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TOUCH
RUGBY

SUNDAY
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SUNDAY CARVERY

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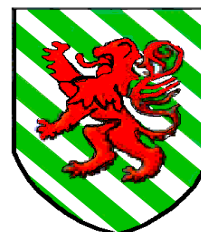
**CLUB ANNOUNCEMENT
SAFETY & CLUB SECURITY**

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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Issue
5
Vol 8

SATURDAY 7th NOVEMBER

BILLINGHAM 1st

V

OLD CROSSLEYANS

THE LIONS

V

HORDEN

THE COLTS

V

WIGTON



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BILLINGHAM FIRST XV v ILKLEY

Top verses bottom as Billingham maintain their position at the top of North 2 East division with a fine performance of flowing rugby against Ilkley. One enforced change with Paul Shepherd out bringing Keenan in with Screen on the bench. Sean Scott partners Wildridge in very experienced power house which allows Dalton to be used in an impact role later. The visitors spoiled well in the line out and despite pin point throws from Amos Woodhouse had to mop up some messy ball. Ilkley not only defended well but put together some good attacking moves until on the quarter hour the ball spun out to Keenan and his inside pass set Chris Hyndman in for the first score. A Dixon break only two minutes later setting up Shepherd for his first of the afternoon. Just after the half hour a driving maul saw Anth Hyndman take a bullet pass and smash his way through a double tackle to score. He should have been awarded a second but the referee was unsighted and quite rightly could not award a score. The resulting scrum saw a mike Evans pick up and Chris Hyndman returned the favour to put Keenan in at the corner. Billingham pressed hard and Scott as inches away from a charge down showing how swift our pack has become as Billingham were pressing hard at the end of the half

Half Time BILLINGHAM FIRST XV 22 v ILKLEY 0

The second half started with an Ilkley score of three points from a penalty. This stung Billingham into action and a quick tap penalty provided Hutchy with a bulldozing try. Wildridge showed super skill scooping the ball to Joe Evans to weave his way in. Phil Raey continued to disrupt the visitors attacks by getting amongst them. Dalton was brought on to replace Sean Scott and Kyle Scott replaced Danny Robinson. Keenan got his second through quickly recycled ball and this was closely followed by a well deserved Dixon try. The game was all but over as Screen replaced Woodhouse and Andy Evans moved to scrum half with ten minutes to go first Craig Shepherd then Chris Hyndman scored their second tries of the game to leave Ilkley bewildered by yet another excellent display of flowing rugby from the league leaders.

FULL TIME BILLINGHAM FIRST XV 60 v ILKLEY 6

Scorers Tries: C. Shepherd 2, C. Hyndman 2, D. Keenan 2, , Dixon 1, A. Hyndman 1, J. Evans 1, Hutchinson 1 Kicks Conversions J. Evans 5, *Spectators Comment.* We were just too good on the day in conditions which did not help handling skills

Reporters Comment. Amazing how few times the ball was spilled despite it being wet and greasy. Another great performance.

MORE NEWS ON JACK

A big part of Jacks' life is wheelchair rugby, he first started last year for the Newcastle bulls and is turning into a useful player. The bulls play games with about 10 other clubs, each taking it in turn to host a tournament usually lasting a weekend. Jack trains once every week at a sports centre in Newcastle and has recently organised training sessions on a Thursday night at the Bede college Sports centre in Billingham.

Wheelchair rugby has really brought Jacks confidence back and has helped him massively with coping with life, as most people on his team have been through a similar type of accident he has been able to learn from his team mates experiences.

Jack has proved that he is coping really well when he toured with the wheelchair rugby team to Amsterdam, Holland. In

June Jack took a plane to Amsterdam to take part in the annual wheelchair rugby tournament at the Sporthallen Zuid. It was a successful tour and the bulls competed really well, coming in the top 10 of over 20 teams. The Amsterdam tour was a hurdle that Jack was really looking forward to overcoming, he knew that handling a weekend away without his parents and only one carer would mean he can venture further and for longer later on in his life. I think he realised that life didn't stop when he had his accident and that he can still do pretty much everything his friends do.

