

Guy's 2nd XV vs. Westcombe Park 3rd XV
16th October 2004
Won 31-28

Saturday 16th October started like most GHRFC away fixtures, twelve-thirty meet McDonald's London Bridge, the freshers turned up on time, a number, or come to think of it most, staggered in late with one or two units of alcohol still hanging over them and then the captain turned up later than all after a morning of phone calls "I've left my kit at HOP", "I'm in Slough", "I've got to cut my toe nails" etc etc.

This weekend, the two's again had a strong side, an interesting blend of freshers and stalwarts, with guest appearances from Rob Hone, Spud and Rob Whyte. Believe it or not we had two subs !!!! One of them being a prop!!!!!!!

Guy's lost the toss and began the first half playing downhill with the kick off. Brigstocke put up a towering kick so much so that I suspect the ball returned to Earth with a light covering of snow from the upper stratosphere. As a result the catch was fumbled by a Westcombe Park player, allowing a hungry Rory to dive on the ball and retain possession. The ball was promptly whipped down the back line to Chris on the wing who scored in the top right corner. Then the second minute of the match begun.

After such an electric start Guy's proceed to dominate the first half with good rucking from the forwards and deep incisive runs coming from Rob and Peter in the centres. Guy's capitalised on this excellent play with three more tries coming from Spud, Simon Trotter and Rob Whyte. The biggest rival Guy's would have during the match would be complacency, as twice in the first half after periods of good play we let Westcombe Park back into the game conceding a try on each occasion.

The two's entered the second half comfortably ahead with the intention of closing Westcombe Park out of the game. Sadly, Westcombe Park did not share this idea with us and much to their credit they clawed their way back into the game, making use of numerous knock on's, penalties and handling errors coming from a frustrated Guy's side. The second half was not all bad though for the 2nd XV as there were numerous periods of good flowing play with notable runs from 'super sub' Will, and Chris and James Beswick on each wing. Guy's managed to make a mark on the second half with a try coming from a catch and drive from the lineout. Try was claimed by Iain Wilson.

The second half couldn't have ended soon enough with Westcombe Park fighting back to within three points of Guy's.

Special mention must go to Rory for outstanding play throughout the game, the front five who were immensely solid against a much larger and weightier Westcombe Park scrum, and to prop Ed 'Troy' Shepherd who found himself with the ball in our own dead ball area and fought the urge to kick for touch himself.

Team: Fresher Gary, Tebby, Ed 'Troy' Shepherd, Toby Nelson, Big Si, Rory, Rob Whyte, Simon 'Del Boy' Trotter, Gavin 'contact lens' Brigstocke, Robert William

Alfred Hone, Peter 'the new sex pest' Robinson, Matt 'Spud' Blundell, James Beswick, Chris South African Surname, Will Aspinal

Tries: Chris
Matt Blundell
Rob Whyte
Simon Trotter
Iain Wilson

Cons: Brigstocke 2