

OLRFC



Saturday, February 17th 2018 | Old Leamingtonians Vs Upton-On-Severn RFC 2:15pm KO



Photography courtesy of Tim Nunan

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WELCOME

A warm welcome to The Crofts and a special welcome to the management, supporters and players of Upton on Severn RFC who have been regular league opponents for some years.

Our last encounter was a close fought game with OLs eventually running out 24-21 winners. I hope the pitch is somewhat drier than it has been - allowing for another strongly contested game of open rugby. I hope it doesn't come down to a TMO decision!

Our last league game saw a tremendous effort from all players on a difficult pitch which saw a deserved 5 league pointer win 32-10 against the then top of the table Shipston side. We now lie 3rd in the league, two points behind Shipston and 7 points behind top of the table Rugby St Andrews, who incidentally Upton beat in November 17-12!

Enough from me, on with the game, show plenty of support and please respect the match officials, see you in the bar afterwards.

Date for your diary - 17th March

Come down to the Crofts for a St Patricks Day 6 Nations special. Guinness & Irish Stew!!!

Italy vs Scotland 12:30

England vs Ireland 14:45

Wales vs France 17:00

Phil Eales Chairman



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Midlands 3 West (South)

#	Team	Pt	HW	HE	HL	AW	AD	AL	W	D	L	P	A	Diff	Pts	Adj	Recent Form
1	Rugby St Andrews	15	6	0	1	5	0	3	11	0	6	423	237	184	56	12	W W W W W
2	Shipston-on-Stour	15	6	0	1	4	1	3	10	1	8	397	252	145	51	9	L W W W W
3	Old Leamingtonians	15	5	0	2	5	0	3	10	0	5	443	288	154	49	8	W L W W W
4	Old Coventrians	15	5	0	3	4	1	2	9	1	5	387	285	102	48	10	W L L W W
5	Alicester	15	5	0	2	3	0	4	9	0	5	352	266	86	46	10	W W W L W
6	Ledbury	15	5	0	2	3	0	4	9	0	5	310	275	35	42	8	L L W W L
7	Dartford	15	5	1	1	2	0	5	8	1	5	288	273	-15	42	8	L W L L W
8	Woodrush	15	6	0	1	2	0	6	8	0	7	298	267	31	37	5	W W L W L
9	Minster Park	15	3	1	4	1	0	6	4	1	10	240	420	-180	26	8	L W L L L
10	Upton-on-Severn	15	2	0	5	2	0	6	4	0	11	240	395	-155	22	6	L L L L L
11	Bransford	15	3	0	5	1	0	6	4	0	11	205	290	-84	18	2	W L L W L
12	Old Wheatleyville	15	1	0	6	1	0	7	2	0	13	222	525	-303	16	9	L W L L L

MATCH REPORTS

League: Midlands 3 West (South)

Fixture: Old Leamingtonians RFC 1st XV - Rugby St Andrews RFC 1st XV

Venue: The Crofts, Bericote Road

Result: Old Leamingtonians RFC 1st XV 6 - 29 Rugby St Andrews RFC 1st XV

Old Leamingtonians Blitz Old Wheatleyans

Old Leamingtonians inconsistency in their League matches has cost them dearly this season and once again far too many penalties were conceded and too often good possession kicked away allowing the visitors to claim advantage and demonstrate how to convert possession into points.

The game started with OLs playing against the wind and dominating the set pieces (even to the extent of winning scrummages against the head) but it was Rugby St Andrews that posted the first score with a simple penalty from in front of the posts after five minutes of play.

OLs responded with an equalising penalty within five minutes and following that spent long periods in the visitors territory but despite dominating the first half play it was the home side that fell behind when a loose kick out of defence was caught cleanly by a St Andrews three-quarter who ran for goal before releasing his winger on the overlap to run in a try behind the posts. The try was converted to give St Andrews a 10 point to 3 lead that they took into half time.

OLs began the second half with wind advantage and more pressure on the visitors but for all the effort put in the home side could not find a way through a well organised opposition. A second OLs converted penalty did reduce the lead but in spite of the wind advantage it always looked as if it was going to be St Andrews that added points through their penetrating attacking play and solid defence..



Three further second half tries, two of which were converted, gave St Andrews a four try bonus point and OLs must look back on this game and wonder what could have been.

The home forwards dominated but all too often the resulting good ball was kicked away in efforts to overcome the solid St Andrews defence. In the end OLs maintained their third place in the league but the gap between them and the top two increased having a marked effect on the promotion hopes.

