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Celebrating Former Players | Jack Scantlebury | Youth Section News

NATIONAL LEAGUE 1

BISHOP'S STORTFORD v DARLINGTON MOWDEN PARK

12th February 2022

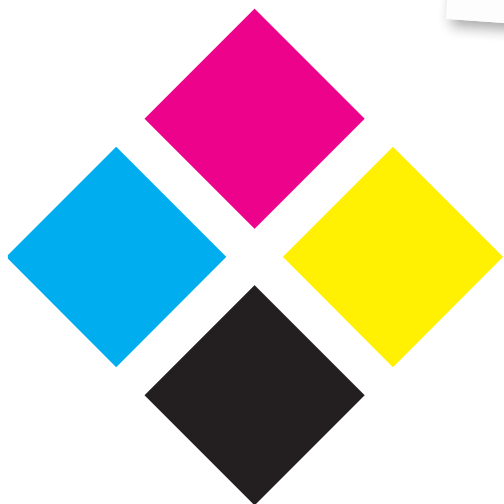
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President's Welcome

MICK COLEMAN



Wow, what a difference a week makes! A stunning, emphatic win over league leaders Rosslyn Park last time out has certainly given everyone a spring in their step. Whilst that performance has been a long time coming, and many of us suspected it was there, I'm sure our coaches and players will be concentrating 100% on getting today's performance up to the same level. Today's game against DMP, whom we've never beaten at this level, is every bit as important as the Rosslyn Park win. Both sides will desperately be looking for a win this afternoon which would give us a bit of breathing space, in what is a very tight bottom half of the table. However, we are now unbeaten in the last three games and that will certainly boost our confidence going into today's game.

So today we warmly welcome everyone, but especially players and officials from Darlington Mowden Park, to Silver Leys, which, as NCA Chairman Mr John Inverdale succinctly informed everyone when the two sides met in October, what Darlington's Northern Echo Stadium is, Silver Leys aint! Thanks John. We might not have a stadium or even a stand, but we're very proud of our community club and all the people within it who make it such a success. Whilst I doubt that we'll ever have a stadium to match DMP's, we will one day have a stand!

It's brilliant to see so many former players here today from all areas of the club, in this our Centenary Season. The annual F.P lunch is always a special one (and a long one!), and I'm sure this year will be no different, as everyone remembers their own feats, both in the bar and on the field, that without fail get exaggerated beyond all recognition. Happy hangover everyone!

As always, our invaluable sponsors are out in force, with Tee's being our Match Day sponsors and Bit Solutions choosing our Man of the Match. I trust that all of our sponsors here today, and their guests, enjoy the day.

At the risk of becoming too repetitive, if anyone wants to relieve themselves of a few quid and

donate to our new changing rooms Centenary Appeal, we will be mightily grateful. There are several ways you can contribute which vary from our dedicated cash terminal in the clubhouse, to buying a ticket or table for our London lunch or maybe supporting the 100 mile bike ride. All details can be found on the clubs website.

That just leaves me to wish everyone an enjoyable afternoon with those supporting Stortford having a slightly better one than those wearing Darlington colours!

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Head Coaches

TOM COLEMAN / MARCUS CATTELL



Good afternoon everyone and welcome back to Silver Leys for what promises to be two cracking games of rugby. Hopefully the week off has given everyone a chance to catch their breath again after the Rosslyn Park performance, and we will be looking to reach that level again today against a tough Darlington team. Despite coming close on a number of occasions Darlington are a team we have never beaten so we will be giving everything today to try and change that unwanted record.

After putting together a run of positive results, the players deserve a lot of credit for the effort and commitment they have shown over the last few weeks to improve results. They certainly reacted to the energy that the supporters gave them against Rosslyn Park and we can all be proud of that performance (and result). We believed all week that we could beat them and the players got what they deserved for executing the game plan superbly.

The important part for us now is using that performance as a springboard to finish the season strongly and win as many games as possible.

The Blues are also in action today against Leicester Lions and we're really excited by the performances we are starting to see from them. They blew away Sevenoaks last week with some scintillating rugby and we are hoping to see more of the same again today. We continue to give opportunities to some of our young talent coming through from the colts, and it's great to see them taking advantage of their opportunities and becoming part of the senior squad.

