



**NATIONAL  
LEAGUE 2  
East**



# Rochford Hundred Rugby Football Club

*Versus*

# North Walsham RFC



**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2023 Kick Off 3.00pm**



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*4th Official* - Tigan Renshaw

*Assistant Referees* - Paul Clayton & Pedro Diogo

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## Training nights

Senior Men - Tuesdays & Thursdays 7pm

Senior Ladies - Thursdays 7pm

Academy - Tuesdays & Thursdays 7pm

Youth (Boys and Girls) - Wednesdays 7pm

Minis (U6-U12) - Saturdays 9am

Little Rascals (2-6) - Saturdays 9am

Rochford Hundred Rugby Club - Telephone 01702 544021 - Website [www.rochfordrugby.com](http://www.rochfordrugby.com)



# Rochford Hundred Rugby Club

Welcome to Rochford Hundred Rugby Club

## Our Club History

Rochford Hundred was the brainchild of John Roden and Ernie Mills and was first discussed in November 1961 when the two met at the White Hart in Hawkwell. John had played at Ilford Wanderers and Ernie was an Old Tottonian, so both were keen to play on their own doorstep. The inaugural meeting was held on the 4th of January 1962 at the Bull Inn, Hawkwell, and was attended by a small group. The club now needed a ground and the assistance of County Councillor, later Alderman, Bill Wright was sought. He was appointed Chairman of the Club and very quickly secured the use of Rocheway School which had been closed due to its proximity to Southend airport.

This of course gave the club changing rooms and rugby pitches immediately. To get players, an advert was placed in the Southend Pictorial and no less than 45 replies were received. Old Westcliffians had seen the advert and invited the new committee to a beer and cheese evening at the Gables. From this Rochford secured a fixture and an introduction to the London fixture Exchange. The first fixture was in fact against Billericay and not Old Westcliffians however. The name of the club had been suggested by John Roden after he saw a poster by Rochford Hundred Licensed Victuallers Association in the White Hart. Rochford Hundred was after all the name of the district.

The club also managed to secure a clubhouse in the car park of the Horse & Groom thanks to Mrs Innell, the licensee, and quickly set to work to make it ready for use for season 1962/63, although it was in use from March 1962.

It is worth noting that the first games were played in March and April 1962 and that Bob Light was captain. Bob was Head of PE at the local comprehensive school and brought along many pupils from the school

to play for Rochford.

In Season 1962/63 the club fielded 2 senior teams and a Colts team which is remarkable for a first full season. It is recorded that over 70 fixtures were arranged for this first season. Tony Davies was the 1st XV captain in this season. The Colts team was made up of several players from Rochford Comprehensive School (now King Edmund), Rayleigh Secondary Modern School (now Fitzwimarc) and Sweyne School. Indeed David Allen (founder of DHL and then a 16-year-old) remembers being at one of the formation meetings at the Bull when he was still at school.

The first few years were not particularly successful, but things changed when the likes of Mike Treasure came onto the scene. He was captain in 1965/66 and 1966/67 and was our first full Essex cap. His team went unbeaten for 18 months and were one of the highest scoring teams in the country. He was fortunate in having players of the calibre of Peter Coster, who was a great centre.

With playing success there came a desire to move to our own ground and in 1968 Jim Sowter, who used to write a column in the local press, printed a story that the club wished to purchase a field in the Rochford district big enough for pitches and a clubhouse. He received a letter from the lady secretary of Southend Manor Football club stating that they had an option on 10 acres of land in Magnolia Road. They were unable to raise the money to proceed and suggested that we might like to take over the option. Jim arranged a meeting between her, and Ernie Mills. Ernie liked what he saw and took up the option. The land cost £3,200 and the purchase was completed in March 1969. The Rugby Football Union provided a loan of £2,100 towards the purchase.

