

Veterans Team Season Review 2009 to 2010

DATE	HOME		AWAY
30-Aug-09			
05-Sep-09			
12-Sep-09			
19-Sep-09			
26-Sep-09			
03-Oct-09			
10-Oct-09			
14-Oct-09	Shipston on Stour Veterans	21 - 14	Berkswell & Ballsall Vets
17-Oct-09			
24-Oct-09			
31-Oct-09	Shipston on Stour Veterans	28 - 24	Longlevens
07-Nov-09			
11-Nov-09	Keresley Vets	17 - 14	Shipston on Stour Veterans
14-Nov-09			
21-Nov-09	Old Griffs Vets	Cancelled	Shipston on Stour Veterans
28-Nov-09	Shipston on Stour Veterans	11 - 15	Witney Vets
05-Dec-09			
12-Dec-09			
19-Dec-09	Ledbury Vets	Cancelled	Shipston on Stour Veterans
26-Dec-09			
02-Jan-10			
09-Jan-10	Shipston on Stour Veterans	Cancelled	Old Patesians Vets
16-Jan-10			
23-Jan-10	Shipston on Stour Veterans	0 - 24	Redditch Vets
30-Jan-10			
06-Feb-10			
13-Feb-10			
20-Feb-10			
27-Feb-10			
06-Mar-10			
13-Mar-10			
20-Mar-10			
27-Mar-10			
03-Apr-10	Shipston on Stour Veterans	48 - 5	Burton Veterans
10-Apr-10			
17-Apr-10			
24-Apr-10			
01-May-10			
08-May-10	Shipston Sevens		

Wednesday 14th October

Shipston Vets 21 - 14 Berkswell & Balsall Vets

The veterans overcame a numerical disadvantage of two players to triumph in their first pool game of the South Warwicks Double Tops competition. Late drop outs (MW,AW and RP to initial the guilty) meant Shipston only fielded 12 players but with everyone giving 125% they were able to account for the full 15(you do the maths!). From a great attacking scrummage in B&Bs 22, spritely scrum half Jon Alexander found Carl Hamilton who executed a text book switch move with inside centre Dean Howe who shimmied to the line unopposed. Mick Pyne added the first of his three conversions. The old rams doubled the score when B&Bs fumbled their own line out 15 metres from their own line. Hooker Martin Goodman snaffled the loose ball and made some headway before popping to no 8 Tim

Brendon, using his considerable weight to power over. Charlie Cox could have extended the lead but unselfishly (ridiculously) passed the ball to Pyne with the line at his mercy. Alexander was hauled into touch inches from the line after Hamilton had made a break from deep in the Shipston 22.

The home side did manage to use their extra men to advantage and grabbed two tries before the break to level the scores.

Full back Pyne made a valiant attempt to prevent the second score.

B&Bs backs could have made more use of their advantage but too often cut back in or knocked on when clear. A tense second half was finally decided when the ever youthful strawberry blonde(ginger) Hamilton finished off a move that was started by Brendon in his own half. Alexander was the link when Brendon ran out of gas(at least 25m), drawing the full back, and giving Hamilton a clear run to the line.



Starting 12

Mike Watkins

Martin Goodman,

Steve Unitt

Chris Baker

Andy Powell

Sam Russell

Tim Brendon

Jon Alexander

Carl Hamilton

Dean Howe

Charlie Cox

Mick Pyne

Saturday 31/10/09

Shipston Vets 28 - 24 Longlevens Vets

The Vets were thankful that the 3rd team game was cancelled so swelling their numbers from 12 to 19 on the day. Things looked ominous when Longlevens, who included a couple of ex Glos players, opened the scoring up the slope within the first 5 minutes. Shipston steadily got back into the game with the forwards competing admirably in the loose. A break by fly half Jon Davies and then a switch with centre Carl Hamilton set the backs away. Dave Graham continued the move and then winger Nick Fresson cleverly kicked ahead when his options were limited. Graham followed up, gathered the ball, and went over under the posts. Hamilton converted. From a lineout in Longlevens 22, Sam Russell secured good ball 'off the top'. Quick hands through Alexander and Davies released Hamilton who broke through two tackles to score. A long clearance kick by Davies from a lineout in the Shipston half was chased and the ball was snaffled by the Fox who found Hamilton in support. He released Graham who raced away for his second try. Hamilton landed his third conversion for a 21-7 half time score. The visitors reduced the deficit to nine points with some great forward support play. From the long restart, Longlevens fumbled and the ball was secured by Russell. John Barnard found himself in support and managed to receive and then give the pass to Hamilton who once again broke through tackles for his second try. It has to be said that the Shipston forwards were beginning to tire after their sterling work and Longlevens got back two tries in the last quarter. Another few minutes and the spoils may have gone the other way! Great game.

