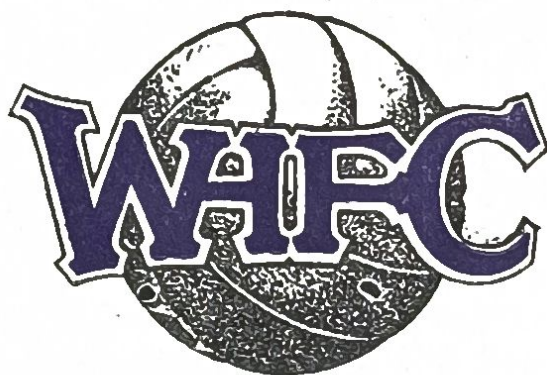


WINCHMORE HILL FOOTBALL CHAT

Nov 4-7



With Compliments

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No. 7 Vol. 2]

Compiled, Arranged and Edited by GEORGE DEACOCK.

[NOV., 1944.

Editorial

* * * *

WITH this issue 'The Chat' opens a new chapter of its existence. An editorial Committee has been appointed to assist the Editor in the collection of Reports and News and it is hoped that by sharing the work, it will be possible to broaden the scope of the matter, and bring you news more quickly.

We shall welcome any criticism or suggestions you have to offer and particularly contributions from members of the Club whether in the form of letters, articles or short notes. However keen we are to glean news, there must be many events and activities which escape our notice. For the benefit of all members of the Club and especially those who cannot be with us at present, do please help us to make 'The Chat' a real success by sending your contribution to The Chat Committee c/o The Secretary, 86, Queen Elizabeth Drive, N.14.

This season we have to report a record influx of new members. Our playing strength now exceeds 40 and it was therefore decided to re-open the second pitch. With the generous co-operation of the Parent Club the pitch was prepared, goal posts erected and the first game played only 8 days after the decision was made.

We welcome all new members and hope they will enjoy their football with us. As might be expected, results so far have not been quite so good as last season, but when the sides have had time to settle down and to know each others play, we should be able to look forward to a really enjoyable and successful season.

At the beginning of this, our Sixth War Time Season, we send our heartiest Good Wishes to those members serving in H.M. Forces, also to those whose activities prevent them from being with us. We are in good heart and great form at the 'Hill' and eagerly awaiting your return.

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1st XI REPORT.

Oct. 7th v Old Stationers. H. Won 4—3.

This was the Hill's first match proper and with last years side out except for Roy Morgan at inside left in place of Geoffrey Birch who has moved to Newport, Mon., the Hill were considerably shaken to be 3—1 down at half-time. And rightly so, for there had been little understanding in the side and too many attempts at individual play which Stationers used to full advantage. At the change over however, the Hill became markedly superior and within a short time, Keenan at centre forward had scored two clever goals. After that, the game was almost entirely confined to the visitors' half and Barber eventually made the final score 4—3 despite determined efforts by Stationers defence in which Ray Livermore at centre half was outstanding.

Oct. 14th v Norsemen. A. Drawn 2—2.

As always against the Norsemen, this game played on their ground was hard and fast, in spite of, or as our more youthful critics would put it, because of a strong wind blowing from goal to goal. The Hill were unfortunate in the first half in that, kicking against the wind both Alec Cooper and Norman Wootton were crocked and had to leave the field for about ten minutes. The Hill did well to be only 1—0 down at half-time and no small factor towards this was Wiseman's play at centre-half, especially his heading. In the second half the Hill were unable really to break down the Norsemen's strong defence and although they scored twice through Keenan and Barber the Norsemen immediately drew level and there was no further scoring. It was in the last minute of the game that Jim Keenan showed us how to shoot wide when confronted with an empty goal three yards away. It cost him more beer in hush hush money than a hat-trick.

Oct. 21st v Broomfield. H. Won 13—0.

Probably one of the most eventful games ever played at the Hill. Straight from the kick-off and without a Broomfield player touching the ball and following upon a neat passing movement by the right wing, Barker scored. Within a quarter of an hour he had scored three more and at half-time the Hill were 5—0 up. After the interval the Hill continued to score at regular intervals, but following some disputed decisions halfway through the second half the game deteriorated.

For the Hill the goal scorers were Barber 4, Haskell 2, Morgan 1 and Elmer 6. Mention must also be made of a polished performance from Hatch at outside left.

Oct. 28th v Edware Town. A. Drawn 3—3.

With Guettier and Barber missing from the forward line the Hill were unable to settle down in the first half and at the interval were 3—1 down. In the second half however, on the Towns heavy clay pitch, Keenan and Haskell came into their own and it was mainly through their efforts that the Hill eventually drew level, Wiseman scoring from a penalty and Elmer from a well placed cross shot. Opinion at Edware was that the Hill should have won but the small boys in the stand did not share that view!

Nov. 4th v Edware Town. H. Lost 6—2.

