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**CHARD RFC**  
**Vs**  
**OLD PATESIANS RFC**

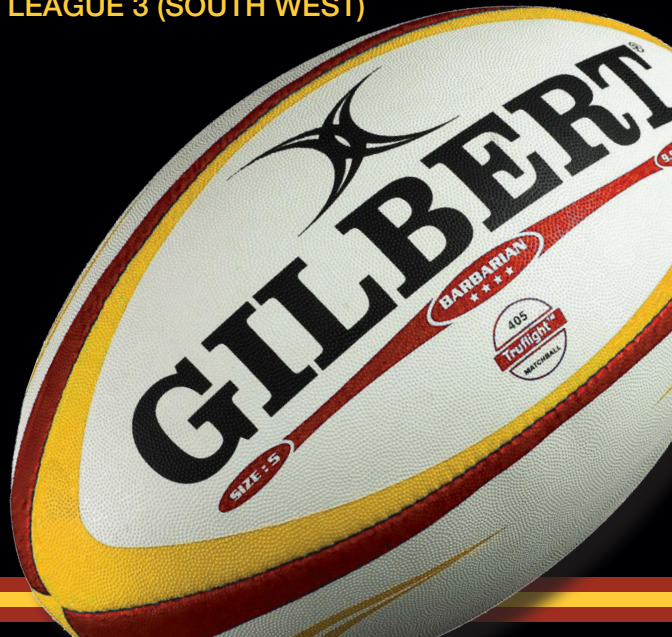
**SATURDAY 18TH APRIL 2015**

**NATIONAL LEAGUE 3 (SOUTH WEST)**

**TODAYS MATCH BALL SPONSORS:**



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**Today's Lucky Number:**



## *Let us pray!*

*Our WILLIAM WEBB ELLIS,  
who art in Twickenham*

*Hallowed be thy name*

*As revered is your game*

*On earth, as it is in mud and  
3G pitches*

*Give us this day an England  
player*

*And lead us into winning  
games*

*As we forgive those who  
might win against us*

*And lead us on to a Victory*

*And deliver us from relegation*

*For you have the power*

*And we have the ambition*

*Forever and ever (in Nat' 3  
SW)*

*Our Game.*

*Apologies to any similar sounding  
prayers – but He doesn't mind  
– I checked.*

*He didn't listen, so next year  
we will have to rely on just us  
& the players!!*

## Chairman's Message

Today we extend a warm welcome to the players, committee and supporters of Old Patesians RFC, to Essex Close.

Old Pats are from Cheltenham and we opened our journey in National League 3 (SW) at Old Pats, way back in the beginning of September 2014, losing 23 – 5 in that opening encounter. Tragically, we will also be ending our journey against them too, because, unless someone at HQ is not telling me something about Oxford Harlequins, Weston and Old Reds' having used unregistered players and failed to fulfil fixtures etc. then in the words of Private Frazer "we're downed" (well, almost what he said). Anyway, I said journey, and what a trip! We have had a great time, which may not see it at times to the faces on the players and the supporters, but that is League sport. Highs and lows. Who will forget the massive "high" of Towcester for example!!!! Anyway, no time for moaning/whingeing, we have had a great journey and we will have learned so much about ourselves, as players, organisers and people along the way, that next time it will be so much easier. And there will be a next time – ask "Mystic Broome" and his crystal ball!

Last weeks winners and losers! Looks like the losers from this league will be ourselves, Oxford Harlequins and Weston. Going up will be Redingensians and playing off will be Exmouth v Barnes who have 90 points in the equivalent London & SE Division! Coming into League 3 will be Chippenham who were relegated last year (so it does happen) and Cleve who we know from previous years ourselves! Playing off is likely to be Towcestrians again with likely home advantage, against Ivybridge from Devon. Going out of SW1 (west) will be Cullompton, St Austell and either Matson or Drybrook ( I think). Looking at this weeks fixtures, my guess that it will be Matson?? Coming up into SW1 (west) will be Teignmouth and Coney Hill and either Newent or Kingsbridge but Newent do have a greater win ratio this season!! Anyway, with all of the above – it isn't up to me it will be up to the powers that be and the bounce of that odd shaped ball we all love! Finally, on League positions, the 2nds have had a mixed season, obviously influenced by the player availability in the 1sts, but will hopefully finish a very, very creditable 9th in Somerset 1 later on today, and well done to Brian Sugar and Matt Tinley for their work with the 2's this season and of course, all of the players who have represented the 2nds who are playing their last game of the season today, away at Keynsham. The Colts play today against Weston and finish at home next week against Wellington – 2.30 Kick off. Good luck to everyone playing today and the M/J's tomorrow

