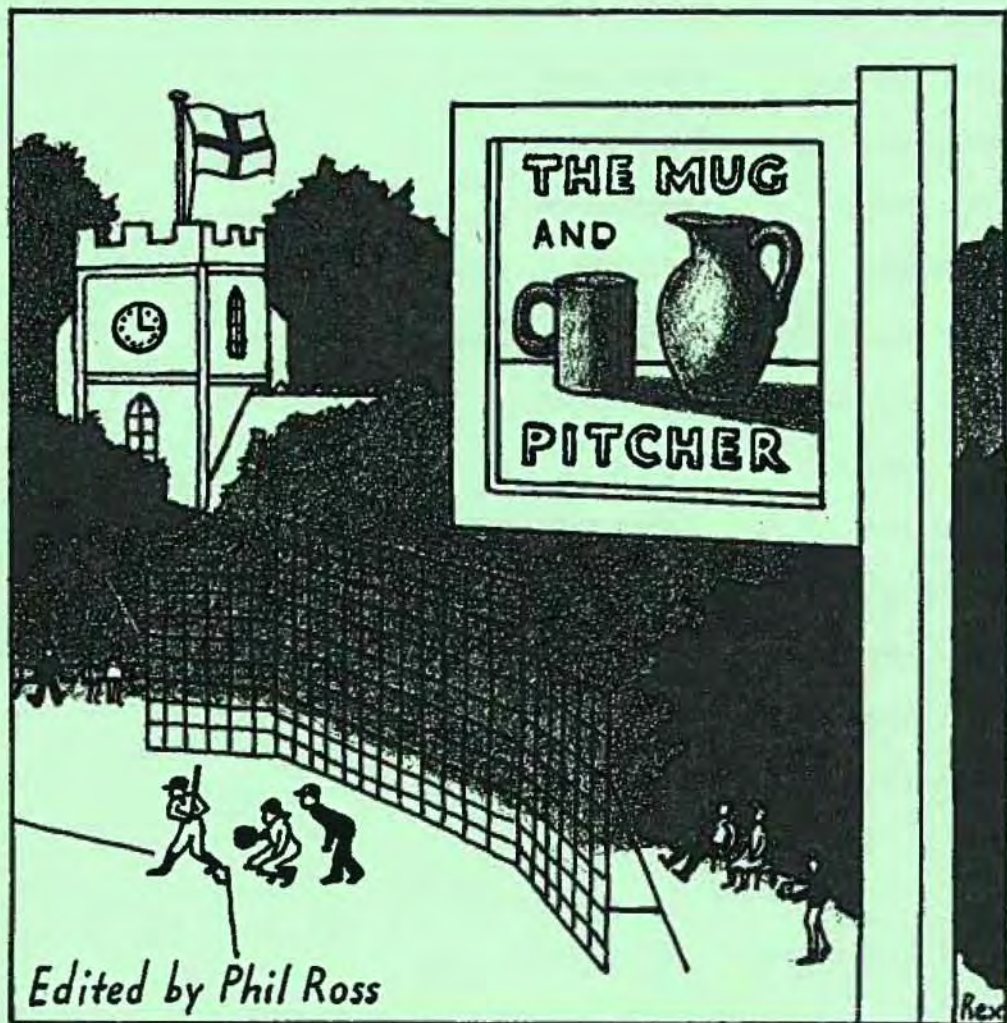


LINEDRIVE!

Fanzine

BASEBALL IN BRITAIN



LONDON WARRIORS

NATIONAL LEAGUE

TEAM ROSTER 1992

<u>Name</u>	<u>Usual Fielding Position</u>	<u>Uniform Number</u>
Harry Atwood	Shortstop	12
Alan Bloomfield	Second Base	4
Justin Brown	Third Base	20
Julian Dodwell	Centrefield	19
Ben Geddes	Leftfield	17
Oliver Heidecker	Designated Hitter	14
Vincente Martinez	Relief Pitcher	16
Kevin Murphy	Rightfield	18
Alan Smith	Starting Pitcher	8
Stanley Smulders	Rightfield	15
Brad Thompson	Catcher	6
Darrin Ward	First Base	7
Dean Ward	Third Base	5

A BRITISH BASEBALL FANZINE

FROM LITTLE ACORNS...

Well, with just a few weeks of the season gone, *LINEDRIVE !* is proud to announce that commencing with this issue, it is now available in two versions, the initial London Warriors version, with it's emphasis on National League matters, and a new Caterham Athletics version, concentrating more on BBF Southern League Division Two.

