

4-TRY AWAY WIN TAKES PARK TOP

Welcome to Parknews Park returned to the top of the table after a hard-earned 4-try away win by 26-20 over a good and determined Caldy side. The previous leaders - Cinderford lost at home to Sale by 15-19. thus Park head the table by a single point, but with a game in hand. That lead would have been two points but for a strange and extended period of additional time at Cinderford which saw after the 80 minutes was up - five scrum re-sets, two yellow cards for Sale and finally a penalty try to the home side! Nevertheless it puts Park in the position of not



needing to worry about what other clubs do so long as we achieve the results we need ourselves. However, with Chinnor visiting this Saturday that is not an easy prospect as (see below) they have not been beaten away from home this season. They are most certainly the sort of side whose relentless attacking style could cause an upset given less than total concentration.

It's often said – not entirely without reason – that you don't want to be a target for everyone else by leading too early in the season. If you travel around the other clubs, though, it becomes clear that Park were already the team that people regard as the best in the division and the one they would dearly like to beat. So it is probably better to have the points in the locker than to rely on being a 'dark horse' coming up on the rails. The present Park squad look mature enough to know you don't win anything until the end of the competition, and the Injury Gods are always fickle, so you need to pile up every point whenever and whereveryou can.

This weekend

On Saturday we entertain our old friends from Chinnor in what looks like being a really challenging and entertaining fixture. An ambitious club, and not without resources, Chinnor had a very good season before everything stopped for Covid and they were expected to be among the leading challengers for the league title as soon as National 1 started up again. If they have slightly disappointed the highest expectations so far this term then it may be that Director of Rugby, Matt Williams, who joined Chinnor in 2014 and masterminded their rise to be title challengers was approached by London Scottish to take over at the Championship club after that season had ended and Chinnor did not attempt to block his path (though with London Scots' position at the moment Matt may wish they had been less understanding!) Then a couple of key players decided to follow him including skipper Ben Manning which was a further blow.

Canadian International Richard Thorpe (who has a lot of Premiership experience with London Irish, Leicester and London Welsh) was appointed DoR and the club brought in some decent players, but they appear not to have consistently clicked as a unit yet, though a 22-5 win over Taunton Titans last Saturday looks pretty good form. They are certainly not out of the promotion race once they start to consistently string some home wins together and they will certainly be gunning for 5 points on Saturday. Despite a comparatively hesitant start to this season they are still unbeaten away from home – all their reversals have been in home matches – and they are the only team to have scored four or more tries in every away match with their attractive attacking game. In James Bourton Chinnor have National One's top points scorer on 104. It looks like being an exciting spectacle and with Chinnor always bringing

Future events
Saturday December 04

1st XV v Chinnor

National 1
Away KO 2:00PM

Match tickets and lunch bookings available now on the website followed by

Fours v London Welsh Druids

Middlesex Merit Premier Home KO 5:00PM

Nomads v Guildford 2

Surrey Championship Away KO TBC

Haberdashers v B XV

Middlesex Merit Premier Away KO 1:00PM

Netball

Park Reds v Actonians B

Kingston League Div 5
Home Start 10:00

Park Blues v Putney Ladies E

Kingston League Div 5 Home Start 11:30 some noisy support we'll all need to vocally get behind Park as only a top performance is likely to bring the result we need.

If you are not a member, you'll gain admission quicker and cheaper by getting your ticket in advance from the website, where you can also book for the pre-match lunch should you wish. The lunch this weekend is in memory of the much-loved Mike Frangos who was sadly taken from us on May 12th last year.

It's a busy afternoon at the Rock with the 4s at home to London Welsh Druids in Middlesex Merit Premier and the Nomads at home to Guildford 2s in the Surrey Championship. And as if that wasn't enough just up Roehampton Lane, at Froebel entrance, Roehampton University, two of our NC Rosslyn Park netball teams have important morning League matches. The Reds play Actonians, while the Blues have a real local Derby against Putney Ladies. Why not get out in the morning and give them a shout? Elsewhere the Rangers were due to fly to Jersey in the Raging Bull League and the Fours travel to Haberdashers in Middlesex Merit Premier.



