

## THE AMATEUR ERA (1897-1907)

The founding of the club was the idea of Ralph Cole, a benefactor who was interested in the welfare of the local lads. The club, like many others, originally centred on a church; in this instance St Luke's Mission Church at the junction of Boulogne Road and Princess Road in Croydon. The inaugural meeting of the club was held in 1897 and it was attended by the above mentioned Ralph Cole together with H. Taylor, F. Worsfold Smith, Frank Chick, George Stockdale and A. Everett. The name of the club was chosen for the simple reason that St Luke's Mission was sited on ground that once formed part of what had been Croydon Common in earlier times. It was decided that the club would play in colours of gold and dark blue, although the next year saw a change to claret and white. George Stockdale was chosen as the club's first captain, with Frank Chick the club's first vice-captain. The club officials were Rev. C.A. Curgenvin (Assistant Curate at Holy Saviour Church, to which St Luke's Mission was affiliated) as president and the above mentioned Frank Worsfold Smith as the honorary secretary. The fact that George Stockdale would have only been fourteen years old at the time evidences that this was very much a club for boys.

This is the version of events set out in the club's handbook for the 1909-10 season, but contemporary records give cause to doubt the accuracy of this version. Firstly, the Holy Saviour parish magazines for 1897 make no mention of the club, nor do those of the years following. One may suppose that there is nothing unusual in that, until discovering that the founding of another football club at the mission church in 1896 receives full coverage. The Holy Saviour parish magazine of October 1896, under the heading of "St Luke's Mission Notes", states that:

*A Football Club has been started chiefly by the young men in the choir. At a meeting held in the clubroom, Windmill Grove, the Rev. C.A. Curgenvin was elected President, Mr Ralph Cole Secretary and Treasurer, and Mr Collison Captain. The club is to be called the Bensham Rovers. Thirty-two matches have been arranged for the coming season. Subscriptions towards the Club will be thankfully received and should be sent to Mr Cole, 49 Bensham Manor Road, or to the President.*

In January 1897, an update stated that:

*The Bensham Rovers have played a good many matches this month and have been fairly successful considering the size and strength of their opponents.*

The following month the magazine added:

*The Football Club has greatly increased in numbers, and there are two teams playing every Saturday afternoon both of which have been fairly successful.*

However, in May 1897, the entry was:

*The Football Club played their last match on Saturday last and have had a fairly successful season. Its members have now transformed themselves into a Swimming Club, of which the Rev. C.A. Curgenvin has been elected President, and Mr Cole Secretary and Treasurer. The season will begin on May 3rd and terminate on September 23rd. The club propose to meet for practice on Monday evenings at the Croydon Baths, Scarbrook Road.*

These reports beg the question as to why Bensham Rovers would receive full coverage in the parish magazine during 1896-97, while Croydon Common go unreported a few months later. The names quoted in the handbook are clearly right, but were the circumstances as described? The answer will probably never be known, but possibly the swimming club reverted to being a football club in September 1897, but under the name of Croydon Common. This possibility is supported by the fact there are references to Bensham Rovers in the local newspapers during the 1896-97 season, but not to Croydon Common, whereas the next season the Croydon Common club is mentioned, but Bensham Rovers are not. Maybe Croydon Common always played in claret; the colours of blue and gold being those of Bensham Rovers.

### 1897-98

The local newspapers of the period show that, in 1897, the borough was already well served by amateur teams bearing Croydon in their name; such as Croydon F.C., Croydon Parish Church, Croydon Adult School, Croydon Carlton, Croydon Excelsior, Croydon Ferndale, Croydon Park, West Croydon and Croydon Glenrose. These various clubs, although of differing strengths, were well reported in the local newspapers, but references to the Common were very limited in the club's early days. One suspects that the three or four line reports of the club's matches only appeared in print because they were provided by the club itself and then possibly only when it won. There is no evidence to suggest that the club joined a league in this first season and it would seem that only friendly matches were played.

The club played its first game, or at least its first reported game, of the 1897-98 season at the ground that would be home for six of the ten seasons that it was to hold amateur status. This was the Whitehorse Road Recreation Ground, known to the locals as the "Dust Hole".

The opposition for the match was Lindon Reserves and Croydon Common won 4-2 after having led 2-1 at half time. The first published team line-up to appear in the local newspapers was three weeks later prior to the club's rematch with Lindon Reserves, although it isn't recorded whether or not the scheduled team was that which actually played. That line-up was:

*R. Worsley, T. Taylor, A. Everist, A. Worsley, W. Taylor, R. Hadler, F. Chick, C. Oxford, G. Stockdale, S. Harriss, E. Smith.*

There is no record of whether the two Worsleys or the Taylors (Thomas, William and the above mentioned H. Taylor) were related. It is also highly unlikely that Everist was related to the player of the same surname who came from Southampton to play for the club in its first professional season of 1907-08, although it is not a common name. However, it is almost certain that the A. Everett who attended the club's inaugural meeting was the Amos Everitt (different spelling) who ran the Supporters' Committee of the professional club some ten years later. While on the subject of names, in 1989, the then vicar of Holy Saviour Church was John Worsfold; however, he was not aware of any relationship to the above named Frank Worsfold Smith.

The club's inaugural season appears to have been a very successful one, although it should be borne in mind that the club may have only submitted reports of the better performances to the local newspaper. The leading goalscorers were Stockdale, Chick and Harriss, although the scorers in some games went unreported. Although most of the matches were played against opposition from the general Croydon area, often the reserve sides of more senior teams, there were also fixtures against clubs from further away, such as Ashdown (from Kentish Town), Crimscott Athletic (from Southwark), Pelham (from Wimbledon) and St. John's (from Raynes Park).

There is evidence to suggest that the club also started a junior side, as the Croydon Advertiser of 8 January 1898 carried an advertisement seeking opponents for "Croydon Common (15) weak", with interested sides being invited to contact Worsfold Smith at 3 Burdett Road, Croydon. The Croydon Advertiser also reported in early March that Frank Worsfold Smith had commenced a swimming club in connection with the football club.

1898-99

It would seem that the club again only played friendly matches, mainly against the same local sides as the previous season. However, the club also played matches against sides from further afield; Dartford (from Forest Hill in South East London, not the Kent town), Crown United (apparently from Biggin Hill) and St. Albans (almost certainly not from the city in Hertfordshire, but most probably a club connected to the church of that name in South Norwood). The season also saw the introduction of the reserve side.

