



FRY CLUB COLTS

U15 MATCH REPORT U16

Number 1

Season starts with a win for both our teams

10th September 2001

Welcome to the new season, particularly to the new players:

NEW SIGNINGS

U15s

Danny Hunt started his football with Fry's as an U-9 – introduced to Andy Glover my wife. Not a lot of people know that! A prolific scorer, he notched six goals for Warmley last season and a further twelve for Whitchurch 'A'. With the service he'll get here expect 30 goals this season.

Ricky Anstey is a midfielder who was on Bristol City's books and was part of Brislington's triumphant double-winning team last season. Not registered in time to play in the opening two fixtures, he should prove to be a valuable acquisition.

U16s

Steve Pillinger is another of the Wellsway crowd and allegedly holds lots of parties hence is a popular signing. Actually plays in the centre of defence in between parties, watching Bristol City (good lad), and playing for Bath Arsenal.

Gareth Smith joins the select band of players who are doubling up for the U15s and U16s. Dave was searching for a gifted ball player with plenty of pace and stamina; good in the air and with a cannonball shot in both feet; with good tactical awareness. After looking for three seasons he's decided to sign Gareth instead.

Congratulations to all the players for their efforts during the past season, and particularly to the following for the awards they deservedly received at the Fry Club annual presentation:

Player of the Year:	U15	Jon Pitt
	U14	Nick Frost
Sportsman of the Year	U15	Ross Ashman
	U14	Phil Knight
Penalty Kings	U15	Rich Healey
	U14	Craig Palmer

And, at our own end of season presentation evening the following were presented:

Clubman of the Year	U15	Jack Gooding
Players' Player	U15	Jon Pitt
	U14	Mark Webb
Parents' Player	U15	Rich Healey
Parents' Sportsman	U14	Nick Guest
Golden Boot	U14	Jay Slade
Most improved player	U14	Liam Kavanagh
	and	Gareth Smith

And goodbye to....

Sam Jones who has elected to take early retirement and concentrate on basketball.

Nick Guest who won't be playing on a regular basis but will still be available for the odd game if needed.

Thanks to you both for past efforts and good luck with your other sporting interests.

Looking back on last season, both teams finished fourth in their respective leagues - their best positions ever. Maybe we'll do even better this season!

So, what happened in the summer?

We entered a few six-a-side tournaments, and had mixed success. Swindon was our notable success; it's a prestigious tournament with teams coming from a wide area. In the past it hasn't been a happy hunting ground.

The Saturday saw the U16s in action – the squad comprising of Greg Tucker, Steve Bacon, Steve Pillinger, Rich Healey, Dan Payne, Jamie Bryant, and Zolly Vanyai. The team reached the final, and twice took the lead against Burford Magpies, only to be pegged back. No golden goal was scored in extra time so it went to penalties – not our strong point. Still, an excellent performance to come runners-up.

Sunday saw the U15s in action – Curtis Jack in goal, Tom Hamblin, Craig Palmer, Danny Hunt, Ian Field, Ricky Anstey and Mark Pocock (a possible new signing at the time) were the lads. Whitchurch 'B' were conquered in the semi-final, and the opponents in the final were last year's winners, AFC Mannington. No score at the final whistle, a blinding save from Curtis in extra-time, Mark snatched the golden goal. Champions – well done!

Earlier in the summer we fielded our 'oldies' - Phil Knight, Joe Cook, Mark Webb, Gareth Smith, and Dan Payne, aided by Curtis Jack, Nick Frost and Mark Pocock. We looked good as we reached the final of the Brislington tournament only to run in to a 'select' team masquerading as Cadbury Heath, but not containing any of their players! We were the best club side in the tournament, but had to be satisfied with the runners-up medals.

Finally mention of the U15s at Corsham. Under the rules of the tournament if scores are level at the end of normal time then outfield players are removed at regular intervals until a 'golden goal' is scored. With Nick in goal and down to Curtis and Jay and only one substitute – Ross – Curtis played for all 34 minutes of the match and for 20 minutes as part of a three-man team, scoring the golden goal to secure a quarter-final victory; a magnificent performance. Unfortunately, we couldn't recover from our exertions and lost out in the semi-final, 1-0 to Chippenham.

