



# BSRFC

OFFICIAL MATCH PROGRAMME

**THIS WEEKS FEATURES:**  
**BSRFC LADIES DAY**

**IN THE SPOTLIGHT:**  
**TOM McCRONE**

**THANK YOU ANNA**



**A LADY WHO DOES  
LUNCH VERY WELL!!**

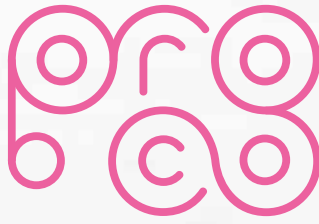


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# PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

## PERRY OLIVER



## JUST LIKE LONDON BUSES, YOU WAIT SEVEN WEEKS FOR ONE TO COME ALONG AND THEN ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU GET TWO TOGETHER!

Notwithstanding that it was only last week that I last said this -Welcome once again to what I sincerely hope will be a less saturated Silver Leys than it was on Good Friday. I'd also like to extend a warm welcome to the Players, Coaches, Officials & Supporters of Fylde RFC, on this their first but hopefully not last ever visit to our club.

Our last home game was memorable for a number of reasons; first ever game on a Good Friday; famous victory over a club considered not least by themselves as rugby royalty; But most of all for what was probably THE most atrocious rugby watching (& probably playing) weather I can remember. It still amazes me that the occasion attracted over 700 spectators. Admittedly many headed for the sanctity of the clubhouse as soon as they could, leaving only a few of us 'Mad dogs & Englishmen' to witness the whole game.

It was a day upon which everyone including the most die-hard Stortford traditionalist wished we had some covered seating. But if we had- & maybe one day we will - we would be just like everyone else & the occasion would have be so much less unforgettable for it.

Not sure how many players or for that matter supporters, are not available this week because they went down with the flu? Hopefully none. Admittedly the game itself was very much one for the purist. It was inevitable really given the conditions. But it was very satisfying to emerge victorious and in so doing become, as many have noted, the first team to do the double over Blackheath this season.

Unfortunately our opponents today Fylde RFC have little left to fight for this season other than

pride, having been consigned to relegation in early March. That said, as they proved to us when we visited them in December, pride & tenacity are qualities they are certainly not short of. Maybe we took them too lightly. Maybe we just weren't on it that day, but whatever the reason that Fylde team certainly took advantage, running our 29-22 winners. As has been proved many times already this season league positions can prove irrelevant to the outcome and this afternoon our guys will have to play much better, otherwise Fylde will be doing the double over us!

Today, in case you hadn't noticed, it's Ladies Day here at the club. Welcome Ladies, I hope your presence inspires our team to perform. Fingers crossed the ground will have dried out a bit. We don't want any sinking stilettos! On past experience they tend to be wobbly enough after a couple of hours without the added complication of soft ground. It's all in a great cause though. This year's charity is Target Ovarian Cancer & if you get the opportunity I'd encourage you to give generously.

Talking of Ladies - our Ladies XV play their final league game of their inaugural season tomorrow here against St Neots. Congratulations on a wonderful first season girls. We look forward to watching you push on to even greater levels of attainment next term.

I hope you have a wonderful afternoon with us here at Stortford rugby. Please shout loud for our boys in blue.

COYB!

Perry Oliver  
President

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# LADIES DAY

## RUSSELL CATTELL



## LADIES DAY AT BSRFC IS NOW IN ITS 6TH YEAR HAVING BEEN THE BRAIN CHILD OF THE THEN HEAD COACH STEVE POPE.

Over three years it raised much needed funds for Breast Cancer Care, followed by Edie's Butterfly Appeal for children with a rare brain tumour and this year 'Target Ovarian Cancer'.

During that time the day has raised in excess of £16,000 helped by the generosity of sponsors, and particularly the 1,250 ladies who have supported the event.

This year, which is our biggest thus far we have 320 ladies joining us in the club marquee to enjoy free flowing Pimms, Prosecco, and a Mexican themed hot buffet lunch. Followed by the charity auction to sell off the 20 players pink shirts worn specially for this match and a variety of other generously donated items which include pamper days, cars for the weekend, chauffeur driven car and a week in Murcia Spain. Music and more bubbles take the ladies through, and those still standing until late!

