

Old Framlinghamian Football Match Report



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

**Framlingham College -v-
The Old Framlinghamians**

**Sunday, 23 June 2013 at
Framlingham College**

“A NEW FORMAT; A NEW ERA.”




Framlingham College -v- The Old Framlinghamians Sunday, 23 June 2013 • Framlingham College

Sunday, 23 June saw Framlingham College, once again, open its doors to welcome a number of keen SOF footballers taking part in the third annual Old Framlinghamian football match. However, this year, organiser **Ted Harrington** (S 2010) changed the format which meant that, for the first time, an

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old
THE SOCIETY OF
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FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

Old Framlinghamian XI would come up against the College XI; something that Ted describes as “a new era” for this annual fixture.

A lot of familiar faces to Old Framlinghamian football returned to be part of this history making day – as well as see what the College XI have to offer. One of these players was **Chris Treacy** (G 2010) who, once again, made the long trip from Wales to be part of this fixture; and, despite the long trip, was able to show quality bits of skill and composure when required of him. It was clear that he was going to be a real threat to the College side.

There were also a number of new additions to the squad, not only out there on the pitch but also on the side-lines. **Norman Porter** (K 1957) took up the role of the SOF XI manager, having empathised with the ups and downs of Ipswich Town over the past 60 years, so he knows bad tactics when he sees them. Likewise he recognises, and appreciates good play when it happens. Norman was not alone on the managerial front,

“I CONSIDER THIS A NEW ERA FOR OLD FRAMLINGHAMIAN FOOTBALL. OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS IT HAS SIMPLY BEEN AN ALL OLD BOY FIXTURE, BUT THIS NEW FORMAT SEES AN OLD BOY XI TAKE ON THE COLLEGE XI FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER.”



TED HARRINGTON (S 2010)
SOF XI Captain

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

however and recruited the help of the young and energetic **Nick Whitehead** (K 2011), the former Head of School, as his assistant manager who was able to offer support, where needed, using the fact he knows the majority of the players well to the team's advantage. Both were fully committed to the role, watching the players during their warm-up and provided some sensational side-line chat!

The weather looked promising (something almost unheard of at **Ted Harrington's** previous SOF events) as players began to arrive from noon on Sunday, 23 June for a light buffet lunch, kindly put on by the College catering team, in a pitch-side marquee that was specially erected for the occasion. This lunch provided a great opportunity for the players to meet-up with their old school friends, as well as meeting a number of more recent OFs. It also provided a platform to discuss tactics, finalise positions before heading out onto the field of play for a quick kick about before the game itself got underway.



The SOF Vice-Captain, Benjamin Vinten discusses tactics with Jack Abbott during the warm-up.

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

Just before the game got underway, the two teams posed for photos, with **Dr. Richard Higgins** (Hon. OF) was thankfully on hand to take these photos before taking up his role of one as the event photographers.

With that aside, **Miss Leigh Cunningham** – a great friend of this event and former Liaison Officer at the College – received a Guard of Honour from all the players as a token of thanks for her continued support to Old Framlinghamian



Guest of Honour, Leigh Cunningham, receives a Guard of Honour from all the players for her support.

events. As the OF Society's guest of honour, Leigh was invited to start proceedings with a coin toss. The College captain, **James Green**, correctly called the toss and opted to let the Old Framlinghamians kick-off.

The past two games have taken place certainly did not disappoint and could only be described as a spectators treat. So with this new format in place, it was safe to say that there would be guaranteed goals again this time around.

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

HOW THE TEAMS LINE-UP



FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE

STARTING XI

Kristian Williman

Abiel Li
George Gough
James Green ©
Pablo Gonzalez-Ruiz

Max Bell
Daniel Rooke
Gabriel Ho
Ander Ibinarriaga

Keith Chan
Sadiq Keshwani



OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANS

STARTING XI

Carl Witham

Matthew Preston-Bloom
Daniel O'Leary
Mark Stacpoole
Dom Whitehouse

Josh Wilkinson
Ted Harrington ©
Benjamin Vinten
Jack Abbott

Chris Treacy
Hugo Hutchison

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old
THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANS

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OLD FRAMLINGHAMIAN

SUBSTITUTES

Leo Ahrens
Matthew Leung
Dolapo Oyeleke
Matthew Cheong

SUBSTITUTES

Oscar Ponton
Ali Norman
Jacob Carr
Oliver Cutting
Tom Edwards

ANY THOUGHTS, GAFFER?

