

National **\$** League **Rugby**











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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 old friends from Cinderford, to Park Lane today. After a big win down at 'The Beavis Memorial Ground', let's hope we can be as clinical on the pitch today. We could do with a win. However, off the pitch, we hope you enjoy your day with us.





FIXTURES 2023-2024 NATIONAL 1





TEAM SHEET

SEDGLEY PARK

POS	NAME	SHIRT SPONSORED By	POS	NAME
15	Andy RILEY	Bolton Builders Merchants	15	Mike WILCOX
14	Rhys HENDERSON	HHSmith	14	Will BALDWIN
13	Nathan POPE	HHSmith	13	Tom SAMAK
12	Matt RILEY ©	Literacy Shed	12	Max KNIGHT
11	Will BRADLEY	Tryit Rugby	11	Sam SMITH
10	Warren SEALS	Marc Lawrence	10	Jake SHORTLAND
9	Matt STURGESS	Mindmap Mentality	9	Tom KNIGHT
1	John BLANCHARD	Lees Electrical Services	1	George PORTER
2	Harry THOMPSON	Colin Kirby	2	Nathan TAYLOR
3	Danny RYLANCE	Pickford Precast Concrete	3	Shaun KNIGHT
4	Bob BIRTWELL ©	Kenmac Associates	4	Tyler JERRUM ©
5	Oscar CROWE	HHSmith	5	Callum THOMPSON
6	George BORDILL	Louisa Spiritual Life Coach	6	Jack SHIELDS
7	Lewis BRADLEY	Sterling Solutions	7	Joe MULLINS
8	Tom AILES	McAesthetics	8	Patrick PEARCE
SUBSTITUTES SUBSTITUTES			UBSTITUTES	
16	Austin DOWNHAM	ET Hire	16	Harry EDWARDS
17	Adam MALLINSON	Performance Electrical	17	Alex CHALKLIN
18	Oli LEATHERBARROW	Bim Tech	18	Declan FISSENDEN
19	Oli GLASSE	HHSmith	19	Jamie FORRESTER
20	Mark GOODMAN	Slattery	20	Clive STUART-SMITH

CINDERFORD

POS	NAME	SHIRT SPONSORED By	POS	NAME
15	Andy RILEY	Bolton Builders Merchants	15	Mike WILCOX
14	Rhys HENDERSON	HHSmith	14	Will BALDWIN
13	Nathan POPE	HHSmith	13	Tom SAMAK
12	Matt RILEY ©	Literacy Shed	12	Max KNIGHT
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19	Oli GLASSE	HHSmith	19	Jamie FORRESTER
20	Mark GOODMAN	Slattery	20	Clive STUART-SMITH

Referee: Callum Watson I Assist Ref 1: Richard Arthur I Assist Ref 2: Jason Garrick



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It's been some time since we last saw Cinderford at Park Lane, but it's great to have them back, as they are a truly special club. They bring with them the true spirit of the game. They play the game to the full and win or lose they are magnanimous and honest in equal portions.

Last Call: Lewis 'Bradders' Bradley runs in the last try of the Manchester Derby at Sale last week.

On behalf of the committee and all the playing and support staff, it is a privilege to welcome everyone, especially our very old friends from the Forest of Dean, Cinderford Rugby Club to Park Lane today. Welcome one and all. for what will not only be a top game of Rugby, but also a very important Charity Day on behalf of Bury Hospice 'Sponsor a Nurse'. We first met Cinderford back in 2009, our first season back at National One from our five seasons in the Championship. This fixture was a wake-up call, as Dockham Road is a fortress of a place. Not for the fainthearted that's for sure, as we lost 35-18. We had four seasons playing against Cinderford until we were relegated in 2012/13, but every game was a contest. Those results went the way of the club who held the fixture at home, until season 2012/13 season when both clubs won at each other's home ground.

Today is our 'Ladies Day' and our 3rd Charity Day of the season. This has been an important charity that we have supported for a number of years and in previous seasons. There is a well– attended pre–match lunch for the Ladies and the team will be playing in a specially designed, sponsored, 'pink' kit.

All this is done to raise awareness and funds for a very worthy cause. Last year, the Ladies Day raised nearly £4000. If you have any sense, though, you will keep away from the main function room for fear you will get dragged into the Ladies' festivities. There is more on the Charity Day in the next section. We have played each other nine times all at National League One, level 3. It is currently 5 wins to Sedge 4 wins to Cinderford, but interestingly the aggregated scores of the nine games is to the favour of Cinderford:

Sedgley Park 27–28 Cinderford

Back to today's game, it's been a torrid season for this very proud southwest club as they currently lie



13th in the league just above bottom placed Taunton Titans however with 12 points separating the bottom four places so there is a great deal to play for.

With Titans on 34 Points, Cinderford on 39, Bishops Stortford 41, and Leicester Lions on 45 points this is not over yet. Cinderford, in some respect have the rest of their season in their own hands. Survival or not.

Cinderford's last two games of the season are against rival teams with Taunton Titans at home with the last game of the season against Bishops Stortford away. So, focus will be on those two games but today's game is just as important for them and they will be looking at maximum points from today's game.

