



## Match Report

Feb 04

Home Cambridge 3

Lost 33-44



### Team

#### Starting Lineup

- 1) George Collett 2) Callum 'Wilko' Wilkins 3) Michael 'Big Mike' Goode
- 4) Nic Mainiero Aaron Stevens 5) Jack 'Chinese' Mills
- 6) Ryan 'Shep' Sheppard 7) Dan Philips 8) Tom 'BFT' Powell
- 9) Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge 10) Tom 'Proccy' Procter
- 11) Michael Did-Dell 12) Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote 13) Geoff Kirby 14) Doug Ellis
- 15) Josh 'Slugz' Vail

#### Replacements

- 16) Joe Paddison 17) Fraser 'Spongebob' Johnson 18) Harry Mills

### Report

Feb 4 was supposed to be a free weekend to mark the beginning of the Six Nations but the postponed fixture against Cambridge before Christmas was moved into this slot. As the teams gathered, a combination of injuries (excluding players and some players carrying injuries) and a late arrival by Harry, saw a starting line-up that was unusual to say the least. It was good to welcome Callum back after prolonged absence from the field due to a nasty back injury.

Cambridge kicked off and the ball was knocked on by Renegades. Cambridge 8 picks, breaks tackle and scores. The conversion was good, 0-7. Fourth game in a row, Renegades concede a try in the opening play of the game.

Renegades restarted, recaptured the ball and went on the attack. They advanced into the Cambridge 22 and won a penalty. The lineout was lost, and Cambridge cleared. Renegades came again and a high tackle on Doug put another lineout deep inside the Cambridge 22. The lineout was won but the resulting drive was held out. Another penalty was taken as a scrum and, after a short walk, the ball was spun out to Harry who charged through and was chopped just short of the line but hot on his heels came Shep who picked up and crashed over the line. The conversion pulled left and wide, 5-7.

From the kickoff, Cambridge advanced and one of their fast young players just cut through the Renegades line breaking tackle attempts to score another converted try, 5-14. This was followed within five minutes by another similar converted try, 5-21.

Renegades went on the offensive and advanced into the Cambridge half. They bashed through the Cambridge line and Harry barrelled towards the line only to be chopped just short. Stockers picked up from the back of the ruck and managed to get the ball onto the line. The conversion was good, 12-21.

As half time approached, Renegades advanced again helped by Cambridge ill-discipline giving a succession of penalties that allowed Renegades to advance deep into the Cambridge 22. A penalty on the 5m line was taken quickly by Shep who sold a lovely dummy to his defender and smashed through him when his guard was down. Stockers slotted the conversion, 19-21. That's how it stayed until the interval.

Wilko came off and Shep moved to Hooker with Joe replacing him on the flank.

Renegades kicked off the second half and Cambridge battered their way slowly but inevitably towards the Renegades line. Within five minutes of kickoff they had scored 5m from the left corner. This time the conversion missed, 19-26. From the kickoff, Cambridge advanced up the field again, this time resulting in a converted try, 19-33.

This time Renegades regained the ball from the kickoff and Proccy burst through the Cambridge line and powered to the Cambridge line, leaving Stockers a straightforward conversion, 26-33. There followed a calm in the scoring storm for a while. This came to an end when Cambridge opted to go for the posts when they got a penalty about halfway between the 22 and the 10m line. The kick was good, 26-36. Five minutes later they tried again but this time the ball struck the post and went wide.

Cambridge went on another battering rally to advance and cross the Renegades line for another converted try, 26-43. Renegades responded by advancing into the Cambridge 22 where a penalty was taken quickly by Stockers who crashed over and then converted another of his own tries, 33-44.

There was only a minute to go as the game restarted, which was probably just as well as in that minute Cambridge were well into another of their battering advances. Fortunately, the clock ran down before that got to its probably inevitable conclusion.

It was a very entertaining game to watch but frustrating because missed tackles and handling errors made winning much easier for Cambridge than it should have been.



Geoff Kirby for great carries and tackling including a try saving tackle.



Slugz for a pass so forward, it nearly travelled into the future.

### Scores

Tries: Ryan 'Shep' Sheppard (2), Dan 'Stocker's' Stockbridge (2), Tom 'Proccy'@ Procter

Conversion: Dan 'Stocker's' Stockbridge (4)

Pictures by Peter Haigh. See [Peter's Flickr page](#) for the full set