In an effort to provide more varied coverage, your intrepid editor scoured London for regional newspapers in the hopes of digging out more baseball news. Sadly it was not as fruitful as had been hoped, but we can at least offer bouquets to the Croydon Advertiser and Evening Argus papers who provide coverage of three different teams each, and a hearty boo and hiss to the others, who just don't know what they are missing.

GLASNOST & THE BBF

In the Evening Argus, I was staggered to read that Arun Panthers next opponents in the Third Round of the BBF Cup would be the reigning National League Champions, Nottingham Hornets. Now either the contributor to the Evening Argus got it wrong, or the BBF have decided, like the former Soviet Union, to have a go at totally ignoring reality. All I have to say is look what it did for the Soviet Union !

RECOVERED

The *LINEDRIVE !* graphics department, (also known as Rex Phillips), has been busy designing a new two-tone cover, with a punningly good front page, (can you spot it ?), and an historically interesting back page.

The diamond presently shared by the Croydon Blue Jays and Croydon Pirates, is built on the site of the old Croydon Airport, and it was on that airport, that Charles Lindbergh landed in his Spirit of St Louis in 1927. Overleaf we have printed an extract from 'Classic Ocean Liners', Vol 1 by Frank O Braynard.

The world remembers Charles Lindbergh for his pioneering solo flight to Paris. A few days after that historic flight, the Leviathan's baseball team was playing the London Americans in London. Let engineer Eddie Jones tell what he remembered happening that day:

We were winning. The stands were filled. Suddenly everyone paused because a deep humming sound could be heard over the London traffic noises. We looked up and there were four dark green bombers in close formation. British bombers. In the middle, sparkling in the sunlight, was a tiny object. Suddenly we all realized what it was. It was Lindbergh in his 'Spirit of St Louis'. The bombers had picked him up and were escorting him to Croydon. The stands emptied in seconds and everyone waved and cheered like mad.

REPORTS & SCORES - PART ONE

BBF National League

Sunday 24th May

Essex Arrows at Leeds City Royals

Game 1 1-3

Game 2 1-5

Arrows put up a valiant fight at the league leaders, holding the Royals to their lowest scores this season. Ray Browning pitched well for Leeds, restricting the Arrows scoring, and it was Browning's three run homer in the fifth that finally settled game two.

National League

Sunday 24th May

London Warriors 16 Birmingham Devils 6

Warriors continued their winning ways on their first league visit to the Devils. The game had a stormy ending, in several senses, as the match was called in the 8th under the slaughter rule.

Birmingham protested that the game should have continued the distance, but darkening storm clouds added their voice to the proceedings, dampening any hopes of continuing the game.

LONDON WARRIORS - STATS

30/5/92

	AB	Hits	Avg	RBI	RUNS	2B	3B	HR	SB	HP	SF	SC	BB	SO	SLG	OBA
Thompson	13	11	0.846	8	6	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	1.077	0.824
Ward, Darrin	27	17	0.630	9	16	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0.704	0.643
Dodwell	18	10	0.556	9	9	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0.778	0.636
Smith	10	5	0.500	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0.600	0.615
Brown	22	11	0.500	17	13	2	1	4	0	0	1	0	5	1	1.227	0.571
Murphy	13	5	0.385	2	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	4	0.385	0.652
Heidecker	19	7	0.368	6	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0.526	0.455
Bloomfield	22	7	0.318	6	12	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	7	0.409	0.531
Atwood	19	5	0.263	6	9	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	5	0.368	0.500
Geddes	26	6	0.231	5	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0.308	0.231
Smulders	5	1	0.200	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0.200	0.429
Ward, Dean	17	2	0.118	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0.118	0.167
Martinez	5	0	0.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0.000	0.167
Totals	216	87	0.403	77	91	21	1	4	0	3	2	1	49	35	0.565	0.515

Scores per inning	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
Opponents	1	5	2	1	2	4	0	0	0	15
London Warriors	12	10	11	9	8	21	19	1	0	91

Economy seems to be the Warrior watchword, with nearly every hit matched by an RBI. Justin Brown is the man with the bat, taking all the honours for all the Warrior three-basers and homers, whilst Brad Thompson leads the batting average and on base percentage, and is second only to Justin Brown for the slugging figures. Kevin Murphy, Harry Atwood and Alan Bloomfield, have collected 29 walks between them.

The characteristic Warrior surge is borne out by the run figures for innings 6 and 7, when Warriors usually kick into gear, and so far this season, have left opponents trailing, and with strong closing pitching preventing any runs in the late innings, it is no surprise that Warriors approach the end of May with a 6 to 1 run ratio.