### People Moving on!

It is with great sadness that Neil Douglas is returning to New Zealand, having played his last game for us away at Old Cents' last weekend! Dougie has been a great servant of the Club and his arrival some 5 years ago, along with Chris Doake, acted as a stimulus to the senior sides, which saw them gain regular promotions, up to this season. Chris left some time ago, and now with Neil leaving us too – that only leaves us with Brian, but his time here is also done, and Brian is leaving to take a tour bus home after the season finishes.

Just when you thought that longevity in this game was only available to super humans – along came Big Al! Henley!!! Big Al! has been with us for what seems ages and has helped to add steel to the forwards and has locked out the scrum formidably over this time. Never have I known someone who has been at the centre of his own "sweepstake" but this was the case at Towcestrians last year when one was being carried out on his age – whilst we were beating them!!! Al will be a hard act to follow as will Brian and Neil – Doake we all knew would be, and so that proved to be the case early on.

Over the season we have had some bad injuries, just to make the job more difficult for Broomer! Co-conspirator Jenks' underwent neck surgery which left us a little light in the front row – Lee Massey and Jim Wagstaff both got serious leg injuries, missing nearly all of the season - Ben Stead broke a thumb and was out for several weeks, and Nick Hyslop got more than his fair share of knocks to the head, which thankfully, didn't seem to stop him, that much!!

There have also been other new players that have come and gone – Stan has been a great find as has Rob Burrell and Louis Bartlett and I hope we can encourage them back to Essex Close again next season. Home grown talent needs to be coached and nurtured and is the future of most Clubs – Luke Aplin and Ben Robinson have been immense in the front row this season, while Jason Wright and Ryan Helliar (often playing out of position) have had a great season. Ben Johnson playing scrum half has also matured hugely and formed a great partnership with Twiggy at flyhalf. Add to this Mike Lawton and Jonny Selway, plus one or two others along the way, and more importantly, don't forget all of the players from the 2nds and Colts filling spots all season, and you can see how difficult the task has been for the coaches, and the rest of the Club Finally, don't forget the work as Captain, carried out by Mark Parsons, again this season.

Definitely a tough season in which to be Captain, but a great one to learn from, which will stand Mark in great stead, in the seasons to come!!.....but next year.....

**Next Season.** Watch this space, but if you know players who would like to come to Chard, please let any of the coaches know.

### **Social Spaces.**

New toilets to go with the new lounge, is now a live project and hopefully one that can be brought in for the start of the new season.

Many thanks to Melisa for being persistent enough to keep nagging people and the RFU & others that have finally been generous enough to support us in getting the new lounge completed – many thanks should go to Ivor Watts for his building works and Paul at The Carpet Shed, for flooring.

### **So, back to today;**

We have today our Past Players who have had a pre-match get together in the new Lounge – you'll see us (them) moving as gracefully as we always did, and still in our prime (of what I am not so sure) but we intend to enjoy today's match, and enjoy the Company of friends we have made playing this great game over the years.

One last attempt at justifying the counties investment in my education;

**T**ough luck and we do better next time.

**H**ave faith

**A**lways be kind to the referee – we can't play without them.

**N**ext year, promotion, why not?

**K**eep on supporting all our sides – the guys (& girls) really appreciate it.

**Y**our help and support this year has been outstanding

**O**ur thanks to the coach's players committee volunteers parents and everyone who makes this Club

**U**ndeniably, the best Club in the South West!

You know you make the difference as Chards 16th Man, Woman or Child!!  
So.....once again, but for the last time in National League 3 (South West), for a year.....

