

The Merton Way



2018 – 2019 season

Issue 7

24th November 2018



CONTENTS

- 1: Note from the Chairman**
- 2: Note from the editor and honorary president**
- 3-9: Meet the VPs**
- 10: Social Boar-terfly**
- 11: Last week's results**
- 12: This week's fixtures**
- 13-14: 1s**
- 15: 2s**
- 16-17: 3s**
- 18: 4s**
- 19-22: 6s (this week and last)**
- 18-22: 5s v Old Wokingians**
- 22-23: 6s v Old Wilsonians 9s**
- 24-26: 6s v South Bank 7s (27/10)**
- 27-28: U10s v Raynes Park Vale Blues**
- 29-31: Stats Zone**



Note from the Chairman

We had a really good set of results on Saturday 10th November. from the adults on the Saturday. The 1s had a 2 2 draw away at HSBC. Slightly disappointing as we lead 2 0 but not as disappointing as last year when we lead 2 0 and lost 4 2. Jamie the 1s new striker scored another couple of goals which is great to see. Also both set up by George his strike partner so that is working well The 2s won 3 0 against Weirside Rangers with two of our new lads, AJ and Scott. Scoring their first goals from the club. The 3s has a cracking win and the 5s and 6s drew. So no defeats on Saturday. Just the weather to complain about there and didn't it rain and it was so dark.

The youth section were all in action on Sunday with the U10s winning comfortably but our U13s and U14s suffered narrow defeats.

Saturday 17th November did not go nearly as well. The 1s lost at home to Old Finchleas 2-1 after leading for most of the game but conceding two late goals which seemed a little harsh. I discovered on Sunday that two late goals can be good it depends which side of it you are on.

The 2s lost in the cup at South Bank but we were redeemed by the lower sides in particular the 6s who beat a Civil service side 3-2 with Peter getting a hat trick – 3-0 up at half time and held on. They are putting a bit of a run together with 7pts from their last three games.

What is still encouraging is that the lads all seem to get in the bar for some Après Footy win or lose.

Things start move pretty quickly now as we home in on Christmas with our Christmas jump off on December 1st. And of course while that gets into gear after our matches finish we have the Vets V Old Westminster Citz kicking off at 12 30 with the bar open pretty much from then. I really enjoyed reading the Merton way last week as in my continued absence it and our very lively Facebook page is keeping me in touch with what is going on at the club on and off the pitch. So keep the reports coming in and thanks to Luke for his excellent work



Note from the Editor & Honorary President

I joined MFC 74/75 season after being inducted by Steve Hall, I played for the first team for many years which won the league and came runners up in the Surrey cup, my first game for MFC was a friendly against Britannic House FC unfortunately I got sent off for dangerous tackling, I thought no more about it until I was summoned to attend a committee meeting, I was read the riot act by the then chairman Roy Applegate who was nicknamed the major, after the rollicking I got from him I knew why. I continued to play for MFC as the standard of football and the social side was great, we had some good late nights at John Innes Rec our spiritual home. until we kept getting burgled. It finally became untenable to stay at John Innes, I joined the committee around about 1980 I remember Mark Dix saying I was the last person he thought would be on the committee, I was general purpose secretary, in other words "terry will deal with it". In those days we struggled for kits and footballs I remember one 1st team game we had to borrow a ball from some lads having a kick around so that we could play.

Later on I managed to get some regular sponsorships from local companies who provided us with new kits and balls for our eight teams etc.

I was advised as Merton Council did nothing to protect our clubhouse we were to find another ground in the borough not an easy task, finally it was agreed we would move to Joseph Hood, the clubhouse was a mess and needed a complete refurbishment, myself and Peter Kemp with the help of other members made the clubhouse as it is today and,. As the years progressed and age crept in I gradually went down the sides, I captained every team down to the sixes, and managed the 1s/ 3s/ 4s / 6s,also played for the Vets, in this period I became vice chairman then chairman, and finally president. it is very difficult to keep a club like MFC going keeping up with the more richer and subsidised clubs in this league, hard work and dedication by people giving up their free time to provide football.

