



Match Report

October 6

Away Shelford 3

Won 39-12



Team

Starting Line-up

- 1) Tom 'BFT' Powell 2) Callum Wilkins 3) Chris 'Psycho' Edwards
- 4) Aaron Stevens 5) Jack Branton
- 6) Harry Mills 7) Ollie Witt 8) Elliot Roberts
- 9) Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge 10) Andrew 'Baz' MacKay
- 11) Michael Did-Dell 12) Ben Powell 13) Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote 14) Jon Farrar
- 15) Ross Catchpole

Replacements

- 16) Matt Faiers 17) Toby 'TNT' Rayner 18) Ren Pesci 19) Rolando Pesci
- 20) Stuart 'Fabio' Faben 21) Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

Report

Proper rugby weather had arrived as the Renegades gathered at Shelford – it was cold, wet and miserable. Renegades warmed up well, but the Shelford warm up looked a bit half-hearted. Shelford kicked off with a strong wind to their backs. After kick off, Shelford managed to keep Renegades camped within their own 22 with a period of sustained pressure. After about 10 minutes Baz broke through the Shelford line and passed to Ben who powered half the length of the pitch before feeding Ollie, who juggled the ball with his finger-tips several times before catching it and going to ground. Renegades advanced and the ball went loose to be hacked over the defence by Aaron and he very nearly caught it himself. The ball went wide to BFT who was stopped just short of the line. Jon Farrar sustained an ankle injury and was replaced by Matt Faiers.

Shelford piled on the pressure again and a sliced clearance attempt by Ross gave them the chance to open their account which they did with a converted try, 0-7. Ross took the kick off and broke Shelford's line making half a pitch length before being chopped short of the line. However, he managed to feed Ollie who finished the job in style. Baz converted easily, 7-7. It wasn't long before Ben powered through Shelford again along the left of the field. This time he managed to go all the way himself to score in the left-hand corner. The conversion was nigh on impossible in the conditions and the ball fell short of the posts, 12-7.

The second try was quickly followed by a penalty which Baz slotted bringing the lead to a more-comfortable 15-7. A while later Michael DD was forced to retire with an ankle injury identical to Jon's. Tobi replaced him.

Shelford piled on the pressure and eventually managed a try which they didn't convert, 15-12. That was how the score remained at half time. It was a good position for Renegades to be ahead at half time when Shelford had a significant wind advantage for the first half.

The second half got off to an exciting start when Ross broke the line to feed Ben who passed to Tobi who powered along the left touch line for half the length of the pitch before neatly side stepping the last defender to score. The conversion missed, 20-10.

A great steal by Elbow allowed him to feed Ross, who charged through Shelford to score near the posts. Baz slotted the conversion, 27-12. This was followed by another Ben Break to score under the posts which Baz converted, 34-12. Ross treated us to a fine display of soccer skills by hacking the ball in a controlled manner to the Shelford line to score. The wind took the conversion wide, 39-12.

In the dying moments of the game Ben went on another of his epic runs which ended just short of the line when he realised that another try would be expensive. That was how the game ended.

The first half was a display of dogged defence with some moments of brilliance. The wind advantage in the second half allowed some really flowing rugby. It was sweet to beat Shelford on their home turf but at a high price – both Jon's and Michael' ankles were confirmed broken. Speedy recovery to both.

Scores

Tries: Ollie Witt, Ben Powell (2), Tobi Rayner, Ross Catchpole (2)

Conversions: Andrew 'Baz' Mackay (3)

Penalties: Andrew 'Baz' Mackay



Elliot for all round graft.



Ben for jug avoidance.

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

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



