

BRIMSDOWN ROVERS (4) v HANWELL TOWN (1)
TUESDAY 26TH JANUARY 2010
LONDON SENIOR CUP THIRD ROUND

We exited the London Senior Cup at the 3rd Round stage after a very poor display against Brimsdown Rovers, a side that we had already beaten twice at home this season. Whilst there was some excuse in that only six of the side that had played against Langford the previous Saturday were in our starting line up, Brimsdown themselves had a similar number of changes to their side that had played in an FA Vase 4th Round tie just forty eight hours previously.

It was plain from the kick off on a very cold night, that Brimsdown seemed to be much more up for the contest than we were and we were forced back onto the defensive almost from the outset and Keiran Jimmy was in early action, saving a snap shot from Jermain Hughes. Minutes later, Brimsdown's Fabian Brown raced onto a through ball with only Keiran to beat but a last ditch tackle by Jonathan Mengeli making his debut at the heart of our defence saved the day. Brimsdown continued to press and our goal somehow survived a hectic goalmouth scramble before we got the ball away. However, our relief was short lived as minutes later a shot on the turn by Hughes from just outside the penalty area saw the ball hit the far corner of our net with Keiran helpless.

The game continued in a similar vein in the opening stages of the second half with us unable to mount a meaningful attack. Matt Kidson who had failed to make the kick off due to an incident on London Transport came on five minutes after the interval but two minutes later we were two behind, as Jack Abelson failed to cut off a cross from the left by Jack Archer and Hughes coming in behind him easily beat Keiran from close range. On the hour mark we were three behind as as from a corner by Archer, the ball was flicked on at the near post for Ryan Dear to turn the ball home at the far post. We made two further substitutions, youth team players Rory Jennings and Connor Patterson coming on to make their debuts and we pulled a goal back when Charley Baverstock ran onto a through ball from Yassine Fehmi-Gil to round Brimsdown's advancing keeper Jason Holmes before sliding the ball into the empty net. Any hopes that we might be able to get back into the game were immediately dashed when Eliot Crosbie scored Brimsdown's fourth. In the closing minutes, Blaise O'Brien shot across the face of the goal with only Holmes to beat, Jennings had a goal bound shot blocked on the line and Holmes made a fine double save to thwart both O'Brien and Jennings but it was all too little too late!!

Side: K Jimmy, C Duffy, J Abelson, J Mengeli, I Jimmy, A Wise, Y Fehmi-Gil, M Buckley, C Baverstock, B O'Brien and T Bradshaw.
Substitutes M Kidson for I Jimmy (50), R Jennings for Wise (65) and C Patterson for Duffy (70)