Long may Merton FC continue



Meet the VPs





Terry Baker

I joined MFC 74/75 season after being inducted by Steve Hall, I played for the first team for many years which won the league and came runners up in the Surrey cup, my first game for MFC was a friendly against Britannic House FC unfortunately I got sent off for dangerous tackling, I thought no more about it until I was summoned to attend a committee meeting, I was read the riot act by the then chairman Roy Applegate who was nicknamed the major, after the rollicking I got from him I knew why. I continued to play for MFC as the standard of football and the social side was great, we had some good late nights at John Innes Rec our spiritual home. until we kept getting burgled. It finally became untenable to stay at John Innes, I joined the committee around about 1980 I remember Mark Dix saying I was the last person he thought would be on the committee, I was general purpose secretary, in other words "terry will deal with it". In those days we struggled for kits and footballs I remember one 1st team game we had to borrow a ball from some lads having a kick around so that we could play.

Later on I managed to get some regular sponsorships from local companies who provided us with new kits and balls for our eight teams etc.

I was advised as Merton Council did nothing to protect our clubhouse we were to find another ground in the borough not an easy task, finally it was agreed we would move to Joseph Hood, the clubhouse was a mess and needed a complete refurbishment, myself and Peter Kemp with the help of other members made the clubhouse as it is today and,. As the years progressed and age crept in I gradually went down the sides, I captained every team down to the sixes, and managed the 1s/ 3s/ 4s / 6s,also played for the Vets, in this period I became vice chairman then chairman, and finally president. it is very difficult to keep a club like MFC going keeping up with the more richer and subsidised clubs in this league, hard work and dedication by people giving up their free time to provide football.

Long may Merton FC continue



John Grindley

So as you know I have been playing for over 30 Years man and boy (ish) but cannot remember the year I joined, I think it was before Martin Quinlan?

I have played for EVERY TEAM (1 – 7) and every position, Keeper for the one's, Up Front for the 5's , and Now at The Back for the 4th Team.

It is a very similar Path to Quinlan but the difference is I played Football and he turns up and Tries to (only joking Lol).

In my 30 + Years career I have only won 1 Title and 2 Promotions (no Cups) but I still have another 10 years lmao!

I have only been a honorary Vice President in the Club due to the fact of me having so many Holiday's and my Work which takes up a awful lot of time.

My best moment for Merton FC was Scoring the ' The Perfect Hat Trick ' (right Foot, Left Foot, Header) in a 7-0 game 10 years ago for the 5th Team

My disappointments are simple, not winning enough Trophies. My Likes are Holidays, Eating Out and of Course my Beloved Chelsea Fc

Dislikes, Man utd!!! Lmao. I will be 60 next season so I am the Oldest Playing Club Member (I think Martin Quinlan is 56 but he has had a hard Paper round)

I am Proud that I can still Mix it with the Kids as most of my Team are half my age or less. I will carry on till my son Danny tells me to hang my Boots up.

It also is a Proud moment to step on the Pitch with Danny (Gridley Jnr) to play Football with my Son (I taught him everything I Know Poor Lad)



Meet the VPs





Martin Quinlan

Joined as a player in 1978, start in the 7's in a pre-season Friendly. Since then have played basically for all of the teams included the 1st and Vets. I played in every position including the current 6XI goal keeper

I have run the 3XI, 6XI & 7XI.

Honours won – few – player of the year for the 3XI & 6XI and been in the League winning side with 5XI

Best Moments

1984: 4th team v Old Stationers in the cup Home win 4-3 AET with 30 mins left we were 3-0 down

2001: 4th team v Nottsborough, home league win 2-1 – Man of the Match performance

2007: 7th team v Kew 9ths, home League win 7-6 coming back to score 2 including the winner before rolling subs, opps agreed because of an injury on an Easter Saturday.

Driving home from EBOG in Brain Harman's MG and somehow ending up on the M1!

Worst Moment – breaking check bone at Joseph Hood 2001, Cup Semi Final Defeat to EBOG Feb 2013

Likes – Good game of football and good chat with Opp in the bar afterwards, Scoring goals

Dislikes – Home referees, unsporting Opp, playing in Goal!

Merton can keep on growing and can improve the home pitch.



