



Forty Years of Lea Sports

Welcome to our New Teams

Vol. 7. No. 1, July 2012

A warm welcome to the new football season with Lea Sports PSG FC and to our seventh season of Newsletters.

A special welcome to the teams who are with us for the first time this year: our new Under Eighteen Firesharks from Wymondley and our new Under Sevens who make their debut in the Beds Mini Soccer League. Unfortunately we have lost the Under Elevens, but we still face the season with eleven teams, plus the Veterans who will play in the Hertfordshire Veterans Cup.

Thanks to all our sponsors this year: Form IT will sponsor the Reserves and we hope to announce further deals as the season progresses.

Any other companies who would like to sponsor one of our teams should contact me at secretary@leasports.com.

Let me also remind you (or tell new readers) that there is a wealth of information about the Club on our website at www.leasports.com.



Not only fixtures for each team and month-by-month, but league tables and historical information tracing the Club's history back to its roots in Luton forty years ago.

Saturdays Get Us Under Way

The Saturday kicked off the new season with a friendly match vs. FC Wisla on July 21st at Wigmore Park. Despite goals from Alex Awofisan, Danny Hardacre and Ian Hyde the lads fell to a 3-4 defeat in very warm conditions.

Committee Details

The new season brings a new set of Managers and committee contacts. If you need to find any details for any individual on the committee, go to the website at www.leasports.com and click on 'Contacts' on the right-hand side of the home page.

Any suggestions for articles for the newsletter, including photographs, are always welcome. Send them to secretary@leasports.com.



Let There Be Light!

Lighting for the training area for our younger teams is nearly in place as the month comes to an end. The pole made an appearance on July 19th and our electrical contractors Current Solutions, sponsors of the First XI, hope to have the work completed in time for the Candlelight Picnic (see below).

Get Your Picnics Ready...

A reminder that next Saturday (August 4th) there is a 'Candlelight Picnic' at the Recreation Ground. This is FREE to allcomers and starts at 8 pm: there is music from local band The Scallywags, with support. Bring candles and a picnic and enjoy some outdoor music into the night now that Summer's here at last...

Our Spare Kit Finds a Good Home

In April we hosted a training session for our Under Fourteens taken by Paul Fairclough from Stevenage, in conjunction with the Sodje Foundation. In return we donated many items of old kit for use by youngsters in Nigeria.

We now have photos to prove that the kit has reached its intended destination.

The name of Lea Sports travels far and wide...





First XI Retain Premier Cup

But lose the 'local derby'...

Vol. 7. No. 2, August 2012

The traditional pre-season tournament—the Premier Cup—which takes its name from the former title of Club Sponsors Form I.T. took place again this August.

The competition not only provides three pre-season friendly matches for our adult side but brings in some revenue from the three4 invited teams. This year the competition entrants (in addition to our Sunday First XI) were Peguform Icknield, Celtic SC Reserves and our own Saturday XI.

The Sunday firsts kicked off against Peguform and soon found themselves in trouble, going behind to early goals from Noel Lewis's team. Although they fought back, they still found themselves 4-2 down midway through the second half.



Substitutions, including the welcome return of striker Chris Littlejohn after 18 months of injuries, changed the game around and in the end we ran out winners by a 7-4 scoreline, with the Brown brothers grabbing a goal apiece, Richard Knock and Ben Morris also scoring, Gary Raymond scoring a brace and Chris Littlejohn celebrating his return with a goal.

On the other pitch a goal from McIlroy secured a point for the Saturday XI as they drew 1-1 with Celtic Reserves.

The second round of matches took place on August 12th. For the Saturday side Danny Hardacre had hit a hat-trick on the previous day as the team recorded an impressive 3-0 win against Premier division opponents Flitwick Town. He scored again twice on the Sunday morning, but this time it was only enough for a draw as the Saturday lads shared four goals with Peguform Icknield.

Meanwhile the Sunday team recorded their second victory to make sure of retaining the trophy. Ben Morris and Gary Raymond were both on target again and a Celtic own goal ensured a 3-1 win.

The final round of games on August 19th saw the two Lea Sports teams pitched against one another and it was the Saturday side who grabbed the early advantage with two goals from the returning former Golden Boot winner James Awofisan and a third from Liam Devane. The Sundays fought back in the searing heat but goals from Titch Bevan and Gary Raymond were not enough to prevent a 2-3 defeat for the Sunday side. Celtic and Peguform shared 4 goals in another draw to leave the table looking as follows:



Premier Cup 2012 Final Table

| | P. | W. | D. | L. | F. | A. | Pts. |
|---------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|------|
| Lea Sports PSG (Sunday) | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 12 | 8 | 6 |
| Lea Sports PSG (Saturday) | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 5 | 5 |
| Celtic SC Reserves | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 2 |
| Peguform Icknield | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 11 | 2 |

Final Friendlies in August

The Saturday and Sunday adult sides were all in action on the Bank Holiday weekend of August 25th and 26th. On the 25th the Saturday side travelled to Cranfield United, but returned empty-handed after a 2-0 defeat.

On the Sunday morning it looked as though the same fate would befall the Sunday First XI as they took on Premier Division opposition in Offley Moat in Pirton. The visitors took charge in the first 20 minutes and scored two well-worked goals to take a 2-0 lead. From then on, however, it was the home side who bossed proceedings. Two goals each for Mark Brown and Ritchie Bevan, plus one each for Jamie Richards and Chris Littlejohn saw the home side emerge as 6-2 victors.

The Sunday Reserves had been disappointed when their first planned friendly against Lilley Rangers in Pirton on August 23rd had to be cancelled as the visitors were unable to field a team. This meant that their first outing was a home friendly with St. Josephs Reserves, who are also sponsored by Form IT Solutions. A Jonny Gray goal late in the game was enough to decide the encounter as the home side recorded an impressive 1-0 win.

The August friendlies finished with the Saturday team posting another impressive victory—this time at home to Baldock Town. Goals from Dion Brown and another Danny Hardacre strike ensured a 2-1 win.

The pre-season record in friendlies reads:

| | P. | W. | D. | L. | F. | A. | % |
|------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Saturday XI | 7 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 14 | 12 | 57 |
| Sunday First XI | 4 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 18 | 10 | 75 |
| Sunday Second XI | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 100 |
| | 12 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 33 | 22 | 66.7 |

League Fixtures Beginning to Appear

The league fixtures for the Under 15 Chiltern Youth side for September are now on the website; plus the full league program for our Under Nines in the Royston Crow League. The Under Nines have a run of five away fixtures after November 24th, not returning to Pirton until February 9th. They end their program with four home games, with Stevenage Harriers the final visitors on May 4th 2013. Fixtures for our Sunday mini-soccer sides in the Beds Mini-Soccer league are now also published on the website at www.leasports.com. The Under Sevens—whose fixtures area available up to October 21st—will play a new 5 vs. 5 format this year.



New Sponsors for Under Tens

Cantina Carnitas - Mexican Street Food Hits Hitchin

Published: 25th August 2011 22:44



Cantina Carnitas translates to the 'canteen of little meats' and that's just what it is; a mini canteen selling slow cooked Mexican tacos with fresh salsas, guacamoles and hot sauces in fresh cooked tortillas, all prepared in front of your eyes to tantalise your tummy and stimulate your senses!

Inspired by the London street food movement, Matthew Bean and Jeff Pridmore had the idea of bringing the deep smoky Mexican flavours and fresh spices to the Home Counties and have their first day of trading on Saturday August 27th on Hitchin farmers Market down by the river opposite St Marys Church (follow your noses!!!) - they regally invite you to pop down for a free taste and say hello to Cantina Carnitas!

i You can follow Cantina Carnitas on Facebook
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Cantina-Carnitas/142587315821177> or
Twitter <http://twitter.com/cantinacarnitas>.

Don't forget to mention Lea Sports when you order.....



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A Busy September for our Teams.....

SUNDAY ADULTS

Vol. 7. No. 3, September 2012

The Sunday First team got off to a flying start in the North Home Counties Division One with three straight wins in the league. The Reserves too showed that Division Two holds no fears for them as they recorded victory in their first two league games.

September 2nd

The Firsts made an early start in the league, with a home fixture against St.Johns on September 2nd. St.Johns are a new force in the North Home Counties, having defeated our Reserves in the Challenge Cup Final in May 2011 and then achieved promotion from Division 2 last season, so it promised to be a stern test for the team. So it proved to be as St.Johns made their presence felt with a physical approach to the game. This was to work against them, however, as they had a man sent off in the second half and were beaten by goals from Mark Brown and Chris Littlejohn.

September 9th

The following weekend saw a full program of league action, with the Reserves starting life in Division 2 with a home game against fellow promoted side Barnfield. The visitors turned up with a squad of just ten men, but started the brighter in the warm sunshine in Pirton. Sure enough, it was Barnfield who took the lead after 25 minutes when a cross from the left was sharply turned in by the lively visiting attack. As the game wore on, the home side began to find their feet and it was no surprise when Tyron Clarke headed home a corner after 40 minutes to level the match. In the second half, the hot conditions and a bone hard pitch made life difficult for both teams, but despite taking the lead again shortly after the restart it was Barnfield who faded more, especially after losing another player to injury. Lea Sports made use of their substitutes and the fresh legs of striker Tom Newland were to be the deciding factor as he cut through the visitors' tired defence twice late in the game to give the home side a winning 3-2 scoreline.

Meanwhile the Firsts made the trip to Kingsway in Luton to face 61 FC and despite not playing at their best they returned with all 3 points after goals from Mark Brown and Gary Raymond gave them a 2-1 win.

September 16th

On September 16th it was the Reserves' turn to make the trip to Kingsway as they took on 61 FC Reserves and again Lea Sports returned with all three points as Simon Mayes' strike proved decisive. The Firsts were at home to CSFC and made a slow start in the autumn sunshine as the visitors scored a dubious opener, with the referee over-ruling the linesman's raised flag and allowing the goal. Despite creating few clear chances, the home side drew level when a left wing cross from Michael McMaugh found Mark Brown in the box and he made no mistake with his header. The CSFC linesman came to their rescue on a number of occasions as Lea Sports got the measure of the CSFC defence in the second half, but he couldn't prevent Ritchie Bevan scoring from close in and Jamie Richards curling a superb shot into the top corner from the edge of the box to give the home side a 3-1 advantage. A poorly-built wall allowed CSFC to pull a second goal back from a direct free kick with 20 minutes to go but the game was sewn up when a Corals defender headed into his own net with 10 minutes remaining. The 4-2 win gave Lea Sports nine points from nine at the start of their campaign for Division One honours.

September 23rd

Harsh reality returned for both Sunday adult sides on September 23rd, as both teams lost. The Firsts were in Pirton again; this time up against FC Houghton who have also made a good start to the season. The game was close for half an hour but the deadlock was broken when Scott Morgan in the home goal tried to let the ball roll out for a goal-kick. The Houghton forward managed to get his foot to the ball and knock it across the box. Richard Randall made a fantastic save to block the first goal-bound shot, but the ball ricocheted kindly to ex-Lea Sports forward Graham Clark who scored for the visitors. Worse was to follow early in the second half when the visitors increased their lead and although Mark Brown pulled a goal back the game finished 2-1.

The Reserves made the long trek to Barnet to play the unlikely-named Zenit St. Whetstone in the Herts.Intermediate Cup. With just ten men the Reserves were up against it from the start and a goal from Tom Newland was not enough to prevent a 5-1 defeat.



SATURDAY XI

After a good run of pre-season performances—including wins over Premier Division sides Flitwick Town and Baldock Town—hopes were high as the team began their campaign in the Bedfordshire County League Division 1 with a home game vs. Sandy. Things were not to go to plan, however, as Sandy spoiled the party with a goal in each half to take all three points in a 2-0 win.

The following week brought a trip to Leighton United, who had started their campaign with a 7-2 home win over Kings AFC, followed by a 5-0 win in Shillington the following week. Rondell Belfon was on target for Lea Sports, but Leighton proved too strong and ran out 3-1 winners to head the table.

September concluded with two further away matches: vs. Luton Boys in the league and then a tough tie in the Bedfordshire Intermediate Cup away to AFC Dunstable Reserves on September 29th. The first of these two games got the season going with a fine 5-0 away win. Ian Hyde led the way with 2 goals, but also on target were Danny Hardacre, Haydn Fletcher and Dean Barnes. For the second season running the Saturday team faced a really tough first round draw in the Beds. Intermediate Cup. Last year they lost on penalties to the eventual finalists St. Josephs and this year they were drawn away to the 2010-11 Winners AFC Dunstable Reserves. Playing on the 3G pitch at Creasey Park Dean Barnes scored for the visitors, but it was the home side who progressed to Round 2 after a 3-1 scoreline.

UNDER SEVENS JAGUARS

F.A. Regulations do not allow us to report the scores in Under Sevens matches, but the team are enjoying their first season playing a 5 vs. 5 format in the Bedfordshire Mini-Soccer league. The first game was a difficult trip to a disorganised AFC Kempston but the team tried hard and showed promise for the games to come.

