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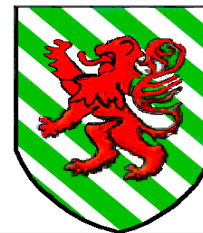
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**CLUB ANNOUNCEMENT
SAFETY & CLUB SECURITY**

Please, for the safety of our children and security of club and personal property, adhere to the following announcement.

After training and playing matches, please could all children remain in the main room of the clubhouse.

Playing football on the car-park or behind the clubhouse will no longer be tolerated. This is for the safety of our children, and reduces the risk of damage to personal and club property.



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RUGBY CLUB
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**RUGBY LEAGUE
THE FIRST GAME OF THE SEASON
SATURDAY 5th MAY
BILLINGHAM LIONS
v
PETERLEE PUMAS
VISIT www.freewebs.com/billinghamlionsarlfc**

**WELL DONE TO
BILLINGHAM COLTS
COUNTY CHAMPIONS
2006/2007
BILLINGHAM u14s
COUNTY CHAMPIONS
2004/05. 2005/06. 2006/07
DISTRICT CHAMPIONS
2005/06. 2006/07
LEAGUE CHAMPIONS
2006/07**

SATURDAY MAY 12th 10AM AT THE CLUB
HOOKED ON FISHING
FREE FISHING CLASSES THEN LESSON AT
CHARLTON'S POUND

Issue
20
Vol
5

BILLINGHAM FIRST XV 69 v REDCAR 10

A late injury to Willis saw Scott in at hooker with Amos moving to prop. The last game of the season looked like being a real bruising encounter with Redcar fielding some of their more senior forwards.

That part was easy to predict and that's how it turned out.

Minutes into the game saw Hyndman break though and bullet a pass to Dave Robinson for the fist. Garbutt went looking for the ball on a looping run to touch down under the posts for a lead of 14 – 0.

The next score was said by many to be the try of the season although we have seen some amazing tries scored from many players.

Chris Hyndman put in a huge inch perfect cross-field kick, which Garbutt took flat out and went over to score without being touched.

The Sheps combined for the next one dazzling Redcar for Paul to score.

C Shepherd set of again and passed out of the tackle to Garbutt who did his now familiar hand offs to score his third of the day.

Half Time BILLINGHAM FIRST XV 31 v REDCAR 5

Hyndman showed his deft kicking skills again when his chip saw M Evans race through to dive on the ball beating the Redcar fullback to it. Hyndman once again showed his experience drawing three tacklers and still getting the pass to C Shepherd to score.

Westall replaced Garbutt and Screen replaced A Evans

C Shepherd got his second of the day with a fine angled run and Youdale scored two almost identical tries with runs through a tiring Redcar defence. C Shepherd completed his hat trick with a weaving run from half way. Redcar had the final say with a typical Redcar forwards try

Billingham first xv 69 v Redcar 10

Scorer tries: Garbutt 3, C.(15) Shepherd 3, Youdale 2, Dave Robinson 1
P (14) Shepherd 1, M.Evans 1

Kicks: Conversions J Evans 7

Club news Look forward to next season when all our players will be fit and hopefully remain available for the full year

Spectators comment Alicks try was a bit special wasn't it?

Reporters comment What a great way to end the season, a few injuries, a bit of bad luck and an error in the score probably cost us the league and cup double. With young players like Watson, Hyndman, Westall, Screen and the rest who we have not seen yet and a great coaching staff the future looks good providing we all keep pulling together.

OUR SPIRIT IS OUR STRENGTH

West Hartlepool U13s 0 - 19 Billingham U13s

A great day for rugby and a great performance from a squad reduced to 15 due to injuries, from the kick-off Billingham played as one, collecting any loose balls, doubling up when required tackling and running and passing, no ball tucked under the armpit runs. Numbers meant players being moved around the pitch, Jack Chapman at No8, Ben Mac going to flanker, Luke moving onto the wing, Callum going to full back, and all playing well in new positions.

