



# Bath Saracens RFC

Affiliated to Rugby Football Union, Civil Service Rugby Football Union and Bath District Rugby Combination

Sulis Club  
Claverton Down Road  
Bath, BA2 7AU

Volume 1, Issue 1  
September 2008

## Welcome to the 2008 - 2009 Season!

Welcome to the 2008-2009 season. The Sarries squad are back in training after the summer break and we are eagerly awaiting the 20th September for the 1st league game of the campaign. This season promises to be full of excitement, breathtaking performances and on occasions even some Rugby. So clean your boots, grab your shirt and come and join and support Sarries in what's going to be an extremely enjoyable season!

Captained by Tony Lai, and after gaining promotion the previous season, Sarries continued to progress by finishing a respectable 5th in the Dorset and Wilts League 2 North.

Tony and Coach, Martin Ellis worked extremely hard during training sessions and matches, and their efforts are greatly appreciated.

## Tour

Sarries rounded off the successful season with a weekend tour to Holland.

Based in the centre of Amsterdam Sarries travelled to Hoorn on the Saturday where we played RC West Friesland and won 22-12. The game was played in front of a large crowd bolstered by a lot of pre-match publicity in the local papers.

On Sunday we made the short trip to RC Haarlem. Here we faced much stronger opposition and this along with the 'after-effects' of a long weekend of celebrations resulted in a 55-25 defeat.

Everyone on Tour had a brilliant time, and it was a great way to finish off Sarries 60th Anniversary season.

Please find enclosed the new season's fixture card. Please come up to support the team and meet new players and renew old friendships.

Sarries are delighted to welcome back to the role as Coach; Les Garton.

Les coached Sarries 2 seasons ago, where he lead Sarries to promotion. Les is a fantastic coach and we look forward to playing under his guidance.

Martin Ellis has stepped down as coach due to family commitments, but will continue to aid in training and at matches when he is available. The team have greatly benefited from his knowledge and experience, and we look forward to his 'guest appearances'!

Sarries 1st run out of the 08/09 season was a friendly match against Old Edwardians.

The 13 man Sarries team played extremely well during the hard fought match, in very hot conditions. The under strength squad eventually sub came to defeat but tries from Martin Solomon, Paul Blankley and Dan Nicholls, with conversions from Dan Nicholls and Captain Tony Lai showed the promise that Sarries are capable of achieving a higher position this season.



## Up Coming Fixtures

13th Sept 08 TBC (Friendly)	TBC
20th Sept 08 Colerne (League)	H
27th Sept 08 Malmesbury (League)	A
4th Oct 08 Pewsey Vale (League)	H
11th Oct 08 Chippenham III (League)	A
19th Oct 08 TBC (Somerset Cup)	TBC
25th Oct 08 Trowbridge II (Somerset Cup)	H

## Results

7th Sept 08 Martock 24 - 20 (Somerset Cup)	Win (H)
30th Aug 08 Old Edwardians 30ish - 20ish (Friendly)	Lost (A)

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Membership and Publicity:  
Martin Solomon

President : Paul Kavanagh  
Coach: Les Garton  
Club Captain : Tony Lai

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## League Table

Avonvale	0
<a href="#">Bath Saracens</a>	0
Calne II	0
Chippenham III	0
Colerne	0
Combe Down II	0
Cooper Avon Tyres II	0
Devizes II	0
Malmesbury	0
Pewsey Vale	0
Trowbridge II	0
Wootton Bassett III	0

## Point Scorers

**Coming Soon**

For Clothing including Club Ties,  
Replica Shirts, Polo Shirts, Kit Bags  
and much more please speak to  
John Bradley



# SOCIALS

Social Sec:  
Rob Garton

13th September 08

HAWIAN NIGHT, in BATH

Upcoming Social events:

In October, an 80's Theme night  
in Bath

Coming soon, Pub golf



## CONGRATULATIONS

The club's Annual Dinner was a great success with the evening enjoyed by all in attendance. Congratulations go to all the players for a fantastic season, with special recognition to the players and members who won awards for their achievements :

Players Player: Tim Badcock

Most Improved Player: Jack Biss

Captains Award: Martin Ellis

Clubman: Jim Biss

Congratulations to Martin and Emma Ellis for the birth of their daughter; Jessica

Congratulations to Chris Carmichael for the birth of his little baby.

Congratulations to Bren and Ellie Hodgkinson for finally tying the knot on 29th August 08

Sarries got their season off to a winning start in Sunday's Somerset Cup tie. The match took place at nearby Oldfield Rugby club as the Sulis ground was not yet ready for the new season.

Captain Tony Lai was pleased with the performance as with players unavailable, he had to play players out of position. The side also featured several debutants and players returning from long term injuries. After a shaky start the home side settled down but not before Martock had taken the lead with an early try. Sarries forwards competed well up against a larger pack, and as the game progressed half backs John Catchpole and Simon Porter were able to provide their back line with an increasing amount of quality possession.

Fly Half Porter opened the Sarries scoring with an excellent try which he duly converted. Debutant centre Mark Gunning added a second try which saw Sarries turn round at half time with a 12-10 lead. The second half saw Sarries double their points tally with a second try for Porter and another great solo effort from winger Tim Ayres. Porter added a further conversion. With time running out they looked comfortably in control with a 24-15 lead. A loss of concentration allowed Martock back into the game with a late try, but Sarries deservedly took their place in the draw for the next round.



JC is well supported as Sarries press forward

Picture by: Dave Pyles

Bath Saracens would like to congratulate Club Sponsor EXCLUSIVELY KITCHENS on the opening of their brand new Showroom. Visit them at:

Sutcliffe Showroom  
London Road  
Bath  
BA1 6AJ  
Tel: 01225 461313  
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**Exclusively Kitchens**  
of Bath

Email: [info@exclusivelykitchens.co.uk](mailto:info@exclusivelykitchens.co.uk)

Fellow Vice President, Hugh Sawyer, would like to pass on his thanks to those who came up with names for some of the old photos on the website. He would be grateful for one last effort on the one he is currently focused on – 1976/1977. To help out he has added a link to all the signed up members of that year, and hopefully you will be able to make connections that he couldn't!

Hugh would also like to update and add Vice President stories to the web site. So please email or contact him with any stories and memories.