For the first time since 29th January, the Hill were beaten at home—and well and truly beaten by a younger, faster side. The Hill's chief fault this year of not moving the ball quickly and far, was shown up most clearly and at times the visitors fairly made "rings round us." Edware's first two goals were both fortunate in that they both resulted from clearance kicks rebounding off Hill defenders, the first on to their centre forward's foot and the second straight into the net. Even so we make no excuses, Edware were too good for us. Elmer scored the Hill's first goal after a fine run on the right wing by Vic Haskell and Barber got the second after a long shot from lngs had rebounded from the crossbar.

Nov. 11th v Old Stationers. A. Won 4—1.

This was the first round for the Southgate Hospital Cup, of which the Hill are the holders. Stationers were not so strong as when they visited us earlier in the season and the Barker-Haskell right wing was too good for their left flank. The game was an indifferent one and the Hill were fortunate to finish three goals ahead. Haskell got 3 and Elmer 1.

* * * *

2nd XI REPORT.

The Second Team opened the season with a hard game against Old Stationers Reserves and did well to draw five all, being four to one down twenty minutes after half time. Defensive lapses, chiefly from poor marking and offside tactics resulted in four breakaway goals for Old Stationers and it looked as though the Hill were in for a bad beating. Twenty minutes after the resumption however, the team settled down to a better understanding and staged a come-back which rattled the opposition to such an extent that four goals were scored in about fifteen minutes. Resistance then stiffened and both sides added a goal to make the result five all.

October 14th.

The Reserves celebrated their first home game of the season by beating their old friends the Norsemen Reserves by 8 goals to 2. Winning the toss and electing to kick against slope, wind and sun, the Norsemen found themselves three down at half time. Honours were more or less even for the first quarter of an hour, and then the Norsemen opened the scoring. A few minutes later however, the score was evened up by a characteristic effort on the part of Tony Chapman. Shortly afterwards Elmer ran round the right back to crash in a beautiful high shot that left the goalkeeper no chance. Another Chapman piece of anticipation found him in his accustomed spot to place the Hill's third goal just before half time. The second half however brought about a surprising collapse of the Norsemen, and in registering five more goals the Hill took complete control. Elmer scored three more and Frank Thompson at inside left two..... Norsemen's second goal came late in the game.

October 28th.

The Reserves' hopes in the Hospitals Cup Competition were sadly dashed by Crouch End Vampires. The Hill went out in the First Round, well and truly beaten by 8 goals to 4 and the score does not exaggerate the superiority of the Vampires.

The Hill kicked off downhill and for fifteen minutes had most of the play. The Vampires then scored against the run of the play, and from that time on The Hill were struggling on behind. Barber opened the Hill's score with a close range shot after beating two opponents, but the Vampires were soon ahead again through their very fast centre forward. The score stood at 2—1 at half time.

From the kick off the Hill evened the account immediately through a fine solo effort by Barber. This recovery was not maintained for long, and it was soon pretty obvious that the Hill were not going to be allowed to get away with this surprise. The Vampires inside forwards were quickly on the target with two more goals. They did much as they pleased and found the Hill defence spreadeagled several times. The Hill fought back though, and towards the end staged a surprise by two goals through Haynes and Chapman. This meant extra time. From the kick off the Hill made some dying efforts to go ahead, but these soon faded. The Vampires then came back strongly and in the ensuing half hour notched four goals while the exhausted and paralysed Hill hung on waiting for the final whistle.

November 4th.

The reserves suffered another heavy and well merited defeat, this week at the hands of Alexandra Park Reserves.

From the kick off the inside forwards and even the wing halves on occasions, showed a disposition to be up with the centre and outside forwards. One or two good shots came from them, but the net result was a melee of attackers pounding around on each others heels with no room to manoeuvre. A.P. on the other hand found themselves with all the lebensraum necessary to put in a couple of quick goals with nobody near to stop them and the Hill were three goals down at half time.

The second half began as a repetition of the first, only this time the Hill were kicking against the gale. Goals came. Tony Chapman moved to right back in order to help stem the tide. It was eventually stemmed, but not before A.P. had added another four goals, to make their total 7.

Gradually the defence began to hold the A.P. attack which had been swarming around the Hill's goalmouth. The marking and kicking improved and it began to look more like a game. The Hill then had one or two unlucky near misses at goal, Avent home on leave from the R.A.F. just missing from close range, and Sandrell hitting the crossbar. The Hill were at last rewarded with a solitary goal scored by Haynes from close in.

November 11th.

The Hill cannot complain of the result of this week's home game with Mayfield Reserves. The score was two all. It was anybody's game right to the finish, but Mayfield might justifiably

consider themselves unlucky not to have won. They were quick on the ball and showed a greater aptitude to swing the ball about than the Hill. The Hill opened up strongly as is their apparent habit, and for fifteen minutes seemed the better side. One or two shots came close to scoring, but nothing more tangible than that resulted from the pressure, and soon Mayfield hit back and scored.

