant's election the opportunity was taken to thank him again for his services as referee throughout the season. He was absent for a time owing to a damaged ankle, now happily quite mended, but returned to deal with the last few games. Here is another who gives service without stint, and who is gaining a local, if not wider, reputation as a first-class

referee. All look forward to his red blazer being seen on the field next season.

As to the prospects for next season there is no doubt they are very good. It was left to Hockley to decide whether Friendly matches only should be played (there are still one or two local Leagues in being) though opinion seemed to favour a continuance of that policy. Members spoke as to the possibilities of getting a more extended fixture list, particularly during the early and late weeks of the season when travelling could be undertaken rather farther afield than when the fur starts to fly at about 5.30 p.m. (It is one member's opinion that those days will not return). Hockley promised to bear this in mind in arranging fixtures, and members are satisfied that the best will be done. It was emphasised that publicity is still playing an important part in obtaining new members, and the Committee was asked to bear this in mind and adopt measures which, in their judgment, would be most useful to this end.

The Parent Club was thanked heartily for allowing us the use of the ground well after the period covered by our agreement and hopes are entertained that a similar permission might be given next season if circumstances warrant it and no harm is likely to be done to cricket. Charles Grant again thanked the Club for the hospitality being shown still to the members of Southgate Wanderers, but was assured that, for our part, their separate entity was forgotten, and we considered them all as our own members. It is hoped that this will be so after the war if their Club does not form again. Incidentally, it is worth mentioning that Charles himself has been elected by the Committee to serve as its Representative on the Management Committee of the Parent Club, and members may rest assured that this choice is a good one, and that their interests will be carefully fostered and any suggestions

by them will be put forward to the Parent Club by Charles in an able manner.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the Meeting, Hockley being assured on all sides that his was a popular choice, and he can have been left in no doubt of the support he will get.

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### CRICKET.

Since the last Bulletin was issued the following matches have been played, and resulted as shown.

#### May 24th.

1st XI v. an R.A.F. XI. Home.  
Winchmore Hill 93 (Hurst 46. Plane 5 for 20).  
R.A.F. XI 76 for 2 (rain).  
(Tompkins 32).

2nd XI v. No. 2 Div. Metropolitan Police.  
Away.  
Winchmore Hill 35.  
Police 66 for 1 (rain).

#### May 25th.

Sunday XI v. Standard Telephones. Home.  
Standard Telephones 52 (H. Bennett 6 for 18).  
Winchmore Hill 110 for 4 (Vale 44).

#### May 31st.

1st XI v. North Middlesex. Away.  
North Middlesex 217 for 7 dec. (Veglio 48, L. Wiseman 44, Parker not 52. Vale 4 for 61).  
Winchmore Hill 60.

2nd XI v. North Middlesex. Home.  
Winchmore Hill 167 for 7 dec. (Cooper 68, Banks 41 not, Barker 6 for 79).  
North Middlesex 37 (G. Watson 6 for 14).

**June 1st.**

Sunday XI v. Birkbeck College. Home.  
 Winchmore Hill 59 (Spring 5 for 24,  
 Wright 4 for 28).  
 Birkbeck College 82 (Flower 7 for 24).

**June 2nd.**

1st XI v. Alexandra Park. Home.  
 Winchmore Hill 152 (Vale 76).  
 Alexandra Park 110 for 9 (Vale 5 for 18).

2nd XI v. Alexandra Park. Away.  
 Winchmore Hill 94 (Horwood 22).  
 Alexandra Park 158 (Riddell 55).

**June 7th.**

1st XI v. Northampton Polytechnic. Home.  
 Winchmore Hill 77 for 2 (rain). (A. G.  
 Hayward 34, Hurst 33 not).

2nd XI v. Edmonton. Away.  
 Winchmore Hill 31.  
 Edmonton 85.

**June 8th.**

Sunday XI v. Enfield. Home.  
 Winchmore Hill 115 (Vale 55, White  
 32. Barker 4 for 25).  
 Enfield 61 (Punchard 6 for 23).

Banks' 41 not out for the 2nd XI against North Middlesex on May 31st, must have pleased him immensely, as this is likely to be his only appearance for the Club this season.

So far the weather has not been kind to us, and summer has not really appeared, but as the thermometer has several times touched 60 indoors it looks as though it might get warmer before the stumps are drawn for the last time.

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**TENNIS.**

The Tennis Section hopes to have a successful season in spite of the absence of so many

members who are either in the Forces or have been evacuated. The membership at present is over 60, which, in the circumstances, may be considered highly satisfactory. With the courts, both grass and hard, in such fine condition, and with the possibility of other clubs having difficulty in maintaining their courts properly, it is confidently expected that membership will go ahead. As an example, several members of the Polygon Club have joined us. This Club has had to be disbanded during the war, its membership not being sufficient to warrant carrying on, and even more so for this reason they are very welcome. We shall do our utmost to make them feel at home with us, and to provide them with good tennis and plenty of it.