Next weekend

Next week we travel to our old friends at Cambridge, and it would be really good to see and hear some solid Park support at this (relatively) local away match. Cambridge are having a bit of an inand-out season with some good results and some poor ones. But they usually seem to raise their game when Park arrive. Few who were there will forget the absolute stinker we played there a couple of years back: Park were so poor in the first half that Kieran kept them out on the pitch at half time! Bear in mind that kick off is at 2:00PM. They play at Volac Park, Grantchester Road, Cambridge, CB3 9ED. By car it's fairly straightforward: from M11, J12, take (A603) to Cambridge. Take 1st right into Grantchester Road (opp. Wolfson College). Ground 300m on right, just past the last house. By train there is no need to book in advance as the Cheap Day Return fare is usually the cheapest. The service from Kings Cross is quicker than that from Liverpool Street, but if you are handily placed for the tube it might be more convenient to take the Victoria Line to Tottenham Hale and change there to the Liverpool Street service. The ground is a walk of about 2.4 miles from the station. Our regulars tend to gravitate to the town centre and get a cab from there, but if you are only interested in the match itself then, by cab, the station is closer to the ground than the town centre is, and it usually has a plentiful supply of cabs. There is not a convenient bus connection: you either have to walk half the distance anyway or change buses. There is a quite delightful walk to the ground across one of the fens (and passes a decent country pub) if you invest in a local map, but it's too difficult to describe in prose. If you decide to take a cab make sure the driver knows you want the Cambidge RUFC ground in Grantchester Road, otherwise you might well end up being taken to the Cambridge University ground.

Match report Caldy Park

National 1

Park recorded a 5-point away win, their first ever victory at the Paton Field, in atrocious conditions. Playing with a fierce wind in their favour, Caldy had the early play and forced a couple of penalties. This soon bore fruit for the home side when Park infringed at a scrum and Hinchcliffe kicked his side to a 3-0 lead.

Park always looked dangerous ball in hand but it wasn't the best conditions for expansive running rugby. Park came desperately close to scoring when Henry Robinson was held up over the try line after a move of 15 phases, but Caldy were able to use the wind to kick clearances deep into Park territory.

Caldy tried an attack running with the ball but conceded a scrum. Park worked a set play with Benji Marfo coming in off his wing and then sprinting through the home defence from inside his own half. Craig Holland's conversion gave Park a 7-3 lead.

If Park were playing the better rugby from a purist's point of view then Caldy's more prosaic game was ideally suited to the conditions and they played them well. On 32 minutes their efforts were rewarded when Park conceded a penalty at the breakdown in front of their own posts, allowing Jones an easy 3 points to narrow the margin to 7-6.

With time to exploit the conditions running out, Caldy put in a great attacking kick and then caught Park offside. The kick to touch and catch and drive was relentless. Park defended it resolutely but were eventually pinged, the referee awarding a penalty try and sending Henry Spencer to the bin on the stroke of half time. Caldy led by 14-6 at the interval.

With the elements in the second period Park took control of procedings, despite starting a man short. Play through multiple phases established a bridgehead in the home 22. With the wind now hampering clearances Caldy were under immense pressure. They defended well but after wave-after-wave of attacks on 50 minutes prop Sam Garvey forced his way over and Holland converted to give Park a lead of 14-13.

Having used the bludgeon, five minutes later it was the turn of the rapier as centre Nick Scott hared down the right wing to score out wide for 19-13, Holland's conversion narrowly missing.

Caldy made it difficult for Park, never more so than when they hammered a penalty to touch deep into Park territory but Park turned over possession at the lineout.

