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Saturday 13th September 2008
Midlands 3 West (South)
Old Laurentian RFC v Droitwich RFC

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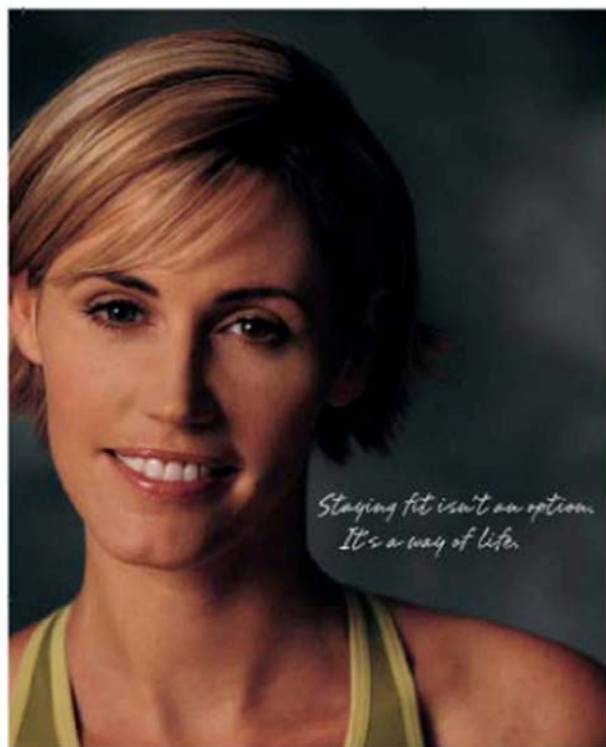
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1st XV Fixtures & Results

Date		Opponents	Venue	Type	Result	
Month	Day				+	-
September	6	Lutterworth	A	F	34	22
September	13	Droitwich	H	L		
September	20	Kidderminster	A	L		
September	27	Nuneaton Old Edwardians	H	L		
October	4	Spartans	A	L		
October	11	Newbold on Avon	H	L		
October	18	<i>EDF Senior Vase</i>		SV		
October	25	Leamington	A	L		
November	1	Old Coventrians	H	L		
November	8	Barkers Butts	H	L		
November	15	Silhillians	A	L		
November	22	<i>EDF Senior Vase</i>		SV		
November	29	Earlsdon	H	L		
December	6	Berkswell & Balsall	A	L		
December	13	<i>EDF Senior Vase</i>		SV		
December	20	Silhillians	H	L		
December	26	<i>Inter Club Game</i>				
January	3	Towcestrians	H	F		
January	10	Barkers Butts	A	L		
January	17	<i>EDF Senior Vase</i>		SV		
January	24	Old Coventrians	A	L		
January	31	Leamington	H	L		
February	7	Market Bosworth	A	F		
February	14	Newbold on Avon	A	L		
February	21	Spartans	H	L		
February	28	<i>EDF Senior Vase QF</i>		SV		
March	7	Nuneaton Old Edwardians	A	L		
March	14	Kidderminster	H	L		
March	21	Metropolis RFC, USA	H	F		
March	28	Droitwich	A	L		
April	4	Berkswell & Balsall	H	L		
April	11	Market Bosworth	H	F		
April	18	Earlsdon	L	A		
April	25					

Fixture Key

Friendly = F, Midlands 3 West South = L, Warwickshire Cup = W, Senior Vase = SV

Welcome to Fenley Field



As Chairman of the Old Laurentian R.F.C. and on behalf of our members it gives me great pleasure to welcome you here to Fenley Field, the home of O.L.R.F.C. since 1946. Founded in 1919 we have remained faithful to the ethos of our founders and are proud to say we are still an amateur club.

Today we are pleased to welcome the players, officials and supporters of **Droitwich RFC** to Fenley Field. We hope you enjoy your visit

We are also delighted to welcome Shirley Gale and guests from **La Casa Loco**, today's sponsors. We are very appreciative of their generous support. Today also marks the first staging of **Ladies Day**. We hope you enjoy your day, ladies!