Lastly, a big welcome back to all of our former players attending today's game, we look forward to catching up with you after the match as well as our fantastic sponsors, volunteers and supporters.

Enjoy the game.

Tom & Marcus

The Coaching Staff:



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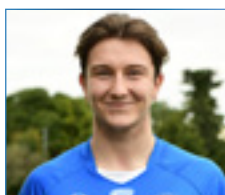
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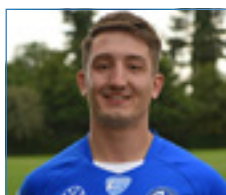


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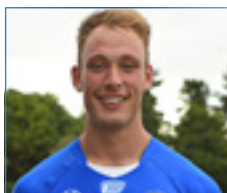


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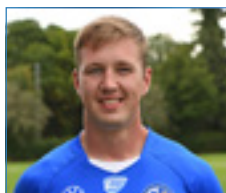


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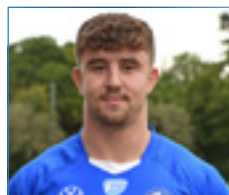


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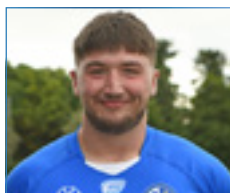


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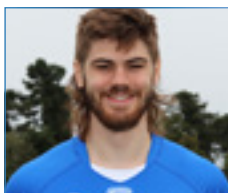


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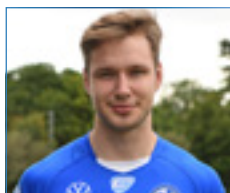


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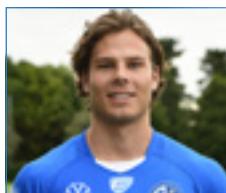


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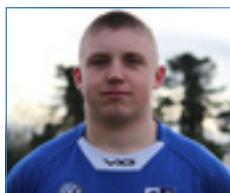


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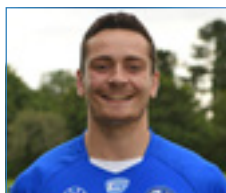


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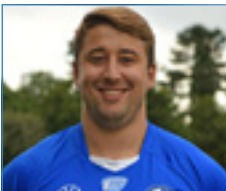
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In late 2012 they sold that ground at Yiewsley Drive to a housing developer and with the proceeds opportunely bought the empty Darlington Arena. The Club played its first game at the Arena in March 2013.

Famous names to have worn the DMP shirt include Toby Flood, Alex Tait, Craig Newby, Phil Dowson & Tim Visser.

They have two regular Senior Men's XV's (1sts, Elizabethans (2nds) plus an 'occasional' Vets team. Their Women's XV, The Sharks play in the Tyrrells Premier 15's aka the Women's Premiership. They also have a successful Mini & Youth section including Girls rugby.

Our record against them in National One does not make happy reading

for us! After drawing (22-22) our first ever meeting here in November 2017 we have lost the subsequent six times we have met most recently at the Northern Echo Arena last October (22-33)

This afternoon would be as good a time as any to start redressing that imbalance.

DARLINGTON MOWDEN PARK



Ollie Hodgson (Captain)

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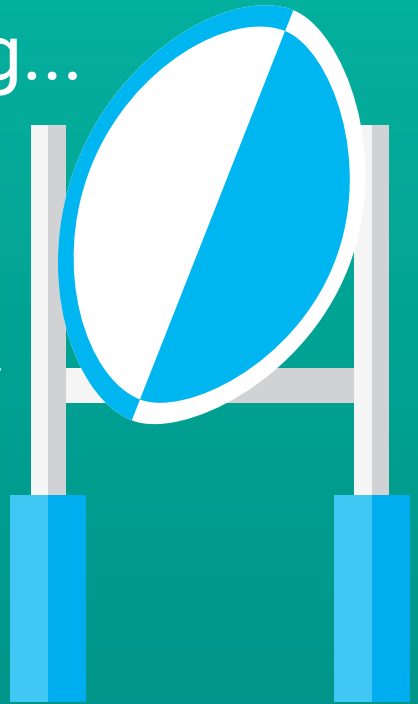
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Results grid, table and fixtures