I would like to thank the hard-working Ladies Day committee of the last 6 years, Sally Winter, Mark

& Janet Caulfield, Jackie Cattell and this year Debbie Read, the hard working, 'mature waiters' too many to name who look after the ladies on the day, and of course our 1st XV players who go through the auction process supporting this fantastic event.

We hope Ladies Day will continue for many more years but as always, we continue to look for more sponsors to support this event. We should however acknowledge the support of the loyal sponsors of many years.

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Russell Cattell





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2017-18  
 1XV CAPTAIN





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# OUR VERY OWN LADIES!

IT IS FITTING THAT ON A MATCH-DAY DEDICATED TO THE LADIES THAT WE, THE PLAYER'S, OFFER OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO THE SPECIAL WOMEN WITHIN OUR LIVES.

So much work goes on behind the scenes preparing for fixtures at the weekend for both the 1st XV & Blues squads before kick-off. Training begins for the boys on Monday with a specialised conditioning session from Richard Gill, as well as the physiotherapy clinic for rehab, prehab and general healing by Paul Sharma and his team. By Tuesday, video review on the previous game played and forthcoming match has been diligently put together by defensive coach Danny Johnston and attack coach Tom Coleman, with training shaped around a needs analysis for the two teams by head coach Andy Long. Further strength and power work at Koru Gym occurs again on Wednesday, and whole squad training on Thursday is followed by a large feed, with garlic bread aplenty.

All of this professionalism from a family-based club championing an ethic of 'One Club' is impressive, however there is significant proportion of unsung heroines that really make the difference for the players. The girlfriends, fiancées, wives, partners, sisters and mothers of the boys are the real engine behind getting the team on the pitch and ready for that first whistle. Training takes up four evenings midweekly, and match day itself can be over 24 hours' in length when venturing further afield for away games in National League 1. It is the important ladies within our lives that make all of this possible, sacrificing so much of their own precious time to allow us to lace up the boots and pull on the blue and white jersey. We often forget that they themselves have their own careers, social lives and hobbies to enjoy, however they put this all aside season on season for us to play rugby.

For so many of the better halves or family of the players, the ordeal of living with a semi-professional rugby player begins on a Saturday night putting up with dirty kit strewn across the house. Next will come nursing a bear with a sore head on the Sunday, either through too many beers celebrating another famous Stortford win or the grumpy mood swings of a player who didn't get the right result from the game played. Monday's through to Thursday's, these incredible ladies cope effortlessly without their male counterparts for most of the evenings and then turn out again on the Saturday to lend their support to the boys playing, or those not through times of injury.

Ladies, it is difficult to pen everything that you do for us, however we would like to extend a very sincere and public thank you to the women of Bishop's Stortford Rugby Club for all of your support of the players this season. We hope that you enjoy today's Ladies Day for Target Ovarian Cancer, and all the prosecco!

Finally, a huge shout out to those making up the current Bishop's Stortford Girls & Ladies teams, with a fantastic win ratio of 6 wins in 9 games so far, really proving that this girl can!



# THANK YOU ANNA - THE FIRST LADY OF LUNCH

## FROM A VERY APPRECIATIVE CLUB.

IT SEEMS APPROPRIATE ON LADIES DAY TO TAKE SOME TIME ON BEHALF OF THE CLUB TO THANK OUR 'LADY' - ANNA SMITH - WHOM FOR SEVERAL SEASONS HAS BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR ARRANGING ALL OF OUR PRE-MATCH LUNCHES.

Over the last few years our numbers at lunch have increased to levels that are the envy of our visiting clubs. Once again, we will be hosting over 430 people for the final home match of the season and the tables have been sold out for months. Lunches of this size have become not merely one-offs for us but regular occurrences and, as our ambition is to increase our average attendances at matches, large lunches will become more common.

