

Londoner FC

# The Reporter



## Don's rise to the occasion

### Weekend Results

- Dubliner served the French their first defeat of the season coming out on top 4-2 in a rousing match.
- Patana were unlucky not to beat the Vikings with the match ending 1-1
- Robin Hood kicked off their new year with a fine win over Seaboard FC 3-1
- Winking Frog and Bangkok United shared a 4 goal thriller
- British Club were emphatic winners over hapless and winless Blitz 6-0
- Shrewsbury slumped to a third 1-0 defeat this time to RC Pattaya

### League Standings

DUBLINER	12	31
<b>LONDONER FC</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>26</b>
BULLSHEAD	12	23
LES GAULOIS	10	23
GERMAN AS	10	15
RC PATTAYA	10	15
ROBIN HOOD	10	15

### The Dons ushered in the new year with an excellent 4-2 victory over the German All Stars in a hard fought encounter last Saturday.

The Londoner's first game in almost a month was eagerly anticipated by their soccer starved players with a little spice being added by the fact that Tan had defected to no less a team than the opposition and so some felt a defeat of same may at least underline his folly.

Londoner got off to a solid start with the ball being passed about briskly as the midfield sought a way through a clearly pumped up German team who were pressing the ball at every opportunity and trying to hassle their opposition into giving up the ball cheaply. A lively start in the heat of a 3.00pm kick off, both teams were keen to start their year well and it was the Dons who got on the scoreboard first after good interchange work saw Andy Wild play a ball through for Danai to get behind the defence before squaring for trialist Ernest to knock into an open net. Londoner continued to move forward at every opportunity but were finding it difficult to create further openings as the German All Stars tightened things up especially in the middle of the park and indeed they could have equalised when following a corner one of their players directed a header only just over the bar. The Germans then got their equaliser when their pressing tactics saw Danny Kemp lose out in a 50-50 challenge in midfield and the Dons

### Next Game

Our next match is on Sunday 16th January against Bangkok United. Match KO's at 4.30pm at Patana School for all lovers of the beautiful game.

defence got caught square as the Germans quickly broke towards goal. There was still much to do but the quality of the strike was excellent and the ball flew into the net close to the right hand post. Play continued briskly with neither goal being overly threatened and it was with relief that the players heard the half time whistle.

Half Time : German All Stars 1 vs Londoner FC 1

Coach MacDonald's half time talk clearly hit the spot as the Dons emerged rejuvenated and eager to get the lead back. Having been shot shy throughout the entire first half MacDonald urged his forwards to try for some longer range shots on the untried keeper and following a foul wide on the right Danai Downer hit a hard high strike towards the goal to see the keeper misjudge the flight and only help the ball into the net to regain the lead for the Dons. With their tails now up Londoner pressed forward with our second trialist Peter holding the ball up well and creating some opportunities. The Dons then increased their lead with a wonder goal from absolutely nowhere when Daeng let fly from wide on the left and within the blink of an eye it was in the far right top corner of the net with everyone speechless. Encouraged Londoner played some quality football and shortly after took a three goal lead when Peter found room on the right dummied the keeper and then placing the ball beyond his reach for goal number four. The Dons then went to sleep clearly believing it was all over despite the fact that there remained twenty minutes of the game left and quickly paid the price when good interplay by the German's left their winger clear in front of goal with all the time in the world to place the ball into the net beyond Torrance. Game on and this was made more so when Kemp had to leave the field following a clash of heads and suddenly the Dons midfield was all at sea and Londoner was looking very vulnerable. A long through ball had the Dons defence in trouble but as the striker ran through with just the

keeper to beat he rushed his shot and fired well wide much to the collective relief of the Dons defence. MacDonald reshuffled the pack to stiffen the midfield and indeed there was time for Peter to bring out two good saves from the oppositions keeper to keep the score at 4-2. Notwithstand-



Man of the Moment James Firth who became a proud father just before Xmas

ing there was clear relief by the Londoner players when the final whistle went on what had been an entertaining encounter. Both sides picked up yellow cards but they were mainly as a testimony to the intensity of the game.

Full Time: German All Stars 2 vs Londoner FC 4

Once more everyone in the red and white of Sukhumvit's favourite football team played well with Alex Stamp being formidable in defence when called upon, Danny Kemp solid throughout and getting four stitches for his troubles, Danai having an excellent second half, and Dome, Ball and Paum being their usual dependable selves. James Firth celebrating the recent arrival of his son, a new record for our youngest spectator ever, was faultless. Man of the match however goes to Daeng who did not put a foot wrong and scored what will probably be the goal of the season to give us a two goal cushion at just the right time.