Another potentially difficult trip followed on September 16th with an away game at Dunstable Town, but this time the team hammered in ten goals with both Sams on target: Sam B. scoring six and Sam C. a hat-trick. Rebecca S. also got on the scoresheet to make it a double figures tally.

All of the excitement at the Rec on September 23rd centred on the Jaguars' game. Sam B. scored five times, there were two penalties and some great saves, none better than Oscar Easterbrook's last-minute penalty save, which sparked wild celebrations among the home players. Ollie R-T was also on target for the Jaguars.

The lads couldn't keep the goals coming, however, as their month ended goal-less on their trip to Luton Boys on September 30th.



UNDER EIGHTEENS FIRESHARKS

After good pre-season preparation the Firesharks made their Lea Sports league debut with a tough away fixture to Bishops Stortford Swifts in the Royston Crow Division One. The game was a cracking one, but eventually the home side ran out 3-1 winners, with Liam Brooks grabbing our consolation goal.

It was frustration for the lads on September 16th as their opponents, Spartak YSC 78 United, failed to field a team and had to concede the fixture. So the home league debut had to wait until September 23rd and a visit from Baldock Town Crusaders. Liam Brooks emulated his namesake in the Under 9s by getting on the scoresheet, as did Dominic Edwards in a 2-1 win in the Pirton rain.

UNDER FIFTEENS

Tough start in the Crow

Manager Jez Webb was unimpressed by the fixtures in the Royston Crow Division One as he found his team pitted against three of last season's top four teams in the September program. The first outing, against Welwyn Pegasus in Pirton on September 9th, proved his fears right as the visitors ran out 6-0 winners. The following fixture, away to Letchworth GCE Blues, also looked a tough ask (we lost this fixture 7-0 last year), but the match was much closer this time around. Indeed, only 3 great saves from the home keeper prevented us from taking a first-half lead, but in the end two second-half Letchworth goals decided the match. Things got no easier as Royston Town were the visitors to the Rec on September 30th. As expected, the visitors were the stronger team and ran out 6-0 winners.

Points for the Chiltern Youth side

Having lost players from his squad—and lost the pre-season friendly—hopes were not high for the visit to Oakley Rangers in the first league game in the Chiltern Youth Division 3 on September 9th. A good battling performance, and a goal from Jake Rolt, saw the lads take a point in a 1-1 draw. Another 1-1 draw resulted from the home fixture against Sundon Athletic a week later; Thowhid Sobhani scored a very late equaliser after the team went 1-0 down with just 2 minutes to play and Josh Dell in goal put in a star performance to secure the point. Jesse Bharwaney missed his first game as the lads took on Leighton United in pouring rain in Pirton on September 23rd. One Leighton striker was the difference between the teams: he scored twice to give the visitors a 2-0 advantage and then, after we had fought back to 2-2 with 5 minutes to go, lashed in a winning third goal from 30 yards.

Ollie Pitts was only available in the afternoon on September 30th, so Manager Mahesh Bharwaney was glad to welcome him back into the side which travelled to high-flying Ampthill Town. Ollie replied with a goal and further struck from Somin Gaitan and Joe Abbott secured a good point in a 3-3 draw.



MINI-SOCCER

Under Tens start with a goal feast!

The Under Tens started life in Division 3 of the Bedfordshire Mini-Soccer league with a fantastic 7-6 win away to Watling Youth. Tom Scott was the star man as he scored four times for the visitors, with other goals coming from Henry Brown, Alex Funnell and George Simmons. The following week, September 23rd, saw the lads make their home debut and they did not disappoint the watching mums and dads as they overpowered Westoning by 4 goals to 1. Henry Brown was on the scoresheet again, this time with two goals, and other strikes came from Barney Condon and Samuel Dermont. The perfect start to the season continued on September 30th when the lads returned from their trip to Barton Rovers with all three points. Henry Brown scored for the third match in a row, while Tyger Cox bagged two goals and Samuel Dermont also scored in a 4-1 win.

UNDER NINES

Panthers Carry on the Good Work

F.A. Regulations mean that we are not allowed to report the results from matches in the Under Nines Age Group, but we can report that the Panthers have started this season where they left off last year with some excellent performances on Saturday mornings in the Royston Crow league.

Sam G. got the season off to a good start on September 9th in Pirton against Stevenage Borough Harriers for the Panthers and the Harriers scored an own goal to add to their woes. On the same day the Pumas tried hard in their fixture against the Stevenage side, but failed to find the net. The following week saw another brace for the Panthers, as Thomas B. and Sam T. were on target, but this time the Pumas went goal crazy in their tie with strikes from Ben B.(2), Liam B. and a wonder goal from Frank H.. September 22nd brought the tough trip to Bishops Stortford and although the teams scored five times between them, we failed to return home with a win. Ben B. was on the scoresheet again, as was Thomas B. and there were also strikes from Sam G., Edward L. and Oliver S..

Meanwhile, on Sundays the Cougars have had mixed fortunes, failing to score on September 9th in a tight game against Wootton, but then rattling in five against Luton Boys Redsox, with Bradley C. and Alex M. both scoring twice and Luke W. rounding off a fine performance against a team who beat us twice last year. September 23rd brought another tight match—against Meltis Corinthians—and although we had a good deal of the play we failed to breach the visitors' defences. The final weekend of September brought a visit to Mid Beds Tigers Orange. Theo J. scored his first goal for the Club but Mid Beds had the best of a tight encounter.

PREMIER LEAGUE COMPETITION

Despite a disappointing response from some of our teams to this year's Competition, a late flurry of entries, including a number of forms from Archie Conway and Gary Hyde and even e-mails from former player Andy Shiers in New Zealand, brought the total number of entries to 106. This means a first prize this year of £60, with £30 second prize, £10 third prize and £6 fourth prize.

You can view everyone's entry at www.leasports.com—just follow the link on the left-hand side of the home page. There is also a copy of the latest standings at this early stage of the season.



Tough Start to October.....

North Home Counties Cup Defeats

Vol. 7. No. 4, October 2012

The first weekend of October brought some foggy weather and a tough set of fixtures. There were no wins on Saturday **October 6th** as the adults made the trip to the team with the longest name: AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College Reserves and returned with a point after an Ian Hyde goal earned them a 1-1 draw. Meanwhile, the Under Nines faced a tough challenge from Biggleswade Town, who were unbeaten all last season. There were goals from Max C. and Henry H. for the Pumas, but the Panthers couldn't break through the Biggleswade defence.

Sunday **October 7th** dawned in a misty light as both our adult sides faced Senior Trophy matches against teams from a Division higher. The First team faced Four Horse-shoes who are flying high in the Premier Division. In the end the quality of the home strikeforce was the difference and we were beaten 3-0. For the Reserves the opponents were Co-Op Sports, one of the better sides in Division One. For an hour there was little to choose between the teams and in fact the Reserves went ahead when a cross to the far post was bundled in by Simon Mayes, but in the last 20 minutes the visitors' superior fitness proved the difference between the teams and the visitors scored four late goals to take the tie 4-1.



A murky day at the Rec

The Under Fifteens broke their duck in the Royston Crow Division One; Ollie Pitts scoring in a 1-1 draw away to Sawbridgeworth Town. Meanwhile, in the Under 18 Division 1 the Firesharks enjoyed their visit to Roebuck Wanderers, winning 7-3 with goals from Liam Brooks, Steve Bryan (2), Remy Campbell (2), Joe Miley and an own goal.

Meanwhile, Lea Sports Veterans made their debut in the Hertfordshire Vets Cup away to Hadley. Short of players, Manager Steve Baggett was forced to pick several players who had already played in the morning for the Reserves. Phil Thompson, making a welcome return to action, found the net, but the game finished 1-1 after 90 minutes and went to extra time. Thompson scored again but the game ended at 2-2 and went to a penalty shoot-out—and we know what sort of record Lea Sports has in penalty shoot-outs!! Penalties were scored by Thompson, Ed Thomson, Paul Maclennan and Simon Jackson (the latter three all playing their second game of the day), but Phil Turner's kick was saved and we lost 5-4. Still, a good experience and we'll be back next year...



Saturday October 13th brought mixed fortunes for the Lea Sports teams in action. The Saturday adults moved into the top half of the table with a 4-2 win in Pirton vs. Caldecote Reserves. The goals came from Haydn Fletcher (2), Adam Lake and Jake Kean.

There were plenty of goals too in the matches between the Under Nines Panthers and Pumas and their hosts Hormead Hares—unfortunately, most of them in the Lea Sports net! For the Panthers Ben B. was on target again, as was Tom B. and Hormead managed to score one in our favour



First Team Impress

The Sunday First Team feared the worst on October 14th. Away to league leaders Caddington Reserves, they found themselves with only ten players available, so coach Richard Masters had to put his boots on for the game. However, two goals from Gary Raymond put the team in control and despite a late rally from Caddington, the lads returned with a valuable three points.

The Reserves weren't so lucky. Also missing players they faced high-riding Luton Old Boys in Pirton and were never at the races as they went down 6-0.

The Under 18 Firesharks played hosts to Arlesey Town Under 18s and Remy Campbell was on target again in a 1-1 draw.

Meanwhile the Under 15 Crow side made the trip to Watford to face Gadeside Rangers Reds in the second round of the County Cup. Despite a goal from Mehdi Paul, the game finished 1-1 after extra time. The team then followed the Lea Sports' tradition of being rubbish in penalty shoot-outs, with only Jack Lam-miman on target. Misses from Taylor Forde, Ollie Pitts and Joe Archer saw the lads bow out of the competition 3-1.

The Under Tens faced Dunstable Town Whites, both sides having a 100% record before the game. Tom Brown scored twice and Tyger Cox once as the team led 3-1 late in the game, but a speculative strike from a Dunstable forward flew over the head of John East Newbury in the home goal to give the visitors hope and a late scrambled effort gave them a share of the points to leave the teams in joint second place in the table behind Maulden Magpies.

Top Strikers on Target for the Mini-Soccer sides

Top scorer Alex M. was on target twice for the Under Nines Cougars as they fought out a hard encounter with Brickhill Wanderers in Pirton on October 14th. Meanwhile the Under Sevens Jaguars lost some of their bite as they only had a Sam B. effort to show for their trip to Leighton United.

The Goals Rain In on October 20th

Three Lea Sports sides were in action on Saturday October 20th and between them they managed to score a total of 14 goals.

The Saturday XI made the most of their trip to Kings AFC in the Beds. County Division 1. Two goals each from Danny Hardacre and Mark Skidmore, plus further strikes from Haydn Fletcher and Martin Collins saw the lads take all three points with an impressive 6-2 scoreline.

The Under Nines Panthers and Pumas both enjoyed their outings too, with both teams scoring four goals apiece. For the Panthers the goals came from Edward L, Teddy R-T. and two from Matthew M., while for the Pumas Ben B. was on target again, with further strikes from Max C., Sam G. and James H..



The Weekend Slowly Gets Worse...

Following wins for our three sides on Saturday October 20th, hopes were high that the sides in action on Sunday could emulate their colleagues. Things started well enough as the First XI cruised through to the third round of the Herts. Intermediate Cup with a comfortable enough away win at Beaver Travel. Paul Brown and Gary Raymond gave us a 2-0 win.

The Reserves were looking good for 3 points at home to Crawley Green Reserves after Jack Baggett gave them the lead, but a late equaliser left the team feeling that it was two points lost, rather than a point gained.

Both youth teams in action at Pirton in the morning rattled in six goals: for the Under 9 Cougars Alex M. scored 4 times (Theo J. and Bradley C. getting the other goals). Alex's feat was matched for the Under 7 Jaguars by Sam B., with Sam C. and Ollie H. getting the other goals. Meanwhile, at Eastcotts, the Under 10s won 5-2 with two goals each from Barney Condon and Tyger Cox and one from Samuel Dermont.

In the Royston Crow Division 1, the Under 15s were aggrieved not to have come away from Baldock with a point. Leading 2-1 with a great goal from Mehdi Paul after a cross from Ollie Pitts, and an own goal, they were upset by the referee's decision to give a free kick against them, from which Baldock equalised before going on to score a third. The Under 18 Firesharks and the Under 15 Chiltern side both drew: Dominic Edwards scored twice as the Firesharks shared four goals with Bedwell Rangers in Pirton, while Simon Gaitan was on target as the Under 15s drew for the fourth time in five games, having the better of their match away at Langford.

The Veterans took on a strong Crawley Green Vets team which featured ex-Norwich and Manchester United players. The scoreline was 0-0 at half-time and we took the lead early in the second half through an excellent Jason Winfield goal. In the end, however, Crawley were too strong and ran out 4-1 winners.

The Month Ends in Success

On the final weekend of October we had just 4 teams in action and on paper they all faced tough opposition.

The **Reserves** were at home to third-placed Markyate who had been beaten just once this season. The lads raced into an early 3-0 lead and were denied two very good penalty shouts, before Markyate came more into the game late on. In the end a hat-trick from Jamie Richards, two goals from Tom Newland and a goal from Jack Baggett sealed a 6-3 win.

