



Bath Saracens RFC (Established 1947 as Bath Civil Service RFC)
Affiliated to the RFU, Bath Combination RFU and Civil Service Sports Association

Bath Saracens Newsletter

The Sulis Club, Claverton Down Road, Bath, BA2 7AU

October 2014

Another new season begins...

The new season is finally upon us and excitement couldn't be higher. Buoyed by some new recruits and the return of many familiar faces confidence is high and the team is looking to match, if not better, last year's fantastic campaign. Many thanks must go to Les and Tudor for arranging a challenging, yet enjoyable pre-season that has prepared the team for this year's assault on the Dorset and Wilts 2 North Division. It promises, yet again, to be a thoroughly enjoyable season and we hope to see as many of you supporting the team on Saturday afternoons soon, as well as off the field at one of the many different social events being concocted.

Your newsletter writer and social secretary,

Alex



Upcoming fixtures:

- 11th October – Avonvale (H)
- 18th October – Sutton Benger (A)
- 25th October – Colerne (H)
- 1st November – Supermarine (A)
- 8th November – Morganians (H)
- 15th November – Melksham (H)
- 22nd November – Royal Wootton Bassett (A)
- 29th November – MORGANIANS! (A)
- 6th December – Chippenham (H)

First game of the season

pg. 2

Saracens v Corsham 2nds

Seven unanswered tries and a clean sheet added up to a perfect start to the new Dorset & Wilts 2 North season for Bath Saracens, who beat Corsham 2nds 44-0.

Centre Simon Harrison celebrated his first game back in a Sarries shirt for six seasons with a try and was joined on the scoresheet by Jack Goodfriend, Ed Bell, Liam Emmett, Pete Astley and Ashley Noakes, who touched down twice.

Fly half Bell added three conversions and a penalty, while lock Sam Blackburn's all-round display earned him the man of the match award.

Saracens v Trowbridge

A 33-12 victory over Trowbridge 3rds sent Bath Saracens to the top of the early Dorset & Wilts 2 North table.

Early season injuries and unavailabilities left the Sarries with the bare XV, however they stood up well to a Trowbridge side that arrived with a full complement of replacements.

Midway through the first half the pressure finally brought reward when centre Reilly broke through and touched down for the first points of the game. He subsequently added the conversion.

A mix-up allowed Trowbridge to level with a converted try of their own but the rest of the half was one-way traffic.

Flanker Manuel Nuno battled his way over the line from close range to restore the home side's lead and three further tries followed in the second half.

Skipper and scrum-half Ed Bell finished off a fine catch and drive from the forwards before Nuno scored his second of the game when he smashed his way through a beleaguered Trowbridge defence to finish off a fine individual effort.

Reilly scored the final points for the home side when he converted his second touchdown of the afternoon.

The final minutes became rather scrappy and, with Sarries reduced to 13 players through an injury and a yellow card, Trowbridge were rewarded for their persistence with a late unconverted try.



Social News

Although the season has only just got up and running again, this doesn't mean that the socializing has only just started up again. The Hadley Arms played host to a skittles social on the 31st of July. This was a laid back and enjoyable affair and was well attended by a number of Saracens, new and old.

More recently, the team had their first of what I imagine will be many team dinners at Panahar Indian Cuisine on Moorland Road. A mixture of great food and great company ensured a thoroughly enjoyable night (Listen out for more team dinners soon).

Finally, in a not-so-coincidental social the Bath Saracens will be attending the enticing Premier League game between Bath and Saracens on the 3rd of October.



Sponsorship News

We are very happy and proud to announce that Geometry PR have once again been kind enough to sponsor the team for another season.

Established in 2001, Geometry PR has grown to become one of the most respected agencies in the South West. Geometry PR has a broad portfolio of clients locally and across the UK and specialises in creating campaigns for clients in a diverse range of sectors.

The money provided by Geometry will be put towards a new red away kit.



cont.

Off the field news

Firstly we have to congratulate one of our foreign Saracens on the imminent birth of his first child. Fionn and Virginie are expecting the little one very soon after moving back to France just recently. All of us at Bath Saracens would like to wish the happy family the best of luck, and look forward to hearing from them in the not-to-distant future.

Hugh, Hugh, He wants help from you...

Firstly, I would very much appreciate those VPs who haven't contributed their Club stories to the website to get your pens out! It really helps to fill in history gaps when you pass on your old memories!

Secondly, I'm going to start on my next project to improve the history records. My most pressing issue is my lack of names for the 1986/87 photo! Is there anyone who is able to fill in any of the blanks in the others? If any of you want to pass on information for the website you can follow the link to the webmaster in the "contacts" page. The website can be found at www.bathsaracens.co.uk.

Cheers,

Hugh

Next, congratulations must be extended to many of our Saracens for graduating over the summer. Alex Reilly, Paul Johnson, William Hill, Andy Winchcombe, Ted Harding and Dale Milbourne all obtained their undergraduate degrees from the University of Bath. Further, Nick Williams and Dominic Van Der Waals both were delighted to complete their PhDs (pictured below). Although it is unfortunate to lose such a committed and brilliant group of guys, the club wishes them all the best in their future careers.

Additionally, in an effort to bring the club into the 21st century and save a few trees and polar bears, the club will be looking to send out future newsletters by email. Would everyone please email the club, through the website, if this is something you are able to do and are interested in doing it.

Finally, and sadly, we have only just learned that VP George Gibson passed away last year. George was Club Captain in 1962/63 and Chairman between 1976 and 1978. We send our condolences to his family and it is safe to say that he will be sorely missed by all that knew him.