Cinderford's form coming into this game is one win in six however that outshines Anyway, that's your lot for Cinderford here. If you want to find out more on today's visitors with regards to The season so far, Playing statistics, Ones to watch, and Previous games against Cinderford and their history, you will find all this and more in the article 'Spotlight on Cinderford' later in this on-line programme. OK so let's talk Sedgley Park.



Sedge's current form of no wins this year and just one drawn game.

Without doubt this is a huge game for both clubs, so in the time-honoured fashion in our games against Cinderford, there will be no quarter asked nor quarter given by either club today. What a mouthwatering prospect for today's game.

On serious note, we sincerely wish Cinderford the best of luck with the rest of the season.

Good Luck Cinders.

Full Steam ahead. A brilliant solo effort try from Will Bradley

On the road with Sedge

It was another nearly, but not quite yet, as once again, Sedge ran Sale close but no cigar for Sedge in the end, I am afraid. As all previous Manchester derbies against Sale FC are, the first half was a very tight affair indeed with both defences, especially Sedge's holding firm.

The first blood came from Sedge just after 3 minutes when Ollie Glasse showed a clean pair of heels to go over



in at the corner for Sedges first unconverted try.

There wasn't much between the two sides as the game headed to the interval. Sale were piling on the pressure and gaining ascendancy in both the scrum and line out. However the large travelling Sedgley contingent were up on their feet as they roared young winger Will Bradley who intercepted a loose Sale pass and ran the whole length of the field to gain a third and this time converted try on 40 minutes to bring the interval score to Sale 7 Sedge 17.

HALF-TIME Sale FC 7 - Sedgley Park 17

The second half started as the first one finished with Sale pressurizing Sedge in the set piece. The pressure ramped up even more when George Bordill was converted tries on 72 and 75 minutes to take the points and the bragging rights this time around.

Sedge did have the last laugh with bonus point try on 80 minutes when back row Lewis Bradley ran in a converted consolation try which was the least Sedge could have expected from the day. On another day!!!

Well, played Sale.

FULL-TIME Sale FC 35 (5) Sedgley Park 24 (1)



yellow carded after 50 minutes. With the set piece under pressure, and it certainly was now.

Sedge fighting on against the odds found the wrath of referee once again when on 57 minutes a second yellow card was given to Tigers winger Rhys Henderson. Sale FC took full advantage of this two man advantage, running in two quick converted tries on 60 and 64 minutes to take the score to 21–17 in Sale FC favour.

Sedge rang the changes but momentum had past to the home side who started to run Sedge ragged and in another 3 minute period as the game ran to the whistle Sale added another two Full Steam ahead. A brilliant solo effort try from Will Bradley



WEEK 22 RESULTS

Blackheath	36 - 12	Birmingham Moseley
Chinnor	80 - 10	Bishop's Stortford
Cinderford	14 - 38	Rams
Darlington MP	30 - 36	Rosslyn Park
Leicester Lions	29 - 21	Taunton Titans
Plymouth Albion	18 - 10	Richmond
Sale FC	35 - 24	Sedgley Park

WEEK 23 FIXTURES

Sedgley Park	14:30	Cinderford
Birmingham Moseley	15:00	Plymouth Albion
Bishop's Stortford	15:00	Leicester Lions
Rams	15:00	Blackheath
Richmond	15:00	Chinnor
Rosslyn Park	15:00	Sale FC
Taunton Titans	15:00	Darlington MP

It is looking academic at the top of the league, as Chinnor power ahead on top of the league on 92 points. OK so it's only 5 points to Rams in second place, but it looks like Chinnor have their game heads on and momentum looks like it is with them. Two excellent teams Chinnor and Rams

Ten points separate third paced Rosslyn Park who are on 70 to 7th placed Richmond who are on 60 points. Birmingham Moseley, Plymouth Albion and Darlington Mowden Park make up the rest of that league sandwich so lots of chances for that group to make up ground to finish the season on a high.

Games of the week

Sedgley Park 14:30 Cinderford

Bishop's Stortford 15:00 Leicester Lions

Two for the price of one this week!! Wow! Lots of pressure on the bottom clubs. Spin that wheel.

At the bottom you have Taunton Titans bottom on 33 points then today's visitors Cinderford on 38 points, followed by Bishops Stortford on 41 and Leicester Lions making up the bottom four on 45 points. Lions have the current advantage, but I think Cinderford have the whip hand in the fixtures left, especially if they get a victory in their next game.

Gulp!!!!

.... and finally

So finally, and 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

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CHARITY DAY BURY HOSPICE



Today's home game is our 3rd Charity Day of the Season, in aid of Bury Hospice 'Sponsor a Nurse'.

Bury Hospice is well known for providing care to patients with life– limiting illnesses and supporting their families.

Their specialist team of nurses can help as soon as a life-limiting illness is diagnosed, supporting patients and their families at every step of their palliative and end-of-life journey at the Hospice and in the community.

Whether it is using their expert

Bury Hospice nurses are here for you.