(figures compiled by Alan Smith & Brad Thompson, London Warriors)

REPORTS & SCORES - PART TWONational League

Sunday May 31st

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R		
Croydon Blue Jays	1	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	3
London Warriors	1	0	1	0	6	1	0	1	1	1	X	9

Vince Martinez clocked up a win over Jamie Heather when a Warriors surge in the bottom of the third crushed Blue Jays battling spirit. The final humiliation for the Canadian pitcher came when he walked Bloomfield with the bases loaded to allow Smith the sixth run of the inning.

However, the introduction of Keith Wilesmith on the mound reduced the Warrior run rate, and Blue Jays took defensive play of the match in the bottom of the fourth when Stankovits (2B), threw to Hogge (SS) who relayed to Heather (1B) to double play Thompson and Dodwell.

Justin Brown took over on the mound in the top of the seventh, and pitched his 8th, 9th and 10th innings in the National League without a hit conceded.

NATIONAL LEAGUE STANDINGS - WEEK 5

30/5/92

	Wn	Lt	Pcent	GB
London Warriors	6	0	1.000	-
Enfield Spartans	5	0	1.000	½
Cambridge Knights	3	2	.600	2½
Croydon Blue Jays	4	3	.571	2½
Birmingham Devils	2	4	.333	4
Essex Eagles	1	6	.143	5½
Reading Bulldogs	0	6	.000	6

All contributions to *LINEDRIVE !* are most welcome and should be addressed to :-

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Tel 081 688 2966 (eves only)

LONDON WARRIORS NATIONAL LEAGUE SCHEDULE 1992

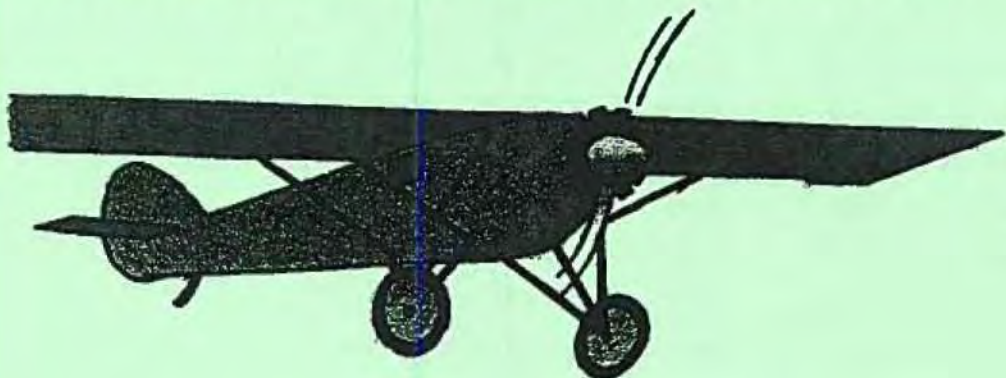
Sun 26th April	HOME TO CAMBRIDGE KNIGHTS	W 11-3
Sun 10th May	HOME TO READING BULLDOGS (D)	W 16-4 & 17-0
Sun 17th May	away to Essex Eagles (D)	W 15-1 & 16-1
Sun 24th May	away to Birmingham Devils	W 16-6
Sun 31st May	HOME TO CROYDON BLUE JAYS	W 9-3
Sun 14th June	away to Cambridge Knights (D)	
Sun 21st June	HOME TO ESSEX EAGLES	
Sun 28th June	away to Enfield Spartans	
Sun 5th July	away to Reading Bulldogs	
Sun 12th July	HOME TO CROYDON BLUE JAYS	
Sun 19th July	away to Enfield Spartans	
Sun 26th July	away to Birmingham Devils	
Sun 2nd August	HOME to CAMBRIDGE KNIGHTS	
Sun 16th August	away to Croydon Blue Jays (D)	
Sun 23rd August	HOME TO BIRMINGHAM DEVILS (D)	
Sun 30th August	HOME TO ENFIELD SPARTANS (D)	
Sun 6th September	away to Reading Bulldogs	
Sun 13th September	HOME TO ESSEX EAGLES	
Sat 19th September	Semi Final Playoffs Game 1	
Sun 20th September	Semi Final Playoffs Games 2 & 3	
Sat 26th September	Final Playoff Game 1	
Sun 27th September	Final Playoff Games 2 & 3	
Sun 4th October	National League Champs v Buddies League Champs	

D=Double header-2 seven innings games. Game one starts 1:00 pm

All other nine inning games start 3:00 pm.

ROUNDSHAW

A BALLPARK UNIQUE IN HISTORY



The Spirit of St. Louis 1927

BLUE JAYS



PIRATES

The transatlantic spirit of 1992