OK then - on to this season, and early results have gone well, three wins out of three.

<p style="text-align:center">U15MATCH REPORTU15MATCHREPORT HENBURY OLD BOYS 'B' V FRY CLUB COLTS U15MATCH REPORTU15MATCHREPORT</p>

Joe Cook on holiday, Jason McCrossan and Jay Slade injured; new signing Rick Astley not registered yet. So, Andy had twelve to choose from including, after an absence of three seasons – Danny Hunt. With England playing with a flat back four and winning 5-1 in Germany, Andy elected to go 3-5-3:

	Nick Frost	
Tom Hamblin	Curtis Jack	Phil Knight
Gareth Smith		Ross Malone
Mark Webb	Ian Field	Craig Palmer
Dan Payne	Danny Hunt	

Substitute: Liam Kavanagh (Ian Field, 52)

Four minutes gone before the first chance arrived, a shot from Danny bringing out a good save from the Henbury 'keeper. Craig took the corner, deep to the far post. Dan headed it back in to the six-yard box, but Henbury cleared.

We to press forward, our midfield dominating, and it was almost ten minutes in to the half before Henbury managed to get past our defence. Nick came out of his area to tackle an opposing forward, conceding a corner that he then proceeded to punch clear.

An incisive through ball from Mark saw Dan force a corner, but Craig over-hit the cross. With Pete Hunt starting to get concerned that we hadn't scored yet, I reassured him that – even with Dan up front – the goals would come. Sure enough, with almost half an hour gone, Dan crossed in from the right for **Danny** to slot home low in to the corner of the net (1-0). Five minutes before half-time and Dan was again the provider for **Ian** to gain reward for his first half industry, sliding the ball home, despite the close attention of a Henbury defender (2-0).

A smart break by Henbury, down our left flank, saw a good cross to the edge of the penalty only for the shot to be well wide.

A long throw from Ross saw Ian knock the ball down for Danny to cross and Gareth was only just wide with a header.

HALF TIME: HENBURY 0 COLTS 2

Ross had an early half-chance, but was stretching for the ball and couldn't direct the ball on target, but with only two minutes of the half gone, **Danny** burst through from midfield, held off a challenge, and placed the ball wide of the 'keeper (3-0).

A free kick was awarded to Henbury, right on the edge of the area. It was good thinking by Phil to step out of the area after handling the ball! Tom deflected the ball wide of the post, but we were awarded a free kick for offside.

A good through ball from Craig provided Danny with another opportunity to run at goal, but the 'keeper was out quickly. Both players recovered from the resulting collision. Another through ball from Craig, but this time Danny took the ball wide and the shooting chance was lost. However, he managed to get in a cross that Dan just failed to connect with.

Ten minutes in to the half and Nick got down well to hold a low drive at the foot of the post, two minutes later and Liam came on to replace Ian, who was suffering with a stiff leg. A quarter of an hour gone, and we allowed a Henbury player to advance unchallenged to the edge of the area and beat Nick with a low shot in to the corner of the goal (3-1). However, five minutes later and a good challenge from Ross saw him gain a throw that he took quickly. Mark centred for Dan to crash the ball against the bar. Unlucky really, as the bar dipped sharply in the middle – just where the ball struck!

We were not to be denied though. Having caught Henbury offside, Tom struck the ball over their defence and in to the area. Three of our players ran through and **Dan** won the race to the ball and knocked the ball past the 'keeper (4-1). **Ross** then broke clear and slotted the ball home to equal the England performance (5-1).

Dan and Gareth then worked the ball down the right flank, the move ending with Gareth striking the ball only a couple of feet wide. Ross won the ball and Dan fed it to Danny whose shot was deflected for a corner. Craig's kick was well met by Dan, but again he found the lowest part of the crossbar! In to the last five minutes and Gareth's tenacity provided **Danny** with the chance to gain his hat trick, off the 'keeper's foot and via the post (6-1). In to the final minute and Liam was not too far away from adding a seventh goal with a strike from the edge of the area.