On 72 minutes Park looked to have put the match to bed when prop Ollie Dawe went over with a Park maul to secure the 4-try bonus and an excellent wide conversion from Holland extended the lead to 26-13.

Well into added time Caldy were awarded a penalty which was kicked to the corner and they drove over. The conversion brought the final score of 26-20, securing for the home team the losing bonus point

Park: Henry Robinson; Benji Marfo, Nick Scott, Phil Cokanasiga,

Ben Howard; Craig Holland; Luke Baldwin; Kyle Ollie Dawe, Jared Saunders, Nick Lovell; Dylan Flashman, Jordan Martin; Henry Spencer, Arthur Ellis Dan Laventure

Replacements: Charlie Piper, Sam Garvey, Nick Lovell, Austin Hay. Dave Lewis, Brandon Jackson

Away travel

We have only one away trip in December, which is a very pleasant one to Cambridge. Bear in mind that kick off is at 2:00PM. They play at Volac Park, Grantchester Road, Cambridge, CB3 9ED. By car it's fairly straightforward: from M11, J12, take (A603) to Cambridge. Take 1st right into Grantchester Road (opp. Wolfson College). Ground 300m on right, just past the last house. By train there is no need to book in advance as the Cheap Day Return fare is usually the cheapest. The service from Kings Cross is quicker than that from Liverpool Street, but if you are handily placed for the tube it might be more convenient to take the Victoria Line to Tottenham Hale and change there to the Liverpool Street service. The ground is a walk of about 2.4 miles from the station. Our regulars tend to gravitate to the town centre and get a cab from there, but if you are only interested in the match itself then, by cab, the station is closer to the ground than the town centre is, and it usually has a plentiful supply of cabs. There is not a convenient bus connection: you either have to walk half the distance anyway or change buses. There is a quite delightful walk to the ground across one of the fens (and passes a decent country pub) if you invest in a local map, but it's too difficult to describe in prose. If you decide to take a cab make sure the driver knows you want the Cambidge RUFC ground in Grantchester Road, otherwise you might well end up being taken to the Cambridge University ground.

It's not too early to be getting cheaper rail tickets for Leeds Tykes on 08 January. The match will take place at Headingley Stadium, Kirkstall Lane, kicking off at 2:30PM. Leeds (from Kings Cross) is the station to book to. From there a cab takes about 15 minutes but if you're going straight to the match you are better catching the metro train onwards to Burley Park (Headingley station is further away and uphill). Burley Park Station is on the Harrogate Line and is less than half a mile walk from the ground. Trains run half hourly (29 and 59 past the hour) and should take around five minutes. From the station walk north on Chapel Lane and then turn left onto Newport Rd (about 130 yards) and left again onto Newport View. The road turns right and you should see the ground straight ahead. Return trains are at 13 and 43 past the hour. You could try booking straight through to Burley Park, but generally it is cheaper to book the main journey well in advance and then get a cheap day return to cover the local service. If you want a restorative pint near Leeds station before travelling on then the Hop, beneath the Arches of platform 17 is worth searching out - several ales from the Ossett brewery plus changing beers from the Ilkley, Rat and Thornbridge breweries. It's a long time since we visited, but if you're searching for a watering hole nearer the ground then the Cardigan Arms at 364 Kirkstall Road is recommended by the CAMRA app, serving four different ales from the Kirkstall brewery, plus two guest ales.

Clubsides

Will Thorogood reports that it was cold, wet and windy. Oh, the North wind did blow, but luckily we didn't have snow! Even so, despite the almost Arctic-like conditions, there were some warm hearts but cold hands! Brrrr!

