



BILLINGHAM RUGBY CLUB  
NEWS LETTER  
“THE LION”



COMMUNITY RUGBY  
ACTIVE SPORTS  
SEAL OF APPROVAL

**SATURDAY 8th April**

**BILLINGHAM 1st XV V REDCAR 1st**  
**REDCAR 2nds V BILLINGHAM 2nds**  
**BILLINGHAM 3rds V REDCAR 3rds**

Saturday, 25 March 2006 - Durham/N'thm'land 1

Billingham 29 - 25 West Hartlepool TDSOB

Saturday, 11 March 2006 - Durham/N'thm'land 1

Acklam 7 - 43 Billingham

Saturday, 4 March 2006 - Durham/N'thm'land 1

Billingham 20 - 33 Horden

D/HAM & NORTH/ LAND DIV 1	P	W	D	L	For	Against	Diff	Pts
Malton and Norton	20	17	0	3	695	172	523	34
Horden	20	17	0	3	744	261	483	34
Northern	20	17	0	3	532	289	243	34
Gateshead	20	14	0	6	508	286	222	28
Billingham	20	10	0	10	442	442	0	20
Consett	19	10	0	9	358	408	-50	20
Ponteland	20	9	1	10	389	420	-31	19
Ryton	20	7	1	12	280	395	-115	15
Redcar	20	6	0	14	283	543	-260	12
North Shields	20	5	0	15	233	505	-272	10
West Hartlepool TDSOB	20	3	0	17	272	547	-275	6
Acklam	19	3	0	16	207	675	-468	4

**SUNDAY 9th April**

**U9s and U12s**

**Durham County Cup**

Last year Billingham U9s and U12s both won the Durham county Cup. This means that as the current holders of the cup Billingham will host this years finals. The first games will start at 10am with the final being played around 2pm Sunday afternoon

*Your support is most welcome*

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## **Billingham 2<sup>nd</sup> XV V Yarm First XV**

Today saw the return of the half back partnership of Woodhouse and Westcough to the side on a day that was better suited to kite flying. The strong cross-field wind made back play difficult which suited Yarm who fielded a very strong pack.

Billingham eventually broke the deadlock with a well earned when Screen brought down a Yarm player and was awarded a penalty which Clarke converted. Yarm replied minutes later with three gifted points of their own having gained twenty metres through our indiscipline.

### **HALF TIME Bingham 2<sup>nd</sup> XV 3 V Yarm First XV 3**

Just into the half saw Tennant and Parsons both sidelined through injury having been up against that old war-horse Webster in the line throwing Magrath and Youdale into the fray. Bromley, Potts, Jinks and Hutchinson all tried to drive over from 5 metres and when Woodhouse was stopped with inches to go Magrath grabbed the ball and smashed into their defensive wall to touch down 8 – 3.

The backs had defended well and built attacks on scraps and were starting to pick up injuries probably due to lack of games this month. Burgham came on for Bromley and Keenan was swapped for Westall one good open field tackler for another. Then Daley took a gamble switching players to open up the game when Westcough went off Conlon came on, Burgham went to 9, Clarke to 10 and Woodhouse to full back.

Scott started playing his hooker/back row method in the open and Ker was breaking tackles from a tiring Yarm side. Overlaps were at last just about starting to appear and when Keenan chased and caught a Burgham kick he looked set for a score. Yarm's full back had different ideas and smashed him to the ground just as he released a perfect pop up to Bates who was racing through as back up to score. Clarke converted for a hard fought win in difficult conditions.

### **FULL TIME Bingham 2<sup>nd</sup> XV 15 V Yarm First XV 3**

#### **Reporters comment**

Good hard fought victory in wind that spoilt our flowing game and of course a very experienced Yarm side

## **Ponteland U13's 8 Bingham U13's 57**

Perfect rugby conditions took Bingham U13's into the uncharted territory of Northumberland to face Ponteland this weekend. In the first minutes Tom Kill made good use of the ball and handed off the defence to score. Jake Day repeated this minutes later, displaying some of his typical side stepping through the defence to score. Jake Toulson followed with another, then Jake Day and two more from Tom Kill. Five successful conversions by Danny Finney gave an impressive 40 nil to Bingham on half time.