In the second half the Hill were kicking uphill and, probably for that reason, were more disposed to swing the ball about. Wells at right back worked hard, and with some good big kicks and some of his notable flying headers sent the ball up the field with good effect. Tony Chapman changed from outside right to centre forward and scored from a right wing pass by Sanrell. Shortly afterwards he spooned one over the bar from zero feet from a similar pass. Mayfield scored again, and were dangerous all the time and Pete Simmons stopped one or two hard ones including a penalty. The Hill made the best of this escape and went on to even the score, Haynes taking a back pass from Chapman hit the roof of the net with a high velocity shot.

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2A XI REPORT.

The 2A XI which consists mainly of new members, most of whom are still in their 'teens, have yet to record their first victory, but this must not be taken as a reflection on the team, who have in all games played very good football and in the last three games our opponents have expressed their enjoyment of the keen tussles in no mean terms.

Unfortunately it has been necessary to ask some members to play in positions to which they are unaccustomed (mainly defensive) and this has accounted in some cases for goals being scored against us. In fairness to our opponents it must be admitted that many of their fine efforts have been foiled by the superb displays of our goalkeeper Ratcliffe, whose positioning and coolness are a pleasure to watch.

The first game of the season was played at Chiswick against Polytechnic IV, which ended with the Hill losing 4—1. Unfortunately we had to play one short and although the opposition was not impressive the handicap proved too much. Wells at left half made a satisfactory first appearance and Bacon scored the Hill's only goal after following up a good shot of his own.

On October 28th we entertained Mayfield Reserves on our new (?) pitch, which was in tip-top condition. A keen game was played, during which a goal in each half was scored against us, Mayfield giving our forwards no chance to reply, hence the result a 2—0 lose.

On November 4th, Alexandra Park 3rd Reserves beat us 2—1 at Fords Grove. As both sides consisted mainly of young players, a very close game ensued. A.P. opened the scoring after about 20 minutes, the Hill soon after replying with a goal by Barratt, following a perfect forward pass by Hasemore. This was immediately followed by another goal by A.P. making us 2—1 down at half-time. The second half saw the Hill attacking almost continually throughout, with Hasemore having very bad luck after some fine solo efforts, but even with Hitchman our stalwart right back coming down field 'to have a go,' a goalless second half was played.

November 11th saw Old Ignatians at Fords Grove, and with only ten men they gave us a very hard game, beating us 6—0. Although the score rather flattered them, they were deserved winners. The Hill held them down before the change over, conceding only 2 goals, but the second half was very different, the Hill being almost run off their feet.

A very pleasing feature of all these games was the very clean and sporting way in which they were played, infringements being very few and far between.

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NEWS FROM SERVICE MEMBERS.

We regret to hear that Douglass Pearson who was previously reported missing has now been officially reported killed in action. He was Sgt. Pilot of a Halifax Bomber and, with the crew lost his life during an operation over Frankfurt last November. They were interred at a Cemetery at Olstrick, Germany. We express our deepest sympathy to his relatives and particularly to his mother and father on the receipt of the tragic news after a year of hopeful waiting.

The opening of the Western Front has naturally added considerably to the list of members now abroad and we publish on pages 11 and 12 a full list of serving members together with their most recent addresses. We hope you will keep this list by you, as in future it will only be possible to give alterations and additions. We need not remind readers how welcome letters are in all parts of the world.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

News from the Far East is very scarce. Nothing has been received from John Kilby since a post card dated 25th December, 1943, which says "I am in good health and spirits. Hope you are the same. Looking forward to returning. Don't worry." He was then in Borneo.

Only one card has reached home from Norman Welsford who at that time was in Java. He is now at Fukuoka, Japan.

Gordon Hayward is in Stalag IV B Germany, where he was transferred from Italy.

Vernon Tyrell in Stalag IV C often asks about the Club in his letters and like the others looks forward to the time when he can rejoin the boys.

Pat Rollings in Stalag VIII F (Brunswick) is very cheerful in his letters. The camp is rather crowded and they are not getting the sports facilities they enjoyed at the previous camp in Czechoslovakia.

CONVALESCENTS.

A. W. Finke, after several weeks in hospital with a septic toe, has been in a Convalescent Home at Ascot, but hopes shortly to be quite fit again.

Wilfred Bacon had an attack of fibrositis last March and was in hospital for a month. He was subsequently regraded Grade 3, and is unfortunately again in hospital with knee trouble.

Gordon Summerfield who was in Hospital from the beginning of June until August suffering from Eye trouble has now almost recovered and is at present on sick leave and awaiting a new posting.

THE NAVY.

News from the Navy is perforce limited but we have recently heard of Brian Lloyd who is aboard the H.M.S. Arbiter and R. H. Willgoss who recently met Jack Pearl and is now at R.N. Camp, Rinnigall, Lyness in Orkney.