The warmest hearts were those of the Nomads who paid a visit to KCS Old Boys 2's, Surrey Championship league leaders, and to date, unbeaten. Well, the Nomads put paid to that record on Saturday afternoon. The Nomads, who only had a "bare XV" (that's usually after the game and a few pints), gave KCS a big surprise, but not in the woods! Tom Schorn , Nomads' skipper, reported:

"It was possibly the best game of nomads rugby I have seen. Was tight all through the first half in, but went in 12 down. But with some unbelievable play and a little nomad grit in the final quarter we found the energy for 4 unanswered tries. Even got a 50-22". Nomads 29 KCS OB's 12 (but could be 17?). Whichever way a good morale boosting victory, to set them up for a trip down to Guildford this Saturday.

The 4's were meant to have been visiting Belsize Park 2's at



Regents Park in their MMT Prem encounter. However, it transpired that Belsize Park could not accommodate us there, as they had no changing facilities. On Friday morning I woke up to this news, thinking "oh dear". However, Will Orson had been busy arranging with the Club, oppo and the referee (Joel) for the game to be transferred to Richmond Park. Just like back in the Old Days! Brrr and mud, again. (Unfortunately, the game couldn't be played on the 4G, as it had been previously booked). I would like to thank all concerned, Cori, Pippa,Chris Jones, Susy and the players for their flexibility and help, in getting this game played, albeit not under ideal circumstances.

As for the game, the 4's (who, surprisingly, featured 8 front row forwards, where did they all come from), put up stout competition and resistance, but were eventually overwhelmed by a typically efficient Belsize Park side. 4's 7 Belsize Park 54. Everybody got a hot shower and hot grub post match. Most importantly, the game was played.

The B's had a 1 o'clock game on the 4G against H&F 2's in their MMT Prem game. In short, it wasn't a pretty spectacle, but it was tight throughout. The cold hands conditions were not easy for both sides, all was rather disjointed, and at times a bit tetchy. H&F, maybe, just had the edge up front, and came out winners. B's 3 H&F 16. Good to see Luke back, after his arm injury, organising his troops from Full Back...watch out Freddie Steward!

Games for Saturday 4th December: B's v Old Habs 2's Away MMT Prem, 4's v L.Welsh Druids Home MMT Prem 4G, Nomads v Guildford 2's Away Surrey Championship.

Minis and Youth



There will be a Kicking masterclass at the Rock on 22nd December from 10-2pm, aimed at ages 9-15, with premiership rugby stars attending!!! To book please head

to www.aaelitesports.com

Netball

A tough match against one of the top teams for Park last weekend. This week both our Kingston League sides take to the court at Roehampton Uni, both with realistic chances of winning their respective leagues so support would be much appreciated. At 10:00 the Reds take on Actonians B, then at 11:30 it's our Blues against Putney Ladies E.

Park Surrey 42 Alpha 64

Surrey League A

Park Line Up GS: Tara, GA: Beth, WA: McNally, C: Hazel, WD: Fran, GD: Miller, GK: Faye

Bench: Milly, Vicky (inj), Shaps (Coach/inj)

After a 5 week break from any games, but with the win against Fairlands still in the forefront of their minds, the Park Surrey team took back to the court full of enthusiasm and energy to face a strong Alpha team.

Park came out very strong with a great first quarter finishing 15 a piece, with shooters, Beth and Tara holding an impressive 100% shot rate. The momentum carried into the second quarter with McNally's beautiful feeds into the circle and Fran's storming intercepts at WD and Park went a couple goals up. Alpha then fought back bringing the score to 29-23 to Alpha at half time.

Halfway saw some fresh legs come on at WA with Milly and coach Shaps made a return to the court at WD in the last quarter after some time off due to injury. Hazel's energy and drives at C created great opportunities at the attacking end and defenders Faye and Miller showed perseverance until the end against very polished Alpha shooters.

Despite some great passages of play and fighting until the end the final score was 64-42 to Alpha, which even our oppositions agreed was not reflective of the game being played. Despite the loss a very positive game for the team and the girls have come away ready to carry this energy forward to the next game at home against Hampton.

