



Thornleigh Sports & Recreation Club Inc.

SOCCER DIVISION

BLUE & GOLD NEWSLETTER

27th May 2006



Deadline for Blue & Gold: MONDAY 3pm

Email to kedrummond@optusnet.com.au

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The weather continues to be kind to us with the past weekend being exceptionally fine. It was great news to hear that the Premier League have finally broken their drought with both teams posting convincing wins over Epping YMCA. With a home game scheduled for next week at Oakleigh Thunder Dome, it should prove an interesting clash with North Epping Rangers. Hopefully our supporters will be out in force to show their true colours.

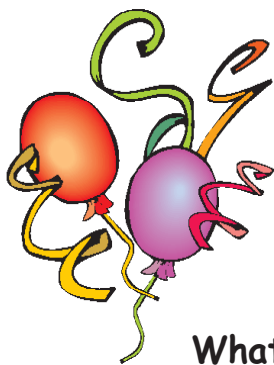
Preparations under the leadership of Peter Krisenthal, Graham Tingle and Craig Denyer are continuing for our Under 7 Gala Day and we are looking forward to generous support from club members in running this day.

I am pleased to announce that Tony Ruttyn (Mr Entertainment) will be hosting the upcoming Thornleigh Trivia Night on July 1. Tickets are now on sale and although the night will have a World Cup Theme, the trivia will be mainly of a general nature. Please contact Glen DeNardi to book your table and choose your World Cup Team.

Remember, the main purpose of the club is to make soccer enjoyable for all, let's not lose sight of this important goal.

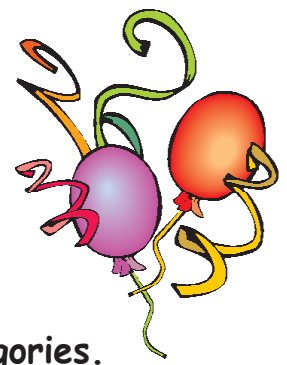
Yours in commitment,

Rob Roberts



THUNDER FC TRIVIA NIGHT

Bigger & Better Than Before!



- What:** General trivia questions from various categories.
- Where:** Thornleigh West Primary School
- When:** July 1, 2006 - 7.30pm-midnight
- Cost:** \$20 per ticket, tables 8-10
- Bookings:** Glen DeNardi Phone: 0408418131
- Theme:** World Cup Soccer (each table will represent a team from the World Cup)
- Presenter:** Tony Ruttyn (Mr Entertainment)

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Thunder FC Sponsors - 2006 Season

Thunder FC relies on the financial support of it's sponsors to provide the necessary gear and equipment and supplement the various running costs of the club. Therefore, we gratefully acknowledge the support of the following sponsors for the 2006 season and encourage everyone associated with Thunder FC to support these local businesses.

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Match Reports

U6 ECHIDNAS THORNEIGH 0 v HILLS HAWKS 1

This was a close match. MICHAEL SRAMECK was away sick and we missed him. Still, despite often being a player short, the remainder did a good job. LOUISA LAWRENCE did a great job as goalie in the first half making some great saves. DYLAN DONOVAN and TIMOTHY REYNOLDS showed some amazing teamwork with TIM setting up the ball and DYLAN making a goal attempt, only just thwarted by the Hills goalie. In the second half the players were getting a bit tired but THOMAS DAKIN got into the throng around the ball and got some good ball contact, LOUISA did some great goal runs with 3 goal attempts and DYLAN did an amazing run the full length of the pitch. KARINA GREEN was doing some good defense work until she fell over and came off injured and ELANI WILD did a great job as goalie saving 6 goal attempts from Hills and got player of the week for it. All in all an evenly matched game as shown by the score.