Wednesday 11/11/09 Double Tops

Keresley Vets 17 - 14 Shipston Vets

Shipston made a dreadful start against 13 man Keresley when a turnover in midfield allowed Ks to race away and score under the posts. The old rams were 14-0 down after 10 mins when some non existent tackling let Ks in again. Shipston got on to the score sheet just before half time from a scrum in their own half. Scrum half John Alexander made a break and passed to Gary Flowers and then Dave Graham, who missed out Dean Howe (couldn't catch a cold let alone the ball!) linked with guest Pete Jones. He rounded his opposite man and raced 60m to the corner where he dummied the defence and strolled over to the posts allowing Pyne an easier conversion.

The second half started better for Shipston. A kick and chase by Pete Gardner forced the Ks fullback into touch on the 5m. A long throw by Fox found Gardner at the tail of the lineout. He tapped down to Goodman who burrowed over. Pyne landed the extra points to level the scores. Shipston were often slower to the breakdowns and conceded a penalty for killing the ball. Ks took the three points on offer and the bragging rights. It was good to see three more players making their season debuts. Team Barny, Foxy, Arthur, Thug, Pies, Martin, PG, Powelly, John A, Gary F, Jonah, DG, Deano, Charlie, Pyney, The Unitt, Jim Adcock

Shipston Vets 11 v 15 Witney Vets5

Shipston's old rams were a little slow out of the shed this week and were soon looking at a 12 point deficit as Witney ran in two tries mainly due to some very poor defensive organisation and non effective tackling. The trusty boot of Mick Pyne kept Shipston in the hunt with two penalties and then the try of the game finished off by Muddy Waters but created by Dave Graham got Shipston back to only one point behind. Shipston could have gone ahead if Gary Flowers had trusted himself and gone for the line, having made an interception on half way, instead of trying to get a pass away when a few metres out. The second half saw numerous personnel changes on both sides (some rather fresh faced Witney vets). Unfortunately, all Shipston's 5 replacements were forwards when a bit of pace out wide may have been required. Witney added another penalty to extend the lead. Shipston welcomed the return of Kev Roles to the club after an extended absence and also Nigel Greenwood on his Shipston debut.

Team: John Barnard, Darren Sutton, Arthur White, Gord Sabin, Chris Baker, Nigel Greenwood, Duncan Mills, Andy Powell, Charlie Cox, Gary Flowers, Kevin Roles, Dave Graham, Muddy Waters, Nick Fresson, Mick Pyne. Bench: Guy Loveridge, Neil Loveridge, Andy Cox, Dave Wells, Tim Brendon

Shipston Vets 0 Redditch Vets 24

Shipston scraped 13 not so able bodied men together to take on the Hokey Cokey dancing Exiles from Redditch. A 14th player was unearthed mid way through the first half and then Redditch finally donated their sub with 10 minutes to go when the game was secure. Two tries in either half from the visitors settled the contest. The home side toiled valiantly with back row Dave Wells involved throughout but the numerical disadvantage meant Shipston struggled. However, there was time for a breather before each set piece as the sides waited for Boggy Warmington to make his way to the scrum or lineout. Mick Pyne had a good game at full back, even making a tackle when following up a kick ahead. Thanks to Clive Brooks for donning his kit when he had expected to run the line.

Team Clive Brooks, Foxy, Boggy, Gord Sabin, Spen, Steve Unitt, Matt Tofts, Dave Wells, John Alexander, Gary Flowers, Kev Roles, Guy Loveridge, Topoff, Mick Pyne