Home POM: Beth, incredible shooting accuracy and tireless work in attack

Away POM: Fran, taking the new position of WD in her stride with cracking interceptions

Congratulations

It was a bit of a bitter-sweet Saturday for Park prop Kyle Traynor last weekend. At the last moment, Kyle was accorded the honour of being drafted into the Barbarians squad to play against Samoa. Ninety minutes before running out at Twickenham in Rosslyn Park socks the match was called off. An anti-climax to put it mildly, but Kyle deserves our congratulations on being selected in the first place.

How many promoted?

In his programme notes for the Blackheath match our President, Nick Goddard, mentioned that we still do not know how many clubs will be promoted from National 1 to the Championship next season. That should be largely resolved when a working party looking into the issues surrounding it - and in particular the structure of the Championship - reports back to the RFU in January. We know already that it is planned to expend the Premiership by one club to fourteen. That would leave the Championship a club short. Nothing has been said to suggest that there will be no relegation from the Championship this season, so that would seem to imply that a minimum of two clubs will be promoted. A lot of people claiming to be 'in the know' say that it's pretty much an open secret that the working party will recommend expending the Championship to fourteen clubs and getting rid of the expensive 'European' competition that they play in. That would imply at least three clubs, and probably four, being promoted. It gets slightly more complicated with London Scottish suggesting that they might defect to a Scottish competition if the figures add up, though even if that happens it

might well be regarded as relegation. But it's easy to see why teams just outside the title race will still be playing flat out all the while potentially four promotion places could be up for grabs.

Cardiac Monitoring

The club's new Cardiac Monitoring programme, available to all playing members, has drawn praise from throughout the sport and beyond. However, like everything else, it does take money to provide the service. Dom has written to members inviting them to take part in a raffle to help defray the costs of this important player welfare initiative.



The Prizes

ALL of which are included in EVERY monthly draw \$500

RP Kit Hamper

Two VIP tickets to the London Floodlit 7s in Corporate Marquee (Food & Drinks included)

Training session with 1st XV coaching team for an age group Meal for 4 at the Hand in Hand, Wimbledon

(value £100 per meal)

Free of charge use of the Club House or Obolensky Bar for an event

Pre-match lunch for two people at a 1st XV match of winners choice
Mixed 6 Bottle Case of Wine

Plus from our wonderful Sponsors in the December Draw

Spoke London - £100 Voucher from Spoke of London Serious Stuff - One Puffa Jacket or Festival Coat FRANKE - A Coffee Machine worth £600.00

Train Inside Out - One Foundation Class plus One free class Savills - £200.00 Fortnum & Mason Hamper

Zest Property Services Domestic Boiler Service (worth £180+VAT) Richmond Physiotherapy - Free Massage

Heineken - Bottle of Hendricks Gin (70cl)

Heineken - Magnum of Moet Chandon Champagne (worth £75.00) Sambrook's Brewery - Special Christmas Box (worth £50.00) Additional Prizes will be added weekly For the latest list of prizes and winners visit the RPFC Raffle Giveaway page on the website Tickets cost just £50.00 and are for entry into all 3 draws BUY TICKETS ONLINE HERE

Terms and Conditions

One ticket buys one entry into each raffle draw. The first raffle will be drawn on the 31st December 2021, the second raffle will be drawn on the 31st January 2022 and the third raffle will be drawn on the 28th February 2022. Prize winners will be randomly selected and notified in person and announced on all Rosslyn Park Media channels. Raffle prizes are final and cannot be exchange for any other prize or cash.