As you can imagine, with such increased numbers visiting the club every match day, the work arranging these lunches has increased exponentially. This involves coordinating with Gilly on the catering, the sponsors coordinator for their tables and the requests for tables from other members including Club Stortford & the Oval Club, this obviously takes a huge amount effort, work and time. Additionally, Anna organises the guess the score competition and our "Duty dogs" manning the entry gates and collecting the entrance fees from those who haven't joined us for lunch.

Anna has decided to step down from her role at the end of this season and we would like thank her for all of her work. She is going to be literally irreplaceable by one person, the job has grown so much during Anna's tenure that we will be splitting it into three parts in future - a further indication of just how much we are in Anna's debt.

So, thank you Anna, from all at BSRFC and visiting teams you will be missed. From next season you can enjoy attending the lunches without the stress and work of the preceding weeks and month. You will also no longer have to deal with the weekly question from Mr Dunsford.

So, for the penultimate time this season. Charlie; you keep the pink copy, we want the white one!





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# TODAY'S OPPOSITION

## FYLDE



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A coin was tossed and it fell in favour of rugby union. The club grew steadily and had achieved a strong fixture list by the 1960s. It has been in the National Leagues since their inception in 1987.

Their home venue is the Woodlands Memorial Ground on Blackpool Road in Ansdell. They currently field four senior teams with their Wanderers, Saracens and Vandals playing in the North West Leagues.

They were promoted back into National League One in 2011 and have finished as high as 3rd (in 2013/14 season) but last season finished 12th. Unfortunately their relegation this season was confirmed on 10th March when they lost 36-5 at Blackheath.

Many famous players have graced their shirt but perhaps the most illustrious is current World Rugby Chairman, ex RFU president & Question of Sport team captain Bill Beaumont CBE. Remarkably Flyde was the only club Beaumont ever played for! Having joined Fylde as a 17-year-old in 1969 he stayed with the club until injury forced him to retire in 1982. His first game for them was in their 6th team at fullback. He eventually went on to win 34 England caps between 1975 and 1982, 21 of them as captain. This included leading the side to the Grand

Slam in 1980, as well as skippering the 1980 British Lions tour to South Africa.

Despite their position in the table Fylde have been no push overs this season, as we found out when we visited there for the first (& hopefully not the only) time in early December. They have a very young, predominantly home grown squad who play with a lot of pride & spirit. They have worked hard to retain all their players for next season, so hopefully their stay in National Two North will only be temporary.

### Team Colours





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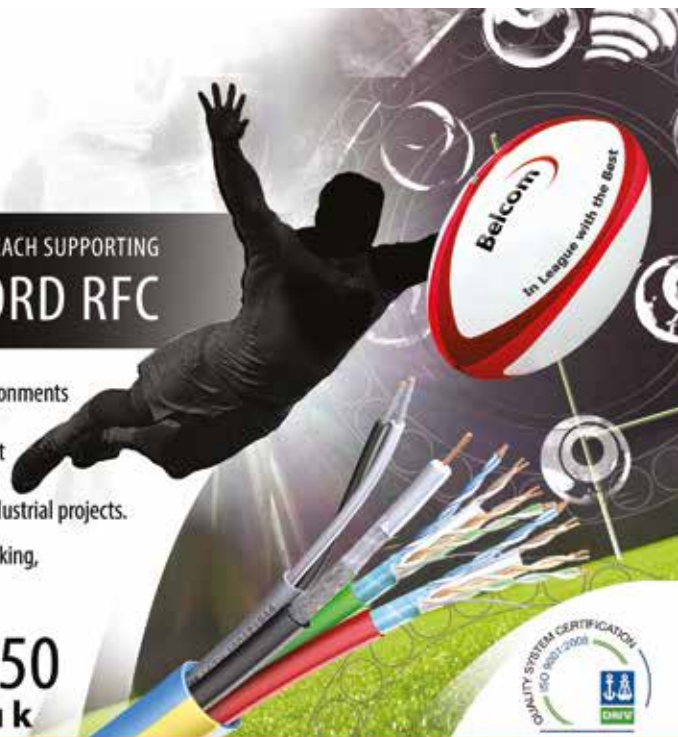
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# RESULTS GRID, TABLE & FIXTURES