BILLINGHAM 24 v GUISBOROUGH 35

LEWIS ROXBY BROKE CLEAR TO TOUCH DOWN FOR B/HAM AND OPEN THE SCORING. FROM THE RESTART THE GAME WAS TAKEN TO G/BORO WHICH RESULTED IN A PERIOD OF SUSTAINED FORWARD PLAY. DESPITE SOME TIRELESS WORK FROM JAKE COULTHARD AND RYAN JACQUES IT WAS G/BORO WHO PRESSED FORWARD TO SCORE A TRY AND CONVERT TO TAKE THE LEAD. AS BOTH TEAMS BATTLED TO TAKE CONTROL A FINE RUN FROM OLLY ROSS WAS STOPPED JUST SHORT AND WHEN LEWIS ROXBY POWERED OVER FROM THE RESULTANT SCRUM THE STRONG G/BORO DEFENCE HELD FIRM TO PREVENT THE BALL FROM BEING GROUNDED. AN INJURY TO GUY HENDERSON AND BEN SCANLEN SAW B/HAM RE-ORGANISE THE FORWARD PACK AND AS THEY WERE SETTling IT WAS G/BORO WHO SCORED AGAIN FOLLOWING STRONG FORWARD PLAY. G/BORO CONVERTED TO TAKE A 5 -14 LEAD. B/HAM RE-GROUPED AND THE TEAM HELD FIRM AS G/BORO PRESSED FORWARD. A SUPERB CATCH AND COUNTER ATTACK FROM FULL BACK LUKE ARMSTRONG SET UP B/HAMS RESPONSE. A HIGH FORWARD PUNT FROM JACK AINSCOUGH SAW NICK WINSTANLEY SLIP THROUGH THE G/BORO DEFENCE TO SCORE. THE MOMENTUM WAS NOW WITH B/HAM. IN THE FINAL FEW MINUTES OF THE FIRST HALF IT TOOK ALL OF G/BOROS STRENGTH TO PREVENT FURTHER B/HAM TRIES AS HARRY PEARSON AND LEWIS ROXBY WERE PREVENTED FROM GROUNDING THE BALL.

HALF TIME – BILLINGHAM 10 GUISBOROUGH 14.

THE FORWARDS BATTling TO TAKE CONTROL SOME GOOD DISTRIBUTION FROM TED ELLIOT SET UP A TWENTY YARD RUN FROM JACK AINSCOUGH TO FIND SPACE AND TOUCH OVER IN THE CORNER. JACK STEPPED UP TO CONVERT AND PUT B/HAM INTO THE LEAD 17-14. THIS WAS NOT TO LAST LONG HOWEVER WITH GUISBOROUGH PUSHING BILLIGHAM BACK TO REPLY WITH TWO WELL WORKED TRIES. BILLINGHAM RESPONDED. A FINE WEAVING RUN FROM NICK OPENED UP THE GUISBOROUGH DEFENCE AND HE TOUCHED DOWN FOR HIS SECOND TRY OF THE DAY AFTER A WELL WORKED MOVE. SCOTT ELLIS CONVERTED. 24-28 A FINE RUN FROM TED ELLIOT SET UP LEWIS ROXBY WHO WAS STOPPED JUST SHORT OF THE LINE. GUISBOROUGH HELD FIRM IN THE LAST MINUTES TO WIN A VERY ENTERTAINING GAME. FULL TIME – BILLINGHAM 24 GUISBOROUGH 35
MAN OF THE MATCH WAS AWARDED TO LUKE ARMSTRONG

Sunderland - Billingham 18th Oct 2009

The teams looked well set against each other with no one taking any advantage for the 1st 10 mins. B/ham looked to make the breaks, but the home team tackled them convincingly to the ground. A line out provided B/hams 1st break with a long run from Shaun Daniels playing at 2nd row, to make the 1st try, but no conversion against the wind. Sunderland Kick off into safe visitor hands, but faults in the ensuing ruck delivered a penalty to Sunderland, from which they regain much ground. Strong play from the visiting pack took them within 10m of the try line, but the home boys were not going to give, standing firm against incessant pressure. Eventually Billingham get the break and the ball is carried over by centre Dale for their second score, this one well converted by Tom Small despite the breeze.