George Stockdale was again amongst the goalscorers in the first half of the season, but Thomas Taylor scored the most goals, including four in one game; however, there was no evidence of either Chick or Harriss featuring in any of the matches. New players making an impact during the season were Hodges, who scored several goals, Perham, Stemp, Lock, Haley, Beckett and Charlie Sawyer. The last named went on to play for the Common for many seasons and, like George Stockdale, appeared for the first time even after the club had adopted professionalism. On the subject of goalscorers, in the 2-1 win over Croydon Parish Church Reserves, the winning goal was scored by a player named Worsfold Smith; presumably Frank Worsfold Smith. There is no other record of him previously appearing for the club and so it may have been that he filled in when the team was a man short.

1899-00

The last season of the nineteenth century saw the club finally take the plunge into competitive football when it entered the Croydon Charity League. This competition was a hybrid of league and cup, with the winners of two divisions playing in the final. Although named Divisions I and II, there was in fact no difference in the perceived strength of the teams in each; the clubs were merely allocated to their respective divisions by the drawing of lots at the start of the season. The hybrid nature of the competition led to it being referred to in the local press as the Croydon Charity League and the Croydon Charity Cup on an interchangeable basis but, for ease of reference, the former is exclusively used below.

Croydon Common was placed in Division I and, with virtually the same side as in the previous season, met with very little success. The final positions were:

*Croydon Charity League : Division I*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Croydon Adult School	8	6	1	1	21	6	13
West Croydon Reserves	8	6	1	1	17	6	13
Croydon Parish Church	8	3	2	3	10	17	8
<b>Croydon Common</b>	8	1	2	5	4	15	4
Excelsior *	8	1	0	7	2	10	0

\* Two points deducted for fielding ineligible players.

The remainder of the games played were friendlies, as were all those of the reserve side.

1900-01

The season saw the Common achieve its first competitive success, albeit it that it was only the "championship" of Division II of a greatly depleted Croydon Charity League. In its final fixture, the side beat Croydon Carlton 9-0 to gain the two points necessary to secure a place in the final. The final positions were:

*Croydon Charity League : Division II*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>Croydon Common</b>	4	2	2	0	11	1	6
South Norwood Athletic	4	2	1	1	9	2	5
Croydon Carlton	4	0	1	3	2	19	1

On Easter Monday, the Common played the winners of the other division, Greenbroom Athletic, in the competition final. They scored an early penalty, only to quickly concede the equaliser from another penalty before again taking the lead. The score was 2-2 at half time, but the Common conceded two second half goals to lose 2-4.

Charlie Hollidge was by now captaining the side. He was to prove a highly dedicated servant of the Common; as will be seen, he played well into its professional era and held various positions at the club thereafter. In the team at this time was a player named Rouse, but he was not the player of the same name who later appeared for the professional club after having been at Everton, Chelsea and West Bromwich Albion.

During the season, Frank Chick became the first Commoner to receive a representative honour when he was selected for the Croydon Charity League to meet West Croydon, the leading local club of the time. The game ended 3-3 and the Croydon Advertiser said that Chick "had the makings of a fine back". Among the reserves for the Charity League eleven was Hathaway of South Norwood who would later play for Croydon Common. Chick played twice more for the Croydon Charity League that season (1-2 v. Redhill & District League) and (2-0 v. Greenbroom Athletic in the annual "Champions v. The League" fixture) and he also appeared twice for Southampton. He played for the Saints' first team in the Western League games at home to Bristol Rovers on 27 February 1901 (2-0) and away to Queens Park Rangers on 20 April 1901 (1-6). Given that the Common was a modest amateur club even by Croydon standards, the step up to appearing for the previous season's F.A. Cup finalists must have been a quantum leap. In between his Southampton appearances, he also played for Croydon Wanderers. In the above mentioned "Champions v. The League" fixture with Greenbroom Athletic, forward Lisney also appeared for the Croydon Charity League.

The reserve eleven played league football for the first time in 1900-01, although it only came fifth out of seven clubs in the Thornton Heath & District League.

1901-02

The season began with a number of changes to the first team squad. The new arrivals were Russ (Croydon Adult School), Wells (Greenbroom Athletic) and Moreton (St James' United). On the other hand, Frank Chick left the club, although the local newspapers gave no indication of where he went. The club was clearly now well organised as the Croydon Advertiser's correspondent complimented the secretary upon the high standard of the season's fixture card. Once again the first team entered the Croydon Charity League, with the remaining dates being taken up with friendlies, including an excellent 3-1 win over Greenbroom Athletic who later in the season beat South Norwood Athletic to retain the Croydon Charity League. Russ proved to be a prolific scorer for the Common and both he and Stockdale were selected for the representative matches with West Croydon and the Redhill & District League.

The Reserves again competed in the Thornton Heath & District League.

The first team had a good season overall, but in the Croydon Charity League it was just pipped at the post by South Norwood Athletic, who later lost to Greenbroom Athletic in the final. The final positions were:

*Croydon Charity League : Division II*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Norwood Athletic	10	8	1	1	35	6	17
<b>Croydon Common</b>	10	7	2	1	26	6	16
Central Croydon Rovers	10	6	2	2	21	12	14
Croydon Adult School	10	2	1	7	8	28	5
St John's	10	2	0	8	6	21	4
Purley Oaks	10	0	2	6	3	28	2

## 1902-03

The club built on the moderate success achieved in 1901-02, with the result that the Croydon Charity League trophy found its way to the Whitehorse Recreation Ground. The team had been boosted by the return of Chick, and the signing of Browne, Kirk and Potter; all forwards. Also, because of the sometimes erratic displays of Everett, a new goalkeeper was obtained; firstly Dwyer (who later moved to West Croydon) and Besley thereafter. Both sides again took part in the same competitions as in the previous two seasons.

In the Croydon Charity League, the Common took Division I by storm. The crunch came on Saturday 21 January 1903 when the side met current holders, Greenbroom Athletic, and won 1-0 with a retaken Hollidge penalty. From then on it was plain sailing and the final positions were:

### *Croydon Charity League : Division I*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>Croydon Common</b>	10	10	0	0	40	6	20
Greenbroom Athletic	10	7	0	3	28	7	14
Pitlake Swifts	10	6	0	4	20	13	12
St Georges Albion	10	4	0	6	21	22	8
Waddon United	10	2	1	7	13	38	5
East Croydon	10	0	1	9	2	38	1

The strength of the side is demonstrated by the fact that five players were selected to represent the league in the match with West Croydon on Christmas Day 1902; Hollidge, Moreton, Stockdale, Russ and Browne. The Croydon Charity League won 2-1, with future Commoner Hathaway (apparently known as "Apple") getting the winner. However, he was on the opposing side when the Common met the winners of Division II, South Norwood Athletic, to decide the outcome of the Croydon Charity League. The final took place on Easter Monday, 13 April 1903, in a blinding snowstorm at the ground of Croydon F.C. at Waddon. A crowd of 3,500 watched the match, although the correspondent of the Croydon Advertiser was roundly scathing about "the considerable number of deadheads who watched the play from the bridge without giving a thought or a copper to the institutions to benefit which this Charity Competition was started." After a goalless first half, the Common secured a 4-0 win and the Croydon Charity League title.

