

Guy's 2nd XV vs. Sevenoaks 2nd XV
Saturday 25th January
Won 17-0

Saturday 25th January 2003 was a truly momentous day for GHRFC 2nd XV. The day marked the long-awaited return game against league-leaders Sevenoaks. The home-fixture had been a closely contested affair with Sevenoaks scraping a win 13-6. One only needed a brief glance at the league table to note the apparent disparity between the sides. However, the boy's from Guy's were not prepared to lay down and die, and instead produced one of the finest performances from a Guy's team for many a season.

The Guy's team welcomed back, Jackson and Percy to the back-row and Beevir was released from 3rd team duty to add his own special brand of pace and seven's skills to the back-line.

Guy's set the pace from the outset, implementing their game-plan early as they ran the larger Sevenoak's pack around the park. Aided by the vocal support of team manager Dave Berry and his able assistant Dave Brigstocke, Guy's soon broke down the Oak's defence with a cheeky chip from Gush, grounded by Eggleton to set up a 7-0 lead. The back-row functioned well as a unit, stealing a considerable amount of ball, with Jackson at his ferreting best. The front five worked tirelessly and rarely this season have Guy's enjoyed the luxury of such consistent first phase possession.

Shortly after half-time from a line-out on the half-way line, Gush dummied outside to release Eggleton with a deft inside pass, from which Percy scored. Gush, subsequently showed, that like his hands, his boot is maturing nicely with age as he slotted over a long-range drop goal. As the clock ticked away, Oak's unleashed a brute of a number 8 from the bench, and attempted to use him as a crash-runner off almost every phase. However the fringe defence of Guy's held firm to deny Sevenoak's any score. The sheer ecstasy (Not the type enjoyed by De Villiers) of the Guy's boys, as the final whistle sounded, was evident to all. The road has been long and hard, but eventually we have found our reward.

As captain, I will be first to admit that the season's results have been disappointing. However, the young squad has remained solid and morale high. This result is not a freak, but a credit to the hard work of a highly talented and spirited bunch of lads. Even with several players missing, the boy's from Guy's showed one of Kent's larger clubs a thing-or-two and in doing so sent out an emphatic message to the rest of the league. Don't count us out yet, we're no push-over.

Team: G.Josan, J.Hamilton, B.Wheeler, K.Rowland, R.Davies (I.Wilson 35),
J.Jackson, Percy, M.Blundell, G.Brigstocke, P.Gush (E.Shephard 22-31), C.Eggleton,
R.Hone, S.Reading, T.Beevir, M.Henderson

Tries: Eggleton, Percy
Conversions: Brigstocke x2
Drop Goal: Gush