Our nurses are truly committed to ensuring everyone is treated with dignity, respect and compassion. They take a holistic approach to a patient's illness and also the wellbeing of their family.

The team of nurses take time identifying what a patient wants and needs and work with them and their family to do whatever they can to make it happen.

As well as the medical side, they offer emotional and psychological support which helps people through their difficult times.

Our nurses work flexibly with resilience, motivation and passion to provide care and support to our patients and families.

knowledge of pain management and symptom control or supporting their family members, their nurses are there to provide care, hope and support.

It is their mission to ensure that they are able to develop their services to continue meeting the needs of people with life-limiting illnesses and make sure excellent patient care is at the heart of everything they do.



Bury Hospice is constantly evolving to meet demands and deliver our vision to ensure that it is sustainable and here to help patients and their loved ones for many years to come. Our ultimate goal is to support more people across Bury.



Bury Hospice



CHARITY DAY



Below are a list of all the people and companies who have sponsored a shirt today, to help us raise funds for this worthy charity. We thank you all.

BIM TECH is a virtual 3–D modelling company that specialises in producing drawings for the construction and infrastructure sectors. www.bimtech-eng.com

BOLTON BUILDER'S MERCHANTS are the home of fast, reliable, knowledgeable and the highest quality building materials. www.boltonbuildersmerchants.co.uk

COLIN KIRBY Supports Bury Hospice and Sedgley Park. Thanks Colin.

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LITERACY SHED aim to provide teachers with high quality films and animations that can be used in the primary classroom. www.literacyshed.com

LOUISA SPIRITUAL LIFE COACH Supports Bury Hospice and Sedgley Park. Thanks Louisa.

MARK LAWRENCE Supports Bury Hospice and Sedgley Park. Thanks Mark.

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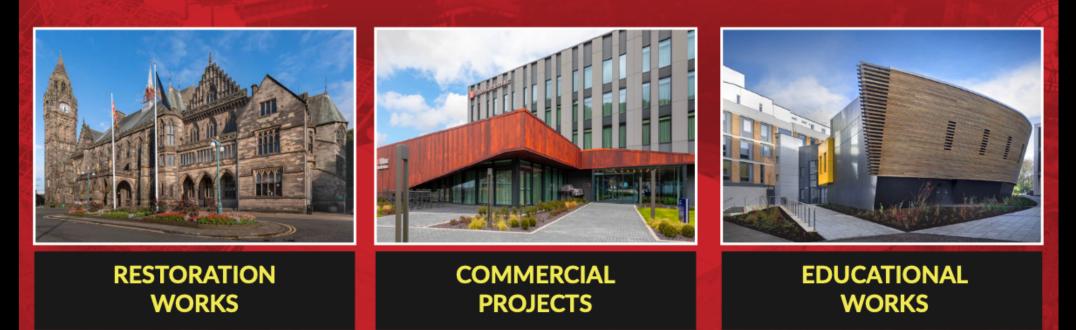


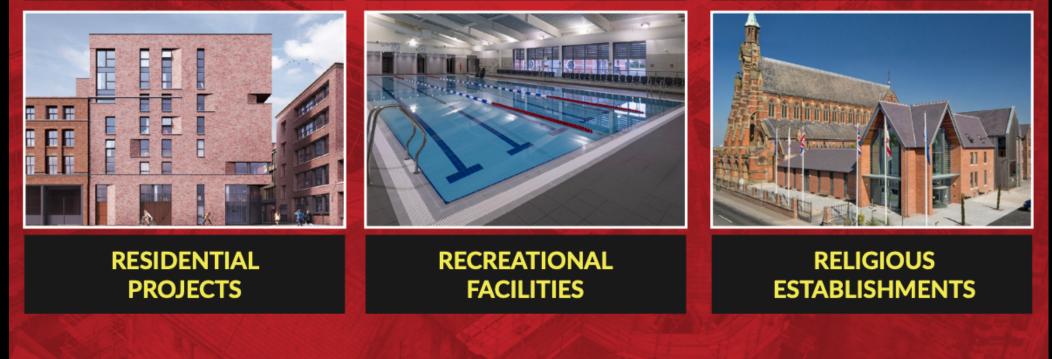
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SPOTLIGHT ON CINDERFORD



Laying down a marker. Cinderford closing out a great win recently against Richmond

The story so far

It has been a torrid season for this very proud southwest club, as they currently lie 13th in the league just above bottom placed Taunton Titans. However, with 12 points separating the bottom four places there is a great deal to play for.

With Titans on 34 Points, Cinderford on 39, Bishops Stortford 41, and Leicester Lions on 45 points this is not over yet. Cinderford, in some respects, have the rest of their season in their own hands, survival or not.



them and they will be looking at maximum points from today's game.

Cinderford's form coming into this game is one win in six however that outshines Sedges current form of no wins this year and just one drawn game.

This is a huge game for both clubs and there will be no quarter asked nor no quarter given by either club today. What a mouthwatering prospect for today's game.



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Breaking the line. Cinderford on the rampage against Plymouth Albion recently.