A number of Matches has been arranged, and in the first of these, away at Edmonton on May 24th, our ladies were successful. On the 28th we met North Middlesex, with a contrary result, winning 1 game, losing 4, and drawing 4. A Mixed team played Vicars Moor on the 4th June, and was well beaten, winning only 1 game, drawing 3, and losing 5. Our people consider this too bad to be true, and are smarting to have another crack to endeavour to show what they can really do.

On May 24th an American Tournament was held in aid of War Weapons Week, but the weather did not seem to know anything about the necessity for providing War Weapons, and did its best to ruin the whole show. As a consequence the attendance was much below expectations, but a sum of 35/- was raised, and prizes took the form of War Saving Stamps. Cheetham took the gentleman's prize, and Miss Cook and Miss H. Brown divided the lady's. Our old friend, Sparrow, turned up for this event, and we were very glad to welcome him. As far as is known he had nothing to do with the rotten weather.

The same enthusiastic spirit is being shown in this Section as in the others, and Chesher is proving himself a real asset and always looking for opportunities of attracting new members. Our thanks are due to him for his efforts, and we know that all members appreciate them. At the Annual Meeting of the Section the following were elected: Captains, Mr. G. Chesher and Mrs. Howard. Vice-Captains, Mr. K. Bain and Miss J. Coventon. Hon. Tennis Secretary, Mrs. Bristow (a very good choice, this). Committee, Mrs. Farthing, Miss Eldred, Miss J. Hunter; Mr. Farthing, Mr. Cheetham, Mr. J. Chapple. Representatives to the Management Committee of the Parent Club, Mrs. Bristow, Mrs. Howard, Miss Eldred; Mr. Chesher, Mr. Farthing. Representatives on Social Committee, Mr. and Mrs. Farthing, Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Schwaner.

There is likely to be some difficulty in procuring the usual number of balls during this season, owing to prevailing conditions, and members are asked to accept a somewhat lower allocation than has been possible formerly. Every effort will be made, however, to ensure an adequate supply for match-play.

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#### FORCES NOTES.

The following have obtained their Commissions since our last issue: Pat Rollings, H. G. Locking, R.N., E. Blandford, R.A., E. G. Woollends, Derek Bingley, and Gordon Summerfield. Stafford Hockley has joined up in the R.A.O.C.

A letter written from India in March has been received from Bill Brooks, who had been posted to a famous Sikh Regiment. He thinks things are grand, and speaks with admiration of the men of his Regiment. He was expecting to be kept moving, as had been the case since his arrival in the country.

Ken Howard cabled news of his being now engaged on convoy work with the R.A. Chesher hopes he may be able to convoy some tennis balls, of which the Club looks like being short this season.

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A letter reached us just before going to press stating that Bernard Carter was on his way overseas, and apparently he must be on the water now.

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We apologise to Jock Wintrup for mentioning him as being R.N. in our last issue. It now appears that he is overseas with the R.A.F. The Navy informs us that it accepts our apologies for having made so obvious a mistake; the R.A.F. wonders how we ever came to make it at all.

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Many members will remember "Bunty" McLeod, our Mac's younger daughter. She has now been serving in the Forces for some months, and Gus Gowers reported that she was fit and well when he ran across her at a regimental dance not long ago.

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#### RANDOM NOTES.

Witch-doctor Welsford is rapidly becoming the terror of all other local Clubs. He is guaranteed to be able to smell out any prospective cricketer or footballer for miles around, and has at least one new member in the bag whenever one meets him.

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It was suggested by Dudley Wright some weeks back that Fincke should cultivate a victory roll à la Spitfire whenever he scored a goal. We think, however, that our well-upholstered friend more nearly resembles a Buffalo than a Spitfire, but we still consider the suggestion a good one.

The congratulations of all members are offered to Freddie Bowles on his election to the Council of the Club Cricket Conference. We know how valuable his advice and experience are to this Club, and we are sure that no better choice could have been made to ensure that his knowledge reaches farther afield.

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The Football Club scored its hundredth goal on the 1st February against Old Owens, though unfortunately nobody seems to remember who scored it in the welter of goals registered on that occasion.

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Both Mrs. Gus Gowers and Mrs. Jack Gowers have presented their husbands with sons during last winter. Our most hearty congratulations to all concerned, particularly as we hear that mothers and sons progress famously. The fathers' feelings may be taken for granted. We understand that Welsford has the necessary membership forms all ready for signing.

Since our last issue we have to congratulate Pat Rollings and Gordon Summerfield on their marriages. We wish them many years of health, wealth, and happiness.

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Frank Hunter was seen at the Club recently on so many occasions in close juxtaposition that enquiries were made as to how he managed it. It transpired that he has achieved a record within the Club in having secured 14 days' leave at one go. We knew he had influence, but never guessed he could use it to this extent.

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News comes to us of John Kilbey and Wallie Varley, both still in the same district as Norman Welsford, they having all moved together. John is reported as being his usual unruffled self, and Wallie, although not completely recovered from the effects of his serious illness of last spring and summer, is near enough to it.