U6 EMU THORNLEIGH 2 vs BEECROFT 5 20 May

In the first half HAMISH CROKER was our goalie and he did a very good job. Nevertheless Beecroft scored a goal after a hard fight for the ball in front of the goal. NIKLAS WAGNER showed really good actions as he almost scored the first goal in this game and he had a goal in the second half, but the game was unfortunately stopped at that time. ETHAN GODFREY had an incredible run over the whole field and got rewarded with the first goal for Thornleigh. LIAM GODFREY and HAMISH CROKER showed good team spirit in saving the ball on the line. Seconds before half time, Beecroft scored another goal. In the second half NICHOLAS PANZERA was our no. 1 and showed good efforts and had some really good saves. After Beecroft scored another goal, JOSHUA MUCH was rewarded for his fights for the ball with the second goal for Thornleigh. LEWIS HABROUK was the unlucky fellow this week. He wasn't just the fastest on the field, but also the best fighter. Unfortunately, he couldn't score a goal. Although he deserved it.

U6 EMU THORNLEIGH 0 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS CHERRYBROOK 4

Sadly the result doesn't show, how good the Emus have been. In the first half a very good NIKLAS WAGNER was our goalie. He had some really great holds. All in all the Team looked much more organized this week. NICHOLAS PANZERA had some hard fights for the ball and showed good actions, he did nearly all the work in this half. LIAM GODFREY ran the whole field by himself, but the ball went sooooo close next to the goal. Sadly West Pennant Hills scored two goals this half. In the second half HAMISH CROKER was our goalie and he did as good a job as Niklas in the first half! But it looked as if our Team has given up every hope. Even though JOSHUA MUCH and LIAM GODFREY have been a good Team in trying to get the ball of the WPH Team, they had no chance to shoot a goal. And REILLY KING was just on his own to do all the defence work in front of our goal to support the goalie. He had some excellent stoppings but couldn't prevent the opposition scoring another two goals!

U6 KOOKABURRA THORNLEIGH 2 vs KENTHURST 3

HANSEL JI, our 1st half goalkeeper, had a tough job with the opposition scoring their first goal shortly after kick off. HANSEL fended off any further goals until the end of the half when Kenthurst managed a 2nd goal. MATTHEW BUTLER, JOSHUA BENNETT and DANIEL DRAPER all played a good, fair game. DANIEL's enthusiasm and diligence earned him the Skills award. BRADLEY HOWARD demonstrated increasing confidence and speed on the field earning him the Merit award. JARED DE VRIES played well just missing out on a couple of goals. JARED did manage to get one past the opposition goalkeeper scoring an almost unnoticed corner goal. ALEXANDER WALSH also managed to score an impressive goal in the 1st half. Unfortunately this prompted an ugly display of bad sportsmanship by the opposition. The star of the 2nd half was undoubtedly OLIVER DEWEY who earned the Player of the Match award. OLIVER took control of the ball and ran with it down the field on a couple of occasions leaving the opposition in his wake. JARED, our 2nd half goalkeeper, did a great job with only one getting past him. Kenthurst's final tally was 3 goals to our 2. The unsportsmanlike behaviour of some members of the opposition's team led to our conclusion of who the real winners were in this match. Three cheers for the Thunders!

U6 MAGPIES NO REPORT

U6 PLATYPUS**THORNLEIGH 3 vs BEECROFT 0**

Well, another day another dollar is what they say. Today saw the mighty U6 Platypus team play with the experience of a team way beyond their years. After starting their venture on the desert like surface of Oakleigh 2, the defence of RHORDAN STEVENS and QUINN CAMPBELL continued to frustrate the opposition as they tried to get near our goalmouth. CODY JERVIS displayed a high level of control in goals, stopping any shot and also booting the ball a country mile on his clearance kicks. YASMIN ZEID and TASI VELE (our newest transfer!) ran and chased well in the middle of the park, while our attack was eventually rewarded with a great finish by JOSH DE SILVA in the final minutes of the first half, which gave us a 1-0 lead as we went to the sheds. The second half saw the THUNDER pick up where they left off, running and passing, showing a great deal of determination. JORDAN TAYLOR and ROBBIE BRADLEY continued to challenge hard in the centre of the field while DANIEL MERRICK was unlucky not to score a goal a few times, as he tried to get past the Beecroft defence. QUINN did a great job in goals second half which allowed CODY JERVIS onto the field, where he ran and chased non-stop, providing great support for the next two goals that JOSH scored, which took our lead out to 3-0. For his consistent effort, CODY JERVIS received the player of the week award. It was great to see the improved skills and enjoyment that the team got from achieving this excellent result. The teamwork and sportsmanship is great, and the ongoing encouragement of our supporter's club on the sideline makes each week a treat for the boys and girls. Well done! Looking forward to next week.