The season closed with the same side playing against a Croydon Charity League team in the annual "Champions v. The League" match, with the Common winning 5-2. As for the Reserves, they won their division of the Thornton Heath & District League which, like the Croydon Charity League, comprised of two equal divisions. However, they lost the final against the winners of the other division, Greenbroom Athletic Reserves, going down 0-5. Around this time, there was a change at the club which, as will be seen, was to have significant consequences; Frank Worsfold Smith stood down as honorary secretary. His replacement was John William Bartlett. Also, it was around this time that the press began to refer to the club as the Robins. The pieces of the jigsaw were beginning to come together.

## 1903-04

Bartlett wasted little time in making changes at the club; an indication of what was to follow in later years. Firstly, he applied for the club to join the Surrey County F.A., thereby allowing it entry to a number of cup competitions, although the club's application curiously stated that its date of formation was September 1903. Next he moved the Robins' home ground to The Crescent, a nearby site on the opposite side of the Whitehorse Road. The one thing that he did not change was the squad which, after playing together for a few seasons, was beginning to achieve results. The first team entered the Croydon Charity League as before, but also competed in three cup competitions; the Surrey Junior Cup, the Surrey Herald Cup and the London Junior Cup. The reserve side again entered the Thornton Heath & District League and it was they that christened the new ground on 5 September 1903 with a friendly game against Deptford Invicta, winning 3-1 in front of a crowd of 200. A third team, designated Croydon Common A, made several appearances during the season as well.

The first eleven had a very successful season although, in the finish, it was "always the bridesmaid, never the bride". In defence of the title, the Robins were drawn in Division II of the Croydon Charity League and the final positions were:

### *Croydon Charity League : Division II*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>Croydon Common</b>	10	9	0	1	36	4	18
Pitlake Swifts	10	8	0	2	26	8	16
Waddon United	10	6	0	4	7	19	12
Stanley	10	4	0	6	14	32	8
South Norwood Athletic	10	3	0	7	9	19	6
Reliance Ironworks*	10	0	0	10	0	10	0

\* Withdrew in mid-season and all their results thereafter were held to be 1-0 defeats, which probably explains the disparity in the goals totals.

The Common's sole loss was against runners-up Pitlake Swifts and it came in curious circumstances. Bad light caused the first match between the two clubs to finish ten minutes early with Pitlake leading 1-0 and the league stated that the final minutes would have to be played immediately prior to the start of the return fixture three months later. Pitlake hung on for ten minutes to take the points, but in the return fixture that commenced immediately thereafter the Robins won 3-0 to virtually clinch the divisional title; which they did with an 8-1 win over Stanley. However, in the final, against old rivals Greenbroom Athletic (also with a 9-0-1 record), the Common went down 0-2.

The club was also runner-up in both the Surrey Junior Cup and the Surrey Herald Cup, with the result that no trophy was won during the season despite an excellent record overall.

When the draw for the semi-finals of the Surrey Junior Cup were published, the Surrey Mirror correspondent "Sportsman" stated in his weekly column that "It is almost certain that Dorking and Old Tiffinians will be in the final"; however, the Robins beat the latter to proceed to the final. When it was announced that the neutral venue for the final would be the ground of Croydon F.C., "Chick" (the Surrey Mirror correspondent covering matches played by Dorking; the club's nickname was the Chicks) stated that "The fact that the Croydon ground has been selected as the venue for the Surrey Junior Cup Final between Dorking and Croydon Common has caused considerable dissatisfaction in Dorking football circles. The injustice of one team and its supporters having to travel close on twenty miles for the match, while the other side are at home, has naturally been severely commented upon". Just before the match he also commented sourly that "Croydon Common have gained access to the final at the expense of a much less formidable string of opponents, their best performance being a rather lucky win by one goal to nil over Old Tiffinians in the semi-final". In the end, he need not have worried about the venue as Dorking won the final 2-1, although his report of the match continued the theme of injustice. He criticised the state of the pitch and suggested that, as Croydon Common's own home pitch was similarly as poor, this strongly favoured them given that the Dorking team was used to playing on a surface which "is of billiard table order".

Sutton United, who beat the Common in two cup competitions that season, was clearly the Common's bogey team. In the final of the Surrey Herald Cup, for which no matches earlier than the semi-final were reported in the Croydon press, the Sutton United centre forward was named Harrow. Could it have been future England international Jack Harrow? He certainly came from that general area and he began his Croydon Common career as a centre forward, but he would have been only 15 years old at the time. The final also saw Hollidge sent off for retaliation.

Once again the season saw the club's players feature in representative matches, with Besley, Hollidge, Kirk, Potter, Moreton and Lock all playing for the Croydon Charity League in the 0-2 defeat against the Redhill & District League. Moreton also scored five times for the League in its 9-2 victory over the Croydon & District League. On Christmas Day, the Robins themselves beat the Croydon Charity League 5-0 in a charity match.

#### 1904-05

Jack Bartlett made yet more changes at the start of the new season; this time to the leagues in which the club's three sides were to compete. The first team was entered in the Surrey Junior League and the Sydenham & District League, with the result that the level of the reporting of matches in the Croydon newspapers was somewhat reduced. The first eleven's place in the Croydon Charity League was taken by the Reserves, an unpopular switch which was described by the Croydon Advertiser as "an insult" to the other clubs in the competition. The Reserves also contested the Thornton Heath & District League and the A team was formalised with its entry into the Croydon & District League.

The club performed fairly well in the Surrey Junior League, a competition which was played in four regional groups with the winner of each progressing to the semi-final stages of a knock-out competition. In the end, the club finished second in its regional group and so just missed the final stages. The final positions were:

#### *Surrey Junior League : Group IV*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Carshalton St Andrew's	8	6	1	1	21	7	13
<b>Croydon Common</b>	8	5	1	2	23	9	11
Sutton United*	7	4	0	3	15	8	8
Guards Depot Reserves*	7	1	2	4	13	18	4
Ashstead	8	1	0	7	6	36	2

\* The result of the final match was not recorded in the Croydon press.

