



Issue 28

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Season 2022-23

PARK ARE CENTRE STAGE THIS WEEK



Park v Alpha - WA Hannah McNally (with the ball) working with GA Georgie Howes to create a chance for Park

Welcome to Parknews Neither **First** team, **Rangers** nor the **Nomads** got onto the pitch last weekend, but two of the Clubsides played and there was a very entertaining game of Surrey Premier A netball between **NC Rosslyn Park (Surrey)** and **Alpha** at Roehampton Uni, albeit with Park being pipped at the post. The **Fours** and the **Bs** both ended their seasons with impressive wins (see Will Thorogood's column further on). So it's a short Parknews this week. Worse still the televised 6-Nations matches this weekend means the only Rugby match possibly on is **Cobham 2 v Nomads**, which has yet to be confirmed at time of writing. However, we do have two of the RPNC netball teams performing, albeit away from home. The **Reds** are playing **Teddington Club** at Whitton Sports Centre, Twickenham School, Percy Road, Whitton, TW2 6JW at 9:30. The **Blues** play **Elmbridge** at 11:00 at Chertsey Recreation Ground, Guildford Road, Chertsey, KT16 9BE. Both of our teams are top of their leagues and will be all out to retain their lead. If you've never watched before, it's really entertaining stuff with great handling skills and running off the ball – please do come along and support if you can. Matches are played over 4x15 minute periods with 5 minutes between each period, so plenty of time to get back for the 6 Nations.

However, we are not exactly starved of rugby action this week as Monday morning saw the start of the biggest, best and most prestigious junior Rugby tournament in the world, the **Rosslyn Park National Schools 7s**. The attention of the of the schools rugby world will be focussed on our club. Yet many of our own members and supporters seem unaware of it – that cannot be right! Do yourself a favour: book your leave now and come along and enjoy a feast of sport. This year's tournament runs from Monday 20 March until Friday 24 March. There is non-stop action from around 10:00 – 17:00 on 5 successive days with over 500 schools, more than 1000 teams involving 13,000+ players.

Many of the great and good of the Rugby world will be there, many of them having played in the tournament themselves as youngsters, rubbing shoulders with the crowds and you're bound to see some future international starts on the pitch. That's one reason there will be Premiership talent scouts and coaches among the crowds. There are bars and food outlets plus trade stands. Amazingly the whole thing comes with free admission (though there is a charge for parking). The site is easily accessible by public transport: the 85 (Putney Bridge – Kingston) and 265 Putney – Tolworth, via Rosslyn Park) buses stop outside. If you really can't make it then the matches on the main pitch are all broadcast live on the tournament website at <https://www.national7s.co.uk/Competition.asp?TID=Rosslyn-Sevens&TSID=6867> See adjacent panel for timetable.

Some matches did take place in National 1 last weekend, with Rams being beaten 27-24 by our next opponents, Plymouth Albion, who got a gate of 1,674. That meant Sale's 31-7 win over Bishops Stortford takes them within 2 points of the leaders in second place. Cambridge are a further three

Upcoming events
Saturday 18 March

Cobham 2 v Nomads
Surrey Championship
Away KO TBA
match to be confirmed

Netball

Teddington Club v Park Reds
Kingston League Div 9
Away 09:30

Elmbridge v Park Blues
Kingston League Div 9
Away 09:30

From Monday 20 - Friday 24 March
Rosslyn Park National Schools 7s
Venue details and site map inside

20 March: Early rounds of the boys U-18 vase plus the whole of the girls' U-16s.

21 March: Final matches in boys U-18 vase, entire girls U-14s plus start of the boys U-14s.

22 March: Final matches in boys U-14s plus the start of the U-16s Colts.

23 March: Final matches in the Colts competition, the whole U-13 Prep schools tournament, the start of the flagship U-18 Cup plus the girls U-18 early rounds and the U-18 girls ACE competition (this is for the very top schools, where many of the players will be going on to play in the Premier 15s).