Jack Pyle has recently returned from 2½ years Foreign Service and is at present in Barracks awaiting Draft.

Dennis Wade played soccer for the Navy at Dakar. At Lagos he met Martin an old Winchmore Hill player and both played soccer for Lagos. In a letter describing the latter game he says "It was a cup-tie against a local side. Playing in bare feet they literally ran circles round us. They left us standing in speed and their fast first-time kicking and movements were a joy to watch."

Doug. Grout is nearing the end of a 19 weeks course, training as F.D.O. He hopes to be home on leave shortly after which he anticipates going out East aboard an Aircraft Carrier.

F. Bailey has recently returned from Normandy. He was in one of the first boats over on 'D' Day with smoke screens and has now volunteered for Mine Sweeping.

S. W. Hazemore has a shore appointment for the time being and is playing fairly regularly at Fords Grove.

Geoffrey Cross is getting occasional games of Hockey and hopes to secure some Xmas leave.

B. L. A.

Fred Kenyon arrived in Normandy in August and was subsequently granted special leave to try and find his wife who was trapped in France during the Occupation. Fortunately he was successful and was able to spend a further 12 days with her before being moved on. She has since joined the A.E.F. as a Nurse and Interpreter. At the time of the reunion Fred was in Belgium and reported quite fit and well.

A. H. Rissbrook had four days rest in Brussels last month where he was royally entertained, the unit receiving liberal gifts of wines, liqueurs and cigars on their departure.

H. Murdock has been specially commended in Battalion orders for action in digging out a casualty in a bombed house. In a recent letter he describes how high the name 'Pegasus' is held over there especially since the Arnhem action, and how eager the Belgians are to welcome our troops. Nevertheless, he would still prefer to be with his sister who is in Cairo with the W.A.A.F.

G. Blake, A. Lucas and H. Warman have all been through France and Belgium and pay tribute to the wonderful reception they received in the Low Countries.

Also somewhere in this area is Bernard Carter, after three years in the Middle East as an 8th Army 'Desert Rat.'

Vernon Hobbs who holds the African Star and Paratroopers Wings is thought to be somewhere in France, where he has been working with the Underground Movement. As a result of his activities little mail is able to get through, but in a recent letter he says he "has been made a great fuss of and has taken plenty of snaps."

Tudor Williams writes home cheerfully from this front saying he regularly follows the Clubs doings from the Gazette, and looks forward to the time when he can join us again at Fords Grove.

A. K. Cullum is believed to be somewhere in Holland but so far has nothing exciting to report.

Don Robertson met Donald Lawrence, a cricket member, at Nijmegen.

C. M. F.

Bill Brooks has now fully recovered from the wound he received at Casino. During his four years overseas he has visited India, Iraq, Syria, Persia, Lybia, Egypt, Palestine, Trans-jordan, Cyprus and Italy, travelling mostly by air. Although only 23 he already seems to hold the Club record for travel.

Douglas Howl writes cheerfully from Italy where his company have had a hectic time. They have just returned to the fighting line after a months rest in Egypt, four days of which Douglas spent in Cairo.

R. Fowler was recently promoted Captain whilst on active service in Italy, where he has been since January. He was soon in the Anzio Beachhead where he remained until the link-up with the Fifth Army. The latest news (dated 22nd Oct.) states he is in the attack on the Gothic Line and quite fit. He is now father of a daughter born in May last.

Chic Larson has been enlivening the Italian Countryside with his inimitable songs. He managed to borrow a banjo and entertained some Italian friends with 'The Old Sow' and other classics. Although unable to understand a word the audience laughed and clapped and the recital was a great success.

Lewis Smith has been sending weekly letters home which show that he retains his sense of humour. One of the high lights was a description of the wine making. The sight of the Italians trampling the grapes with their bare feet has apparently acted as a deterrent to further inhibition on his part—for the time being anyway.

Bill Jacques now Major W. E. Jacques, M.C., visited Rome during his last leave. As when at Naples, his letters display a keen interest in the historic buildings he has visited.

L. Landy is at present attached to the Intelligence Corps at No. 1 District Headquarters.

Harold Dupont has already visited Patras, Corinth and Athens and whilst in Greece early this month met Bill Brooks.

M. E. F.

Gus Gowers is at present located in Palestine. He has played plenty of cricket and is now getting his full share of soccer (and injuries!). In a recent letter he says "As I have every hope of kicking a ball at the Hill this season, I'm going to train really seriously!"

R. J. Judson was awarded his wings after training in Southern Rhodesia. He is at present stationed at Dastina.

INDIA AND BURMA.

S. C. H. Cooper is now Sub-Conductor in charge of all sports activities at his Depot at Baroda. He has been playing football and hockey and seems very proud of an allotment which he is cultivating.

