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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.

Thank-you

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	<p><b>BILLINGHAM</b>  <b>RUGBY CLUB</b>  <b>NEWS LETTER</b>  <b>“THE LION”</b></p>	 <small>COMMUNITY RUGBY          ACTIVE SPORTS          SEAL OF APPROVAL</small>
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**SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**  
**BILLINGHAM 1<sup>st</sup>**  
 v  
**DRIFFIELD**

**BILLINGHAM 2nds**  
 v  
**DRIFFIELD 2nds**

**SEATON CAREW**  
 v  
**BILLINGHAM 3rds**


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## BILLINGHAM FIRST XV v PONTEFRACT

Danny Robinson pulling out meant Schiller stepping up and a bench of Danny Dixon, Craig Shepherd and Paul Woodhouse. The visitors took an early lead through a long penalty and inspiration was needed. This came from an unusual source with Wildridge providing excellent ball from the back of the ruck through the hands for Paul Shep to score a trademark try. Not content with this he repeated the act two more times for Peter Evans to dive over then Shep to get his second.

### Half Time **BILLINGHAM FIRST XV 17 v Pontefract 3**

Woodhouse replaced Andy Evans at scrum half and Billingham were playing the free flowing rugby which destroyed the opposition last season. Dixon was running riot in the open and Dave Robinson was stopped just short after making an impressive break. Anth Hyndman once again made excellent yards to set Martin Dixon through breaking tackles to hammer over the line. Pontefract were now looking to feed off our scraps and an interception try increased their score. Schiller having run himself into the ground was replaced by Danny Dixon as Durnion and Dalton hammered their line again and with a pick and go Chris Hyndman crashed over on he blind. Another intercepted pass meant the score flattered the visitors but when Hutchy was finally dragged down by three "Ponties" Woody was on hand to flip to Hyndman who put Joe Evans in the clear to score. Danny Dixon benefited well won ball by Amos to show a great turn of speed to score his maiden first team try. Craig Shepherd replaced Michael Evans and showed his old form scoring twice in quick succession one from quick ball and the other a brilliant solo from inside our half. In the final play Woodhouse broke clear but was forced into touch short of the line when a score would have brought a perfect end to a very entertaining game **FULL TIME BILLINGHAM FIRST XV 49 v PONTEFRACT 15**

Scorers Tries: C. Shepherd 2, P. Shepherd 2, C. Hyndman 1, P. Evans 1, J. Evans 1, M. Dixon 1, D. Dixon 1 Kicks P. Evans 2 Conversions

**Spectators Comment.** Good team display with Craig Shep taking his benching and Mike Evans his substitution with true Billingham Spirit.

**Reporters Comment** Yes no one is bigger than the team, we need to work together (that includes running on with water bottles) It is about attitude on and off the park. Craig had something to prove and did. We pulled them apart with great, open play in the end and the tackle count made interesting reading.

Bit much when the Captain's dad provides the Pontefract cakes though.

## Guisborough U11's 35 Billingham U11's 49

Guisborough are a very good team and this result cannot be underestimated. B/ham were on the defensive from the k/o and Guisborough went over in the 1st minute to score a try and then convert. B/ham though got straight back in the game, an excellent k/o from Scott Ellis was chased down by our forwards and Guy Henderson forced his way over the line, Scott Ellis converted and the scores were level at 7-7. The game was going from end to end and Guisborough capitalized on their possession by scoring another converted try to regain the lead. The B/ham backs started to click and exploit space and this resulted in Jack Ainscough scoring his first try for the club after a fantastic run, again Scott Ellis converted to level at 14-14. Guisborough though would not let us get a hold on the game and showed some very good play themselves to score 2 quick tries in succession to lead 28-14 at half time.