## NATIONAL LEAGUE 1

National League 1 Results Grid																
	Ampt&D	B'ham	BSRFC	B'heath	Caldy	Camb	Coventry	DarlMPk	Esher	Fylde	Hull Ion	L'boro S	O.Alb'n	O.Eltham	Plym'th	RossPk
Ampt&D		28 / 4	22-12	21-14	30-14	7-8	14 / 4	7 / 4	45-5	35-12	45-17	17-17	28-24	33-7	33-28	29-23
B'ham	21-21		25-27	14-55	13-11	14-13	17-41	17-31	20-20	36-21	38-24	36-10	34-13	7 / 4	16-20	21 / 4
BSRFC	22-41	10-15		15-5	49-26	21 / 4	10-36	22-22	24-17	7 / 4	35-31	43-12	18-14	34-20	17-36	20-22
B'heath	16-15	20-12	19-21		29-17	2 / 4	61-29	39-24	29-28	36-5	46-13	21-22	31-3	21 / 4	32-31	17-17
Caldy	22-39	21-20	28 / 4	14 / 4		16-20	12-55	8-10	15-7	37-19	27-26	71-14	21-0	32-24	17-34	33-3
Camb	20-8	15-22	22-21	16-27	6-15		7-40	15-25	14 / 4	28 / 4	29-19	9-14	50-26	28-29	16-14	50-23
Coventry	63-14	50-11	30-27	37-10	38-14	40-10		21 / 4	57-12	47-3	28 / 4	36-0	52-5	48-13	29-14	7 / 4
DarlMPk	21-15	42-7	41-35	33-19	32-26	35-18	0-42		18-16	14 / 4	26-0	33-23	52-24	36-21	33-31	36-7
Esher	29-29	27-32	17-28	28-19	21 / 4	10-13	26-61	33-26		50-12	38-27	2 / 4	24-8	39-14	29-33	32-17
Fylde	5-26	22-26	29-22	19-26	9-34	12-25	0-64	10-13	17-32		12-14	21 / 4	21-31	7-43	0-26	29-20
Hull Ion	21 / 4	13-29	14-21	32-21	29-24	27-21	20-63	15-27	43-28	33-14		15-15	26-36	27-11	7 / 4	27-26
L'boro S	14-36	32-33	14 / 4	34-34	26-31	21-28	24-31	28 / 4	49-38	21-0	58-29		37-18	21-25	28-49	37-15
O.Alb'n	35-35	19-38	36-17	6-32	2 / 4	7-54	19-21	33-31	29-15	15-16	50-28	34-19		15-24	21 / 4	0-58
O.Eltham	6-18	47-17	13-19	32-7	23-21	12-7	16-20	14-19	28 / 4	55-10	42-26	36-20	14 / 4		16-12	34-27
Plym'th	16-9	14 / 4	17-10	28 / 4	21-16	17-10	21-24	34-19	43-10	68-15	29-3	TBA	26-8	17-17		5 / 5
RossPk	21-31	30-26	24-31	6-25	36-32	10-7	13-43	38-26	44-37	31-15	14 / 4	49-14	28 / 4	29-36	26-26	
														Round 16-30		
														Round 1-15		



## Season 2017-2018 NATIONAL 1

## 30th/31st March Results

Home Team			Away Team
Bishop`s Stortford	15	5	Blackheath
Old Elthamians	6	18	Amphill & District
Darlington Mowden Park	18	16	Esher
Cambridge	29	19	Hull Ionians
Plymouth Albion	P	P	Loughborough Students

## Season 2017-2018 NATIONAL 1

## 7th April Fixtures

Home Team		Away Team
Amphill & District	Vs	Darlington Mowden Park
Birmingham Moseley	Vs	Old Elthamians
Bishop`s Stortford	Vs	Fylde
Blackheath	Vs	Cambridge
Coventry	Vs	Rosslyn Park
Esher	Vs	Loughborough Students
Hull Ionians	Vs	Plymouth Albion
Old Albanian	Vs	Caldy