It really was a performance that we knew they are capable of, forwards offloading in the tackle and West effectively trying to stem wave after wave of Billingham attacks. Soon the inevitable happened and the ball was won, fed out and moved across the backs before it reached John Devine playing outside centre, who promptly broke through a tackle switched on the afterburners and went away from the West players. Unfortunately the conversion was missed. From the re-start west had a go at Billingham, they have 5 county players and made good ground but again they were soon stopped. Gary Chuelish gathered the loose ball, Billingham being awarded a penalty led to the try of the game. Ben playing flanker broke with the ball, breaking through two challenges with only a slight 4 foot something full back to get past, but he was brilliantly tackled only to pop the ball off to Jack Chapman who carried on to score under the posts. Tom converting, West refused to give in, and there handful of big forwards continued to trouble Billingham but again playing as a tight team meant they could not break through, soon another typical lightning run from John Devine and he went over again under the posts, Tom converting 19-0. half time. The second half West playing with a slight downhill advantage threw everything at Billingham, they were not expecting to be down to Billingham, soon they were camped in front of the Billingham posts, and looked certain to score, but instead of using their big pack chose to move the ball wide, some great tackling by Jack Chapman, Luke Richardson the ball came loose and Marcus Sudren kicking to great effect cleared the danger. The game settled down into one of attrition, neither managing to break through the other, even though there were some good runs, David Rawson, Gary Chuelish, and ball being won in the maul by Jordan Whitehouse the two teams cancelled each other out. A great game in the right spirit and a great result, it was Billingham's first ever lock out of the opposition, also a fantastic way to end our regular season.

U14 County Cup Final (at Mowden Park)

Billingham 12 Darlington 7

County Champions

District Champions

League Champions

In what was a re-match of last years final, the game was expected to be as equally tight and so it proved to be. In perfect playing conditions, Darlington dominated the opening 10 minutes with strong forward play dominating the set play, securing many turnovers from scrum and lineout. It was not unexpected when they opened the scoring with a converted try under the posts. Gradually Billingham began to get themselves into the game and into Darlington territory. The pack began to function and secure the ball for the dangerous backs. The ball was recycled twice and moved along the back line to Tom Kill who broke two tackles to show good strength to score near the corner. Half time 5-7

In what was an entertaining match with both teams producing quality rugby, Billingham got more and more possession as the second half progressed Set by the platform of the forwards, the backs tested the Darlington defence but found it difficult to break a well marshalled team. Jake Day had been doubled up on by Darlington but despite this made a break from the half way line, through several challenges and side-stepping the final defence to score a memorable try, Tom Kill converting. With Billingham now ahead, Darlington tried to run the ball at every opportunity but Billingham kept the play in the opposition's half. The closing few minutes were tense but Billingham won an enthralling match 12-7.

Ending the season by doing the **TREBLE**

County Cup (3rd YEAR RUNNING)

District cup (2nd YEAR RUNNING)

League champions.

A great deal of credit must be given to both squads of each team and to the coaches for a game played very competitively in the correct spirit and with a tremendous amount of quality. **mom Tom Kill**

Head Coach Wayne Finney said "We did ok this season and with a lot of hard work over the summer we should be able to improve on this season performance, we lost a lot of games only winning 27 out of the 29 and this is where we can do better. Last year we won all the games we played and that is our aim next season.

THIS IS THE LAST LION OF THE SEASON AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE HELPED MAKE THE NEWS LETTER POSSIBLE ESPECIALLY

BARRY WOODHOUSE,

CLAIRE BREWIS, GUY RAWSON, AND DALE THOMPSON,

6.30pm
EVERY FRIDAY
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BILLINGHAM COLTS V DARLINGTON COUNTY CUP

We finally done it tonight. At Darlo we beat Blaydon 12 -5 to win the Durham county cup.

In the first half we scored tries from Ben laing and Johnny Hill and a conversion from peter Evans to be 12 – 0 up at half time.

Second half we were forced to defend for long periods with Blaydon scoring to get back in to it, then it was squeaky bum time for the hordes of Billingham travelling support before the ref blew for time. Excellent result, great for the lads who played there last ever game as a team. Next year they are all seniors.

Can't express how proud I am of all of them. Had a few beers back at the club, over the moon. Love them all. Richie.

Houghton U14's 0

v

Billingham U14's 53

The boys travelled to Houghton for a match in prime sunny conditions this week, which brought out some of their best team play of the season. Much of the game was played in the Houghton half and but their players refused to be ground down despite their slipping of fortunes from early in play.

In the first half they managed to hold Billingham back from the line for a significant length of time. However, every time they attempted to kick the ball downfield out of their half it was soon picked up and returned. Eventually Danny Finney scored and converted. Alan Sedgwick had a ball held up on the line, just before Danny Finney scored again, this time with Mark Brewis converting. A fine display of team-work and ball handling followed. Conor Shea scored this time (Mark Brewis converting) followed by one from Matty Smith and another from Conor. The half time score stood at 31 points to nil in Billingham's favour.