LAST SIX RESULTS

Cinderford	14 - 38
Birmingham Moseley	26 - 14
Cinderford	40 - 34
Plymouth Albion	24 - 3
Cinderford	18 - 30
Sale FC	21 - 15

Rams	(
Cinderford	(
Richmond	(
Cinderford	(
Blackheath	(
Cinderford	(

(LOST) (LOST) (LOST) (LOST) (LOST)



SPOTLIGHT ON CINDERFORD



Top Try Scorers

Nathan Taylor, Hooker: Joe Mullis, Back Row: Tom Knight, Scrum Half:

Top Points Scorer

Joe Winfield, Fly Half:

9 Tries: 45 Points7 Tries: 35 Points7 Tries: 35 Points

151 Points



Joe Winfield



Nathan Taylor



We first met Cinderford back in





Joe Mullis

Tom Knight

Aggregated Scores Sedgley Park 27 Cinderford 28

So, with nine games played and five wins for our Sedge and 4 for our visitors, with only plenty of tries I these fixtures this sets us up well for today's game. WOW if those statistics don't suggest a classic game this weekend I don't know what would do.

2009 our first season back at National One from our five seasons in the Championship. This fixture was a wake all call as Dockham Road is a fortress of a place. Not for the faint hearted that's for sure as we lost 35–18. Results went the way of the club who held the fixture until season 2012/13 season when we both won at each other's the home ground.

Our final game against Cinderford was earlier this season in the away fixture and once again it was a classic matchup with the spoils going to Sedge on the day 19–43.

PREVIOUS RESULTS AGAINST CINDERFORD RFC

National League 1, Level 3

2009-10	Cinderford	35-18 Sedgley Park	(LOST)
	Sedgley Park	39-34 Cinderford	(WON)
2010-11	Cinderford	36-11 Sedgley Park	(LOST)
	Sedgley Park	25-18 Cinderford	(WON)
2011-12	Sedgley Park	29-17 Cinderford	(WON)
	Cinderford	32-12 Sedgley Park	(LOST)
2012-13	Sedgley Park	29-39 Cinderford	(LOST)
	Cinderford	23-31 Sedgley Park	(WON)
2023-24	Cinderford	19-43 Sedgley Park	(WON)



SPOTLIGHT ON CINDERFORD

Cinderford History

Cinderford RFC was formed in 1886 in the Forest of Dean a mining area in West Gloucestershire situated between the Rivers Severn and Wye. The area, a source of iron ore and coal since pre-Roman times, also provided timber for Nelson's navy and was seen as remote and the inhabitants as wild and unpredictable.

By the turn of the twentieth century Cinderford were playing leading teams from England and South Wales but after the Great War the club's fortunes, and the local coal mining industry declined, and many good players 'went North' to seek employment in the coalfields and rugby in the 'Northern Union'. Nevertheless, A D 'Bumps' Carpenter gained an England Cap against South Africa in 1931.

The club's re-emergence after WW2 owes much to the efforts of the late Bob and Mary Beavis. 'Cinderford White Rose' a club mainly of miners, had kept rugby going over the war years. When they decided to re-form as Cinderford RFC Mary became Hon. Sec. and remained so for the next fifty years. The club started league life at level 6 and by 2001 was at level 4. Relegated after just one season Cinderford were back by 2004 and made it to Level 3 in 2007–08 after a nail-biting North/South play–off with Darlington Mowden Park.

After eight seasons in National One they were relegated at the end of 2015–16. During that time budding internationalists Freddie Burns, Sam Underhill, Harry Williams and Josh Adams all gained valuable experience as dual-registered players.

At the end of season 2017–18 Cinderford, captained by George Porter, regained National One status by becoming National 2 S) Champions with 143 league points from 29 wins and 1 defeat. At the end of 2021/22 season Cinderford, captained by Harry Hone, achieved fifth place in National League One its best place since

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History of the club was supplied by Cinderford RFC Website.

Four games and three wins for our visitors but all four games but with only the narrowest of margins between the fixtures this sets us up well for today's game.That's it for putting our visitors today under the spotlight. So, let's get onto the game which looking at the form of both sides should be a nail biter. I can't wait.

All the best



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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, Cinderford, who are making their first visit to Park Lane for 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 1st Charity Day for SicKids, a charity very close to the heart of our Doctor, Jimmy Stewart. SicKids are a children's health charity currently working in North West England and Cambodia. The 1st XV wore special sponsored shirts today and all these shirts.We raised in excess of £1500. A great effort by all those involved.

All the Players shirts were sponsored and we raised £1300 for this worthwhile charity. The Charity also ran a stand promoting themselves and held a collection around the ground.

Today we are holding our 3rd, and final, Charity Day. This is our Ladies Day and this Charity is Bury Hospice 'Sponsor a Nurse'. Most of the shirts have now been sponsored, but if you wish to sponsor one, see below.



We held our 2nd Charity Day, at the home game against Rosslyn Park on 27th January, in aid of Andy's Man Club, a Men's Mental Health Charity. AMC are a men's suicide prevention charity, offering free-to-attend peer-to-peer support groups across the United Kingdom and online. We want to end the stigma surrounding men's mental health and help men through the power of conversation.