T. W. Hollings arrived in India at the beginning of September and has a Bombay address. Not much mail has reached home yet but he does mention two or three games of football.

J. W. Pickard (1939/42 Burma Star) tells of three days spent swimming and boating at a lake (locally known as a Tank). Care had to be exercised to avoid the Crocodiles and the shores abounded with literally thousands of Monkeys. Owing to the nature of the ground there is not much opportunity for sport and swimming is the principal relaxation.

C. G. Southcombe is due to return home in May, 1945. Whilst in India he has had plenty of sport, captaining the units football team and reaching the final of a golf tournament.

'Bill' Williams was in Imphal, when surrounded by the Japs—All work, with very little relaxation, but he recently spent 14 days leave in Calcutta. Bill has only managed to get one game of football since he left England two years ago.

Ken White has recently had a long leave and had a most interesting trip to Kashmir. He has been getting some soccer in temperatures we should think too hot for Cricket, and has tried his hand at Golf, but doubts whether his patience will allow him to become proficient.

D. Bingley recently arrived in Ceylon from East Africa where he met Dudley Wright.

EAST AFRICA.

The only news from this area at present comes from Dudley Wright. He has taken up Golf. After some time his unit managed to get a Cricket team together, but he has not played football since eighteen months ago.

WEST AFRICA.

Steve Plant is now a Sgt. Navigator after completing his training partly at home and partly abroad. When circumstances permit he is getting some cricket.

SOUTH AFRICA.

From Hermanus in Cape Province comes news of Leslie Abbott who in his spare time is busy raising money in aid of the S.A.W.A.S. (South African Womens Auxiliary Service). He recently produced and compèred a concert which raised £135. His latest effort was a football match R.A.F. versus The Navy which the R.A.F. won 6—1. To obtain their revenge the Navy challenged the R.A.F. to darts at the local, but once again the 'blue-eyed boys' won.

AIR FORCES.

Since his return from Texas Don Ashby has been at Hereford and Perth and is at present taking a Glider Pilots Course at Bridgworth, Salop. He hopes shortly to be stationed nearer London and to be able to play at the 'Hill.'

Frank Hunter informs us that he could write a terrific lot, but limits himself to mentioning that he is Captain and C.H. of the Station Soccer side and also played cricket for the Station. Apparently modesty forbids mention of other activities.

Percy Attwood landed a Hamilcar Glider at Arnhem and was lucky to get back to England on 29th September, after being stranded for a time on the wrong side of the River. Previous work included taking supplies over on 'D' Day and taking supplies by Horsa Glider to Africa. He has twice come down in the sea and on one occasion 5½ hours elapsed before he was picked up by a destroyer.

D. J. Bentham was promoted Captain last month. He was appointed officer in charge of reinforcements for Arnhem, but the move was cancelled at the last minute. He is one of the two surviving officers who have been in the battallion since it was first formed in 1942.

E. B. Weatherhead was promoted Flying Officer in May. His last letters were from Ottawa, Canada, but he is now on his way to an unknown destination.

C. B. Forster is stationed at Swinderby, Lincs.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Stan Marshall went overseas about the end of September, but his destination is as yet unknown. His present address Draft R.E.P.J.P., R.A. Field Army P.O. 7275 may be recognised by someone in the same area. Older members of the Club who remember Stan will be pleased to hear that a son was born to his Wife Marjorie in May last.

B. V. Buck has also gone overseas but his address is as yet unknown.

HOME NEWS.

Gordon Brook (S/Lieut, June, 1944) writes to say he is just off for a trip into the Welsh mountains on a fortnights exercise with Mobile Map Reproduction equipment. He anticipates leave in January or earlier if posted abroad.

D. J. Brewer is still in the vicinity of London. We offer him our congratulations on his marriage last June.

Also around London are Stafford Hockley, Vic Haskell, Frank Thompson and Wally Varley. T. J. Brooking is stationed in the Bristol area and E. G. Woollends in Kent.

Edward Sandrock is still in England and is now the proud father of a daughter born in June.

L. T. Offer is our latest recruit. He joined up in September and is doing his initial training in Glasgow.

C. Hatch has been able to get a fair amount of short leave recently but not often at the week-end, although he has managed to get in an occasional game at the Hill.

* * * *

INTRODUCING NEW MEMBERS.

We had hoped to introduce all our new members in this issue, but owing to the limitations of space, we regret this will not be possible.

Two have soon found their way into the 1st XI and by now will be well known to the regular fans.

Roy Morgan, an old Latimer boy, is no stranger to the Hill. He graduated from the Colts XI and played cricket regularly for the 2nd's with occasional appearances in the 1st XI. As a footballer he is a constructive inside forward, and although he has a preference for the right is settling down well at inside left. Stocky of stature he has a good command of the ball and his intelligent distribution is a pleasure to watch.