# C'mon Chard!!

Please keep up to date by logging on to the website at [www.pitchero.com/clubs/chardrfc](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/chardrfc)

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## CHARD RFC - 1ST XV TEAM (from)

- 15 BRYAN HARRISON (Sponsored by "Stick It and Screw It" North'ants Ltd)
- 14 BRYN MAYS
- 13 GEORGE HERBERT (Sponsored by Nick Medforth)
- 12 RYAN HELLIAR (Sponsored by Carpets are US)
- 11 BEN STEAD
- 10 JAMES TWIGG
- 9 BEN JOHNSON (Sponsored by Total Plumbing, Chard)
- 8 MARK PARSONS (C) (Sponsored by Dave Rogers, of DR Glazing, Norton sub Hamdon)
- 7 JASON WRIGHT (Sponsored by Neil Witteridge)
- 6 GABE RILEY (Sponsored by West End Garage, Stoke sub Hamdon)
- 5 ALAN HENLEY (Sponsored by Hamdon View Windows)
- 4 PAUL MORTENSEN (Sponsored by M.J.Male Ltd Chard)
- 3 LUKE APLIN (Sponsored by Baker & Gammage)
- 2 SIMON JENKINS (Sponsored by John Stott - Hornsey Architectural Mouldings)
- 1 NICK HYSLOP (Sponsored by Ian Gatfield & Rob Hebditch)
- 16 MAX GOSDEN, 17 BEN ROBINSON, 18 MATT TINLEY



**Coaches: Steve Broome, Simon Jenkins**

# Old Patesians RFC

We welcome to Essex Close today, the players, committee and supporters of Old Patesians RFC.



## Old Patesians RFC (from) Old Patesians RFC History.

- 1 GEORGE HUGHES
- 2 DUNCAN SPURRIER
- 3 JAMES AHERNE
- 4 GEORGE ANGELL
- 5 NATHAN TAYLOR
- 6 MARCUS RAYMOND
- 7 LUCAS ROY SMITH
- 8 JOHN BARKER
- 9 TOM LANGTON
- 10 NATHAN RILEY
- 11 JOSH STEVENS
- 12 HAYDN JENNINGS
- 13 JAMES ENDERBY
- 14 ROB WHITE
- 15 CONNOR THOMPSON

Rugby was first played at the Cheltenham Grammar School around 1900 and the Old Patesians Rugby Club was formed in 1913.

At the start of the 1925/26 season the 'Echo' reviewed the Old Pats prospects and commented "Followers of the Old Patesians will be provided with the best football, played in the right spirit ...

The Old Patesians play the game for the games sake and the pleasure derived is shared by Players and Spectators alike".

The Old Patesians association was formed in 1947 & 1975 saw the opening of the ground at Everest road and this put an end to the 'nomadic' nature of the club in previous years.

The 1987/88 season saw the formation of League rugby and Old pats were placed in Gloucestershire 1, and won the league in 1992 before being crowned Western Counties league winners in 1993/94, shortly followed by being pronounced South West two (South) league winners in 1997/98.

2001/2002 was an incredible season for Old Pats' winning South West One by points difference, and the intermediate Cup at Twickenham by 1 point from Blaydon!

Now safe from any relegation worries Old Pats can look forward to another season in National League 3 (SW) and I hope that they all enjoy (but not too much) their first visit to Essex Close today.

### Substitutes

- JASPER FROST  
GETHIN EVANS  
SCOTT DENYER

## LEAGUE TABLE

#		Pd	HW	HD	HL	AW	AD	AL	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts	Adj	Recent form
1.	<b>Redingsians</b>	25	13	0	0	9	0	3	22	0	3	928	320	608	<b>107</b>	19	W W W W W
2.	<b>Exmouth</b>	25	11	0	1	9	0	4	20	0	5	789	412	377	<b>94</b>	14	L W W W L
3.	<b>Old Centralians</b>	25	12	0	1	6	1	5	18	1	6	636	509	127	<b>82</b>	8	W W W W W
4.	<b>Bracknell</b>	25	9	0	3	7	0	6	16	0	9	705	530	175	<b>81</b>	17	W L L W W
5.	<b>Brixham</b>	25	9	0	3	7	0	6	16	0	9	657	558	99	<b>79</b>	15	W L L W L
6.	<b>Hornets</b>	25	9	0	3	6	0	7	15	0	10	661	531	130	<b>77</b>	17	L L W W W
7.	<b>Newton Abbot</b>	25	8	0	5	3	1	8	11	1	13	625	637	-12	<b>62</b>	16	L W W L L
8.	<b>Barnstaple</b>	24	6	1	5	3	1	8	9	2	13	516	556	-40	<b>53</b>	13	L L L W W
9.	<b>Bournemouth</b>	25	8	1	3	2	0	11	10	1	14	531	616	-85	<b>52</b>	10	L W L W L
10.	<b>Old Patesians</b>	25	7	1	5	2	0	10	9	1	15	499	721	-222	<b>51</b>	13	L W L W L
11.	<b>Old Redcliffians</b>	25	6	1	7	4	1	6	10	2	13	421	604	-183	<b>49</b>	5	W L W L L
12.	<b>Weston-super-Mare</b>	25	2	0	11	5	0	7	7	0	18	454	621	-167	<b>39</b>	11	W L W W W
13.	<b>Oxford Harlequins</b>	24	3	0	8	3	0	10	6	0	18	398	716	-318	<b>33</b>	9	L L L L L
14.	<b>Chard</b>	25	0	0	12	1	0	12	1	0	24	374	863	-489	<b>9</b>	5	L L L L L