BURY HOSPICE SPONSER A NURSE

cialist team of nurses can help as soon as a e and in th: ol or supporting their fami s to continue meeting the needs of pe ting illnesses and make sure excellent patie is at the heart of everything we do

Looking forward

It has been a reasonable season for the First Team, with 9 wins out of 20 leaving us in 10th place in the league. It has been tough in 2024, with us yet to win a game.

Our opponents today are 3 places and 14 points below us.



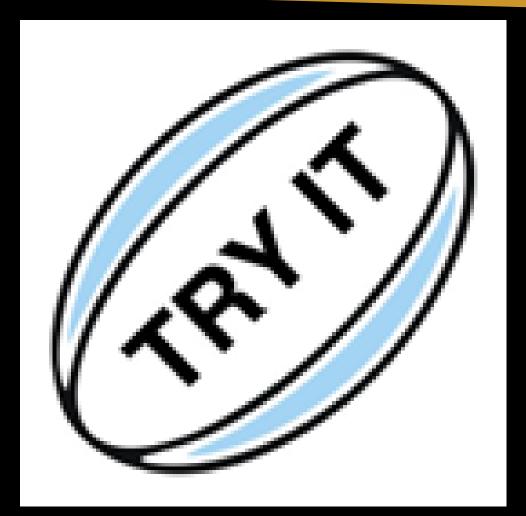
THE CHAIRMAN

It has also been a good Season for the 2s. The 2nd XV sit 2nd in the Nowirul Premiership, having won 13, drawn 1 and lost 2 of their 16 games, playing the exciting brand of rugby we have come to expect from the 1st XV.

We are 15 points behind leaders Caldy, with a game in hand and Caldy have yet to come to Park Lane. The 2s are at home to 9th placed Blackburn today.

It has been a little harder for the 3rd XV, with 5 wins and a draw out of 15 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.



the Senior Teams. Unfortunately, we have had no Junior Colts this year, but we are recruiting well and should have a Senior and Junior Colts next year.

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.

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 have increased our Youth Players by more than 70 this season, with nearly 300 kids playing rugby.

We do have a very strong Senior Colts this year and we are looking forward to them moving into open age to bolster





THE CHAIRMAN

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.

The events that have been organised for the next few months are as follows:

23rd March	Ladies Day
3rd May	Players Dinner
4th May	Loaded Festival
	(External Event)
14th June	Golf Day
15th June	Whitefield Festival
16th June	Youth Presentation
July	Gym Tournament

Club Developments

We are currently having significant discussions at Board Level, regarding future major developments at the Club.

These are at an early stage, but we hope to get the detail sorted out, funding in place and Board Approval to present these developments to the AGM in May.

You may hear rumours flying around, but don't believe everything you hear, until we report back to you at the AGM.

If there is any news prior to then, we will inform members through the website, Social Media, emails and the programme.



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DAVE'S DIARY



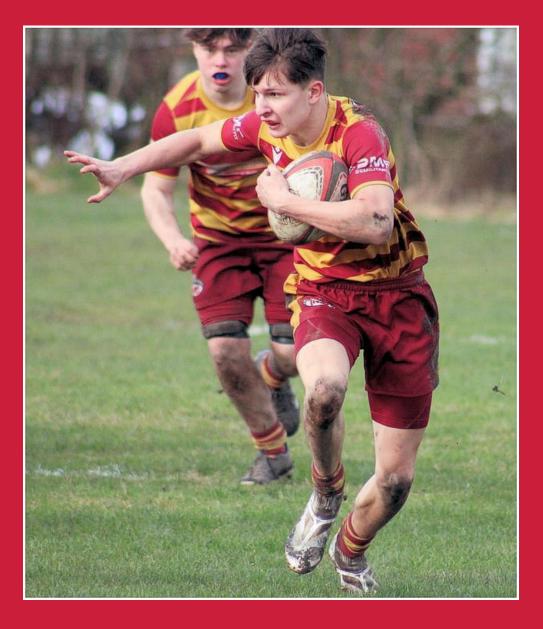
Regarding silverware, I suspect our Senior Colts have hit upon a cunning plan. What you do, is to lose the first game of a knock-out competition, which gets you into the subsidiary Plate or Bowl or whatever. Then you win that.

So far, it is working a treat. In the Frank Morgan Lancashire Cup we lost 15–22 to Wigan (the team we had beaten to win the Junior Colts final the year before). This gave us entry to the Joe McDonough Trophy, in which we were perhaps fortunate to beat Waterloo 24–22 in a cracking game at Park Lane. The quarter final draw saw us paired with Orrell who, sadly, failed to show up, and last Sunday we reached the final by beating Southport 43–21. In the League Cup, it has been a similar story. Sedgley finished the regular season in third place in a very strong Pool A, but in the Cup we lost badly, O– 24 at home to Penrith, who had finished fifth. I do not know if there were special circumstances, I did not see the game.