The second half started off badly for B/ham as Guisborough capitalized on a quick penalty to score another try which was then converted, 35-14. The B/ham lads now had a choice, drop your heads or roar back into the game. Needless to say they choose the latter, and they staged a dramatic and courageous fight back. Lewis Roxby collected a ball in the loose and forced his way over the line to score and Jack Ainscough converted. 35-21. B/ham again came back at Guisborough and Guy Henderson scored a great diving try to reduce the deficit further, Scott Ellis maintained his 100% conversion record by claiming the 2 points. 35-28. Guisborough began to rock as B/ham gained a foothold in a game that seemed lost. The backs again were getting more freedom and Harry Pearson scored our 5th try of the day, Scott again converted to level at 35-35. B/ham now sensed blood and with the game nearing the end managed to take the lead when Harry Pearson again sped over the line to score a well taken try. Scott Ellis converted and we led 35-42. Guisborough were now desperate to get back into the game but with time running out B/ham mounted a final attack, Danny Harbron collected the ball and ran towards the Guisborough line, when he was stopped short he recycled the ball to Alex Moriarty who dived over for the final try of the day. Scott Ellis converted and as the final whistle went we led **35-49**.

Final Score Guisborough 35 – Billingham 49

This was a fantastic display by the U11's and one which the players can be very proud of. They refused to give up and showed fantastic spirit, tenacity and skill to produce this result. Every member of the squad got on the pitch in the game and did very well. This weeks man of the match was Jack Ainscough, Jack has only been with our team for 4 weeks but in that time has managed to progress and impress in equal measure. He scored his first try for the club and also got a conversion. He had an excellent game at centre and deserves this weeks award. Well done Jack!

### **Billingham Under 12's Match Report**

We traveled to Guisborough to play 2 games against a very quick well organized side, who showed exactly how good they were by putting 4 tries past our lads in the first half of game 1. This was partly due to our team not turning up awake and a very fast accomplished scrum-half and fly-half for the Guisborough side. However after a couple of rearrangements in our line up we came out in the second half and gave Guisborough a game.

The opposition side managed to score another try but some superb play by the Billingham lads saw both James Kemp and Ben fox fight their way over the line for a try a piece, and Josh Moffat obliged by adding the extras with 2 conversions. Final Score 29 - 14 to Guisborough.

Game 2 saw a change in the tide and after some key changes we came out looking much stronger. Ben McConnell was moved from Prop to Outside-centre and managed to grab himself a try with some superb support play and also cause the smaller Guisborough boys some real problems. With the help of Luke Bateman who scored his 5<sup>th</sup> try of the season and also James Kemp who yet again put in another outstanding performance in all 4 positions we asked him to play throughout the morning. But the nail in the coffin for Guisborough was Josh Moffat's presence in the lineouts where he caught more of Guisborough's ball than they did. His performance was well rewarded with a hatrick of tries, much to his dad's dismay when he had to get a jug in after the game. Josh also managed to kick all five conversions giving us a demanding victory of 35 - 0. The man of the match was well earned by Jordan Blackett who determination and aggression in the breakdown areas won us a lot of time on the ball.

**Concept**  
**KITCHENS**

### **SANDAL RFC V BILLINGHAM FIRST XV**

Billingham took the journey to Wakefield in freezing cold conditions. Youdale partnered Schiller in the front row for a combination of strength and mobility. We got off to a bad start when an off the ball collision saw Peter Evans leave the field after ten minutes to be replaced by Paul Shepherd. Sandal pressed hard as Billingham regrouped taking a real battering from a big sandal pack. Wildridge fly hacked, chased through and charged down the clearance and only a last ditch tackle stopped Dixon breaking clear. The game became a little ill tempered when Dave Robinson took a foot to the head which unfortunately went un-noticed by the match official. Woodhouse showed the advantage of a tackling scrum half with up front and cover tackles as Sandal attacked time after time. It took over half an hour for the first score to come with a home penalty giving them the lead