The **Under 18 Firesharks** had a County Cup second round tie against a Potters Bar Under 17 team who had recorded an impressive victory in Round 1. This time, however, it was Liam Brooks who recorded a hat-trick and with 2 goals from Dominic Edwards it was Lea Sports who progressed to Round 3 after a 5-1 win. Alex Funnell scored for the second time this season as the **Under Tens** won a tight encounter with Mid Beds Tigers 2-1 at the top of Division 3. Henry Brown scored the all-important second goal. Meanwhile in the Crow League the **Under Fifteens'** game was abandoned after a Buntingford player injured an arm badly.



GOLDEN BOOT

Scorers to the End of October

The Saturday team played a total of seven pre-season friendlies (including the Premier Cup) and as a result the leading scorer to the end of October is Danny Hardacre with 13 goals.

Scorers by team for our 11-a-side teams to the end of October are:

Sunday 1st XI: Gary Raymond 8, Mark Brown 7

Sunday 2nd XI: Tom Newland 5, Jack Baggett/Jamie Richards 3

Saturday XI: Danny Hardacre 13, Ian Hyde/Haydn Fletcher 4

Under Eighteen Firesharks: Liam Brooks 8, Dominic Edwards 6

Under 15 (Crow): Mehdi Paul 2 (Chiltern): Simon Gaitan 2

Mini Golden Boot

For our seven-a-side teams to the end of October, the scorers are:

Under Tens: Henry Brown 7, Tyger Cox 5

Under Nines (Saturdays): Ben Bayley 5, Thomas Brown/Sam Germann 3

Under Nines (Sundays): Alex Matsukatov 7, Bradley Cole 5

And finally, for our 5-a-side Under Sevens Jaguars, the top scorers are:

Samuel Bayley 10, Ollie Humphryes 2

The Nights are Drawing In

The days are getting colder— why not invest in a Lea Sports bobble hat? — available from the Club Shop on the website at www.leasports.com




Firework Display
Saturday, November 3rd
 at Pirton Recreation Ground, Walnut Tree Road

Gates Open 6:30 pm
 Display Starts 7:30 pm
 Live Music 8:00 pm

Entry: Family £12; Adults £5; Under 16s £2

Hot Dogs – Mulled Wine – Licensed Bar

Note: Parking for Disabled Drivers ONLY
 No personal fireworks allowed
 Do not bring items for the bonfire

See you all next Saturday.....



November Starts With a Bang.....then a Damp Squib

Panthers Hit Another Six

Vol. 7. No. 5, November 2012

The Under Nines Panthers and Pumas got November off to a cracking start as they took on Letchworth Garden City Eagles on November 3rd. With a bonfire the size of Iceland looming over the far end of the pitch, the lads set to their task and hat-tricks from Tom B. and Matthew M. brought a 6-2 win. The Pumas also performed well in a 2-2 draw with their counterparts,; goals coming from Sam G. and a further strike from Tom B..



The Saturday adults were away to local rivals Shillington FC in a 3 o'clock kick-off under floodlights. They couldn't produce any sparkle, however, as they went down 4-0 in their worst defeat of the season.

Sunday November 4th brought heavy rain across the region and the only fixture to survive the downpour was the Under 15s visit to Houghton Athletic. Despite a goal from Max Burrows, the lads were on the wrong end of a 1-2 scoreline to complete a miserable day.

Veterans' Mystery Solved !

There was some confusion over the result of the Veterans' game against Crawley Green Veterans on October 21st. Manager Steve Baggett had reported it as a 4-1 defeat, but several of the players insisted the result had been 4-2. We all thought that Baggie had dozed off for an afternoon nap and missed one of the goals, but in fact Geoff Knox had scored an early header while the Manager had been searching the changing rooms for a missing bag of balls.

This meant that when Jason Winfield scored in the second half, we were actually 2-0 in the lead and not 1-0 as everyone thought! Apparently, Gavin Campbell also had the ball in the net later, which would have made the score 3-3, but his effort was ruled out for offside and the final score was 4-2 to Crawley.

It's not surprising that they got the score wrong—most of the old codgers now have trouble remembering whether they've put their boots on or not. Never mind, they can now have a nice rest before the next Vets' fixture.





A Day to Remember

Lea Sports PSG were represented by players from the Under Nines Panthers & Pumas at the annual Remembrance Day wreath-laying service at the Memorial in Pirton.

The Recreation Ground was busy, with four teams at home in the morning and two in the afternoon. The **First Team** was also in action, away to lowly Silsoe Park Rangers, but for them this was a day to forget as chance after chance went begging. In the end the team were left to rue the misses as Silsoe scored in the last minute to take all three points.

Two minutes' silence was respectfully observed before all the matches in Pirton—the youth players all being a credit to the Club in the way they behaved. On the pitch, the **Reserves** took an early two-goal lead against AC Cadoza Reserves, with goals from Jack Baggett and an effort from Simon Mayes, which saw 4 players try to fall over the ball before it trickled over the line. A harsh penalty for handball, awarded to Cadoza midway through the second half, brought some anxious moments, but Jack Baggett made the game safe with his second goal with the last kick of the match.

The mini-soccer teams had mixed fortunes, with only the **Under Tens** recording a win. Houghton Athletic managed to score 2 own goals and Henry Brown scored twice in a 4-2 win. The **Under Nines Cougars** battled hard against Dunstable Town, and even took the lead with a deflected Alex M. shot, but Dunstable fought back and a long-range free-kick from their very tall forward levelled matters. The second half was an even affair, but a defensive lapse left the giant forward on his own in the box and he finished with a delightful chip over the keeper to give Dunstable a 2-1 win. The **Under Sevens Jaguars** fought hard against the now-familiar AFC Kempston but only had goals from xxx and xxx to show for their efforts.

In their afternoon kick-off against Baldock Town, the **Under Eighteen Firesharks** recorded another impressive win to move into 3rd place in Division 1: Liam Brooks and Matt Hill were on target in a 2-1 win. In Pirton the **Under 15 Royston Crow** found themselves 2-0 down to Fairlands, playing into a bright sun, but goals from Taylor Forde and Jack Lammiman earned them a point and a strike from Ollie Pitts could have won the game, but for the referee's final whistle. Meanwhile, also at home, the **Chiltern Youth** side hosted Oakley Rangers and took all three points, thanks to goals from Max Burrows and Kallel Patience.





Wild Cats on Safari

November 17th saw the **Under Nines Panthers and Pumas** make their furthest trip of the season, with away matches vs. Spartak YSC 78 in Saffron Walden in Essex. It was worth the effort, however, as two goals from Ben B. and one from Matthew M. gave the Panthers a 3-2 win; while the Pumas triumphed 3-1 thanks to two goals from Henry H. and a third from Lewis M..

In the afternoon the Saturday team struggled again. For the second week in a row they lost 4-0, this time away to Shefford & Campton Reserves.

Too Easy for Firsts in the County Cup

On Sunday November 18th, the **First Team** were drawn against Welwyn Rangers 2001 in the Third Round of the Hertfordshire Intermediate County Cup. The match proved to be no contest as the Firsts eased into a 5-0 half-time lead and a final score of 8-0. The scoreline would have been much higher but for some fine saves by the Welwyn keeper and some bizarre offside decisions from the Welwyn linesman, particularly in the second half when he was trying desperately to keep the score in single figures. The goals came from Gary Raymond (3), Ben Morris, Chris Littlejohn, Jamie Richards, man-of-the-match Mark Skidmore and a Ritchie Bevan penalty.

The **Reserves** had an off-day losing 4-0 at Crawley Green Reserves.

The **Under Nine Cougars** inflicted a first league defeat of the season on Dunsstable Town Reds, coming back from a goal down to win 4-2 with goals from Jon B. (2), Bradley C. and Alex M.. The Under Sevens Jaguars game brought goals galore, but unfortunately many of them were in the Leas Sports' net. Goals came from Sam B.(2), Sam C, Ollie R-T and Rebecca S..

In the Royston Crow League the **Under 15s** earned another point in a goalless draw on a heavy pitch at 'notoriously unwelcoming' Hatfield, while Mahesh's **Under 15s** crashed out of the Chiltern Youth Lower League Cup, losing 1-0 at home to Westoning Recreation Club.

Saturdays Lose their Way in the Rain

The final Saturday of November saw a band of rain sweep in from the South. The Saturday team braved the elements for their match in Pirton, but an Ian Hyde goal was not enough to prevent a third successive defeat as they lost 1-2 to Henlow. In the morning the Under 9 Panthers drew a friendly with Baldock Town 2-2 (Tom B. & Edward L.), while the Pumas lost their match 8-2 against a Baldock 'A' team; Sam B. with both goals.

Many games were off on Sunday 25th because of waterlogged pitches. Two matches survived in Pirton: the **First Team** losing a disappointing game 0-1 to Green Man, while the **Under 9s Cougars** put in a great performance to draw 1-1 with Langford. Joel T. scored the goal and Theo J. was unlucky with a tremendous shot which rattled the crossbar. Elsewhere the **Under 10s** did their title hopes no harm at all as they won their top of the table clash with Maulden Magpies 2-1 thanks to goals from Henry Brown and Alex Funnell. In the afternoon the **Under 15s** struggled away to Sundon Athletic in the Chiltern Youth league, losing 2-1; Ollie Pitts the scorer.



SPECIAL OFFER

One Week Only

For one week only we are able to offer Lea Sports bobble hats at just £3.50 each. Orders must be with me before Friday December 7th. This is £1 off the normal price and a great bargain. If you want to order a hat, e-mail me with your order before the 7th secretary@leasports.com



STOP PRESS

Saturday Manager resigns

After a difficult few weeks on and off the pitch, Saturday Manager Paul Collins has decided to resign with immediate effect. The Executive will make a decision regarding the future of the team imminently.



Frost the Only Winner as December Bites

County and League Cup Games Hit

Vol. 7. No. 6, December 2012

The **First Team** and **Under Eighteen Firesharks** were both left frustrated as freezing temperatures marked the start to December.



The First Team were forced to make the trip to Hemel Hempstead on December 2nd, even though their County Cup opponents Leather Bottle wanted the game called off the day before. The referee insisted on a pitch inspection on the Sunday morning and—guess what—the pitch was frozen. The Firesharks too were the subject of a late postponement as they tried for the second week running to play their County Cup match away to Abbots Youth in Watford. Both games were rescheduled, weather permitting, for Sunday 9th December.

Elsewhere, the frost hit other fixtures too. The **Reserves** were due to play a First Round Challenge Cup tie against AC Cadoza Reserves in Pirton, but an early inspection gave the game no chance of going ahead. The **Under Tens'** game at home to Athletico Europa in the first round of the Under 10s League Cup was also off, while the **Under Nines' Cougars** ploy of switching their league cup match against Flitwick to an away game also failed as the frost bit.

With the **Under Fifteens' Royston Crow** visit to Knebworth also called off, just two teams survived the chill to see their games go ahead—and both probably regretted the fact as they both lost. In the Chiltern Youth League Division 3, the **Under Fifteens** played host to Ampthill Town, but despite goals from Max Burrows and Kallel Patience the result was a 2-4 defeat.

The **Under Sevens Jaguars'** match was the only game to go ahead in the morning and although all of the other fixtures they have played against AFC Kempston teams this season have been close affairs, unfortunately that wasn't the case on this occasion. In the end the team had only a goal from Sam B. to show for their efforts and will welcome the return of warmer weather.

Saturday Adults Disbanded

Following three consecutive defeats in the Bedfordshire County League Division One and with problems off the pitch too, the Saturday team Manager Paul Collins resigned on Monday November 26th. After considering all aspects of the situation, the Committee took the decision to withdraw the team from the league. It is always a pity when teams have to be pulled out of a league mid-season and the decision was not one which was taken lightly by the Club, but the administration of a team has always been as important to Lea Sports as results on the pitch and the Club saw no alternative in this case. The team's record of a Championship and County Cup win in 2010-11 is an important part of the Club's history and it is a shame the team could not take that record forward.



A Tale of Two Six-Nils

With the **Under Nines Panthers' and Pumas'** games called off in Pirton on December 8th because of waterlogged pitches, the action fell on the **Under Tens** and **Reserves** who were both at home on the morning of Sunday December 9th.

The Under Tens were playing their rearranged cup game against Athletico Europa, who are vying with Kempston Colts for top spot in Division 2. The visitors' extra height and strength made all the difference and with one or two outstanding individual players they dominated the game. Nevertheless, our lads made them work hard for their victory and the final scoreline of 6-0 flattered Athletico somewhat, as at least 3 of their goals followed fine saves from John East-Newbury, only to see opposition forwards scramble the ball home from the rebound.

At the same time on the adult pitch, the Reserves put six past AC Sportsman Reserves without reply. An outstanding first half performance saw us go in at half time with a 4-0 lead, and although it was difficult to maintain the momentum in the second period, the lads did knock in two more goals to consolidate their position in the top three in Division 2. Simon Mayes and Tom Newland both scored twice, while Pat McAneney and Jon Whitehead bagged one each.