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# Rochford Hundred Rugby Club

The lengthy process of obtaining finance, building the clubhouse, and preparing the pitches could now be started. In September 1970 a grant of £5,592 was offered by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and this was supplemented by grants and loans from the Essex Playing Fields Association and the National Playing Fields Association. In July 1971 the Club gave the go-ahead to Muggleton's to start building based on an estimated cost of £11,320 of which we had raised only £8,000. The clubhouse was officially opened by Dickie Jeeps in April 1974 when the 1st XV played against a strong Eastern Counties XV.

In 1971/72, when Malcolm Fleming was captain, there were two memorable games in the Essex Senior Cup. The first game was against Old Bancroftians when Dickie Kent, who played scrum half for England, and Howard Waller, who was a renowned sevens player for Richmond, were in the Bancroft side. Rochford won 21-6 in a tremendous match and demonstrated that they had joined the top echelons of Essex rugby. The next round was against Barking Park Modern Old Boys at Rocheway, and a pulsating match was finally won by Barking 14-12. To those who were present these were two of the finest matches played by Rochford at that time.

The pitches in those early days at Magnolia Road were frankly dreadful but over the years there has been considerable work done on them and the 1st XV pitch is now one of the best plating surfaces in Essex. In the late 1980's and early 1990's the clubhouse was expanded substantially with new changing rooms a gym and a new clubroom and kitchen. Floodlights were also installed to the top pitch.

Our youth section started in 1991 has gone from strength to strength and provides players for our 1st XV and other club teams. In past seasons our Mens 1st XV has been almost entirely made up of former youth players and we have a strong, growing ladies' team, the Rochford Hundred Vixens together with a girl's section.

The Mens 1st XV played a lot of its rugby from the turn of the century in the London Leagues, dropping up and down from London 1 to London 3. Around this time the Essex Senior Cup was the major trophy to win and up until 1999 Rochford had never won it. In that year we reached the final and played Basildon at Westcliff in front of huge crowd, Rochford were triumphant that day to record their first ever win of the Essex Senior Cup. After that we reached many Essex Senior and Intermediate Cup Finals, winning them a further 6 times, before the Cup lost some of its glamour, and we are now too high in the league structure to be able to compete in the competition.

In 2017 the Mens 1st XV were playing in London 2 North East when we decided to have a concerted push for promotion. The team then went on an incredible journey to take the title by storm without losing a single league game, gaining a bonus point in every one of them, and knocking up 1280 points in the process. Promotion to London 1 North gave us stronger opposition, but we remained unbeaten for the whole season again, repeating gaining a bonus point in every match, and scoring 1480 points. The London Premier League saw us play at the highest level that the club had ever played at before but gave us our 3rd promotion as Champions in consecutive years. Starting our season again unbeaten and with full bonus points, with that run finally came to an end after 54 matches across 3 seasons.

Covid put an early end to this season, and the RFU league algorithm confirmed us as champions, with Guernsey runners up. Our tremendous performance and win away at Guernsey being the pivotal decider in the league placing, and the fact we only lost 2 matches during the whole season too.

We now find ourselves, for the first time in our history, playing National League rugby in National 2 East, somewhere we hope to stay for a long time, being in the top 81 clubs in the country, and we can look back on 60 years of activity with considerable satisfaction



# CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

## Hello everyone.

Well, here we go again, playing the rearranged match postponed in December. We thank you all for coming along today and an especially warm welcome to our visitors from North Walsham. We hope you all enjoy the day.

It continues to be an honour to be Chairman of Rochford Hundred RFC. The vision of Rochford Hundred RFC is a holistic one and that is to continue strengthening the club from Little Rascals, through to mini and youth and into senior rugby for both boys and girls, supplying a clear pathway for our future 1st XV men's team and the Vixens and our other senior sides.

A big focus for me over the last few years since I became Chairman again has been making things better off the pitch. This is not just infrastructure, as important as that is, but also creating the rugby culture we want as a club. Ahead of any role we do for the club, or job title we hold, we are all people, and we are all volunteers and I firmly believe that taking care of our own people is a top priority for us as a club. To go a little way in saying thanks to all the volunteers who readily give up their time we have invited all volunteers to a FREE pre match lunch on 11th March when we host Old Albanians. If you carry out a volunteer role at the club and wish to attend, please contact Andrea Church on 07821 985547. Guests are of course welcome.