The Common actually headed the table for most of the season, but a late 2-0 defeat by Sutton United and a crucial loss to Carshalton St Andrew's by the same score, ended its chances. As already mentioned, the Croydon press coverage of the Common was reduced and hence the final table of the Sydenham & District League was not published, although match reports suggested that the club met with limited success.

The table as at 4 March 1905 was as follows:

*Sydenham & District League*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Beckenham Rovers	11	10	1	0	31	10	21
Bromley Swifts	10	5	2	3	15	13	12
Crown United	7	4	2	1	13	2	10
Fairholme	9	3	3	3	10	15	9
Queens Mead	12	3	2	7	14	32	8
Forest Hill	6	2	0	4	10	12	4
<b>Croydon Common</b>	5	1	0	4	3	5	2
Cold Blow United	8	1	0	7	7	12	2

*There is an error in that the number of goals scored exceeds the number conceded by two.*

There was also mixed success in the cup competitions as well, with the club winning the Surrey Herald Cup, but losing in the final of the Surrey Junior Charity Shield and being eliminated in the second round of the Surrey Junior Cup. Once again, results in two of the cup competitions were only reported in the Croydon press from seemingly a late stage and, as can be seen by the names of the scorers, George Stockdale's brother Edmund had by now joined him at the club. With regard to crowds, a number of the league and cup matches had attendances in excess 1,000 spectators.

The main point of interest during the season was the intriguing friendlies played by the club. Perhaps with a eye on greater things, Bartlett arranged for the season to commence with a game against Chesham Town, then in the Southern League. The Common performed well, but lost 3-1. Then, during the Christmas holiday, the Common played host to Sheffield Wycliffe who were on tour in the South of England but, in front of a crowd variously described as being between 2,500 to 4,000 spectators struggling to see in the fog, the Robins went down 1-0. The club was more successful in its next prestigious friendly, when it drew 1-1 with Clapton Orient Reserves; a good result given that the club's first team was about to be elected to the Football League. With hindsight, it seems probable that Bartlett was sounding out the strength of the club with a view to a move up to better things and he must have gained a measure of encouragement from the results. A further example of his vision was the club's last friendly of the season; an away match with Boulogne F.C. in France. The team, together with more than twenty supporters (paying 13s 6d each) travelled to France for the match which was watched by a crowd of 2,000. Despite the home side taking the lead after ten minutes, the Robins won 5-1 with goals from Kirk (3), Lock and Lisney. The idea of going to Boulogne was an interesting one; could Bartlett have been influenced by the name of the road in which the club was born?

1905-06

After just one season, Bartlett withdrew the first team from the Sydenham & District League and re-entered it in the Croydon Charity League in place of the reserve side. As a result, the Reserves entered the Croydon & District League in lieu of the third eleven which was not run. The first team still competed in the Surrey Junior League. By now the local press coverage of the club was detailed and, more significantly, it originated from staff reporters and not the club secretary. However, the Common was still a lesser light locally when compared to Croydon F.C. and Croydon Wanderers who competed in the senior Surrey leagues and cups, but the successes of the 1905-06 season meant that the Common could step up to the senior level and, as will be seen, take one step further still after just one season.

In the Croydon Charity League, the club won Division I with ease, although for some reason the local newspapers did not print the final table. In the final on Easter Monday, the Common beat Division II winners North Croydon 4-0 with second half goals scored by Browne, Russ, Willett and Moreton (pen). A crowd of 4,000 watched the match. The best result of the campaign was a 10-2 win over second placed St Paul's Dorking, with Browne and Ernie Stockdale each getting a hat trick and the other goals being spread between Russ, Kirk and Hollidge. The club had two points deducted when they fielded an unregistered goalkeeper in a match against Epsom, but they were returned later on appeal and after payment of a fine of five shillings.

The table as at 31 March 1906, before Croydon Common's defeat to St George's Albion, was as follows:

*Croydon Charity League : Division 1*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>Croydon Common</b>	9	8	1	0	20	3	17
Greenbroom Athletic	8	5	1	3	23	16	11
St George's Albion	6	5	0	3	10	7	10
Woodside	10	4	1	5	13	13	9
South Croydon	8	3	1	4	11	12	7
South Norwood Athletic*							

\* Withdrew; the differences in the table totals suggests that the club lost all 10 matches with a net goal difference of -26

The club also won its group in the Surrey Junior League. The final table was:

*Surrey Junior League : Group IV*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>Croydon Common</b>	12	8	2	2	39	15	18
St Paul's Dorking	12	6	3	3	23	21	15
Carshalton St Andrew's	12	6	1	5	25	16	13
Dorking Reserves	12	5	3	4	31	21	13
Ashstead	12	4	2	6	14	22	10
Greenbroom Athletic	12	4	0	8	18	19	8
Epsom*	12	3	1	8	6	42	5

\* Two points deducted for fielding ineligible players.

In the semi-final of the knock-out stage, the Common beat Norwood Granville 6-3 with goals from Russ (4), Smith and Stockdale E. Incredibly, fixture congestion dictated that the final had to be played on the Easter Monday afternoon immediately after the Croydon Charity League final in the morning. The Robins, with just two changes in personnel, beat Woking St Martha's 2-0 with goals from Russ and Moreton and therefore won two cup finals on the same day and on the same ground! The club also won two of the three cup competitions it entered; the Sutton Hospital Cup and the Surrey Junior Charity Shield. The season had clearly been a success and so Jack Bartlett felt that the club could now move up to senior amateur football in order to fulfil the next stage of his grand design.

1906-07

For the new season, the Common stepped up to senior amateur football and joined both the Southern Suburban League and the Mid-Surrey League. While there can be no doubt that this move suited Jack Bartlett's long term ambition, it was to an extent caused by outside forces. Probably because of its domination of the previous year's junior cup competitions, the club was, to quote the Croydon Advertiser, "practically forced to go senior by the Surrey F.A.". The Reserves took the first eleven's place in the Croydon Charity League and the junior cup competitions, but without success. It would appear that the club only entered one cup competition; the Surrey Senior Cup. After a number of seasons relatively unaltered, there were several personnel changes to the first team squad. Among those departing were Russ, Willett and Moreton, with all three moving to Croydon F.C., although Russ returned later that season. On the other hand, Bagge, Cobbett, Hearn, Bennett, Jordan, Hathaway and Palmer all moved to the Robins; the last two coming from Croydon F.C. The arrival of Croydon Common as a rival to the established Croydon F.C. caused a great deal of local interest during the season. Although the two clubs did not meet in the Southern Suburban League (as Croydon F.C. was in Division I and Croydon Common was in Division II), the Robins twice played the Croydon F.C. reserve eleven in the Mid-Surrey League and both matches were passionate affairs.