A. Elmer is a forceful forward and whilst with Barnet had several runs with the 1st XI deputising for Leslie Finch. He can shoot hard and dispensing with frills goes straight for goal. Unfortunately like many other Winchmore Hill players is inclined to rely too much on one foot.

Both are young and if they fulfill their early promise should have a good future.

Three newcomers who have already proved their ability with the 2nd XI are :—

A. Wells. Nicknamed "the flying fish" because of his amazing propensity to fly through the air to meet the ball half way with his head. He is an untiring worker at half or full back. His full value at the moment is really appreciated at full back because he doesn't hesitate to slam the ball well up the field. No messing about dribbling, but straight up the middle.

J. Creswell, who plays at right half and is one of the most constructive we have. He has developed the combination of stopping tactics with constructive passing, a combination not found too often nowadays. We have not seen a lot of him yet as he is not available every week unfortunately. He recently married a girl in the W.R.N.S. Good tactics again. Congratulations, and may your ship soon come home !

R. Medlock. Those who remember Ken Cullum, who joined the Army at the end of last season will see a distinct likeness in the play of Medlock to that of Cullum. He is a half back, centre or left, who belongs to the Perpetual Motion class. Always on the go and taking the ball in his stride, he is a definite asset to those forwards who have an aversion to having to go back and "seek" the ball. Medlock takes it and brings it through with him to set the forward line going. He actually prefers centre half, and by his style, is best fitted for that position.

The 2A XI contains so many newcomers that it would seem invidious to introduce any particular player, but mention must be made of Radcliffe who has been keeping goal consistently well. He has a long reach, collects the ball cleanly and positions himself well. We look forward to an opportunity of seeing him in action on the top pitch.

* * * *

CRICKET SEASON, 1944.

The sixty-fifth season of the Club and the fifth of war-time cricket has shown the Club to be, numerically at least, stronger than at any time since 1939. Membership has shown most encouraging advances in full, junior and colts sections whilst vice-presidents and honorary members have increased to an unprecedented extent.

A really excellent Fixture List was arranged and a little over 100 matches were included, of which weather permitted 99 to be played, a total of games which may well be unique in war-time London Club Cricket, with so many clubs having to struggle to put but one side in the field.

Playing results were perhaps a little disappointing, for of games played only 38 were won and 40 lost, the remaining 21 being left drawn. The 1st XI, in particular, had rather a bad run, for it was not until their tenth game that they secured a victory, some matches being lost which they might reasonably have been expected to win. On the other hand, the 2nd XI had a really excellent season, winning 13 games, losing 4 and drawing 7, whilst the Sunday 1st XI came out about even, in spite of having to meet very strong opponents in the two main charity games. The game itself, however, is the thing and much enjoyable cricket was played and there were a surprising number of "tight" games and close finishes.

The Club's contribution to Charity has been a notable one, of which all concerned may be justifiably proud, a sum in excess of £300 having been raised. The outstanding event was the visit of the West Indies C.C., when, favoured by real summer weather, the splendid total of £170 7s. 6d. was reached, whilst the visit of the British Empire XI (marred by wintry weather) brought in £73 12s. 7d., and the inter-club Righthanders versus Lefthanders £28 0s. 9d. The Red Cross Penny-a-week Collection (with some receipts yet to be accounted for) raised £20 13s. 4d. and the Flower Fruit and Vegetable Show enabled a donation of £27 12s. 8d. to be made to the Club Comforts Fund for serving members.

An honour was accorded the Club by the selection of its ground for the Club Cricket Conference game "North versus South of the Thames" on August 26th. Favourable comment was made by those in charge on both the arrangements and the condition of the ground.

* * * *

"AFTER THE GAME."

When the game is over, the numerous cups of tea and the sausages and mashed consumed, it is almost the same as ever it was at the "Hill." Though some new faces appear, many old ones remain and the procedure is unaltered and a cheerful faced and merry crowd of chaps gather together in the Bar to knock up a yarn and knock back a pint or so.

Conversation follows the same general lines, good humoured leg-pulling, perhaps—no, not an inquest—say instead a little gentle inquiry about the game and a quietly academic suggestion that, "If only old So-and-So had passed the ball *inside* the back and with the *inside* of the foot." Maybe, also, a story or two, a brief recitation and the snatch of a song, all of which make the raconteur, the elocutionist, the songster and the auditors alike glad that the notice outside the bar door, informing (in somewhat ambiguous terms) all who care to read that the place within is for men, is sometimes heeded.

But, there are differences ! Two, at least, which come quickly to mind.

Firstly, the beer. It is not so potent these days and its quality is reminiscent of the oft told story about the bottom of a punt being mighty near water.