Lunch in memory of Mike Frangos

A reminder to all friends and associates of the late, great Michael Frangos that there is a pre-match lunch in his honour before Saturday's match with Chinnor. Here is a message from the organiser, Sue Cuff: "Everyone joining us for the Memorial Lunch in honour of Michael Frangos should please use the link https://tickets.rosslynpark.co.uk/events/362144/info?

distributionId=179761 to book and pay for lunch and tickets to the match in the afternoon. Lunch will be served in the Obolensky Bar at 1 pm but we will be open from 12pm for earlier arrivals. A loose table plan will be on a board in the Bar. There will be a minute's silence held for Michael on the pitch before kick-off at 3 pm so a prompt start to lunch will be important. Any questions, please let me know – and most importantly, here's to a splendid afternoon in honour of the great man himself!" Susie

Cuff susan@cuffassociates.co.uk"

Sponsorship Opportunities

With clubs financially reeling from the Covid crisis, sponsorship has never been more important to clubs - and Rosslyn Park is certainly no exception to that rule. A very wide range of sponsorship advertising, marketing and promotional opportunities are available throughout the season with prices suitable for all budgets. These provide a very powerful and cost effective opportunity to promote your business.

MATCH DAY SPONSORSHIP

Get in on the Action! As the official Match Sponsor of a Rosslyn Park First XV game, you will host your guests in our newly refurbished Clubhouse.Before the game you will sample our excellent hospitality with a VIP lunch courtesy of our in-house caterers. Afterwards you and your guests will have the chance to meet Rosslyn Park players and present the Man of the Match award, the photo of this presentation will feature in the following Match Day Programme.

Meet the Players

Your company will be featured on the cover of the programme, and



you will have a full page advert inside. You will also receive PA announcements throughout the game.

Finally, you have the opportunity to distribute promotional flyers in the Clubhouse and around the ground to advertise your business to all of our spectators and members on the day.

Full Package Includes:

- Front Cover Programme Branding as the Official Match Day Sponsor
- PA Announcements throughout the afternoon
- VIP Lunch for 10 for guests prior to the game
- Man of the Match Presentation after the game.
- Photo of the Man of Match Presentation to appear in following Match Day Programme
- Opportunity to distribute Promotional Flyers on the day
- 2 Car Parking Spaces
- Post Match Visit for you and your guests from two Rosslyn Park players or coaches of your choice.



Digital sponsorship

- Email marketing & campaigns to club database throughout the year. Database of over 3,000 members and players
- Feature on RPFC website & full company description
- Social media support across all channels throughout the season. Twitter, Instagram, Facebook & YouTube
- Branded pitch board located around the venue 6m x 2m board designed and produced by club for the full year
- Table of 8 guests including 3-course meal for one home game of the season. Home game of choice, including 3-course meal & car parking spaces
- Hire of the club/venue free of charge. This can include both pitch and clubhouse for one full day

Kit sponsorship

 Company branding on Men's 1st XV playing kit

National exposure throughout the year

Player Sponsorship

A great opportunity to be linked with a Rosslyn Park player and to follow his progress throughout the season.

PA announcement when your player scores a try Company logo/name against player profile in match-day programme

10 tickets for a 1st XV home game of your choice

Digital Marketing

The Rosslyn Park website, database, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram all represent a large and fast growing audience with targeted engagements.

These platforms allow opportunities for companies to build bespoke and extremely cost effective packages and are a great ways to interact with our supporters and social media followers instantly. Our social media not only provides the latest Rosslyn Park tries and score lines but also highlight your companies involvement at the club.

Please do support our sponsors as they have supported us.

Please contact Kenneth Moore, via email Kenneth.Moore@Rosslynpark.co.uk or phone: 0208 876 1879 to discuss how sponsorship at Rosslyn Park may fit with your own promotional plans.

Keep up to date

Keep in touch with everything happening at Rosslyn Park by regularly visiting the Club's website at

www.rosslynpark.co.uk

The club is also active in several social media channels:

Twitter: http://bit.ly/2PqDIQy
Facebook: http://bit.ly/2NG7bxV
Instagram: http://bit.ly/34d652t
YouTube: http://bit.ly/2PQSpqC

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the subject line. You can also receive a tweet immediately Parklife appears on the website by following @RPNoseyParker on Twitter.