Away from Pirton, it was almost all about Cup action. The **First Team** travelled to Hemel Hempstead to take on Leather Bottle in a delayed Fourth Round tie in the Herts. Intermediate Cup. It took a goal from Manager Richard Randall to level things up after 90 minutes, but in extra time Lea Sports took control against a physical Hemel side and ran out 4-1 winners. Extra time goals came from Titch Bevan, Gary Raymond and Jamie Richards. Round Five brings another trip to Hemel Hempstead to take on Doves United, on January 13th.

The **Under Nines Cougars** had switched their League Cup tie to Flitwick, where they took on the Eagles in Round 1. The game finished goal-less, but the Cougars showed the adults how to take a penalty shoot-out, winning 5-2. (Yes, I know that 4-2 would have been enough, but they wanted to take all their penalties!)

The **Under Eighteen Firesharks** played their delayed County Cup fixture against Abbotts Youth Blacks in Watford. After 50 minutes things were indeed looking black when we found ourselves 4-1 down to a good Under 18 team. However, the boys rallied brilliantly to end up with an incredible 8-4 win to take them through to a Fourth Round tie at home to Wormley Rovers. Liam Brooks led the way with a hat-trick, while Courtney Cendrecourt and sub Steve Bryan scored two each. Matthew Hill scored the eighth goal in an amazing game.

Liam wasn't the day's highest scorer, however, as Sam B. banged in another four goals for the **Under 7 Jaguars** as they enjoyed their trip to AFC Kempston B. Sam C, also scored as the Jaguars made up for last week's disappointment.



Panthers Lose Out

The weather relented on December 15th to allow the **Under Nines Panthers and Pumas** to travel to Stevenage to take on Broadhall Youth. Despite a hat-trick from Edward L. the Panthers forgot how to defend from corners and conceded four goals in this way in a 3-5 defeat. The Pumas made up for the loss by winning their game 7-2: on target with 2 goals each were Ben B., Tom B. and Teddy R-T, while Matthew M. bagged the seventh to end the year on a high note.

Reserves Make the Most of Home Advantage—December 16th

Playing their seventh home league game of the season the **Reserves** made the most of home advantage by knocking in six goals for the second week running in a 6-1 win over 61FC Reserves. Despite a slow start which saw them go a goal down, the team soon got into their stride and were 3-1 up at half-time, thanks to goals from Simon Mayes, Tom Newland and Jack Baggett. After the break they dominated proceedings, with Simon Mayes completing his hat-trick and Tom Newland grabbing a second.

By contrast, the **Under 15s** failed to win in their fourth attempt at home as they lost a close **Royston Crow** Division One encounter with table-toppers Letchworth Garden City Eagles Blues 1-0 in Pirton. A second half strike gave the visitors all 3 points to maintain their 100% record in the league this season. The **Chiltern Youth** team fared no better in the afternoon, losing 3-1 at home to Langford, with only a Max Burrows strike to show for their efforts.

The **Under Tens** suffered a hangover from their Cup defeat last week and lost their first league game of the season. By half-time in their Division 3 match away at Mid Beds Tigers Orange they found themselves 2-0 down. Things got no better in the second half and in the end the home team ran out 4-0 winners.

The **Under Nines Cougars** travelled to Wootton, who had won a tight game in Pirton earlier in the season. A strike from Luke W. gave the lads a creditable 1-1 draw.

Firesharks Into the Quarter-Finals

Sunday afternoon saw an outstanding performance from the **Under 18 Firesharks** who moved into the last eight of the County Cup with a 4-1 win over Wormley Rovers, after going a goal down. This was a superb match with both teams producing good football in difficult conditions. To reach the quarter-finals of the Under 18 Cup while still only an Under 17 team after this victory over a side in the Eastern Junior Alliance is a real feather in the Firesharks' cap. On-fire striking pair Courtney Cendrecourt and Liam Brooks netted in this game, with Courtney scoring a memorable hat-trick. Manager Denise Miley expressed her thanks to everyone at the Club, especially Steve Smith, for their help and support since the team joined Lea Sports PSG and for contributing to a season which sees them well-placed in the Royston Crow Division One and into the Quarter Finals of the County Cup.

Christmas Break for Saturday Soccer Sessions

Our Saturday morning sessions for four to seven-year-olds at the Recreation Ground will take a break for Christmas, resuming on Saturday January 5th. Any children between 4 and 7 are welcome to come along and join in these informal sessions, run by Head of Youth Football Phil Toyer. There's tea and coffee available for the long-suffering parents, so why not give it a try?



Goalscorers to Christmas 2012

The Golden Boot - Eleven-a-Side Teams

First XI

Gary Raymond 12 Mark Brown 7 Ritchie Bevan 6

Second XI

Simon Mayes 8 Tom Newland 7 Jack Baggett 6

Under 18 Firesharks

Liam Brooks 13 Dominic Edwards 6 Courtney Cendrecourt 5

Under 15 Crow

Jack Lammiman, Mehdi Paul 2 Taylor Forde, Ollie Pitts 1

Under 15 Chiltern

Max Burrows 5 Simon Gaitan, Kallel Patience, Ollie Pitts 2

The Mini-Golden Boot - Seven-a-Side Teams

Under Tens

Henry Brown 10 Tyger Cox 5 Tom Scott 4

Under Nines Panthers & Pumas

Ben B. 11 (3 + 8) Tom B. 10 (7 + 3) Matthew M. 7 (6 + 1)

Under Nines Cougars

Alex M. 10 Bradley C. 7 Luke W. 4

Under Sevens - Five-a-Side Teams

Under Sevens Jaguars

Sam B. 23 Sam C. 6 Ollie R-T. 3

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
from everyone at Lea Sports PSG**





Happy 2013—Lea Sports' 40th Birthday!

Anniversary Celebrations

Vol. 7. No. 7, January 2013

2013 marks the fortieth anniversary of the founding of Lea Sports PSG.

In 1973 a group of junior school teachers got together in Luton to form a football club. They called it L.E.A. Sports (the L.E.A. standing for 'Local Education Authority'). Through its early years the Club relied on the regular influx of new teachers to the town each year, but as times changed the number of teachers reduced and the Club became more broadly-based. In the nineties the Club merged with Stopsley Boys Club to bring youth football and following the move to Pirton in 1995 there was another merger with Shillington & Gravenhurst to provide mini-football and give the Club its present name of Lea Sports PSG.

We hope to arrange a birthday bash on June 15th for the whole Club, possibly with a hog roast and live entertainment. Further details will be in future newsletters.

Pitches Swamped

After the heavy rain just before Christmas the pitches were submerged in water. The pictures below were taken 3 days before the Boxing Day Run...





Tough Start to the Year in the Mud

The weekend of **January 5th/6th 2013** saw eight of our ten teams in action, with only the First XI and Under Nines Cougars without a game. In heavy conditions around Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire all of our teams struggled, with only two teams recording a win. By far the best result of the weekend was the **Under 15s'** win at home to AFC Kempston Colts Tigers in the Chiltern Youth League. Ollie Pitts was back to his goal-scoring ways with 4 goals, while Max Burrows scored 2 and Harry Burton the other, side-footing home from outside the box.

On paper, the **Under Tens'** game at home to Watling looked a foregone conclusion: top vs. bottom, with Watling having won just once all season. Things seemed to be going to form as Noah Nyomi scrambled the ball home in the third minute to give the home side the lead, but a couple of missed chances gave Watling heart and they began to come more into the game. With ten minutes to half-time they missed a golden chance to equalise, when 3 forwards were faced with just John East-Newbury in goal, but somehow he managed to scramble the ball out for a corner. Minutes later, the defence went missing again and this time Watling did indeed equalise from close range. In the second half it was probably the visitors who had the better chances, with one long range drive being spectacularly headed off the Lea Sports' line for a corner. However, with 10 minutes to go a speculative punt forward was deflected for a PSG corner. Henry Brown hit the kick against the near post, from where it bounced kindly for Barney Condon who poked the ball home from a couple of yards. Although this settled the home side and they played some neat football in the last few minutes, Watling still had their chances too and in the end it was a relieved Lea Sports team who took all three points.

On Saturday, the **Panthers and Pumas** faced the trip to Bedwell Rangers in the Royston Crow Under 9 B division. The Panthers came home with a point, thanks to goals from Tom B. and Harry H, in a 2-2 draw, but the Pumas went down 8-1, with only a Sam G. goal for their efforts. For the **Under Sevens** it was Sam C. who was on the scoresheet, but they also fared badly on their trip to Dunstable Town.

In Luton, the **Reserves** faced Celtic Reserves in a clash at the top of Division 2. Tom Newland put us ahead in the first half and only some fine saves from the Celtic keeper kept the home side in the game. However 2 goals in the second half put Celtic ahead. In the last minute of the game the Celtic keeper was only yellow-carded when bringing down one of our forwards, so stayed on the pitch to save Jamie Richards' last-minute penalty and give the home side all 3 points.

The **Under Eighteen Firesharks** also tasted defeat in their first round League Cup tie away to Baldock Town Crusaders. Although they scored 4 times (through Liam Brooks (2), Steve Bryan and Courtney Cendrecourt) and were 3-0 up at one point, it was not enough, as the home side scored five times to progress to Round 2.

The **Under 15s** faced Hatfield in Pirton in the Crow Division 1 and also lost, despite goals from Josh Coleman and Matthew Mills. Once again the team was guilty of gifting its opponents a head start and went 3-0 down. However, after a reshuffle the boys stormed back and were unlucky not to win, with Jack Lammiman hitting the bar and goalkeeper Matt Emmerson barely touching the ball in the second half. Final score 2-3—surely the boys' luck will change soon.



Cup Dreams Shattered for First Team

Last season the **First Team** were just a penalty shoot-out away from an appearance in the Hertfordshire Intermediate Cup Final, so they travelled to Berkhamstead to play Doves United in the Fifth Round on January 13th with some confidence of going all the way this year. It was to be an unlucky 13 however as a rusty side, playing its first game in over a month, came up against a team featuring a number of Hemel Town players. The result: a 7-0 defeat—their worst result since October 2000 when they lost by the same scoreline in a league cup match to St. Josephs, who were three divisions above them at the time.

*This was not the only surprise 7-0 scoreline of the day however. The **Under Tens**, who had found goals hard to come by in their last three games, travelled to Westoning and ran out 7-0 winners to consolidate their position as league leaders. A hat-trick from Henry Brown was complemented with two goals from Noah Nyoni and further strikes from Barney Condon and Alex Funnell and a first clean sheet for keeper John East-Newbury. Just behind the Under 10s were the **Under 18 Firesharks** who put six past Roebuck Wanderers without reply to move up to third place in the table. A debut for Tom Marsh and a welcome back to Dominic Edwards who capped his return with a well taken goal. Liam Brooks was the provider for two and scored two, whilst Courtney Cendrecourt bagged a brace to continue his scoring form, Steve Bryan poached a goal also and Remy Campbell was man of the match.*

The **Reserves** were missing top striker Tom Newland for the visit of AC Cadoza Reserves in the first round of the North Home Counties Reserve Cup. On a pitch made difficult by overnight frost, the home side found it hard to create chances and fell behind to a header after 20 minutes. Simon Jackson nodded in an equaliser before half-time and despite the second half bringing an improved performance the home side fell behind again when the ball was not cleared and fell to a Cadoza forward who placed his shot into the corner. The home side were still not beaten, however, and Pat McAneney put them back on level terms midway through the half, but a late defensive mix-up allowed a Cadoza forward to walk the ball home and give the visitors a 3-2 win and a ticket into round two.

*The **Under 9 Panthers** lost a tight encounter away to Biggleswade Town by the odd goal. In two seasons the only team the Panthers have failed to score against is Biggleswade—and this was the third time this has happened. It looked as though the **Pumas** would make up for the defeat when they went 2-0 up through Ben B. and Tom B. but late defensive mistakes gave the home team a share of the spoils. The **Under Sevens** took a while to get going in their home game vs. Dunstable Town, but in the end put in an improved performance compared with the previous week and scored twice, through Sam B. and Oscar E.. Luke W. was on target for the second week in a row as the **Under 9s Cougars** visited Meltis Corinthians—unfortunately the home side hit six in reply.*

The biggest sigh of relief of the day came from the **Under Fifteens** in the Crow League vs. Sawbridgeworth Town. Josh Archer put them ahead after 10 minutes and Taylor Forde kept the back division in order to prevent any thoughts of a visitors' come-back, before Callum Winters scored a great second to bring their first win of the season. Meanwhile in the Chiltern Youth League the **Under Fifteens** could not repeat their goal feast of last week, losing 1-0 to Houghton Athletic in Pirton through an own goal.

The only game to survive the snow and meltwaters on January 27th was the **Under Nines Cougars'** trip to Brickhill Wanderers. In a tight game a goal from Edward P.—his second of the season—was enough to earn a point in a 1-1 draw.

Hopefully, the weather will now start to relent and we can get a full month's fixtures.