Having thus 'qualified' for the Senior Bowl competition, this Sunday, March 24th, we travel to Winnington Park in the quarterfinal of that. We did actually beat them twice in the regular season, but tough games, both. I saw the one at Park Lane, which we won 27–19. Beware their big, mature and fast backs, would be my advice. They can hurt you.

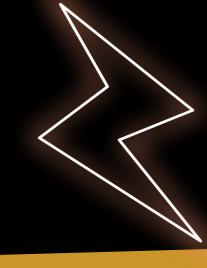
The strength of local Colts rugby, our own very decent team, and nearly all those opponents that I have seen, has been one of the highlights of 2023/24.

I was sorry to miss this game, but I will do my damnedest to be at the final against Heaton Moor on April 21st. Colette Stevens tells me it is at Wigan, kick off 2 pm, and thanks for the pictures also, Colette.





DAVE'S DIARY





If the winter months have passed reasonably quickly, which they have for me, much of it has been down to televised sport; cricket from all over the world, day and night (which has totally screwed my internal clock) and rugby's Six Nations. joyless rugby from our National XV, and under two different coaches. It seemed impossible that they could turn it round, as Borthwick continued down the path of conservatism.

But they did, and he did, and well done, everyone. The older I get, the more I think sport should be an exaltation of youth and fitness and fun. It doesn't just mean fancy–Dan running. Bashing people is fun, too, and there's huge pleasure to be had in a fight against the odds and bodies–on–the–line defence. George Hinds used to call it waistcoat tearing, and little Sedgley Park were bloody good at it.

In these notes, I have recently evoked memories of Dai Watkins and Barry John, to which list may be added Lewis Jones, who died aged 91. Who are the players some of you lot (not me!) will be remembering in fifty years' time? Will there be any Welshmen in your roll of honour?

The Six Nations U2O has been especially good. It is always good to win, of course, and to win against high quality opponents is best. Those final two games, the draw against Ireland at Bath, and the amazing defeat of France at Pau, were as good as it gets. Great coverage on BBC, by the way.

As for the senior England team, I must admit I was in despair. For two years or more, we have seen boring, timid, For those in the RFU who think England's future lies down the franchise route...look at Wales.

Anyway, enjoy the game today.

Dave

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Two weeks ago, we were at home to Darlington Mowden Park, looking for our first win in 2024. They are a big well organised team who have played at National one level for many years and were lying just above us in the league. They had beaten us at their home ground earlier in the season but we were confident that we could produce a performance that could take the points.

As it turned out it was a wonderful game of rugby for the neutral spectator with nine tries being scored but unfortunately frustration right at the end for the Tigers.

We started really strongly playing with momentum and continuity and a sharp line break from No 8 Tom Ailes saw him sprint 35 metres to score our first try. Warren Seales hit the upright with the conversion but we were 5-0 up after 3 minutes.

However, DMP hit back almost immediately, with a well worked, converted try in the bottom left-hand corner, after powerful driving play by their forwards to take the lead 5-7. We had a chance to retake the lead with a penalty after ten minutes but were unable to convert, playing into a strong win,d but a well worked catch and drive line out, five metres out from the visitors line, saw hooker Lewis Bradley score our second. Warren added the conversion.



intercepted a pass to sprint 60 meters and touch down under the posts. He converted his own try to give us a commanding 19–7 lead going into the last fifteen minutes of the half.

Darlington to their credit came back strongly, with their second converted try after a powerful drive by their forwards 3 minutes later. They then added a penalty to reduce the lead to 19–17 with ten minutes of the half to go. Then, totally against the run of play, a break out a line break by their scrum half saw him kick ahead which was collected by back row Adam Scott to touch down in the left hand corner.

We now 12-7 up and playing good controlled rugby in the right areas of the pitch. We went further ahead twelve minutes later when fly half Warren Once again their fly half Louie Johnson added the conversion and we went into the break 19-24 down which was disappointing after the way we had dominated the half.

Half-time Sedgley Park 19 Darlington Mowden Park 24



We came out positively in the second half playing down the slope with the wind at our backs and a wonderful passage of play between forwards and backs ended with full back Andy Riley scoring a brilliant try in the bottom right hand corner to level the scores 24–24. This was our fourth score and gave us a try bonus point.

The game was fairly even, at this point, with both teams looking to create chances and break down each others defence. A lovely line break by the visitors fly half on the 54th minute saw them score their fourth bonus point try. He also added the conversion and they were now back in the lead 24–31.

We rang the changes, hoping for fresh energy from the bench and we continued to pressure the visitors both in attack and defence. A powerful drive from replacement prop Ozzie Downham gave us our fifth try, converted by Warren to level the scores 31–31 with eight minutes to go. We had the chance to go further ahead with a penalty in the 77th minute but were unable to convert. Then with the last play of the game they were awarded a penalty wide out on the touchline 35 metres out. Their fly half Louie Johnson who had not missed a kick all afternoon stepped up and put the ball between the posts to take the win 31–34.

This was a bitter pill to swallow for the Tigers as we had produced a winning performance out scoring the visitors with five tries to four but leaving another ten points on the park, through missed kicks

Full-time Sedgley Park 19 Darlington Mowden Park 24

Last Saturday, we were away to local



rivals Sale FC in a much anticipated local derby. We had beaten them 26–11 at home back in November and were looking to build on recent improved performances and to record our first win in 2024. A big crowd on the day, with good support for both sides, and another nine try thriller in a physical, hard fought game.

Sale were on the back of a good run winning six of their last seven games and were lying just below us in the table, so we knew that this was going to be a big challenge.





We started strongly keeping possession well and a lovely line break by centre Nathan Pope saw the ball moved through two pairs of hands for centre Oli Glasse go over in the bottom right hand corner. 5–0 up after three minutes. Play was pretty even with both sides looking to play open rugby and test each others defences.

Sale scored next. A mishandle in midfield by the Tigers saw the Sale winger intercept and race sixty metres and touch down to give them the lead 5–7 after twenty minutes. However, we hit back almost immediately after hooker Harry Thompson chased down a kick from scrum half Jacob Tansey, to touch down on the right and re-take the lead 10–7 going into the last fifteen minutes of the half. we went into the break 17-7 up and a very solid first half performance.

Half-time Sale FC 7 Sedgley Park 17

The second half proved costly for the Tigers as we seemed to give away vital territory and possession by giving away penalty after penalty which meant that Sale were camped on our try line for long periods. However, our defence sets were incredible and we kept out drive after drive from the home side and it was not until the fifty seventh minute that they were able to get their second converted try with a line out catch and drive to reduce our lead to 17–14.



Sale, to their credit, kept up the pressure playing with momentum and continuity and strong driving play from their forwards, but a turn over deep in our twenty two saw the ball moved quickly to young winger Will Bradley who raced seventy metres and scored our third try. Warren Seales added the conversion and



It was at this point that we received one yellow card followed by a second six minutes later that reduced us to thirteen players and was to have a significant affect on the result.

A line out on our five metre line was over thrown and their prop collected and touched down to give them the lead 21–17 going into the last twenty minutes.

Then against the run of play a second interception from the home team saw their centre race sixty metres to extend their lead to 28–17 and a try bonus point.



We looked to hit back every time we got the ball but were frustrated as the referee gave them a number of penalties which denied us possession and territory. They scored their fifth try after a nice chip through was collected by their winger to give them a commanding 35–17 lead with five minutes to go.

We did manage to get a fourth try right on the final whistle which gave us a bonus point but the day belonged to the home team and yet another disappointment for the Tigers. Despite the frustration we remain positive and look back on the performance with things to build on.

Full-time Sale FC 35 Sedgley Park 24

This Saturday we are at home to Forest of Dean side Cinderford, a side who we beat in the first half of the season. Please come down and support your Tigers team and give them the boost to get that all important win.

Cheers

Hazz





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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. 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!

Over the past couple of seasons postmatch 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









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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 preseason 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



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:

- 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.

LOSS 3:

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







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: 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:

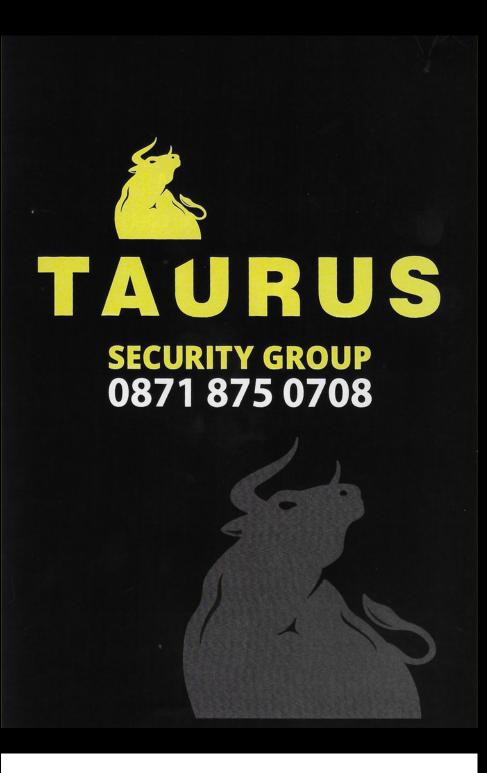


BISHOPS STORTFORD RFC

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.













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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 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:

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 Exter Chief's games whilst in the





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:

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



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 preseason tournament at Priory Park,



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 preleagues, 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

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



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. 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 Caldy: Fylde 14 – 10 Sale: Hawick 35 – 19 Sale



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Tailored sustainability

Sustainable solutions in packaging has its challenges. Our tailored approach is why our clients come to us, and ultimately, remain with us.

At Duo, we're fully committed to solving complex sustainable objectives for our clients. We're dedicated to growing a sustainable business that delivers for our customers, as well as creating a positive impact on our people, our community, our partners and our planet. If you want better and kinder packaging, your sustainable journey starts here.