Graeme Coombs

I joined Merton in 1984 and started in the 3's with Andy Taylor, Sailor etc. I was introduced by John Gridley. I played mostly for the 3's, 4's and 5's although did have around 6 games for the 2's one season when they had a walk out. My Company sponsored the 5's for several season and my hero was "Gippo" John Lewis. My best times at MFC were playing with the 3 Murphy Brothers, Steve Philpot, Peter Kemp, Simon Mellinger and of course Gridders.

We won the odd div 3 title with the 5's and we were runners up in Div 3 with the 3's in the late 80's. I broke my left leg at Bank of England in 1994.

I loved and miss John Innes and was proud to be part of the Club's Centenary celebrations. My likes are my family, Chelsea FC, women and Indian Food. My dislikes are Spurs, Liverpool, Chinese Food and playing away at EBOG, Old Parks, Crouch End and Broomfield.



Steven Philpot

I joined in 1986 playing full back for John Lewis's 5th team, the highest team I played for was the 3rds (a couple of games when John Coen [think] was short. I played centre mid-field and centre half for the six team (Glen Butt, Jimmy Bassett Martin Quinlan and Malcolm Edwards and up front for the 7ths and eights (Nick McCall). Mostly I played in the fives captained by Pat Murphy. I also played a number of years for the Vets.

I was treasurer for about 4 years from 1994 when i was presented with a bank statement and cheque book and left to get on with it! I was also a replacement co-chairman for half a season when someone left mid-season.

Best moments {on the Pitch) beating the Bank of England at their place 4-3 after being 0-3 down (c2003 5th team i think) and beating Kew Association (away again) 3-1 after getting beaten 4-0 in a cup 3 weeks earlier (Tommy Muncaster's 4th team). Off the pitch it would have to be the first Wales trip in 2000 (i think) I've never laughed so much for so long, and meeting people in my first season who are still very good friends.

I think the worst moments were when the club house at John Innes was burnt down, and when we left John Innes. I like the fact that people move away yet still come back ether socially or to play, not too keen on the fact that whatever era yu consider its aways a small hardcore that end up doing all the work.

Hope for the future is that Merton continues to grow, and current members get as much enjoyment and make as many friends as i did!



The Social Boar-terfly



OAP GAME – SATURDAY 1st December, Merton FC

Respect your elders! And cheer our vets on against Old West Citz – it may be their last step before Walking Football/the home.

XMAS JUMP OFF –

NOW SATURDAY 1st DECEMBER

Hopefully you're all busy knitting your jumpers for this year!!
Details to follow. Fury fight will be shown in the bar.





Last week's results

-	1s	1	V	2	Old Finchleans
-	2s	0	V	3	South Bank Cuaco
-	3s	2	V	4	Actonians
-	4s	2	V	2	West Wickham 6s
-	5s	-	V	-	No Game
-	6s	3	V	2	Civil Service 8s
-	U14s		V		
-	U13s	0	V	8	NPL Youth Neutrons
-	U10s		V		



This week's fixtures

League	1s	V	Dorkinians
League	West Wickham 3s	V	2s
League	3s	V	Polytechnic 5s
League	4s	V	Actonians 7s
League	Old Wilsonians 5s	V	5s
League	Bank of England 5s	V	6s
League	CB Hounslow Utd Green	V	U14s
League	Hampton Rangers Jrs	V	U13s
League	CB Hounslow Utd Green	V	U10s



1s 1 – 2 Old Finchleams

The 1st team have had a difficult start to the season with many challenging away days, depleted squads and tough cup draws, so it was refreshing to have a week off, be back at the Hood and to look around the changing room to see a strong mix of boars regulars and marque summer signings.

However, the optimism was short lived, with the opposition NUFC Oilers (off the back of two wins a draw in the league) seemly not having read from the same script. Within minutes the Oiler's had created their first chance, breaking through the midfield, before drawing a smart near post save from the recently called up Serbs. From the resulting corner their number 14 had a free header at the back post which hit the bar twice. For the next 20 minutes this was the pattern of play. Oiler's pressing high, Merton giving away possession, Oiler's shoot – Sherbs' saves, Oiler's corner - free header no14 – Sherbs' save. Repeat.

Sherbs having been called up from the 2's due to an injury to our normally 'very quiet' regular keeper, made five or six goal saving stops in the first 20 minutes and kept the boars in the game. His performance was Hugo Loris esque (think World Cup winner not the Spursy lad).

A counter attack led by Rat, a driving run down the wing by attacking forward George and some fantastic no 9 hold up play from new signing Jamie led to Merton going one nil up against the run of play. George with the goal and Jamie with assist.

With the Boars having not only weathered the storm but also snatching a goal Clappers made the call for an early sub and Josh was introduced to anchor the midfield and disrupt their centre forwards. This didn't pay dividends Immediately as Oiler's countered from a Merton corner a pulled a cheap goal back. 1-1.

Before the half was over Merton had got a strong foothold in the game and just before the half time whistle some exquisite play in the centre of park from Woody released George who terrorised their left back before getting off a crossshot which was only half cleared. Jamie latched onto the defensive error and finished, in off the post, to give Merton the lead going into the break. 2-1 Merton. Jamie goal.



1s 1 – 2 Old Finchleans (cont..)





2s 0 v 3 South Bank Cuaco

NO REPORT



3s 2 v 4 Actonians

It was an early start for the Boars match day squad as they journeyed to outer reaches of Central line in search of victory.

Having impressed in the previous weeks away victory against Wilsonians confidence was high that another positive result was achievable, the usual incoming and outgoing of players meant that 7 different players appeared on the team sheet from the previous week.

Coming in for their first 3s game of the year were Tom Johnson, Dan Peace and Peter Quainton, they were joined by Merton veteran Mike 'Mustard' Reed and Mike 'Stoney' Stone.

Impressively most turned up in good time to listen to their choice of 90's dance music blasted out by DJ Mustard, although there seemed to be a very broad definition of what dance music actually is, as evidenced by Michael Jackson gracing the nominations.

A short warm up was undertaken and with a decent pitch and reasonably benign atmospheric conditions in effect the scene was set for a decent game of football. Before getting underway a minutes silence was observed for the passing of a member of Actonians.

First Half -

Once underway Merton took a strong grip of proceedings getting the ball down and making some good off the ball runs to open up space in the Actonians final third, the only thing that was missing was the final bit of quality. However it was the home team that took the lead with their first meaningful chance, the ball was launched down field by the Goalkeeper and was misjudged by both centre halves which allowed the centre forward to collect the ball and somehow scuff the shot into the boars net, 1-0.

The setback did not deter the Boars from continuing to play the ball around with the same level of control as before, both full backs and wide midfielders were working well together to keep up the pressure on the home team defence and it was not long before the equaliser arrived. Following more good work down the right Gabby found enough time to put in a quality cross to the far post where it was impressively finished by Dan Peace 1-1. Parity did not last long however as from a corner won shortly afterward actonians retook the lead after the boars failed to clear the ball adequately, the ball falling to an opposition player who had time to bring the ball down and in a crowded penalty area find the net past an unsighted keeper, 2-1.



3s 2 v 4 Actonians (cont.)

Things then got worse for the boars as the third goal opposition goal followed shortly afterwards, this time the Merton defence could not deal with a free kick into the centre of the box and again the ball fell kindly for an Actonians player to force the ball past the dive of the boars keeper, 3-1.

Second Half -

Although two goals behind it had been a reasonable performance from the boars, the start of the half passed without much incident but that was soon to change, after what can only be described as a terrible tackle Actonians were reduced to 10 men with about 25 minutes left on the clock. Within 10 mins of having the numerical advantage the boars had a goal back, good work from Aaron down the right culminated in a great cross to the back post where Sam Spiers had timed his run to perfection to meet it, 3-2.

Unfortunately Merton could not make any further headway, shots were off target and good positions wasted. The nail in the coffin was when the home side won their only corner of the second half and promptly scored, the boars failing to mark tightly enough to stop the striker meeting a low ball into the box first and squeezing it past the keeper.

Final score Actonians 4 - Merton 2

A disappointing result given some of the football that we played and the standard of the opposition, but it shows that if you don't do the basics right you get punished.

Merton Squad- Iain Evans, Mike Reed, Peter Quaiton, Tom Johnson, Ryan Burchell, Gabriel Draghici, Mike Stone, Neal Davison, Sam Kapadia, Dan Peace, Aaron Byrne, Sam Spiers and Nathan Harris



4s 2 – 2 West Wickham 6s

NO REPORT



6s 3 v 2 Civil Service 8s

After 2 Games away, we return home to face a CS8s side that has been struggling for results of late, with the oppo's kit turning up late, this did not help either as they strolled out with less than 10 minutes till kick off. The 6s however had been gearing up for the game for over an hour, getting changed in the 'store room' after the 4s pulled rank and nicked the changing room by the showers, the 6 squeezed in around the BBQ's and junior kits to get ready.

With MQ in goal, only conceding 1 goal in the last 2 games and a back 4 of Kevin at left back, Scott and Darren at centre back and Matt on the right, the defence shaped up rather good. Phil T once again takes up the centre mid role, with Aaron A as his partner, left wing is Chris O and Ricky moves out to the right wing, up front with 'El cippo' Peter O, leaving Ty and Daban on the bench. With the wintry low sun across the pitch as opposed to behind a goal this week, no half advantage to either teams, CS8s kick off. The early exchanges are dominated by the 6s, with 'Ackers' and Phil bossing the game, Chris down the left is the early outlet, each time getting the better of the CS8s right back. The signs are there as DG and Peter link up well only for the first few shots to go wide and leave the keeper untested.

DG is now becoming a target man, holding play up and using the wide men well and retaining possession for each attack, both Peter and David now finding their range and testing the keeper with long range shots.

It was only a matter of time, a cross to DG some 20 yards out and back to goal, cushions a back heel between the centre backs and into the path of Peter who calmly slots past the advancing keeper for a well-deserved 1-0 lead. With the game heavily in 6s hands, the lead is soon doubled and once again, DG receives the ball from Phil, controls and back heels another passes to Peter who once again only has the keeper to beat for 2-0.

6s in full control and any attack is dealt with by the defence and on the rare occasion, MQ is on hand to tidy up further, a quick punt to the half way line sees DG chest the ball down and lob a pass through to Peter who beats the offside trap, with the keeper off his line and choosing to close Peter down as opposed to go back, the snap shot lob just goes wide.

The relentless attacks keep coming, Aaron find himself out wide and works his way down the line, CS8's are powerless as he ghosts round the tackles and places a peach of a 35 yard cross into the path of the sprinting Peter who gets in front of his marker, leaps and side foots the shot just over the bar, in fairness the ball did come out the low bright afternoon sun, but the frustration can be seen as Peter berates himself for the miss.



6s 3 v 2 Civil Service 8s

With half time approaching, Chris through ball sends Peter sprinting, with 2 defenders as company, dropping the shoulder one way, then the next, he manages to wrong foot the pair, still some 20 yards out, unleashes a shot with such pace that keeper is powerless, and can only admire as the ball goes top corner to complete a great first half hat trick. With the first half over, a quick change of personnel, Ricky who sustained a foot injury in a collision makes way for Daban, and Ackers for Ty.

Civil Services take their time to restart the second half, the half time couldn't have come soon enough for the oppo and it done them well. Now looking far more organised and with the injection of some youth, pace is the call of the day. a few warning shots go by, but the 6s are still in control, DG linking with Chris to send him down the line, and the return pass is met with a strong side foot which tamely goes by the near post, Peter soon find himself out wide and bearing down on goal, with either option to pass or shoot, taking the latter at such a tight angle sees the keeper hold onto the fierce shot, Daban gets in on the act with a mazy run around no less than 4 players, only to fluff his lines directly in front of goal, with no less than 3 players waiting for the pass or the shot beckoning, runs out of room as the keeper snatches the ball away from his feet.

All this possession, it's in 6s fashion to fly by the seat of their pants! CS8s break away, the speedy player manages to evade countless tackles of many descriptions before unleashing a heavy shot that MQ gets to, but squirms under his body and trickles over the line, unfortunate but to be fair, it was coming. Not learning from this, the 6s just carry on attacking, the last 10 minutes sees DG shot just go wide of the post (which Aaron celebrated thinking it was in! even the ref wasn't too sure!!) Peter once again being foiled by the keeper on more than one occasion (could have had a second half hat trick to go with the first!) and Daban causing all sorts of trouble when he manages to get the ball out of his feet and run at the oppo like a man possessed!!

With seconds remaining, and CS8s with a corner, the ball plays pin ball between the 2 teams before falling to a player just inside the box, whose volley is so well hit the net seems to bulge out of shape, thankfully that was the last kick of the game, maybe another 10 minutes and CS8s could have pulled the game level as the 6s looked like spent force towards the end and as a result, happy with the 3-2 win. Next week, a tough away game at the Bank of England, undefeated in the league but coming off a 15-3 hammering in the LFFC cup. Can the 6s go 4 without loss?

MOTM: Although Peter scores a hat trick in the first half, it's Phil T who takes the accolade for some great work in the middle of the park

DOTD: Unfairly, it's Chris O, although had a stern game, had a couple of melts that brought a laugh to the squad....

Team: MQ, Dazza, Mazza, Scazza, Kezza, Chrazza, Azza, Razza, Dava, Pazza, Tazza, Dazza... and Phil!



6s 1 – 1 Old Wilsonians 8s

Back down too Old Wilson to face up to the 8s this week, brisk day with the chance of rain, however, the pitch is plague by the same low sun as last week. Looking at the oppo, for once the team looks more or less the same as the squad the 6s faced in September, which ended in a one sided 1-1 score line. However, there's a few changes to the 6s, MQ still between sticks after last week's clean sheet, left back is Steve B, centre back s of Joe Diss and TJ, and Steve H on the right, Left wing we have Ed, right wing Andrew, with the same pairing as last week, Phil T and Ricky. Up front is 'El cappo' and flanked by the speedy one in Daban B. Bench we welcome back Matt H and Ty from a 'lengthy' lay off.

Confidence is high as the game kicks off, last week's victory has brought about an air of confidence, passing the ball around, the CM start as they left off last week, passing as well as looking to run at the opposition. OW8s seem a lot more organised and match up well to their counter parts. Up front, a good tussle starts to evolve between the OW8s centre backs and 6s CF, the 'old dogs' seem to be rolling back the years, only to bring back the art of kicking and tugging when the refs not looking! But all done in good humour.

Still, with the game evenly balanced, it's the OW8s who's strike first, a quick counter from a decent 6s attack, sees a long ball punted up front, the OW8s CF skips the challenge from Joe and bears down on goal, MQ with a rush of blood steams out at Pace! Only to arrive very much second as his rounded and the ball is slotted home. This being the first attack on goal compared to the several good chances wasted by DG and Daban. Not deterred, the 6s go on the front foot, once again from a high ball, DG draws the foul 25 yards out and lines the free kick up with Ed, who is selling the left foot option well. DG fakes the shot, Ed shoots... miss!

Another ariel attack and another foul on DG from a similar position to Eds debacle, this time DG lines the shot up alone, take his run up and spots Steve H unmarked wide right, instead of shooting, slots Steve in for a first time cross that is converted just wide from a deflection for a corner. A great flighted ball by Ricky is flicked on and ends up 15 yards out for a first time cutting side volley from DG which whistles passed the crossbar... 6s look good.

For the play the 6s had, it's frustrating to go in the first half down 1-0. Changes are made, JD makes way for Matt H, creating a shuffle at the back, with Matt going left back/left Wing and Steve B going Centre Back... Ty comes on for Ricky in the Centre Game kicks off, once again the 6s get to grip with the game, Ty, looking a bit match rusty gets a few good touches in and keep it simple, Matt over lapping with Ed start to get some good work done down the left, Daban as ever, is serious threat with his pace but can't seem to catch a break and get his shots off. Another change sees Ricky come on for Daban



6s 1 – 1 Old Wilsonians 8s

Still probing, Andrew down the right starts to get some space, a few good through balls form DG and Ty sees Andrew get the edge, one such attack sees Andrews cross 'passed back' to the goalie by OW8s centre back and give away a needless free kick 6 yards out, once again Ed talks the talk... all he has to do is hit the target... a massive gap appears at the far post, as the balls is rolled into his path, he goes for all power and no finesse... from 6 yards, the balls rockets over the cross bar and DOTD is sorted!

