



## Match Report

September 15 Home Saffron Walden 2

Won 85:7



### Team

#### Starting Line-up

- 1) Chris 'Psycho' Edwards
- 2) Ren Pesci
- 3) Jack Cowley
- 4) Aaron Stevens
- 5) Adam 'Speedie' Richards
- 6) Tom Procter
- 7) Elliot Roberts
- 8) Chris 'Machine' Machen
- 9) Dan Stockbridge
- 10) Ross Catchpole
- 11) Michael Did-Dell
- 12) Ben Powell
- 13) Tom Heathcote
- 14) Will Blackwell
- 15) David 'Captain' Fletcher-Morris

#### Replacements

- 16) Jack Branton
- 17) Tobi Rayner
- 18) Rolando Pesci
- 19) Stuart 'Booey' Cracknell

#### Played for Saffron Walden

John 'JB' Bateson, Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

### Report

It was a very pleasant Autumn afternoon as Renegades assembled. The new scoreboard was in place beside the pitch adding an air of professionalism. Sadly, the pitch was significantly narrower than normal. Nothing could be done about that in time for the game. Renegades were expecting a hard grind ever since Saffron Walden's impressive drubbing of Cambridge the previous week.

Renegades kicked off and within two minutes Ben crashed through the Walden defence and scored under the posts. Stockers converted, 7-0. Walden recovered and took the game back to Renegades and things looked even for a few minutes. Then Tom Procter broke through the Walden defence and made significant yards before a lovely series of flowing passes saw Ben cross the line for his second try of the afternoon which Stockers converted, 14-0.

Speedie had to come off having twisted his knee. Jack Branton replaced. It was not long before Ross broke through the defence making many yards before offloading to Ben who ran his third try in from well outside the Walden 22. Stockers converted, 21-0.

Walden came back and a kick deep into Renegades territory was fielded by Ross who ran the ball back half the length of the pitch before offloading to Ben (inevitably) who touched down under the posts. Stockers converted, 28-0.

Renegades kept the pressure on Walden who held out for some time before one of them broke clear along the right wing. It looked threatening until Ben smashed him into touch. It wasn't long before Ross and Ben resumed their double act with Ben scoring under the posts and Stockers converting, 35-0. Ben then decided to do one on his own by intercepting a Walden pass and scoring under the posts again (double hat trick). Stockers conversion attempt came back off the post. 40-0.

As half-time approached Walden spent an extended period in Renegades territory before a turnover saw Ben break through and feed Elliot who scored and Stockers converted, 47-0. As the first half drew to a close, Walden had both flankers injured and, as they had no replacements, JB and Billbob donned green shirts to help out.

The second half opened with a lovely try in the right corner by Tobi which resulted in the corner flag being reduced to fragments of plastic. The conversion was a big ask and missed, 52-0. From the restart, Walden went on the offensive and their number 10 dinked the ball through the Renegades line, gathered it and scored under the posts. The conversion was good, 52-7.

Normal service was resumed when Machine turned the ball over allowing Ross to break through the Walden defence before offloading to Ben who made yards before offloading to Elliot who scored his second try. Stockers converted, 59-7.

Shortly after the re-start, Jack Cowley brushed Billbob out of his path (nice and gently) and ran half the length of the pitch to score under the posts. Stockers converted, 66-7. Ross then made a break and scored again, converting it himself, 73-7. Ben then scored his seventh try which was not converted, 78-7. The Walden coach consulted with his players about continuing and they decided to carry on. From the kickoff, the ball went to Tom Procter who ran over to score, and Ross converted, 85-7. At this point Walden decided they had had enough. After consulting with the referee and Renegades, it was decided to call it a day a good 15 minutes before the 80<sup>th</sup> minute.

It was a stunning display by Renegades. Everything clicked in the way it hadn't with Newmarket the previous week.

### Scores

Tries: Ben Powell (7), Elliot Roberts (2), Tobi Rayner, Ross Catchpole, Jack Cowley, Tom Procter

Conversions: Dan Stockbridge (8), Ross Catchpole (2)



Ross Catchpole (who had a great game, but Ben must be wondering what he has to do to get MotM)



Tom Procter – it being his last game before Uni – two weeks in a row – harsh!

*Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy (thanks to Peter Waples for note taking)*

*Pictures by Peter Haigh (for the full set of pictures see [Peter's Flickr Page](#))*