#### **Half Time SANDAL RFC 3 V BILLINGHAM FIRST XV 0**

. Only trailing by three points at the break the lions must have fancied their chances but errors gave the victory to Sandal. Mike Evans returned an out of play ball to the field to see a Sandal back pick up and score a disputed, but converted try. This fired Billingham up and Hutchison was pinged for a tackle in the air from the kick off. From the line it appeared a really well timed hit but that's the name of the game. At least the Billingham line out seemed to have clicked with Amos regularly finding his target. Dixon was binned for a late tackle although he appeared to be right on the nail if indeed it was him. The home side increased the score with two penalties before the visitors fought back. Woodhouse broke through the opposition lineout with the ever present Wildridge to see Chris Hyndman pass to brother Anth on a sweetly angled run to score untouched with Joe Evans converting. Although Billingham boosted their pack with Tennant and Scott and the Shep twins showing a return to form Sandal slotted another penalty to run out 16 - 7 winners in the end. The sombre mood in the dressing room showed the disappointment in the players as they knew this was a game they could have won if they had all clicked.

#### **FULL TIME - SANDAL 16 BILLINGHAM 7**

. Scorers Tries: A. Hyndman 1 Kicks J. Evans 1 Conversions

*Spectators Comment* Couple of mistakes cost us dear this week

*Reporters Comment* When players ask me if I thought they let the side down after the game that shows the commitment to improvement. Those players did not let the side down but if any one did I am sure Chris and Bri Dixon will have methods of letting them know. "Let's show Driffield next week lads"

# 'THE KITTEN CLUB'

BILLINGHAM RUGBY CLUB MEMBERS,  
CLUBBING TOGETHER TO SPONSOR MATCHES

## Billingham u9s v Seaton u9s

Billingham Under 9's were away again this week, travelling to Seaton Carew for a double fixture, one game against the home side and one against Westoe. Unfortunately, Westoe cried off and Seaton could only field four of their own players.

The coaches agreed to a "six a side" game with B/ham lending Seaton 2 different players for each half. Good sportsmanship shown by M.Olley and F.Murray, both volunteering to don the Seaton shirt for the first half and, and with the absence of the regular Scrum Half through injury, it was left to R.Kelsey to step up to the mark. It was Seaton who scored 1st with the on-loan forward M.Olley running through the B/ham defence. B/ham were next with the 3 backs combining well to free up the Wing Sam Peacock to run out of defence and score. 2 tries from the Fly Half D.Elwell and an excellent crossfield scoring run from Centre / Prop N.Colquhoun brought the B/ham total to 4. A try from Seaton brought the half to a close with the score at 10 - 20.

At the turn around R.Bell and D.Thornton changed places with the F.Murray and M.Olley to play for the home side. Receiving the ball from the restart F.Murray ran at the Seaton defence brushing off tackles to score Bilinghams fifth. With the on-loan D.Thornton soaking up the tackles from the Bilinghams defence the Seaton fast runners were free run in two more tries but strength and determination won through in the end with two tries from Forward M.Olley to bring Billingham the away win. **Seaton 20 Billingham 35.**

A special mention must go to Richard Kelsey for stepping into the Scrum Half position and playing so well but the "Man of the Match" goes to Sam Peacock.

## . Billingham U10's against Consett U10's

Billingham U10's travelled to Horden. With games against Consett as well Horden, Billingham contested very well in both games. Playing Consett in the first game with some very good tackling and passing. Liam King scored for Billingham after getting on to the ball from a strong drive from Adam Sunley. Yet again this game proved to be a close affair and ended in a draw.

Final Score: Billingham U10's 5 Consett 5

The second of the two games Billingham against Horden was a hard contested game with the Billingham Boys continuing with good tackling and strong drives. An evenly matched game in all areas of the field and this game could of gone either way, Horden with a couple of break a ways eventually deciding the match.

Final Score: Billingham U10's 0 Horden 15

## Billingham U10's against Guisborough U10's

With a full squad of players Billingham U10's travelled to Guisborough. B/ham were slow off the blocks and struggled with a well organized Guisborough team and were down 20 - 0 at half time. Regrouped at the start of the second half and began to show what all the hard training has been for, managing to finish the first game 20 - 10 .The second game was a different story Billingham firing on all cylinders with some fantastic tackles from every player.