As a club we will continue to be as innovative as we can, do things differently to other clubs,

but at the same time take enormous pride in creating a club environment that aligns with the core values of rugby.

Today's game is very much a must win for both teams and I am sure both teams will give it everything they have to win. This intensity might lead to some mistakes being made. If mistakes are made, they know that, and they don't need you telling them. This goes for the officials as well. So please show respect to all players from both teams and especially the officials.

Have a great day at Magnolia Road.

*Ray Stephenson*

ROCHFORD HUNDRED RUGBY CLUB  
- Chairman





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# Rochford Hundred Rugby Club

## LEAGUE LUNCHES

4<sup>th</sup> February 2023 v **NORTH WALSHAM**

18<sup>th</sup> February 2023 v **BARNES**

25<sup>th</sup> February 2023 v **CANTERBURY**

11<sup>th</sup> March 2023 v **OLD ALBANIAN**

18<sup>th</sup> March 2023 v **DORKING**

1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 v **HENLEY**

22<sup>nd</sup> April 2023 v **TONBRIDGE JUDDIAN**

All members and friends are invited to attend any of the sponsored lunches at a cost of **£25.00** per head.

Book your seats through **Alan Gander**  
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# VISITORS INFORMATION



North Walsham Rugby Club was formed in 1962 by among others a local headmaster Ken Marshall and a policeman John Mansfield.

Their aim was to bring rugby to the young men of the town and John Mansfield allegedly spent many a Friday evening knocking on doors, in uniform, asking if the son of the house was at home.

From humble beginnings playing on the local school pitch the club moved to Scottow eventually establishing a club house and the mandatory bar.

Local clubs formed the bulk of the fixture list with the odd foray into the Midlands, Suffolk and Essex.

The Norfolk Cup and the Eastern Counties Cup were won in the 1983-84 season.

When Leagues were established "Walsham" made rapid progress into the National Leagues where they remained for an unprecedented eighteen seasons and their fixtures took them as far West as Penzance and Redruth and as far North as Leeds and Darlington.

Cup games brought fixtures against the likes of Saracens, London Irish and Rosslyn Park.

Local fixtures and local derbies against Norwich and Diss have always been focal points for players and supporters alike.

North Walsham is still very much a family orientated club with second generations now very much a part of the current and future playing strength.

# COACHES CORNER

Good afternoon everyone for the first of our rearranged fixtures due to the frozen weather, and what a big match it is in the grand scheme of things.

After Walsham's strong home win against Guernsey at the start of January, they have caught us up and if they win today then only 2 or 3 points could separate us, however a win for us gives us a nice cushion from that last relegation spot and will allow us to look up rather than down. This season has been a tough one and one of transition for us. We lost a number of really experienced players at the end of last season, as well as Kellard our forwards coach and Branchy our physio. We also had a massive hangover of long term injuries and shoulder operations from last season, so there has been big changes and injury challenges we've had to face so far again this season. That being said, we have welcomed Bob Barba into the coaching set up, Laura and Andrew into the medical team, a number of new players, and some nice things are also happening off the field with the new stand, new extension being built and having some good coaches like Mark Billings working with the academy, and five of those in the Academy now playing regular senior rugby.

Quite frankly the club is completely different to what it was a few years ago, both on and off the pitch, and seeing so many youth teams and regular senior teams playing every week, it is nice to see the club in a good place and the foundations being laid for the future.

Today will pose a real challenge upfront. Walsham have a big pack and a strong catch and drive with an outstanding 10 who plays the corners well and

can kick extremely accurately at goal. We know our discipline will have to be good, and we know we will have to starve Walsham of the ball if we want to win today. Walsham have had some really good wins at home, but they haven't yet won away from home, and we need to keep that run going.