*Mid-Surrey League*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dorking	16	14	2	0	59	18	30
Guards' Depot	16	13	2	1	56	14	28
Guildford	16	11	1	4	57	30	23
Balham	16	7	4	5	35	31	18
<b>Croydon Common*</b>	16	6	0	20	33	41	12
Croydon Reserves	16	4	4	8	22	29	12
Leatherhead	16	2	5	9	16	36	9
Wallington	16	1	5	10	22	45	7
Old Tiffinians	16	1	3	12	16	72	5
Redhill**							

\* The published results suggest that Croydon Common conceded 40 goals, not 41.

\*\* Expelled from the competition for fielding weakened sides.

*Southern Suburban League : Division II*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Southfields	14	11	0	3	41	22	22
Carshalton St Andrew's	14	9	3	2	33	9	21
West Beckenham	14	8	1	5	46	29	17
Sutton United	14	6	4	4	28	20	16
Tooting Graveney	14	6	2	6	32	27	14
<b>Croydon Common**</b>	14	4	3	7	24	25	9
Dulwich St John's	14	4	1	9	16	42	9
Clapham End	14	0	2	12	6	51	2

\*\* Two points deducted for fielding ineligible players.

Strangely, the Croydon newspapers didn't provide details of the circumstances behind the loss of the two points in the Southern Suburban League. Also, the final table for the South Suburban League is clearly incorrect in that it shows no drawn matches for Southfields, yet they drew with Croydon Common on 26 January 1907.

Seeing as the club was now playing in a good standard of amateur football, there were a surprising number of matches in which it fielded a depleted team. Twice in 1907 the Robins only put out eight men; Bennett, Cobbett and 'keeper Tully missed the match at Tooting Graveney and Stockdale, Cobbett and Tully missed a game at Leatherhead. In each case the players in question were supposedly ill, but one of the Croydon newspapers suggested that perhaps apathy was the illness being experienced. On the other hand, the club put out two sides for league fixtures on 5 January 1907; the first team beat Old Tiffinians, who only had seven players, 12-1 at home in the Mid-Surrey League, while the reserve side stood in, albeit with only eight men, and lost 0-6 to West Beckenham in the Southern Suburban League. As Jack Bartlett had married to Miss Carrie Edith Carterg on Boxing Day, one local newspaper suggested that the spirits imbibed at the event had caused him to have a mental aberration, leading to the double booking.

One interesting match during the season was the friendly on 30 March 1907, when the Common lost 3-2 away at future Football League club Wimbledon, although it is possible that this was a reserve team fixture.

So ended the club's first season in senior amateur football and its last in amateur football altogether. Things would change greatly before its next season.



## Results of the Amateur Club

*This record is very much a work in progress.* It should be noted that:

- the record needs to be considered as selective only, given that the local press did not always record every match;
- not all the recorded matches were necessarily first team fixtures as the local press, on occasion, used the Croydon Common name generically when it was actually the Reserves that were playing;
- frustratingly, during some seasons, the local press was meticulous in its recording of upcoming fixtures, but often didn't record the results thereafter or provide any indication of whether the proposed match was actually played.

The following is a key to the competitions in which the club competed:

CCL	Croydon Charity League	SJL	Surrey Junior League
SJC	Surrey Junior Cup	SuHC	Sutton Hospital Cup
SHC	Surrey Herald Cup	MSL	Mid-Surrey League
LJC	London Junior Cup	SSL	Southern Suburban League
SJCS	Surrey Junior Charity Shield	SSC	Surrey Senior Cup
S&DL	Sydenham & District League		

1897-98

Day	Date	Opponents	Note	Comp'n	H/A	Result	Scorers (Where Known)
Sa	02.10.97	Lindon Reserves		Friendly	H	4-2	Chick, Harriss, Stockdale G (2)
Sa	16.10.97	Moffat Reserves		Friendly	H	5-0	Stockdale G, Oxford, Chick (3)
Sa	23.10.97	Lindon Reserves		Friendly	H	4-0	
Sa	30.10.97	Bensham Manor Reserves		Friendly	A	4-0	Stockdale G, Chick, Miriam (2)
Sa	06.11.97	Moffat Reserves		Friendly	H	7-0	Taylor T (2), Chick (2), Garman (2),
Sa	13.11.97	Moffat		Friendly	H	1-0	Gatfield
Sa	04.12.97	Croydon Glenrose Reserves		Friendly	A	1-4	
Sa	11.12.97	Bensham Manor Reserves		Friendly	H	2-0	Harriss, Stockdale G
Sa	25.12.97	Croydon Adult School Reserves		Friendly	A	1-1	Oxford
Mo	27.12.97	Ashdown		Friendly	H	7-0	Stockdale G (4), Harriss (2), Chick
Sa	15.01.98	Sutton St. Nicholas		Friendly	A	4-0	Stockdale G, Chick, Harriss, Parrish
Sa	22.01.98	Croydon Adult School Reserves	1	Friendly	H	1-1	Stockdale G
Sa	05.02.98	Croydon Glenrose Reserves		Friendly	H	2-2	Miriam, Stockdale G
Sa	12.02.98	Shelbourne Reserves		Friendly	H	4-0	Smith, Stockdale G, Oxford, Harriss
Sa	19.02.98	Carshalton St. Andrew's Reserves		Friendly	A	3-0	Taylor T, Chick, Taylor W
Sa	19.03.98	Pelham	2	Friendly	H	2-0	Harriss, Chick

1. *The fixture on this date was originally announced as being a game against Laconham Swifts.*
2. *The fixture on this date was originally announced as being a game against White Rose. The match against Pelham was stopped 15 minutes after half time due to bad light.*

1898-99

Day	Date	Opponents	Note	Comp'n	H/A	Result	Scorers (Where Known)
Sa	03.09.98	Norwood United Reserves		Friendly	A	2-0	Stockdale G, Taylor T
Sa	01.10.98	Croydon St. James		Friendly	A	5-1	Stockdale (3), Chick, Harriss
Sa	08.10.98	Crown United		Friendly	H	1-0	Oxford
Sa	22.10.98	Linden		Friendly	A	1-1	Stockdale G
Sa	29.10.98	Moffat Reserves		Friendly	A	2-1	
Sa	12.11.98	Bensham Manor		Friendly	A	1-2	
Sa	19.11.98	Dartmouth	1	Friendly	A	4-0	Hodges (2), Taylor T, Perham
Sa	26.11.98	Croydon Parish Church Reserves		Friendly	H	2-1	Taylor T, Worsfold Smith
Sa	03.12.98	Selbourne Reserves		Friendly	A	4-0	Hodges (2), Taylor T, Lock
Sa	10.12.98	Moffat Reserves		Friendly	H	7-0	Taylor T (4), Taylor W, Stockdale G, Hodges
Sa	17.12.98	Crown United		Friendly	A	2-0	Stockdale G, Taylor W
Sa	24.12.98	George Street Ramblers		Friendly	H	3-0	Stockdale G (2), Own Goal
Sa	21.01.99	Christchurch C.L.B.		Friendly	A	5-0	Harriss (2), Worsfold Smith, Rouse
Sa	04.03.99	St. Albans	2	Friendly	H	12-1	
Sa	11.03.99	St. Andrew's Reserves		Friendly	H	4-1	Beckett (2), Stemp (2)
Sa	18.03.99	George Street Ramblers		Friendly	A	3-3	Hodges (2), Beckett
Sa	01.04.99	Dartmouth		Friendly	A	1-0	

