



Issue 24

15 February 2023

Season 2022-23

# PARK MUST TOPPLE TABLE TOPPERS

**Welcome to Parknews** After two weeks with no action the **First XV** return to the fray this Saturday to face arguably the toughest task of their season, away to **Rams**. They sit top of the table on 82 points having won 16 of their 18 matches. Only Sale (24-27) at home and Cinderford (37-17) away have lowered their colours so far this season. Last week they hammered Chinnor by 50-31. Park are currently fourth in the table on 67 points, so it is a match we must win if we are to maintain a realistic challenge for the top spot. To make matters worse, they are the only team in the league that we have never beaten! However, behind that last statistic is the fact that on our last two visits to their ground we could and probably should have prevailed. Rams two defeats were on successive Saturdays, followed the next week by scraping home against Hull (24-19) so they can go through a rough patch like any other club. This Saturday would be an ideal time to record our first win there, and the last half hour of our previous match against Darlington Mowden Park suggested wemmight nbe recapturing the sort of form to do just that. It will be a great help if we can get a large body of supporters there to roar the team on. This one really matters, please make it if you can.



If you've not been before, Rams ground is at Old Bath Road, Sonning, Berkshire RG4 6TQ. Parking at the ground costs £10 but Tony Lawrence passed on that there's a free Park and Ride for those wishing to drive. Parking is at The Piggott School in Twyford Road, Wargrave, RG10 8DS and the shuttle bus runs every 20 minutes from 1.00pm to 2.40pm. Returns from the ground are at 5.00, 5.20, 5.40 and 6.00. By public transport, Reading is the station to head for, either from Paddington or there's a local service from Clapham Junction or Richmond (slower but could be more convenient for some). There is a bus from near the station that runs close to the ground, but finding it is far from easy and the timetable a work of fiction. Especially if there's more than one of you to share the fare it's best to get a cab, but it's a fair distance out of town and cost around £14 each way last time. Our regulars have yet to find a pub as a 'base' in Reading, but you might like to try the Greyfriar (turn right out of the station and it's very close at the bottom of Station Hill). It's a real local with a few decent beers and officially opens at noon, though it's best to give them a period of grace, and there are usually a few cabs available on the hill. If those travelling solo were to meet there you might find a fellow-supporter to share a cab with. You'll get in the ground quicker if you buy your ticket in advance from the Rams website (general admission £15, students £10; car parking £10).

The **Rangers** are also due to be away at **Rams**, and Kick-off would normally be earlier than the Firsts, on the back pitches behind the clubhouse. However, some recent matches have had to be postponed so perhaps check before arriving too early.

At the Rock, the **B XV** are due to play **Old Streetonians** kicking off at 2:00PM and admission is free. The **Fours** and **Nomads** are both due to be away, to **London Kiwis** and **Chobham 2s** respectively. On the **netball** court both our Kingston League sides are at home at Kingston Uni (Froebel college: Roehampton Lane, entrance next to Clarence Lane, plenty of parking). The **Reds** are first on at 09:30 with a top-of-the table clash against the second-placed **Teddington Thunder**, followed by the never-been-beaten **Blues** at 11:00 against fourth-placed **Focus B**.

Upcoming events  
Saturday 18 February

## Rams v Park

National 1  
Away KO 3:00PM

## Rams v Park

Halbro Div 1  
Away KO TBA

## B XV v Streetonians

Middlesex Merit Premier  
Home KO 3:00PM

## London Kiwis v Fours

Middlesex Merit Premier  
Away KO TBA

## Chobham 2 v Nomads

Surrey Championship  
Away KO 12:00PM

Netball

## Park Reds v Twickenham

Kingston Div 5  
Home 09:30AM

## Park Blues v Focus B

Kingston Div 9  
Home 11:00AM

**NEXT HOME GAME**

**ROSSLYN PARK**  
VS **BIRMINGHAM MOSELEY**

**3PM**

SAT 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH  
THE ROCK | SW15 5JH

A CELEBRATION OF WOMEN IN SPORT  
PRE-MATCH HOSPITALITY FROM £30  
25% OFF ALL DRINKS 4.45PM-6PM  
BURGER KITCHEN  
LIVE MUSIC POST GAME

TICKETS ONLINE FROM £12  
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## Clubsides

*Will Thorogood reports:* One might have thought, on Saturday afternoon, we had a Japan (red and white hoops) and All Blacks (all black) international Test Match being played out at the Rock! However, my reveries were dispelled when there was no pre-match Haka performed!

## Park B XV 27 London New Zealand. 38 Middx Merit Premier

Anyway, back to reality...the B's v London New Zealand in their MMT Prem meeting. It was always going to be competitive, and it was. The end result was defeat for the B's 27-38, (4 tries to 6) I think, but it could have been 28-37?. Half time- B's 8 Kiwis 19. Some

good, well worked team and individual tries by us, (from Bent x 2, Admiral and Bremer) but in the end our discipline let us down, and we had to play the latter stages with 14 and 13 men because of a flurry of yellow cards. Despite this, we still managed a couple of determined tries at the end to give us a merited respectability.

Both teams left the field looking forward to watching the 6 Nations games in the clubhouse, but disappointment there, as the television



was not working, (no ITV for the Ireland v France game) so players quickly left, after a delicious curry and their traditional "Men of the Match, D\*ck of the Day and Boat Race" (we won that one) ceremonies to find alternative viewing venues! Can the television be sorted out, please, as I'm sure that people would have stayed for both 6 Nations games? A little embarrassing and apologies to all affected and inconvenienced.

