

CANTERBURY FRIARS 6 GRASSHOPPERS 1

We travelled to Canterbury for our traditional Christmas fixture, a little gentle exercise to clear away the cobwebs. They fielded a changed team with some 'younger' players plus some who were in a photograph of 'The national over 50s champions 2009/2010'. We had a couple of players who, some years ago, had represented their primary schools.

They started well and pressed our defence who kept them at bay. But then they scored, after a bit of a scramble. Then a cross from Mark Barker to Neil Ghosley, a miss hit shot going well wide but Nick Ivory got his stick to it and turned the ball into their net. 1-1 and we felt that we were back in the game. But they scored again, just before half time, and so we turned round at 2-1.

While we discussed the Christmas festivities they reorganised their team, and the second half had a completely different pattern, we had a few chances which we squandered and they took theirs.

It ended 6-1 but considering the quality of the opposition we did not let ourselves down. So, only one win, so far, this season, let us hope that we can improve in the New Year

Tunbridge Wells Mixed 8 Tunbridge Wells Students 5

Tunbridge Wells welcomed back its students for the Christmas break by challenging them to a mixed match. Thrusting aside turkey-based lethargy, both sides put out full sides, albeit the students were low on girls. The Mixed included the three Barber brothers, with a Clarke-Knowles on either side

The students won the early skirmishes and moved into a two goal lead. However the Mixed got their act together and began to let the ball do the work.

After half-time the Students tired, whereas the Mixed had a sub to spread the load. The Mixed scored regularly to run out winners and both teams returned to the clubhouse to compare notes on the season (they said)