## National League 1

Club	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	PD	TBP	LBP	Ded	Pts
1) Coventry	26	25	0	1	1097	379	718	23	0	0	123
2) Darlington Mowden Park	26	19	1	6	711	562	149	17	2	0	97
3) Amphill and District	26	16	4	6	682	492	190	15	4	0	91
4) Plymouth Albion	24	15	2	7	663	433	230	14	6	0	84
5) Blackheath	26	15	2	9	690	530	160	12	3	0	79
6) Old Elthamians	26	14	1	11	630	589	41	11	3	0	72
7) Birmingham Moseley	26	13	2	11	589	655	-66	10	4	0	70
8) Bishop's Stortford	26	13	1	12	610	606	4	7	7	0	68
9) Cambridge	26	12	0	14	517	511	6	6	8	0	62
10) Caldý	26	11	0	15	613	612	1	10	8	0	62
11) Esher	26	8	2	16	647	752	-105	15	7	0	58
12) Rosslyn Park	25	9	2	14	615	693	-78	12	5	0	57
13) Hull Ionians	26	8	1	17	578	811	-233	13	3	0	50
14) Loughborough Students	25	7	3	15	582	767	-185	8	5	0	47
15) Old Albanian	26	7	1	18	508	808	-300	9	4	0	43
16) Fylde	26	3	0	23	334	866	-532	2	4	0	18

# THE TEAMS



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## BISHOP'S STORTFORD 1<sup>ST</sup> XV

PINK AND WHITE

1	Seb Brownhill
2	Declan Caulfield
3	Tom McCrone
4	Ben Kelland
5	Matt Tomlinson
6	James Apperley
7	Baxter Wilson
8	Steve Ball
9	Tom Banks
10	George Cullen
11	Ryan Hutler
12	Sam Winter ©
13	Nick Hankin
14	Joss Linney
15	Rob Duff



REPLACEMENTS	
16	Will Roberts
17	Sean Edwards
18	Oli Jones
19	Chris Smith
20	Sam Coleman

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**Director of Rugby** Andy Long | **Team Manager** Ed Merivale | **Physio** Paul Sharma  
**Coaches** Danny Johnson, Richard Gill, Tom Coleman, Marcus Cattell

**Referee** Luke Davies

**Assistant Referee 1** Simon Dodd

**Assistant Referee 2** Simon Bourne



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GET  
RIAN  
ICER

Adam Lewis	<b>1</b>
Ben Gregory	<b>2</b>
Mark Irving	<b>3</b>
Nick Ashcroft	<b>4</b>
Olli Parkinson	<b>5</b>
Harlan Corrie	<b>6</b>
Tom Burtonwood	<b>7</b>
David Fairbrother	<b>8</b>
Greg Nicholls	<b>9</b>
Greg Smith	<b>10</b>
James Bailey	<b>11</b>
Luke Fowden	<b>12</b>
Connor Wilkinson	<b>13</b>
Henry Hadfield	<b>14</b>
Tom Carleton	<b>15</b>

**Man of the Match Sponsor**



**REPLACEMENTS**

Dan Richardson	<b>16</b>
Alex Loney	<b>17</b>
Matt Garrod	<b>18</b>
Toby Harrison	<b>19</b>
Jake Foster	<b>20</b>

**Head Coach** Warren Spragg



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# BISHOP'S STORTFORD FIRST XV 15 BLACKHEATH 5

## DESPITE BLACKHEATH'S OBVIOUS WEIGHT ADVANTAGE IN THE PACK, STORTFORD COPE WITH THE HORRENDOUS CONDITIONS OF HORIZONTALLY POURING RAIN BETTER, TO DOG OUT A GREAT WIN.

It looked in the early stages as if the big visiting forwards would be decisive in conditions clearly favouring tight rugby in this match, sponsored by great Club supporters, Harlow Agricultural Merchants (HAM). Prospects, therefore looked good for Blackheath to maintain their record for the season of not having lost twice to the same side.