Also, finally a big congratulations to recent debutants in the 1st XV, Pat Jennings, Josh Rasor and James Cornish. All 3 of them are young keen lads, that have shown the commitment and professionalism to play at this level. Welcome all of you to the club.

Enjoy the game.

*Danny Cleave*

ROCHFORD HUNDRED RUGBY CLUB  
- Head Coach



# HOME TEAM SQUAD

## ROCHFORD HUNDRED

### RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

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<b>1</b>	Joe Moran	No Sponsor
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<b>9</b>	Ricki Gould	No Sponsor
<b>10</b>	Sam Cappaert	No Sponsor
<b>11</b>	Mark Ikhifa	Danjan Sports
<b>12</b>	Chris Dudman ( <i>Captain</i> )	No Sponsor
<b>13</b>	Damien Brambley	Mike Head
<b>14</b>	Kyle Johnson	Ian Brown
<b>15</b>	Jake Spivey	No Sponsor
<i>Substitutes</i>		
<b>16</b>	Caley Gray	No Sponsor
<b>17</b>	Josh Rasor	No Sponsor
<b>18</b>	James Cornish	No Sponsor
<b>19</b>	Ewan Richmond	Peter Jay
<b>20</b>	Manni Muzuzu	No Sponsor

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# AWAY TEAM SQUAD

## NORTH WALSHAM

RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

No.	Name
1	Frank Scott
2	Ethan Sikorski
3	Tim Weber
4	Ryan Oakes
5	Ethan Holmwood
6	Charlie Fethney
7	Chris Godwin
8	Will Hodgson
9	Connor Dudley
10	Matt Hodgson
11	Max Otis
12	George Loose
13	Josh Jones
14	Dan Smith
15	James Knight

*Substitutes*

16	Tom Knight
17	John Clarke
18	George Masdin
19	Lucus Atherton
20	Harry Steward

## Rochford Hundred Upcoming Events

# END OF SEASON AWARDS DINNER

*with Chris Robshaw*

## Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May

7pm til late

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


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# LEAGUE & TODAY'S FIXTURES

## LEAGUE TABLE

Club	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	PD	TBP	LBP	Points	Adj
 Blackheath	15	13	0	2	634	187	447	12	2	66	0
 Worthing	16	11	0	5	565	407	158	12	2	58	0
 Dorking	15	11	1	3	448	278	170	9	2	57	0
 Barnes	16	11	0	5	472	312	160	11	2	57	0
 Henley	16	10	0	6	408	347	61	7	4	51	0
 Tonbridge Juddians	17	10	0	7	452	371	81	9	1	50	0
 O Albanian	15	10	0	5	399	341	58	10	0	50	0
 Bury St Edmunds	15	9	0	6	409	361	48	8	2	46	0
 Guernsey	17	7	1	9	493	405	88	8	4	42	0
 Canterbury	17	5	0	12	417	515	-98	7	2	29	0
 Sevenoaks	16	4	2	10	317	435	-118	5	4	29	0
 Rochford Hundred	16	4	0	12	301	584	-283	8	2	26	0
 North Walsham	15	4	0	11	286	523	-237	3	0	19	0
 Westcliff	16	0	0	16	233	768	-535	2	2	-1	-5

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Time	Match	Venue
14:00	Barnes v O Albanian	Queen Elizabeth Way
13:00	Bury St Edmunds v Guernsey	GK IPA Haberdern
14:30	Dorking v Westcliff	The Big Field
15:00	Rochford Hundred v North Walsham	The Rugby Park
14:00	Worthing v Blackheath	The Rugby Park
14:30	Tonbridge Juddian v Canterbury	The Slade

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# Rochford Hundred Squad 2022/23

## STAFF & COACHES



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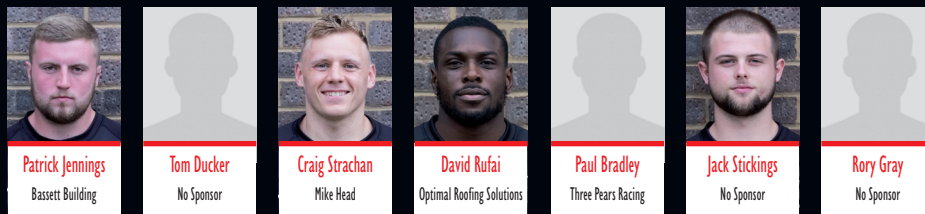


