



# BILLINGHAM RUGBY CLUB NEWS LETTER

## “THE LION”

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IS QUIZ NIGHT  
CASH PRIZE  
ALL TEAMS WELCOME.  
YOUTH POOL NIGHT.

### U14s 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov 2003 Redcar 5

#### v Billingham 22

When we met up at the Club we found the pitches with a very heavy frost and unplayable. A quick call from Budgie got the fixture reversed, and we set off to play at Redcar where it was quite mild. Last time we played Redcar we beat them easily and had to lend them players. This time they had a large squad with some big lads amongst them.

Redcar kicked off and Anthony Hyndman received the ball, and ran from our own 10 metre line to score a try in the corner. (no con) Less than a minute gone and it looked like it would be another easy win. Redcar fought back though and it was another 10 minutes before we scored again, Danny Sayers running from halfway, handing off a couple of players on his

way to the try line. This time Peter Evans managed to drop kick the conversion. Just before half time another Billingham attacking move gave Peter Evans the chance of a cross field kick, which Aston John-Wooley ran on to and scored in the corner. (no con) In the second half Redcar came out and attacked us more. Billingham gave away a penalty, 5 metres out, and Redcar managed to drive the ball over to give them a try. (no con) The lads dug in and piled more pressure on Redcar for the rest of the half. This brought just one more try, this time from new lad Stu Lockey on the wing, receiving the ball out and running strongly to score in the corner. Not the best of games to watch this week, but strong performances throughout the team. James Watson had another good game as No8. Mathew Gibbins and James Charville

worked well together second row. The flankers Daniel Dixon and Will Jones worked hard, having some good runs. The backs combined and ran well with Phil McCarthy, Chris Dobson and new lad Martin Hopley all having a good game. Ben Laing playing well as scrum half and Andy Sidney had another solid performance as full back. Praise must be given though to the best front row in the County, Matty Stringer as hooker and Daniel Watson as loose head prop both played to their usual high standard. Rob McCabe as tight head prop did better than ever today and made a couple of really good runs to earn him the Man of the Match award. Well done Rob. Nice friendly club Redcar, always a pleasure to travel there.

Richie Watson, Manager Under 14s.

### Volume 2 issue 7 Nov 29 2003 Novembers 2003 FIXTURES

#### Minis

30th Nov—M\boro H  
07th Dec—Training  
14th Dec—Mowden A

#### U13s

30th Nov—Whitly Bay H  
07th Dec—Alnwick A  
14th Dec—Westoe H

#### U14s

30th Nov—D\ton A Cup  
07th Nov - Training  
14th Dec—Westoe A

#### U16s

30th Nov—West A Cup  
07th Dec—Rovers H  
14th Dec— Gateshead H

### SENIORS

#### Billingham 1st

29th Nov—Houghton A  
06th Dec—Durham H

#### Billingham 2nds

29th Nov—Ryton A  
06th Dec—Durham A

#### Billingham 3rds

29th Nov—Shildon A  
06th Dec—Durham H  
13th Dec—Blaydon A

#### Billingham 4ths

20th Dec—M\boro

#### Billingham Ladies

30th Nov Huddersfield H  
07th Dec Mosborough A

### WANDERERS

N/A

### Billingham U13s vs Stockton U13s

Billingham were aiming to win this game making it their first win of the season!! The game started off well with Jonathan Parkin scoring for Billingham early in the first half; Richie Weedall converted the try. A couple of minutes later and Billingham scored after a driving maul went over the try line.

The game heated up as Stockton put in all their effort to score a try, eventually one of Stockton's lads broke through Billingham's defence to score Stockton's first try of the game, which was not converted. Billingham and Stockton battled to score another try with Billingham eventually bringing on a substitute who after a grubber kick scored a try. Stockton pulled themselves together and scored a try, which was not converted. The halftime whistle went leaving the half time score 17-10 to Billingham.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> half kicked off with both sides putting great effort into the game. Stockton were travelling to Billingham's try line aiming to score and soon after Stockton's effort paid off with another try scored for Stockton, Stockton's kicker got the conversion. Billingham tried with all their might to hold back Stockton but Billingham couldn't, Stockton scored once again increasing their score. But Billingham would not give up, Billingham's winger Murray decided Billingham were to win this game, so he got the ball and eventually scored not one but two tries for Billingham giving Billingham the lead. The final whistle went with a score of 27-22 to Billingham.

Man of match: Everybody who played today.

For Billingham's amazing win their coach has decided to take them all to McDonalds on Wednesday.

Dale Thompson Reporting

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**Billingham 1<sup>st</sup>  
V  
Stockton 1<sup>st</sup>**

Billingham came out looking for revenge as the last time these two teams met Billingham had just lost. But this time Billingham were the ones that came out the winning team  
Billingham started off the game with a great kick that was chased down by the Billingham pack and put Stockton under pressure. It was not long before Billingham got their first try which was driven over by the Billingham forwards as B.McGrath putting the ball down which was converted by C.Ker. Stockton kicked off the restart and Billingham immediately put them back under pressure, with only minutes to go before the end of the first half Billingham winger G.Lumley came speeding down the

left wing to get his first ever try for Billingham 1<sup>st</sup> team, it was not converted.

Half time score  
Billingham 10 – Stockton 10  
The second half was all Billingham's with some great tries coming from Paul and Craig Shepherd G.Lumley, J.Durnion with C.Ker only converting 2 of them. A good all round performance coming from Billingham today lets hope that they keep playing like that all season.