Elsewhere, the **4's** and **Nomads** were travelling around south east England (Boreham Wood and Reigate) honouring their respective Merit games against **Old Haberdashers 2's** and **Old Reigatians**

**2's.** Thank you for making the effort. Despite the 4's only having 14 men, they managed a good win 45 points to 28. (no further details available).

Likewise, the Nomads started out with only 13 players, reduced to 12 during the game because of injury, but by all accounts they put up a determined and respectable performance, but went down 34 to 20 (4 tries)!



So, a mixed weekend, but at least games were played. Thank you.

## Netball

We have two attractive netball matches on Saturday morning, so why not nip along to Roehampton Uni (Froebel College, Roehampton Lane) and catch the action. It's a really fun morning and you don't need to know the rules to appreciate the handling skills, running off the ball and sheer enthusiasm. First on court at 09:30 are the Park Reds who sit atop Division 5 and entertain the second club, Teddington Thunder. After that it's our all-conquering Blues who play Focus B, currently fourth and based in Leatherhead.

## Away travel

The First XV have two successive away matches: after Rams this weekend we travel to Cambridge the following Saturday. The ground is Volac Park, Grantchester Road, Cambridge, CB3 9ED. If you are driving take the M11, J12, (A603) to Cambridge. Take 1st right into Grantchester Road (opp. Wolfson College). Ground 300m on right, just past the last house. By train, for Cambridge there is a service from Liverpool Street but the fast service from Kings Cross to Cambridge will be better for most. The ground is nearer the station than it is the town centre, and it's walkable across a fen though in February a cab from outside the station may be preferable. Our regulars tend to go into town and take a cab from there. If you invest in a taxi make sure the driver knows you want the ground in Grantchester Road or you could end up at the University ground. There's a decent clubhouse that does a decent pint and reasonable bar food. The formal pre-match lunch upstairs is already sold out, so if you're not with the presidential party you'll have to forego the company of Lord Archer, who is a keen fan.

## Walking Rugby

If you are over 55 and still hanker after playing, we have the answer. Regardless of your standard of play, fitness or gender why not turn up on Monday mornings 10:00-11:30 when you can participate in a social game of walking rugby. The first game took place this Monday and one former First XV member who took part reported that it was great fun. But you don't need to be anything like that standard to enjoy taking part. Great social atmosphere and refreshments afterwards. For more information,





contact [community@rosslynpark.co.uk](mailto:community@rosslynpark.co.uk) or call 07821 650 912.

## Obolensky Dinner

A message from Tom Baigrie about this season's Obolensky Dinner: The 2023 Obolensky Dinner is now 8 weeks away on 8 March 2023 - and I am delighted to say that we are now 85% full so space is limited! To those of you who have responded already – thank you. To everyone else please do let us know if you can join us. We now have our speakers announced (Nick Mullins and Topsy Ojo) and as ever it promises to be a fantastic night. Please let us know ASAP (via Karen Richard ([karen.richard@rosslynpark.co.uk](mailto:karen.richard@rosslynpark.co.uk))) if you would like to take a table or part thereof.

## Can you help?

The club is really grateful to our sponsors, and would urge everyone to support them as they have supported us. If you, your business or anyone you know might be interested in joining in with sponsoring Rosslyn Park, then Kenny Moore would be delighted to talk with you. Kenny can be contacted at the Club Office (020 8876 1879) or e-mail [kenneth.moore@rosslynpark.co.uk](mailto:kenneth.moore@rosslynpark.co.uk)

## PITCH BOARDS

Great for a local business to promote awareness and been seen throughout the year by all that use the club, and exposure through our live streaming of select games.

£1,500.00 + VAT

1 x Branded pitch board located on the 1st XV pitch (6m x 0.9m) for one year

## MATCHDAY BALL SPONSORSHIP

£150.00 + VAT

- Company name and logo on Club website
- Company name mentioned as official game Match Ball Sponsor for the day on PA announcements.

## MATCH DAY SPONSORSHIP

£1,500.00 + VAT

- 10 x Tickets to a 1st XV home game of your choice
- Lunch for 10 people at a 1st XV home game of choice
- Company name and logo against player profile on Club website
- Presentation of Man of the Match

- A5 full-page advert to be featured in match day programme
- Company name and logo on the main scoreboard
- PA announcements through the day and at lunch

## MATCHDAY PROGRAMME ADVERT

£650.00 + VAT

- Company name and logo on Club website
- A5 full-page advert to be featured in a total of 13 Men's 1st XV programmes at home game

## Keep in touch

There is always something going on at Rosslyn Park - keep in touch check regularly for Parknews on the website and subscribe to the club's social media channels, which include news, reports and match highlights:

### Twitter:

<http://bit.ly/2PqDIQy>

### Facebook:

<http://bit.ly/2NG7bxV>

### Instagram:

<http://bit.ly/34d652t>

### YouTube:

<http://bit.ly/2PQSpqC>

You can also receive a tweet immediately Parknews appears on the website by following

POST-TRAINING REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED!

MONDAYS 10AM-11.30AM

ROSSLYN PARK FC  
SW15 5JH

FREE TO ATTEND

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