



BILLINGHAM RUGBY CLUB  
NEWS LETTER  
“THE LION”



**SATURDAY 4th March**

**BILLINGHAM 1st XV**

**Welcome**

**HORDEN 1st XV**

**RESULTS FOR FEBRUARY**

Saturday, 18 February 2006 - Durham/N'thm'land 1

Northern 23 - 22 Billingham Saturday,

11 February 2006 - Durham/N'thm'land 1

Billingham 23 - 18 Ponteland

BILLINGHAM 2nds 10 — 0 DARLINGTON

BILLINGHAM 2nds 20— 5 HPOOL ROVERS

BILLINGHAM 3rds 34— 10 HARTLEPOOL

	P	W	D	L	For	Against	Diff	Pts
<a href="#">Horden</a>	17	15	0	2	624	216	408	30
<a href="#">Malton and Norton</a>	17	14	0	3	579	152	427	28
<a href="#">Northern</a>	17	14	0	3	419	252	167	28
<a href="#">Gateshead</a>	17	12	0	5	402	252	150	24
<a href="#">Consett</a>	17	9	0	8	322	373	-51	18
<a href="#">Billingham</a>	17	8	0	9	350	377	-27	16
<a href="#">Ponteland</a>	17	7	1	9	354	334	20	15
<a href="#">Ryton</a>	17	6	1	10	246	333	-87	13
<a href="#">North Shields</a>	17	5	0	12	208	426	-218	10
<a href="#">Redcar</a>	17	5	0	12	239	466	-227	10
<a href="#">West Hartlepool TDSOB</a>	17	3	0	14	227	431	-204	6
<a href="#">Acklam</a>	17	3	0	14	197	555	-358	6

**FRIDAY 7.30PM 10th MARCH**

**TURN YOUR CARDS QUIZ**

**TOTAL PRIZE MONEY**

**£250 YES £250**

**FOOD AVAILABLE**

**TICKETS £2**

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Issue 11 Vol 4

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

### 100 Club

We have not had a 100 club draw since November and for this I would like to apologise. On Sunday, we made the draws for December, January and February. And the winners are;

Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup>

Bob Bell

John Ker

John Ker

Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup>

Ian Johnston

Mr Taylor

F.G. Pogson

Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup>

Ian Mcloughlin

Les Jack

Michael Evans

From now on the draw will be made on the last weekend of the month and published both on the board and in the Lion For those of you who don't know the 100 Club is a monthly draw with prizes each month of £80, £25 and £10. The cost is £1 per week and is paid by standing order (see me for the forms). The money is used for the development of the club facilities. Remember we need your support and you have to be in it to win it!

### Events

**Quiz and Turn Your Cards** next Friday (10th March). The inaugural night saw PottsBurgum team jointly winning the quiz with the Armstrong's (we were cheated!), and Jessica Armstrong playing for £100 on the Turn Your Cards. Eventually, Craig Tennant (Toomby) won £20 having only bought 1 ticket (he also helped the Potts team cheat!) Anyway next week we are playing for **£250**. It costs £2 a ticket to enter the quiz and food is available on the night.

**St Patrick's Night** The following Friday is Irish night so remember to wear something green - and bring the family - ALL WELCOME.

### E-Mail

I have e-mail addresses for some of you. If you are a member and you send me your e-mail address I will ensure you get a copy of the Lion sent by e-mail. Send me your e-mail address to [markatstoneville@aol.com](mailto:markatstoneville@aol.com). Mark

**FRIDAY 17th MARCH**

**7.30pm**

**St Patrick's Night**

**Think !!!" Green"**

**Tickets £2**

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**WANTED**  
**MATCH**  
**REPORTS**  
**FOR**  
**ALL TEAMS**  
**YOUTH**  
**AND**  
**SENIOR**

## **Billingham 3rds V Hartlepool 2nds**

Yes third team! It was good to see the talented young players from the seconds volunteer for the thirds when their game was cancelled. Canham did a real captain's job and started with a full compliment of regulars. Dizzy Don took the whistle and Ray took over when he arrived. It was stalemate for twenty minutes when Stewart took a quick tap and go making good ground before being driven out. On the resulting line out Lowe stole and drove on with Dixon on his shoulder. McCabe finally broke from the maul to go over for Morley to convert. 7 – 0, Shortly after McCabe had to retire injured to be replaced by Youdale

Hartlepool responded almost immediately but did not convert

Coggy was unlucky not to break through when coming in off the wing but set up a good chance of a long range penalty which was ruled just wide (by one touch judge), Stewart was lucky not to break a finger when Coggy decided a sub was needed and kicked the scrum half's hand (whoops) Screen on for Stewart

## **Half Time Bilingham 3rds 7 – Hartlepool 5**

Billingham made four enforced changes at the half in this bruising encounter putting Raey at flanker. Ford who ran rings around Pool all game set off to combine with Screen and Westall in a well-worked move to put Foster over in the corner. Parsons once again was calling the shots in the line combining well with Leng until a clothes line tackle meant he had to leave the field with Ellis returning to bolster the pack, Hora left to be replaced by Atkinson. Pool took advantage whilst Bilingham were regrouping and scored a pushover try 12 – 10.