NATIONAL LEAGUE 1

FIXTURE SCHEDULE & RESULTS GRID 2021-22

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B&P M		33-3	22-20	11-15	10-21	22-29	23/04	23-22	33-32	19/02	5-26	8-29	09/04	05/03	34-21	
B&S RFC	33-3		02/04	20-31	19-24	16/04	12/03	12/02	12-7	32-19	19-21	36-24	26/02	26-22	30/04	
Blkthh	17-22	16-6		16-18	9-15	25-15	15-18	23-14	05/03	30-36	09/04	26/03	28-34	42-19	19/02	
Cashy	0-24	09/04	26-10		19/02	27-27	26-24	27-22	31-28	05/03	20-3	20-26	23/04	26/03	47-40	
Camb	32-7	23/04	12/02	22-22		26/02	27-21	26-26	15-17	26/03	28-34	34-29	17-14	09/04	45-14	
Chinor	27-29	15-23	34-28	12/02	30-32		28-33	20-23	26/03	36-41	22/04	09/04	34-21	22-5	05/03	
Ord	26-13	55-39	30/04	29-21	41-26	24-31		16/04	50-12	36-12	26/03	05/03	15-19	26-21	41-5	
DMP	30/04	31-22	19-14	7-40	05/03	19/02	26-7		22/04	09/04	20-23	17-28	15-12	32-18	26/03	
Leeds	26/02	33-25	27-25	12/03	02/04	12-29	19/02	19/03		16/04	25-22	13-19	13-17	29-41	21-19	
Phym A	34-12	31-17	26/02	7-26	0-17	12/03	12/02	49-22	29-18		19-26	08-37	7-10	23/04	02/04	
Rams	02/04	19/02	13-17	16/04	30/04	18/03	22-20	26/02	29-11	41-27		24-21	21-32	43-19	24-13	
Ross Pk	12/03	14-13	55-14	02/04	16/04	28-27	38-31	28-20	60-10	30/04	12/02		20-15	68-21	57-5	
Sale	24-0	32-24	16/04	21-26	15-7	30/04	02/04	12/03	21-17	38-27	09/03	19/02		53-28	66-10	
Taunton	22-19	29-29	12/03	31-36	26-26	02/04	26/02	24-14	30/04	35-25	18-17	14-40	12/02		16/04	
Tf's	12/02	18-18	21-23	26/02	12/03	15-34	12-21	24-30	09/04	12-10	19-22	23/04	30-21	21-24		
ROUNDS 1-18															ROUNDS 19-28 (inc rescheduled)	

Results grid, table and fixtures

NATIONAL LEAGUE 1

Season 2021/2022 NATIONAL 1

Results from 5th February

HOME TEAM		AWAY TEAM
Rosslyn Park	57-5	Tonbridge Juddians
Birmingham Moseley	5-26	Rams
Plymouth Albion	29-18	Leeds Tykes
Darlington Mowden Park	19-14	Blackheath

Season 2021/2022 NATIONAL 1

Fixtures for 12th February

HOME TEAM		AWAY TEAM
Bishop's Stortford	vs	Darlington Mowden Park
Cambridge	vs	Blackheath
Chinnor	vs	Caldy
Plymouth Albion	vs	Cinderford
Rosslyn Park	vs	Rams
Taunton	vs	Sale FC
Tonbridge Juddians	vs	Birmingham Moseley
Spare week		Leeds Tykes

