

## HANWELL TOWN (1) v LEVERSTOCK GREEN (1)

THURSDAY 8TH APRIL 2010

### MOLTEN SPARTAN SOUTH IDLANDS LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

Meeting Leverstock Green in a hastily re-arranged fixture after the postponement of the scheduled game the previous Saturday, we earned a point in a hard fought contest.

With neither Blaise O'Brien or Charlie Baverstock available, Chris Mills was required to play up front alongside Tashan Bradshaw who was returning to the side after injury whilst there was a welcome return to the side by Antony Rowlands after his recent stomach operation.

After a very even fifteen minutes during which neither keeper was called into serious action, Leverstock Green took the lead through a towering header on the far post by centre back Bill Morgan from Lee Bircham's corner kick. Town fought back strongly but it was the visitors who looked by far the more dangerous side going forward and once again we were indebted for the excellent defensive work of our back four. As the interval approached we won a series of corner kicks and from one of these, Chris saw his cross drift just wide of the far post having played a short corner with Yassine Fehmi-Gil. Five minutes before the interval we had a golden chance to draw level when Chris was tripped in the penalty area by Morgan and referee Grant Gray had no hesitation in pointing to the spot. With regular penalty taker Blaise O'Brien not in the side, the responsibility fell to Mills himself but he drilled the ball wide of the post with keeper Carl Tasker stranded going the other way.

Seven minutes into the second half, Mills in part redeemed himself by being heavily involved in the build up along with Aonghus Martin that resulted in Antony Rowlands scoring our equaliser, a rare occurrence given that this was just Antony's 5th goal in almost 250 appearances for the club. Unfortunately, Antony suffered an injury as he slid in to poke the ball past the advancing Tasker and had to be replaced by Matt O'Brien. Five minutes after our equaliser Keiran Jimmy who has been in great form in our goal in recent weeks made a tremendous save at the feet of Matt Wardle to prevent the visitors from regaining the lead. The remaining thirty minutes was spent mainly in our half as we defended resolutely, Keiran making another great save to turn Daniel Grigg's shot over the bar whilst both Matt Wardle and Bekim Culaj both missed good chances for the visitors. In a rare attack at the other end, Chris held off Dale Sears as he chased a long ball forward but was unable to get his shot on target. In the final minutes, Youth team players Scott Ebsom and Connor Patterson both entered the fray, Ebsom being the sixth of our Allied Counties Under 18 squad to appear in the First Team this season. **Side: K Jimmy, I Jimmy, A Rowlands, G Adan, J Tucker, M Buckley, Y Fehmi-Gil, A Wise, C Mills, T Bradshaw and A Martin Subs: M O'Brien for Rowlands (57), S Ebsom for I Jimmy (83) and C Patterson for Adan (85).**