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Sam Cooper's Rightstyle Ltd

Proud to be associated with Sedgley Park Rugby Club

Sam Cooper's Rightstyle is a family run business who have been designing and installing high quality, bespoke fitted furniture for over 25 years. Their extensive knowledge, professionalism and excellent customer care has ensured they are one of the leading designers of fitted furniture in the North West

Tiddlywinks Day Nursery

Proud to be associated with Sedgley Park Rugby Club







When established in 1994, fitted furniture was almost exclusively reserved for bedrooms, however, fitted media rooms and home offices are now just as popular.

No two rooms are the same when it comes to design, colour and door styles and with all the furniture being made to measure, Sam is able to offer original and practical suggestions as to the best use of space regardless of the size and shape of the room. He can advise how to incorporate existing features and provide solutions to maximise storage with bespoke internal configurations.

All furniture is fitted by fully qualified and experienced fitters and their meticulous attention to detail is evident in the finished product.



Sam Cooper's Rightstyle Limited Tel: 07807-888941 email: retail@samcoopersrightstyle.net

Nursery Group

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER - 0161 764 1265



Tiddlywinks Day Nursery Tel: 0161 764 1265 email: info@tiddlywinksnursery.com



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

Mixed ability rugby programme

Sedgley Park RUFC Mixed Ability Rugby Program

Presented by TRYIT Rugby

Coaching Beyond Boundaries: Empowering Every Player

Join Sedgley Park RUFC in embracing the spirit of inclusivity with TRYIT Rugby's Mixed Ability Rugby Program. We are proud to share our journey of fostering rugby skills and camaraderie among individuals of all abilities.

Community Engagement: Bury Knights Charity

☆ *Above 18 and Ready to Play!*

TRYIT Rugby has collaborated with Bury Knights, a community charity, delivering impactful coaching sessions to individuals with disabilities. Discover the transformative power of rugby in promoting teamwork, confidence, and athletic prowess.

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

Mark your calendars for an extraordinary event! Sedgley Park RUFC, along with numerous

clubs and teams, will converge for the Mixed Ability Festival. An exhilarating celebration of rugby, unity, and sportsmanship awaits.

Connect, Play, Thrive!

Experience the magic of mixed-ability rugby. Connect with TRYIT Rugby, be part of our growing family, and play a pivotal role in shaping the future of inclusive sports.

Stay Connected

Follow us on social media for updates, behind-the-scenes moments, and stories of triumph:

Instagram: Tryit_rugby
 Twitter: @TRYITRugby
 Facebook: Tryit rugby

Let's make rugby a game for everyone!



TRYIT RUGBY Mixed Ability Launch



MIXED ABILITY LAUNCH

"EMBRACING INCLUSIVITY: EMPOWERING EVERY ABILITY" GROWING RUGBY TOGETHER IN LANCASHIRE



For more information please contact TRYIT on 07913206205



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Logistica Facilities Management Ltd

Proud to be associated with Sedgley Park Rugby Club



Professional Building Fabric Maintenance and Facility Management



We at Logistica Facilities Management are a highly professional partner that you can depend on when it comes to commercial property maintenance. Here at Logistica, you can count on our knowledge and experience to provide a personal service for you and your organisation. We aim to provide a high-value service driven by our commitment to cooperating with our clients and meeting all their requirements.

Our aim is to forge long term relationships with our clients by prioritising two important apects :our customers' objectives and providing real time updates and reports, often including photographs.



Logistica Facilities Management Limited Tel: 08448 019933 email: info@logisticafm.co.uk



VELVET

Velvet Ladieswear & Menswear

Proud to be associated with Sedgley Park Rugby Club

Velvet offer the best customer service and shopping experience for their loyal and new customers. With Velvet offering something for everyone, and both shops offering their own charm, get comfortable, take a seat on the velvet armchair and enjoy a cuppa from fine bone china and shop to your hearts content – you will not be disappointed.

Talking Rugby Union

Proud to be associated with Sedgley Park Rugby Club

TALKING **RUGBY** UNION

News, Discussions and Live Scores on all things Rugby Union

TRU Features, Exclusives + News



England's Tom Curry suspended for two matche



Rugby World Cup Highlights:

Rugby World Cup Highlights: Pool D: Japan v Chile





Rugby World Cup Highlights: Pool C - Australia v Georgia Rugby World Cup Highlights: Pool A - Italy v Namibia

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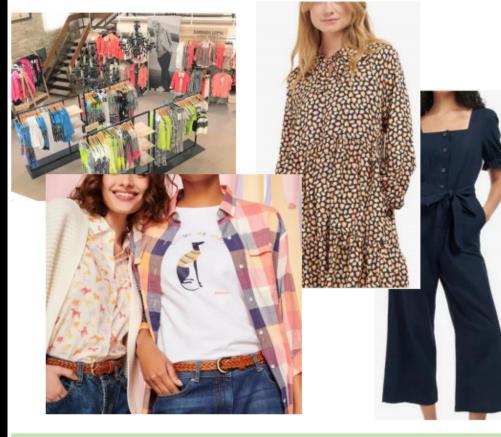
Civil Engineering

Talking Rugby Union Tel: 01704-821144 email: info@talkingrugbyunion.co.uk

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Civil Engineering Organisation



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