After the restart Bingham gave away a penalty, allowing Ponteland to score three from a kick. Further tries from Bingham weren't long in coming - from Danny Finney, another from Jake Day, then Mark Brewis (one of which was converted). Ponteland put in a consolation try in the dying minutes to take the final score to an impressive 57:8 to Bingham.

The Ponteland coach said that such a scoreline was unusual for his side and congratulated Bingham on a fine game of rugby. Man of the match was Chris Halfpenny.

## **Sunderland u13's 0 Bingham u13's 50**

Billingham managed to put on an inclusive 15 man performance despite heavy muddy conditions. They were in the ascendancy from the opening minute when Jake Toulson broke away to score. A follow up came not long afterwards when Mark Brewis gained possession from a scrum near the Sunderland 5 m line and touched down. Bingham were, by this time, in full control and looking for more points. These soon came from a Jake Toulson sprint. Then Sunderland tried to kick the ball clear towards the Bingham line, only to be cleanly caught by Tom Kill who charged down the field to score. Danny Finney made two conversions in the first half.

After the restart Sunderland began to challenge but never really presented themselves with any opportunities. Tries for Bingham followed from Adam Cockburn, Tom Kill and Joe Douthwaite. Excellent support play resulted in a final try by Jake Toulson. Danny Finney displayed his skills of accuracy with 3 successful conversions and the remaining one hitting the cross bar. The final score was fifty points to Bingham and clean sheet. Man of the match was Andy Thompson.

## Billingham u16s 39 v Guisborough U16s 0

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**FOR**  
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Today we had Guisborough at Home again. This was a mixed U16 & U17s side with mainly U17s, and they were big lads. The first 15 minutes was a close game with no score. Danny Watson was an early casualty with a twisted knee, replaced at loose head by Simon Bence with James Charville going into second row. Bingham were giving away too many penalties, luckily we were in their half. Danny Westall was next on the injury list with a badly bruised elbow, James Charville then moved into blindside flanker and Jono Hill going into second row. The breakthrough came with Simon Bence fired up and charging through to score. Scrum half Matty Stringer kicking the conversion. Having found the line once Simon got his second from a driving maul following a lineout 10 metres out. Just a few minutes later we won a 5 metre scrum James Watson picking at No8 and shipping it out to Matty Stringer to run through the defence to score. Bingham dominated at breakdowns despite the size of Guis, and flanker Dave Golden had another great game. The final try of the half came from a line-out on the Guis 22. The ball was taken cleanly and passed out to Naz Renwick on the wing, who made a great run, Danny Sayers looped round in support and collected to run through and score. Half time 22 to 0.

The second half continued with Bingham pressure with Guisborough looking tired but not having given up hope. After being camped on the Guis 5 metre line Danny Dixon finally got the score driving over after receiving the ball from another good passing sequence. Fullback Ben Laing got the next. Supporting the line, the ball coming out from a ruck and passed to Ben charging through to place between the posts. This time Matty Stringer converted easily. The final try came from an Anth Hyndman kick over the top. This was chased by Naz Renwick who grubbered it on to score in the corner.

Another good team display today, everyone worked hard and played for each other. Though Guis failed to score they played their part a tough game, which threatened at times to boil over but on the whole both sides kept their discipline.

Man of the match today was James Charville.

## Billingham u13s 38 v Seaton u13s 7

Billingham were able to maintain their unbeaten record with a good all round display of 15 man rugby. Cole Henderson scored two tries in the first half with his aggressive running from scrum half. Jake Day scored three tries in the same period, using his speed and side-step to his best ability. He also converted 4 from 5 conversions to make half time score 33-0. In the second half, Seaton put up a good account for themselves, scoring a good converted try. Matty Storey was able to score in the corner after good handling skills by the backs. The forwards maintained the pressure on Seaton but Bingham were unable to put any more points on the board. Final score Bingham 38 Seaton 7

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**Billingham U13's 24 Darlington U13's 10**

An exciting and well fought match that was probably the U13's best performance of the season so far.