Cup Triumphs for Firesharks and Cougars

County Cup Semis for Under Eighteens

Vol. 7. No. 8, February 2013

After three postponements due to the weather the **Under 18 Firesharks** were desperate to play their Herts Under 18 Cup Quarter-Final vs. Cheshunt Youth to prevent a fixture pile-up and made an early decision to switch the game from a soggy Pirton. The change of venue had no adverse effect, however, as the team achieved a 3-1 win to progress to the semi-finals. In a match which was a great advert for high-quality football, the Firesharks took the lead through an outstanding Liam Brooks volley. EJA side Cheshunt levelled things up through a penalty, but another penalty for handball gave Lea Sports the chance to regain the lead. Matt Hill smashed home the spot kick to set up a tense final 20 minutes. With ten minutes to go, Remy Campbell chased down a lost cause and won the ball on the touchline; a shot from Liam Brooks was blocked by the keeper and Joe French slotted in the rebound to wrap up the game.

After the game the referee was generous in his praise for both teams, while Firesharks' Managers Denise and Karen were full of praise for their Under 17 team who have made it so far in an Under 18 competition.



The **Under Nine Cougars**—currently sitting midway down Division 3—travelled to Leighton United on February 3rd for their second round league cup tie with some trepidation. Leighton are top of Division Two with a 100% league record having won all their eight fixtures, but a penalty from John B. and a goal from Alex M. saw the lads complete a fantastic 2-1 win after extra time to progress to the third round of the Beds Mini-Soccer Under Nines League Cup.

You Heard it Here First.....

From the Lea Sports' Newsletter in September 2011...

- Europe

[PSG interested in signing Beckham](#)





More Good Results to kick off February

On the first weekend in February it was not only the Firesharks and Cougars who enjoyed the biting winds. The **Reserves** made a trip to Barnfield in North Home Counties Division 2 and completed a comprehensive 6-3 win, with goals from Jack Baggett (2), Tom Newland (2), Marek Diduszko and Jon Whitehead.

In the Royston Crow Division One, the **Under 15s** won their second match in a row: 2-0 at home to Stotfold Juniors. Josh Archer was on target for the second week running and Ollie Pitts completed the scoring within the first 20 minutes. Unfortunately, Matt Mills broke his collarbone after an innocuous challenge and will be out for several weeks. Best wishes for a speedy recovery from everyone at the Club.

Meanwhile, the **Under Sevens Jaguars** made light of the freezing conditions as they enjoyed themselves at home to Luton Boys. FA regulations prevent me from giving the score, but on target were Sam B. (4), Sam C. (2), Olly H. and Olly R-T (2) and the Luton keeper was the best player on the pitch!

On the previous day the **Panthers and Pumas** had also fared well on their trip to Melbourn Dynamos, with the Panthers scoring five times without reply and the Pumas earning a 2-2 draw. On target for the Panthers were 5 different scorers: Ben B., Sam G., Lewis G., Lewis M. and Teddy R-T. For the Pumas Tom B. and Edward L. both scored. The only casualty of the weekend was the **Under 15s**, who lost by the odd goal to Houghton Athletic in the Chiltern Youth League for the third time this season.

The weekend of February 9th/10th brought a miserable spell of constant rain. The **Panthers** encountered a great goalkeeping performance for Bishops Stortford, which gave the visitors a 3-2 victory, despite 2 more strikes from Ben B.. The **Pumas** earned the lads a rare win over BSFC, with goals from Tom B. and Edward L. for the second week running bringing a 2-1 victory.

On Sunday the **First Team** were glad to be back in league action for the first time since November 25th—goals from Mark Brown, Richard Knock, Richard Randall and Jamie Richards brought a welcome 4-2 win over CSFC.

The **Under 9 Cougars** and the **Under 7 Jaguars** knocked in 15 goals between them, with the Cougars winning 9-1 in Clapham. Goals came from Jon B, Bradley C, Joel T, two from Luke W and four from Alex M; the Jaguars had just 6 players available but they all scored: goals came from Sam B, Fynn C-G, John D, Olly H, Olly R-T. and Sam C after coming on in the last minute.

Quiz Night Profit

Many thanks to those Lea Sports members who turned up to the Quiz Night at The Motte & Bailey on January 10th in aid of Pirton Sports & Social Club. The Club made a profit of £115 from the evening—hope you got the question about Lea Sports' Anniversary right!!



Slip Ups for the Under Tens and the Firesharks

Also on a wet February 10th the **Under Tens** looked to consolidate their position at the top of Division 3 with a home game against Eastcotts. Although the visitors only had 2 league wins to show for their efforts this season, they had also only lost twice and proved a tough nut to crack. In the end a goal from Henry Brown was cancelled out and two points were lost in a 1-1 draw.

Our two senior teams in the Royston Crow League both took their eye off the ball in the incessant rain. In the Under 18 Division One, the **Firesharks** failed to score for the first time this season as they unexpectedly lost 1-0 at home to Ickwell and Old Warden. Meanwhile, the **Under 15s** thought they had their third win in a row as they led Elsenham 2-0 through goals from Josh Archer and Sam Webb with just five minutes to go. But the visitors scored three late goals to take all three points.

It was left to the **Under 15** Chiltern team to lift the gloom with a 3-1 win over 3rd-placed Eastcotts. Harry Burton, Kallel Patience and Ben Whitehead were the men on target.

Frustration as More Games Fall to the Weather

The weekend of February 16th/17th was fine and sunny—which made it even more frustrating to have games postponed. After the snow early in the week Luton Borough Council had called off all matches on its pitches on Thursday evening, but we were hopeful that the games in Pirton could go ahead. On Saturday the ground was inspected by myself and by Chairman Phil Toyer and we agreed that all the pitches were unfit for play. This was particularly frustrating for the



Under Eighteens, who had their County Cup semi-final, and for the Under Tens, who had their top-of-the-table clash with Maulden Magpies, but also for the First Team, who were looking to play their first home game since November 25th, and for the Under 15s who had a League Cup fixture. In the end though the decision to postpone was not a difficult one, as all three pitches still retained a lot of water in certain areas. The main problem is that the surrounding water table is very high at present—all the surrounding drainage ditches are full and there are still mini-lakes on the Bury, the land opposite the entrance to the Recreation Ground. These all form part of a system of drainage which runs through the village, then around the Recreation Ground, before moving away. Many local residents, who have lived in Pirton for years, tell me that they can't remember the ground being this wet. It is certainly frustrating, but all we can do is wait.

One or two games did survive: the **Reserves** travelled to AC Cadoza Reserves, but returned empty-handed after a 3-0 defeat. The **Under Tens** took the brave decision to switch their match against close rivals Maulden to an away fixture. After finding themselves 2-0 down, they rallied and claimed an invaluable point with goals from Henry Brown and Barney Condon. The **Under 9 Cougars** continued their purple patch of form with a 5-1 win at Langford: Bradley C. grabbed a hat-trick and Alex M. the other 2. **UNDER TENS' TABLE (Top 4):**

| League Table | | | | | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|----|---|---|---|-----|
| POS | | P | W | D | L | PTS |
| 1 | Lea Sports PSG | 13 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 30 |
| 2 | Maulden Magpies (Stripes) | 9 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 20 |
| 3 | Mid Beds Tigers (Oranges) | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 19 |
| 4 | Dunstable Town Youth (Whites) | 8 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 13 |



The Under 18 Firesharks received a nomination from the local Comet newspaper for its annual sports awards. The team appeared in the 'Youth Team of the Year' category, while coaches Karen French and Denise Miley both received nominations for Coach of the Year. The awards were presented in Stevenage on February 19th and although we did not win in either category it is still a great accolade for the Club.

More Disappointment for the Firesharks

After a dry week the Firesharks' semi-final against Codicote finally went ahead on February 24th in Pirton. The pitch had been rolled the day before, but was firm and unforgiving, making flowing football difficult for both teams. With the odd flurry of sleet and snow and in a biting wind, it was the visitors who settled better and two attacks through the heart of the home defence put Codicote 2 goals up after half an hour. Just before the break however a strike from Courtney Cendrecourt from the edge of the box flew into the net to give the home side hope. In the second half it was Lea Sports who made all the running as they went in search of an equaliser. Codicote were reduced to some desperate defending at times and had 2 players yellow-carded. After hitting the post it only looked a matter of time before an equaliser came, but in a rare breakaway Codicote broke down the right wing and the cross was swept home by the centre-forward to put the visitors 3-1 up with ten minutes to go. There was still time for Steve Bryan to force home a close-range header, but it was not enough as the visitors ran out 3-2 winners.

Adults Back in Action

The **First Team** played their first home league game since November as they took on 61 FC at the Recreation Ground. In the bitter wind it was the home side who always looked the more likely to score. After 40 minutes the deadlock was broken as an attempted clearance from the 61 keeper was blocked and the ball ran kindly for Chris Littlejohn who sidefooted home from 12 yards. A few minutes later Littlejohn was put through again, but this time was hauled back by the 61 defender - Ritchie Bevan made no mistake with the penalty to give the team a 2-0 win. Meanwhile, the **Reserves'** poor recent defensive performances continued as they were hammered 7-1 by St.Josephs Reserves in Barton; Tom Newland scored the consolation effort.

Another Narrow Defeat for the Crow Under Fifteens

The **Under 15s** travelled to Knebworth and were on the wrong end of a 4-3 scoreline. Callum Winters scored twice—the first goal putting us in the lead after chasing a lost cause and the second after dancing Messi-like around four defenders. Karl McNab struck a great 35-yard shot in off a post to make the result a close one in the end.

The **Under 7s Jaguars** are struggling to field a full squad and found the going tough at AFC Kempston. The FA's decision to introduce different forms of the game over a few years are confusing the issue; Manager Paul Humphrys is trying to book summer tournaments but is finding that most clubs outside the Beds Mini-Soccer league are playing a 6 vs 6 or even a 7 vs. 7 format. Even now, some of his league opponents are requesting games of 6 vs. 6 or 7 vs. 7 to avoid substitutes having to stand on the touchline in cold weather.

We ourselves have lost players from Under 10 teams who have wanted to play 11-a-side football rather than continue with the 7-a-side format at Under 11. Next season we will probably have to cater for 9 vs. 9 football, with a different size pitch and goals. I'm all for the FA trying to improve standards and encourage youngsters to be involved and have more time on the ball, but the current mish-mash of formats seem like a complete mess. In the long term it should all sort itself out, but for now the uncertainty of which format should be played is helping no-one.



Points Galore as the Weather Relents

Good Start to March

Vol. 7. No. 9, March 2013

As March arrived the weather began to improve and we saw some dry days and even a spot of sunshine. The first weekend of the month brought some good performances too, with just 2 defeats for our teams.

The **Under Fifteens** finally got to play their Second Round Royston Crow League Cup tie against Bishops Stortford Colts after four postponements, but it was worth the wait as they powered through 6-1. Taylor Forde put the team ahead with a shot from outside the box—Callum Winters then finished superbly in a crowded penalty area to make it 2-0. The visitors were not done, however, and enjoyed a good spell of play after half-time, pulling a goal back to create a nervy last 25 minutes. However, Callum Winters produced another good finish before Josh Archer grabbed himself a hat-trick in 15 minutes late on. George Goldsmith returned in goal after a few months' absence and put in a solid performance.

Elsewhere, 1-1 was the favourite scoreline as the **Under 9 Panthers**, **Under 15 Chiltern** and **Under 9 Cougars** all took a point. For the Panthers Tom B. was on target, while Alex M. scored for the Cougars and Joel T. saved a penalty to earn them their draw. For the Under 15s Joe Abbott grabbed a goal in their game away at Kempston. Another penalty save, this time from Josh Dell kept the lads' heads in front until midway through the second half when Kempston forced an equaliser. In an entertaining game both sides went looking for a winner, but the match ended at 1-1. The **Under 9 Pumas** fell by the odd goal in three to Hornead Hares, Edward L. scoring the consolation goal. The **Under 7 Jaguars** found Bushmead Rovers too hot to handle, while the **Under Tens** consolidated their position at the top of the table with a 3-1 win away at Houghton Athletic, while their nearest rivals Maulden dropped 2 points at Eastcotts. On target were Henry Brown, Noah Nyoni and Dylan Carpenter from the penalty spot. Finally, the **First Team** took all three points from their scheduled game with Caddington Social without kicking a ball, as the visitors were unable to raise a team.



It was not a Happy Mother's Day for the **First Team** as late drop-outs from the side meant that they travelled to take on league leaders FC Houghton with only ten men. With snow flurries dusting the pitch we more than held our own until 10 minutes from half-time when Houghton went ahead. In the second half the home side added two more goals to make it a very frustrating day for Manager Richard Randall.

Meanwhile, the **Reserves** bounced back to form. Two goals from Jack Baggett and one from Pat McAneney gave them a 3-1 win at AC Sportsman Reserves.



