

BILLINGHAM RUGBY CLUB  
NEWS LETTER

“THE LION”

SATURDAY 11th NOV

BILLINGHAM 1st V PONTELAND 1st

NORTH SHIELDS V BILLINGHAM 3RDS

FRIDAY

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P	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	B Pts
1	Gateshead	8	7	0	1	272	103	169	14
2	Northern	8	7	0	1	199	110	89	14
3	Sunderland	8	6	0	2	158	104	54	12
4	Billingham	8	5	0	3	256	129	127	10
5	Alnwick	8	4	0	4	159	138	21	8
6	Consett	8	4	0	4	151	188	-37	8
7	Ponteland	8	3	1	4	156	158	-2	7
8	Ryton	8	3	1	4	123	141	-18	7
9	Gosforth	8	3	0	5	168	157	11	6
10	Redcar	8	2	2	4	127	225	-98	6
11	Stockton	7	0	2	5	88	151	-63	2
12	N Shields	7	0	0	7	51	304	-253	0

RESULTS SAT

4th NOVEMBER

FIRST TEAM

NORTHERN 22 BILLINGHAM 50

04 November 2006	Gosforth	8	V	17	Gateshead
04 November 2006	North Shields	0	V	50	Consett
04 November 2006	Northern	22	V	50	Billingham
04 November 2006	Ponteland	16	V	20	Alnwick
04 November 2006	Redcar	17	V	17	Stockton
04 November 2006	Ryton	17	V	10	Sunderland

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**Issue 6  
Vol 5**

## NORTHERN 22 v BILLINGHAM FIRST XV 50

This game always looked difficult playing away to top of the table Northern who were unbeaten and had only conceded sixty points all season. We saw a couple of changes with McQuillan at eight and Garbutt on the wing. Northern were stunned after five minutes when after five phases of quick ball Shepherd chipped for Shepherd to chase through for the try. This set the stall for the rest of the first half with Joe Evans selling a dummy before popping to Hutchinson setting Shepherd away after he broke their defensive line. Northern came back with a disputed try and from the line it looked clear that Willis had used his strength to hold up the Northern player. Northern went to fourteen men following a "horse tackle" from their second row, the penalty was converted. The Billingham pack were dominant giving the half back combination ample opportunity to provide good quick ball. Northern managed to disrupt one scrum but McQuillan skilfully scooped the ball to Woodhouse who had no option but to drive on and go to ground with good support from Amos and Danny Robinson the ball was retained with Chris Hyndman bulleting a pass to Mike Evans who burst through from the twenty-two to score. Northern came back with a second converted try but their backs were tiring rapidly having to defend quick phases and their pack was being driven off the rucks by a well drilled Billingham performance. During a ruck Tennant was fortunate not to be injured when a Northern boot stood on his outstretched ankle. Woodhouse was not so lucky and sustained a leg injury forcing him to reluctantly leave the field to be replaced by Burgum right on half time **Half Time NORTHERN 17 BILLINGHAM 22**

Early in the second half Dave Robinson could have been seriously hurt when a Northern boot came down his forehead, after indicating the incident to the referee set about tackling everything in a northern shirt (the best way to make a point). Northern were tiring and their heads went down when Craig Shepherd went over in the corner. Garbutt came into his own next receiving the ball forty metres out, ran round the winger and used his strength to fend off a desperate full backs tackle to score. Paul Shepherd showed his pace with a cross-field run to straighten and go over in the opposite corner. Daley replaced Hutchinson and was straight in the thick of it knocking attacking players back on their heels. Fairhurst replaced Danny Robbo and joined the front row. Dalton put a big hit on a Northern prop and from the resulting ruck the ref pinged Fairhurst and binned him for persistent something or other. The final try of the game was amazing M Evans set Chris Hyndman away and Northern were playing drift defence to cover. Chris put in a massive sidestep, their entire back line went the wrong way and Coach ran in for a well-earned try. **A BRILLIANT PERFORMANCE ALL ROUND** Scorer/Tries: C. Shepherd 2, P Shepherd 2, M. Evans, A Garbutt, C Hyndman. Kicks J, Evans Conversions 3, Penalties 3 *M.O.M CRAIG WILLIS*

## **Guisborough U14's 24 v Billingham U14's 10**

Billingham U14's experienced their first full-match defeat in well over 12 months this week, at the hands of an eager and fired-up Guisborough side. Guisborough came out as an attacking side from the off and had Billingham needing to be alert and prepared to put in some strong tackling. Guisborough were presented with an opportunity after seven minutes and a player sprinted down the wing, seemingly clear, only to be brought down on the line by Jake Toulson. The same happened again minutes later with Jake keeping out the try again. Eventually Guisborough broke through the Billingham defense to score under the posts and subsequently convert. Minutes later Billingham capitalized on their chances and Tom Kill scored a try, picking up from a penalty kick. With a fine demonstration of invention minutes later, Danny Finney looped the ball to Tom Kill in the Billingham half, for him to sprint to score under the posts. Billingham just had the edge at half time with a 7:10 lead. Guisborough upped the pressure in the second half and scored in the corner from a line out in the first few minutes. Now in the ascendancy, Guisborough snatched possession from a Billingham lineout and Billingham couldn't keep them out and scored a try that was subsequently converted. A further Guisborough try sealed their victory at 24:10.

