

TW Grasshoppers 4 Chelmsford 1

The 'Hoppers' sadly reduced to a squad of only 14 (13 until Julian showed up) ran out onto The Nevill pitch so lovingly prepared for us by David Tankard, our Groundsman. It was a cold, blustery day but this did not deter our supporter, Jacqui, from providing vociferous support and encouragement. Our Captain, John Burton, was absent having been called to higher duties with Vet's 1. His responsibilities were manfully assumed by Peter Mills who shrugged off the unwanted advice that some of the team so readily dispense.

The game got off to a cracking start with Neil ghosting in to finish off a fine move. Mark Barker then got on the end of a couple of crosses to make it 3-0 at the turn. This was unusual as the games against Chelmsford are either very close or they crucify us.

The opposition pulled a goal back following a quick breakaway but David Robinson added to our tally with a crashing shot from 18 inches.

The 'Hoppers' played a really good team game, with lots of running and accurate passing, unlike in recent matches. Could it be the influence of our new captain, do we have a coup d'etat in the wind?

Three of our number Burton(the recently deposed captain), Landolt and Bannerman, are joining Chelmsford for their tour to Spain this coming weekend. The result of this will be published in the coming weeks, once they have been repatriated.

Tunbridge Wells Vintage 7 Bristol and West 3

TW Over 50's continued their good form into this Cup match and have now reached the quarter finals. The game was dominated by Schweitzer in the TW mid-field and TW's forwards who were too quick for the Bristol & West defenders. A first half hat trick from Macnamara, two of which from crosses from the rampaging Shearer, and a fine strike from Mills saw TW into half time a comfortable 4-1 leaders.

Despite dominating the first 15 minutes of the second half, no more goals came. Suddenly the Bristol & West forwards came alive. Good movement bamboozled Mayes and Robertson and left Digweed stranded. Another goal soon followed from the penalty spot as Burton and Jago were found wanting. At 4-3 it could all have gone wrong but Grogan helped steady the ship. Soon Schweitzer scored a penalty stroke for TW, Morson scored from a ridiculous angle and Nicholson finally hit the back board to put the game safe. Bowden was doing good things up front and all was cosy. There was still time for Bristol & West to score once more before the last act of Digweed saving a penalty.

In the last 8 TW will meet City of York away on 7th March

Other Mens results 2s drew 2 – 2, 3s lost 2 -1, 4's lost 6 – 2, Vets 1 won 6 – 1

Tunbridge Wells Ladies V 4 Edenbridge 2

Wells put out a strong team against the league leaders. From the start Wells were on top, camped in the Edenbridge half, but the scoring was opened by the opposition as they broke away. Wells came back immediately. Awarded a short, Tessa Harrison hit out hard to Alison Holme. Her cross/shot was crashed in by Harrison running to the post. Edenbridge regained the lead when keeper Charlie de Burgh Marsh was left stranded by a deflection. Annoyed by this Wells came storming back with Alison Holme hammering the ball from the right.

In the second half both sides attempted to create chances, but the Wells defence ,in particular Sam Barker, sweeping, and Emma Garraway broke up attacks.

Wells continued to attack. Hilary Breeze and Hannah Humphrey Baker picked up the loose balls to set up further Wells skirmishes and finally Wells took the lead with Holme hammering in another fine shot. Wells seemed to make sure of victory when Harrison completed an attacking move, but this spurred on Edenbridge. In the last 10 minutes they poured forward but were thwarted by Wells' determined defence supplemented by midfielder Lou Drew breaking up the attacks down the right.

A very satisfying win to complete the double over our local rivals.

Other Ladies results: 1st won 3 – 0, 2s won 3 – 2, 3s lost 5 – 0, 6s lost 4 - 1

