

## Guys vs Askeans

24/01/04

venue: HOP

score: 35-19

A beautiful winters day at HOP was witness to some fine rugby, drinking and off pitch shenanigans by some locals who had come to watch the game. The day started with a V.P. lunch with roughly 50 people in attendance, the descriptions of the food varied but all seemed to enjoy themselves thoroughly and it was a great chance for old and new to meet.

However the highlight of the day was not due till 2.15pm. Guys started with there usual skill and prowess by conceding a soft try in the opening exchanges, after the opposition kicked off, the ball was turned over and a Askean player just seemed to ghost through the entire pack and back division for a soft try. Much has changed this season though under the excellent leadership of David Berry and where as some Guys sides of old would have let their heads drop, this was the incentive that the vintage of 2003-2004 needed. What followed was some of the finest, most passionate and aggressive rugby I have seen by a Guys side for quite a while.

Forwards and backs mixed effortlessly and ran fantastic lines. Sam Rigg was instrumental in keeping the momentum going and his efforts were rewarded after the game by the ref. putting him up for man of the match and being scouted by Blackheath. The first try was made by a great break from David Berry who seemed to be everywhere on the park at all times. He drew the man on the outside then made an inside pass to Matt Wiggans to muscle his way over the line. The next try came from quick ruck ball and this was to become the theme for the rest of the afternoon. The ref. did not allow a particularly flowing game as he missed the constant offside infringements of the Askean players. However Guys soon adapted to this by constantly battering the fringes of the rucks and mauls with the back row, before unleashing the backs. Again though clever play was done, with the constant use of Roy Turner and Rob Hone in the centres to make holes for the rest of the team. The other tries came from great forward work again and good hands outside. To the relief of stato on the touch line though after his incessant shouting, the forwards used a pod ball from 20yards out and managed to drive the ball over the line for a Billy Chalacombe try much to the consternation of Christian, who believed he had done all the hard work. Roy Turner was unlucky to not get 2 tries, having chased a kick through he just failed to touch the ball down under pressure from the opposition. Although he made his best effort Ben Cohen style to persuade the ref. otherwise. Other tries were scored by Dave Berry, Roy Turner and Andy Vaughton. Askeans did score tries of their own as well and they must be commended for their commitment throughout the game, they were battling till the end. There was the inevitable push over try and the other tries were conceded due to soft tackling. It was though, a pleasure to witness a Guys side actually intimidate the opposition and get in their faces, having seen so many matches lost just by being out muscled by older, fatter sides. And this spirit seemed to spread to off the pitch where some locals also enjoyed intimidating the opposition, having shared in a few glasses of ale.

Guys deservedly ran out winners and were dominant in the forwards and the backs. If any other opposition had been watching they would have been greatly

worried by this Guys performance and the rejuvenated passion brought about by Dave Berry.

**Stato's prematch prediction:**

Should be an easy win, however Guys will make it hard for themselves before running out easy winners at the end.

**Stato's bend:**

It was straight, which either means a draw, or it was too nervous to make a decision on its first match in charge. (0/1).

**Ref.'s man of the match:**

Between Sam Rigg and David Berry, but as Sam came off 20mins before the end it was awarded to Dave Berry.

**Stato's man of the match:**

Rob Hone, was fantastic in attack and defence.

**Moment of the match:**

Askean players running up to stop Pete Gretton's penalty kick in front of the posts and no Guy's players moving.

name	tackles made	tackles missed	ball carries	ball drops	bosh	boshed	kicks	kicks Of woe	tries	penalties against	overall rating
Wheels	2	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Joe	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Johny	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Billy Ch.	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5
Jamie J	1	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Relly	11	-	6	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	19
Pete D.	1	1	8	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	9
Christian	3	1	9	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	13
Riggles	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	1
Pete	2	1	1	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	4
Mat W.	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	5
Rob H.	5	1	8	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	19
Roy	2	-	7	2	2	-	-	-	1	-	14
Tom K.	1	-	1	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	1
Vaughton	-	1	5	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	7
subs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gavin	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Brad	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Tom J.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
score	1	-1	1	-1	2	-2	1	-1	3	-2	