“It is indeed a privilege to be hauled out of sporting retirement to manage a young and obviously talented OF team. Luckily I have a young and energetic Assistant Manager in **Nick Whitehead**. My main, but slim, qualifications for this job are having had a good left foot when at Brandeston Hall in the 50s, and having empathised with the ups and downs of Ipswich Town over the past 60 years. So I know bad tactics when I see them and enjoy good play when it happens. The main point of this afternoon is the fact that it is taking place, and so much of that is down to the tireless enthusiasm of **Ted Harrington**. We owe it to him to make sure that the event is a resounding success. I wish players of both sides an enjoyable afternoon.”

Norman Porter (Hon. OF Sec)
Old Framlinghamians manager

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIAN

THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs



CARL WITHAM (S 2011)

Goalkeeper: The man between the sticks; and eager for a clean sheet! Carl is a new and welcome addition to the team who has shown enthusiasm for this fixture and has always wanted to be involved since the inaugural fixture in 2011; however a number of prior arrangements have clashed and conflicted from him participating. Carl has just finished his

his second year at the University of Huddersfield, where he has been studying Transport Design, and returns to the College to make his debut, and see old friends, before starting a year's placement as a Super-yacht deckhand.



MATTHEW PRESTON-BLOOM (S 2012)

Defender: Another debutant for the OFs, Matt will be playing at right-back to mark the occasion. The 2011/12 College captain returns from studying Law at Nottingham Trent University. Despite claiming that his pace and stamina are not a big part of his game, he does bring a number of qualities to the squad, for example a lot of accurate passing, both over short and long distances, and makes up for a lack

pace with great initial positioning to make up for not being the quickest off the mark – he is also known for his tackling, reminding spectators that a well-timed challenge is still a big part of the beautiful game.

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians



FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs



MARK STACPOOLE (K 2003)

Defender: The fixture means a lot to Mark, who makes his debut for the OFs, as he will be getting the chance to play against pupils he used to teach/coach while he worked at the College. One thing he is looking forward to most is the opportunity to play sport on the wonderful ripe green fields of Framlingham College again, as he is now based at Woodbridge School where he is Head of Hockey and

teaches PE. Expect Mark to make a big impact as the game develops.



DANIEL O'LEARY (R 2009)

Defender: This fixture means a lot to Dan who has unfortunately, despite serious interest and a real passion for football, not been able to take part in the previous two fixtures. When not playing football, Dan is currently based in London and is just about to finish his studies, and would like to focus on music production in the very near future. Dan was known at the College for his long-range shots, this

is something the College XI should look out for!



DOM WHITEHOUSE (K 2010)

Defender: Having missed out on the 2012 fixture, the squad is pleased to have Dom on-board and to be a part of the first competitive fixture against a College XI. He has been looking forward to this fixture for quite some time as it will give all a chance to test their skills and also to catch up with old friends and really embrace the occasion. Without doubt,

a very keen footballer who has been played for as long as he can remember, and would describe himself as a strong tackler, and will be doing everything possible to ensure the SOF team emerge victorious.

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs



JOSH WILKINSON (S 2011)

Midfielder: This will be Josh's third year of being part of Old Framlinghamian football, having played a major role in each SOF football fixture that has taken place so far. Even though Josh has been playing upfront for his local team he will be taking up his familiar SOF role, playing on the right-wing, looking to use his pace and agility to the best effect against

the College XI. Look out for his crosses! Josh considers this fixture as a great way to meet old friends and teachers from when he was a member of the school.



TED HARRINGTON (S 2010)

Captain - Midfielder: Despite claiming to be nearly "scouted" by Manchester United legend, Roy Keane in 2010, his football career never really took off. Nevertheless, having just finished his second year at the University of Chichester, Ted returns to Framlingham ready to take the Captain's armband, leading the strongest looking OF side

so far, in this history-making fixture. Ted has the College to thank for so much, and realises the importance of all OF events, such as this annual fixture, as they allow so many old friends to reunite back at the Fram.