U6 KOALA**NO REPORT****U6 WALLABY****THORNLEIGH 4 vs KENTHURST 5**

The game started with a fantastic goal to LACHLAN HARRIS from a very tight angle. Our first half goal keeper JAMES RICKWOOD was distracted by a call of nature only minutes into the Game, but did not leave the goal. Strong runs were made by JAKE DARGAN and DANIEL ABBOTT. Great support was provided by TIM LANE and NICHOLAS WENSLEY. The first half ended with a 3 goal to 1 lead. The second half started well with another goal to LACHLAN HARRIS. A fantastic break by TIM LANE resulted in a great shot on goal, only to be denied by a good save from the keeper. Without any reserves the team began to tire and Kenthurst made a strong run home. DANIEL ABBOTT the second half goal keeper made some brilliant saves showing all the skills of a future champion. In the end LACHLAN HARRIS finished with 4 goals. The player of the match was DANIEL ABBOTT.

U7 ECHIDNA**NO REPORT****U7 EMUS****NO REPORT****U7 KOALAS****THORNLEIGH 5 vs SAINTS UNITED SOCCER CLUB 6**

With a full team up against a capable opponent, Thornleigh were unlucky to go down by one goal. Our defending was formidable with DOMINIC MANNELL and LACHLAN DAWES (Keeper – 1st half) holding their positions and deterring many of the rapid advances of the opposition into our own half with sound clearance kicks to the sidelines. They were always strongly assisted by TOMMY JIANG and LIAM KING (Keeper – 2nd half) who both fought to regain the ball with great determination even when out numbered by their opponents. Our attacking was relentless with YASHAR ELLIIN weaving his way from one end of the field to the other to score. WILLIAM DUNN played with his regular skill and speed on the ball that turned the game at numerous points. Moving quickly from defence to attack were TOM McDOWALL, WILLEM OATES and RYAN SMART. All boys were having great fun and kept playing with true determination answering each opposition goal with one of their own right up until the full time whistle! With nine players, and therefore three substitutes at any one time, it is hard work getting players to come off the field to allow others to run on! Once off, the strong plea from each substitute is to be put back on again straight away! It is great to see the enthusiasm for the game of the Koalas is so strong and is getting stronger with each passing week.

U8 GOLD**THORNLEIGH 1 vs EPPING YMCA 4**

What a game, and what courage our players showed this week! It was a case of who wasn't injured! Our first half goalie, RYAN HODGES, was brilliant and managed to save many attempts by the opposition. LIAM KIRK took over goals after Ryan was injured. Further injuries threw the Team interchange plan out the window, but they all eventually played on regardless. There was a courageous attempt at goal by AIMME LOVE with excellent support from our forwards ADAM WALKER, JULIAN HASSARATI and JACK STEVENS. There was further excitement in the second half when ERIKA LOVE scored our only goal, earning her our Player of the Week, after being perfectly set up by ISABEL SEAMAN (our Most Improved Player of the Week). There was strong defence throughout the game from BEN HURWOOD, ADAM COOPER, LIAM KIRK and CHRISTOPHER WATSON. Credit also goes to our mid-fielders, with strong kicking up the field by JACK TOWNEND, NICKLAS RUSMUSSEN and ISABEL SEAMAN. Thanks Coach Steve & well done Team!

U8 ORANGE

THORNLEIGH 0 vs GLADESVILLE 3

The score line probably reflected the strength of the two sides. Gladesville had two or three stand out players and it was only through a strong team effort that our girls and boys were able to limit the score line. Thornleigh dominated field position in the first 10 mins with some great work by JORDAN, JOSEPH and MATTHEW in attack, but despite the team's best efforts we were unable to capitalise. For most of the rest of the game our team spent its' time defending its' half. However, there were some great attacking forays by SUSIE and ALEXANDRA that kept the team's hopes up and put pressure back on Gladesville. SUTHERLAND, JACK, SEAN and TESSA (player of the week) were tireless in the mid-field playing hard at the ball, with TESSA creating numerous attacking opportunities and attracting the praise of the opposition's parents. ANTHONY and AIDAN covered well in defence, created doubt in the Gladesville attack and gave the team some determined go forward from the back. NATASHA (first half) and NICHOLAS (second half) showed much poise in goals despite being kept on their toes, making some great saves.

