

## Wychwood Ladies Triumph in Battle of the Sexes

After seven gruelling weeks of intense training, tears and sports massage, the day had finally arrived. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June, in front of a partisan crowd and local business sponsors, the ladies of the Wychwoods took to



and Rachael Baker as just a bit of fun for the forgotten football widows left home alone on Saturday afternoon, but the idea and concept soon spiralled into something much bigger.

*What if we could*

the football field to take on the men of Milton F.C at their own game. Led by their respective captains, Charlie Dore Jnr and Mel Willis, both teams nervously took up their positions and awaited the starting whistle from local referee Mark Jarvis.

### Men in a Spot of Bother?

With the game underway, pre-match nerves soon disappeared and both sides fought for their respective teams with vigour, knowing that the Wychwood Ladies Charity Cup was up for grabs. With their coach barking instructions from the sidelines, the ladies soon started to get on top of the game and managed to get a 2-1 lead. In the second half the men realised they were in a spot of bother and stepped up their game to take the lead 3-2. The ladies were not quite down and out yet and with a suspected numerical advantage unnoticed by the match official, stormed the final 10 minutes of the game to win 4-3.

At the final whistle and to the surprise of the men, the ladies kept to the tradition of all high profile games and swapped shirts with their male counterparts, before leaving the field to cheers from the now swelling crowd of supporters. Originally, the game had been planned by Mel Willis

*have fun, get fit and raise money for good causes?* The seed was planted and a charity selected, the very worthy Triple Negative Breast Cancer Research Charity. Local business were contacted to see if they could help towards sponsorships, raffle prizes and donations and the response was phenomenal. A big ‘thank you’ from all of the players must go to each and every one of them for their help and support. Nearly £500 was raised on the day for this great cause.

### Wychwood Ladies Back in Training

Perhaps the biggest legacy of the day is the effect that football has had on the Wychwood ladies. Not content with leaving it at one game a year, they are now back in training and hope to enter a competitive league next year. So if you would like to play, come and train with the girls 6:30 to 7:30pm **every Monday** on Milton village green or contact Rachael Baker on: 07415134474.

Of course, we also have a very good men’s club too! New players are always welcome and training is **every Wednesday** evening 6:30 to 8pm also at Milton. Contact Arrun Baker on: 07989956528 for more details.

**Arrun Baker**