Next week's game sees OLs visit Shipston on Stour RFC, a game that is now critical if OLs are to maintain any chance of league advancement. Kick off 2.15

Photos by Tim Nunan

1. Felix Heath desperately holds onto attacker
2. Hugh Melhuish on a brave run

Report provide by Den Fisher



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TODAY'S SQUADS

Today's referee is: Mr Martin Nailor

Club colours: Gold and Royal hoops

OLD LEAMINGTONIANS 1ST XV

- 1 Bill Johnson
- 2 Reece Jones (Captain)
- 3 Richard Lenton
- 4 Ollie Wright
- 5 Joe Talamini
- 6 Hugh Melhuish
- 7 Tom Smith
- 8 Felix Heath
- 9 Mark Foley
- 10 Henry Reynolds
- 11 Paul Salvin
- 12 Simon Hemming
- 13 Dave Canning
- 14 Ciaran O'Connor
- 15 Brad James

REPLACEMENTS

- 16 Chris Huckvale
- 17 Rhys Cory
- 18 Toby Lord

Chairman of Rugby:	Craig Ellis
First Team Manager:	Currently vacant
Coaches:	Scott Conduit, Adam Canning and Craig Ellis

UPTON-ON-SEVERN 1ST XV

- 1 Matt Williams
- 2 Rob Heeley
- 3 Matt Glading
- 4 Ed Dusting
- 5 James Phipps
- 6 Charlie Abbey
- 7 Fred Barrell
- 8 Max Macfarlane
- 9 James Page
- 10 Will Dovey
- 11 Frankie Bent
- 12 Rich Clive
- 13 George Ainge
- 14 Noah Morris
- 15 Jake Lee

- 16 Will Cullwick
- 17 Matt Dunwell
- 18 Dave Humphreys

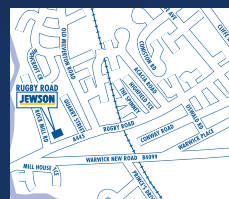
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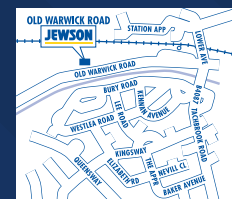
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SECTION NEWS

News from the M&J Section:



This Sunday we are delighted to be hosting Stratford at home for all our mini's teams, this is always a strong encounter, Stratford is a great club with a strong Mini and Junior section so I'm very much looking forward to welcoming them to the Crofts.

Our Junior teams all have a very well earned training week giving them the opportunity to reflect on the success of the season so far.

The under 14s are still to play their Semi Final match against Stratford on March 11th in the Warwickshire cup, good luck to them, with a cracking final in store on April 15th.

I was delighted to see our Under 15s players captained by Freddie Hart winning all three games playing for South Warwickshire at Worcester Warriors last weekend, well done to all players and coaches.

Our links with the RFU are growing stronger and this week saw a very positive Coaching co-ordinator meeting hosted at OLs, talking about the latest Age Grade Rugby Codes of Practice which we are adopting.

M&J Events & Activities

Saturday 17th March - St Patricks Day 6 nations special, England vs Ireland 1445 kick off, £5 for Guinness & Stew, Tickets available behind the bar

Friday 18th May - Summer Black Tie Ball, Real tennis club - Tickets distributed, Sell sell sell !

Sunday 13th May, Rugby4Heroes Minis Day
Wasps Rugby Camps, 22nd/23rd Feb Leamington RFC, 30th Jul / 1st Aug, Kenilworth RFC
29th-31st Aug, Old Leamingtonians
Warriors Rugby Camp, 4th-5th April 2018 – Old Leamingtonians

Lucas Wager
Mini and Junior Chairman

News from the Colts Section:

Just two fixtures to report on since the last update, both ending in narrow wins for Old Leams albeit in different circumstances.

The [bad] luck of the Cup draw saw OLs travel to Newbold on 3 February, to a play a side that knocked the Colts out of the competition last year. With the First XV pitch out of action, the fixture was played on the smaller undulating pitch at the rear. Conditions underfoot mitigated against flowing rugby, and with the weather deteriorating, the match was always going to be tight. A Titanic struggle ended in a five-all draw, and with OLs having received a single yellow card, Newbold were declared the winners under the competition regulations.

However, it was discovered that Newbold had infringed regulations themselves, and, consequently, they forfeited the tie to OLs.

So OLs have scraped through into a home quarter final with Kenilworth on Saturday 24 February.

OLs made the longish trip to Leicestershire side Syston for a friendly fixture on 10 February. The pitch and weather conditions again frustrated both sides, and an even encounter just fell in OLs favour, with Will Davies' excellent conversion of Alex Witchell's try proving the difference in a narrow 7 - 5 win.

Rich Pettifer - Colts

SPONSORSHIP NEWS

Senior Section - Player Sponsors Update:

OLRFC 1st XV Player sponsorship is gathering pace with support from many of clubs supporters. Individual Player Sponsors are as follows:

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Den Fisher
Bill Walker
Steve Davis
Mike Hemming
Christie McNally
Clive Grundy
Steve Smith
Phil Eales
Ray Griffiths

If you are interested in sponsoring a player please see Reece Jones 1st XV Captain.

We are always looking for new support particularly for the U6s, U7s, U9s, U11s, and U15s. Please contact Jonny Shipton on 07476 405215 or Mike Vallance 07545 602029 if you are interested in supporting.

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