National League 1 - 2021/2022

Team	P	W	D	L	PF	PA	PD	TBP	LBP	Points
Rosslyn Park	18	15	0	3	621	330	291	13	2	75
Caldy	18	13	2	3	459	368	91	8	1	65
Sale FC	18	13	0	5	485	339	146	7	3	62
Cinderford	18	11	0	7	518	393	125	10	6	60
Cambridge	17	10	3	4	414	334	80	10	2	58
Rams	17	11	0	6	411	342	69	9	4	57
Chinnor	16	7	1	8	442	388	54	12	7	49
Taunton	18	7	2	9	437	568	-131	10	3	45
Bishop's Stortford	18	6	2	10	413	431	-18	7	3	38
Blackheath	18	6	0	12	372	414	-42	4	10	38
Birmingham Moseley	18	7	0	11	297	430	-133	3	3	34
Plymouth Albion	17	6	0	11	381	445	-64	7	3	34
Darlington Mowden Park	17	6	1	10	371	448	-77	4	3	33
Leeds Tykes	17	5	0	12	325	477	-152	4	6	30
Tonbridge Juddians	17	2	1	14	299	538	-239	3	6	19

The Teams



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Bishop's Stortford 1st XV

BLUE AND WHITE

- | | |
|----|-------------------|
| 1 | Will Roberts* |
| 2 | Declan Caulfield* |
| 3 | Seb Brownhill |
| 4 | Harry Charter |
| 5 | Tom Lewis |
| 6 | James Apperley* |
| 7 | Ollie Jones* |
| 8 | Rory Banks* |
| 9 | Sam Bryan |
| 10 | Alfie Orchard |
| 11 | Joss Linney* |
| 12 | James Ayrton* |
| 13 | Sam Winter (c)* |
| 14 | Josh Stannard |
| 15 | Mike Ayrton |

REPLACEMENTS

- | | |
|----|---------------|
| 16 | Alex Rayment |
| 17 | Tom McCrone* |
| 18 | Jacob Wrafter |
| 19 | Tom Banks* |
| 20 | Dan Powell |

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Head Coaches Tom Coleman | Marcus Cattell |
Lead Physio Jade Leeder | **Team Manager** Darren Orbart |
Backs Transition Coach Ash Boyle | **Forwards Transition Coach** Rob Faiers |
Head of Strength and Conditioning Ben Sheath | **Assistant Strength and Conditioning Coach** Adam Vine |
Forwards coach Lee Soper | **Physio** Ryan Clarke

*Homegrown player

The Teams

Referee Daniel Rowlands
Assistant Referee 1 James Cornell
Assistant Referee 2 Simon Bourne

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Darlington Mowden Park GREY

Alfie Barron	1
George Shannon	2
Josh Crickmay	3
Talite Vaioleti	4
Dave Fisher	5
Max Davies	6
Joe Craggs	7
Ollie Hodgson	8
Euan McKirdy	9
Warren Seals	10
Callum Mackenzie	11
Garry Law	12
Paul Jarvis	13
Brandon Asher-Wood	14
Chris McTurk	15

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REPLACEMENTS

Ralph Appleby	16
Tristan Grant	17
Freddie Lockwood	18
Ben Frankland	19
Shaun McCartney	20

DOR Garry Law | **Forwards Coach** Joe Cain | **Team Manager** Gus Miller |
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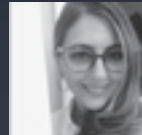
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U15's - Isn't it great to play rugby again

JIMMA TAYLOR



Afternoon.

What can I say, nearly 2 years ago who would have thought that a little virus would have caused so much trouble and made many Tories very rich!

Back then we were in U13's planning to finish our first year of youth rugby in style, The culmination being many volunteers and parents setting up the annual U13's Festival which got canned and the season was brought to an abrupt end with the words "you must stay at home" and have an Estrella or two" who knew it could have been with a work colleague.

U13's was a good year, new teams to play and a league structure. We ended it with a local derby and a rearranged end of season get together before we all went into hibernation.

Fast Forward to U14's

Restrictions still in place but allowed out we managed to keep the squad together and ran as much as we could a normal session. These consisted of bubbles of 10, cleaning the equipment every 15mins and keeping people apart! Not really rugby in the physical sense but we managed to keep the boys interested (even on those nights Fairys helped out)

Our sole fixture for the season was with Colchester in the last week. We overcame them in a set of 3 mixed squad games, 21-10, 34-15, & 20-17: Stats for that season (P3 W3) 100% record.