Under 15s One Goal Short Again

In the **Royston Crow** Division One on March 10th the **Under Fifteens** travelled to Stotfold and went down by the odd goal in three, despite Josh Archer giving us the lead inside three minutes after being put through by Jack Lammiman. In the end, mistakes either side of half-time gifted Stotfold two goals and all three points. Their **Chiltern League** counterparts were also on the road, away to Leighton United Blues, and fared better coming home with a 3-2 win thanks to two goals from Ollie Pitts and one from Max Burrows.

The **Under 18 Firesharks** had another frustrating day as their league game at Spartak Reds in Saffron Walden was called off because of snow. The **Under 9 Cougars** also called their game in Pirton off, but on the adjoining pitch Sam B. was glad the **Under 7 Jaguars'** game went ahead as he scored a double hat-trick in the cold against Luton Old Boys. Fynn C-G was also on target and the Old Boys also managed to score one in their own net.

Mudbaths All Round as the Weather Wreaks Havoc Again

With strong winds and torrential showers the weekend of March 16th and 17th proved to be very testing for all of our teams.

The games involving the **Under 9 Panthers and Pumas, the Under 15 Chiltern side** and the **Under 7 Jaguars** were all postponed—the Under 15s' and Under 9s' games because of waterlogged pitches and the Under 7s because of a shortage of players. The **First Team** game away to Club Lewsey Reserves was started, but abandoned after an hour with the score at 1-1 when a downpour turned the pitch into a quagmire.

Before the rain turned heavy the **Reserves** went 4-0 up away to league leaders Luton Old Boys through goals from Jack Baggett, Pat McAneney, Tom Newland and an own goal. Then the rain turned the pitch to mud and Old Boys scored three in return. Still, the 4-3 victory is sweet revenge for the 6-0 drubbing Old Boys handed out to us earlier in the season.

The **Under Tens** had a friendly fixture away to Flitwick Eagles but only had a Noah Nyoni goal to show for their efforts in a 4-1 defeat. Meanwhile, the **Under 18 Firesharks** played Bedwell Rangers on a mudbath and won 3-0 with 2 goals from Courtney Cendrecourt and one from Tom Marsh to continue their push for league honours.

Cup Action - Another Cup Semi-Final to Come

In a great performance away to Mid Beds Tigers Orange, the **Under 9 Cougars** reached the semi-finals of the BMSL League Cup with a convincing 4-0 win. Alex M. led the way with a hat trick and Joel T. was on target for the fourth.

The **Under 15s** were also in cup action in the Royston Crow League Cup third round. Although leading through a Josh Archer goal the game ended 1-1 after normal time. Extra time proved to be a bit of a nightmare and the final score was 5-1 to Letchworth Garden City Eagles Blues at a soggy Pirton Rec Ground.



Fixtures Pile Up as Winter Refuses to End



March 23rd/24th Wiped Out

Heavy snow on the penultimate weekend of March wiped out all fixtures on the Saturday and Sunday. With some midweek fixtures already on the calendar, these postponements will only increase the fixture pile-up through April and May. There are at least 20 games still to be played in Pirton alone, and cricket fixtures start towards the end of April, so there will be a lot of juggling of dates to get all the remaining games played.

The First Team already have a fixture on Easter Sunday and their game away to St. Johns at Lewsey Park has been moved to Tuesday April 9th at 6.15 pm. Between them our eleven-a-side teams have 37 games still to play. Meanwhile, the Veterans have arranged an additional fixture—away to Crawley Green on April 7th.

No Easter Bunny for the Firsts

On an Easter Day which began bright and sunny the First Team put in an England performance at home to Co-Op Sports in the North Home Counties Division One. Unfortunately, it was the England performance against Montenegro, as a dominant first-half was followed by a dismal second-half performance which sacrificed two points.

The home side started brightly and enjoyed good spells of possession, which led to a number of chances. It seemed only a matter of time before they went ahead and sure enough after 25 minutes a goal came, when a Mark Skidmore shot was only parried by the Co-Op keeper and Gary Raymond was on hand to knock in the rebound. A 1-0 advantage was little reward for their first half dominance, but in the second half it was Co-Op who came out with the bit between their teeth. They mounted a number of attacks down the Lea Sports' left and it was from one of the left-wing crosses that a volleyed equaliser came. The visitors continued to look the more likely side to score and it took a number of smart saves from Scott Morgan in the home goal to keep the scores level. The two sides meet again next week in Luton.



Crunch Time for the Title Chasers

Firesharks Start Well

Vol. 7. No. 10, April 2013

With Spring finally here, the Under 18 Firesharks and the Under Tens launched their final assault on their League titles, but April proved to be an awful month for results.



As April began the **Firesharks** had eight games to go, including tough fixtures against fellow contenders BSFC Athletic and Arlesey Town. The month began, however, with a home fixture against the current leaders Bishops Stortford Swifts. On a freshly-rolled pitch (thanks again Darren!) the Firesharks took control in the first half, pressing their opponents hard, and took the lead with a header from Dominic Edwards which went in off a post. Swifts were awarded a penalty and although the excellent Joe Miley got a hand to the spot kick he could not prevent the equaliser. This spurred the home side on and a goal from Liam Brooks plus another Edwards strike saw them take a 3-1 lead. Finally, Joe French was tripped in the penalty area and Matt Hill blasted in the kick for a big win over a tough side. George Marwaha took the honours as man of the match.

April 14th brought another fixture against one of the title contenders: BSFC Athletic, who had beaten us 3-1 in the first game of the season. This time there was no mistake as two goals from Courtney Cendrecourt and one each from Joe French and George Marwaha gave the team another 3 points to take them to the top of the table and set up a clash with second placed Arlesey Town on April 21st. Unfortunately, one goal was to decide the game with Arlesey—and it wasn't in our favour. It meant that Arlesey took over top spot one point ahead although we had a game in hand with 5 games left. April 28th brought the long journey to Essex to take on Spartak Reds. Two first-half goals from Courtney Cendrecourt gave us a 2-1 interval lead and then George Marwaha brilliantly converted a Liam Brooks corner to make it 3-1, before Spartak grabbed a consolation. Meanwhile Arlesey were also in Essex, losing to Spartak United, so with 4 games to go (3 away) the team are 1 point behind the leaders with 2 games in hand. May will decide all.....

Under Tens Slip Up—But All is Not Lost

The **Under Tens** went into their last two fixtures knowing that six points would guarantee them at least a share of the title. Top striker Henry Brown turned up for the match at Pirton at home to bottom team Barton Rovers on April 14th, despite having landed in the UK only hours before kick-off after a trip to Australia. Surely the three points were there for the taking, but a stubborn Barton team had other ideas in blustery conditions. Resolute defending saw a game of few chances finish 0-0 to leave the lads' title hopes on a knife-edge. However, on April 28th an amazing result saw rivals Maulden Magpies go down 5-6 to Dunstable Town leaving PSG with a 1 point advantage going into the final games on May 19th, when Maulden will be at home to 4th-placed Mid Beds Tigers and the Under 10s travel to 3rd-placed Dunstable Town knowing that a win will give them the title.



Adults Struggle on April 7th

With several players absent, both adult sides found the going tough on April 7th. The **First Team** travelled to Solway Road in Luton to take on Co-Op Sports, but with a totally reorganised defence they found themselves 4-0 down at half-time. A Gary Raymond penalty early in the second period gave the team hope, but the game finished 4-1. News from elsewhere gave the team some consolation, as the team who knocked them out of the County Cup, Doves United, won 5-1 in the final. The **Reserves** also struggled in their Division 2 fixture, going down 4-0 on their trip to High Town.

Meanwhile, our youth sides generally had a good day: in the **Royston Crow** league, the **Under 15s** did their fight for survival a deal of good with a 2-1 win over Baldock Town Templars. Josh Archer again opened the scoring after 42 minutes after great work by Matt Mills, back in the side after a 2-month injury break. Simon Gaitan ran on to a pass from Jack Lammiman with 10 minutes to go to ensure that Baldock's last-minute strike was only a consolation. In the **Chiltern Youth** league the **Under 15s** have found goalscoring difficult this season, so their 9-0 win away to Eastcotts Eagles came as something of a surprise! Max Burrows scored a hat-trick, Sam French scored twice and Ollie Pitts scored 4 times in a great win.

In the 7 vs. 7 format the **Under 9 Cougars** played their first home game since November 25th and made the most of home advantage with a 5-1 win over Luton Boys Redsox. Luke W. opened the scoring when the Redsox keeper allowed a soft shot to dribble through his legs but it was no surprise when a big Luton side equalised midway through the first half. The lads stuck to their task and superior finishing made the difference, with further strikes coming from Bradley C. and Alex M. before Luke completed his hat-trick.

Meanwhile, Olly R-T scored a brace for the **Under 7 Jaguars**, but it was not enough against a tall AFC Dunstable team.



Action from the Cougars' game at home to Luton Boys Redsox on April 7th 2013.

First Team Struggle as Midweek Fixtures Start

The **First Team** made it five games without a win as they played their first mid-week fixture of the season—away to St. Johns at Lewsey Park on April 9th. With several players still unavailable, the Firsts called on players from the Reserves to make up the numbers and Ben Alderton—playing for the team for the first time since the reverse fixture in September—scored in a 3-1 defeat.



Daylight Robbery for the Under Fifteens

The **Under 15s** played their first midweek fixture in the Royston Crow Division 1 away to a strong Welwyn Pegasus side on April 10th. The lads started brightly with Ollie Pitts hitting a post as chances came and went. On the stroke of half time keeper George Goldsmith was bundled into the net by a Welwyn forward, but the referee amazed everyone by awarding the home team a penalty while George was still being treated for his injuries. An embarrassed forward put the home side 1-0 up from the spot kick. After 50 minutes Jack Lammiman headed home a corner at the far post to level matters and we then had more of the play as the team went looking for their elusive first away league win of the season. However, in a cruel finish, a hopeful ball into the box hit the striker's knee and bounced high into the net to give Welwyn an unlikely 2-1 win.

Only the Firesharks Lift the Gloom

Sunshine and warm weather finally put in an appearance on the weekend of April 13th/14th, but it didn't help our teams as only the Firesharks managed to record a win, putting four past BSFC Athletic.

The **First Team**, still missing players, were at home to Silsoe Park Rangers. In the away fixture a goal from Silsoe had decided matters in injury time. This time Silsoe took a first-half lead when the windy conditions caused a clearance from keeper Scott Morgan to fall straight to the feet of a grateful forward. It looked as though all three points were going the visitors' way, but with seconds remaining Ritchie Bevan popped up to score a deserved equaliser for the home side. The **Reserves** made the trip to Markyate, but only had a Ben Thomson strike to show for their efforts as they went down 4-1. The **Under Fifteens** found goals hard to come by in the tricky wind: the Crow side played a double-header against Buntingford Cougars Blues in Pirton, losing the 'home' game 5-0 before losing the 'away' fixture 1-0. In the afternoon the Chiltern side also could not find the net as they lost 2-0 at home to Sundon Athletic. On Saturday morning the **Under Nines** fielded the same team in their Panthers and Pumas games against Broadhall Youth. Goals from Ben B. and Matthew M. earned the Panthers a 2-2 draw, but the Pumas were on the wrong end of a 7-0 scoreline. Finally the **Under Seven Jaguars** managed to score 7 times away to Kempston B, with Sam B. grabbing 5 and Sam C. the other two, but even this wasn't enough on the day, as Manager Paul Humphryes' squad of just 5 players tired as the game wore on.

No Cup Joy for Under Nines

The Under Nine **Panthers and Pumas** joined forces for their first ever Cup fixture, away to Baldock Town in the Preliminary Round of the Royston Crow League Cup on April 20th. Edward L. was on target to give the lads a 1-0 half-time lead, but in the second half the home team rallied strongly to make the final result Baldock 3 Lea Sports PSG 1.

On the following day the **Cougars** played their League Cup Semi Final against AFC Dunstable. Although the lads lost 3-0, they were rarely second-best throughout the whole game and were very unlucky to go a goal down on the stroke of half-time. In the second-half the lads continued to make a fight of it until a lucky rebound and a defensive mix-up gave Dunstable 2 more goals to win the tie.



Another Blank Sunday in Pirton—and elsewhere!

The season continues to slide away from the **First Team**, who failed to win for the seventh game in succession on April 21st. Although it was only the First Team's third league defeat at home, it probably put paid to their chances of grabbing the runners-up spot in Division One as Club Lewsey Reserves ran out 2-1 winners. Richard Knock grabbed the consolation goal. It meant a blank day, as the **Under Nines** lost their semi-final and the **Under 7 Jaguars** also went down, despite a brace from Sam C. in a great game against Dunstable.

The misery continued in the afternoon as the **Under 18 Firesharks** lost their top of the table clash with Arlesey by one goal to nil and a Simon Gaitan strike was not enough to prevent the **Under 15s** going down 4-1 to Langford Lions in the Chiltern Youth Division Three to complete a miserable weekend.

Awful April Continues

St. George's Day brought two more defeats to add to the many already encountered in April. Defeats for the Reserves and Under 15 Crow in their midweek fixtures left the club with only 8 wins from 36 matches in April, four of those on the opening day—surely one of the bleakest periods in the club's history.