Morley added three more from wide before McKie and Grieve combined with Foster who touched down his second under the posts for an east extra two points. 22 – 10 Bilingham's pack were in control and Pool used every trick in the book to stop them. After a little coaching from the line Thompson changed his bind and made a greater impression so much so that he was taken out off the ball. No complaints though It's a rough old game isn't it. A good clearance from the back was chased by Youdale who fly hacked on and was pulled down. From nowhere Morgan came storming through to drop on the ball with inches to spare. The final try was a steal from Westall from sixty metres and blasting through the Pool forwards deftly sidestepped the full back to score. Morley added the two extra

## **Full Time Bilingham 3rds 34 – Hartlepool 10**

Scorers Tries.....Foster 2, Westall 1, Morgan 1, McCabe 1

Morley 3 Conversions ..... 1 Penalty M.O.M. Ford

## **Billingham U13's 33 Guisborough U13's 5**

Wet and mild conditions saw Bilingham U13's run out against their favourite rivals, Guisborough, who always make them work hard for any points. Tom Kill opened the scoring for Bilingham, taking the visitors by surprise in the second minute. Bilingham then had to remain focussed to hold Guisborough back, but eventually good supportive play from Guisborough paid off with a try.

Jake Day fought off a fast Guisborough defence to score on his return to the team. This was followed by Tom Kill gaining possession from the scrum on the Bilingham 10 m line and breaking free to touch down. All three Bilingham tries were cleanly converted by Danny Finney. The half time score was 21, 5 to Bilingham.

Guisborough looked dangerous in the opening minutes of the second half and gained possession but no extra points, despite coming close on a couple of occasions. Tom Kill put in some awesome tackling which helped to hold them back. It was Bilingham who eventually scored. Good work by the Bilingham pack saw the ball out to scrum half Cole Henderson, who drove it over to score. Tom Kill scored another and Danny Finney converted.

The scoreline didn't reflect a weak Guisborough side, more of a Bilingham side that had risen to the challenge. Man of the match was Tom Kill

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**Billingham U15s Vs Stockton**

Playing a combined U15/16 Stockton team, Billingham took to the pitch hoping for a win.

Early tries were needed to win. So when Phil Donaldson crosses the line within the first ten minutes Billingham knew that they could and should win this. However their dream was lost when Stockton ran two tries in ten minutes we started to think that we need more tries. The final Stockton try was converted to make the half time score:

**Billingham 5 Stockton 12**

The second half started as bad as the first finished with Stockton score a try earlier on which was converted. A further Stockton try, followed by a further conversion, saw Billingham's head drop knowing that their couldn't win now. It was easy to guess that Ben Elgie would score against his schoolmates and it came almost straight after Stockton try. For the second time in the game, Danny Brown miss the kick (although his kicks were excellent). A further Stockton try made the final score:

**Billingham 10 Stockton 31**

What happened, lads? Tackling was poor but not bad. Although we got most of the scrums because of their fly half always killing the ball, we lost less the half the scrums. And following Phil Donaldson's injury near half time saw us lose some faith. Anth Wright, what in the world happened? In the last game your tackling was superb but here it was rubbish. MOM goes to Dale Thompson.

**BILLINGHAM U10s V GUISBROUGH U10s**

In the first of 2 games Billingham dominated from start to finish, The return of experienced players helped the Billingham boys, Early on an excellent offload by Luke Wilson put Matty Routh away to speed past the Guisborough line and crash over. Billingham's forwards dominated the scrums and Tom Cummings was able to charge down the middle to cross to make it 10-0 after 5 mins. Billingham defended very well and pushed Guisborough back 10 metres before a loose ball was pounced on by Daniel Scullion who sent Matty Routh away for his 2nd try. In the 2nd half Billingham continued to dominate and Jonny Rumis crossed after a good pass wide from Matty Routh. Guisborough now looked down and out as Matty Routh made another sprint down the line to cross for his hat trick. Billingham relaxed a little towards the end allowing Guisborough to score 2 late tries.

**Billingham 30 Guisborough 25**

In game 2 Billingham brought on less experienced players but they still dominated scrums and rucks, Billingham scored first as Tom Cummings used his strength to crash over after a good maul. Matty Routh then received a good offload from Luke Wilson to outpace the Guisborough backs and cross. Luke Wilson then charged down the flank and crossed. In the 2nd half some of the Billingham forwards decided the job was done and allowed the Guisborough boys to score 3 tries, Billingham woke again and Matty Routh scored the try of the day as he sold 2 dummies and used great running angles to cross in the middle.