U15's - current season

Yes! we were back! Leagues & Friendlies were organised well in advanced and we were ready to

go. More importantly we had retained most of the squad and had some new guys join.

We always played our local Hertfordshire teams but this season we were pitted against them in the A league and B's the E League. Our core friendly matches are up and down the M11 and over the border in Essex and Suffolk.

Our result this season have so far been mixed but pleasing. Pre-Christmas we had to take into account the boys playing for school, injuries and the dreaded Covid rules!

Smaller clubs have cancelled on us but we adopted the half game rule. This allows all to take part on the weekends and get game time and where needed we have played sets of 3 shorter matches to include all available.

We have played some really good rugby against some strong opposition and the boys are growing as a group.

We have a few more league games and several friendly/tri fixtures with other clubs and hopefully a weekend away in sunny Norfolk at the end of the season.

The most important thing from a coach's point of view is that the boys all play for each other no matter what the score and all have represented BSRFC well. I envisage this will continue next season and into colts and who knows you might be seeing some of these 6ft, "U15's" in the first team in the years to come.

Have a great day

Jimma



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Match Report

BISHOP'S STORTFORD 36-24 ROSSLYN PARK



What a great team performance, to topple league leaders, Rosslyn Park so comprehensively. The visitors started confidently and Stortford showed from the outset that they were up for the game, defending aggressively and not giving the Park ball players any time. The first score went the home side's way after 3 minutes, when a turnover ball close to their 22 was moved quickly to Josh Stannard on the right wing, who went outside his opposite number and made 20 or 30 metres before feeding inside to Sam Bryan for the scrumhalf to scoot in under the posts, giving Alfie Orchard an easy conversion. The visitors countered strongly and eventually wore down Stortford's determined defence to score an unconverted try after 15 minutes from close quarters after a series of forward drives. The home side enjoyed their own period of pressure and were unlucky not to stretch their lead after 19 minutes, when Orchard's penalty shot flew only inches wide. Five minutes later, though, with Park again on the front foot and camped in the Stortford 22, Harry Charter was penalised and yellow-carded, allowing the visitors almost immediately to take the lead after sucking in the home defence with another powerful driving maul, before releasing winger Benji Marfo to go in for a second unconverted try. With first XV debutant, Orchard calmly pulling the strings, the home side was able to see out the rest of the sin-bin period reasonably comfortably, spending much of it inside the opposition 22. Eventually it was a clever chip kick from the flyhalf that put the visiting defence under heavy pressure and a quickly tapped penalty found Joss Linney in close support to crash through two tackles to touch down by the posts. Orchard's conversion took his side into halftime with a crucial four point lead which, given all the possession Park had enjoyed, was a great reward for Stortford's determined play.

Stortford started the second period strongly and were rewarded after 9 minutes with a second try

for Linney, just winning the race to touch down a clever grubber kick from Bryan. Their defence was soon under strain again, though and eventually, another powerful driving maul saw hooker, Charlie Piper in for a try, very well converted by Harry Leonard. The home side bounced back quickly, though and within 5 minutes had extended their lead to 7 points through an unconverted try to Stannard from a fine, long pass from Orchard, after good work from Sam Winter and Linney had forced a penalty and yellow card to a Park forward. Stortford took further advantage of the man advantage to press hard again into the visitors' half and a series of quick recyclings of the ball stretched the defence to breaking point, allowing Harry Charter to run in for his team's fifth try. Not satisfied with this, though, the home side continued to probe and a perfectly- executed kick pass some thirty yards across the pitch from Orchard to Stannard after 70 minutes gave the winger enough room to sprint round his opposite number from inside his own half for his second try, well converted by Orchard. The visitors were now getting visibly rattled but, despite incurring a further yellow-card, they battled back to force a couple of defensive penalties out of Stortford and were able to drive over for their own try bonus point on 77 minutes from a lineout maul. The home side saw out the remaining minutes reasonably comfortably to register a remarkable, but thoroughly-deserved victory.