U8 RED

NO REPORT

U9/2

THORNLEIGH 0 vs EASTWOOD EPPING 4

U9/5

THORNLEIGH 2 vs WEST RYDE ROVERS 1

U10/6

THORNLEIGH 10 vs EPPING YMCA 0

Welcome to the Sydney Cricket Ground for this weeks action. The "Sixers" are on fire and are all over the opposition like pigeons on pie crumbs. Play has been under way for about 3 minutes when HOLLY swoops on the ball, runs about 30 metres untouched and slams the ball into the net. Straight away the team is on attack again and wins a corner which TOM L puts into the goal square for JULIAN to smack away first bounce for his goal. Next up WILL strolls through some ineffective defence and nets brilliantly. TOM L then steps up with a boomer (first of 2 for the day) and we are 4 up and no one is even puffing!! BLAKE and ADRIAN are feeling left out so both whack away the first of 2 goals each for the game. We are 7 up at half time and considering a declaration to get the other mob in before stumps. JAY in goals has one dive to show for his clean sheet and the defence has not been stretched at all in the first half. The second half sees SuperCoach MAL move the defence to attack and the attack to defence so everyone can get a go. TAYLA comes alive and narrowly misses with two great shots at goal. TOM D does not see many goal scoring chances but he took one today with a narrow angled shot which gave the keeper no chance. DANIELLE and TESS stayed in the thick of it up front while ADRIAN in goal put in some beautiful practice dives with high degree of difficulty but no ball!! ANDRE played his normal high energy game and was everywhere in attack and defence while MAX pushed forward well in the second half with a couple of chances. While the "Sixers" got 10 today they would have scored more had they stuck to the game plan off passing the ball around and using the width of the field to stretch the opposition. Most of the goals today were scored through the pack and up the middle. While this was a great win the opposition was to be fair not strong and individual skills without team work will not beat the better teams. So "Sixers" let's lift the game to a higher level and let the ball do more of the work. Well played team!!

U11/3

THORNLEIGH 0 vs SAINTS UNITED 1

It was a match that saw a brilliant start in the first half where the Thornleigh players commanded the game mostly in the opposition's half of the field. Some good passing between JACK ANGEL and TRISTAN ZEID saw a number of attempts at goal. Some great forward play by the midfielders REBEKA FIELD, CAMERON SHARIFI, TIMOTHY JONES, SAMUEL CLARKE and MITCHELL TRENAMAN helped sustain this forward play. In defence we saw DALE EDWARDS, DARREN JOOSTEN and MATTHEW FORD frustrate the oppositions attempts to get close to our goals. Goal keepers today were XAVIER BOUCHER and SAMUEL LANE, both of whom did an outstanding job in defending the goals. Once again, thanks to MITCHELL TRENAMAN from the under 10/6's for helping us out today.

U11/6

THORNLEIGH 1 vs REDFIELD LIONS 0

U12/5

THORNLEIGH 3 vs KENTHURST 0

Thunder only had the bare 11 players today but put on a wonderful show of teamwork and spirit. Every player on the pitch put in 100%. The passing and backing each other up in all aspects of the game was fantastic to watch. The three goals were scored by our resident goal scorer MICHAEL GAMBLE, but were the result of overall team work. The teams passing and talking to each other certainly paid off and the score reflects this. The goalie clinic on Tuesday night obviously paid off for our goalie HUW FISHER who came away with a clean sheet. The whole team had a great game and all deserve a mention...so here goes: congratulations to ANDREW MEIKLE, MICHAEL CSOMORE, WILLIAM SOWDEN, KRISTEN WILDE, HAYDEN MONAHAN, ANDREW CARDWELL, TIM LOVE, JEREMY TOOHEY and ALEX DUNN. And a big thank you to our reserves on the day, KATHRYN MEIKLE, LYDIA WADDELL (both from under11s) and CALLUM TOOHEY (from under 9s). We only had to put KATHRYN MEIKLE on for about 5 minutes but it resulted in a goal from her pass...great work! Well done team!