Many things have changed since 1919 and like many in recent history this season sees the introduction of more law changes. We are told they have been implemented to make the breakdowns simpler to understand and easier to referee, thereby reducing the number of stoppages that in turn will make the game more attractive to spectators. It certainly promotes a faster game, one that appears more suited to frantic back-row play than the intricacies of forward play as I knew it. Personally I liked the old game where players were sorted into positions by proportion and there was a position for everybody. As the season progresses it will be interesting to see how the game evolves.

We have attempted to provide a brief explanation of the new laws later in this programme, on page 15. Or you can go to our website at www.olrfc.com where a full and official explanation can be found.

We had a positive start to the 2007 season, flying high for the first half of the season, only to fall away from contention in the league after Christmas. This year we hope to add consistency to our game and I wish Carl and his team every success.

A welcome development this season sees our 2nd and 3rd teams competing in leagues for the first time, Warwickshire Leagues 1 and 3 respectively. Skipped by those experienced campaigners David Longrigg and Stuart Birch, we have justifiably high hopes of those teams featuring strongly in their leagues.

Please feel free to enjoy our facilities, Andie and her staff behind the bar prefer to be kept busy and will be happy to serve you with drinks and snacks.

Enjoy the game.

Reiner Ferguson



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2nd & 3rd XV - Fixtures & Results

			2nd XV			3rd XV		
				+	-		+	-
Sept	6	W	Old Coventrians	A		Long Buckby (F)	H	
Sept	13	L	Broadstreet	A		Harbury II (L)	H	
Sept	20	L	Kenilworth	H		Coventrians (L)	A	
Sept	27	L	Nuneaton Old Eds	A		Kenilworth III (L)	H	
Oct	4	L	Spartans	H		Stoke Old Boys (L)	A	
Oct	11	L	Newbold on Avon	A		Spartans III (L)	H	
Oct	18					M Harboro' Vets (F)	H	
Oct	25	L	Leamington	H		Bedworth Bears (L)	A	
Nov	1	L	Old Coventrians	A		Manor Park (L)	H	
Nov	8	L	Barkers Butts	A		Old Coventrians III (L)	A	
Nov	15	L	Silhillians	H		Broadstreet III (L)	H	
Nov	22					Towcestrians (F)	A	
Nov	29	L	Earlsdon	A		Leamington III (L)	H	
Dec	6	L	Stratford	H		Coventry Welsh (L)	A	
Dec	13	F	Old Leamingtonians	H		Shipston (F)	A	
Dec	20	L	Silhillians	A		Broadstreet III (L)	A	
Dec	26		INTER CLUB GAME					
Jan	3	F	Towcestrians	A		Towcestrians (F)	A	
Jan	10	L	Barkers Butts	H		Old Coventrians III (L)	H	
Jan	17	F	Harbury 1	A		Old Leam'ingtonians (F)	H	
Jan	24	L	Old Coventrians	H		Manor Park (L)	A	
Jan	31	L	Leamington	A		Bedworth Bears (L)	H	
Feb	7	F	Market Bosworth	H		M Harboro' Vets (F)	A	
Feb	14	L	Newbold on Avon	H		Spartans III (L)	A	
Feb	21	L	Spartans	A		Stoke Old Boys (L)	H	
Feb	28	L	Kenilworth	A		Shipston (F)	H	
March	7	L	Nuneaton Old Eds	H		Kenilworth III (L)	A	
March	14					Coventrians (L)	H	
March	21	F	Metropolis RFC, USA	H		Metropolis RFC, USA	H	
March	28	L	Broadstreet	H		Harbury II (L)	A	
April	4	L	Stratford	A		Coventry Welsh (L)	H	
April	11	F	Market Bosworth	A		Market Bosworth (F)	A	
April	18	L	Earlsdon	H		Leamington III (L)	A	
April	25					Long Buckby (F)	A	



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Today's Visitors *Droitwich RFC*

Droitwich Rugby Football Club was founded in 1972 by a group of local rugby enthusiasts. Originally located at St. Peter's Fields the club has relocated on a number of occasions over the years but since 1998 has made The Glyn Mitchell Memorial Ground its home. With its excellent facilities the club has flourished since moving there, winning two league promotions.

