



SEDGLEY TIGERS

2023 - 2024







WELCOME TO PARK LANE BLACKHEATH



SEDGLEY PARK 2022/23 PLAYING SQUAD. A MAGNIFICENT EFFORT BY ALL ON AN OUTSTANDING SEASON LAST TIME OUT.

On behalf of all the committee and all the playing and support staff, it is a privilege to welcome everyone, including our new friends from Blackheath, to Park Lane today. Whilst we have played before, in the Tetley Cup and the Championship, so we welcome Blackheath back to Park Lane. Hope you enjoy your day with us today.





FIXTURES 2023-2024

NATIONAL 1

H

Round 1 - 02.09.23
Richmond

A

Round 2 - 09.09.23
Birmingham Moseley

H

Round 3 - 16.09.23
RAMS

H

Round 4 - 23.09.23
Chinnor

A

Round 5 - 30.09.23
Rosslyn Park

H

Round 6 - 07.10.23
Taunton

A

Round 7 - 14.10.23
Bishop Stortford

H

Round 8 - 04.11.23
Leicester Lions

A

Round 9 - 11.11.23
Darlington MP

H

Round 10 - 18.11.23
Sale FC

A

Round 11 - 25.11.23
Cinderford

H

Round 12 - 02.12.23
Blackheath

A

Round 13 - 9.12.23
Plymouth Albion

H

Round 14 - 16.12.23
Birmingham Moseley

A

Round 15 - 13.01.24
RAMS

A

Round 16 - 20.01.24
Chinnor

H

Round 17 - 27.01.24
Rosslyn Park

A

Round 18 - 10.02.24
Taunton

H

Round 19 - 17.02.24
Bishop Stortford

A

Round 20 - 24.02.24
Leicester Lions

H

Round 21 - 09.03.24
Darlington. MP

A

Round 22 - 16.03.24
Sale FC

H

Round 23 - 23.03.24
Cinderford

A

Round 24 - 06.04.24
Blackheath

H

Round 25 - 13.24.24
Plymouth Albion

A

Round 26 - 27.04.24
Richmond

***Dates are subject to change**



TEAM SHEET

SEDGLEY PARK

POS	NAME	SPONSORED By
15	Charlie WARDLE	HH Smith
14	Andy RILEY	Castle Clothing
13	Nathan POPE	Business Lodge
12	Oli GLASSE	Picow Engineering
11	Rhys HENDERSON	Brendan Henderson
10	Warren SEALS	Begbies Trainer LLP
9	Jacon TANSEY	Made for More
1	John BLANCHARD	Urmston Scaffolding
2	Danny MAHER	Direct Construction Recruitment
3	Danny RYLANCE	Greenday UPVC
4	Bob BIRTWELL	Fieldings Porter Solicitors
5	Oscar CROWE	Brendan Henderson
6	Oli LEATHERBARROW	HH Smith
7	Lewis BRADLEY	Sterling Solutions
8	Tom AILES	Finely Tuned

SUBSTITUTES

16	Austin DOWNHAM	Kenmac Associates
17	Adam MALLINSON	Mallofix Sports Therapy
18	Greg MORGAN	DMG Motors Ltd
19	Matt RILEY	GBC Communications
20	Mark GOODMAN	Business Lodge

BLACKHEATH

POS	NAME
15	Jake HENNESSEY
14	Alex NOOT
13	Leo FIELDING
12	Marcus FURCHAM
11	Matt ARMSTRONG
10	Matt DALRYMPLE
9	George DALY
1	Will DAVIS
2	Ollie WALLAKER
3	Andrew BOYE
4	Tom EVERARD
5	Ed TAYLOR ©
6	Paul SCHROTER
7	Ben CHARNOCK
8	Tom BALDWIN

SUBSTITUTES

16	Billy HARDING
17	Archie HOLLAND
18	Korede SANUSI
19	Chris BELL
20	Jake LLOYD

Referee: **Ben Wood** | Assist Ref 1: **Keiron Henry** | Assist Ref 2: **Owen Taylor**



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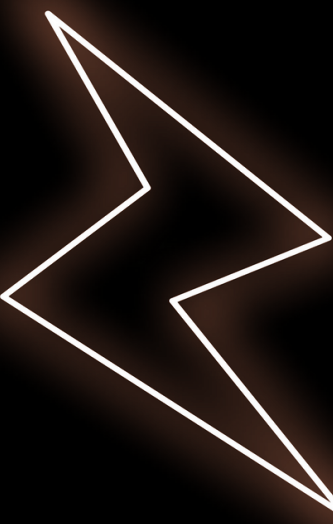
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WELCOME TO PARK LANE BLACKHEATH



On behalf of all the committee and all the playing and support staff it is a privilege to welcome everyone, especially our very old friends from Southeast London, Blackheath FC to Park Lane today. Welcome one and all and a belated Happy New Year to you. What a great way to start the New Year,

In our game against Sale FC we had the complication of explaining the FC addition to the Sale's name and not RFC or RUFC. This week we go to the source of the conundrum as we welcome Blackheath FC, one of the originators. At the end of our last home game, Eddie Aldred, your host for the day, begged me not to do an in-depth review of Blackheath history, because he was worried, I would go on and on and there would be not enough time in history left to read it. I agreed.

I have gone into Blackheath's history pre-league and league in the usual article Spotlight on, where we look at our visitor's form, playing statistics, hot

shots, and previous games. I'm sure our first meeting with them will be mentioned more than once. You find this later in the online programme as well as the other favourite articles including the very popular 'Daves Diary' and National League One Week 12 review and round up.

So, we welcome Club back to Park Lane for first time in ten seasons. Both clubs had impressive league championship winning season last time out and both have taken to life back in the fast lane in their stride.

In recent weeks the last six to be specific they won just two from six but if you look at the list of fixtures played all these games have contained all the form teams in the league and Club have performed very well indeed.

The week before our postponed game, in a game they looked like winning for a large part, they took the league



WELCOME TO PARK LANE BLACKHEATH

and Club have performed very well indeed.

The week before our postponed game, in a game they looked like winning for a large part, they took the league leaders to the edge, kick-starting a fight back that saw a rather flattering scoreline for top of the table Rams. (Their words not mine).



Dogs of War: Mark Goodman taking the game to Birmingham Moseley FC in the Christmas game victory recently.

In their last two games of 2023 they had mixed fortunes again, losing at home to Richmond then having a good away day and a early Christmas present with a win at Bishops Stortford.

As has been said repeatedly this season, in this league, every club can beat each other in a very competitive league. What is for sure Blackheath will to want travel north and blunt our progress whilst putting their own league ambitions back on track.

We know why this game means so much for the Sedgley faithful (see below and Daves diary) but in all seriousness we have only won one game in all 8 league

fixtures against Club.

We have over the years made great friendships with many from Blackheath with many stemming from that first ever cup fixture.

One in particular has remained constant and from afar for many a season now for Geoff Roberts, Steve Kay and me as we welcome back to Park Lane, Iain Dinning who is a very informed man on the protocols and practices of the game and keeps us all up to date on all things London Rugby. You will be able recognise Iain, as he has as a rider to attend games in the north for Blackheath that he has a regular supply of bacon sarnies!!! Only joking Iain. Its great to see you back here at Park Lane and I sincerely hope you will enjoy the game and day.

That welcome extends to everyone today as this will be a tough encounter and will be a great watch. A classic game awaits.



From Club's December game against Rosslyn Park



WELCOME TO PARK LANE BLACKHEATH

Memories from a great day out on the Heath

The day was highly anticipated around the club. Sedgley Park playing Blackheath. Pinch me. Cars were loaded a large section of train was reserved as little old Sedgley Park were heading south to face the oldest club in rugby. Club! Blackheath. Keep pinching me.

I was already down in London staying with my brother John and meeting up with Grant Keers, now sadly deceased,. All three of us were still in utter disbelief of this fixture. Remember, back then, we were not national entity, and never had been. We were a strong developing side in National League Two North Level 4. Blackheath at the time were at Level 2 in the Allied Dunbar Premiership Two, a very high standard of the game. A league full of the great and good of the game.

The previous week, Club had a great performance on the road against Worcester Warriors and that result and the cup game against us was supposed to act as a game changing moment on the fortunes of Blackheath for that season. So said the London Standard on the Friday evening before the game, who even forgot to mention the existence of Sedgley Park, Club's cup fixture the next day.