The **Reserves** welcomed St. Josephs Reserves to Pirton on a warm, sunny evening only to go a goal down early in the first half. Although they managed to level things, two strikes from long-range gave St. Joe's a 3-1 advantage in the second half before we managed to score a late consolation effort. Goals came from Tyrone Clarke and Tom Newland.

The **Under 15s** visited Fairlands Youth in the Crow Division 1 in a clash of the bottom 2 teams in the division. In a niggly game Jack Lammiman gave Lea Sports the lead from the penalty spot after 23 minutes as they looked for their first away league win of the season, but from then on it was Fairlands who took their chances to win 3-1 and move above the Under 15s at the foot of the table.

Jaguars Raise the Spirits

On the last full weekend in April, the **Under 7 Jaguars** did very well on their trip to AFC Dunstable. Sam B. helped himself to a hat-trick to take his tally to 44 for the season with 2 games to go, while Sam C. scored for the third game in a row and the two Olly's also grabbed one each. Sam's brother Ben also scored a hat-trick as the **Under 9 Pumas** beat Stevenage Borough Harriers 3-1. The **Panthers** went down 3-2 despite a brace from Henry H. to reach seven games without a win. Unfortunately, the **First Team** went one better as their 2-0 defeat away to Green Man meant an eight-game streak without a win. The **Under 15 Crow** team had to settle for a point away to Elsenham, when a Tommy Waby goal gave them a 1-1 draw which leaves them still one point adrift at the foot of the table with 2 games to go. The **Under 9 Cougars** also shared the spoils with visitors Dunstable Reds, coming from behind twice with goals from Alex M. and Luke W.. The Jaguars and the Firesharks were the only teams to win as the **Under 15s** lost in the Chiltern League to Oakley Rangers; Ben Whitehead scoring in a 2-1 defeat.

The final game of the month, on April 30th, saw the **Reserves** complete a miserable month with defeat at home to Celtic Reserves. After a poor start defensive lapses saw Celtic romp into a 4-0 lead after 30 minutes but goals from Tom Newland and Ben Alderton brought some hope by half-time. That hope increased after 15 minutes of the second period when Newland scored again and Si Jackson made it 4-4. But a soft 5th goal gave the initiative back to Celtic and they ran out 7-4 winners. More bad news came as we learnt that 61 FC had withdrawn from the league and we lost six points as their record was expunged and we lost two wins.

Lea Sports PSG

Football Club

FORTY YEARS OF LEA SPORTS: 1973-2013

Established: 1973

A FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION CHARTER STANDARD DEVELOPMENT CLUB

Home Ground: The Recreation Ground, Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3PX

ANNUAL AWARDS DAY AND 40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Saturday, June 15th 2013

- ◆ *Campaign medals for all youth players.*
- ◆ *Awards for Players' Player, Manager's Player, etc., etc.*
- ◆ *Golden Boot awards for the Club's top scorer at 11-a-side and 7-a-side*
- ◆ *Fish and Chip Van available from late afternoon*

Under 9s' Mini-tournament at 3 pm. Bar Open at 4 pm!

Veterans' Match at 5 pm.

Under 7s, Under 9s and Under 10s awards from from 5 pm.

Under 15s from 6 pm. Adults from 7 pm.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, June 3rd 2013. 7.30 pm at the clubhouse.

The AGM is seen by some as a necessary evil for any Club, but it is an important event in the running of the Club. It gives all members* a chance to have their say about how the Club is run—and to change any aspects they don't like. All proposals for the AGM should be sent to me, Steve Smith (secretary@leasports.com) by Monday 20th May.

One issue will be the question of Annual Subscriptions. Costs of training, referees, etc are increasing each year and the County FA are about to introduce compulsory insurance for all clubs, so the Committee may propose an increase in Annual Subscriptions.

* Members entitled to vote are adults who have paid an annual subscription and Committee members.



*** **CHAMPIONS** ***

Firesharks Make Sure...

Vol. 7. No. 11, May 2013

May began with the **Under 18 Firesharks** having to make the long trip to Essex for the second week in a row. Their opponents on May 5th were Spartak 78 United, who had defeated rivals Arlesey Town just the week before and were playing their last game together as a team. On a hot sunny May morning it was the Firesharks who started the better and the pressure told as a Spartak defender turned the ball into his own net to give us a 1-0 lead. Spartak equalised somewhat against the run of play but just before half-time Courtney Cendrecourt scored a sublime trademark goal to restore the Lea Sports lead. The game became niggly after the goal and we went down to 10 men after some retaliation brought a red card; nevertheless the ten men stuck to their task and with Joe Miley outstanding in goal it was left to top scorer Liam Brooks to make the game safe with a third.

Three days later and the team made the trip to the picturesque venue of Ickwell for a midweek fixture against Ickwell and Old Warden, the only team who had prevented us from scoring when they won the fixture in Pirton 1-0 earlier this year. Needing to win, the lads started nervously and fell behind to an early Ickwell goal, but an equaliser came after half an hour and by half-time we had taken a 3-1 lead. The second half saw a fine performance from leading scorer Liam Brooks as he added another 4 to his tally in a match which finished 8-3 in the Firesharks' favour. Other scorers were Dominic Edwards (2), Remy Campbell and Courtney Cendrecourt, leaving the team needing one point from their final 2 games to be sure of the title.

With the team all geared up to play their crucial last home game vs. Spartak YSC 78 Reds, the news came through that Spartak could not raise a team, so the title was decided. Hardly the celebrations that was planned after the match, but worthy winners of the Royston Crow Division 1 title nonetheless.

The celebrations proper came after the final match away to Bishops Stortford Swifts on May 19th. On a good pitch at Stortford Rugby Club the team had just a Liam Brooks effort to show by half-time. In the second half a further goal from top scorer Brooks, plus a close-range shot from Man-of-the-Match Steve Bryan and some excellent saves from Joe Miley brought an emphatic 3-0 win to round off a great season.

Under Tens Leave it Late

The **Under Tens** went into their last game away to Dunstable Town B on May 19th knowing that they had to win to be sure of the Division 3 title, as Maulden and Dunstable themselves were breathing down their necks. At half-time we found ourselves 2-3 down, but in the end goals from Henry Brown, Tyger Cox, Samuel Dermont and Finlay Norrington's first of the season brought a famous 4-3 victory and the Championship. (For the record, Maulden drew 2-2 with Mid-Beds Tigers).

Under Nines All Finish With a Win

On the final weekend of fixtures the Panthers and Pumas entertained Spartak YSC 78 and both of our sides signed off with a win. For the **Panthers** Ben B. scored 4 times, ensuring that the race for the Mini Golden Boot would go down to the wire, and Teddy R-T 3 times as they romped home 7-3. The **Pumas** game was a tighter affair, but two Spartak own goals gave us a 2-1 win. On the Sunday morning the **Cougars** won a scrappy game against bottom team Mid-Beds Tigers 2-0. One of the goals came from Edward Pipe, but the second was from Alex Matsukatov, meaning that he and Ben Bayley share the Mini Golden Boot with 24 goals apiece.



Reserves End With Another Defeat

May the 5th saw the last fixture of the season for the **Reserves** and it brought their fifth defeat in a row. This time they went down 4-0 in Pirton to high-flying Hightown. The result marks the end of a miserable run since Christmas which has seen the team slump from second place to seventh in the league.

The **Under Fifteens** suffered too in the Chiltern Youth league—a 3-1 defeat away at Eastcotts was their fourth in a row; Ollie Pitts was the man on target. However, four days later they travelled to unbeaten league-leaders Amphill Town and produced their best display of the season. Goals from Ollie Pitts, Baldeep Singh and Jake Rolt gave them a 3-2 win which moved them up to sixth in the table. The **Under 7 Jaguars** managed to score 4 times against a strong AFC Kempston side through a Sam B. hat-trick and a fourth from Olly R-T..

The **Veterans** meanwhile took on Crawley Green in the sunshine and managed to reverse the 4-2 defeat they suffered to Crawley in the home fixture. Greg Whelan celebrated not having to go in goal for this game by scoring twice. Steve Williams added a third and super-sub Richard Randall rounded off the scoring.

First End With a Whimper

On the penultimate weekend of the season, the **First XI** ended a miserable run in 2013 with a 5-0 defeat away to Club Lewsey Reserves.

Meanwhile, in Pirton the two home games both finished 4-1 in favour of the hosts. In the Royston Crow league, the **Under 15s** needed a win against Knebworth in their attempt to avoid the wooden spoon and Captain Jack Lammiman led the way with 2 goals, one of which was a penalty. Karl McNab and Callum Winters completed the scoring. The **Under Tens** played a friendly against their rivals for the Division 3 title Maulden Magpies. The home side were in charge right from the off and raced into a 3-1 interval lead. In the end the goals came from Tom Scott (2), Barney Condon and Samuel Dermont.

The two Sams were both on target for the **Under 7 Jaguars** in their final game of the season away to Dunstable Town. Manager Paul Humphryes described it as a brilliant game to round off the season.

Under Fifteens Finish in Good Form

In the **Chiltern** league, the Under 15s enjoyed the incessant rain in Pirton on May 14th and put four goals past AFC Kempston Tigers without reply. Max Burrows weighed in with a hat-trick and Simon Gaitan grabbed a fourth.

Meanwhile, the **Crow** team, fresh from their weekend triumph over Knebworth, were looking for 3 points from their final game away to Royston Town, who had won the reverse fixture 6-0 in Pirton in September. On a pitch resembling the Horse of the Year Show, the lads held the County Cup semi-finalists to a 0-0 draw with a fantastic effort.

The final game of a busy season came in Pirton on the afternoon of Sunday May 19th, when the Chiltern side entertained Leighton United Blues. However, they couldn't make it 6 wins out of 6 for the weekend as they went down 4-6. Keeper Josh Dell scored a penalty and other strikes came from Mehdi Paul, Ben Whitehead and Simon Gaitan.



A Remarkable End to the Premier League Competition

Many were surprised by West Brom's 5-5 draw with Manchester United on the final day of the Premier League season on May 19th, but perhaps the most influential result as far as the competition to guess the positions in the Premier League was concerned was at the Etihad where Norwich City beat the reigning Champions Manchester City 3-2.

The result took Norwich three places up the Premier League and saw them finish in 11th place—exactly where one of our Saturday Morning soccer kids had predicted they would finish. By placing Norwich 11th Alexander Pipe reduced his score by 3 points and it was enough for him to take first place in the competition and the first prize of £60.

By contrast second-placed Jade Gustard had forecast Norwich in 14th place, so the result at Manchester City cost her 3 points and the prize for first place. She finished 2 points behind Alexander, picking up the £30 second prize.

David Springham, who had contested first place with Jade for the last few weeks, finished third, a further 2 points adrift and received a prize of £10.

In fourth place, picking up a prize of £6, is Rose Hutchins—one of Gary Hyde's many entrants.

Three people finished just outside the prize money on 46 points: Helen Tanner (another of Gary's entrants), first-teamer Matt Day and Under Nine Cougars' top scorer Alex Matsukatov.

The top seven positions are as below and the full result can be seen on the Club's website at www.leasports.com.

| Correct Positions: | | 4 | 15 | 3 | 6 | 12 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 16 | 11 | 20 | 19 | 14 | 13 | 17 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 10 | 18 | STANDARD CLUBS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|---------|-------------|---------|---------|--------|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------|---------|-------------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|---------|---------------|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|---|
| Your forecast in blue. Your score in black. | | Arsenal | Aston Villa | Chelsea | Everton | Fulham | Liverpool | Manchester City | Manchester Utd. | Newcastle Utd. | Norwich City | Queens Park Rangers | Reading | Southampton | Stoke City | Sunderland | Swansea City | Tottenham H. | West Brom Albion | West Ham United | Wigan Athletic | SCORE | Correct | One Place Out | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Alexander Pipe | 3 | 1 | 12 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 2 | 13 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 10 | 11 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 17 | 2 | 18 | 4 | 14 | 1 | 16 | 1 | 10 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 15 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 19 | 1 | 38 | 5 | 8 |
| 2 | Jade Gustard | 4 | 0 | 18 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 9 | 14 | 3 | 17 | 3 | 20 | 1 | 15 | 1 | 10 | 3 | 16 | 1 | 13 | 4 | 5 | 0 | 12 | 4 | 11 | 1 | 19 | 1 | 40 | 6 | 5 |
| 3 | David Springham | 4 | 0 | 16 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 15 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 11 | 18 | 7 | 20 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 13 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 11 | 6 | 9 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 10 | 2 | 14 | 4 | 17 | 1 | 42 | 5 | 9 |
| 4 | Rose Hutchins | 4 | 0 | 16 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 2 | 11 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 15 | 4 | 17 | 3 | 20 | 1 | 19 | 5 | 12 | 1 | 13 | 4 | 10 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 14 | 4 | 18 | 0 | 44 | 2 | 9 |
| 5 | Alex Matsukatov | 4 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 11 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 10 | 12 | 1 | 20 | 0 | 19 | 0 | 16 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 10 | 7 | 13 | 4 | 5 | 0 | 14 | 6 | 17 | 7 | 18 | 0 | 46 | 8 | 4 |
| 6 | Matt Day | 4 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 9 | 19 | 8 | 17 | 3 | 20 | 1 | 16 | 2 | 10 | 3 | 12 | 5 | 13 | 4 | 5 | 0 | 11 | 3 | 14 | 4 | 18 | 0 | 46 | 8 | 2 |
| 7 | Helen Tanner | 4 | 0 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 14 | 2 | 15 | 4 | 16 | 4 | 18 | 0 | 20 | 6 | 12 | 1 | 17 | 0 | 11 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 18 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 46 | 6 | 6 |

Full Results here:

<http://www.leasports.com/Datafiles/PremLgeComp/Results.pdf>

Look out for entry forms for next season's competition in the next few weeks.

