

HANWELL TOWN (4) v HAREFIELD UNITED (1)
TUESDAY 23RD MARCH 2010

SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

Meeting our close rivals Harefield United, we recorded an excellent 4-1 win to maintain our unbeaten run against Harefield which now dates back to the 2005-06 season.

The game had a bright beginning with us almost taking the lead in just the third minute when Blaise O'Brien racing on to a poor back pass chipped the ball over the advancing Charlie Miller in the Harefield goal, only to see the ball drift just wide of the far post. At the other end, Murray Williamson's shot hit the top of our crossbar with Keiran Jimmy beaten. We took the lead in the twenty second minute when a long ball forward by Jason Tucker was flicked on into the path of Charlie Baverstock by Chris Mills and Charley having rounded a defender, shot past the advancing Miller. Two minutes later, Charlie was instrumental in our second goal as his cross was only partially cleared and Keith Rowlands, expertly controlled the ball with his chest before firing it home from close range. On the half hour mark we were three ahead with the best goal of the game. Chris played the ball out wide to Yassine Fehmi-Gil and then raced into the gap that had opened up beyond Yassine and when Yassine played the ball into his path, Chris rifled it home into the roof of the Harefield net. Not to be outdone, Harefield's Adam Willis then scored an excellent goal, cutting in from the left before curling the ball beyond Keiran into the far corner of our net from fully thirty yards. We suffered a blow five minutes before the interval when Chris limped out of the game with a back problem.

As was to be expected, Harefield started the second half in very determined fashion and we came under immediate pressure at the back. There were two goalmouth scrambles in quick succession in front of Keiran's goal and there was considerable relief on both occasions when we managed to scramble the ball to safety. During this period, Keiran suffered an injury and there was a long delay before he was able to continue, much to our relief as we were without a replacement keeper on the bench. Both sides used all three of their substitutes, with Harefield going for attacking options and as a result, gaps began to appear in their defence and it always looked likely that we would add to our scoreline and so it proved but it was not without its drama as Blaise could well have notched a hat trick in the final minutes. Firstly, only a tremendous last ditch tackle by Jack Reader blocked his close range effort and then twice in the space of seconds, he had efforts blocked on the goal line. When at last he did beat Miller, the ball came back off the post before eventually deep into injury time, he at last found the Harefield net for our fourth of the night and his thirtieth of the season.

Side: K Jimmy, I Jimmy, J Abelson, M O'Brien, J Tucker, M Buckley, Y Fehmi-Gil, K Rowlands, C Baverstock, B O'Brien and C Mills. Subs: A Wise for Mills (40), W Jackson for Fehmi-Gil (72) and A Martin for I

Jimmy (81),