

BOXING DAY FOOTBALL 2017



Once again, the players and supporters were welcomed by a bright sunny sky to the annual 1st A Birmingham Boys' Brigade Boxing Day football.

Some of the old boys (Si & Dom) were complaining about the temperature, but they were allowed to play with multiple tops, how things have changed! Once the location of the pitch

was agreed, so most of the muddy bits were avoided, the shirts were given out. Simon decided the kit he was washing was to be worn by the youngsters and Andy's kit would be worn by the old's. Mr Clarke led us in prayer to remember why we were here, with special mention to Mr David Pearce.

The youngsters were playing in the blue shirts and the old's in the red shirts. After last year's controversy with the referee Mr Clarke took the whistle and the game commenced. Simons first aim was to get his shirt as dirty as possible as he was not washing the red kit. The olds had plenty of possession and it wasn't long until a couple of goals were scored but then the youngsters started to play as a team and managed to get one back thanks to an own goal from Andy, followed by another one for the old's. The youngsters scored before the half time whistle with a good cross from Ben met by Lydia in the box, the keeper getting a touch but not enough to keep it out. The whistle was blown for half time 3-2 to the old's.



Refreshments from Mr & Mrs Clarke were well received by the players and supporters. Joe Basnett decided to spend half time demonstrating his frisbee skills. After a short break the game commenced with the first pass, from the youngsters, to Joe, who had now decided he needed his hot chocolate and ran down the wing with cup in hand!

As usual the old's (or the pensioners, as Sam Basnett was now calling them) were tiring and the youngsters tackling well and getting stuck in. The old's though managed to score a few more past the Hampson youngsters in goal. The youngsters were

coming back towards the end of the game, mainly thanks to the poor keeping from Si, how he could blame the pitch I don't know!

Mr Clarke was heard to say winning goal and Dom immediately scored, but the youngsters continued to play as there was no whistle from the ref for the end of the game. A few chances from the youngsters to score the second winning goal, but eventually the ref found his whistle and managed to blow it! Simon led the traditional three cheers for the youngsters, and Sam continued with three cheers for the "pensioners".

A good game played in the traditional Boys' Brigade spirit.

See you all next year.