It only costs £2 to enter and there are cash prizes to be won.



40 Years Celebrated in Style

Presentation Events a Success

Vol. 7. No. 12, June 2013

Thank You

First of all a massive thank you to everyone at the Club for the gift given to Ann and myself at the Awards Evening on June 15th. I was absolutely blown away by the award of a trip on the Orient Express and would like to thank Steve Baggett and everyone else who was involved in organising this wonderful gift.

The Awards ceremonies for the Under 18 Firesharks and for the rest of the club took place on June 13th and 15th respectively and both were a roaring success. The main event was partnered with a game of Lea Sports Veterans in which nearly 30 former players took part (although to say it was a trials match for Baggy's team next season is maybe a bit harsh!).

The Firesharks asked me to be the guest of honour at their presentation evening and they celebrated a great season in style.



Rain threatened to spoil the Saturday event as the Under Nines kicked off proceedings with a mini-tournament in soggy conditions, but the lads did not let the weather dampen their spirits and all the boys had a great time. I'm sure FA Regulations would probably prevent me from telling you the results of the games, but anyway I don't know them (and what does it matter anyway?)

Following presentations to the Under 7 Jaguars and to the Under 9 teams, the Cougars managers were serenaded by their squad. No truth in the rumour that we're starting a PSG choir! The Under 10s presented their Championship medals followed by the Under Fifteens, until the event moved on into the evening, when lots of rather red-faced Veterans joined our adult squads for the presentations to the First and Second Teams.



Joint Mini Golden Boot Winners
Ben Bayley and Alex Matsukatov

An Apology to Jack

It was pointed out to me that Jack Baggett was omitted from the list of members of The 200 Club (players with 200+ appearances) . Jack has made a total of 254 appearances, scoring 63 goals since his debut for the Under 12s in September 2002. Sorry!



News From the Annual General Meeting

15 people attended the Club's AGM, held at the Pirton Clubhouse on June 3rd 2013.

The Chairman Phil Toyer, in his Opening Remarks, thanked the Committee for their hard work in making this a successful season, which included Championships for the Under 18 Firesharks and the Under Tens (to be known next season as the Under 11 Tigers). Phil also thanked our sponsors and the volunteers who man the kitchen on match days.

Secretary Steve Smith regretted the loss of the Saturday XI, but also congratulated the successful teams this season. Our secure financial position had allowed us to erect training lights for the youth teams this season.

A discussion took place regarding annual subscriptions, especially in the light of the fact that the Hertfordshire FA were introducing compulsory insurance for all Clubs in the 2013-14 season. Details of the cover will be given to all players before the start of the new season. The outcome of the discussion was that annual subs will be simplified for youth players in future— this simplification being brought in over the next 2 seasons.

For the coming season, annual subs for youth players will be:

| | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| Under 18, Under 16, Under 13 | - £65 |
| Under 11 | - £60 |
| Under 10 | - £50 |
| Under 8 | - £40 |

From 2014-15, this will be further simplified to

| | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Nine- and Eleven-a-side teams | £70 |
| Five- and Seven-a-side teams | £50. |

Election of Officers:

The changes from the current season are:

| | |
|---|--|
| North Home Counties Secretary & First Team Manager: | Rich Masters |
| Under 13 Leopards Manager: | Keith Narroway, assisted by Lynda Cole |
| Under 8 Jaguars Manager: | Alex Carter-Gaunt, assisted by Anne Chatterton |

The other main talking points were which league the Under 11 Tigers should play in, since it appears the BMSL does not offer an under 11 option; whether the Under Sixteens will run one or two sides and which leagues the current Under 9 Pumas and Panthers will play in, considering that the Royston Crow League switches to Sundays at under 10. The chances are that teams will operate on Saturdays **and** Sundays in the Crow and Chiltern Sevens leagues.



PIRTON SUMMER FAIR 2013

sponsored by

123rf.com

This year's Pirton Summer Fair takes place on **Saturday, July 13th from 1pm.**

There is a wide variety of stalls and activities, including Community Games for the children and of course the brilliant air display at the heart of the event. Proceeds from the Summer Fair go to Pirton Sports and Social Club, which means that the football club is indirectly benefitting from this event, so please support it if you can. It should be a 'Grand Day Out!'

(Entrance is just £2 for adults and FREE for kids).

Also, if you haven't done so already, please buy a ticket (or 2, or 3...) for the Grand Summer Draw. Prizes are being added all the time, but the current list is shown below. See your team Manager or Steve Smith or Alan Scott for a ticket.

Summer Draw Prizes include:

- ◆ 1 week free ski apartment (sleeps 4-6) in the up-and-coming Bulgarian ski resort of Bansko
- ◆ Glider Trial Flight courtesy of the London Gliding Club
- ◆ Amazon Kindle Fire HD tablet courtesy of AMT-SYBEX Ltd.
- ◆ £100 cash prize courtesy of Welwyn Tool Group Ltd
- ◆ £30 Voucher for The Snow Centre
- ◆ Gift Voucher from Sew Much Moore
- ◆ Meal Voucher for The Motte and Bailey
- ◆ Meal for two for The Fox
- ◆ Bottles of wine courtesy of The Fox
- ◆ Luxury Summer Hamper courtesy of TESCO
- ◆ Free Family Pass – 360 Stevenage

TICKETS:



etc, etc....

Please support Under 16 Coach, Neil Emmerson, in his new venture.....



DSA ADI. Retired Traffic Police Sergeant
Member of Institute of Advanced Motorists
Discounts on block bookings for LeaSports

Contact **Neil Emmerson**: 07827 574292

Email: Linksdrivingschool@mail.com

web: www.linksdrivingschool.co.uk



Premier League Competition

Last year's competition was decided on the final day of the season, with Norwich recording a surprise victory over Manchester City to change the course of the cash. Just goes to show that you need as much luck as skill to win this competition. Why not give us your forecast?

- ◆ Can the Special One take Chelsea to the title?
- ◆ Will Hull City and Crystal Palace find the competition too fierce?
- ◆ Will Tottenham finally make it into a Champions League spot?

Have a go – it's only two quid...Cash prizes for the top four entries.

Previous Winners:

| | | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------|------|
| 1986-87 | Steve Smith | 86 points | £12 |
| 1987-88 | Les McKay | 72 points | £20 |
| 1988-89 | Dave Pymont | 68 points | £30 |
| 1989-90 | Paul Gathern | 62 points | £40 |
| 1990-91 | Mrs. Sally Ford | 72 points | £35 |
| 1991-92 | Neil Slaughter | 60 points | £56 |
| 1992-93 | Fred Stiff | 90 points | £57 |
| 1993-94 | Mr. P.Lawrence | 60 points | £64 |
| 1994-95 | Mark Abrahams | 56 points | £71 |
| 1995-96 | Ian Scott | 46 points | £88 |
| 1996-97 | Alan Wright | 64 points | £80 |
| 1997-98 | G.Anderson | 46 points | £64 |
| 1998-99 | Roger Southam | 44 points | £85 |
| 1999-00 | Andy Barron | 30 points | £62 |
| 2000-01 | Colin Smith | 46 points | £45 |
| 2001-02 | Sue Lee | 50 points | £100 |
| 2002-03 | Graham Wyld | 48 points | £120 |
| 2003-04 | Mary Eagle | 50 points | £90 |
| 2004-05 | Samuel | 40 points | £50 |
| 2005-06 | George Chapman | 50 points | £50 |
| 2006-07 | Chris Hawkes | 34 points | £50 |
| 2007-08 | Ben Thomson | 26 points | £50 |
| 2008-09 | Glynn Isaacs | 50 points | £50 |
| 2009-10 | Sam Greaves | 30 points | £75 |
| 2010-11 | Stephen Prestidge | 28 points | £60 |
| 2011-12 | Andy Blades | 56 points | £70 |
| 2012-13 | Alexander Pipe | 38 points | £60 |

**THIS YEAR'S ENTRY FORM IS ON THE
NEXT PAGE. PRINT IT AND HAVE A GO !!**

Send entries to Steve Smith, 6 Great Green, Pirton, Hitchin, SG5 3QD
Make cheques payable to 'Lea Sports PSG'



CLOSING DATE: SUNDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 2013

The decision of the Lea Sports PSG FC Executive Committee shall be final in any dispute.
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Lea Sports PSG
Football Club
A FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION CHARTER DEVELOPMENT CLUB
PREMIER LEAGUE COMPETITION

**40 YEARS OF
LEA SPORTS**

Established 1973

2013-2014
(Twenty-eighth Season)



The object of the Competition is to forecast the final position of each of the twenty teams in the Premiership for the coming season.

The teams are listed below in alphabetical order and you are asked to write the position of each one alongside the name.

To calculate the score, we work out the difference between the *actual* position of the team and your *forecasted* position. For example, if you put Chelsea 6th and they finish 14th you score 8 points. The points for each team are added up and the person with the lowest total is the winner.

If two or more people have the same score, then the number of correct forecasts and forecasts one position out are used as a tie-breaker.

Regular updates are available on the Club website: www.leasports.com

| | | |
|------------|--------------------------|--|
| 1. | ARSENAL | |
| 2. | ASTON VILLA | |
| 3. | CARDIFF CITY | |
| 4. | CHELSEA | |
| 5. | CRYSTAL PALACE | |
| 6. | EVERTON | |
| 7. | FULHAM | |
| 8. | HULL CITY | |
| 9. | LIVERPOOL | |
| 10. | MANCHESTER CITY | |
| 11. | MANCHESTER UNITED | |
| 12. | NEWCASTLE UNITED | |
| 13. | NORWICH CITY | |
| 14. | SOUTHAMPTON | |
| 15. | STOKE CITY | |
| 16. | SUNDERLAND | |
| 17. | SWANSEA CITY | |
| 18. | TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR | |
| 19. | WEST BROMWICH A. | |
| 20. | WEST HAM UNITED | |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| NAME: | |
| ADDRESS: | |
| Lea Sports Contact | |



Award Winners 2013

First XI

Manager's Player, Players' Player: Michael McMaugh

Players' Player Runner-Up: Jamie Richards

Top Goalscorer: Gary Raymond. Clubman: Scott Morgan

Second XI

Manager's Player: Oliver Palmer. Players' Player, Top Scorer: Tom Newland

Under 18 Firesharks

Team Award, Top Scorer: Liam Brooks. Team Award: Steve Bryan

Players' Player: Joe Miley. Supporters' Player: Matt Hill

Under Fifteens

Manager's Players: Harry Burton, Thowhid Sobhani

Manager's Player: Taylor Forde. Most Improved Player: Matt Mills

Coaches' Players: Josh Dell, Max Burrows, Josh Coleman

Players' Players: Taylor Forde, Finn McKeown

Clubmen: Jake Rolt, Liam Brennan, Jesse Bharwaney

Under Tens

Manager's Player: Dylan Carpenter. Players' Player: Findlay Norrington

Top Goalscorer, Parents' Player: Henry Brown

Under Nines Panthers & Pumas

Players' Player: Oliver Scott. Top Goalscorer: Ben Bayley

Clubman: Matthew Morton. Most Improved Player: Lewis Manning

Under Nines Cougars

Manager's Player: Joel Testar. Players' Player: Bradley Cole

Top Goalscorer: Alex Matsukatov

Under Sevens Jaguars

Coach's Player: Oliver Humphries. Most Improved Player: Albert Simmonds

Top Goalscorer, Players' Player: Samuel Bayley

Golden Boot (11-a-side top scorer)

Liam Brooks (Under 18 Firesharks) 27 goals

Mini Golden Boot (7-a-side top scorer)

Ben Bayley, Alex Matsukatov (24 goals)

Steve Smith Trophy (5-a-side top scorer)

Samuel Bayley (48 goals)

200 Appearances

Ben Alderton, Paul Maclennan

Premier League Competition

1st— Alexander Pipe 38 points

2nd— Jade Gustard 40 points

3rd—David Springham 42 points

4th—Rose Hutchins 44 points

Copies of the Lea Sports PSG Commemorative Yearbook are still available—contact me if you want a copy, or read online [here](#).

