

## Wickhamford Football Club – 1952/53 Season

The AGM was held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 1952, reviewing the 1951/52 season. The Secretary reported that it had been the Club's best ever season, but also a disappointing one. The club had entered six cup competitions and reached the semi-finals of five and the final of the Evesham Hospital Senior Cup, only to be defeated. The team had finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the 1<sup>st</sup> Division of the Stratford League. The Treasurer reported that the Club had a balance of £126-0-10.

The Officers for the 1952/53 season were then elected:-

President: Mr A. R. Mansell

Vice Presidents: En Bloc

Chairman: Mr E. W. Sturt

Vice Chairman: Mr C. Ward

Hon. Secretary: Mr F. J. Taylor

Assistant Secretary: Mr W. H. Johnson (also Auditor to the Club)

Groundsman: Mr C. Summers

Committee: Mr J. Hodges, Mr F. Southern, Mr H. Haile, Mr H. Griffiths, Mr H Tigwell, Mr P. Harrison, Mr C. Summers, Mr G. Franklin, with powers to co-opt.

In the Chairman's Report it had been agreed that the Club would play again in the 1<sup>st</sup> Division of the Stratford League.

Wickhamford F. C. registered players for 1952/53 were as follows:-

Name	Address
D. Bearcroft	51 Avon St., Evesham
J. A. Firth	18 Evesham Rd., Honeybourne
D. H. Grove	105 Albert Rd., Evesham
W. A. Sims	Greenacres, Willersey Rd., Badsey
M. D. Hewlett	5 The Leys, Bretforton Rd., Badsey
J. H. Plant	67 Horsebridge Ave., Badsey
R. A. Plant	Chaple Lane, Aldington
V. Cull	9 Pitches Hill, Wickhamford
G. T. James	Bredon View, Badsey
A. C. Norledge	12 Philipscote, Bengeworth
A. L. Hartle	21 Boat Lane, Evesham
J. W. Cox	41 Pitches Hill, Wickhamford
E. J. Price	11 Council House, Honeybourne
S. M. Taylor	13 Victoria Ave., Evesham
R. H. Thould	27 Peewit Lane, Hampton
L. J. Roberts	36 Manor Rd., Wickhamford
R. New	The Lodge, Wickhamford Lane, Evesham
J. Folkes	18 Pitches Hill, Wickhamford
R. W. Marshall	30 Manor Rd., Middle Littleton
L. Smith	3 Northwick Ct., Bewdley St., Evesham
E. J. Moore	13 Newtown, Offenham

M. Harris	83 Windsor Rd., Evesham
P. Sutton	5 Sandys Ave., Wickhamford
F. E. Saunders	37 Fairfield Place, Hampton
R. Cole	36 Kings Rd., Bengeworth
J. Summers	Pitchers Hill, Wickhamford
H. Haile	7 Manor Close, Wickhamford
P. Harrison	34 Manor Rd., Wickhamford
H. Garwood	6 Oat St., Evesham
H. J. Burston	33 Bredon Crescent, Peewit Rd., Hampton