BENJAMIN VINTEN (R 2006)

Vice-Captain - Midfielder: Since leaving Fram for University in Canterbury, the SOF Vice-Captain has studied Architecture and Project Management before relocating to London two years ago. He brings plenty of experience to the squad, having represented the SU 1st team at Uni and has always

considered football a great passion of his. Ben enjoys playing in these annual meetings, and looks forward to this fixture.

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians



FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs



JACK ABBOTT (R 2009)

Midfielder: Yet another new face in the starting line-up! Jack, will be playing on the left wing, looking to use his pace where possible and attack the College defence – it will be interesting to see if any of the College can catch him (and his colourful socks) once he gets going. Not only does he bring his pace to the squad, but also has cakes at the ready

bring his pace to the squad, but also has cakes at the ready for the half-time interval. He has a good eye for a pass “in the mould of Tom Huddlestone” with similar fitness levels, but dissimilar hairstyles! Jack is looking for victory, and to achieve a better goal record than Huddlestone... We shall see.



HUGO HUTCHISON (R 2005)

Striker: After an incredibly successful SOF debut last year (netting four goals), having been recommended by Ben Vinten, Hugo was actually the first person to sign-up this time around. He describes the fixture as “a great idea and a great way to get OFs of all ages to participate in a fun, yet competitive sporting event.” As he is currently based in

London this fixture allows Hugo to see old school friends that he wouldn't have necessarily seen had it not been for this match. Comfortable with both feet, he is capable of beating players and use pace to exploit the defence.

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians



FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs



CHRIS TREACY (G 2010)

Striker: Back for his third SOF football fixture, last years' Man of the Match once again makes the trip from Wales to be involved, play and catch-up with everyone from previous years. He is also excited to be playing on the same side as Dom Whitehouse once again.

Treacy and Hutchison formed a deadly partnership up top in the 2012 fixture, with Chris' laziness often leaves him in good attacking positions in order to take advantage of counter-attacking opportunities. He plays a numbers game, given enough chances he's bound to score one of them, right? Having scored 4 goals in each of the two previous fixtures he's been involved in – point proven!

SUBSTITUTES



OSCAR PONTON (G 2011)

Just finished his first year in Leeds where he is studying English, Oscar returns after making an impressive debut in 2012. "This fixture is always a laugh and a good way to get back in touch with people, looking forward to it", said Oscar speaking about the fixture. The College XI should be wary of this man's pace and natural skills, he is able to glide passed

his opponents with ease, with or without the ball. He is also a threat from corner and has been described as a fox in the box!

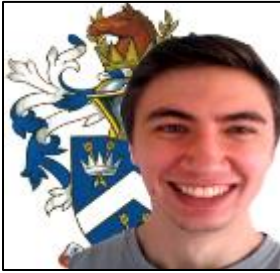
Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians



FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs



ALI NORMAN (K 2009)

Having scored a hat-trick against the SOF 'Suffolk XI' in his last outing at the College, it's safe to say that Ali will be an impact sub with serious affect when he steps onto the field of play. When asked what he is looking forward to about the fixture, Ali responded with "Well, it's a good opportunity to catch up with old friends and be embarrassed at how unfit

we've got!" He loves his long range shots and has a real eye for goal, the College can't afford to give him much time and space, otherwise they could feel the consequences!



JACOB CARR (S 2011)

Hoping to bag a few goals and provide some support up top as well, Jacob, who currently plays football (not soccer!) at Lynn University in Florida, where he is studying Investment Management, having just finished for the summer break. It is good to hear that he is excited to be playing this fixture as it is the first time Carr will be representing the OFs since

leaving the College last year, and he just loves a good game of football. The highest point in his footballing career must be nutmegging Alan Pardew at Charlton and his claim to fame is seeing Thierry Henry come out of the showers...

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs



OLIVER CUTTING (G 2007)

Oliver describes his playing style as being similar to Cesc Fàbregas... “if he ate pies all day!” He is currently working for an international accountancy and finance firm, but has taken time out from revising for his upcoming professional accounting to be a new addition to SOF football this year; and considers it an opportunity too good to miss; the

chance to compete with old friends against what the College currently have to offer on the pitch.