They certainly convinced the referee that they had an edge, as he awarded two penalties at successive scrums against the Stortford front row before the ball had gone in - even though the pack subsequently managed to scrummage legally through completed scrums. Blackheath exploited this initial advantage to the full and went through several phases of forward drives, before switching the ball to the open spaces and one good long pass was enough to send flanker, Harry Bate in for a try out wide on 10 minutes, after the home defence had been sucked in. The conversion attempt went wide and Stortford bounced straight back to get onto the front foot and, eventually, courtesy of a penalty of their own at a breakdown, won a lineout well inside the Blackheath 22. A classic catch and drive was executed to see Dec Caulfield driven over for an equalising try after 20 minutes, with George Cullen's attempted conversion falling just short. The rest of the half was spent in a midfield arm-wrestle with neither side being able to establish an advantage in the appalling conditions, leaving the scores deservedly level at the break.

Stortford started the second period strongly and persisted, despite the weather to attempt to move the ball around with some initial success and were eventually rewarded, when Cullen converted a penalty to take his side into a 3 point lead after 9 minutes. From the restart, Blackheath moved onto the attack and had worked their way well into the Stortford 22, when Will Roberts was penalised and arguably, rather harshly sin-binned for a high tackle as he slid in to a cover tackle.

At this stage, the writing appeared to be on the wall, but Stortford held out two successive Blackheath scrums and then produced some typically dogged, backs to the wall defence, as the visitors launched drive after drive at their line. Eventually, the solid defensive wall forced a breakdown penalty, which proved to be a major turning point. Stortford slowly ground their way up field again and, having seen out the sin bin period, established a clear advantage at the set scrum, managing to take two balls against the head. This and some controlled handling put them on the front foot inside the visitors' half and a spell of quick handling through a series of short passes to the flood of supporting players finally forced a breach in the Blackheath defence and Seb Brownhill was able to crash over under the posts for a try, which Cullen duly converted to take their side out to a 10 point lead with 15 minutes to go.

The visitors never really looked like coming back from this deficit and time was duly seen out to send the massive crowd of home supporters who had braved the foul weather to cheer on their side back to the bar with smiles on their faces. The Man of the Match award, donated by our loyal Colts' sponsors, Charterhouse Voice and Data went to Will Roberts against his old team, though it could probably have gone to any of the 11 forwards for their tremendous collective performance - or indeed to any of backs for their heroism in sticking manfully to their tasks in the bone-chilling conditions, which inevitably restricted their roles.

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# IN THE SPOTLIGHT: TOM McCRONE



## DUE TO BEING 'BIG BONED' BUT MAINLY LIFESTYLE CHOICES I HAVE BEEN RESTRICTED TO PLAYING IN THE FRONT ROW FOR NEARLY ALL MY PLAYING CAREER,

apart from a brief stint in the second row at u17 level mainly due to the fact I was the tallest prop we had and a shortage of second rows.....

My earliest memories of rugby were at TBSHS. The cold, wet & windy early Saturday mornings at Jobbers Wood plodding around in a heavy long sleeve cotton rugby shirt will always live in the memory. I joined BSRFC when I was 16 and became part of the National title winning sides at u17 and colts level in consecutive years.

I then went up north to Newcastle for 3 years to study at Northumbria University. I continued to play rugby up there representing the University 1st XV and Northumberland County. I even managed to play a few games against the Banks brothers, George Cullen, Ross Johnstone & Johnny Neville in the renowned Stan Calvert varsity. Safe to say I came out on top on all 3 occasions.

Whilst in my final year at University Longy got in contact with me due to a shortage of props and asked if I've come back. My first 1st XV game was in December 2014 against Canterbury at Silver Leys in a tight loss and I spent the rest of the season travelling down from Newcastle to play on Saturdays. Apart from playing the odd 2nd XV game whilst I was back from University this was my first experience of men's rugby. It was a bit of a wakeup call compared to playing University rugby and I soon realised I'd have to shed a bit of weight and improve my conditioning if I wanted to continue playing at that level or above.

