



Match Report

11 October

Away

Cambridge 4

Lost 14:15



Team

Starting Line-up

1) Stuart 'Booey' Cracknell 2) Ren Pesci 3) Chris 'Psycho' Edwards

4) Tom Wykes 5) Chris 'Ginger Chris' Leith

6) Chris 'Glove' Milne 7) Ben Powell 8) Daniel 'Ginger Dan' Leith

9) Stuart 'Fabio' Faben 10) Steve Marsh

11) Josh Scupham 12) Casper 'the rather skilful ghost' 13) Jack Cowley 14) David Young

15) Dave Steward

Replacements

16) Dan Jerred 17) Phil Hepworth 18) Rik Relph 19) Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

Report

The Cambridge ground was eerily quiet as the first of the Renegades arrived. Glove was the most eager having just seen his English family off to visit his Scottish family. As people arrived we had the luxury of 19 Renegades to choose from – the biggest turnout so far this season. The support turned out in numbers as well with more Renegade supporters in the ground than those cheering for Cambridge.

The game got off to a fairly smooth start with both teams attacking. After 10 minutes, Renegades had a five metre scrum to relieve pressure on their line. The pass back was fumbled and a Cambridge hand got to the loose ball first. The conversion never went anywhere near target 0 – 5.

The game reverted to both sides having a go. After another 10 minutes, a Cambridge penalty was kicked to touch inside the Renegades 22. Cambridge took the throw in quickly and left Renegades standing to cross the Renegades line for a second time. Again the conversion was well wide of the mark 0-10.

Shortly before/afterwards Ren surfed off the pitch on a tsunami of blood. A victim of friendly fire, Old Tom had accidentally duffed him one, giving him the profile of Mark from Camborne. Fortunately, Rolando was on hand to pop everything back into place and restore Ren's classical schnozzle. Dan Jarred bravely stepped forward to put his nose on the line.

Renegades responded with some serious attacking of the Cambridge line. Intense pressure came in waves but the Cambridge defence was good, despite the serious efforts of Jack Cowley who was everywhere. For all the effort, nothing resulted on the scoresheet and then Cambridge came back again to score another unconverted try, 0-15.

However, Renegades had a response. Serious pressure was applied again and this time a result was achieved. Ginger Dan crossed the line shortly before the interval and David Young slotted the ball for the conversion.

Half time saw the *policeman shuffle*: Dave Steward came off, Josh moved to full back and Porkpie entered the game on the wing.

The opening moments of the second half were very promising. Cambridge kicked off and Renegades took the ball back towards the Cambridge line. Phase after phase the advance looked unstoppable. Unfortunately the onslaught was stopped within feet of the Cambridge line.

The second half was very different to the first. Renegades camped in the Cambridge 22 and were rarely forced into their own half. However, the Cambridge defence was solid and kept Renegades at bay. Psycho was forced off with a neck injury, bringing Rik on and Glove was kneed in the face resulting in some wobbly knees. Dave Steward returned to the field to relieve. Eventually, the pressure told and a penalty try was awarded to Renegades for reasons that were not apparent at the time. David Young converted and the final whistle sounded.

It was frustrating to come that close to Cambridge again after last year. Looking forward to having them around ours in mid-January. The post-match lasagne was very good.

Scores

Tries: Daniel 'Ginger Dan' Leith. The second try was a penalty try which Glove claims is allocated to him under the Barnet Formula. We checked with Alex Salmond and he said that was a crock of poo.

Conversions: David Young (2).



Chris Leith for playing a blinder and prioritising his rugby mates by staying for the second half.



Keeping it in the family – Daniel Leith for forgetting how to count and for not lifting Glove in three consecutive lineouts. And Bev for his flying over the top again last season – 'cos it was Cambridge

Report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy