

MOLTEN SPORTS
SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS FOOTBALL LEAGUE

NEWSLETTER No. 3
By Bill Scholes

Saturday 22nd August 2009

In spite of the large number of high scoring games, there was just the one hat trick this week, and it was scored by Neil Perrin of Dunstable Town in their 6-2 win over Haringey Borough.

PREMIER DIVISION

Lots of goals this week, with six being a favourite number: **Tring Athletic** hit 6 without reply in their away game at **Hanwell Town**, who surprisingly now reside at the foot of the table, **Leverstock Green** walloped previously unbeaten **Hatfield Town** 6-1 at home and **Dunstable Town** had an impressive 6-2 at home to **Haringey Borough**. **Broxbourne Borough** could not quite manage six – just the five away against **Langford**. Dunstable Town currently top the table with 10 points, just ahead on goals scored, of **Aylesbury FC**, who came away from **Welwyn Garden City** with a 2-0 win. **Chalfont St. Peter** finally put some points on the board with a 1-0 win at home to **Oxhey Jets**, and in so doing moved themselves away from the foot of the table. Another team to have made a slow start to the season is **Harefield United**, who lost 2-0 at home to **St. Margaretsbury**. Apart from Dunstable and Aylesbury, the only other side yet to taste defeat is **Coney Heath**, and they drew 2-2 at home to **Kingsbury London Tigers**. Another 2-2 draw took place at Hertingfordbury Park where **Hertford Town** shared the points with visitors **Kentish Town**, and up in the north of our manor, **Biggleswade United**, who can possibly claim to be the only club within the City walls, have made a bright start and sit in 5th place following their 3-1 over visitors **Brimsdown Rovers**. The largest crowd of the day (150) was to be found at Garden Walk where newly promoted **Royston Town** narrowly triumphed 2-1 over **Hillingdon Borough**.

DIVISION ONE

High scoring was also the order of the day in Division One with **Stony Stratford Town** leading the way with a 7-1 romp at home to **Tokyngton Manor**. This was the proverbial match of a game of two halves. The first half was a fairly even affair although Tokyngton shaded the possession and scored a well deserved goal as the Stony defence went to sleep, allowing Andy Watson the freedom of the penalty area to score on 24 minutes. Stony had not mustered a single chance in the

first half. The second half was completely different as first Tokyngton lost their composure, then their discipline, and finally the match as Stony ran in seven goals without reply. However, it took two penalties to start the rot and Stewart Young scored from the spot in the 51st and 58th minutes. This rattled Tokyngton and they gave the ball away at regular intervals and Stony scored again on 64 minutes when Alex Stoyles headed in a free kick. Another defensive lapse allowed Ricky Foster to shoot home from the edge of the box on 67 minutes and substitute Matty Fraser scored after a great save by the Manor keeper. Another goal followed on 85 minutes when Stony broke clear for Ashley Ferguson to beat the keeper from the edge of the box. There was just time for Tokyngton to complete their apparent half from hell with an own goal just before the final whistle. The Stony faithful went home happy but it must have been a long, silent trip back to London for the visitors. Just behind in the goal stakes were **London Colney**, another side who scored six goals against a previously unbeaten team – in this case it was **Buckingham Athletic**. **Harpenden Town** managed just the one less as they came away from **Crawley Green** with a 5-2 victory. **New Bradwell St. Peter** remain unbeaten and top the table following their 3-2 win away at **Sport London e Benfica**, but it took a goal from Will Smith in the 4th minute of added on time to clinch the win. Along with Stony Stratford, **Holmer Green** are the only other side with a 0 in the Lost column, and they seem to be enjoying life in Div One as they chalked up their third win of the campaign with a 3-1 victory over **Hoddesdon Town** to remain in 4th spot. The other relegated club, **Cockfosters**, have yet to register a win, and they achieved their third draw as they shared two goals with newly promoted **AFC Dunstable**. The other promoted club were **Hadley**, and they move up into 2nd place following their 3-0 win away at manager-less **Cranfield United**. **Bedford** and **Sun Postal Sports** shared six goals, but Bedford had to wait until the 2nd minute of added on time before they ensured their point. Near neighbours **Bedford Town Reserves** are up into 3rd spot, following their 3-1 win at home to **Kings Langley**, whilst **Amphill Town** drew 1-1 at home to **Amersham Town**.

DIVISION TWO

The clash at the top of the table between two sides with a 100% record saw **Old Bradwell United** take the honours in front of a crowd of 89 at **Berkhamsted**. The vital goal came after just 14 minutes from Sam Edwards. Good to see a club that has struggled over the past few years currently doing well. **Padbury United** is close on Old Bradwell's heels and they retained their 100% record with a narrow 1-0 win away at **Tring Corinthians**. **Aston Clinton** are the only other unbeaten side in the division, but they only just maintained that record by dint of a very late goal from Blayne Cahill which salvaged a point in the 1-1 draw away at **Kent Athletic**. **Bucks Student Union** celebrated their first game at their new home of Amersham Town with three points in a 3-1 win over **Totternhoe**, helped by two

goals from the returning Gerald Kelly. **Bletchley Town** are now the only club without a point as they went down 3-0 at home to fellow strugglers **Caddington**. **MK Wanderers** seem to have put the trials and tribulations of last season behind them, winning their second game 2-0 away at **The 61 FC** – who sadly have been going through their own set of trials and tribulations. **Risborough Rangers** gained their first win of the season with a 2-0 victory over visitors **Wodson Park**, whilst **Pitstone & Ivinghoe** returned from **Mursley United** with a 2-1 win under their belt.

NEW MANAGER AT CRANFIELD UNITED

Cranfield United have announced the appointment of Dean Chapman as their new manager. Dean who will bring with him Adam Chapman as his assistant will take control of the Club for Saturday's home league match against Tokyngton Manor.

TOKYNGTON MANOR

A vacancy has occurred at Tokyngton Manor for a Hon. Secretary. All interested parties are invited to apply to the Chairman, Terry Springer, who can be reached on 0208 903 9553 or 07946 196214, or by email at info@twopointfour.org

BILL CLEGG TESTIMONIAL MATCH

On Sunday 20th September, - KO 2.00pm, a Stotfold XI are hosting an Arsenal FC celebrity XI in support of Bill Clegg, who, as many SSMFL people know, had given Stotfold Football Club over 50 years service before he suffered a stroke during their 2007-08 Championship winning season and is now bedridden for much of the time. Bill played an integral part to the community, having served the Town as a player and, in particular, as the Club Secretary for over 50 years. He is a Trustee of the club and was also instrumental in helping the formation of the junior club. In 2006 he was honoured by the Football Association for his 50 years service to football. For further details, please contact the club's HonSec Julie Longhurst; Tel 01462 731167 Email: julie.longhurst@btinternet.com

Apologies for the truncated, and delayed Newsletter, but I have been in deepest Staffordshire for the last few days as Bucks CCC claimed the Minor Counties East Division title. There may well also be a delay in the week after next as we are hosting the Championship Play-Off Final against Western Division winners Cheshire – and that's over 4 days!

**Keep all news, views and title tattle coming to:
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