A poor restart gives B/ham a free kick, which they renounce with an offside move. Both teams are now stuck in to each other and there really seems little between them, other than the score-line. A break by B/ham's forwards starts the pressure again and eventually sees the ball bundled over the line in a mighty pile up. Joe Spoor may have scored, but "the ref (B/ham Coach Colin Snowdon) was blind", no try given. Scrum follows scrum as each team fights to make the ball theirs, ending in a B/ham penalty in front of the posts from where Daniels once more powered over for a try, converted by Tom Small into a now lessening wind. Half Time Sunderland 0 Billingham 24
Kick-off, scrum, Try by No. 8, George Foster – Cooke no conversion;
Kick-off, scrum, Try by No. 8, George Foster-Cooke no conversion, not a typo, just the way it went with a display not seen before from this player in a new position. Kick-off to line out and then an unusual "steal" of the ball from Luke Dixon by his team-mate Luke Wilson, who runs the rest of the pitch for a try and conversion amid cheers and laughter in equal measure. Freer play with the ball moving end to end with a big kick by Billingham for a scrum just off the try line, Sunderland give away a penalty taken quickly by scrum half Luke Brown and the visitors secure another try, without conversion. A repeat of this play from kick-off sees another scrum and Billingham penalty followed by a wide run try by winger Dixon, not converted. A last kick-off is followed once more by a penalty which Billingham cannot fail to score from. Game ends due to score line 53-0.
Great team performance, man of the match went to George Foster-Cooke.

Saturday, 31 October 2009

Durham City	11 - 17	Old Brodleians
Gateshead	32 - 44	Driffield
Hartlepool Rovers	25 - 19	Darlington
Ilkley	8 - 23	Carlisle
Morpeth	17 - 18	Billingham
Old Crossleyans	7 - 20	Sandal
Percy Park	18 - 25	Pontefract

North One East

Short Format

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts	Adjust
Billingham	9	9	0	0	443	90	353	18	0
Sandal	9	8	0	1	262	123	139	16	0
Darlington	9	6	0	3	190	235	-45	12	0
Old Crossleyans	9	5	1	3	214	152	62	11	0
Hartlepool Rovers	9	5	0	4	199	177	22	10	0
Pontefract	9	5	0	4	208	204	4	10	0
Driffield	9	4	1	4	314	244	70	9	0
Percy Park	9	4	0	5	165	162	3	8	0
Carlisle	9	4	0	5	207	274	-67	8	0
Old Brodleians	9	4	0	5	132	260	-128	8	0
Morpeth	9	2	1	6	176	197	-21	5	0
Gateshead	9	2	1	6	189	253	-64	5	0
Durham City	9	2	1	6	124	211	-87	5	0
Ilkley	9	0	1	8	109	350	-241	1	0

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Bucket Shake - Sat 17th October Hartlepool Rovers

On Sat 17th October at Hartlepool Rovers a "Bucket Shake" took place to raise funds for the

Jack Smith Trust Fund.

An outstanding total of £409.89 was raised.

Jack and his family have asked me to thank-you all for your generosity and in particular the Officials, Players, Members and Supporters of Hartlepool

Rovers. Thank-you
Keith Blenkinsopp
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BRIDLINGTON V BILLINGHAM

A beautiful sunny Sunday morning saw Billingham U15's take a trip to the seaside. A very early start and the lengthy bus trip were the main talking points on the journey although there was the expectation of a really good day out. Following a comical run of events, beyond even the imagination of any great sit-com writer the game started. The conditions in Brid were absolutely perfect for the trademark Billingham Brand of running rugby, firm ground, clear skies and a slight cross wind.