Our thanks go to today's matchday sponsors, Harlow Agricultural Merchants (HAM) for their continued support and to Hilton Coachworks, another very long term sponsor of the Club, who sponsored today's man of the match award. Given how well the whole team played, choosing the winner must have been a really difficult decision, but Oli Jones was selected for his non-stop efforts, particularly in defence.

John Allanson

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Jack Scantlebury

RICHARD EVANS



The photo of the victorious Bishop's Stortford Under 12 of the 2004-2005 season shows four very young players who have progressed all the way through all the playing levels of club in the accepted Stortford way to now have all played for the First XV in National Division One. They are George Cullen (outside half), Will Roberts (prop), Tom Banks (scrum half) and Jack Scantlebury (centre). Scants has put on some bulk and grown his hair longer since his Under 12 days and progressed from half-back to centre. He maybe has not established a place in the First XV for as long as his three fellow compatriots in the photo but he has had the opportunity to play rugby at National Division level, made a major



contribution to successful Blues sides and has played representative rugby for Hertfordshire. This season he was captain and a key player in the club's first away win of the season at Chinnor. Scants has always enjoyed playing against Chinnor and definitely enjoyed playing his part in the 19-23 win for Stortford at Chinnor in December. Fittingly the four Under 12 players in the photo all played in the game. It is also a sign of the rigours of rugby in National Division One that Tom Banks, Will Roberts and Scants all had to be substituted during the game.



In recent times Scants potential appearances in the First XV have been curtailed by serious knee injuries when a combination of the retirement of Johnny Neville in 2018, Covid in 2020 and Sam Winters injuries this year could well have provided Scants with an opportunity to have a long run of games in the First XV. Scants has no regrets whatsoever in having played a lot of games in the Blues and has really enjoyed playing in some strong Blues sides. He has been able to play with and encourage a number of younger players who have followed his path through the different playing levels at the club



to the Blues and to the First XV to also become established as part of the Stortford senior squad system.

Scants also praises the coaching he has received at the club that has enabled him to maximise the effectiveness of his performances at centre. He does sometimes wish he had been a bit bigger and stronger so that he could have better emulated the play at centre of Brad Barrett of Saracens and England.

Scants has always fully appreciated the sponsorship of NFU Mutual and Kayleigh's continuous support over the years. He also would like to thank his two best match supporters, his mum and dad, Juliet and Richard Scantlebury who have spent many hours watching him play from the touchline.

To conclude all good centres come in pairs and Scants has recently teamed up with

Marcus Cattel to look after the players social entertainment. They both hosted together last year the "Balls, Blazers and Backchat" podcasts with a selection of club legend guests which helped compensate for the lack of clubhouse conversations during Covid restrictions. These podcasts are still available on YouTube.





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Through the lens...

OF EMMA COX PHOTOGRAPHY



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Featured match: Blues 77 Sevenoaks 29

Now in its sixth season, **Club Stortford** was set up by a small working party to support the 1st XV 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.

Our Joint head coaches Tom and Marcus have stressed on a number of occasions how important the financial support given to them by Club Stortford is. 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 101 988



The Oval Club was formed in 1998 by some Bishop's Stortford Rugby Football Club members who wanted to find a way of raising funds to improve the playing facilities of the Club with the 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 which have been approved by the Rugby Club's Executive Committee and which fall within its mission statement.

Funds are raised by monthly contributions from the Members two thirds of which are set aside for Rugby Club projects with the other third reserved for social events for Members.

To date The Oval Club has raised over a quarter of a million pounds with the Rugby Club receiving more than £150,000.

The Oval Club makes contributions to the Rugby Club for one off projects which are of long term value and not part of on-going budget requirements. Often these contributions have been made to the Club to enable it to secure grants from the Rugby Football Union and other sources.

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

- Flood lighting the main pitch,
- Floodlighting the back field pitches,
- Pitch repair and maintenance,
- Improvement of the playing surfaces, including the purchase of a verti-drainer,
- Drainage of the back field pitches,
- Rabbit fencing,

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

On the social side there are annual Members' events. Currently these are:

- A self-supporting golf day at one of the local golf clubs,
- An Annual Dinner and Forum,
- First team home and away lunches.