1. *The match ended six minutes early due to bad light.*
2. *A home match with Bensham Manor was originally scheduled for this date, but the local press did not explain why it was replaced with another match.*

## 1899-00

Day	Date	Opponents	Note	Comp'n	H/A	Result	Scorers (Where Known)
Sa	04.11.99	Excelsior	1	CCL		1-2	
Sa	11.11.99	Croydon Parish Church	2	CCL	H	0-0	
Sa	13.01.00	West Croydon Reserves		CCL		Lost	
Sa	20.01.00	Croydon Parish Church		CCL		1-1	
Sa	03.03.00	Croydon Adult School		CCL		0-4	

- 1 The two points won by Excelsior were the only ones gained by the club in the competition and they were later lost when it was docked two points for fielding ineligible players. Excelsior's first goal was scored by Russ, quite possibly the player who later became a prolific scorer for the Common.
- 2 The lack of any goals was apparently caused by high winds spoiling the game.

## 1900-01

Day	Date	Opponents	Note	Comp'n	H/A	Result	Scorers (Where Known)
Sa	03.11.00	Curwen		Friendly	H	4-0	
Sa	10.11.00	Croydon Carlton		CCL	H	1-1	
Sa	16.02.01	Croydon Carlton		CCL	A	9-0	
Mo	08.04.01	Greenbroom Athletic		CCL F	N	2-4	Hollidge (pen), Lisney

- 1 The match was played at the ground of West Croydon F.C. in Brigstock Road.

## 1901-02

Day	Date	Opponents	Note	Comp'n	H/A	Result	Scorers (Where Known)
Sa	14.09.01	Brockley		Friendly		1-2	Russ
Sa	28.09.01	Beckenham St. Michael's		Friendly	A	2-2	Stemp, Lock
Sa	12.10.01	Croydon Adult School		CCL	A	7-1	
Sa	19.10.01	South Norwood Athletic		CCL	H	2-0	Lock, Moreton
Sa	09.11.01	Greenbroom Athletic		Friendly	A	3-1	Moreton, Lock, Russ
Sa	23.11.01	Central Croydon Rovers		CCL	H	5-0	Russ (3), Taylor W., Lisney
Sa	30.11.01	St. John's		CCL	H	3-0	Moreton, Russ, Lisney
Sa	01.03.02	Oxted & District		Friendly	A	2-4	

## 1902-03

Day	Date	Opponents	Note	Comp'n	H/A	Result	Scorers (Where Known)
Sa	13.09.02	West Croydon Reserves		Friendly	A	3-0	
Sa	27.09.02	Oxted & District		Friendly	A	2-2	
Sa	11.10.02	Waddon United		CCL	H	8-0	Russ (3), Browne (2) ...plus 3
Sa	18.10.02	South Norwood Athletic		Friendly		4-2	Browne (3), Own Goal
Sa	25.10.02	East Croydon		CCL	H	7-0	
Sa	08.11.02	Leatherhead		Friendly	H	4-3	
Sa	15.11.02	Greenbroom Athletic	1	CCL	A	2-1	
Sa	29.11.02	Pitlake Swifts		CCL	H	5-2	Browne, Hollidge (pen), Russ (3)
Sa	06.12.02	East Croydon		CCL	A	3-0	
Sa	13.12.02	South Norwood Athletic		Friendly	H	1-0	
Sa	27.12.02	Crown United	2	Friendly		1-2	
Sa	10.01.03	St. George's Albion		CCL	H	2-1	
Sa	17.01.03	Greenbroom Athletic	3	CCL	H	1-0	Hollidge (pen)
Sa	24.01.03	Redhill Reserves		Friendly	H	3-1	
Sa	31.01.03	Pitlake Swifts		CCL	A	3-1	
Sa	07.02.03	East Croydon		Friendly	A	7-0	
Sa	14.02.03	St. George's Albion		CCL	A	2-1	Browne, Lock
Sa	14.03.03	Oxted & District		Friendly	A	4-1	
Mo	13.04.03	South Norwood Athletic	4	CCL F	N	4-0	Browne (2), Russ, Chick
Sa	25.04.03	Croydon Charity League	5	Charity	H	5-2	Russ (3), Lisney, Own Goal

- 1 Apparently the match was watched by a crowd of over 1,000.
- 2 The Croydon Common team reportedly contained five reserves.
- 3 The Sporting Life reported that more than 5,000 watched the match, whereas the Croydon Guardian and Surrey County Gazette assessed the crowd at a more probable 2,000 spectators. Hollidge's penalty was initially saved but, due to encroachment, it was ordered to be retaken.
- 4 The Croydon Guardian and Surrey County Gazette assessed the crowd at 3,500 spectators. The match was played at the ground of Croydon F.C. in Vicarage Road.
- 5 The match was played at the ground of Croydon F.C. in Vicarage Road.