TOM EDWARDS (G 2007)

Back for more! Having making a winning debut for the ‘Rest of the World XI’ in September 2012, the OFs welcome Tom back to the squad, where this time he will team up with Dan O’Leary for the first time to form a strong centre back partnership. Expect Tom to get forward as often as he can though – especially for corners and free kicks. Even though he is very busy, working in the recycling industry, managing

a scrap metal yard in Colchester; he has taken time off work because he realises that this fixture is a great way to see people that he would not see on a regular basis, due to work and other commitments that everyone has since leaving Fram.

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians



FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

MATCH SUMMARY

This year's referee, **Dino Constanti**, blew his whistle and got the game underway at just after 2:00pm. It was clear to see that those representing the College XI started the game well, playing a strong early passing game and putting The OFs under pressure from the get-go as the old boys struggled to find their shape in the early stages. The former pupils had clearly underestimated their opponents having known that football is not an official sport at the College; but despite this, their level of performance was good and the OFs were on the back foot early on.



Captain, Ted Harrington, gathers his Old Framlinghamian team to discuss final tactics just prior to kick-off.

This pressure that the current generation were putting on the old boys would soon payoff with **Sadiq Keshwani** being put through down the left-hand side, the OFs tried to track back and keep their space but, are a few slick step overs, **Keshwani** was bought down in the box by the outstretched leg of **Mark Stacpoole** (K 2003). A penalty was rewarded to the College, and the opportunity to take the lead in this fixture. **Gabriel Ho**, a very talented young U20 Hong Kong international, opted to take the spot kick to put his side into the lead; all the OFs

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old
THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

could do is wait and hope that goalkeeper **Carl Witham** (S 2010) in between the sticks was able to pull off something spectacular in the early stages.

The OFs watched on and saw the College's penalty saved by Witham, who committed early and guessed correctly, diving to his right to deny a powerful strike and **Stacpoole**, who gave away the penalty, was on hand to clear it and set up a counter-attack.



Carl Witham guesses right and saves a penalty from Gabriel Ho to keep the score at 0-0 after 15 minutes.

This penalty miss appeared to be the kick start that the former pupils needed, as they started to find their shape and create chances for themselves; using their physical presence effectively and chasing the ball down to try and regain possession when it was given away and starting to turn the tables; putting the College XI on the back foot for a solid five or so minutes.

The first goal came just after the twenty minute mark. Continuing to build on their pressure they had built up, the OFs were starting to create chances, only to be denied by **Kristian Williman** in between the College goalposts. There was a great deal of fortune in

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians



FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

the first goal though, with a long shot from the OF midfield was deflected straight into the path of **Hugo Hutchison** (R 2005) who found himself in a one-on-one situation with the College keeper. **Hutchison**, the clinical striker that he is, was able to convert the opportunity he has been presented – not only putting his side into the lead, but also adding to his impressive SOF football record, making that 5 goals in two appearances for the OFs.

Now that the first goal had been found, this appeared to open the floodgates, and a second goal came along very shortly after the first. In an attempt to get back into the game, the College had committed more men forward but were not able to convert and were caught on the counter-attack once again. Some elegant passing play in the midfield and down the right-wing by **Ted Harrington**, **Chris Treacy** and **Benjamin Vinten** (R 2006) allowed **Stacpoole**, who started this particular counter-attack off, to burst into the box; only to be bought down and win a penalty for his team.



Mark Stacpoole approaches the opposition's 18 yard box moments before winning a penalty for his side.

Harrington opted to take this early penalty to try and put his side two goals up – and he calmly slotted it home to his left; sending the keeper

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

the wrong way in the process – **Norman Porter** said this goal was “his due reward for all his hard organisational work”. Despite this ending his three year wait for an Old Framlinghamian goal, he did not celebrate a great deal, but instead lead his team back to the centre circle with haste – it was clear that, with still so long left to play, the Captain wanted the OFs to finish the 90 minutes with something not too dissimilar to a cricket score.



SOF Captain, Ted Harrington, puts his team 2-0 up from the penalty spot; and in the process ending his three year wait for an Old Framlinghamian goal.

The match really came to life after the second goal and this fixture appeared to become an end-to-end affair with a number of chances being created at either end. The College were creating more of these chances, but would often be unable to convert; finding their opportunities all-too-often blazed high and/or wide.