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
Mark Smith
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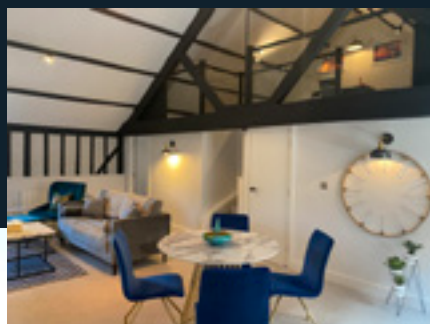
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Page 3

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Page 4

Band D tax bills to top £2,000

Page 5

Culture

Page 25

Page 23

Page 25

SPLASH CASH

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Five key investments have been identified by Bishop's Stortford Town Council as it prepares to spend a £6.4m windfall.

South Mill Arts' ambitious £7m redevelopment is set to get a share. The Bishop's Stortford Museum and Organisation (BSMAO), which runs the South Road venue, has already pitched a £2.1m upgrade bid. Its vision includes a recording studio and production room space to train engineers of the future plus a new "fit-for-purpose-fram-dance-and-arts rehearsal space".

Plans for a sports complex to rival Wolfson Park remain on the table with the council still ready to buy around 40 acres (16 hectares) to the north of the town to kickstart a much more ambitious development.

The Ware complex, which is run by a trust, features an athletics track and field, football pitches, netball and tennis courts, three sports halls, an aerobics studio, gym, meeting rooms and a cafe bar.

The proposals looked to have sailed with a failure to agree on a sale price, but on Monday, the town council's finance and policy committee went into closed session to get an update and, after their deliberations, the scheme remained

part of the council's shopping list.

Members have also voted to keep the Castle Park plan alive, despite a £1.3m hike in the cost of the £2.9m scheme, with top-up funding.

And their spending spree includes the purchase of "amenity land" and allotment sites. Negotiations are already under way to buy two parcels of land to the south of the town.

In all, the council has earmarked £2.8m of its profit from selling redundant allotments at Farham Road to Hert's County Council for the Assent Meadows Primary School for the five priorities.

It has allocated a further £500,000 to set up a new major capital grants programme to give a maximum boost of £50,000 to organisations in the town.

That spells disappointment for the likes of Bishop's Stortford Rugby Football Club and The Bishop's Stortford High School, which hoped for a much bigger share of the windfall to enhance their own sporting facilities.

Finance and policy committee chairman Cllr David Stouden said: "I am very excited by our plans for one of the largest investments in community provision in Stortford's history."

"We have taken a prudent approach to how to invest this money."

» Continues on page 4

Counting down to a right royal festival



The Queen (in a manner of speaking) joined Bish Bash organisers, volunteers and supporters at the bandstand in Swinder's Field on Saturday to help officially launch the 2022 edition of the music festival, which has been on hold for three years. - full story [pages 24-25](#)

Picture: Nick Lifford

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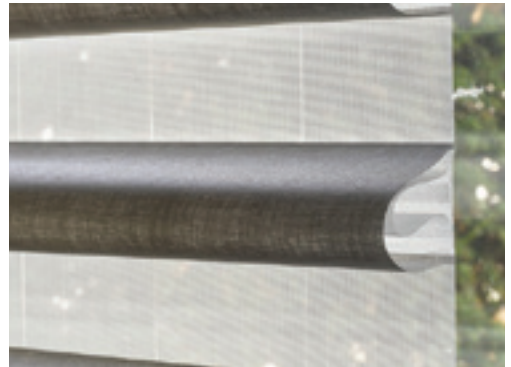
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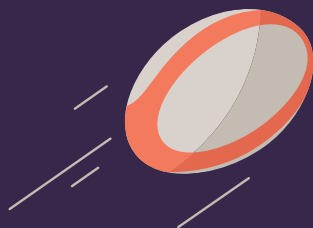
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BSRFC Centenary Book

ON THIS DAY - FEBRUARY



When, in February 1985, planning permission was granted for a new clubhouse costing £100,000, to replace that which opened in 1971, grants had already been obtained for two-thirds of the cost but the club had to raise the remaining £35,000. Amongst the grants, Rayment's brewery offered a loan of £10,000 against future beer sales. To qualify for the loan the club had to guarantee certain levels of sales so individual members signed up as guarantors, each for small sums but a total commitment of £5,000 with signatures on beer-stained pieces of paper. Remarkably the new clubhouse opened on 29th September 1985, only seven months after receiving planning permission. The challenge today to raise money for new changing rooms is more than ten times greater than in 1985, with the 2-year delay due to COVID having added some 25-30% to the original cost estimates.