U13/1

THORNLEIGH 0 vs EPPING YMCA 5

You can't really call 9:30am an early game but the start did seem to catch our boys off guard. The first goal scored less than one minute into the game and the second, not quite as soft, within 5 minutes, then all the players started to play soccer and with some good defence managed to keep the score at 2 nil until half time. The second half saw Thornleigh continuing to frustrate Eppings attempts at goal, YMCA wasn't able to make anything of their corners and the defence were able to put them off their shots at goal, but Thornleigh were unable to get many attacks going themselves. There was a lot of pressure on the backs and goalies, CHRIS and DAN, made some beautiful saves. While the score started to get away from Thornleigh they never gave up and it was great to see the effort that the boys, LACHLAN, CHRIS G, LEROY, HARRY, ED, DAN and CONNOR in particular, kept putting in. Coach's Man of Match: ED. Linesman's Man of Match: CONNOR. Reporter's Choice: HARRY.

U13/3

THORNLEIGH 1 vs REDFIELD LIONS 2

Full on right from the start, with an attempt at goal in the first few minutes. Good team play kept the ball up their end but we were unlucky to miss a few attempts at goal. Some great defensive play by NATHAN with some great blocks. Great team play by STEFAN and JOSH to give us a corner- great kick by DANYON. SAAMID was kept busy in the backs ably assisted by CHARBEL. An unlucky handball and penalty gave Redfield a goal but did not deter the boys from getting the ball straight back down their end. A penalty in the box gave DANYON a great goal straight in the corner of the net- 1 all! LEE and STEFAN were great at getting the ball up there all game. An unlucky attempt at goal by TOM kept the Redfield boys on their toes. A fantastic kick by SAAMID from the sideline was unlucky to strike the post but kept the boys pumped. BRAD continued to use his head. SCOTT was brilliant in defence. The second half proved just as fast paced as the first with some big kicks from KHAN and LEE giving us several corners. Good team play between MATT and JORDAN kept the pressure on the opposition until Redfield got a lucky break, got past NICK and scored for the second time. Despite that unlucky break, both halves were dominated by Thornleigh. Some great work upback by SCOTT kept the ball heading in the right direction where we were unlucky to miss yet another goal. This was a fast paced exciting game from start to finish and despite us having the majority of possession, a narrow loss of 2-1. The reporter's player of the match was NATHAN.

U14/1

THORNLEIGH 1 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS BLUE 3

What a great loss!!! Without doubt, this Thornleigh team's best game of the year. Until this game the opposition had not been scored against, for the season. A fantastic game which really showed the strength of the Thornleigh spirit. 2 first half goals by WPH put us behind, but at no stage did any of the team drop their heads; they fought on, attacking the ball at every opportunity. The opposition was shell shocked by our continual never say die attitude which was evident across our whole team. The second half delivered even greater resolve by Thornleigh, to be first to the ball and win every contested ball. Brilliant work at the back by MATT and WARWICK typified the teams commitment. DARRYL and JAMES had strong games getting touches all round the park. In the midfield NIC and LACHLAN were dominant, breaking through on several occasions, to feed our forwards. No one could question the commitment of MEL in goals, putting her body on the line and coming up trumps, delivering some awesome clearing kicks. JOHN, MAX and BEN ran their hearts out all day, beating bigger and stronger opposition players over and over. STEVE had a "you knock me down, I'll be stronger" attitude, being pushed and bashed around and getting up and winning the ball again. BRENT worked hard with some great runs and touches to provide several scoring chances. "The excitement machine" MR. JOEL broke away with pure pace and skill to score our goal and almost score another, just to be denied by the post. There is not a 'pile of praise' big enough to dump on the whole team and coach for the way they approached this game. Congratulations, can't wait to watch your next game.