So, early on the Saturday morning, we travelled with great hope, but a strong realisation of what could be. Up the Thames on a river boat to the Cutty Sark, stopping for pie and mash just outside

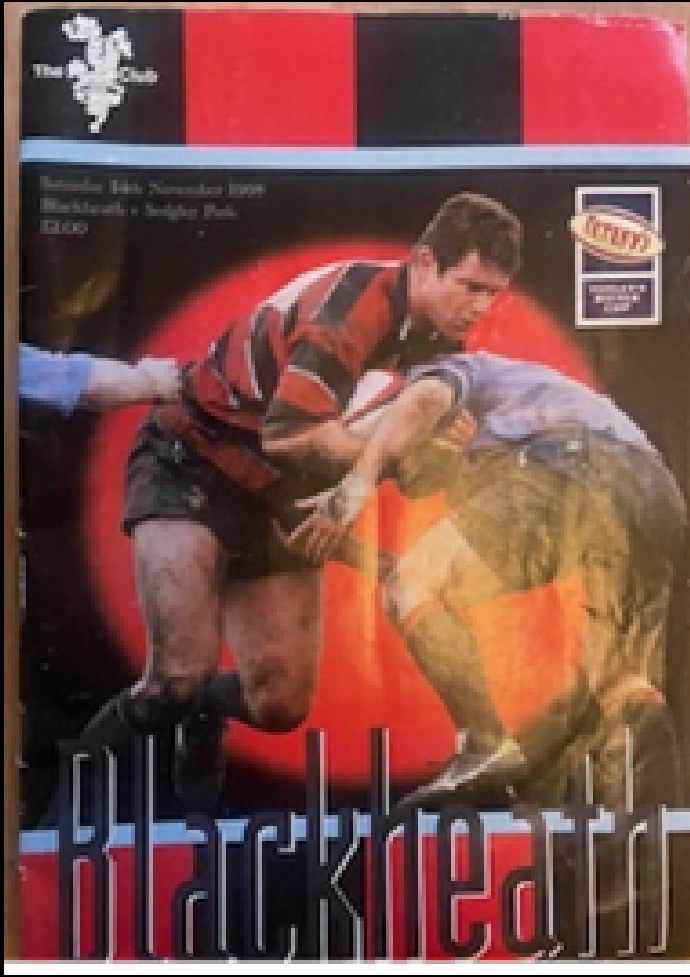
Greenwich. Onto the Rectory Ground and our hosts were very warm, welcoming and well prepared for the hordes of Sedgley supporters now descending on them. The Clubhouse bar was rammed, and the special Guinness bar tent was full and in full flow as supporters from both clubs exchanged stories and, in some cases, struck up friendships that last till this day.

The David and Goliath story could not be better summed up as when the announcer (they've got an announcer!) adding to the to the tension and the atmosphere of the day inadvertently cranked it up another level with his geographical gaff 'We welcome our guests today who hail from a suburb in north west Birmingham'. Someone didn't read the match day programme!! And why should he, this lot will be gone soon to some far-fetched corner of the pyramid or so he might have thought.

So, with copious amounts of Guinness and Jamesons drunk, purely medicinal obviously and with all from Sedge faithful praying for a miracle but expecting just our honour is kept intact, the game kicked off. This period for Sedge was coming to the end of Bob Kimmins incredible era which had seen tremendous glory with promotion after promotion and a Lancashire Trophy win to boot. A fantastic haul for such a small traditional club.



WELCOME TO PARK LANE BLACKHEATH



However, this was not the team of the season or so before. It was still a very useful side, but it seemed that season we had plateaued and maybe, we all thought, just maybe this might be a turning point in the Club league fortunes. The game opened and as expected Sedge came out firing on all cylinders bringing early rewards with a try. The first forty was a duel of equal foes and at halftime Sedge had the edge.

As the afternoon turned into a cold autumn early evening Club started to take the advantage. Line breaks were being made instead of being stopped and the game started to be more orientated within the Sedgley Park 22.

With the game going into the final 10 minutes disaster followed, as Club converted a try to take the game to 21-15 in Club's favour. With the clock ticking down Sedge upped the ante with Rob Moon opting to kick to the corner time and time again. Our lineout was good but so was the Blackheath counter maul keeping Sedge away from the all

important try line. With minutes remaining the tension had got the better of me and pragmatism kicked in as I went to the bar to order the commiseration round before the crowds came in.

I just got back to the perimeter hoarding carrying the round when Disco Dancing Jon Duncan sprang up from the base beat the first tackle avoided the next before drifting right. Like a bolt of lightning winger Paul Morris came off his wing and took hold of a beautiful offload from Jon to run a brilliant try to the right of the post.

Euphoria abounds on the cricket side of the pitch, where the Sedgley faithful had encamped (next to the Guinness tent obviously. Unfortunately for me, still holding a tray of six pints of Guinness, the euphoria was too much and ill timed. Getting back to the perimeter fencing, and with the surge by all standing by the perimeter



WELCOME TO PARK LANE BLACKHEATH

fencing from the try, resulted in everyone being tipped and revolved over to pitch side in a mass pile. This mass heap all topped off with six pints of Guinness. Peter Keers is still waiting for that pint.

The game though was not over, and decorum was required by all as young fly half Rob Moon stepped up to take the all-important conversion kick. The kick was good, victory was ours, as we had won by one point. We had won a major cup game, but little did we know which club would come next. The bigger question though was what would come next.

The bar and the night after the game was brilliant. Blackheath members and supporters were terrific and very encouraging and flattering to us all. The Sedge intercity set, those who came by train that is, set off for a memorable journey home to Manchester which no one now remembers.

It was just the three of us left from Sedgley Park and the night was young so we stayed, drank and laughed whilst all the time the Blackheath faithful (they shall remain anonymous, but the know who they are) were plying us with copious amounts of drinks and a great time.

We were the last to leave and to our eternal shame never paying for a round that night.

Chairman Note: Nothing new there then!

So back to the bigger question? What would come next.

That season we finished 8th in the league. We had a little bit extra exposure so much so the season after we were named as one of the beacon clubs around the country. Exeter Chiefs were also awarded that mantle too. We brought in a young Richard Senior, stopping him from going to Sale Sharks and added in giant Cristian Raducanu from Leeds Tykes to freshen up the squad.

At the end of that season, and following advice from Cristian Raducanu, we also eventually brought in a player coach South African, Tim Fourie and former Welsh international Colin Stephens. All this momentum brought promotion in 2000/01 via the play offs.

Eventually this led to more promotions and an eventual five great seasons in the sun at the pinnacle of the game. All this starting from that 'great day out on the Heath. Season changing!!! More like life changing.

BLACKHEATH 21 SEDGLEY PARK 22



WELCOME TO PARK LANE BLACKHEATH

Team Selections on the Day

Blackheath:

15 C Aitken, 14 C Sangster, 13 P Delaney, 12 A James, 11 M Griffiths, 10 J Radcliffe, 9 A Kardooni, 1 L Mooney, 2 B Howe, 3 M Ririnui, 4 D Mayhew, 5 P Jennings, 6 D Walton, 7 C Wilkins (cpt), 8 D Merlin.

Replacements: 16 T Redmond, 17 W Scrivens, 18 T Smith, 19 T Gaylard, 20 M Briggs.

Sedgley Park:

15 D Smythe, 14 P Morris, 13 M Wilcock, 12 B Cohen, 11 S Webster, 10 R Moon, 9 R Smith (cpt), 1 P Ledson, 2 J Woods, 3 A Jackson, 4 A Kimmins, 5 J Johnston, 6 J Ashcroft, 7 S Joesbury, 8 J Duncan

Replacements: 16 R Barraclough, 17 C Bury, 18 R Whitehouse, 19 M Alcock, 20 Simon Bond, 21 A Cremont.

On the Road with Sedge

So, we signed off 2023 with a bumper Christmas game against Birmingham Moseley and as was highly feared, this was a tough game against one of the form sides in the league.

This was a classic game of two halves, with Birmingham Moseley having the best and dominating the first half with four tries and the bonus point.

It all started well with an early penalty from Warren Seals but four tries Sam McNulty on six minutes, two from Batsiral Zindi on nineteen and forty minutes and a fourth try from Ratu

Bulumaku on twenty-five minutes with three of the tries converted by Tighe Maxwell Whitely.

Sedge did get two tries against the run of play from Nathan Pope on twenty minutes and Danny Maher on twenty-seven minutes with one being converted. This gave a bit of a unlikely shine to what was a poor performance by Sedge.

Halftime:

Sedgley Park 15

Birmingham Moseley 26

With some wise, choice, motivational, tactical talking at halftime a different Sedgley Park came on to the field in the second half and the effect was immediate. In the first minute of the half outside centre Nathan Pope went over for the opening, unconverted try. This was a real power period for Sedge as the urgency and aggression was at a different level and Birmingham Moseley struggled to cope with it. A bonus point converted try followed for the home team on 54 minutes from fly half Warren Seals. This was quickly followed by another breakaway unconverted try from number 8 Tom Ailes on sixty minutes.

With Sedge now edging the game 32-26 as it went into the last phase the all-important final battles was not to keep Sedge out but to repel a brutal last ten minute period from the visitors who pummelled the Sedge defence and line but both held firm and the spoils



WELCOME TO PARK LANE BLACKHEATH

went to the Tigers to round off 2023 in a positive way.