FULL TIME: HENBURY 1 COLTS 6

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FISHPONDS
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Jamie on holiday. The Steves at Ashton Gate.
Ryan not yet registered. We lined up 4-4-2:

Greg Tucker

Joe Garland Tom Hamblin Dan Payne Phil Knight
Gareth Smith Jack Gooding Rich Healey Jay Slade
Zolly Vanyai Jon Pitt

Substitutes: Ross Ashman (Jay Slade, 57)
Mark Webb (Gareth Smith, 60)

The new Fishponds – an amalgamation of United and Athletic – kicked off. Zolly challenged and won the ball; **Jon** took his pass, sliced through the defence like a hot knife through butter, and held off the challenge of two defenders to blast past the 'keeper. Nine seconds gone and 1-0 up!

We continued to press forward relentlessly. Having reverted to a flat back four and with the benefit of training with the senior players to improve their fitness, the fullbacks were expected to push forward more and Phil was soon on the overlap. In fact, we looked exceedingly comfortable at the back as Tom and Dan rolled the ball wide to Joe and Phil as we built attacks from the back on the rare occasions that Fishponds got the ball in to our half.

Tom flashed a header over from a corner and then as Fishponds did attack Dan intercepted, passed to Rich, on to Jay, then Jon, and a cross that Zolly just failed to get enough boot on to trouble the 'keeper – but a good, quick, passing movement.

Fishponds managed to beat Tom and Dan's offside trap and their attacker bore down on goal only to shoot weakly wide. We responded with a good run down the right from Zolly and a deep cross that Jon nodded down but Rich was off balance as he shot and the ball sailed over the crossbar.

With thirteen minutes gone, a throw-in from Jay surprised Fishponds with its length and Jon got in a good downward header from inside the six-yard box that the 'keeper did well to parry over the bar. Jack hit the corner was hit low to the near post

and cleared, but Rich played the ball back in for **Zolly** to drive low across the 'keeper in to the bottom corner of the net (2-0).

Dan again played the ball calmly out of defence to set Jay in motion down the left flank and a good cross to the far post saw Gareth stretching and just unable to direct his shot on target.

Twenty minutes gone and a good interception by Zolly allowed Rich to play a through ball for Jon to touch on to Jay. He elected to go wide rather than head for goal and his cross from the by-line struck the post.

Another long throw from Jay was only partially cleared by the Fishponds defence and Jack let fly from outside the box – again the shot sailed over the bar. Then some clever play from Zolly on the right saw him hold off two defenders and roll the ball in to the path of **Rich** who struck the ball home (3-0).

Gareth intercepted a Fishponds pass and made ground down the right before releasing Zolly whose shot was parried by the 'keeper. **Jon** was on hand to knock home the loose ball (4-0).

A good through ball from Jack sent Jon on his way and he beat the last defender for pace only for the 'keeper to get his legs in the way of his shot. A throw-in from Joe saw Jack move purposefully forward and strike a 40-yard shot with his left foot that went weakly wide.

Half an hour gone and a quick move down the left flank – Dan to Phil, on to Jay and a cross in that Jon met only to screw his shot just wide.

With half time approaching, Jack swung over a corner from the left and Jay glanced a header just wide. Then Phil was only millimetres away from meeting Jay's in-swinging corner from the right.

Jack lost the ball in midfield, chased back and got in a tackle, only to be penalised. The free kick was hit powerfully from 40 yards, but a couple of feet over the crossbar.

HALF TIME: FISHPONDS 0 COLTS 4

I told Jon to be a bit quicker as the half kicked off, I figured that with it being our kick-off he could get to the penalty area in about 5 seconds, but we got off to a slow start – it took us 45 seconds to score! A long throw from Jay wasn't cleared by the Fishponds defence, and the ball dropped for **Zolly** to smash home (5-0).

However, some skilful play by the tall Fishponds number 10 saw him weave his way in to the box and shoot across Greg. Although he got a finger to the ball he couldn't prevent it falling in to the path of an unmarked forward at the far post who had a simple tap-in (5-1).

Another break down the right saw Zolly lay the ball back for Gareth to cross and Jon to steer his header just wide. A minute later and a poor goal kick was hit straight to Jon who headed down for Zolly to crack a shot that the 'keeper did well to save, only for **Zolly** to follow up and bundle the ball home (6-1).