The game kicked off with Billingham playing into the sun but with a slight breeze at their backs. Stand-Off Craig Willis started the game with a beautifully hanging kick off which evaded the Bridlington receivers, they allowed the ball to bounce which caused confusion in the ranks and it bobbed into touch five metres from the Bridlington try line. A scrappy Bridlington lineout, combined with great pressure from the Billingham pack allowed Hooker Oliver McPhail to burrow over in the corner for the first score of the game. Craig Willis had an excellent attempt at the touchline conversion which grazed the wrong side of the left upright. 0-5 after only 90 seconds.

B/ham received the restart with back rower Ryan Wilson taking a great catch out of the sun. He broke through two Brid tackles before going to ground and setting the ball for Willis to clear the B/ham lines. Willis kicked superbly throughout the match, pinning Brid back into their own 'red zone' and keeping a strong team on the back foot at all times. Another great kick from Willis and pressure from chasers Jack Sellers and Adam Healey caused the Bridlington Full Back to knock on ten metres out from his own line. From the following scrummage No. 8 Ryan Wilson picked up from the base, went blind and with the support of flankers Tom Kemp and Jack Willis, carried three Bridlington tacklers over the line to score Billingham's second try of the afternoon. From a very similar angle as his first attempt Craig Willis again saw his effort just stray to the wrong side of the uprights. 0-10. Another Brid restart, again gathered by Wilson, was sent back over the host's heads by Willis with what was now quite a strong tailwind behind him. Brid put together some really good phases of play and looked threatening. If it wasn't for 3 dropped balls they could well have scored. B/ham however punished every mistake by punting the ball into the corner at every opportunity and playing the percentages. A sliced clearance kick from the Brid full back gave B/ham a good attacking opportunity with a lineout on the Brid 22. B/ham won the lineout and Scrum Half Sean Keanan was able to feed the very dangerous B/ham Backline. A debut start from summer signing Joel Coulson with a try fashioned by the backs.

Sellers drawing his man and creating a gap for speed demon Coulson to hit and score under the posts. Willis added the extras with ease. 0-17

The two teams exchanged darting runs and exciting phases for the remainder of the half until a spilled ball was pounced on. Billingham worked the ball wide and winger Coulson finished an exquisite try from half way - leaving six Brid defenders clutching at thin air to claim a brace of tries on his first start for the club. Willis again added the conversion from in front of the sticks on the stroke of half time to give Billingham a comfortable 0-24 lead going into the interval.

The second half was a different story all together with Bridlington coming out of the break seeking revenge for what was a very Billingham dominant first period. They scored a well worked try straight from the kick off although their kicker was not able to add the 2 pointer. 5-24. Sustained Bridlington pressure earned them penalty after penalty. They chose to run every time, playing a brand of rugby very like that of Billingham but the green defensive wall stood firm.

From a tap penalty deep inside Billingham territory the Brid backs put the ball through several pairs of silky hands for their winger to cross the whitewash in the corner. Again their kicker was not able to get his radar working properly. 10-24. Bridlington continued to force the errors and had the lying share of possession. Their outside centre cut a beautiful line to break the first line of defence only to be chopped down by a fine cover tackle from Billingham centre Matthew Kirby, saving a try for sure. Brid managed to keep the ball and at the next ruck won a penalty which resulted in replacement hooker Matthew McClure visiting the sin-bin. 14 man Billingham fought hard to keep the home side at bay but eventually the Brid forwards managed to crash over the line with a well constructed driving maul. The conversion went astray and with ten minutes to go Billingham still had a nine point lead.

The final ten minutes made for painful watching with both sides throwing everything at each other, the physicality and the intensity raised and a game that was already simmering suddenly reached boiling point with explosive tackling and ferocious running with ball in hand from both sides. Bridlington came close on several occasions but couldn't seem to find a way past a solid Billingham defensive line. The final attack of the game saw Bridlington form another maul which went to ground 10m from the Billingham line. The ball was trapped and the referee decided enough was enough. Man of the match performances from Captain Craig Willis and openside Jack Willis helped Billingham to secure a 15-24 victory.