Fulltime:

Sedgely Park 32

Birmingham Moseley 26



In The Clear: Tom Ailes tops off a great game and brilliant 2023 with the winning try against Birmingham Moseley.



... and finally

The match day experience would not be the same without the terrific support we have as a club both inside and outside. From on the field and to off it. From the media team to the ground staff. From the catering team to our match day MC Eddie Aldred. From First XV to Minis, Thank you one and all.

However it certainly would not be the same without all the supporters rain or shine, win or lose. Thanks once again for all the support and here's to a very successful 2024. Happy New Year Once again. One Club, One Sedgely Park

So finally, finally, once again welcome to Park Lane one and all. I hope you really enjoy the game today and don't forget whatever the result and whatever the colours you wear why not join us in the club house for the traditional pint and good craic after the game.

All the best

ST

Chairman's Note:

*It will be great to see ST back at the Club today after his knee replacement surgery. I hope our MC Addie Aldred is kind to him today.
Welcome back ST.*



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SPOTLIGHT ON BLACKHEATH FC



Living it large. Club very worthy winners of National Two East last season 2022-23



Pulling one back. Club pushing highly fancied Rams all the way in their last game.

The story so far

No strangers to this level Club have taken the step up from National League Two East Champions in their stride and have had an immediate effect at this level in the first few games. In recent weeks the last six to be specific they won just two from six but if you look at the list of fixtures played all these games have contained all the form teams in the league and Club have performed very well indeed.

The week before our postponed game, in a game they looked like winning for a large part, they took the league leaders to the edge, kick-starting a fight back that saw a rather flattering scoreline for top of the table Rams. (Their words not mine)

In their last two games of 2023 they mixed fortunes again losing at home to Richmond then having a good away day early present with a win at Bishops Stortford.

As has been said repeatedly this season in this league, every club can beat each other in a very competitive league. What is for sure Blackheath will to want travel north and blunt our progress whilst putting their own league ambitions back on track.

A classic game ahead, me thinks.



SPOTLIGHT ON BLACKHEATH FC



Crossing the line: Try Time for Club in their recent game against Cinderford recently

2023/24 LAST SIX RESULTS

Bishop's Stortford	14 - 18	Blackheath	(WON)
Blackheath	0 - 15	Rosslyn Park	(LOST)
Blackheath	22 - 42	Rams	(LOST)
Birmingham Moseley	19 - 17	Blackheath	(LOST)
Blackheath	21 - 17	Richmond	(WON)
Plymouth Albion	28 - 15	Blackheath	(LOST)

2023/24 NEXT 6 GAMES

06-01-24	Sedgley Park	14:30	Blackheath
13-01-24	Blackheath	15:00	Leicester Lions
20-01-24	Darlington MP	15:00	Blackheath
27-01-24	Blackheath	15:00	Sale FC
10-02-24	Blackheath	15:00	Cinderford.

CURRENT LEAGUE

STATISTICS

League Position:	9 th
Total Points:	34
Played:	13
Games Won:	6
Drawn Games:	0
Games Lost:	7
Home Wins:	3
Home Draws:	0
Home Defeats:	3
Away Wins:	3
Away Draws:	0
Away defeats:	4
Points for:	307
Points against	299
Points aggregate:	8
4-point bonus points:	7
Losing bonus points:	3



SPOTLIGHT ON BLACKHEATH FC

Ones to watch

Top Try Scorers

Jake Hennessey, Centre: 5 Tries: 25 Points
Jack Daly, Scrum Half: 4 Tries 20 Points
Leo Fielding, Full Back: 4 Tries 20 Points

Top Points Scorer

Tom Ffitch, Fly Half: 65 Points



Tom Ffitch



Jake Hennessey



Jack Daly



Leo Fielding

Previous games against Club

We first met Club in that cup game (not that cup game again I hear) on that frosty misty dark day at the Rectory Field on November 14th 1998. The game which has been recorded for evermore in the Sedgley Park match books as the game that put us on the map. However, and no matter how great that cup result was, our league fixtures against Club have not been worthy of mass celebration, not at all. More like mass depression and angst!!!

From 1998 and as Blackheath bounced back from level two and three and Sedge powered up the league's fixtures and outcomes of those fixtures conspired to

The week before our postponed gam keep this much treasured fixture apart for nearly two years as Sedge eventually got to the holly grail of the Championship in 2004/05 season whilst Blackheath settled for a long period of National One occupancy. This resulted in our next and first league fixture between the two clubs to be nearly ten seasons later in 2009.

That game was played at The Rectory Field on October the 3rd 2009 and it was game Blackheath won 35-29. We then played Club another seven times over the next four seasons until our relegation to National League Two North, and



SPOTLIGHT ON BLACKHEATH FC



during that period we had a real poor return on results winning just one game on 6th of October 2012 winning 42–22 at Park Lane.

Our final game against Club was later that season in the away fixture where we were took apart by an aggressive ‘Club’ winning 53–17 at the ‘Rec’.

So, in the final analysis we have played Club nine times 25 years winning twice and losing the rest. Good grief!!! What the hell are we celebrating this fixture as a long–lost son returning home? Because it is.

Aggregated Scores

**Sedgley Park 25
Blackheath 32**

OK, so one win in eight league games is not a great statistic but if the aggregated scores over the seasons are an indicator for this weekends game, we are all in for a great treat in what will be classic cracker of a game.

I can’t wait.

PREVIOUS RESULTS AGAINST CLUB		
14-11-98: Tetley Bitter Cup RND3:		
	Blackheath 21- Sedgley Park 22	(WON)
National League 1		
2009-10	Blackheath 35- 29 Sedgley Park	(LOST)
	Sedgley Park 24- 28 Blackheath	(LOST)
2010-11	Sedgley Park 18- 27 Blackheath	(LOST)
	Blackheath 25-9 Sedgley Park	(LOST)
2011-12	Blackheath 41-34 Sedgley Park	(LOST)
	Sedgley Park 30-37 Blackheath	(LOST)
2012-13	Sedgley Park 42-22 Blackheath	(WON)
	Blackheath 53-17 Sedgley Park	(LOST)

Blackheath History

How the hell do you tell the story of the Club who put the Club in club rugby. You can’t and if I did I could never give them their due credit and respect for what they have achieved over the decades and what they have gave the game both at club level and international level.

For ‘Clubs’ full history I have enclosed the link their website where they tell the full story of this great club. Please follow the link
<https://blackheathrugby.co.uk/our-history/>.

In modern times and I say this as at the beginning of league structured seasons which began in season 1987–88 which was the very first season of league rugby, and Blackheath were pitched at level 2 Courage League National Division Two with all of the London Exile clubs and other London clubs, Richmond, Rosslyn Park and Saracens. The rest of the league consisted of Bedford, Gosforth, Headingley, Liverpool St Helens, and



SPOTLIGHT ON BLACKHEATH FC



Blackheath Football Club. Group of players, 1862. From left to right (top row), Sir R. G. Head, W. Dawes, W. L. Gower, F. M. Campbell, W. Bischoff, C. Moore, W. F. Smith, L. P. Sueur. Seated, A. Mitchell, T. Dawes, A. Poynder

Northampton Saints so it as a very strong league they began not too far dissimilar to the fixtures they had previously played for many decades. So not much change.

Over the years and until today it would be very fair to say Blackheath would not jump into the club consciousness of the sporting fraternity nor in some cases the rugby community of that big London brand club.

Club had that opportunity but to those of us who care less about big brands and know about these things, but care greatly about heart spirit and development of the greater game, Club will always be that big London club. Others from that time of league rugby saw some of the lesser London clubs, like Saracens for example who have took that big London mantle mainly for their exploits on the field and how they responded to the professional era joining Quins and sadly the now defunct Wasps. (Be careful what you wish for)

Club did find staying and pushing up to the very next level difficult, something they never achieved as it would be in a highly populated area of clubs in what will always be the most competitive area of Club rugby: London.

Staying within the top four levels of rugby's pyramid is nothing to look down on. Absolutely not. Developing and having over 20 teams at all levels turning out in the red and black hoops Staying within the top four levels of rugby's pyramid is nothing to look down on. Absolutely not. Developing and having over 20 teams at all levels turning out in the red and black hoops each weekend is something to triumph and celebrate. This success in playing numbers growth resulted in 2008 the Club purchasing Well Hall sporting complex in Eltham to cope with this demand whilst still using the Rectory Field. In 2016 when the complex was fully finished all Rugby was transferred to Well Hall including all first XV fixtures.

Blackheath is not just a pivotal foot note in history at the dawn of club rugby. They are much more than this. They are a modern ambitious progressive home of rugby for all. No, I will go further a beacon of Rugby Union in an era when we are sadly lacking these beacons.

I think all at Sedgely Park support Clubs ambitions and actions as they are ambitions and actions so close to our hearts too.

That's it for putting Club under the Spotlight. Hopefully we can put them under the cosh today and maybe add a win another league win to that very small list of league wins against them. Whatever your colours and whatever the result. Enjoy the game. It's going to be a cracker. I hope you all have a great day. You lucky devils.

All the best, ST



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THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome

On behalf of everyone at the club, can I extend a warm welcome to everyone, for today's game at Park Lane. I would especially like to extend a warm welcome to the players, officials and supporters of our opponents today, Blackheath FC, who are making their first visit to Park Lane for 10 years. May you enjoy our hospitality and friendship and have a quiet drink with us in the bar afterwards, irrespective of the result.

Charity Day

The home game against Leicester Lions, was our Charity Day for SickKids, a charity very close to the heart of our Doctor, Jimmy Stewart. SickKids are a children's health charity currently working in North West England and Cambodia. The 1st XV are all wearing special shirts today and all these shirts have been sponsored. We have many of the sponsors with us today, so I would like to take this opportunity to thank every one of them and hope that they enjoy their day with us.

The money is still being counted, but we feel we have raised in excess of £1500. A great effort by all those involved.

Our next Charity Day is the 27th January on behalf of Andy Mans Club, a Men's Mental Health Charity.



CHARITY DAY

Our second charity game of the season is in aid of Andys Man Club and is to be on the 27th January 2024, our fixture against Rosslyn Park. If anyone fancies sponsoring a jersey for £150 please contact me, which includes two match tickets including pre-match hospitality.

The jersey design is shown here together with where the sponsors name is inserted.

Please contact Geoff Roberts on **07793184818**



WHAT IS ANDYS MAN CLUB?

Andys Man Club is a free peer-to-peer group that provides a place for men to come together in a safe and open environment to talk about the issues or problems that they have faced or are currently facing

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The process is about bringing men together who have been in similar situations, to each help each other on a peer-to-peer basis, sharing advice on how they have dealt with difficult situations. The 5 questions that are asked each week are designed not only to encourage men to talk, but to start to focus on the positives and on strategies to keep moving forward. There is no pressure to answer any of the questions and it is not uncommon for men to just listen for the first few sessions.

The clubs all run on the same format and adhere to the same guidelines. A key principle of Andys Man Club is anything that is said in the club, stays within the club.



Looking forward

It has been a good start to the season for the First Team, with 6 wins out of 9, leaving us in 4th place in the league. We are all really looking forward to this season with the 1st XV, going to many new grounds.

It has also been a good start to the Season for the 2s. The 2nd XV sit 2nd in the Nowirul Premiership, having won 8, drawn 1 and lost 1 of their games, playing the exciting brand of rugby we have come to expect from the 1st XV.

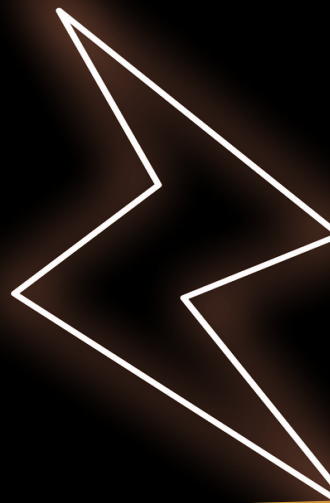
We are 25 points behind leaders Caldy, but have 3 games in hand and Caldy have yet to come to Park Lane.

We entertain Macclesfield today.

www.sedgley-tigers.com



THE CHAIRMAN



It has been a little harder for the 3rd XV, with 3 wins out of 10 games, leaving them in 9th place in the table..

The new Player Pathway we introduced last year, detailing a route through the Youth Section, Colts and into Senior Rugby is now starting to work, with 10 of last year's Colts playing Senior Rugby this year, including 1 at 1st XV level.

We also have a great opportunity to shape young children with the work the Youth Section and Rugby College are doing in getting school children introduced to Rugby, with the support of our Director of Rugby development, Scott Barrow and Tryit Rugby (more of them later in the programme).



Although some areas of the Youth Section are thriving, others are struggling.

We do have a very strong Senior Colts this year and we are looking forward to them moving into open age to bolster the Senior Teams. Unfortunately, we have no Junior Colts this year and we are continuing our recruitment drive for players in year 8 (U13s) and above. It would be great if everyone could promote their club in the local community / schools.

The contact details for individual Coaches and Managers can be found at the back of the online Programme. We are also looking at getting more families watching the 1st XV games and being involved with the Club. We have some "Free" Tickets which will be distributed to schools before Christmas, with a view to getting families down.

Sedgley Park Youth Rugby



New players always welcome (Years 2 – 11)
No previous rugby experience is necessary
Boys and Girls are most welcome
Come and join us

Focus is on having fun and creating friendships



Please contact the Manager or Coach of your age group (on the back) for more details on training and matches.

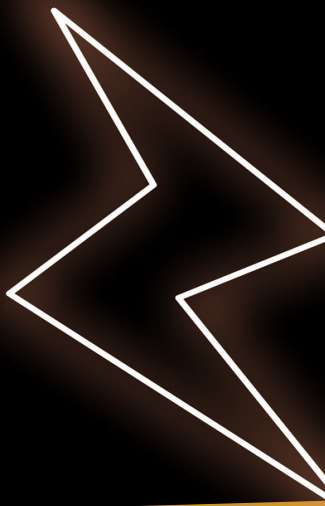
Training:
Wednesday Evening
Matches:
Sunday Morning



Sedgley Park RUFC
Park Lane
Whitefield
Manchester
M45 7DZ



THE CHAIRMAN




Our next major event is our 6th Annual Adult Pantomime. This year we are doing Peter Pants, our take on the popular childrens book.

Tickets are available for all 3 nights (1st, 2nd and 3rd February) on our Website at www.sedgley-tigers.com/events/

Social Calendar

This year, we have tried to put together a Calendar of Events, to allow people to plan their Calendar, well in advance. We have focused on a few major events to try and maximise these instead of organising many poorly attended events.

Don't miss this annual extravaganza. It is an Adult Panto, so don't bring the kids.



"leave the kids at home for this one"

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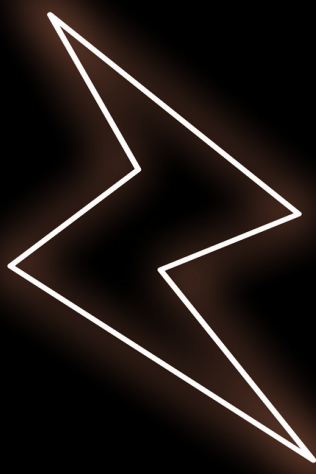
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DAVE'S DIARY



"Lions and tigers and bears, oh my!" A modern-day Dorothy, returned from Oz, would look down the rugby fixture list with alarm. Sharks and Falcons, Pirates and Saracens, Hawks, Titans and, er, Grasshoppers. Oh my! What is wrong with just calling a club "Club"? I suppose there can only be one of us.

These are the words of journalist Patrick Kidd, writing in the Blackheath – the Club – match programme. Quite right, too. There are lots of clubs, but only one Club. They are up there with Roger Bannister and Neil Armstrong, and no one can take that away from them. Okay, they do go on about it, a bit...

Sedgley's first trip down to Club has become part of our history, together with a Lancashire Cup encounter at Fylde, a couple of decades earlier still.

We travelled in hope, and some expectation of success, that midwinter day in 1998, and were welcomed as the 'Minnows from the North', which must have been worth at least seven points in our team talk. The occasion was the 3rd round of the Tetley Bitter Cup.

In the previous round, Rob Smith's team had beaten Manchester FC 20–17, another club with a 'first' to its name, in this case a joint first, the inaugural inter-club match, against Liverpool in 1857, though the Manchester club itself was not formed until 1860, two years after Blackheath. I am confused, but I have never allowed that to worry me before.

If Blackheath underestimated us, that was sloppy of them, because we had already had our growth spurt, from level 7 to level 4, only one down from Club at that time.

I remember it was cold and very dark. Blackheath had impressive floodlight pylons, but with what looked like a 60W bulb at the top of each of them, and in the dying moments our Welsh winger, Paul Morris, streaked over for a try. I have a memory of our talented young Kiwi, Rob Moon, slamming over a goal kick, perhaps the conversion. 22–21 it finished. Never in doubt.

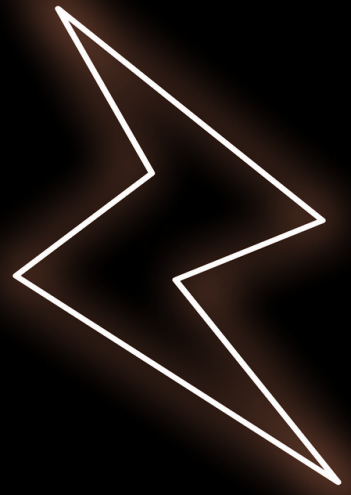
In the following round, we welcomed Wasps to Park Lane, and lost 3–53.

...

We play the game today with doubts and questions about the future of the top end of the 'recreational game'. We enjoy the brand of rugby produced by our semi-pro players, and the game looks in good health, at National league level.



DAVE'S DIARY



Clearly all is not well at the levels above. Between the Premiership (supposed to be fully professional, but which has lost three clubs recently) and ourselves lies the Championship, and it is here that conflict is brewing. The RFU management thinks the Championship is failing, and says it has 'poured money' in, to no avail; to which the Championship clubs are relying, "What money?"

Their clubs have been blocked from advancing by a form of ring-fencing by stealth – not that it's subtle, or anything – a list of criteria that no one could reasonably meet, not the well-heeled Ealing Trailfinders, nor Jersey Reds (now defunct), nor Doncaster, nor Cornish Pirates, let alone Caldy or Ampthill.

The RFU is proposing a Premiership 2, which will / would / might include some of these clubs, perhaps, plus revived Wasps, London Irish and Worcester franchises, for that is what they would be. For those Championship clubs who have managed their finances properly, this is a red rag to their bull. Perhaps 'bull' is the apt word.

The battle lines have been drawn. In a recent statement, the Championship clubs affirmed their opposition to a "franchise model which would allow non-meritocratic entry to the proposed Premiership 2," and they stated their unwillingness to commit to a tender process.

The Championship clubs further say their aim is to sustain a second tier of English rugby that adheres to the principle of being open to all clubs who have the ability, aspiration and ambition to compete in it.

They conclude by saying: "Through the history of our clubs, we represent the proudest traditions and values of rugby and so we will continue to build our community relationships and encourage rugby at all levels."

I cannot fault any of that. Let us hope they can maintain their unity when it matters. Meanwhile, we will enjoy the game today, watching talented young men excel at their chosen sport, and leave the petty politicking for another time.

Best wishes for 2024 to all true lovers of the game.

Anyway, enjoy the game today.

Dave

Look at Dave's Photo Albums online at www.flickr.com/photos/forwarddefensive/albums/



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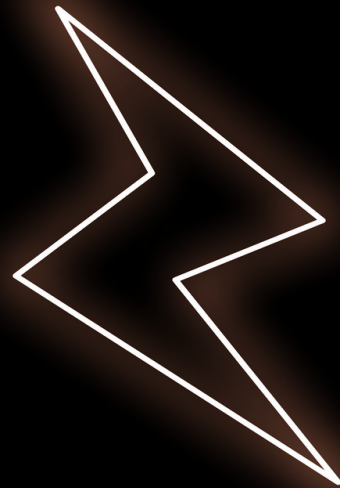
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COACH TALK



We were at home to Birmingham Moseley in our last game before the Xmas break. We had beaten them convincingly at their ground earlier in the season but their recent form was very impressive, with narrow losses to top teams Chinnor and Plymouth in the last previous two weeks.

A well organised team, who like to play open rugby, and a big, physical set of forwards with a solid set piece scrum and accurate line out. They were lying 6th in the league, just one point behind us, so that we knew that this would be a massive challenge and so it turned out to be.

We started well and went into the lead 3-0 with a penalty from fly half Warren Seales after 2 mins, but Birmingham hit back almost immediately with a converted try after a strong catch and drive from their forwards. They followed this up with another twelve minutes later to extend the lead to 3-12 and looking dangerous every time they had possession.



However, a lovely passage of play down the left, saw winger Andy Riley feed the ball inside for centre Nathan Pope to score under the posts. Warren added the conversion and we were back in the game 10-12, going into the last twenty minutes.

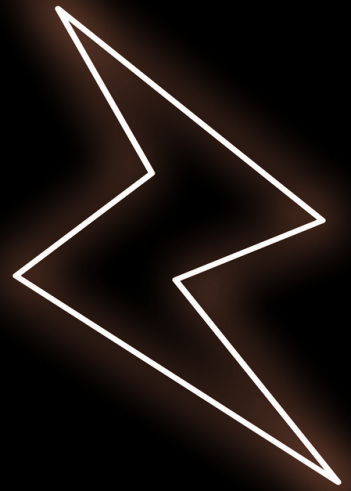
Birmingham looked to keep the ball alive at every opportunity, building phase after phase. A sharp line break by their right winger, beating two tackles, saw them score their third try and extend the lead to 10-19.

Despite this, we hit back three minutes later with a great try for our hooker Danny Maher, after a powerful catch and drive by the forwards. 15-19 with ten minutes to go in the half.

This was a very impressive first half performance from the visitors and another catch and drive from their forwards in the 40th minute saw them deservedly go into the break with a 15-26 lead and a bonus point was secured. We needed a big reaction if we were to get back in the game in the second half .



COACH TALK



This came straight away with a beautiful try for centre Nathan Pope (his second), who latched onto an inside pass to race thirty metres and give us our third try. 20–26 down but with the whole of the half to go.

Birmingham looked to throw everything at us, moving the ball quickly to their impressive backs, building phase after phase, but they could not break down the resolute Tigers defence.

A beautiful line break by fly half Warren Seales saw him beat three tackles to touch down near the posts. He converted his own try and we were now in the lead 27–26 and a four try bonus point secured.

This was a wonderful game of rugby for the neutral supporters as the play went from end to end with both teams looking dangerous. A scrum on the half way line with ten minutes to go resulted in our No. 8 Tom Ailes pick up and race 50 metres beating three defenders to touch down in the bottom left hand corner. A wonderful individual effort to give us our fifth try and a final score of 32–26 to the Tigers.

This was an unbelievable second half for the home team and credit to the whole squad who did not let a very good Birmingham side score any points. We go into the Xmas break with a very impressive fourth place in the league and a game in hand over the top three.

The previous week, we were on the road away to old rivals Plymouth, a team we had played eight times previously, but unfortunately had not won.

A long five and a half hour trip down to Devon on a day when the conditions were extremely difficult to play open rugby, with a strong wind blowing down the heavy pitch, and driving rain.

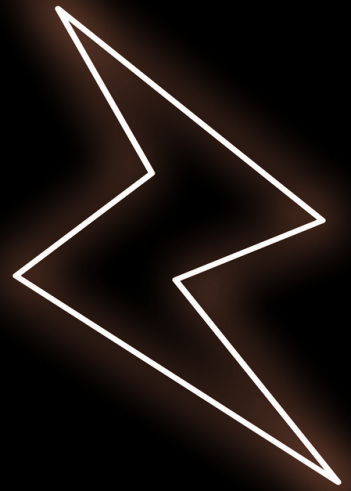
Plymouth are a big physical team who had not been beaten at home this season and were lying in third place, one ahead of us in fourth. This was always going to be a difficult challenge after the long journey, but we were confident that we could put in a solid performance and come away with points.

We started the game playing with the elements looking to build a score in this first half before facing the wind and rain in the second half. Early exchanges were pretty even with both teams building phases and keeping possession and it was not until the 26th minute that we got a score on the board with a penalty from fly half Warren Seales putting us three points in the lead.

However, a penalty awarded to the home side saw them kick to the corner from which their big forwards drove over for their first converted try taking the lead 3–7 going into the last ten minutes of the half.



COACH TALK



We had the chance to hit back with another penalty but missed the kick and a great line break by captain Matt Riley saw the ball spilled in the tackle which gave Plymouth the chance to relieve the pressure.

We had a number of chances and opportunities in this first half to put points on the board but did not capitalize on them. Plymouth got another penalty catch and drive try just before the break and they went into half time 3-14 up.

This was a disappointing half for us as we had plenty of possession and opportunities to build a lead but we gave away too many penalties which allowed the home side to get out of their half. To add to this we lost No 8 Tom Ailes to a yellow card which meant that we would be down to 14 men for the first ten minutes of the second half. Also, each time they got into our twenty two they came away with points. Something we definitely need to learn.

The second half saw us play into driving rain and a strong wind which made it extremely difficult to get out of our half. Another penalty for the home side on 46 minutes saw them extend the lead to 3-17. Every opportunity we had, we tried to move the ball and put pressure on their defences but the conditions made it almost impossible. To be fair to the home side they played the conditions well and another penalty saw them go for the corner which resulted in another

catch and drive for their forwards. The game ended 3-22 to Plymouth and a well deserved four point win and their unbeaten home record intact. T

his was a disappointing performance from the Tigers, as we had chances in the first half to build a score but did not take them. On a positive note, our set piece play was excellent with a strong scrum and accurate lineouts and our defence sets were powerful especially on our own try line denying Plymouth the bonus point.

The overall effort from the whole squad was immense and cannot be questioned but we need to take our chances when they occur especially in difficult conditions.

This Saturday we are at home to Blackheath, the re-arranged game from the beginning of December. We are looking for a big reaction and a solid performance. It is the first game after the Xmas break so please come down to Park Lane and support the Tigers.

Cheers,

Hazz



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NATIONAL LEAGUE ONE REVIEW

CATCH-UP WEEK

WEEK FOURTEEN, ROUND UP:

Chinnor	21 (4) - 7 (0)	Rams
Bishop's Stortford	14 (1) -18 (4)	Blackheath
Darlington Mowden Park	29 (5) -19 (0)	Sale FC
Leicester Lions	25 (4) - 20 (1)	Cinderford
Rosslyn Park	18 (1) - 22 (4)	Richmond
Sedgley Park	32 (5) - 26 (2)	Birmingham Moseley
Taunton Titans	29 (5) - 24 (2)	Plymouth Albion



Mind the Gap. Mutual respect for Rams from the winning Chinnor side in the big Christmas match up

TEAM OF THE WEEK

Chinnor RFC



National League One is turning into a great advert for the game and the last fixtures for 2023 were once again exceptional with some incredible results. It must be **Chinnor** for team of the week as they played the game of the week against the then top of the league **Rams**. What a game, what a result, what a team Chinnor are turning out to be.

In the first game of week 14, Second played first in the big game of the season. First blood was drawn by the visitors, the then top of the table Rams

and ‘that man again’ back row Ben Atkins on 19 minutes with the try being converted by Fraser Honey. However, Chinnor are made of sterner stuff and had an immediate reply with two converted tries coming in the next 15 minutes by scrum-half Charles James Carter on 26 minutes followed by inside centre James Bourton on the last play of the half.

With Chinnor just edging proceedings in the first forty they had the perfect start for the second half when on 45 minutes a third and conclusive converted try was run in by second row Conor Terrah Brockschmidt.

If titles are to be won, it’s the hard yards and the big aggressive defences that will make all the difference and so this was a great demonstration of that ability and attributes required as Chinnor dug deep to maintain a fabulous win and conclude a brilliant 2023. Top of the pile now.

Third placed **Plymouth Albion** travelled up the M5 to second bottom **Taunton Titans** in a must win game for both sides. Despite their position Taunton have proved they are nobody’s fools and are a hard nut to crack. In what was an exceptional display by the home side keeping parity in a high scoring first half where



NATIONAL LEAGUE ONE REVIEW

CATCH-UP WEEK

both sides managed to run in three tries each to make it 19-17 at half time in favour of The Titans. A tight game was broken with a converted try from Sedgley former number eight, Hallam Chapman for Plymouth Albion on 60 minutes to edge Albion ahead.

However, Taunton's gas man and top league try scorer, winger Noah Fenton, had other plans finishing off two terrific moves on 64 and 72 minutes to wrap the game up for the home side. Let the party begin!!

Fourth placed **Sedgley Park** took on sixth placed **Birmingham Moseley** in another tight affair with Birmingham Moseley having the better of the first half with 4 tries to two advantage over the home side. With a 'refocusing of minds' at the interval, Tigers went on to win the game with two unanswered tries from Warren Seals and Tom Ailes.

In the West London derby fifth placed **Rosslyn Park** took on eighth placed **Richmond** with the former Championship side struggling to get any consistency to their season. However, after this game things look completely different for 2024 for 'Mond with an impressive 18-22 win at 'the Rock' to put a dent in their local rival's promotion aspirations. In an opening 'honour even' first half with both clubs getting single tries to keep things tight it was always going to be 'the all' important second half tally that counted. Tries for Richmond by Lucas Schmit on 52 minutes and Richard Cheesman on the last play of the game broke the deadlock and he stole the local bragging rights. This after 'Parks' Jasper Cameron had taken the home

side into the lead on 74 minutes. Close run game.

In the 'Cock of the North' derby, eighth placed **Darlington Mowden Park** took on highly fancied and our near neighbours **Sale FC** who are currently in twelfth place and are struggling to match the efforts of last season when they just missed out on promotion. Darlington Arena is no place to re-start your season as it's more a fortress than an arena. With two converted tries and a penalty for the home side to the guest's single try giving DMP the first half advantage, and they took little time in the second half to build on that advantage. Two more converted tries in the second forty to DMP to Sale FC one converted and one not, trumped the visitor's effort as Darlington ran out worthy winners.

Finally, there was a very well-deserved home victory for bottom placed **Leicester Lions** who took on eleventh placed **Cinderford**. This league is best measured by the efforts of Lions as even though they are bottom of the league no-one has really given them a hiding and in truth have just missed out on some major wins including a near miss at Park Lane where they looked the better side for long periods.

But that is the essence of this league, the margins are so close you go from hero to zero in a blink of the eye. Lions were heroic this week with well-deserved 25-20 win over Cinderford.



NATIONAL LEAGUE ONE REVIEW

CATCH-UP WEEK



Cock of the North. DMP take all the spoils in the big Northern Christmas battle against Sale



GAME OF THE WEEK

Sedgley Park v Blackheath, 14:30



THIS WEEKS GAMES, CATCH UP WEEK:

Sedgely Park	14-30	Blackheath
Birmingham Moseley	15-00	Richmond



NATIONAL LEAGUE ONE REVIEW

CATCH-UP WEEK

NATIONAL LEAGUE 1 ‘HOTSHOTS’

Top Try Scorers

Charles Walker, Rosslyn Park, Wing	17 Tries, 85 Points
Max Hayman, Rams Rugby, Hooker	13 Tries: 65 Points
Alun Walker, Chinnor, Hooker	13 Tries: 65 Points
Sam Daly, Plymouth Albion, No.8	10 Tries: 50 Points
Charlie Wright, Taunton Titans, Back Row	10 Tries: 50 Points
Alexander Post, Richmond, Hooker	10 Tries: 50 Points
Aquile Smith, Birmingham Moseley, Wing	9 Tries: 45 Points
Danny Maher, Sedgley Park, Hooker	8 Tries: 40 Points
Morgan Passman, Chinnor, Centre	8 Tries: 40 Points



Noah Fenton,
Taunton Titans,
Wing
19 Tries: 95 Points

Top Points Scorers

Tighe Maxwell–Whiteley, Birmingham, Fly Half	102 Points
Joe Winfield, Cinderford, Fly Half	99 Points
Daniel Lewis, Leicester Lions, Fly Half	97 Points
Fraser Honey, Rams, Fly Half	92 Points
James Bourton, Chinnor, Fly Half	84 Points
Joshua Ree, Darlington Mowden Park, Fly Half	82 Points
Thomas Putt, Plymouth Albion, Full Back	77 Points
Tom Ffitch, Blackheath, Full Back	65 Points



Warren Seales
Sedgley Park
Fly Half
124 Points



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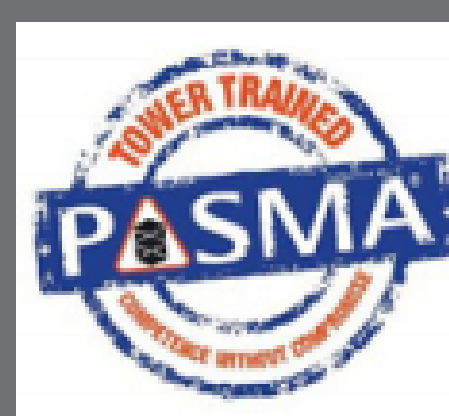


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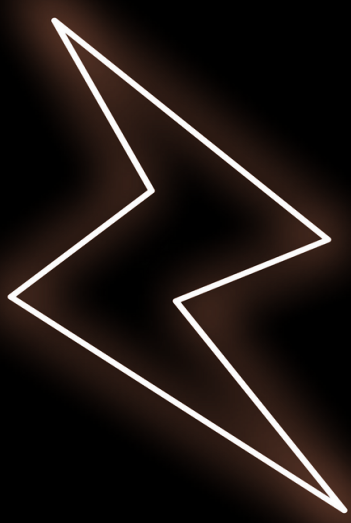
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SEDGLEY PARK LADIES TEAM



Lucy // Acting Captain // Ladies Team

Amidst the rolling hills of Sedgley Park, a team of strong and spirited women are preparing for a remarkable journey. With the upcoming season in the Inner Warrior League on the horizon, the Sedgley Park Ladies Team is extending an open invitation to Women of all ages and abilities to join them. In the heart of this picturesque setting, a unique opportunity awaits. The ladies of Sedgley Park gather to chase their passion on the rugby field. The call to unleash their inner warriors echoes through the air, a rallying cry to those who seek to forge their destiny on the green battleground. With September approaching, The Sedgley Park Ladies Team is poised for a season that promises thrilling battles, unwavering camaraderie, and unforgettable memories. This is not just a team; it's a sisterhood united by a shared love for the sport and an unyielding determination to conquer challenges together



No matter your background—whether you're a seasoned rugby pro or taking your first steps onto the field—there's a place for you here. Every Sunday, training starts at 11am until 12pm, and every Monday at 7pm until 8pm the field at Park Lane comes alive with the energy of dedicated women honing their skills, pushing their limits, and building lasting friendships. The journey ahead is not just about rugby—it's about empowerment, growth, and writing a chapter of life's story that will be cherished forever. Sedgley Park Ladies beckons, inviting you to become part of their narrative, to seize the opportunity, and to embrace the thrill of the game. Will you answer the call? Join the Sedgley Park Ladies Team.





SEDGE MEDIA TEAM

Few words from Vinny Morley



Welcome to Park Lane. Whether you are new to a Tigers game, a returning fan, or a Sale FC supporter, I hope you enjoy the experience at Sedgley Park this afternoon.

For returning fans, especially from last season, you may notice a bit more hustle and bustle in regard to our matchday social media team. This campaign I have been joined by Joe Barnes-Taylor and Tom Markham, two Manchester Metropolitan University graduates with a keen interest in sports broadcasting. Joe and Tom will be the faces of Sedge's match day output over the coming months.

The Sedge Media Team's mission is to increase the profile of rugby in our area as well as promote the Tigers and Sedgley Park RUFC with what we have to offer on and off the pitch on a game day, and more.

Over the past couple of seasons post-match interviews have been with Sedge players and officials. We will now be looking to get both teams points of view and giving the viewer/listener balanced thoughts on what happened during the match.

You will catch Joe's Interviews with Players and Coaches on our Social Media platforms

The team will continue to provide Tigers match updates throughout the season to our local radio station Roch Valley Radio, an affiliation that now enters a third season. With our main local football team Bury FC returning to Gigg Lane and all the publicity that has been generated around that, match updates from Sedge's games to RVR during Shakers matches should reach a larger audience than in the previous two seasons and generate extra interest in rugby.

We will also focus on building our output to engage Tigers fans whether they live around the corner or around the world by looking at ways to innovate using the technology we have available. The team hope to be in a position to provide full audio match commentary from Park Lane within a couple of months with the ultimate target of video streaming a live match by the end of the season.

Social media may not be for all but it's a good cost-effective way of connecting with rugby supporters and encouraging new fans or players, mums and dads, boys and girls, to maybe head along and see what's on offer. The team posts to Facebook, Instagram and Twitter on the main Sedgley Tigers pages and we have our own Sedge Media Team page on TikTok for some background videos @sedgemediateam If you have not already done so, why not give us a follow. Remember a 'like' or a 'share' of one of our posts may be just enough to encourage someone to take up the sport!



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NATIONAL LEAGUE ONE REVIEW

AND SO, IT BEGINS

Well, it has been just over 10 years since I wrote my last National League One Review and although the majority of the clubs we will meet this season are returning old friends or fleeting 'ships in the night' in the case of Chinnor RFC. We met in that incredible National Two North / South Play-off game at their place which we narrowly lost. They were incredible hosts that day and it will be great to have them here at Park Lane this season.

That just leaves just three clubs that we have not met and that is Rams RFC (although we did have a brief pre-season games against them some years ago), Bishops Stortford and Taunton Titans RFC. We look forward, with great anticipation, to meeting them both over the course of the season.

In fact it goes without saying, the whole club are really excited about the new season ahead, not just re-acquainting ourselves with old friends, but as a club seeing how we measure up playing our brand of rugby at the higher level. I just cannot wait.

Normally here we look at the league 'who's in form', and who wins the team of the week, the results and fixtures of the previous week and the fixtures that week with a highlight feature of the game of the week.

That would be difficult to undertake this week, considering not a ball has been thrown or been tactically kicked. So below is a quick look at the opposition ahead this season and to re-acquaint ourselves with some familiar foes.



BLACKHEATH FC

Ground: Well Hall, Kidbrooke Lane, London SE38BU

Colours: Black and Red Hoops

Previous Games: Sincere old friends.

We at Sedge remember well the first encounter with them back in 1998/99 season when we met them in the National Cup. This game put Sedge on the National map and shone a light on our 'rise up' the structures after a great 21-22 victory at 'The Rec'. As hosts they were very warm and welcoming pre-game and incredible in defeat post-game. The memory lives long with all at Sedge, and we had 8 more wonderful fixtures at National Level 1. Last season: National League Two East Champions PLD26: PTS 114: WIN 23: LOSS 3:

Pre-season Games: Bury St Edmunds 36 – 33 Blackheath: Blackheath 31 – 12 Barnes: Canterbury 54 – 21 Blackheath:





NATIONAL LEAGUE ONE REVIEW



BIRMINGHAM MOSELEY RUGBY

Ground: Billesley Common, Yardley Wood Road, Billesley, Birmingham, B130HN

Colours: Black and Red Hoops

Previous Games: We have met Moseley 6 times when they were just that club title, and this was back in the Championship. Always tough even games and no doubt they will be huge tussles again.

Last season: National League 1: 9th:
PLD26: PTS 62: WIN 10: DRAWN 2: LOST 14:

Pre-season Games:

Birmingham Moseley 43 – 7 Luctonians:
Birmingham Moseley 28 – 24 Darlington Mowden Park.

Birmingham Moseley 24–68 Coventry Rugby:



BISHOPS STORTFORD RFC

Ground: Silver Leys, Hadham Road, Bishops Stortford, CM232QE

Colours: Blue and White Hoops

Previous Games: We have never met Bishops Stortford at any level although I have vague memory of a fixture against them. However, this cannot be verified. I blame the G&Ts.

Last season: National League 1: 6th:
PLD26: PTS 77: WIN 13: DRAWN 1: LOST 12:

Pre-season Games:

Worthing Raiders 10 – 52 Bishops Stortford: Old Albanians – Bishops Stortford: Bishop Stortford – Shelford



CHINNOR RFC

Ground: Rectory Pavilion, Kingsey Road, Thame. OX93JL

Colours: Black and White Hoops

Previous Games: Our only game against Chinnor was in the National League Two play-off game in 2018/29 Season. Unfortunately, we lost the game that day. However, they were brilliant hosts pre- and post-match, and we sincerely look forward to the traditional home and away fixture.

Last season: National League 1: 8th:
PLD26: PTS 71: WIN 12: DRAWN:1 LOST 13:

Pre-season Games:

Chinnor 67 – 12 Wimbledon:
Cambridge 19 – 33 Chinnor:





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NATIONAL LEAGUE ONE REVIEW



TAUNTON TITANS RFC

Ground: Veritas Park, Hyde Lane,
Bathpool, Taunton: TA2 8BU
Colours: Black with Red and Blue Trim
Previous Games: This is another club
we have never met as a league fixture.
We are very much looking forward
heading to the south west this autumn.
Last season: National League 1: 11th:
PLD26: PTS 57: WIN 9: LOST 17:
Pre-season Games:
Taunton Titans – Cardiff Met University



DARLINGTON MOWDEN PARK RFC

Ground: The Darlington Arena,
Neasham Road, Darlington. DL21DL
Colours: Blue and White Hoops and
Black Trim
Previous Games: We first met DMP in a
National cup game at Park Lane which
was more like a battle on the day
which DMP won. In League fixtures we
have met them twice in National
League Two North. That season DMP
were promoted but were without
doubt the most outstanding team in
the league. I would go further to say
that they gave one of the best
performances I have seen at Park Lane,
including the likes of Wasps,
Harlequins, Northampton Saints, Bristol,
and Exeter Chiefs games whilst in the

Championship. It was an absolutely
breathtaking fast, hard running, tight
game of rugby. Very much looking
forward to renewing this fixture. If it
was anything like the first at Park Lane.
Get your tickets now for the game.
Last season: National League 1: 9th:
PLD26: PTS 114: WIN 23: LOST 3:
Pre-season Games: Birmingham
Moseley 28 – 24 Darlington Mowden
Park: Darlington



LEICESTER LIONS RFC

Ground: Westleigh Park, Lutterworth
Road, Blaby LE8 4DY
Colours: Purple and White Hoops, Black
Trim
Previous Games: We have met the
Lions in 10 fixtures all in National Two
North with the majority games
favouring Sedge in the outcome. The
timing of the re-structuring at National
Level Two was perfect for Lions as
Leicester Lions were without doubt the
outstanding team last season in
National League Two West. A bit of a
dark horse this season. Watch this
space.
Last season: National League Two
West Champions PLD26: PTS 122: WIN
25: LOSS 1:
Pre-season Games: Coventry 33–21
Leicester Lions: Leicester Lions 45 v 12
Hinkley:



NATIONAL LEAGUE ONE REVIEW



PLYMOUTH ALBION RFC

Ground: Brickfields Recreation Ground, Damerel Close, Plymouth. PL14NE

Colours: White Green and Red Hoops

Previous Games: We first met Albion back in 2001–02 season at level 3. It

was blip for Albion that season to be at that level and they bounced back to

Level 2 as Champions. These first two

encounters were tough indeed. We

then met them on a regular basis for 10

fixtures from 2005 to 2009 at level 2,

The Championship. The encounters

were still tough but we had our

moments. Bizarrely one season in this

period this fixture was our New Years

game. We had to travel. The FDR were

not the brightest organisation at the

time for the promotion of rugby!!!!

Last season: National League 1: 5th:

PLD26: PTS 78: WIN 14: LOST 12:

Pre-season Games: Cornish Pirates

45–5 Plymouth Albion: Plymouth

Albion 7 – 31 Cornish Pirates:



RAMS RFC

Ground: Old Bath Road, Sonning, Reading. RG46TQ

Colours: Dark Blue and Light Blue

Previous Games: We have never met

Rams in any form of league Rugby. We

did however meet them in a pre-

season tournament at Priory Park,

Macclesfield in a 4 x 20-minute match which also included Caldý.

Last season: National League 1: 2nd:

PLD26: PTS 114: WIN 22: LOST 4:

Pre-season Games: Rams 33 – 12

Bracknell: Rams 33 – 19 Aberavon:

Lansdowne 17 – 7 Rams: Cork

Constitution 24 – 12 Rams:



RICHMOND RUGBY

Ground: Richmond Athletic Ground, Twickenham Road, Richmond, London.

TW92FS

Colours: Old Gold, Red and Black

Hoops

Previous Games: We first met

Richmond Rugby at Park Lane on 22nd

September, 2012 and we won that first

encounter 37–17. This was the period of

Sedge's demise or realignment period

from its heady days in the

Championship back to ultimately

National League Two North.

Richmond on the other hand were on

an upward trajectory having had a bit

of demise and re-alignment

themselves, having been demoted to

the bottom of the pyramid by a once

tougher governing body.

You had to pinch yourself on that first

home game of 2012/13 season at Park

Lane. Here was this true bastion of

elite club rugby in England here at little

old Park Lane. Here was a not so long-

ago Premiership juggernaut. For all the

big hitters that had graced Park Lane

during our Championship days none

had the bigger impact on the

professional game than Richmond.



NATIONAL LEAGUE ONE REVIEW

To cap off that first game, we won! it was a very bright highlight in a season which turned out to be a relegation year for Sedge, whereas the 'Old Gold' would go on to get promoted back to the Championship.

I reflect then as I do today on the spirit and tenacity of the Richmond Club. In all the club's history and glory pre-leagues, and its impact as a winner in those formative years of professional rugby era. For me surely the club's finest hour was that march back to the top. Outstanding.

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That's quite a bit of legacy building. Impressive? You bet.

Last season: Championship: Relegated: PLD22: PTS 23: WIN 3: DRAWN 1: LOST 18:

Pre-season Games: Neath RFC 14 – 31
Richmond Rugby: Richmond Rugby 7–50
Jersey Reds



ROSSLYN PARK FC

Ground: The Rock, Roehampton, Upper Tooting, London. SW155JA

Colours: Red and White Hoops, Blue Trim

Previous Games: We have met Rosslyn Park on many occasions in fact 12 fixtures and all at level 3 National One status. The early games, when Sedge were in the ascendancy, favoured Tigers whilst the latter tended to go the opposite way.

I have two very fond memories of the 'The Rock' the home of Rosslyn Park. The first was when Sedgley Park Club stalwart, Alan 'Two Bob' Taylor acted as conductor in chief encouraging the whole main stand at the Rock to sing happy birthday to me on my 50th. Embarrassing but appreciated.

Secondly, our very own Bro! Geoff Roberts experiencing Rosslyn Park gourmet burgers for the first time and buying, himself and me one, handing over a £20.00 note. On receiving no change his face was a picture.!!! My turn for the burgers this this season me thinks.

Last season: National League 1: 5th:
PLD25: PTS 83: WIN 16: LOST 9:

Pre-season Games: Rosslyn Park 69–14
Tonbridge Juddians



SALE FC

Ground: Heywood Road, Sale. M33 3WB

Colours: Blue and White Hoops

Previous Games: Since their welcome re-introduction back to the leagues, we have met Sale FC 6 times. Always a favourite ground to visit. Our Local derby has always lived up to the occasion with some great clashes and close fought games. Heywood Road a proper rugby ground. I can't wait for this game.

Last season: National League 1: 9th:
PLD26: PTS 114: WIN 23: LOST 3:

Pre-season Games: Sale 12–14 Caldý:
Fylde 14 – 10 Sale: Hawick 35 – 19 Sale



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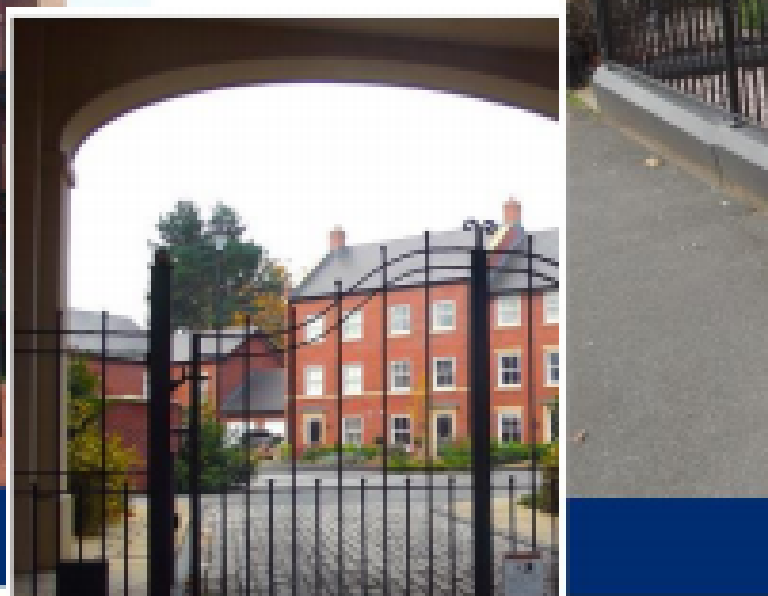
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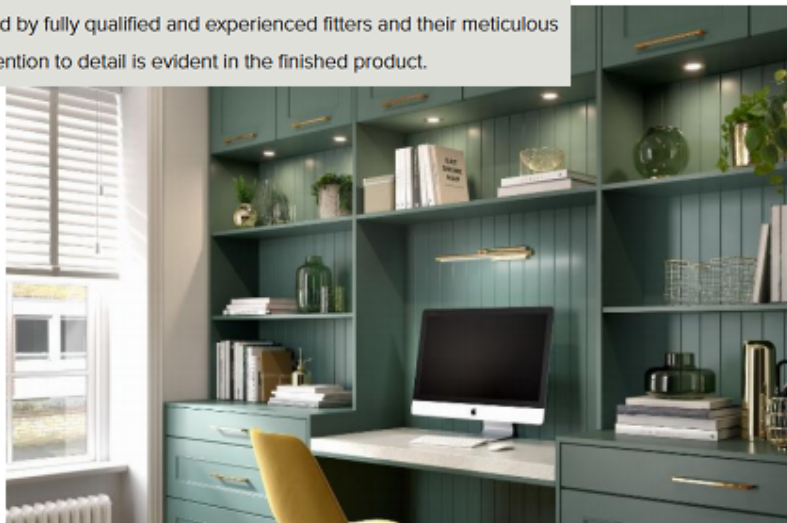
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TRYIT RUGBY



Tryit Rugby is a dynamic rugby business that has forged a successful partnership with Lancashire RFU, with the shared mission of promoting rugby among children and fostering the growth of mini and junior rugby sections. Operating from the premises of Sedgley RUFC, Tryit Rugby has taken on the essential role of aiding in the recruitment efforts for the club's mini and junior rugby section.

One of the cornerstones of Tryit Rugby's approach is its collaboration with the College of Rugby, a strategic partnership aimed at nurturing the development of young coaches. These aspiring coaches undergo specialized training through the College of Rugby, with the ultimate goal of funneling their expertise back into Tryit Rugby's initiatives. This interlinked network ensures a continuous cycle of growth, skill enhancement, and knowledge within the rugby community. Tryit Rugby's multifaceted approach to recruitment encompasses various avenues. The business uses school programs funded by the club or Lancashire RFU, which not only introduces children to rugby but also strengthens ties between local educational institutions and the sport. Moreover, Tryit Rugby's innovative rugby camps and coaching services provide an opportunity for kids to engage with the sport in a fun and instructive environment.

By focusing on both grassroots engagement and coach development, Tryit Rugby is contributing significantly to the expansion of mini and junior rugby sections. Its collaboration with Lancashire RFU and Sedgley RUFC, as well as its partnership with the College of Rugby, showcases the organization's commitment to building a robust rugby ecosystem that benefits young players, coaches, and the sport as a whole. Through its initiatives and dedicated efforts, Tryit Rugby is playing a pivotal role in shaping the future of rugby in Lancashire !





TRYIT RUGBY

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****Community Engagement: Bury Knights Charity****



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****Upcoming Endeavors: Jigsaw Charity Partnership****



A New Chapter Unfolds!

After Christmas, in January, TRYIT Rugby is set to embark on a new venture with Jigsaw Charity. Stay tuned for exciting developments as we extend the joy of rugby to even more participants.

****Save the Date: Mixed Ability Festival****



May 26th, 2024 - TRYIT Sevens Weekend

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