The full set of results for the 1952/53 season were as follows:-

Date	Home or Away	League or Cup	Opponents	Result	Score	Scorers
30/8/52	A	L	E.S.D. Long Marston	L	1-3	own goal 1
6/9/52	A	L	Bidford Old Boys	L	1-3	Cox 1
13/9/52	A	L	Forest of Arden	W	5-3	Price 1; A. Plant 2; Moore 2
20/9/52	H	L	Bidford Old Boys	D	3-3	Price 1; Smith 1
27/9/52	H	L	Alcester	W	6-1	Price 4; New 1; A. Plant 1
4/10/52	A	C	Hampton Rovers	W	4-3	James 1; New 1; A. Plant 1; Sims 1
11/10/52	H	L	Ettington United	L	0-3	
18/10/52	H	C	Brailes United	W	9-0	Cox 1; James 1; New 4; A Plant 2; Bearcroft 1
25/10/52	H	C	Weston United	W	10-0	Price 1; Smith 3; A. Plant 2; Moore 4
1/11/52	H	C	Broad Marston	W	4-0	Smith 1; Cox 1; Moore 2
8/11/52	A	L	Alveston	W	2-1	Moore 2
15/11/52	H	C	Quinton	W	5-4	Cox 1; Moore 4
22/11/52	A	C	Harvington	W	4-1	New 2; Moore 1; Hewlett 1
29/11/52	A	C	No 1 E.S.D. Long Marston	W	6-3	James 1; Moore 3; Sims 1; Cull 1
6/12/52	A	C	Fernhill Heath	L	2-10	A. Plant 1; Moore 1
13/12/52	H	C	Newbold Rangers	W	9-0	James 1; New 4; Moore 2; Cull 2
3/1/53	A	C	Quinton	W	5-0	New 1; Moore 2; Cull 2
10/1/53	A	C	Ilmington	W	5-2	Smith 1; James 2; Moore 2
17/1/53	A	C	No 1 E.S.D. Long Marston	W	6-3	James 2; New 2; J. Plant 1; own goal 1
24/1/53	H	C	Welford	W	3-1	Cox 1; New 1; Moore 1
31/1/53	A	L	Ettington	W	4-1	New 2; Moore 2
7/2/53	H	C	Brewery Sports	W	3-2	New 1; Moore 2

14/2/53	A	L	Broad Marston	W	5-2	A. Plant 1; Moore 4
21/2/53	A	C	Alcester	W	5-0	Smith 1; James 1; New 2; Moore 1
28/2/53	H	L	Forest of Arden	D	1-1	James 1
7/3/53	H	L	E.S.D. Long Marston	W	3-2	Moore 1; Garwood 2
14/3/53	A	C	Alveston	W	3-2	James 1; New 1; A. Plant 1
21/3/53	A	L	Ilmington	W	3-2	Moore 2; Hewlett 1
28/3/53	A	C	Bidford	D	2-2	New 1; Moore 1
4/4/53	A	C	Bidford (Final)	W	6-3	Smith 2; Cox 1; New 2; Cull 1
6/4/53	A	C	Kineton Wasps (Final)	W	5-3	not recorded
11/4/53	H	C	Bidford	L	1-5	not recorded
16/4/53	A	C	Bidford	L	1-2	not recorded

It would seem that in the Stratford League a complete set of home and away fixtures was not played, but Wickhamford F. C. won the competition this season.



**Wickhamford Football Club – 1952/53 Season**

The cups they won that year were the Stratford Hospital Cup, the Stratford Nursing Home Cup, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Division of the Stratford League.

Standing, left to right, Cliff Summers, Harry Haile, Cecil Ward, Frank Southern, Tony Hewlett, Henry Tigwell, Ron Thould, A Hartle, Stan Taylor (goalie), Arthur Simms, Derek Bearcroft, Horace Griffiths, Fred Welland (treasurer), Walt Johnson, George James, Gilbert Franklin, Pete Harrison.

Seated, left to right, Mac Taylor (secretary), Ernest Sturt (chairman), Vic Cull, Jim New, Lol Smith (with football), E Moore, Arthur Plant, Reg Mansell (president).

In the photograph above, all of those shown are mentioned in the Minute Book during 1952/53 as players or Club Officers or Committee members apart from Fred Welland and George James. The Minute Book always mentions the Clubs' Vice-Presidents as being re-elected 'En Bloc', but they are never mentioned by name (the Minute Book consulted runs from ca 1950-1958). Perhaps Messrs Welland and James were Vice-Presidents. One other man in the photograph is not mentioned in the Minute Book is Henry Tigwell, who is amongst the players in the picture, but may also be a Vice-President ?

**Acknowledgements.** Thanks are due to Neil Jones of Wickhamford Sports Club who kindly lent the Minute Book for examination.

*Tom Locke November 2012*