Man of the match selected by the Guisborough coach Matty Routh

## **BILLINGHAM U12s v Guisborough U12s**

A typical wet February morning for this game, Billingham missing a few players but still with enough numbers, unfortunately Guisborough are having problems fielding a squad and arrived with only 5 players, so it was agreed that we would have a game by lending players to Guisborough. It meant 9 Billingham players vs. 10 mixed from the two clubs. We would aim for 4x15 minute sessions depending on the games. 1st Match

Numbers meant only 3 man scrums and uncontested, as we wanted to encourage running and handling skills, the game soon settled down and it was obvious that Billingham lads were up for the game, Jack Chapman soon going in to score following good forward play, Craig Errington converting. Billingham were soon back on the attack and a typical determined run by Marcus Suddren saw him go over in the corner the conversion just missed. This had the makings of a route except Guisborough soon responded and Conner Jones playing for Guisborough scored a couple of tries, showing great determination to break through 3 tackles and go over in the corner. The Billingham boys playing for Guisborough were doing well and the game really livened up. Phil Ayton having another good game for Billingham kept coming out of mauls with the ball and setting the team away with good running. Jack Chapman went over again with Craig Errington converting to get us back in front. Soon another try followed Phil Ayton getting his reward for hard work going over with a typical hookers run of 5 yards, Jack Chapman converting. This was the breathing space Billingham needed and they soon started to show good handling skills both in passing on the run and off-loading in the tackle. Half time 26-14 to Billingham.

The second half saw Billingham two more tries, one a great break off the back of the scrum from the scrum half Craig Errington the other Jack Chapman getting his hat-trick (it won't be his last) Craig converting both. Guisborough scoring in response to make the score 40-21. The 9 boys from Billingham working well, especially Ben McWilliams making great tackles and setting up plays with good strong forward rugby, carrying on his recent good form. As the game has been contested well the teams stayed as they were, but the second game was all Billingham. Some players had their positions changed with Ben McWilliams moving into the centre and Guisborough also changing some players positions. Ben made several strong runs, without scoring but set up many chances, Phil Ayton continuing to be too much up front for Guisborough. The good ball coming to the backs meant they were really working it well, with Guisborough under constant pressure, Marcus Suddren scored 3 tries converting one himself with Craig Errington converting the other two and also when Robbie Lavender went over. The score was starting to mount and it was mutually decided to call a halt after the one period. Final score 28-0 but credit to all the players on both sides who kept a good game going for so long and all trying to play good flowing rugby. It was especially pleasing to hear praise from the referee and the Guisborough coach on the handling all round of the Billingham team. Confirming what we coaches have felt on the improvement since the Christmas break.

Man of the Match, Ben McWilliams although not scoring helped to set up so much for Billingham. Connor Jones (from Billingham playing for Guisborough) played hard and tough even as a loaned player, a move into the pack for him.

## **Billingham U9s V Guisborough U9s**

Billingham had only 6 players and Guisborough kindly lent 2 of theirs players to make the team up. Although Guisborough had a full team of nine, both teams showed a lot of spirit. The game started well, ball control was fairly even and the tackling skills were impressive. Billingham's Jackson Wardell after five minutes managed to score a try. Within minutes he had control of the ball and was in a good run near the try line but a Guisborough player did an excellent tackle preventing him from scoring. The rucks and driving skills really shone through in the first half with Guisborough team. When Billingham had control of the ball from a throw in, the team effort in short passes from George Baker, Robert Colley to Jackson Wardell were successful in scoring another try. At the end of the first half Guisborough were lucky and obtained the ball when the opposing team had a throw in, their accurate short passes got the ball away from Billingham leaving them behind and Guisborough had a very good run and a well deserved try.

In the second half the driving skills from both teams were more confident and the defense tackling skills were spot on. Guisborough had a throw in from Billingham's try end, the determination of getting the ball to their try line was great and near, but Billingham's defense prevented them. Billingham were eager to do well and the team work shone through when they were driving to get the ball over their try line but unfortunately it was disallowed as the ball was passed forward in the drive. Players were slightly disappointed after all of that effort but still were determined and the enthusiasm did not lapse. Guisborough then had control of the ball but Ben Duncan unexpectedly stole the ball and went on to score a try for Billingham.

Overall a very good match, both supporters and players enjoyed it immensely.

Final score Billingham 3 trys - Guisborough 1

FRIDAY 17th MARCH

7.30pm

St Patrick's Night

Think !!!” Green”

Tickets £2

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FRIDAY 7.30PM 10th

MARCH

TURN YOUR CARDS QUIZ

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY

£250 *YES* £250

FOOD AVAILABLE

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### **URGENT APPEAL**

Lost 24th Feb, last seen on the bus, 1 adult ticket for Newcastle Falcons v Leicester. If found please contact Colin "Budgie" Snowden.

### **Breaking News.**

Rumours abound as yet unconfirmed by the lions undercover reporter that "Budgie" seen buying back his own ticket from ticket touts outside Newcastle Falcons ground.

### **Wanted**

Wallet or pouch that can be worn around neck, for keeping valuables safe, good price offered (at least £10) contact "Budgie" c/o Billingham Rugby Club.