With powerful drives and strong running Billingham U10's ran away with the game. An excellent all round team performance. Well done lads

The final score

Billingham U10's 30 - 0 Guisborough U10's

North 2 East

Short Format

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts	Adjust
Old Crossleyans	10	9	0	1	194	139	55	18	0
Penrith	9	7	0	2	277	145	132	14	0
Sandal	10	7	0	3	225	131	94	14	0
Billingham	10	7	0	3	211	138	73	14	0
Morpeth	10	5	0	5	212	182	30	10	0
Pontefract	10	5	0	5	182	225	-43	10	0
Gateshead	9	4	0	5	204	173	31	8	0
Driffield	9	4	0	5	173	165	8	8	0
Carlisle	9	3	1	5	152	204	-52	7	0
Aspatria	10	3	0	7	151	222	-71	6	0
Ilkley	9	1	1	7	125	259	-134	3	0
Durham City	9	1	0	8	86	209	-123	2	0

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## MAKE A WISH FOR JACK SMITH

Start collecting your tokens!

From October 1 the Evening Gazette will start printing tokens in the paper everyday for NINE weeks. Simply cut out these tokens and collect as many as you can for the Jack Smith Trust Fund. We have made sure that the group leader is well enough equipped to look after the token collection side and will keep a count of how many they have collected so far. Check back here every week as we will regularly update the Wish table so you can see how your group is doing compared to other groups.

### What is wish?

For those of you that must have been living in a cave for the last two months here is a quick explanation of what Wish is..... Last year Teessiders collected a staggering 3.6 million tokens for community groups across the Tees Valley. So this year we are returning with a bigger and better campaign with a massive £30,000 to give away to clubs, schools, charities and organizations across the region. Whatever's on your wish list, we can help it come true – and we'll be dishing out your share of the cash in time for the New Year.

Every group registered on our Wish List is guaranteed a share of the money. The size of each group's share will depend on the support they receive from pupils, parents and readers in the form of collecting tokens. Wish couldn't be easier. The £30,000 cashpot will be divided by the number of tokens collected – and the bigger your share of tokens, the bigger your slice of cash.



ALL PROCEEDS  
WILL GO TO THE  
JACK SMITH  
TRUST FUND

## BRUFC Boot Club

Dear All,

Tony Burgum has now created a boot club, mainly to help the junior and minis out with their ever growing feet. Anybody wishing to contribute please pass your used boots to any of the team managers who will get them hung up in the Store room. Anybody wishing to take a pair of boots out please feel free to do so by asking your relevant team manager or coach or see Tony if he is around. Although it is free, a contribution of around £2 or £3 would be gratefully received

This Sundays fixtures

Under 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12s are all away at Houghton where they will also play Bishop Auckland. I have contacted Houghton and they will get back to me to confirm games available for all age groups.

Under 13s home to Guisborough – confirmed

Under 14s away to Thirsk – to be confirmed

Under 15s away to Seaton– to be confirmed

Under 16s home to Guisborough– to be confirmed

Cup Games

I have now arranged all first round cup games

14/12/08 – B/ham Under 13s at home to Mowden Park Under 13s

14/12/08 – Billingham Under 14s away at Westoe Under 14s

04/01/08 – B/ham Under 15s away at West Hartlepool Under 15s

04/01/08 – B/ham Under 16s at home to West Hartlepool Under 16s

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## DARLINGTON U13s V BILLINGHAM U13s

On a cold snowy Sunday morning Billingham Under 13s were delighted to find their game was on at Darlington where there was little snow and the pitch in perfect condition.

Billingham dominated from the kick off and good handling by the backs released Luke Dixon on the wing and he out paced the home defence to score the opening try.