U14/2 Girls

BYE

U14/4

THORNLEIGH 1 vs GLENHAVEN 2

After last weeks draw with Eastwood St Andrews who were tied with us for second place, the result was a little disappointing against one of the teams that is below us on the table. But that's the way it goes, many of the teams in this division on the day can win so you can't assume anything. So today we were on the receiving end of the result. The boys started off slowly (again) and although having many opportunities near the goalmouth we were not able to hit the back of the net in the first half. Much promise was shown on the field, with "Cool Hand" LUKE MESSINA getting a hand to the Glenhaven goal and almost curling it around the net. HARRY "fleet foot" BROWN crossing the ball from the right side to score a goal which was too hot for their keeper and thundering one home for the boys. ALEX "perpetual" HOUSE playing his awesome roving role and creating some havoc in the centre of the park. Glenhaven's second goal came late in the game, when the boys were pushing hard for the win, with most of our players forward, the defense was left a little frail, and Glenhaven were able to score a runaway. Sometimes when you flip the coin it will come down on heads. Again well done, exciting to see from the sideline, unfortunately it didn't go our way this week. GAME AWARD POINTS – HARRY BROWN 3, ALEX GRANT 2, ALEX HOUSE 1. TEAM TRAINING POINTS – JAMES CAPENTAKIS 3, JORDAN SANT 2, ALEX GRANT 1.

U16/1

THORNLEIGH 0 vs ROSELEA 2

AA2

THORNLEIGH 1 vs GLENHAVEN 2

AA/3

THORNLEIGH 1 vs GLENHAVEN 1

AA/5 WOMEN

THORNLEIGH 4 vs CARLINGFORD 0

Starting on time with a Thornleigh kick off, the girls got stuck into the game with an immediate advantage of playing a team down in numbers - The Redbacks, who begun the game with only 8 players. There were a few early shots at goals by ANGIE and LUCY, yet to no avail. The match was packed with great headers, particularly from MEL, MADDIE and KATE. And within 15 minutes MEL had utilised a gallant corner kick from JACKIE, kicking the ball to the top of the goals and on the rebound, with a brilliant header, delivering the ball straight into the goalmouth. In fact, the ball stayed down their half for the most part of the first half, our goalie, RHIAN, didn't even touch the ball for the first 20 minutes. KATE, LYDIA and ANDREA held the backs up perfectly, with some big kicks and well timed headers, to support Thunder's great play up front at the goals. LUCY'S next magnificent manoeuvre was perfectly crafted, as she went for a run straight down to the goalie and into the goals, for Thunder's second goal! She makes it look so easy! Half time, and Thorns were up 2 nil. The second half commenced with a Redbacks kick off, of which both teams were eager to control, yet the girls came out on top, quick to gain possession of the ball and head straight to the oppositions goalie. There was great footwork and skill displayed by JACKIE, ERIN and GEMMA, which was great to watch. LAUREN and LEE were great in the mid, their constant challenging and tackling of our opponents becoming vital. MEL confidently attacked a stray ball, booting it from her new sweeping position, right to Jackie up front, who took control of the ball and tapped it into the goals. MADDIE, who finished off what was a fantastic string of goals, attained our fourth and last goal of the day. Brilliant game girls, definitely deserved this win!