A good cross in from Joe saw the 'keeper flapping and conceding a corner. Jack's kick was met by Tom whose downward header was cleared off the line. The 'keeper then managed to block Jon's shot with his feet, conceding another corner. Again Jon managed to get in a shot from Jay's cross; again the 'keeper deflected it round the post.

Just under a quarter of an hour gone and a foul on Rich saw an altercation between him and an opponent that ended with the referee being pushed by the Fishponds player and Fishponds down to ten players as the red card was raised.

Tom took the free kick and Gareth and Jon both challenged for the ball and it dropped for **Jon** to hit home (7-1).

Another flowing move down the left flank – Dan, Phil, and Jay again and Rich on the end of the cross to bring out a good save from the 'keeper, again at the expense of a corner. Phil and Jon just failed to get on the end of the cross and Fishponds broke quickly only to be denied a breakthrough by Tom.

Joe, Gareth and Zolly then combined down the right flank, but couldn't manage to work the ball in to the area. Ross came on to replace Jay and we switched to 4-3-3 (I think!).

Joe and Gareth then set up Jack for another long-range effort that had more venom but was still wide.

With twenty minutes gone Mark came on to replace Gareth. Jack popped up on the right wing and Ross met his centre but he glanced his header wide.

Phil intercepted a Fishponds pass and played the ball inside for Jack to send a measured pass in to

the path of **Jon** who rounded the 'keeper and hammered the ball home (8-1).

Fishponds tried a shot at goal direct from the kick-off, but the move was telegraphed and Greg easily held the effort.

With a quarter of an hour remaining, Jon – out on the left wing – sent over a cross for Ross, but as he was tackled the ball popped up for Zolly to shoot against the post. A minute later and another shot from **Zolly** again hit the post, but this time the ball crossed the line (9-1).

Rich made a good run down the right flank and fed the ball to Zolly who turned it back for Mark to centre and Ross get in a header that the 'keeper handed over the bar. **Tom** powered in to meet Zolly's corner and head home (10-1).

In to the last ten minutes and Fishponds' defence was cut to ribbons again and Jon crashed another shot against the 'keeper.

Jack was dumped by a crude challenge (*poor Lulu fell over*), recovered after treatment and elected to try and take on the whole Fishponds defence to get his own back by scoring. He was a bit lucky, but **Jack** managed to score a scrappy goal (11-1).

Joe and Ross both tried to get in shots on goal, Jon had another effort just wide as we continued our attacking play. **Mark** completed the scoring, meeting a near post cross from Jon to place a shot past the 'keeper (12-1).

FULL TIME: FISHPONDS 1 COLTS 12

MAN OF THE MATCH

*Scot was the sole arbiter for the award this week. I am assured that no money changed hands, but the award went to **Dan Payne**, who had a highly average game strolling around at the back.*

Afterthoughts.....

Well, an impressive start, but Fishponds were more athletic than united. Can we show the same calm and collected play against Hengrove? We don't tend to do too well against them at home - in fact we normally get stuffed. By the time you read this, the game will have been played. Here's hoping for a good result!

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THORNBURY FALCONS
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Jason returned to the centre of defence and Curtis replaced Ross, who was rested, in midfield, otherwise no change from the previous week. Jay suffered a recurrence of blisters but Andy didn't know, otherwise could have called up Ross!

Nick Frost
Tom Hamblin Jason McCrossan Phil Knight
Gareth Smith Curtis Jack
Mark Webb Ian Field Craig Palmer
Dan Payne Danny Hunt

Substitute: Joe Cook (Craig Palmer, 40)
Liam Kavanagh (Ian Field, 53)

After playing in the long grass at Henbury we were rewarded with our game being played on the new pitch – the old hockey pitch that now bares more resemblance to a bowling green.

Thornbury looked lively in the opening couple of minutes, but we soon started to push forward and began to exert pressure, seeking to get the Dans away. However, Thornbury got plenty of bodies behind the ball and we weren't finding it easy to make progress.

With seven minutes gone, a long throw from Mark saw Dan turn his marker and cross for Gareth to lay the ball back and **Craig** to rifle the ball in to the top corner of the net from the edge of the area (1-0).