I have now amassed over 100 games for the 1st XV, playing my 100th game at Birmingham Moseley this year in a great win. This season has been extremely enjoyable on and off the pitch, I think we have now realised that we are more than capable of becoming a top 4 side in National 1

for years to come. Having such great travelling support no matter where we are playing really does make a difference on the pitch.

The highlight of my playing career so far would have to be our title winning season last year and the great scenes after the Exmouth game, especially in the changing room. Last season was made even more enjoyable by playing alongside some of my closest mates who I've grown up playing with in Tom Banks, Jack Scantlebury, Rory Young, George Cullen & Will Roberts.

It's been awesome having Novo Creative as my sponsor this season, they're a new creative design agency based in Bishop's Stortford. It's always great to see Ben & Danny up at the club and to share some post game beers with them. Give them a follow on twitter, Novo\_Creative.





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# CLUB STORTFORD

NOW IN ITS FIFTH SEASON, CLUB STORTFORD WAS SET UP BY A SMALL WORKING PARTY, TO SUPPORT THE 1STXV SQUAD AFTER PROMOTION TO NATIONAL LEAGUE RUGBY IN 2013/14. OUR AIM IS “TO ENSURE BISHOP’S STORTFORD RFC HAS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE IN NATIONAL LEAGUE RUGBY AND CONTINUES TO NURTURE HOME GROWN TALENT.”

Working in conjunction with the 1stXV coaching team, CS provides funding for various expenditure beyond the financial resources of the main club.

Director of Rugby, Andy Long, has reiterated on a number of occasions the importance he attaches to the financial support given by Club Stortford. Quite simply, without it’s support, the team would not be able to perform at such currently high levels.

We continue to look for new members, to allow us to broaden and deepen the extent of our support.

We would urge you to consider joining Club Stortford. If you are interested and would like further information, please contact our secretary,

Russell Cattell 07778 101988





# THE OVAL CLUB



THE OVAL CLUB WAS FORMED IN 1998 BY A GROUP OF BSRFC MEMBERS WHO GOT TOGETHER TO TRY TO FIND A WAY OF RAISING FUNDS TO HELP THE PLAYING SIDE OF THE CLUB WITHOUT HAVING TO INCREASE DEBT OR UTILISE RESERVES. TO THIS END THE OVAL CLUB WAS FOUNDED WITH THE FOLLOWING MISSION STATEMENT:

**‘TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS PROMOTING THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE STANDARD OF RUGBY THROUGHOUT BISHOP’S STORTFORD RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB’**

The Oval Club is an autonomous body and entirely independent of the Rugby Club’s operations. None of the Committee members hold a position or appointment in the Rugby Club’s infrastructure. The Oval Club does not seek to influence decisions of the Rugby Club. It responds to requests for financial assistance for projects and purposes which have been approved by the Rugby Club’s Executive Committee and which fall within its mission statement above.

Of the funds raised two thirds is set aside for the Rugby Club the other third is reserved to fund social events for Members.

To date the Oval Club has raised over £225,000 and the Rugby Club has received in excess of £138,000.

In line with its mission statement The Oval Club makes contributions for one off projects and purposes which are of long term value to the Rugby Club and not part of on-going budget requirements. Invariably contributions have been made to the Club to enable them to secure grants from the RFU and other sources.

So far, major contributions have been made towards the cost of :

- Pitch repair and maintenance,
- Improvement of the playing surfaces, including the purchase of a verti-drainer,
- Floodlighting the back field pitches,
- Drainage of the floodlit pitches,

- Replacement of goal posts,
- Playing equipment and travel costs for all teams,
- Purchase of physiotherapy equipment,
- Refurbishing the changing room showers,
- Supporting youth and mini through tours, kit and additional playing facilities,
- Junior coaching courses.

On the social side there are several Members’ events which take place throughout each year for. Currently these are:

- A self-supporting golf day at one of the local golf clubs.
- An Annual Dinner and Forum
- A First Team Home lunch
- A First Team Away coach trip and lunch

Through its contributions The Oval Club plays a considerable part in helping the Rugby Club enhance its playing related facilities for the use and benefit of all members of the Club.

