

**Guy's Freshers XV vs Guy's Penguins at St Thomas's Hospital Sports  
Ground, Cobham, Saturday 28th September 2002.**

After some promising performances at the Fresher's trials the previous Wednesday, the latest intake of Guy's Rugby players took to the field against the stars of yesteryear. The Veterans greater experience served them well, with last gasp tackling denying the youngsters on several occasions, exacerbated by some outstandingly greedy play by the Fresher three-quarters. The new comers were not able to match the old boys stalwart defence, and let in a soft try on each wing. A concerted effort brought a well earned try before half time from Jeremy Nettleton, who apparently enjoyed being a Fresher so much last year that he decided to do it all over again. Guy's Freshers continued to rally, with Ed Jeffries being denied by the narrowest of margins through an excellent hold up by the Veterans. At half time the veterans led 12 - 5, but surely the superior fitness of the Freshers' could win through in the second half? A positive start, and things seemed to be going well, with both scrums and line outs consistently going the Freshers' way: sadly, they were unable to capitalize on this, mainly due to the rock-steady defence of the Penguin backs. A try did come at last through the big hearted effort of the Freshers' considerable Welsh contingent, with Ed Jeffries managing to ground the ball this time, as well as converting it. Momentary lapses of concentration opened the door to the Penguins, and the final score was disappointing for the Freshers after their hard work, the Penguins in the end being comfortable winners by 29 - 12. The game was played in the best spirit throughout however, and the hospitality of the Penguins extended itself up into the bar, where the incoming players got a thorough grounding in the rules of the game: "two numbers reverses, three numbers skips a player...", whilst new-comer Ed Sheppard showed off his culinary skills like only a front-row player can. All in all, a good time was had by all, and the possibility of fielding five teams this season looks bright.

Team:

B Karunakaran, J Ho, E Sheppard, A Snedden, A Prewett, D Austin (c),  
T Jones, F Chedgy, T Koc, E Jeffries, Billy, T Kennedy, R Lee, J  
Nettleton, T Seng, C Ingham, Michael Knight, T Popior, "Shoeless"  
Steve N, B Tiffin

(many thanks to Tom, Ed, Steve and Brad who filled in for the veterans). Drew - I hope your stomach get's better soon.