

Penguins v London Irish

March 27

Lost 27 - 12

This game was a prelude to the international between Ireland and Scotland which was played out on television in the packed Sunbury bar. It was very festive and would have been more so if the flow of Guinness had not been interrupted by a technical problem at the bar.

So to the game. It was a familiar pattern of Guys lightweights against a beefy pack. With a disproportionate amount of possession and a preoccupation with rolling mauls, the Irish scored several times through their forwards. The hospital tackling was at first non-existent, then hesitant but eventually adequate. Not enough though to prevent the big fellas from barging over. Two well-worked tries for Guys were scored by Matthew Blundell who was playing out of position in the centre alongside Rob Whyte also performing sterling work as a makeshift centre. Ross Perry and Ronan Brown used guile and stealth to keep the ball away from the Irish forwards and motivate the backs. A sympathetic referee assisted, especially after an outburst of epithets from the ex-jailbird who plays tight head prop for the Irish.

Team Terry Gibson, Chris Howell, Dan Poulter, Andrew Snedden, Duncan Austin, James O'Shea, Mark Blundell, David Mason-Bahr, Ed Taylor, Will Wattress, Rob Coy, Clive Hudson, Ronan Brown, Ross Perry, Luca Asmonti, Matthew Blundell.