Overall the Guisborough backs were keen and sharp with plenty of pace and capitalized on their opportunities. Billingham didn't put on a poor display but perhaps didn't 'catch fire' like they usually do and subsequently didn't play to the best of their ability. On the day the best team won.

Players of the match for Billingham today were Cole Henderson and Joss Havakin.

## Billingham u13s 50 -Guisborough u13s 0

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A depleted side from Guisborough arrived at Greenwood road. It was decided That we would play a 13-man squad and that we would give Guisborough some of Our key players to allow a good game of rugby all round. The game started Well and within five minutes Ben McWilliams had picked up and made a run for the Line, with some of Guisbroughs smaller backs failing to make the tackle and Allowing him to place down near the post. This then allowed Marcus Sudron to Convert. The Guisborough side made the most of the following rucks, a Bilingham weakness. Guisborough making a few good breaks and some really good Passes down the back line, but only to fail with some good tackling by Bilinghams forwards. Ben again made a break down the right wing and a few hand off's. Later Bilingham got there second try. Soon after Marcus Sudron Made the Break with some excellent side steps to place down for Bilinghams third. Then From a scrum came an excellent pass from Marcus with the backs making a run Forward and some good passes down the line to winger Josh Gibson to score and Marcus to convert. The Bilingham players seemed to be playing with some Determination at last and did not seem to be as unsettled as in previous weeks by The other team. Some good breaks and forward runs by a number of players Including Scott Mahon, Phil Ayton, Craig Errington, Johnny Young and Ashley in His first match soon followed. Guisborough making some good tackles and not Allowing players through. This allowed Guisborough to edge up to Bilinghams Try line, but with some good defending by Bilingham from a penalty Guisborough Were denied a try. Bilingham edged back up the field and a good break Through by Luke (the train) Roopchand from outside the 22 got us our fifth try. The second half started with some of our key players again being given to Guisborough and the players who had played the first half for them returning to Us. Bilingham were dominating the scrums and this was allowing Marcus to Get some good passes to the backs and allowing us good breaks forward. Josh Soon got the ball and made an excellent run from inside his own half scoring Near the post and allowing Marcus to convert. Marcus made a run soon Afterwards, and a good dummy allowed him to place down. Guisborough followed up with Some good rucking (from our forwards for them! why don't you do the same for us Is the question???) Ben & Garreth?) And getting the ball out allowed them to Get the ball to their backs with some good runs only to be denied by some good Positive tackles. A run from a scrum by Marcus got the ball up to the line With a pass off to Craig scoring the try on his birthday. With Marcus again Converting. With the forwards again advancing towards the try line from the Kick off, and keeping possession with some good mauling. This again allowed Bilingham up to the line and Robbie Lavender made a lunge over only to be Judged held up by the referee (a bit of a Jamie Noon moment by the ref!!!). Bilinghams last came from a positive run by Johnny Young to score and converted By Marcus. Guisborough never gave in and played some really good rugby through out the Whole game and were very unlucky not to get a few trys back. Man of the match For Bilingham was Marcus Sudron, This was for some great passes of from The scrum allowing us to make the break with our backs getting the ball and Running forward. It was also decided that Garreth Jennings be awarded man of the Match for the Bilingham players who gave it everything when asked to play For Guisborough. Some good positive playing by all the team. If you run forwards, it shows You can score. Also never be intimidated by the other team, this is what gave You the advantage for this game. Well done everyone. M.O.M - Marcus Sudron

## BILLINGHAM U15s 14 V GUISBROUGH U15s 0

Billingham entertained Guisbrough this weekend, and it was always going to be a hard match as it always is between these two sides but Bingham took the game to Guisbrough from the off and it paid dividends for Bingham, as Guisbrough always looked on the back foot during the first half. Aaron Gibson playing only his second game at inside center intercepted a Guisbrough pass and powered through to score a fine try early in the first half which was converted successfully by fly half Josh Armstrong. Bingham forwards were at this point in full flight and heavy tackles were the order of the day every man worked for each other Sam Elsdon worked hard and gained ground every time he took the ball. Scrum half Jordan Potts played a fine game again, his handling and distribution of the ball was second to none. Late in the second half, Jordon Wright took the ball and ran on down the right flank and with a sure like pass picked out Aaron Gibson in full stride who took the ball and flew towards the try line and with two Guisbrough players hanging on to him stretched out his right arm to secure his second try of the day, another fine conversion by

Josh Armstrong in quite blustery conditions took the score to 14-0 at half time.