Three minutes later and a corner was cleared by Thornbury. A long ball forward saw Jason beaten to the ball by a Thornbury forward and although Nick came out to narrow the angle, he was beaten by a well-placed shot (1-1).

We went through a period of play whereby we were coping confidently with Thornbury's rare attacks but couldn't capitalise on possession and territorial advantage. Indeed, it wasn't until nearly half an hour had gone that we had another chance – the Thornbury 'keeper just getting his hand to Tom's free kick before Dan got his head to it.

A long throw from Jason saw Dan and Ian combine for Danny to lay the ball back for Craig to try his luck again, but he couldn't replicate the quality of his previous effort.

Phil then conceded a free kick 35 yards out, but the kick was struck harmlessly straight in to Nick's arms.

In to the last minute and we gained a corner, but were unable to capitalise.

HALF TIME: COLTS 1 FALCONS 1

Joe came on to replace Craig and took over the right wing berth from Gareth who switched to the middle.

We continued where we had left off, trying to press forward, but it wasn't until eight minutes in to the half that we created a chance. With the ball bobbling around in the Thornbury area Curtis managed to get in a shot that went agonisingly across goal and just wide of the far post. Two of our players just failed to get to the ball to apply the killer touch.

With just under a quarter of an hour gone Ian came off to be replaced by Liam. We gained a corner on the right that Gareth struck low and Tom managed a shot on the turn that was cleared off the line. Two minutes later and another corner, taken by Curtis, saw the ball half cleared. Gareth chased and collected the ball, just inside the area, only to have his legs whipped from under him. Penalty! Having won the penalty competition at the end of last season, Craig would normally have taken the kick – but he wasn't on the pitch. As runner-up, Phil was next in line; but it was **Tom** who strode up and hit the ball hard and high. Although the 'keeper managed to get a hand to the ball he couldn't prevent it hitting the back of the net (2-1).

Ten minutes later and Jason tried to run the ball out of defence, wide on the right touchline, but was robbed of the ball. Thornbury capitalised as their forward broke in to the area and calmly knocked the ball over Nick (2-2).

The goal seemed to rejuvenate Thornbury. Our attackers were being tightly marked and Curtis and Joe were being forced back to defend so they weren't getting midfield support. Half an hour gone and a slick passing move from Thornbury saw them break between Jason and Tom but Nick was down quickly to block the shot.

In to the final minutes and we were desperately trying to conjure a winner from somewhere. A long throw-in from Dan caused some consternation in the Thornbury area, but neither Danny nor Joe could get a foot to the ball. The

ball came to Curtis on the edge of the area and he lashed a shot just a foot over the bar.

Thornbury then nearly hit us on the counter attack, misjudgement of a high ball in the swirling wind allowing a Thornbury attacker with a clear run through and a shot that again brought a great save from Nick.

In to injury time and Dan fouled just outside the penalty area on the right flank. Tom complaining to the referee about the distance of the defensive wall – which was moved back two feet. Dan was on the edge of the penalty area as Tom stepped up and swung the ball in to the edge of the six-yard box. Timing his run to perfection Dan kept his eyes open and met the ball with a powerful header that flashed past the 'keeper and in to the back of the net (3-2). No sooner had Thornbury re-started than the referee blew for the end of the game.

FULL TIME: COLTS 3 FALCONS 2

Afterthoughts.....

Well, an impressive end!

We'd looked good against Henbury the previous week, but we weren't sure how good they were. Their 10-1 defeat by St Vallier probably answers that.

Still, in both games we battled in midfield, created chances, and generally defended well. Today, the chances weren't so clear cut; Jason had a bit of a wobbler at the back – which is unusual for him, but everyone has an off-day sometime; and we lost a bit of shape in midfield in the second half. But... we didn't get rattled, we continued to try and play football, we were committed, and at the end of the day got a result.

With Jay fit and Ricky available we should have a squad that is capable of challenging for the title. The ability to pick up wins when you are not playing to your full potential can be crucial.

The game against Bitton, runners-up in the League last season will be more of an acid test. Let's go out with our normal commitment and see what happens.