Full time score  
Billingham 36 - Stockton 22  
Scott Thompson Reporting

**North Ormesby 2  
V  
Billingham Wanderers 3  
08 – 11 – 03**

Billingham found themselves a goal up after 15 mins when a good cross found John Cairnes in the box for him to score a rare headed goal, 5 minutes later an almost identical build up resulted in Lee Mitchell scoring a headed goal to make it 2 – 0 by this time Billingham were cruising. After 30 minutes Billingham keeper Simpson had a mad 5 mins letting the ball slip through his hands direct from a throw-in at 2 – 1. North Ormesby saw a chance to get back into the match, we then got dragged into a 90 minute match, when after 20 minutes they'd given up at 2 – 0 down.

Substitute Aidy Serrechia came on and after missing one easy chance made up for it minutes later scoring at the back post to put us 3 – 1 up. Once again, with minutes remaining Bham fell asleep and allowed North Ormesby a consolation goal to make the final score 3 – 2. We must cut out the sloppy goals they could end up costing us

**Billingham Wanderers 3  
V  
Chester – Le – Street  
Whitehills 4**

**Durham Cup 2<sup>nd</sup> Round  
15 – 11 – 03 Home**

Billingham kicked off with 11 players unavailable and no recognised goalkeeper, not for the first time Chris Kieghtly went between the posts with the minimum bribery needed. Kieghtly's nerve and bottle was tested early when Billingham found themselves 1 - 0 down after 20 seconds and 2 - 0 after 30 minutes.

Billingham settled well and played themselves back into the game to make it 2 – 2 after 25 minutes. Dave Phillips scoring both goals, both well placed shots. No players can be singled out they all showed good spirit and character to get back in it. In the 43<sup>rd</sup> minute Chester le st scored again to make it 3 – 2.

After ½ time they extended their lead to 4 – 2, Billingham still battled and got a 3<sup>rd</sup> when Jono Stewart scored with 10minutes left. Billingham out played there opposition for much of the game, the referee allowed Chester le st to get away with continuous foul play which hampered the more talented Billingham players.

Walker, Sykes deserve a mention for their performance but m.o.m was Cathal Doocey who carried the fight to get us back in the game.

It is annoying when the better football team loses to bully tactics, but I'd rather be involved with this squad, and success is not far away, we just need to tighten up at the back.

## **Billingham u16s 17 V Sunderland u16s 12**

They say everything comes to those who wait; well the u16s have waited long enough. In a truly wonderful display of team spirit, determination and good rugby, played how it should be at this level, Billingham u16s have got their first win of the season, and it was a victory well deserved.

All season, as well as today, we have been short of players because of county commitments. This has not helped us, but we have struggled on and unfortunately we have lost every game this season. During this time the team, coach (**Richie Hammond**) and the parents have not given up hope or belief that we can play first class rugby, and beat any team out there. Today that goal was achieved. All the team played their part in this the first of many more victories to come. I believe that if we play the way we did today Billingham u16s will be the team the rest have to beat.

It was good to see some old faces return to us for the game. **Jackie Barlow** who must of grown 6ins or more since the last time he played for us was outstanding, **Peter Cook (PC)** all 4ft0ins and 3stone dripping wet again showed if he wants to he can tackle and bring down (eventually) the biggest of the opposition on the field.

Keep it up **PC**, **James Watson** is also back he must have patience and his time will come he only got on for the last bit of the game but still played as always a big part in this game.

The match started off well with Billingham on the attack and it was not long before “**Try Machine**” **Mark Massey** nearly broke through to score, unfortunately Sunderland’s very well organised defence held him back. This time!

The “**Try Machine**” has realised that when he has the ball and makes a run for the try line just by pumping his legs you have to have 5 very big lads to stop him crossing that line, last week and this week he proved that with devastating effect, like a challenger tank at full speed he charged at the opposition and he was almost impossible to stop, if they do he has 5 lads tied up in the process giving the team a clear advantage when he releases the ball. So next week we will try a new tactic, I will line up the hot dogs behind the oppositions try line for him to help himself and we will see if that gives him the boost he needs to do what we all know he is capable of doing.

The ball was passed back a long the line to **Criss Barker “Mr Cool”** he made a forward run dodging most of the Sland defence to dive over the line and score the first try, **James Screen** the man of the match, and having the best game of his life to date, converted making it 7-0 to B\ham. At the restart Billingham got the ball and started to attack again, we remained on the attack causing problems for Sunderland for most of the first half, **James Screen** was involved in every bit of play he covered every inch of the field and never stopped running, Sland could do nothing to stop him having the game of his life,

With 5mins left of the first half “The Try Machine” **Mark Massey** received the ball in their 22 and ran for touch with what seemed like the whole of Sunderland trying to hold him back, the B\ham forwards bound on and pushed “**The Try Machine**” forward over the line for **M Massey** to get his second try in two games (next week it should be three out of three for **THE TRY MACHINE**)

The second half started with Sunderland on the attack, and for most of this half Billingham were on the defence. Team Captain **Scott Thompson** was solid as a rock keeping the team focused and encouraging them all the way to the end. Sunderland scored and converted a try to make it 12-7, mid way through the second half and Billingham responded with a try from **M (Give us another try) Westall** who made a good run from the halfway line, leaving all of the Sunderland lads behind him in his blazing trail of glory to the touch line.

**M Westall** must have been watching the original “Give us another try Westall” and used the same techniques today, as this was a typical Westall try done with true class and determination. The try was not converted 17-7,

Billingham held on to the lead and Sunderland got one more try in the dying minutes of the game but did not convert to make the final score 17-12

The whole team played well and they all deserve the victory. Not one member let the team down and I would like to thank you all for the effort and performance you put in today. I was very proud of you all and felt 10ft tall walking in to the club house. It is a good feeling to win and I hope to feel like that for the rest of the season.

Final Score 17-12 to Billingham

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