In the second half the referee declared uncontested scrums. Tries came thick and fast from Jake Toulson (2), Joe Douthwaite and Stuart Adnett. There was one conversion from Mark Brewis. Kareem Omar, Jake Toulson and Daniel Sanderson were all held up on the line. By the end of the match Billingham had scored 53 points for with none against and man of the match going to Stuart Adnett for the backs and Danny Harrison for the forwards.

Billingham U13s 43 - 14 Seaten Carew u13s

A blazing hot day for possibly the last home game of the season on a rock hard pitch saw a good game of rugby between the two teams. Billingham gaining revenge for a defeat early this season at Seaton, The game started with only 14 a side as Seaton were short and Billingham only had 15, holidays and injuries taking their toll. Seaton scored almost from the kick off, the ball fielded by Billingham then possession turned over and the Seaton player going in almost unopposed to score with a try under the posts. 7-0. The Billingham response was emphatic, that would be almost the only time Seaton were in Bilinghams half other than kick off's. Billingham first try being scored by John Devine, a typical John effort, the ball coming down the line and he then taking the opposition on the outside and running in from 40m to score under the posts, Almost from the re-start Billingham pressed again, being dominant in both the backs and forwards, Robbie Lavender working well in the loose and ripping ball out of mauls. Billingham's second try coming from a run by Jack Chapman playing at Flanker, who was stopped on a run, Marcus picking up the loose ball and then running crossfield to score. Tom Doherty scoring a fine conversion. It was all one way traffic and soon Billingham were in again, except Josh Gibson ran out of the try zone (again) soon good forward play had Billingham pressing close to the Seaton try line and Ben McWilliams went over from 3 yards, Tom Doherty again converting. Half time 19-7

The second half soon took on a repeat of the first with almost all possession being with Billingham, one of the best flowing moves from Billingham starting with good forward work then moving the ball across the backs. until going inside to Jack Chapman who went over to score in the corner, conversion missed. Seaton were bravely defending but against a tide of Billingham attacks it was always just a matter of time before another try was scored, Marcus Sudren going over from short range again in the corner, The next try followed a sweet crossfield kick from Marcus fielded by Josh Gibson who burst away to score under the posts with Tom converting. Billingham missed opportunities to score from good positions, Jack Chapman tackled in the end Zone, and good possession 5m out not being converted but the final score came from Robbie Lavender again stripping the ball of a Seaton player then off loading to Marcus who ran in, Tom getting his 4th conversion. The final try was a good effort from Seaton who fielded a kick from Billingham who's forwards tiring in the sun did not chase with any vigour, the Seaton player dummied the defenders then ran through to score under the posts, converted to make the score 43-14,

Man of match Robbie Lavender for good all round game.

Gosforth u13s 19 - 12 Bilingham u13s

Gosforth had just played West and beat them by the same score as Bilingham19-0, and they certainly showed why they are Northumbria County Champions, however the Bilingham team had managed to ignore the attractions of teenage girls football match to watch there opponents against West. This was going to be a hard game for Bilingham, but they started as they finished against west, playing some superb 15 man rugby, Gosforth were certainly well drilled and fed the ball quickly out of the rucks to free up there very dangerous centres, one of who broke through and went over in the corner to score, conversion missed. Bilingham stepped up and took the game to Gosforth, obviously fired by their game v West, again good forward play had the ball set up for the backs, down the line it went and John Devine burst through to score, unfortunately being injured when scoring and having to come off. West loaned a player and Bilingham had to re-shuffle positions. Tom missed the kick and sarcastic applause from Gosforth not needed. Gosforth were always looking to take advantage and played close to the edge being penalised a few times by the ref for overstepping the mark. HALF TIME 7-5

The second half was as tight as the first, but Bilingham having more possession and position but Gosforth tackling and covering well, and when not being prepared to infringe or kick the ball away removing any advantage to Bilingham. The game then turned on a couple of incidents, a missed tackle allowed a Gosforth player to break the defensive line and he ran through for a breakaway try, the Bilingham response was immediate. When awarded a penalty 30 metres out, the ball was deliberately knocked out of Marcus Sudrens hands when he had an opportunity for a quick tap and go, with no cover in front of him. Although they lost 10 metres, Bilingham lost the opportunity. They kept going though and even when Gosforth scored another try, kept taking the game to Gosforth and eventually rewarded with a try by Marcus following strong running and passing, Tom Converted but time had elapsed and game lost 19-12.

No man of the match as all the players put their all in, against a much more savvy Gosforth team who knew they had scrapped a narrow win.