Secondly, from time to time, in one particular corner may be observed a little group, almost hidden in an atmosphere heavy with cigar smoke, drinking when supplies permit, a beverage which is perhaps not beer . A strange sight, but a good one, as a close look at some of these expensive gentlemen, will, it is feared, unmistakably show that active soccer days are over, but interest in the " Hill " and good club soccer is as strong within them as ever. A good omen to those who believe that the strength of a club lies in its supporters as well as its players.

As has been indicated, conversation though not confined to the game and the players, does embrace these two subjects to a quite considerable extent. One particular gentleman has a quaint theory, that man being after all a biped, soccer is better played with two feet. It is understood that he has made reference to various dictionaries and has become sadly aware that none of the compilers was an informed soccer critic, as no definition appears of " Two-footed " as being " Able to kick a football with reasonable accuracy and strength with both feet."

Having watched the players on the field and observed that in a football sense many are monopodes, he has considered it his privilege to watch these same players using their hands " After the Game." He has noted with some inward satisfaction that without exception they ambidexterously stroke a chin, adjust a necktie, hold a pipe, light or hold a cigarette, raise a glass or " fumble " when some doubt arises as to whose round it is next. The opinion is, then, that the same proficiency could be achieved with the feet and the suggestion is that these players might do well to bring into action more often that foot which Mother Nature did not first prompt to kick at the odd stone, ball or bucket.

* * * *

CLUB JOTTINGS.

WE understand the sausage and mashed parade after the game is becoming quite a feature of our Club life thanks to that hard working trio Mrs. E. O. Welsford, Mrs. E. P. Williams and Mrs. J. Ferraby.

* * * *

IT has been said by one of our oldest Club members that once a game was started to time at Fords Grove. Does any other member remember the occasion ?

* * * *

THE dulcet tones of our Silver Voiced Tenor has not been heard of late. We hope he is well and that before long we will once again be hearing his pulsating signature tune " Face the throw Hill."

* * * *

OUR popular skipper " Guet " has been forbidden by his doctor to play again this season or to take his usual active part in Club management for the time being. We trust his enforced rest will not be of too long a duration and that sooner than he expects we shall see his scintillating head down runs on the left wing.

* * * *

WE congratulate Tom Daniels our assistant groundsman on the way he has tackled a difficult job during Cooper's absence and also thank him for the many little services he has rendered.

MEMBERS SERVING IN H.M. FORCES.

* Home address—expecting fresh posting.

† Last known home address—no recent information available.

P.O.W. Prisoner of War. Owing to limitation on mail, messages should be sent to address given for relatives to forward.

PLAYING MEMBERS.

P/O D. W. ASHBY, B. Officers Mess, R.A.F. Station, Bridgeworth, Salop.

S/Sgt. P. ATTWOOD, 6293864, R.A.F. Station, Tarrant Rushton, Nr. Blandford, Dorset.

A/C2 W. R. BACON, 1466255, * 36, Fordwick Hill, Hertford.

Sig. F. BAILEY, C/JX309206, R.B. River Leven c/o G.P.O. London.

J. BARR, † 24, Shakespear Road, London, N.11.

Cpt. D. J. BENTHAM, 3rd Batt. Parachute Reg. 1st Parachute Brig. A.P.O. England.

Cpt. D. BINGLEY, * 40, Wellington Road, N. 21.

Gnr. G. BLAKE, 908852 R.H.Q. 90th Field Regt. R.A., B.L.A.

L/Sgt. D. J. BREWER, 1433596, R. A. Camp, Fence Piece Road, Barkingside, Essex.

S/Lieut G. A. BROOKE, c/o Mess S.T.C. R.E. Wynnstay, Ruabon, N.Wales.

S/Sgt. T. G. BROOKING, 2067196, 8th A.A. W/Shop Coy. R.E.M.E. Burnett, nr. Bristol, Glous.

Cpt. W. K. BROOKS, H.Q. 11th Indian Infantry Brigade, C.M.F.

Lieut. B. V. BUCK, * 126 Parsonage Lane, Enfield, Middx.

Cadet H. T. CAMPBELL, R.A.F. Station, Bridge Norton, Carterton, Nr. Oxford.

Cpl. B. E. CARTER, 420277, 42nd Batt. R.T.R., A Squad, B.L.A.

Sub. Cond. S. C. H. COOPER, 10548806, Ordinance Depot, Baroda, India.

Pte. A. K. CULLUM, 14702210, Hiring & Claims, Rear H.Q., 8 Corps, B.L.A.

Sub/Lieut. S. B. DAVIS, H.M. L.C.T. 739 c/o G.P.O. London.

W. D. ENGEHAM, † 4, The Orchard, London, N.21.

O. S. EVE, † 3, Ashfield Ct., London, N.14.

L/Cpl. A. W. FINKE, * 2a, Beatty Road, London, N.14.

Cpl. C. B. FORSTER, 1439505, Cpl. Mess, R.A.F. Station, Swinderby, Lincs.

