

14/10/72
Seconds never in the hunt

Firebrands	4
Morlands 2nd	1

Fielding much the same team as the previous week, Morlands Hockey 2nd XI travelled to Bristol to meet long standing rivals, the Firebrands.

With the very dry autumn, most hockey pitches are difficult but this does not excuse a very mediocre performance. The left flank, faced by a particularly good inside forward and wing probably had most to answer for.

Morlands were never really in the hunt. No effort was made to control the midfield resulting in constant pressure on the defence not helped by reluctant forwards in marking opposite numbers.

Firebrands scored four excellent goals from open play to a Morlands goal by Crees making a particularly promising second appearance.

15/10/72
Good hockey at Morlands

Morlands 2nd XI	2
Millfield	1

This was a very evenly contested game between teams of entirely different techniques. Millfield very young, fit and of high individual skill versus a team of less fitness and skill but playing very much as a team.

Morlands stopped the ball well, marked their opponents tightly and passed the ball crisply and generally accurately.

Morlands scored first through Wittleton who was prominent throughout the game. Millfield answered with a very fine goal only to lose three minutes from the end by a goal scored by Crees.

A thoroughly good team performance in sharp contrast to the Firebrands match.

28/10/72
A good team performance

Morlands 2nd XI	3
Taunton C.S.	1

Morlands entertained Taunton Civil Service at Glastonbury, considered to be one of their strongest fixtures. Taunton had the misfortune of playing the match one man short.

This should not detract from the Morlands team performance which despite more changes was sound. Morlands scored three fine goals to one very soft goal by Taunton. Roger Carter picked up two goals, the first from a penalty corner, and Tony Carter, a last minute substitute, scored the third.

Crees was a hard working centre forward, and both full backs have now solved the major problems created by the new rules.

4/11/72
Goalie Smith the hero

Morlands II	1
Weymouth II	3

Due to a late arrival, Morlands Hockey Seconds started the game with ten men. Weymouth took full advantage of this fact, and scored twice in the first three minutes.

As the game progressed, Morlands were unsuccessful in trying to reduce the arrears. Shortly after half-time, Weymouth increased their lead. However, Crees scored for Morlands in the second half, when the honours were even.

Smith played well in the Morlands goal, both before and after he sustained a painful foot injury in the second half.

25/11/72
Sound hockey from Morlands

Morlands 2nd.	1
Exeter	0

Having had their previous weeks match cancelled, Morlands Hockey 2nd XI were anxious to play and continue from where they left off. This they did admirably against Exeter and dominated the game from the first whistle despite a ground made difficult by overnight frost.

Excellent approach play gave Morlands any number of opportunities to score, but last moment hastiness spoiled these chances so that at half time the score was nil all. The second half became a little scrappy and at one time it seemed that Morlands were going to be denied their deserved success but Chandra rounded off yet another first class build-up with the only goal of the match with five minutes left to play.

Vosper played with great coolness. Oldfield made a welcome return putting in many good passes from the wing and Carter linked up well with the defence and used his wing very intelligently. N. Wood at left half marked and played his opposing wing out of the game with a very mature display for a schoolboy.

11/11/72
Crisp hockey by Morlands

Morlands 2nd XI	5
West Dorset	0

Morlands set out from the start to amend for the previous weeks defeat and were quickly two goals up, Wyndham-Smith scoring both. The first was a superb effort from a narrow angle.

Despite this good start and dominating the game with good positional play and crisp man-to-man passing, the score remained unchanged until soon after the re-start.

Morlands maintained their form throughout the second half playing very good, crisp hockey with the ball being passed accurately and quickly and intelligently. This enabled Smith to net his third goal and Chandra, after having near misses in the first half, got on target with two goals. It was a very sound team performance.

18/11/72
Even game ends in a draw

Trowbridge	1
Morlands	1

The first half was very even with both sides having their chances but not taking them.

Soon after the restart Trowbridge scored through Harry Daymond. Morlands continued to pressure their opponents' goal, and 10 minutes later, Danny Wittleton scored a very well taken goal. Play remained very even to the end, despite Morlands having only 10 men.

Both John Wilmott (goalkeeper) and Peter White (making his debut for the club had good games for Morlands.

30/12/72
Good moves fizzle out

Morlands 2nd XI	1
Robinsons	0

This was yet another match during which Morlands created numerous scoring chances but converted only one into a goal. With the exception of a ten minute spell in the second half Morlands practically dominated the game.

A continuous stream of passes from the defence and copy book interpassing between the forwards invariably fizzled out like a damp squib in front of goal.

It was one such movement that ended in Cook "squeezing" the ball into the goal to score the only goal of the match.

Morlands now became complacent as well as indecisive and a good many anxious moments passed before rapidly descending fog ended the game prematurely. Although the team is winning matches the manner in which it is being achieved is far from satisfying for the players or the club. At least five goals should have been scored against Robinsons, as in the Boxing Day

9/12/72
Baulked by goalkeeper

Trowbridge 2nd XI	3
Morlands 2nd XI	4

Morlands played this game with a very young side, which produced some good attacking hockey. Within five minutes, Trowbridge had opened the scoring, but their lead was short lived. Crees equalised, when he shot into the top right hand corner of the net. Shortly afterwards, Wyndham-Smith ran through the Trowbridge defence, and easily scored.

The score remained unchanged, until the second half when Morlands lead was increased through goals by R. Carter and Cook. With ten minutes of the game remaining Trowbridge scored two goals in quick succession. The final score was four goals to three. It was a game in which Morlands deserved to win by a bigger margin. The Trowbridge goalkeeper was the "man of the match."

6/1/73
But it wasn't a rout

Morlands 2nd XI.	2
Yeovil	5

With a score line of 5-2 goals in Yeovil's favour it would be reasonable to assume that Morlands were routed. This is not strictly true although it is difficult to explain away five goals.

Morlands found themselves up against a Yeovil side with a number of players who until recently played for their 1st XI, plus the current St. Lukes and Dorset County left wing who was in a class of his own. In addition "lady luck" just didn't smile on Morlands.

Yeovil produced an explosive start being two goals up in 10 minutes, three in 20 minutes and four by half-time. Morlands had scored a goal through Wyndham-Smith again from good open play. Morlands scored another goal, again through Smith, but, soon afterwards lost the initiative when Yeovil banged in their fifth goal.

16/12/72
Brave attempt

Old Nortonians	1
Morlands 1st XI	2

From the start Morlands began to pressurise their opponents goal, but did not take their chances. After about half an hour Mike Beale scored Morlands first from a Chris Tinnion pass.

Soon after the start of the second half Old Nortonians equalised, when Robert Grist took advantage of a defensive error. However, Morlands kept on pressing, and Mike Beale scored the winner from a short corner.

This was a game in which both sides attempted to play flowing hockey, but it was made rather difficult due to the condition of the pitch. Morlands deserved to win, but it should have been by a greater margin.