The two sets of forwards were evenly matched and played some competitive rugby however when the Billingham backs got possession they used their superior pace and handling to good effect, evident by both wingers Luke Dixon and Matty Routh each scoring a hat-trick of tries. Skipper Johny Rumis orchestrated his back line effectively from stand off, scoring a try himself as did centre Luke Wilson and they also slotted three conversions. Other try scorers were second half replacement Mark Bradley and number 8, Shaun Daniels who scored two tries including the last try to finish the game and make the score 61 – 0 to Billingham.

Darlington made Billingham work hard right up to the final whistle but found all of their visitors playing on top of their game. Man of the match was Matty Jaques who epitomised the forwards effort in doing the graft to get the ball for the backs to do the flashy stuff. For a player that has been with the team since he was 8 this was the best we have ever seen him play.

Darlington 0 Billingham 61

Try Scorers – Dixon (3), Routh (3), Rumis, Wilson, Bradley, Daniels (2)

Conversions – Rumis, Wilson (2)

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Colin Snowdon

Well another Sunday blitzed by the weather, which is all getting a little annoying. The only teams to see some action were the Under 11s and Under 9s who played at Seaton. The Under 11s ran out comfortable winners against Seaton but lost to a Westoe side that proved to be big and strong. The Under 9s played a depleted Seaton team but loaned them players to even up the numbers and make the most of their opportunity to get a game.

Some devastating news for the Under 13s, where front row James Watson, very sadly lost his mother over the weekend. James has recently joined the team and has quickly made a big impression with his playing skills, attitude and his popularity with the rest of the squad. Our thoughts and prayers are with James and his family at this very difficult time.

We have had a series of very bad news in November, let's hope that we have put that behind us and that December holds better news for everybody both on and off the pitch, in and out of the clubhouse.

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## BILLINGHAM THIRD XV v ROVERS

Billingham had to wait for the start of this game as there was no match official. Thanks to Mick Leng who took the whistle the game went ahead in a bitter downfield wind. The game stuttered around the middle of the park as Surtees and Scott Thompson thwarted numerous attempts at breakaways from an experienced Rovers back row. A huge up and under from Rovers ten put Naz under pressure and despite a valiant last ditch tackle from Canham the visitors went ahead. Rovers went thirteen points ahead mainly due to their young backs some of whom would not have looked out of place in higher teams particularly the fly half who could kick from anywhere it seemed. The Billingham forwards were starting to dominate however and moved the ball up-field well marshalled by the Childs, Morley combination at half backs. The resulting line out was stolen by Parsons who with Dale Thompson and Hutchy drove towards the opposition line. Lowe showed all his experience to hit the maul and slip to Bell. The defence was rooted as he burst blind to sprint the last twenty metres to score with Morely unlucky not to add two from wide. Scott Thompson stepped in when Childs was tackled to flip to brother Dale through the hands to Canham who was forced into touch just short bringing the half to an end.

### Half Time **BILLINGHAM THIRD XV 5 v ROVERS 17**

Roomier (or Rumours or something) came on at half time to demonstrate the value of our youth policy having a sound half in the power house. Naz, who was causing all kinds of problems with his long string runs, seemed isolated with four Rovers backs covering him. A superb kick and gather saw him trick the defence to go over in the corner, leaving Morley a difficult two pointer. Kelsey and McConnell hammered the visitor's centres making them virtually stationary and our forwards were pressing hard with great scrummaging from Lowe and Hutchison. Billingham through Childs' quick tap to Sudron set Ding Dong away for his second which brought us within three points. Drew was called into the fray to add an extra dimension but time ran out on a valiant Billingham effort.

### FULL TIME **BILLINGHAM THIRD XV 17 v ROVERS 20**

. Scorers Tries: Bell 2, Naz 1 Kicks Conversions Morley 1

**Team Comment.** Is it really Mick Leng's job to run around trying to sort out referees or should someone else do it?

**Reporters Comment** Without the man in the middle games do not start. A good all round performance which with five more minutes victory would have been ours.



THE THIRDS IN ACTION