## 1903-04

Day	Date	Opponents	Note	Comp'n	H/A	Result	Scorers (Where Known)
Sa	12.09.03	Carshalton St Andrew's		Friendly	A	1-4	
Sa	19.09.03	Redhill Reserves		Friendly	A	4-1	
Sa	26.09.03	Oxted & District		Friendly	A	1-0	Browne
Sa	10.10.03	Wingfield House Reserves		LJC R1	A	4-1	Browne (2), Russ, Lisney
Sa	17.10.03	Nutfield		SJC R1	H	5-1	Browne (2), Kirk, Russ, Lisney
Sa	24.10.03	Sutton United	1	LJC R2		1-2	Potter
Sa	31.10.03	South Norwood Athletic		CCL	A	2-1	Browne (2)
Sa	07.11.03	Waringham		SJC R2	H	5-0	Browne (3), Russ (2)
Sa	14.11.03	Pitlake Swifts	2	CCL	A	0-1	
Sa	21.11.03	Reliance Ironworks		CCL	A	13-0	
Sa	28.11.03	Redhill Reserves		SJC R3	A	7-2	Browne (4), Kirk, Russ, Hollidge
Sa	12.12.03	Waddon United		CCL	A	6-0	
Sa	19.12.03	Waddon United		CCL	H	5-0	
Fr	25.12.03	Croydon Charity League	3	Charity	H	5-0	Lock, Potter, Browne, Lisney, Mitchell
Sa	26.12.03	Essex Wanderers		Friendly	H	6-0	Kirk (2), Potter, Browne, Porter, Lisney
Sa	02.01.04	Guards Depot Reserves		SJC R4	H	2-0	Lisney, Browne
Sa	30.01.04	Barnes Reserves	4	SJC R5	H	2-1	Moreton, Lisney
Sa	13.02.04	Old Tiffinians	5	SJC SF	N	1-0	Lisney
Sa	20.02.04	South Norwood Athletic		CCL	H	4-0	Lock (2), Lisney, Potter
Sa	27.02.04	Stanley		CCL	H	6-1	
Sa	05.03.04	Pitlake Swifts	6	SHC SF		1-0	Lisney
Sa	12.03.04	Pitlake Swifts	7	CCL	N	3-0	Mitchell (2), Browne
Sa	19.03.04	Dorking	8	SJC F	N	1-2	Browne
Sa	26.03.04	Stanley		CCL	A	8-1	
Mo	04.04.04	Greenbroom Athletic	9	CCL F	N	0-2	
Sa	30.04.04	Sutton United	10	SHC F	N	2-3	Browne, Kirk

- 1 The goal was recorded as having been scored by Potter; however, for this and the following season, the club had forwards named L. Potter and T. Porter and it was not unusual for reports to confuse the two.
- 2 The match finished ten minutes early due to bad light and the league stated that the final minutes would have to be played immediately prior to the start of the return fixture. When the extra ten minutes were played, there was no further score.
- 3 The Sporting Life two days later described the attendance as "immense".
- 4 The match was due to be played on 23 January, but the ground was frozen and so it was played the following week in a torrential downpour. In the previous round, Barnes Reserves apparently beat St. Mary's Recreation three times, with the first two wins each being set aside after protests.
- 5 Played at the Croydon F.C. ground in Brigstock Road, Thornton Heath. The goalscorer was elsewhere reported as Kirk.
- 6 This appears to have been the club's first match in the competition for this season, but several weeks previously the press had referred to the club being drawn away to Leatherhead; however, no result was reported.
- 7 In order to allow the taking of gate money for charity, what should have been a home match for the Common was played at the ground of Croydon Adult School in Coombe Lane. Over 1,000 spectators paid 3d each.
- 8 Played at the Croydon F.C. ground in Brigstock Road, Thornton Heath.
- 9 Played at the Croydon F.C. ground in Brigstock Road, Thornton Heath.
- 10 Played at the ground of Sutton Rugby Club. After extra time; the score at 90 minutes was 2-2.

## 1904-05

Day	Date	Opponents	Note	Comp'n	H/A	Result	Scorers (Where Known)
Sa	03.09.04	Chesham Town		Friendly	H	1-3	
Sa	10.09.04	Guildford Reserves		?	H	3-1	Russ, Porter, Morton
Sa	17.09.04	Beckenham Rovers		S&DL	A	0-2	
Sa	24.09.04	Oxted & District		?	A	6-0	Porter (4), Kirk, Russ
Sa	01.10.04	Carshalton St Andrew's		SJL	H	2-0	
Sa	08.10.04	Metrogas		Friendly	H	2-2	First team?
Sa	15.10.04	Sutton United		SJC R1		2-1	Porter, Moreton
Sa	22.10.04	Cold Blow United		S&DL	A	1-0	
Sa	05.11.04	Carshalton St Andrew's		SJC R2	A	0-1	
Sa	24.12.04	Sutton United		SJL	H	1-2	Browne
Tu	27.12.04	Sheffield Wycliffe		Friendly	H	0-1	
Sa	21.01.05	Ashted	1	SJL	A		
Sa	18.02.05	Bromley Swifts		?	H	2-4	Russ
Sa	11.03.05	Dorking Reserves		SJCS SF	A	5-2	Hollidge (2 - 1 pen), Chick, Russ, Lock
Tu	25.04.05	Old Tiffinians	2	SJCS Final	N	1-5	Hollidge
Sa	01.05.05	Beddington Corner		SHC Final		1-0	Stockdale E.

- 1 Ashted scratched at the last moment and so Croydon Common were awarded the two points.
- 2 Played at the Croydon F.C. ground in Brigstock Road, Thornton Heath.

1905-06

Day	Date	Opponents	Note	Comp'n	H/A	Result	Scorers (Where Known)
Sa	02.09.05	North Croydon		Friendly	A	3-0	Stockdale E (3) or CCL?
Sa	16.09.05	Pitlake Swifts		Friendly	H	1-0	Bashford
Sa	23.09.05	Greenbroom Athletic		CCL	H	3-1	
Sa	07.10.05	Dorking Reserves		SJL	A	3-1	
Sa	14.10.05	Mitcham		SJC R1	A	4-0	Browne (2), Stockdale E, Smith
Sa	21.10.05	St Paul's Dorking		SJL	H	10-2	Stockdale E (3), Browne (3), Russ (2), Kirk, Hollidge
Sa	28.10.05	Woodside United		CCL	H	2-1	
Sa	04.10.05	Greenbroom Athletic		CCL	A	6-0	Browne (2), Moreton (2), Russ (2)
Sa	11.11.05	South Croydon		CCL	H	2-0	Stockdale E (2)
Sa	18.11.05	Carshalton St. Andrew's		SJC R2	H	5-1	Russ (3), Moreton, Browne
Sa	25.11.05	Sutton United	1	SJC R3	A	3-2	Russ, Moreton (pen), Stockdale E
Sa	02.12.05	Epsom		SJL	A	2-0	
Sa	09.12.05	Sutton United		SJC R3R	A	1-1	Browne
Sa	16.12.05	Sutton United		SJC R3R	H	4-2	Russ (2), Stockdale E, Kirk
We	27.12.05	Thornton Heath Wednesday		Friendly	A	1-4	Woollett (Reserves?)
Sa	30.12.05	Beddington Corner		SJC R4	A	0-1	
Sa	27.01.06	Dorking Reserves		SJCS SF	H	6-1	Russ (4), Smith, Stockdale E
Sa	03.02.06	Dorking St Paul's		SJL	A	1-1	
Sa	10.02.06	Dorking Reserves		SJL	H	1-1	
Sa	24.02.06	Carshalton St. Andrew's		SJL		2-1	
Sa	03.03.06	Greenbroom Athletic		SJL		4-1	
We	07.03.06	Thornton Heath Wednesday	2	Benefit	A	5-1	
Sa	10.03.06	Greenbroom Athletic		SJL		5-1	
Sa	17.03.06	Beddington Corner	3	SuHC R1	H	5-0	Russ (3), Stockdale E, Stockdale G
Sa	24.03.06	Woking St. Martha's	4	SJCS F	N	5-2	Russ (3), Browne, Stockdale E
Sa	31.03.06	Norwood Granville		SJL SF	A	6-3	
Sa	07.04.06	St. Georges Albion		CCL	H	2-3	Moreton (pen), Unknown
Mo	16.04.06	North Croydon	5	CCL F	N	4-0	Browne, Russ, Willett, Moreton (pen)
Mo	16.04.06	Woking St. Martha's	5	SJL F	N	2-0	Russ, Moreton
Sa	21.04.06	Sutton United	6	SuHC F	N	1-0	Chick
Sa	28.04.06	Page Green Old Boys		Friendly		2-1	
	WHEN?	Bampfylde		SuHC SF		3-1	Stockdale E (2), Browne