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Good Luck to Chard Rugby in todays game and for the rest of the season.

Thanks Allan & Lynn

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## REFEREE PROFILE

This season we have yet another excellent group of referees from the South West Group of referees and these are all qualified to referee at Level Six.

In some games, some of you might not think that (!!!) but it is the truth and I'm sure that they will appreciate some of the "banter" that they will receive over the season – but let's all try and keep it at just that please, because we will have them again this season, and we want them all on our side!

This week's referee is Sara Cox - and no, not the radio presenter!!

### Sara Cox - Devon

As part of the IRB Women's Sevens World Series, which takes me all over the world. I was a part of the World cup sevens squad and Assistant Refereed in the women's final in 2013, Moscow.

I have ambitions to go on and be a part of the Rio 2016 sevens squad as a referee. I am also involved in the next Women's 15's World Cup in Paris this August and hope to progress within the 15's game to the National Panel.

When I am not in the gym or away with rugby, I am a Marketing Executive for a Recycling Company in Exeter.



## Chard Rugby Mini's & Juniors

I'm delighted to be offered the opportunity as Chard RFC Minis and Juniors Chairperson to write a few words for inclusion in this Match Programme.

Chard RFC M&Js has been an integral part of the club for some time now and continues to go from strength to strength with rugby coaching available from 3 years all the way through to seniors.

I wonder around all of the age groups on a Sunday watching the professionalism of all of the volunteer coaches the hard work of all of those that give whatever time they have towards ensuring all of our young people continue to receive the best experience of rugby they deserve and I feel proud of this Sporting Community.

Our Colts team has the largest squad it has seen since I can remember and I am sure that in part it is down to how it is being both coached and managed, this fact means we should be in a good position to be able to start to provide a more secure flow of home grown talent into our senior sides and the M&Js Committee are determined to see this continue through thoughtful and measured planning.

Martin Carnell (M&Js Chair)

### Chard 1st XV - Next game is against;

TBC RFC on a Saturday in September 2015.  
I guess it will be away to Camborne RFC??

The best Pasties for miles are from Philips in Hayle, just down the road – believe me, I've done my research!!

### Club A.G.M.

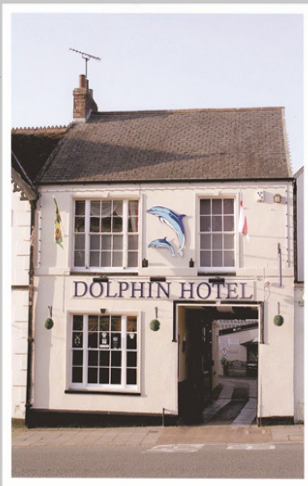
Held last night and after this final programme of the season went to print.  
The best place to find out what happened at the meeting, is to log on to the website as soon as possible.

Finally, if you would like to be associated with the Club, either personally, professionally, or via your business, or if you know someone who might, please pass on my number (Paul Gammage) 07802 471980 or speak to any committee member. Opportunities range from simple membership, through to programme advertising, player sponsorship, pitch side boards and can be tailor made to suit. Any help, no matter how small, makes such a difference to a Club like ourselves, and helps so many people to enjoy the greatest team game in the world, according to Brian O'Driscoll, and Steve Broom of course.

How about volunteering to help out on a Saturday – there are so many small things that need doing and we can always find something for anyone who wants to get involved.

It takes a great deal to run a Club like ours and it needs your help – enthusiasm can more than make up for a possible missing skill set – if you think you can offer any help, please let one of us know.

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