

CIVIL SERVICE 31 - 24 GUY'S

This was the sixth match of the season for Guys Vets against Civil Service away. Both Ireland and England beat their opposition but Guys were just piped in a much more exciting and even match than our illustrious seniors!

Guys had to shuffle their front row as T Gibson was doing duty back at St Thomas'. It was good to welcome wives/partners to the touch line (some on kid minding duty for Ronan's Joshua - we need more of this kind of symbiosis). Guys got off to a good start with an excellent surging try by C Beardmore aided by J Kaminski and M Kinirons. However, CS was strong in the forwards and ran in two tries in quick reply because of some less than ideal tackling. By half time we were down by yet another try. Thankfully we had a tee for Ronan! The second half saw Guys make some excellent tactical substitutions (a new phenomena at vets level) with A Norris coming on and making splendid runs (in spite of busy night before). Al Jones began to take the game to CS with a swerve here and a shimmy there to create space for the back to flow up field. This enabled 3 further tries by P Bell, R Perry and a second by C Beardmore. R Perry converted and we could smell a victory. CS were not giving in and broke back down with good forward play leading to a final try. Not even Joshua, Thomas or William screaming 'Go Guys' could squeeze a narrow victory from narrow defeat but they tried. A final flurry saw the ball breakdown in midfield from a knock on – momentum lost, the final whistle blew.

A morning's work done, many went off the other match; those remaining thought back at 'one that just got away'. We bid a winter's farewell to the Kaminski brothers and our best wishes to Pete Bell who left for the local maternity hospital for some outstanding matters needing his presence!

Team: C Howell, T Gibson, A Bolas, N Conaghan, D Guest, J Kaminski, C Beardmore, G Barwell, P Bell, A Jones, R Brett, S Reading, M Kinirons, C Rickett, R Brown Subs R Perry, A Norris

Mark Kinirons