Anyone who is interested in joining The Oval Club should contact a member of the Committee below.

The Oval Club Committee:

Robbie Kerr - [Chairman](#)  
John Robinson - [Secretary](#)  
John Power- [Treasurer](#)  
Mark Caulfield  
Mike Howatson

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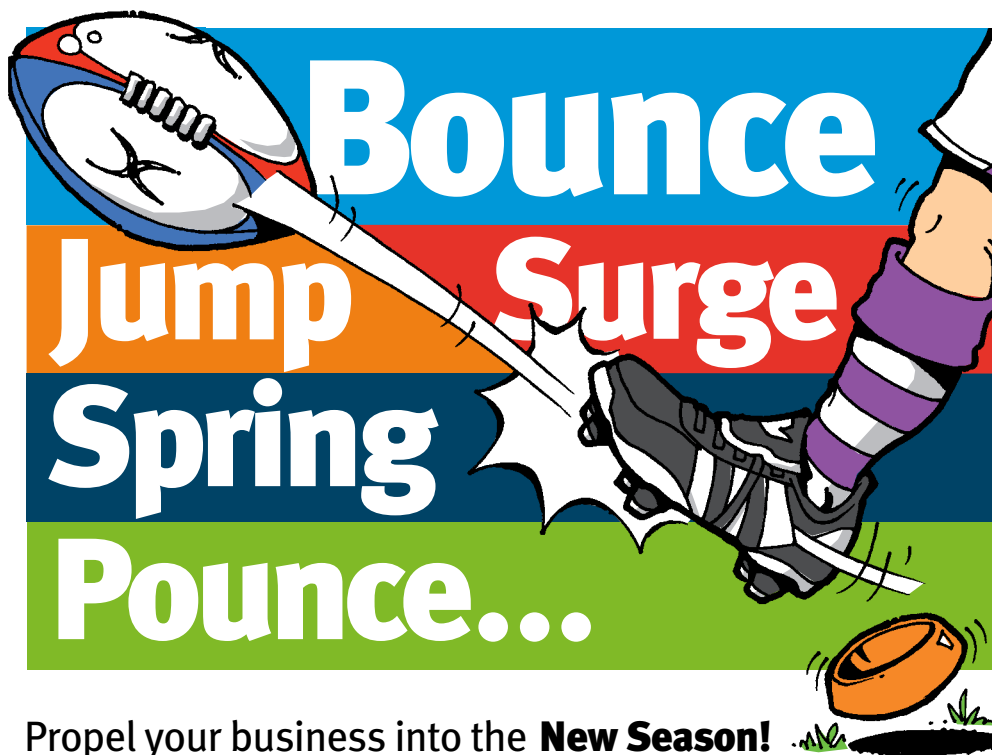
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# Bishop's Stortford RFC Club Shop



OPENING TIMES:

**Saturday: 12 noon - kick off time**  
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**Sunday: 9am - 1pm**

For further information please see the club website: [www.bsrfc.co.uk](http://www.bsrfc.co.uk)  
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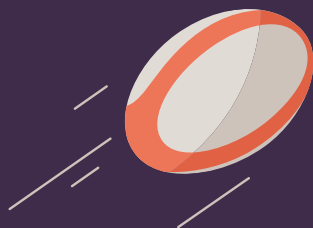
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# BISHOP'S STORTFORD RFC MATCH DAY EXPERIENCE

## BEHIND THE SCENES WITH THE 1ST XV



As part of the Clubs ethos 'to be a strong and successful rugby club united from Senior to Mini's, trusted and valued by our community' the BSRFC Director of Rugby, Andy Long, Club Captain Sam Winter, & the rest of the 1st XV Squad provide an insight for our "Mini & Junior" Members into what goes on behind the scenes as the Players prepare for a National League

1 Match. The day kicks off with a Q&A in the 1st XV Changing Room, followed by Training, Games & Warm up Sessions with the Coaches and Players. They then form the "Players Tunnel" alongside the "Blazers" to welcome both the opposition and the 1st XV onto the pitch before the game. Their experience culminates with Post Match Photos alongside the Players.



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