Stacpoole made it 3-0 close to the 35 minute mark, after **Daniel O’Leary** (R 2009) intercepted the ball on the edge of his own penalty area before the OFs started to calmly play out from the back. The midfield partnership of **Vinten** and **Harrington** combined well once again, feeding the ball over to the left-hand side to **Jack Abbott** (R 2009) for him to find space on the halfway line, before feeding **Stacpoole** close to the centre circle mark.

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians



FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs



Mark Stacpoole charges through the College defence to make it 3-0 to the OF side; and make amends for giving away the earlier penalty.

Stacpoole was able to exploit the space available, using his pace to break away from the opposing midfield and then move towards their defence. Some nice build-up plays, topped off with a neat little one-two

pass between **Treacy** and **Stacpoole** created an opportunity for **Stacpoole** to fire from 25 yards – finding the bottom left-hand with pace and precision to make it appear that the match was already won before half-time.

The College were out of sorts in the first half, and despite creating a number of exceptional chances, were not able to convert any of them. The OFs on the other hand were taking their chances well, only to be denied by some last ditched defencing. **Nick Whitehead**, who managed to sustain an almost permanent stream of rolling subs, using this well and at key times for maximum impact on the game as it fast approached the half-time break.

The subs made a good impact, allowing players an opportunity to try new tactics and reshuffle some

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs



of the positions that. This change of tactics paid off just before the break with **Stacpoole** finding himself in a more advanced position, linking well with his midfield before playing in a low cross into the College box. New addition to the OF side, **Ali Norman** (K 2009), had an immediate impact as he was cleverly able to allow the ball to continue to travel and free up some space for **Josh Wilkinson** (S 2011) to fire home his team's fourth goal from 6 yards out – it appeared that the floodgates had been opened and it was a question of “how many?” would the OFs go on to score.

There was barely anytime left in the first half to really restart properly before the referee blew for the break – a much needed break for the College side and a chance to regroup under the words of their manager. The OFs, 4-0 up at this point, took a well-deserved rest; confident that momentum would remain on their side and that they would pick-up where they left off with their Captain telling the team to aim for a double figured score line.

“ALTHOUGH WE STRUGGLED TO GET INTO THE GAME AT FIRST WE WERE DOING ENOUGH TO KEEP THE OLD BOYS OUT. HOWEVER, OUR MISSED PENALTY REALLY TURNED THE GAME; HANDING THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs ALL THE MOMENTUM.”



JAMES GREEN
College XI Captain

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

With the players, officials and spectators had introduced themselves to refreshments - allowing a much needed opportunity for all those present to catch their breath after an action packed first 45 minutes; all appeared ready for a second half. A number of changes were made to both sides, with a change of tactics and formations to support as the players took to the field. The referee got the second half underway, this time with the winning side starting with possession.



Chris Treacy collects the ball in the heart of midfield.

The halftime team talk from the College's manager must have been still being ringing in their ears as they started the second period the stronger of the two sides – passing neat football, keeping possession and creating chances; however, just like in the first half, they were not able to convert these chances. Once again, they would live to pay for not converting these chances, with **Chris Treacy**

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

getting on the score sheet for the first time in this year's fixture. His goal came about after the College's passing game broke down in the opposition final third, when a desperate clearance was deflected into the path of **Treacy** just by the centre circle, with time to collect the ball and turn he was able to using his pace to run at the back four of the College. At approximately 25 yards out, **Treacy** offloaded the ball to the midfield and continued his darting run forward. After some short and sharp passes, the ball was played out to the right and was crossed in first time – **Treacy** was able to beat his marker and head the ball back across goal, finding the top corner in the process – the keeper had no chance.



Jacob Carr takes on two of the College's defence.

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

Five very quickly became six, with substitute and OF football debutant, **Jacob Carr** (S 2012), getting in on the act. Once again, the midfield played a major role, playing a pass-move approach well to create space for their team mates – this play was simply Barcelona-esque; the College could not get anywhere near the ball. This style of play allowed Carr enough space to line-up and calmly slot home his team's sixth from 20 or so yards out; Carr had made quite the impact since coming on.



Gabriel Ho and Sadiq Keshwani desperately try to discuss tactics in their attempt to make the score line a bit more respectable in the limited time they have left.