- 1 The game was cut short due to bad light, caused by Croydon Common's late arrival, and the match was ordered to be replayed.
- 2 The benefit was for half back R. King, who had played for both clubs, as he was emigrating to Canada.
- 3 Beddington Corner had another match in a different cup competition on the same day and so sent a reserve side.
- 4 The final was played on a neutral ground at Guildford. Some newspapers credit Stockdale's goal to Browne.
- 5 The Croydon Charity League final was played at the Croydon F.C. ground Brigstock Road, Thornton Heath in the morning and the Surrey Junior League final was played on the same ground in the afternoon.
- 6 The Sutton Hospital Cup final was played on Sutton Rugby Club's ground. Some newspapers credit the goal to Browne, who certainly had one disallowed.

Day	Date	Opponents	Note	Comp'n	H/A	Result	Scorers (Where Known)
Sa	01.09.06	West Beckenham	1	SSL	H	Draw	
Sa	08.09.06	Dulwich St. John's		SSL	H	3-0	Kirk, Jordan, Sawyer (pen)
Sa	15.09.06	Redhill		MSL	H	4-1	Stockdale E (2), Palmer, Hollidge (pen)
Sa	22.09.06	Guildford		MSL	H	0-2	
Sa	29.09.06	Carshalton St. Andrew's		SSL	A	2-5	Hathaway (2)
Sa	06.10.06	Leatherhead		MSL	H	3-1	Browne, Hathaway, Own Goal
Sa	13.10.06	Parthians		SSC R1	A	1-1	Hathaway
Sa	20.10.06	Parthians	2	SSC R1R	H	1-0	Browne
Sa	27.10.06	Old Tiffinians	3	MSL	A	1-2	
Sa	03.11.06	Guys Hospital		SSC R2	A	1-5	Hollidge (pen)
Sa	10.11.06	Tooting Graveney		SSL	A	3-3	
Sa	17.11.06	Clapham End		SSL	A	6-0	
Sa	24.11.06	Balham		MSL	A	0-1	
Sa	01.12.06	Limehouse Town	4	Friendly	H	2-1	
Sa	08.12.06	Croydon Reserves		MSL	H	1-0	Hathaway (pen)
Sa	15.12.06	Redhill	5	MSL	A		
Tu	25.12.06	Sutton United		SSL	H	2-2	Kirk, Hathaway (pen)
Sa	29.12.06	Dorking	6	MSL	A	P-P	
Sa	05.01.07	West Beckenham	7	SSL	A	0-6	
Sa	05.01.07	Old Tiffinians		MSL	H	12-1	Hearn (3), Stockdale E (2), Hollidge (pen), Browne (3), Hathaway (2), Sawyer (pen)
Sa	12.01.07	Balham		MSL	H	0-3	
Sa	19.01.07	Tooting Graveney	8	SSL	H	0-5	
Sa	26.01.07	Southfields		SSL	A	1-1	Sawyer
Sa	02.02.07	Leatherhead		MSL	A	0-2	
Sa	16.02.07	Guards' Depot		MSL	A	0-3	
Sa	23.02.07	Croydon Reserves		MSL	A	2-0	Stockdale E, Russ
Sa	02.03.07	Wallington		MSL	H	4-1	
Sa	09.03.07	Southfields		SSL	H	5-2	Stockdale E (2), Browne, Hollidge (pen), Hathaway
Sa	16.03.07	Wallington		MSL	A	5-4	Russ (3), Hathaway, Smith
We	20.03.07	Guards' Depot	9	MSL	H	1-0	Russ
Sa	23.03.07	Dorking		MSL	H	1-4	Russ
Sa	30.03.07	Wimbledon	10	Friendly	A	2-3	
Mo	01.04.07	Dorking		MSL	A	1-5	
Sa	06.04.07	Leslie United	11	Friendly	A	1-0	Russ
Sa	13.04.07	Guards' Depot	12	MSL	H	P-P	
Sa	20.04.07	Guildford	13	MSL	A	2-9	
Sa	27.04.07	Guards Depot		MSL	H	1-2	

1 The result was reported in the local press as a draw, but without the score.

2 This replay caused the postponement of the scheduled away match at Old Tiffinians.

3 The match was cut short by bad light, but does not appear to have been later replayed.

4 This friendly appears to have replaced previously advertised matches with either Guards' Depot or Croydon Reserves in the MSL.

5 The match was not played as Redhill had been expelled from the competition for fielding weakened sides and their results were expunged.

6 The match postponed due to snow.

7 This fixture was fulfilled by Croydon Common Reserves, with only eight men, as the first team was playing Old Tiffinians (who only had seven men) on the same day.

8 The match was played at the Old Bostonians ground, as Croydon Common Reserves needed to play a rearranged cup tie, caused by the side appearing against West Beckenham in lieu of the first team two weeks earlier.

9 The result in the 1-0 win was set aside after Guards' Depot successfully appealed on the grounds that the referee had not allowed the full 90 minutes, with the game being replayed the following month.

10 It has not been possible to establish if this was in fact a first team match or merely a reserve team fixture, but it is worthy of inclusion given Wimbledon's later history.

11 Elsewhere reported as 3-0, probably erroneously.

12 The match was postponed as the visitors refused to play because of what they claimed was the unplayable condition of the pitch.

13 Croydon Common fielded a team largely made up of reserves and without a recognised goalkeeper.