Ed goes off and Daban comes back on and a formation change of 3-5-2. Flooding the midfield with Ty, Rick and Phil seems to work, however into the final third of the pitch and every chance seems to be over played or under passed, but all this is from just trying too hard and not wanting to lose, the fluent passing from the first half is replaced with panic or kick and rush. The dying embers of the game and tempers are getting strained. DG and the 2 centre backs have lost their humour and are basically just lumping each other (still without malice though... no harm in an exchange of raking studs now and then between the old boys!!)

Another corner to 6s, this time Matt curls in a great ball, DG contests the challenge with no other than the waring centre backs, the shot hits the cross bar and comes back out, Daban is the quickest to react and stabs the ball home from close range, 1-1. The remain minutes is the Alamo as the 6s hunt for the winner, however to no avail and the ref calls it a day 1-1. A close encounter, but once again it would seem the 6s drop 2 points as opposed to gaining 1.

After 2 away games, the 6s make their way home v Civ 8s, which was bit of a testy affair last season against the 'then 7s.

MOTM: MQ in goal done well with what came at him, just one mistake cost him a clean sheet, and a superb save from one of his own (again) kept him in the frame for MOTM, but once again, Tom J was a rock in the back, and at this rate will be looking to play higher up on this form

DOTD: Could have been Steve B for another attempt at an own goal, this time heading from 8 yards out, but fortunately, MQ was at his best not react and tip the ball over

But it must go to.... Ed... think we found out his right peg doesn't work very well with free kicks from any range!

Team: MQ, Steve H, Tom J, Joe D, Steve B, Andy, Rick, Phil, Ed, Daban, David ©

Ty & Matt.



Meet the newbie – Max Carveth

NAME: Max Carveth

TEAM: Good question, ask Clappers... played with the 1s on the weekend.

POSITION: Right back, left back or centre midfield if the opposition is really shite.

BIRTH DATE: 21/7/1992

BIRTH PLACE: Sydney, Australia

PREVIOUS CLUBS: Northbridge Football Club back in Sydney

1. Tell us who you are outside of the club. What do you do, how would you describe yourself?

I worked as an analyst in the racing and media industries back home although am currently looking for permanent work here in London - might have to take up begging to pay match fees shortly. Outside of work I enjoy watching an array of sport and am loving getting amongst London's many markets since I've been here.

2. How did you end up at Merton FC?

Back in Sydney I played with ex-Merton FC player Will Taylor who some may know or remember. He tipped me off about the club and put me in touch with Clappers and Ivan.

3. What do you like most about Merton FC?

Definitely the cracks in the pitch down at the hood, should make for some mean seam bowling come cricket season. Jokes aside, there seems to be a great atmosphere around the club and a good bunch of guys which is essential.

4. If you could play for a professional team, which would be it and why?

Being a Liverpool fan I'd have to say them.

5. Do you have any pre-match rituals or superstitions?

Nothing apart from trying my hardest not to be hungover for the game.

6. Lastly, share us your goals/expectations for the season.

No idea what to expect given I've been here about two weeks but the goal would have to be for the team to bag some wins, have a few laughs along the way and hopefully I can keep my one goal every three seasons average on track too - I'm due this season.



Meet the newbie – Max Carveth

RAPID FIRE:

Favourite Player (at Merton, or in professional football): Yet to have a favourite at Merton although Harrison is certainly the most lethal finisher in the club based on his oggie at the weekend. Professionally, probably Tom Rogic, an Aussie that plays for Celtic.

Childhood Team: Liverpool FC

Favourite team in the UK: Liverpool FC

Favourite team outside the UK: Don't have any in particular but have a soft spot for the teams that Australians playing abroad play in.

Childhood Hero: Stevie G

Favourite Food: Mexican

Favourite Drink: Love a dark 'n' stormy

Favourite Band: Don't really have one, liking War on Drugs at the moment.