A big score line, with plenty of time in the second half to go; but the College players' heads remained high, a real credit to the school, and they did continue to give their all, clearly remembering the significance of this fixture. After conceding, they got the game underway once again started to create more chances from the restart – for one of the few occasions in this match, the Old

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

Framlinghamians found themselves on the back foot struggling to absorb the pressure. This pressure did indeed pay off, with the College finally converting one of the many chances that they had created to get on the score



Sadiq Keshwani and Tom Edwards compete for the ball in the build-up to the College's opening goal, which Keshwani was able to fire home.

sheet. The came through some neat play, using the width of the pitch effectively, before **Keshwani** was able to smash the ball into the net from close range. **Gabriel Ho** took the assist, certainly helping towards making amends for his missed penalty early in the first half. Looking back at the previous two fixtures prior to this year, once a team gets their first goal, whatever stage it is, they appear to go on and score several more in quick succession – was **Keshwani's** goal the start of history repeating itself?

Even with the large goal difference between the two sides, it was clear that **Keshwani's** goal had energised the College team. From the kick-off they were

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians



FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

pressing the ball and were able to get it back fairly quickly and start to, once again, apply pressure on the Old Framlinghamian defence – creating chances that were either not taken, or required some brilliant last ditched defending combined with a combination of saves from **Witham**. However, once again they could maintain this pressure – as another breakdown in their midfield proved, not for the first time this game.

This mistake would eventually lead to the Society of Old Framlinghamians seventh goal; it all started with a wayward pass from the College about 20 yards from **Witham's** goal – with this interception from **Matthew Preston-Bloom** (S 2012), the old boys

launched another deadly counter attack. There was not a great deal of build-up play for this goal, but nonetheless it was effective. The ball was quickly lofted forward and controlled by



Harrington, searching of his second goal, tries his luck from range – forcing a great save from the College goalkeeper, but Hutchinson was on hand to tap in the rebound.

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

Treacy with his chest, pushing it into the path of **Harrington** who was in space, able to hit the ball first time on the half-volley. His shot had the College goalkeeper struggling and was only just able to crawl it away whilst desperately diving to his left. Despite this athletic save, **Williman** was unable to really knock the ball out of the danger zone, this allowed **Hutchison** to run in after the strike; anticipating the ball not being cleared to net his second after calmly side footing the ball home at this near post.

This truly was game, set and match – with just over ten minutes left, tiredness on both sides had truly kicked in, a number of substitutes were made, including **Williman** for the College opting to play outfield for the remaining minutes – he would play up top, with **Max Bell** taking his place in goal. This change would prove to be a good decision by the College, as shortly after this change **Williman** was able to get on the end of yet another **Gabriel Ho** assist, crossing the ball in from the right and a glancing header made the score 7-2 with 8 minutes to play. If the College were to grab another one it would make the score line look a little more respectable – time was certainly not on their side though.

With just under 8 minutes remaining, the Old Framlinghamians regrouped with instructions

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs



from the side-line ringing in their ears before getting the game underway for only their third time in the match. Even having just conceded, the Old

Framlinghamian side

continued to press like they had been doing, knowing that the victory was theirs for the taking; using the last remaining minutes to shoot from range and try to provide **Hutichson** with as many opportunities as possible in his search to complete his hat-trick – this would be his second in two appearances in OF football.

In desperate attempts to not concede again, the College would just launch the ball up field wherever possible, not only running down the clock but also removing any pressure on their goal – one of these clearances, with just a couple of minutes remaining, went out for a goal kick; once again presenting possession to the old boys again.

It was from this resulting goal kick that one last



What a challenge! Even after playing nearly 75 minutes of football, Vice-Captain Benjamin Vinten continues to show the passion and energy he has been known for bringing to OF football over the past three years.

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians



FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

chance was created for the Old Framlinghamians; **Witham** took the goal kick and sent it deep into the opposition half, finding **Hutchison** for one last attack on goal. The striker was able to control the ball, turn and run at the defence, using everything in the tank available for this last attack – he was able to create a chance for himself after beating a couple of defenders before firing the ball home at the near post, thus completing his hat-trick in style, and taking his OF goal tally to seven goals in two appearances.

This is how the fixture finished, with referee **Constanti** blowing his whistle for the last time moments after this final goal to end this history making fixture. At the end of the 90 minutes it was the Old Framlinghamians standing victorious, 8-2.