CONGRATULATIONS

Jack and Rich have both been selected to take part in a trial this week for the Somerset schools U-16 team.

U16 TEAM FACTS

F = Played the full game
 B = Began the game but was substituted
 P = Played in the game after coming on as a substitute
 S = Non-playing substitute
 M = Man of the Match
 L = League goals
 C = Cup goals

	F	B	P	S	M	L	C
Ross Ashman			1				
Steve Bacon							
Jamie Bryant							
Joe Garland	1						
Jack Gooding	1					1	
Tom Hamblin	1					1	
Rich Healey	1					1	
Phil Knight	1						
Dan Payne	1						
Ryan Perry							
Steve Pillinger							
Jon Pitt	1					4	
Jay Slade		1					
Gareth Smith		1					
Greg Tucker	1						
Zolly Vanyai	1					4	
Mark Webb			1			1	

FIXTURES

There is some doubt about which teams are actually playing this season – still! So, there may not be a match next Saturday – check with Dave.

Sep	8	A	Fishponds	12-1
	15	H	Hengrove Boys	
	22	A	Filwood	
	29	H	Whitchurch	
Oct	6		Cup – 1 st round	

FRY CLUB J F C : RESULTS

Fry Club U11s	0-3	Whitchurch
Warmley Rangers 'A'	2-3	Fry Club U11s
Warmley Rangers 'A'	5-2	Fry Club U12s
Coalpit Heath	0-5	Fry Club U13s
Fry Club U13s	1-3	Deerswood
Redcatch Sports	11-0	Fry Club U14s 'B'

STANDARD OF DRESS

Players will not be admitted to Fry Club – the bar area in other words in playing strip, regardless of how clean it is.

Similarly I won't be giving anyone a lift home from matches who hasn't changed.

You have been warned!

U15 TEAM FACTS

	F	B	P	S	L	C
Ricky Anstey						
Joe Cook			1			
Ian Field		2			1	
Nick Frost	2					
Tom Hamblin	2				1	
Danny Hunt	2				3	
Curtis Jack	2					
Liam Kavanagh			2			
Phil Knight	2					
Jason McCrossan	1					
Ross Malone	1				1	
Craig Palmer	1	1			1	
Dan Payne	2				2	
Jay Slade						
Gareth Smith	2					
Mark Webb	2					

Sep	2	A	Henbury Old Boys 'B'	6-1
	9	H	Thornbury Falcons	3-2
	16	A	Bitton Boys 'A' (played at Fry's)	
	23	A	Almondsbury	
	30	H	DRG Stapleton	
Oct	7	A	Frampton Rangers 'A'	
	14	H	Whitchurch Sports 'B'	
	21		League Cup Round 2	
	28			
Nov	4	A	St Vallier	
	11	H	Brislington Juniors 'A'	
	18			
	25	H	Avon Athletic	
Dec	2	A	Whitchurch Sports 'A'	
	9	H	Warmley Rangers 'A'	
	16	A	Warmley Rangers 'A'	
	23	H	Henbury Old Boys 'B'	
Jan	6	A	Thornbury Falcons	
	13	H	Almondsbury	
	20	A	DRG Stapleton	
	27	H	Frampton Rangers 'A'	
Feb	3	A	Whitchurch Sports 'B'	
	10			
	17	H	St Vallier	
	24	A	Brislington Juniors 'A'	
March	3	H	Bitton Boys 'A'	
	10	A	Avon Athletic	
	17	H	Whitchurch Sports 'A'	

NB: Somerset Cup fixtures not yet known

We have a bye in the first round of the League Cup

Avon Youth League U15 : RESULTS

Bitton Boys 'A'	0-2	Whitchurch Sports 'A'
Brislington Juniors 'A'	4-3	Warmley Rangers 'A'
Frampton Rangers 'A'	0-6	DRG Stapleton
Fry Club Colts	3-2	Thornbury Falcons
Henbury Old Boys 'B'	1-6	Fry Club Colts
St Vallier	10-1	Henbury Old Boys 'B'
Thornbury Falcons	1-2	Whitchurch 'B'
Warmley Rangers 'A'	2-3	St Vallier
Whitchurch Sports 'B'	4-0	Almondsbury