Cpt. R. B. FOWLER, Support Coy. 1st Batt. The Duke of Wellington's Regt., C.M.F.

Major R. GOWERS, M.E. School of A.A. and C.D., M.E.F.

Sub/Lieut D. GROUT, * 112, Nether Street, London, N.12.

Sub/Lieut. S. W. HASEMORE, * 37, Berkley Gardens.

Cpl. V. A. HASKELL, 24, Ewald Road, S.W.6.

Gnr. C. HATCH, 1156359, E Troop 505/141 Field Reg. R.A., c/o G.P.O. Grays, Essex.

Trooper W. V. HOBBS, 1807167, B Squad, 1st S.A.S. Regt. A.P.O. England.

Sgt. S. P. HOCKLEY, 10541868, No. 3 London District W/Shops, Purley Way, Croydon, Surrey.

S/Lieut. T. H. HOLLINGS, c/o Lloyds Bank, Hornby Rd., Bombay, India.

Sub/Lieut J. HORWARD, H.M.S. Locust, c/o G.P.O. London.

Sgt. D. HOWL, 2878044, R.H.Q., 56 Recce Regt. C.M.F.

F/O F. HUNTER, R.A.F. Station, Methwold, Thetford, Norfolk.

Major W. E. JACQUES, M.C., D Coy. 6th Batt. No. 1 I.R.T.D., C.M.F.

Sgt/Pilot R. J. JUDSON, R.A.F. Station, Qastina, M.E.F.

Cpt. F. H. KENYON, H.Q. 4 Liaison Armd. B.L.A.

Cpt. L. L. LANDY, H.Q. No. 1 District, C.M.F.

P. J. LARKIN, * 4, Holmwood Rd., Ilford, Essex.
 Sgt. H. LARSON, S/10673559, O.2E. R.E.P., No. 1 Reception Camp, C.M.F.
 Sub/Lieut. B. M. LLOYD, H.M.S. Arbiter, c/o G.P.O. London.
 L/Bombrd. A. LUCAS, 14399786, 25/26 Battery, 7th Medium Regt. R.A., B.L.A.
 Gnr. H. MURDOCK, 14392900, 399/118, H.A.A. Battery R.A., B.L.A.
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 Marine J. PEARL, P/X 112749, H.M.S. Mauritius, c/o G.P.O. London.
 Lieut J. W. PICKARD, 13th Batt. Sherwood Foresters, India Command.
 Sgt. S. PLANT, Section D, R.A.F. Waterloo, West Africa Forces.
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 Gnr. L. SMITH, 1145117, No. 2 Calibration Troop, C.M.F.
 Cpl. C. G. SOUTHCOMBE, 1208220, No. 5 Base Signals Depot, India.
 Cpt. H. V. SPENCE, R.D. Corps 22nd (BR.) General Hospital, C.M.F.
 Lieut G. SUMMERFIELD, * "Broadeves," Broad Walk, London, N.21.
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 Sub/Lieut D. WADE, c/o DOIC Takerade, Gold Coast, W.Africa.
 Sub/Lieut A. G. W. WALKER, R.N.V.R. * 117, Ashfield Rd., N.14.
 Lieut H. WARMAN, R. Corps. of Sigs., 5 Wireless Group, B.L.A.
 F/O E. B. WEATHERHEAD, 8, Limes Ave., London, N.11.
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 F/O K. H. WHITE, R.A.F., H.Q. 224 Group, India.
 Petty Officer R. H. WILLGOSS, P.O.'s Mess, R.N. Camp, Rinnigall, Lyness, ORKNEY.
 Sign. T. L. WILLIAMS, 14623010, F. Troop, 452/74th Field Regt. R.A., B.L.A.
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 Lieut D. C. H. WRIGHT, 9th E.A. Coast Battery, E.A.A., E. A. Command.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

F/O L. ABBOTT, Box 42 Hermanus, Cape Province, S.Africa.
 Sgt. G. W. CROSS, 1741295, 457 Battery, B. Troop, Tillbury Court, Gt. Yeldam, Essex.
 C. GRANT, † Ashfield, Friars Walk, London, N.14.
 Bombrd. S. MARSHALL, 1098937, Draft R.E.P.J.P., R.A. Field Army, P.O. 7275.
 L/Cpl. E. P. WILLIAMS, 2388526, 241 Ind. Medium W/T Sect. 3 Coy., 14th Army Sig. S.E.A.C.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

C. A. AMBRIDGE.
 Cpt. H. DUPONT, c/o G.II Air H.Q. 3 Corps, C.M.F.
 BQMS. G. HAYWARD, P.O.W. 28, Lonsdale Drive, Enfield.
 L/Bombrd. J. KILBY, P.O.W. 62, Halstead Road, London, N.21.
 Cpt. D. M. ROBERTSON, 90th Coy. R.A.S.C. Armd. Bde. Assault, B.L.A.

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26th December, 1944.

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