In February 1984 our much-missed friend, Terry Ellis scored a try against Old Harlow in a match to celebrate his 50th birthday. It is reported that he 'sprinted' 35 yards to score and the try was converted by his son, Steve who also scored a second try. Despite these scores, the match was lost

10-16. On 5th February 1987, Steve Ellis was again in the news, scoring 28 points including eight conversions in a 66-7 win over Royston. Other heroes in that game included 'veteran' Robbie Prior who 'was 'having a superb season' and Colin Johnson who 'controlled the lineouts'. Try scorers that day were Tupman with four, Morgan, and Hey, with two for Tredgett.

February 1988 saw a clean sweep of victories with the first XV beating Ampthill 40-3, the 'A's won 28-6 vs UCL, the Chindits 32-3 over UCL Old Boys. That game included David Lockwood and Scott Hadfield as halfback pairs with an age difference between them of 28 years - (Lockwood was the elder!). The Colts took the headlines in February 1994 beating Upminster 54-5 with a team including future 1st XV captains, Rob Faiers and Stuart Haslam as well as future 1st XV players Peter Curtis, Julian Floyd, Robert Johnson, Michael Royle and James Taylor. Other youth sides also had a strong early February 1995 against Ampthill; U16 8-3, U15 19-5 and U13 34-5.

A record-beating score of 101-3 over Newmarket in

February 2002 helped the 'Mighty Fifties' to a fifth successive championship of the Abbot Ale sponsored Deuxieme North league.

The strength of the club's Youth and Mini development programme was shown vividly by the 1st XV of February 2009 when the team included fourteen players who had come through the Colts and Youth teams.

The history book of the club '*Bishop's Stortford Rugby Football Club, 100 Years Of Blood, Sweat and Cheers*' has many photos of past teams at all levels, along with match reports and news items. Former players at today's lunch will find themselves in print and pictures, so pop along to the club shop to get your copy.



Can you help...

WITH GIRLS' RUGBY



We have worked extremely hard over the last 4 years, to get girls' rugby up and running in the Club, with some considerable success. We have now reached the point where additional help is needed urgently, to ensure that we can continue to both grow and consolidate the section. More specifically, we need the following:



1. General support/assistance - our U11 girls are now in the mins with their peers and we currently have 3 age groups for girls and each needs a number of general helpers to assist with general admin support, arranging fixtures and social events. Your commitment would be for an average of 2 hours per week during the season but more if you have the time and inclination.



join our Ladies' section. If you think you can make a contribution of some sort to girls' rugby, our Chair of Girls' and Ladies' Rugby, **Carly Poyser**, would love to hear from you. You can contact her, to get more information either via email - **bsrfcladies@gmail.com** - or her mobile number - **07368 528 737**.

Regards,

Carly



Match Day Experience

BISHOP'S STORTFORD RFC

Behind the scenes with the 1st XV...



As part of the Club's ethos 'to be a strong and successful rugby club united from Senior to Minis', trusted and valued by our community BSRFC Joint Head Coaches Tom Coleman and Marcus Cattell along with Club captain Sam Winter and the rest of the 1st XV Squad, provide an insight for our "Mini and 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 QandA in the 1st XV Changing Room, followed by Training, Games and 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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Why not join...

BISHOP'S STORTFORD RUGBY CLUB?

AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER:

- You will receive notices and newsletters
- Will be entitled to a reduced entrance fee on 1st XV Match Days
- You'll get 10% Bar Discount
- You will become a part of a thriving and vibrant community of like minded people



If you would like to join our club please visit our website:
www.bsrfc.co.uk for further details.

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