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians



FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

MATCH DETAILS

<u>FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE</u>		<u>OLD FRAMLINGHAMIAN</u>
2	Goals	8
19 (8)	Shots (On Target)	17 (10)
6	Corners	7
5	Fouls Committed	4
0 (0)	Bookings (Red Cards)	0 (0)
42%	Shot Accuracy	59%



Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIAN

POST-MATCH RECEPTION

After the two teams had had an opportunity to freshen themselves up, **Harrington** and **Green** then led their teams up to the Paul's Court area, where a post-match drinks and sandwich reception was held, allowing the spectators a chance to meet the players and, in most cases, catch-up with old friends. While all this was going on, there was then a brief pause in which all the prizes were awarded, with **Ted Harrington** and **Leigh Cunningham** presenting.



Players and spectators recover from an action packed fixture and enjoy the refreshments on offer before Ted Harrington presents various awards.

This year the 'Man of the Match' awards – made up of the match ball and an Old Framlinghamian football shirt – went to **Benjamin Vinten** for his outstanding display in the Old Framlinghamian midfield; not only did he provide support to the OF defence, but also when given the opportunity was a serious threat to the opposition, creating chances for himself and

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians



FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

setting up a number of opportunities for his teammates.

As well as **Vinten** picking up his awards, a number of other prizes were also presented, with **Richard Higgins** picking up a bottle of red wine for very kindly giving up his time to be cameraman for the day – taking some incredible photos of the action!



Having just been awarded the match ball for his 'Man of the Match' performance, Benjamin Vinten is also presented with a limited edition Old Framlinghamian football shirt.

As well as this, the referee, **Dino Constanti**, received a bottle of wine as a token of thanks for being in charge of this fixture. **Norman Porter** (Hon. OF Sec) picked up the third bottle of wine that was presented for his enthusiasm, offering to come out of sporting retirement to manage the side and for his continued support towards this fixture. His assistant, **Nick Whitehead**, also received a bottle of wine for his support to Norman as manager, myself and an organiser and to the OF squad.

Finally, **Leigh Cunningham** (former College

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013

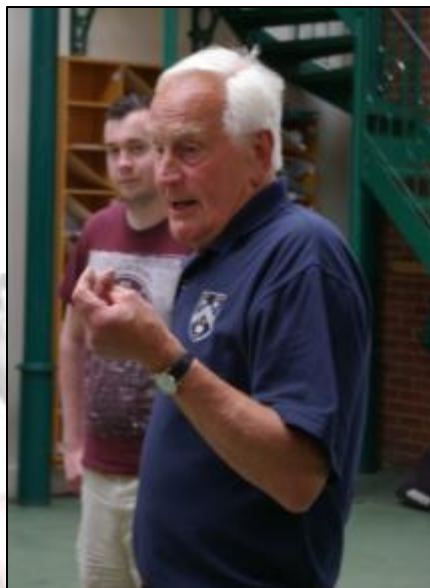


Old
THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs



Liaison Officer and the fixture's Guest of Honour) received a bottle of red wine and a limited edition Old Framlinghamian football shirt for her much appreciated work organising things at the College, without her huge level of enthusiasm to the OF Society then setting up and establishing SOF football would not have happened.



Norman Porter (Hon. OF Sec) says a few final words on behalf of the Society before both he and Ted Harrington wrap-up SOF football for another year.

After the presentation of prizes, **Norman Porter** said a few words on behalf of the OF Society, thanking everyone involved before the event was officially closed until 2014.

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians



FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

WITH MANY THANKS...

This year saw SOF football enter a new era and run, very successfully, under a new format in its stride to become one of the major sporting fixtures in both the College and OF calendar. This fixture was the first of its kind, and those that were involved will go down in Framlinghamian, old and current, history.

Fixtures like this would not, and could not, happen if it was for a lot of behind the scenes work, combined with enthusiasm for the OF Society and what it is that they stand for. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in making this event such a great success; I start off by thanking the OF Society for their continued support in the event ideas I have put forward during my Moreau Scholarship campaign, since leaving the College in 2010, for helping to setup and establish an event like this annual football fixture.