Second half was a hard fought battle between opposing forwards, the likes of Daniel Kirby, Adam Leeming, Tom Szamrowich and Stephen Halliday making up a formidable forward line. And if by chance Guisbrough broke the forward rank the backs held firm good strong tackling from Lewis Pattison, Josh Wilson and the other backs, kept Guisbrough at bay even though they pressed on hard to the finish. One to look for in the future is young Tony Cessford playing only his second game for the team played well the time he was on the field. So a great day and a great team performance these young lions certainly roared today running out 14-0 winners against a good Guisbrough side.

## BILLINGHAM U 7'S V GUISBOROUGH U 7'S

Both teams started confidently exchanging trys with both Richie Kelsey & Nick Colquhoun scoreing their first trys of the season with strong runs. Although Bingham defended well they were unable to stop Guisborough crossing for a 3rd score, Bingham replied straight away with a try by Tom Weston. **HALF TIME: BILLINGHAM 3 GUISBOROUGH 3**

Billinghams strong defence paid dividends in 2nd half as Guisborough were turned over on a number of occasions, Brandon Potts being notable in that department. With more possession Bingham's extra pace was made to tell. David Elwell scored a 2nd half hat trick & Tom Weston completed his after runs by speedsters Joe Clark & Lee Adair. However Guisborough never gave up adding 2 more to their try tally. **FINAL SCORE: BILLINGHAM 8 GUISBOROUGH 5**

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## **Billingham U14's 52 v Darlington U14's 12**

The last encounter between these two sides was last season's County Cup final when the Billingham boys snatched victory in the last minute, so it was predicted to be a tense affair. Both sides were up for the challenge at the start of play and it began with both sides giving little ground with possession going back and forth in the centre field. Darlington's tactics appeared to be to keep Tom Kill out of the game but this left room for Jake Day to manoeuvre. He made a superb tackle then seconds later gained possession and sprinted to try line to score under the posts. Danny Finney converted. Darlington piled on the pressure and the Billingham defence did all they could to successfully hold them back. Darlington were held up twice on the try line but made it third time lucky and then converted. At this point Billingham were down to fourteen men, due to a player in the sin bin and Darlington made the most of this and scored a second.

Darlington were a different side in the second half and Billingham came into their own. Jake Toulson was brought down just before the try line but the resulting scrum on the five-metre line saw the ball to Tom Kill who scored. Darlington charged the conversion down. With the scores at 12 all Tom Kill put in two smart tries, one converted by Danny Finney. Now on a roll, Billingham's Kareem Omar drove through the Darlington defence to score, again converted by Finney.

Another scrum on the five metre line saw Tom Kill drag the Darlington players on his shirt tails and still manage to score. Jake Day was quick off the mark from the kick off and displayed his magical side stepping half the length of the pitch and scored. Mark Brewis converted both tries. Darlington must have been surprised at Billingham running away with the game and appeared to have their heads down, as in past encounters they've been reasonably well matched. But there was more to come and a kick down field from Mark Brewis caught the Darlington full back off guard and Jake Toulson moved in with a cheeky pick up to score. Mark Brewis converted, bringing the final score to 52:12 to a jubilant Billingham team.

Coach Wayne Finney was delighted with this great second half display of rugby and it certainly validated the boys' possession of the County Cup. Man of the match was Jake Day.

## **Billingham COLTS 27 - Durham COLTS 0**

After a two week break from Rugby, Billingham looked slow against a well organized well coached side. Durham however failed to capitalize on Billingham's ring rust and allowed Danny Dixon to do a typical Dixon try, fast, powerful run through rather than round defenders. Fifteen minutes later not to be out done by the forwards some clever three quarter play allowed captain Peter Evans to dance through the Durham defense. Half time 10 - 0. The second half started with Billingham having finally got out of bed, with some powerful forward work giving James Screen some time on the ball, the passing was like a well oiled machine along the line to outside center Danny Sayers to put on the afterburner, turbo and n.o.s to score within two minutes of the re-start. With Billingham now in control they kept on pounding the Durham defense, eventually after the ball being held up in goal after a bulldog of a charge by Rob McCabe, Simon Bence went over with a trade mark Bence beast unstoppable try. Durham had a prolonged spell in the Billingham 22 but stubborn defense caused them to leave empty handed. November 5<sup>th</sup> wouldn't be complete without fireworks, step forward master pyrotechnician James Screen with an intelligent scoot from base of the scrum to go over without being touched, Peter Evans converted, final score 22-0. Some special mentions are defiantly in order Callum Cranston, Jack Smith, Dan Brown and Dale Thompson all played earlier in the day and also were playing two years up and they did not look out of place. James Screen organized the forwards and the three quarters and his passing was faultless, but man of the match had to go to Rob McCabe for his best display in a Billingham shirt he was all anyone could ask of a hooker, like a scrap yard dog chewing up metal a shitting rivets. Well done