Billingham took the lead in the opening minutes when a tap penalty and a now familiar cross field kick by Danny Finney was caught high by Mark Brewis who drove over the line to score. Darlington replied by increasing the pressure and looked dangerous every time they had the scrum. They were rewarded minutes later by a try after the scrum on the Billingham 5 metre line.

After several forrays into the Darlington half, good support play saw Tom Kill break free to score for Billingham under the posts. Darlington remained solid against the Billingham attack, resulting in a half time score of 10 points to 5 in favour of Billingham.

Jake Day opened the scoring for Billingham in the second half, shaking off the Darlington defence and undertaking a great run to score a try under the posts. Danny Finney converted. Darlington held strong and counter-attacked and scored despite solid tackling by the Billingham boys.

Cole Henderson sealed victory for Billingham with a break-away try to minutes from time, converted by Danny Finney. The final score was 24 / 10 to Billingham and man of the match was Nathan Moffatt.

**Westoe u13's 3 Billingham u13's 17**

This semi-final of the County Cup against Westoe could only be described as a scrappy affair. In the opening minutes Jake Day picked up a missed penalty kick by Westoe and whisked through the unsuspecting defence to score under the posts for Billingham. Danny Finney converted.

The Billingham forwards had their work cut out in keeping the score at 7 nil and managed extremely well to hold a frustrated Westoe side off the try line on several occasions. Eventually Westoe scored from a penalty kick.

In the second half it was much the same with credit to the forwards in preventing Westoe from doing further damage.

The pressure was eased on Billingham when Tom Kill picked up after a penalty tap to score a try, again converted by Danny Finney. The last kick of the game was a penalty by Danny Finney to take Billingham into the cup final with a score of 17 points to 3.

Man of the match was Alan Sedgewick and Billingham look forward to a final against either Darlington or Ryton in defence of the County Cup.

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**Wetherby u16s 12 v Billingham u16s 48**

Today we made the trip down the A1 to Wetherby. The weather was bright and dry, excellent conditions for rugby. We started slowly, making a few basic errors but soon got into the game. After a good passing move we drove a maul over the line Anth Hyndman getting the score. Wetherby defended well under pressure and it was 15 minutes before we scored again. This try came from a 5 metre lineout after Peter Evans had kicked a penalty into the corner. The line out was caught and driven over, this time it was Matty Stringer who scored. From the restart James Watson caught the ball and ran 40 metres before offloading to Anth Hyndman, who passed it to Ben Laing in support sprinting through to score between the posts. Peter Evans converting. The second half brought more Billingham pressure and after winning a penalty, Danny Dixon powered through to score in the corner. This was expertly converted by Peter Evans. The next two tries came from Danny Sayers, the first from a Wetherby defensive kick which caught and ran in to the corner. The second came from a great series of passing after the restart to touch down under the posts, that Peter converted.

The tackle of the game came from Wetherby, Ben Laing ran through 30 metres and it was a certain try for him but ten metres short of the line the pursuing Wetherby player dived at his feet and tap tackled him. Ben popped the ball up to Matty Stringer who got the score between the posts. Peter could not miss this conversion. Although beaten Wetherby did not give up and from a penalty on the Bill 22 they got the ball out to score in the corner. This gave Wetherby new belief in themselves and they got back into the game with ten minutes remaining. Wetherby scored a second when they intercepted a pass on their own 10 metre line and ran to score under the posts, and convert it. The final try of the game came from a Billingham scrum, James Watson pick at No8, made good yards and passed out to peter Evans to get the score. A good result today, the lads working hard and supporting runs well. Andy Sidney had a great game back in the back row.

Man of the match

Matty Stringer, great all round the pitch.

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