



BILLINGHAM RUGBY CLUB
NEWS LETTER
“THE LION”



COMMUNITY RUGBY
ACTIVE SPORTS
SEAL OF APPROVAL

**BILLINGHAM
WINS
SEAL OF
APPROVAL**

Billingham RFC is one of the first rugby clubs in the country to receive an award from the Rugby Football Union’s Community Club Development Programme to improve their pitches/floodlights/install a synthetic training area etc. The programme is an innovative collaboration between Government – the Department for Culture, Media & Sport – Sport England and 16 National Governing Bodies of sport, aimed at improving community club sports facilities.

The RFU’s Community Rugby & Operations Direc-

tor Terry Burwell said: “We are delighted to make this award to B/ham RFC. The club is key to the local and regional development of rugby union and we are committed to making sure that the club continues to provide increased opportunities for all who wish to participate in rugby”

Burwell added: “The Community Club Development Programme represents a new way of working for the RFU, whereby we are involved in the initial selection of projects that should receive funding based on our own strategic plans. B/ham has already invested in resources to increase club membership and in particular getting more young people and the number of

women and girls playing the game etc. since opening its new clubhouse on Greenwood Rd and this further investment will help us to achieve our vision of more people enjoying their rugby at better clubs that are open to all.”

Colin Snowdon from the Club said “We are delighted to have secured funding for floodlights, which will assist in the continuing improvement and success of the club at all levels. It is a tangible reward for the tireless work carried out at the Club which was one of the first in the North to be awarded the RFU’s Seal Of Approval.

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Mike and The Lads

Mick Jones has retired as U15s coach

After thrashing Darlo 55 to nil, a happy U15s Team presented Mike with a signed ball and a selection of fine wines.

Mike commented, "We've come a long way since I started with you boys. A couple of years ago we would not have lived with the likes of Darlo, now we are thrashing the b**gers." Thanks for that Mike. We miss you already.

Mike and the rest of the U15s

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**Billingham U15s
Match Report
12th Sept 2004**

Billingham 55 - Darlington 0

A good start to the season for the under 15s team who thrashed Darlo out of sight at Greenwood Road. After just 2 minutes Matty Stringer touched down following a superb dummy when breaking through from a B,ham lineout 10 metres out. Minutes later following another B'ham lineout Danny Watson received the ball and with a great drive on powered over to get the second try. A shell-shocked Darlo had no answer to B'ham's attack and, after a good passing move from a scrum near the

halfway line James Watson took a pass and scored in the corner. Darlington who had barely crossed the halfway line suffered another setback when a loose defensive kick was picked up by fullback Ben Laing who ran through a ragged Darlo back line to score between the posts. James Charville converted this. Half time score B'ham 22 Darlo 0.

The lads started the second half well, and an early Anth Hyndman try converted by Peter Evans made it an impossible task for Darlington to get back into the game. We were scoring at will; a second try for James Watson converted by James Charville. Then two in a row from Chris Dobson having a good day as scrum half. One of these converted by James Charville. Then in the final minutes of the game James Charville scored a try and converted it himself. What a great result 55 to 0. All the team played well and we are really proud of the performance against a team we thought would be one of our tougher opponents this season. A good debut for Anth Kelsey who got stuck in and earned himself a man of the match Mars Bar. Well done.

Richie Watson

Billingham U14's —0

v

Darlington —79

Hopefully this will be the largest defeat as well as the largest team we will meet this season. Billingham were well beaten not in terms of rugby skill just by the size of the opposition. Dton's No 4 Lock forward (6ft & 15stone ish) and their centre and right-winger ran rampant straight through our defence. Dton's first try after 1 minute did not help Billingham in gaining any confidence, especially with a number of new team players attempting

to find their feet. With 10 minutes to go until half time things improved, we retained some good ball but could not score. A further try just before half time by Dton sealed the win.

The second half saw an excellent run by Danny Brown and a couple of decent quick balls by Richie Weedall took us to within scoring range which just failed by a heavy tackle & knock on. Some great tackling by Alex Blenkinsopp who took a knock to the face and yes Dale Harrod well done. David Reay needed replacing after taking 2 hits to the head (not intentional). And I was pleased see the effort by all the team. A bit more aggression all round needs working on.

Hard luck lads and well done for keeping at it.

Training on the following Wed obviously focused on tackling – and moving the back line up early to stop the opposition moving the ball on quickly. Some new players look promising and will add value to the team.

The u14s next to matches are at home

19th Sept Mowden

26th Sept Ponteland

Kieth Blenkinsopp

The 1st

Billingham Firsts have played two league matches so far this season the results are

Billingham 0 — York 19

And

Billingham 48 —Acklam 15

Sept 25th the 1st and the 3rds are away to Durham.

The Seconds are at home to Durham.