AA/8

THORNLEIGH 1 vs KENTHURST 3

AA/8 WOMEN

THORNLEIGH 0 vs SYDNEY UNI 0

AA / 15

THORNLEIGH 3 VS GLENHAVEN 0

Yes ladies and gentleman that score line is correct and you do not need new glasses, the AA 15 team have finally cracked it for a win and aren't we happy. This is a totally new team this year with several guys not having played Soccer before and many coming back after several years away from the game, and the boys have really been improving as the year has progressed. We have had some close games that could have gone either way but luck has not been with us, and this has left us languishing at the bottom of the table after the first round of the competition. This team never gives up and we knew that a win was just around the corner. We came to this game full of confidence that we could produce the right stuff, we had a new signing during the week (we had some money left under the salary cap) we signed MATT O who is a central defender and Coach Bruce knew that was what the team needed to stiffen up the defence. We came out of the blocks firing and were all over the Glenhaven team from the start producing some exciting and really impressive Football, as the ball swept from one end of the pitch to the other. Our finishing was not as good as we would have liked as many chances went wide or to the Glenhaven keeper. We continually mounted pressure and finally we scored a great goal from PAUL after following in a cross from PETER. We scored again before the break after once again great lead up work from PETER which allowed HAYDEN to slot one home. At the break the boys were brimming with confidence to go on with the job and we continually mounted raids into the Glenhaven half, but as with the first half we could not put them away. Finally DAVID K scored after CHRIS pounded one into the keeper who couldn't handle the ball and DAVID pounced. At the back our defensive team was rock solid with MATT O leading the way pointing the boys around the park like the conductor of an orchestra, cutting off any likely Glenhaven raids and launching attacks from the back, our defensive team of MATT O, DESHAN, LIAM, LEIGH, EDWARD and TOM were so dominant that our keeper BRYAN didn't have a lot to do and I think he might have got frostbite back there. Our Mids of DAVID K, TERENCE, RAKESH, MATT E and CHRIS had great games and were all over the park pushing the ball forward to our Strikers PAUL, HAYDEN, DAVID P and PETER who had a field day . Well done boys a great win and one that you thoroughly deserved, we can't wait for next week.

O35/1

THORNLEIGH HELLAS 1 vs CARLINGFORD REDBACKS 3

Dear Reader, with the international match in Melbourne a great success, all athletes voted (along with partners) to adopt a "Greek Style" strategy for the weekend....and so it was as we went 1- 0 down early in the game and were forced to come from behind if we expected to win.

ELIOT KENNEDOPOULOS was outstanding in defence, with TIM YEATESOPOULOS hungry in midfield and we scored a deserved goal taken by ANDE ARNDTOPOULOS. After a couple of Ouzos at full time one wife was heard to mumble "remember, don't look back"....sound advice indeed.

On the field, we were backing each other up intimately, not allowing their strikers in our back door, and were never backing out of a tackle and ensuring our strikers were aiming up.

It should be noted our next international is against the Dutch...land of the dykes.....hmmmm.....

Yours lathered in Olive Oil

Mr X.....

O35/4

THORNLEIGH 2 vs EASTWOOD EPPING 4

PL/1

THORNLEIGH 4 vs EPPING YMCA 0

What a difference a week makes in soccer. You could hardly recognize that this was the same team that lost to last placed Gladesville last week. LINTON ISTED scored the first goal, which was quickly followed by the goal of the season from AVAN YOUNG. I would probably need a foolscap page to describe the goal, so it's probably easier just to ask AVAN next time you have an hour or so to spare. Coach Carter was happy with the 2:0 half time score line but emphasized that if YMCA scored next they were back in the game. In the second half Thunder played some of their best soccer of the season. LINTON ISTED scored his second goal of the afternoon by chipping their keeper following good lead up play from RYAN ROFF. The victory was sealed with a late goal from TIM HILL. Captain AVAN YOUNG lead by example and was well supported by LUKE SMITHERS, DAMIEN SUPLINA and keeper JAMES MIELNIK. Players Best & Fairest was LINTON ISTED. Thunder's next game is against North Epping Rangers on June 3 at Oakleigh Oval.

PL/Res

THORNLEIGH 2 vs EPPING YMCA 0

Our squad contains three keepers and another field player who in any other team would be a first choice keeper. However due to chicken pocks, a car breakdown and player unavailability first grade keeper JAMES MIELNIK was called upon to play in both games. JAMES'S constant talking at the back was instrumental in Thunder recording their first victory of the season. He continually called back defenders when they drifted forward and made some inspiring saves. CHRIS WOOD scored Thunder's opening goal just before half time following an excellent cross from STEVE JACK. The team was well led by MITCH BINGERMANN who scored the winning goal following a good pass from CHRIS WOOD. With several players leaving shortly for the World Cup, as spectators, and others returning to the Old Dart our resolve and fitness will be well and truly tested. The team song was led by coach Carter as many of the new players were not aware of the words. Players Best & Fairest was MITCH BINGERMANN.