I would like to thank the SOF management team, **Norman Porter** and **Nick Whitehead**, for kindly taking up the role, effectively managing the old boys' XI and for bringing along a great deal of sensational touchline chat! It is fantastic to see that events like this bring SOFs together, whenever they left the College. Despite there being over a 50 year gap since the two walked out the College door for the last time as pupils, it is

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians



FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

great to see there is a real passion for the College – and that they are eager to return whenever possible.

There are also a number of people who helped to spread the word about this event and helped to encourage players to get on-board, for this I am very grateful. In particular I would like to highlight the levels of help that **Peter Howard-Dobson** (R 1969), **Tim Mitchell** (R 1977) and those who manage the Old Framlinghamian website - for their efforts in helping to promote this event – they have been second to none in helping spread the word to a much wider OF audience.

Many thanks to **Simon Sinclair** and the College for allowing this fixture to go ahead and for liaising with FramLesuire to ensure that everything is in place; and to **John Betham**, the College head of catering, and his team for supplying a great pre and post-match refreshments.

Finally I would like to thank the players, both of the College and the Old Framlinghamians that came forward. It goes without saying that you are the reason SOF events happen, special mention must go to this year's 'Man of the Match' and the Old Framlinghamian Vice-Captain, **Benjamin Vinten**; travelling up from London for the day to be part of the fixture for a third time. As well as our 'Man of the Match', to **Chris Treacy**, once

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs



again making the trip from Bangor in Wales to play this year. I would like to also **Mark Lavery** and **Dino Constanti** for organising a strong College team – the score line does not appear to be a fair reflection on the match itself.

Without doubt, SOF football will be back in 2014 to kick start a yearlong celebration of Framlingham College turning 150 years old. After seeing the success of this year against the College XI, this format will once again be the case – especially seeing as a fixture against the College XI appears to have added some “magic” to this already successful fixture.

Looking even further ahead, I have big plans for Framlingham College’s 150th anniversary, with SOF football featuring in some way, but on a much larger scale, to help celebrate the milestone occasion. I have already made brief initial contact with the necessary parties about something I will bill as “a once in a lifetime” event – watch this space!

I really appreciate all the support my events have received, so far, since leaving the College. Bring on next year!

Ted Harrington (S 2010)
SOF Football Coordinator

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs

GOT A STORY TO SHARE? TWEET US!



You know what they say, “better late than never”! With the OF Society taking to Facebook in mid-2011, we are now excited to announce that we’re on Twitter too - **@Framlinghamians**.

We have decided to launch a Twitter account to target the younger generations that make up the Society, hoping to get Society news out there to OFs more conveniently and much more immediately – we’re fully aware that Twitter is such a powerful tool to use, and appears to be playing more of a role in people’s day-to-day lives. With the 150th anniversary just around the corner, it seems like the perfect time to hop on the Twitter bandwagon.

Most OF website stories will be shared to the new Twitter account; as well as stories that are not linked to website articles. Should you wish to share some news, please contact our Twitter admin team (**Peter Howard-Dobson, Chris Essex, Tim Mitchell and Ted Harrington**) via email – twitter@oldframlinghamian.com

The Society and I encourage you all to visit the new Twitter account and “follow” it to make sure that you get news updates appear on your account homepage – but, if you’re already on Twitter, you’ll know how it works already!

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old
THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs



THANK YOU, LEIGH...

Ted Harrington (S 2010), one of the SOF 2010 Moreau Scholars, writes:

A very special mention must go to **Miss Leigh Cunningham** and her team at the College. I have had the pleasure of working with Leigh on a number of events for the past four years; and it is clear to see that the passion for the Alumni events that Leigh shows is second to none; and without Leigh's organised and enthusiastic approach with the OF Society and College events, a fixture like this would never have been as successful as it has been over the past three years. It is a real shame that Leigh has decided to move on from the College.

Myself and the OF Society would like to wish Leigh every success in her future endeavours and highlight that her departure is a huge loss to the College.

Thank you; and the very best of luck, Leigh!



Ted Harrington presents Leigh Cunningham with an Old Framlinghamian football shirt as a token of thanks for her continued support to this fixture and the OF Society.

Framlingham College • Sunday, 23 June 2013



Old THE SOCIETY OF
Framlinghamians

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE
-v-
THE OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANs



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