24 March: Under 18 Cup final stages, both boys and girls, plus U-13 Junior boys and a new U-11 mixed gender tournament.

Next 1st XV home match
Saturday 25 March

Park v Plymouth Alb.
National 1
Home KO 3:00PM
Reduced Admission tickets plus pre-match lunch bookings on the website now

points behind, but have a match in hand. Park remain fourth, 18 points behind Cambridge and 5 ahead of Plymouth Albion.

Our next opponents, Plymouth Albion, at home on 25 March, are old friends indeed, whom we used to visit on our (then) annual Christmas tour to the west country. The present club is an amalgam of Devonport, whom we first played on Boxing Day in 1898, and Plymouth whom we first played on December 28, 1902. The first match against the combined club as Plymouth Albion was also over 100 years ago on 02 December 1922. Since then there have been quite a few players who have played for both clubs, Rosslyn Park tending to be the club joined by Plymouth players moving to the capital. Notable among them have been two of our most illustrious club men, Peter Berryman and Tony Brooks. Such was the bond between the two clubs that in Plymouth there is even a Rosslyn Park Road almost adjacent to Home Park, which was a Rugby Union venue before Plymouth Argyle FC moved in.

Since the leagues were formed we have only met when both clubs have been in the same division, plus once in the RFU knockout cup competition. Recently Plymouth flirted with receivership and possible extinction but were rescued by two local businessmen who were former players. Since then they have had to run a really tight ship and put up a hard but successful fight to avoid relegation. Adversity fostered a great team spirit and they have steadily climbed the league table, currently placed sixth, two places behind ourselves. They get consistently the highest gates in National One, often topping 1000 loyal supporters. Park lost a very tight match away to Plymouth earlier in the season, played in impossible conditions on an almost waterlogged pitch, in high winds and incessant driving rain, eventually losing by 13-10. Doubtless our boys will be out to set the record straight on that one, but our opponents will be striving to maintain their progress up the table, so it should be a cracker of a match with both sides favouring an attacking game.

Leeds match re-scheduled

The National One match against Leeds that was postponed last week has been re-scheduled for Saturday 29 April, which means we shall end the season with two away matches, being at Cinderford the week before.

Clubsides

Will Thorogood reports: Our MMT representatives did play out their ultimate league fixtures on Saturday lunchtime with great anticipation, but little did they know what was going to unfold at Twickenham! Oh dear, never mind, have a cup of tea!

Anyway, the 4's marched up to City Road, EC1, H.A.C. H.Q, that little hidden haven and oasis amidst the skyscrapers and financial centre of London. Tom's troops must have been set to put the record straight after a very competent HAC 2's had put over 50 points on the 4's way back in September. This they did, convincingly, with a 36-19 victory. I'm afraid I don't have match details, but it has to be said that in their last two league games, the 4's have put one over second (Belsize Park) and third (HAC) placed sides, which reflects their potential rugby calibre! On a roll, perhaps, to continue their good form for their tour (destination still Top Secret), and for next season?!

The B's had a rugby date with London Cornish 2's at " High Noon" at the "Roehampton Corral". All turned out OK. The B's were well " chuffed". Having given Hammersmith a close run encounter the week before, the B's definitely wanted to end their league season with a "W". It wasn't going to be easy, as a determined Cornish " Cousin Jacks" team had set their sights and ambitions to give us a pasting or "pasting". Admittedly, Cornish did strike first when we forgot how to tackle down the left side, and it was a case of " after you, Sir"! 0-5. This did not deter the B's however, and through a series of flowing moves, and a good number of phases, the B's quickly replied near the posts. 7-5, but soon after Cornish popped over a penalty kick, 7-8. The B's then quickly went into creative and spontaneous mode with both a solo left wing try, unconverted, (12-8) and a flowing backs move ending with a centre cut back inside to score near the posts. 19-8 at half time. Cornish did have their own chances and opportunities, but not converted, where the



half time margin could have been narrower.

B's overall dominance at the line out, in loose play and support, and in the set scrum denied Cornish much possession in the second half which allowed the B's to score three more good and varied second half tries without reply. Things seemed to click on the day. F/T- B's 38 L.Cornish 8 .Scorers: 6 tries, 4 conversions-waiting for names, but I'm sure you know who you are?