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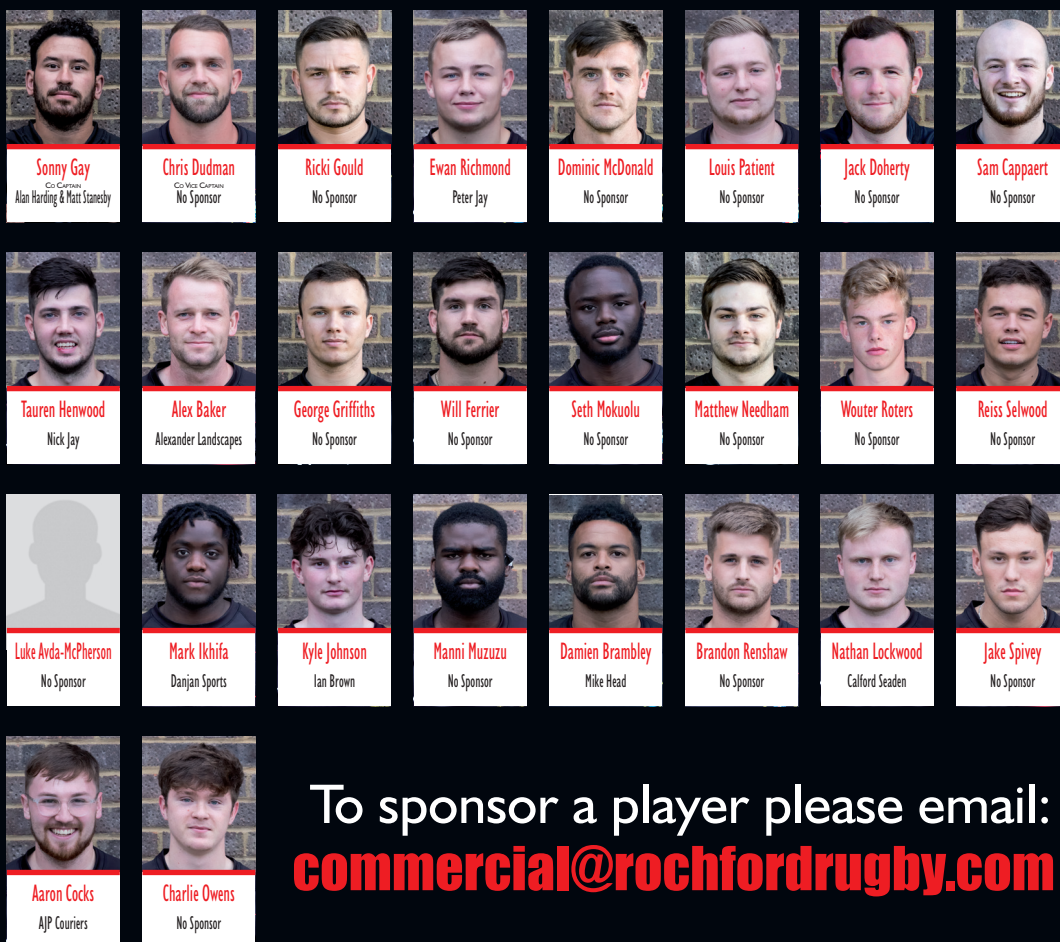


# Rochford Hundred Squad 2022/23

## FORWARDS CONTINUED *(sponsors under each name)*



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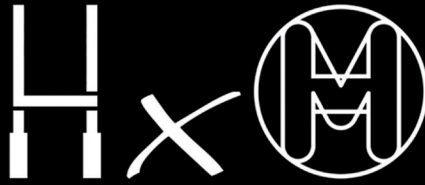
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