

# Comberton 1 v Cambourne 0

12<sup>th</sup> November 2011

## Attendance 31

The rumour mill was working at full output all week concerning the visit of the undefeated league leaders. Whispers of gamesmanship and conduct unbecoming of the marquis of Queensbury were the topic and the coffee bars, water fountains & social clubs of Comberton were loud and rowdy with opinions and opinions on the best plan of attack. Manager Steve Gruff designed a plan so cunning in its slippery detail that the opposition seemed almost hypnotised as the game got underway. Club founder Adrian Shepherd, brought a cheerful gravitas to proceedings and ensured a fair game.

The opening passage was uninspiring and both teams were guilty of showing each other too much respect. Cambourne are an impressive side and by far the best team we have played all season, big strong and skilful with a work ethic that would not be out of place in the Bundesliga. Unfortunately for them though, the Premiership is a much harder nut to crack, and brimful with passion and agility which is exactly what the Crusaders U 10 are all about.

Teddy Lee, Daniel Bates and Thomas Whitmore were outstanding in the first half keeping their opposite numbers in their pockets and generally making a nuisance of themselves. The referee allowed a pretty physical game to flow and the protagonists displayed grit and purpose in this battle. The game was goalless when the half time whistle blew, and for that, the team had to thank Joseph Benson, William Dyer and Bates who were all Herculean in their efforts to plug a free scoring side.

Both sets of fans realised the importance of this fixture and a discernible anxiety permeated a less than friendly general atmosphere. A distant strike off Benson's size 5 sent agonisingly high from an acrobatic James Pitford almost balm the throbbing temple, and some good striker bustles by Harvey Agg spread scraps of comfort for the nail biting few. Goalkeeper for the day was Isaac Ormershar who selflessly volunteered the position and with the defence on top of things had surprisingly little to do.

A little waft of fairy dust blew in from the west just as the second half was brewing up and James Edwards was alert to its magical influence when he rolled his defender and poured a full 15yard drive to top floor of hotel goal - serving all night with midnight approaching, celebration time; swallowed up by his ecstatic teammates and a smile the width of the river combo, the manager's tea was thrown into the skies and the home joy was carnival like 1-0.

A block busting last quarter followed with the Orange men playing some wonderful passionate football, full of commitment and desire and showing a resolve that was absent from their three

previous outings. All the lads played out of their skins today and were overjoyed with their own performance and the result, with a little tweaking they will be back to their irresistible best and looking promising for the upcoming away cup game next week.

Movember ; the month when men can justifiably dress like Yosemite Sam, nod inclusively and grow competitively beautiful bushy boomerangs under favourable conditions while constantly in the need for a pee.

Man Of The Match: **Thomas Whitmore**