So our two Middlesex Merit Premier sides ended their season with the Fours in sixth position (P18 W9 D0 L9 – 77pts) and the Bs eighth (P18 W 5 D0 L13 – 61pts). Both sides have done really well considering the player availability issues both have faced. Thanks to Ollie and Ozzie (B's co-Captains) and Tom Wrigglesworth (4's skipper) for all your work getting your sides together over the season, and last summer, despite a lot of frustrations.



Have a good week, all, and enjoy Super Saturday wherever you are watching. The Rock, your pub, Dublin, Paris or Edinburgh.

Netball



Georgie Howes (GA) who made a great impact coming on at half time

The Park Surrey Premier A side played a tight and entertaining match against Alpha on Saturday morning, eventually going down

by 39-47. This Saturday our two Kingston League sides take to the courts on Saturday morning: the Reds are playing Teddington Club at Whitton Sports Centre, Twickenham School, Percy Road, Whitton, TW2 6JW at 9:30. The Blues play Elmbridge at 11:00 at Chertsey Recreation Ground, Guildford Road, Chertsey, KT16 9BE.

Park (Surrey). 39

Alpha 47

Surrey League- Prem A

Park team: GK- Hannah Wallis (VC), GD- Charlotte Miller, WD- Lucy, C- Claire Shapland (C), WA- Hannah McNally, GA- Beth Hunt, GS- Tara Ellis

Subs- Georgie Howes; Abby Mahal



Tara Ellis puts in a long range shot for Park

In a league that sees just 6 points between teams sitting in 2nd and 6th place, the run in to the end of the season for the Surrey team is no easy task. Having lost to Alpha earlier in the season by just 3 goals, this was a game that Surrey were determined to win after some really impressive recent displays.

The first quarter Park took a little time to settle, as did Alpha, with unforced errors from both sides. Park went into the first break leading by one in a relatively low scoring affair (10-9). No changes going into Q2 for Park, but some changes from Alpha saw their midcourt click into gear and play a much more physical style of play and with some sharp shooting, they took the lead by 3 moving into the half time break (19-22).

At half time Georgie Howes (GA) and Abby Mahal (GD) entered the game to give fresh legs and renewed energy to the game. Hannah Wallis continued to be outstanding in defence, taking numerous tips and all opportunities for defensive rebounds. Park drawing the quarter but still down by three goals entering the last (30-33).

With it being a Park centre pass first up in the final quarter, we knew that we just needed to make one intercept and then convert to bring the game back level. We did this almost immediately and brought the game back to 35-35. Unfortunately we were unable to push on with some further errors punishing us and every loose ball seeming to find an Alpha player, despite our best defensive efforts. A disappointing loss to a team we've found it difficult to crack this season but have had two really close matches with. Final score: 39-47

Joint players of the match- Claire Shapland & Hannah Wallis

Surrey League- Prem A (league table here- [Premier A \(clubleague.azurewebsites.net\)](http://clubleague.azurewebsites.net))

Away travel

After this weekend it's Taunton Titans away on April 01, which is a lovely trip. Normally the advice would be to get in now for the cheapest rail tickets, but that Saturday has been declared a strike day on the railways so you might want to exercise some caution.

But if you want to risk it, Paddington is the station to book from, and it's a fair walk along the river to the ground so you might want to catch a cab. If you are driving the address and postcode for the ground is Veritas Park Hyde Lane, Bathpool, Taunton, Somerset, TA2 8BU.

After that it's another trip west, this time to Cinderford on 22 April, and it's not too early to book the cheapest train tickets. We'll give more details nearer the time, but Gloucester is the station to book to. From there it's a scenic bus journey of around 35 minutes to where the bus stops only yards from the ground. Be warned that the main bus back to Gloucester leaves around the time of the final whistle and it's usually an hour to the next one so do factor that in when booking your return journey. A taxi is upwards on £40.

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

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 video highlights:

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

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

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

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

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