After a four year absence, Droitwich returned to Midlands Three West (South) last season as champions of League Four and had an outstanding season. It didn't start too well, as they lost their first game to OL's, Denzil Evans kicking a penalty to clinch the points for us in the final minute.

Following that they lost just once more in the league when they went down to fellow newcomers Berkswell & Balsall, the latter having started the season very well before tailing off in the latter part.

After that reverse they remained unbeaten, taking three points out of four from champions Sutton Coldfield along the way, with a win and a draw, results which clearly demonstrated their quality. They finished the season in second place, earning them a play-off place and the chance of a second successive promotion. However they lost the decider to Stoke-on-Trent and appear again in Midlands 3 West (S) for one more season at least.

The clubs last met at the end of March when they exacted ample revenge for our early season win, using windy conditions to far better effect than OLs to run out 23-3 winners. The prolific Duncan Hughes was the main architect of our downfall, accounting for all of his side's points with a full house of scores.

Droitwich are sure to be among this season's pace setters and today's game will provide a useful pointer for the ambitions of both clubs.

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Player Scoring Statistics 2007-08											
1st XV		T	P	2nd XV		T	P	3rd XV		T	P
Denzil	Evans	3	182	John	Carruthers	2	52	Daz	Price	6	102
Iain	Wallis	17	85	Mawande	Sinyakanyaja	9	45	Garry	Hammond	11	55
Charlie	Turney	9	45	Danny	Orr	0	41	Tim	Dougherty	8	40
David	Longrigg	8	40	Mike	Coburn	6	38	Kev	White	3	26
Matt	Miller	7	35	Steve	Pike	2	35	Jody	Roderick	4	20
Simon	Bayliss	6	30	Lloyd	Warner	3	25	Stuart	Birch	4	20
James	Murray	4	30	Simon	Bayliss	4	20	Dom	Marsella	3	15
Mark	Todd	4	20	Jamie	Brightwell	4	20	Marc	Owen	3	15
Ricky	Reed	4	20	Gary	Hammond	4	20	Andy	Spriggs	3	15
Nick	Johnson	3	15	Dave	Middleton	4	20	James	Orbison	2	10
Danny	Murch	3	15	Ed	Wallis	4	20	Ben	Nuttall	2	10
Steve	Pike	2	13	Charlie	Turney	3	17	Mawande	Sinyakanyaja	2	10
Danny	Orr	0	11	Danny	Murch	3	15	Mark	Palmer	2	10
Carl	Adams	2	10	Ben	Wiles	0	15	Pete	Rigg	0	9
Ed	Wallis	2	10	Scott	Wiles	3	15	Marcus	Bailey	1	5
Dan	Volkman	2	10	Kev	White	1	12	Rich	Hughes	1	5
Mark	Palmer	0	7	Ben	Anderson	2	10	Bob	Barba	1	5
Andy	Vigus	1	5	Danny	Facer	2	10	Troy	Owen	1	5
Pete	Nealon	1	5	Mike	Lampard	2	10	Josh	Brimley	1	5
Scott	Wiles	1	5	Pete	Nealon	2	10	Adam	Buckby	1	5
Gary	Smith	1	5	Ben	Nuttall	2	10	Mike	Lampard	1	5
Andy	Orbinson	1	5	Lee	Randle	2	10	Ian	Bracken	1	5
Glenn	Todd	1	5	Gary	Smith	2	10	Adie	Cleaver	1	5
James	Morgan	1	5	Martin	Storey	2	10	Steve	Pike	1	5
John	Edwards	0	3	Scott	Whymont	2	10	Leigh	Fisher	1	5
John	Carruthers	0	2	Gary	Adkins	1	5	Adam	Foster	1	5
				Simon	Collyer	1	5	Badger		1	5
				Rich	Foxon	1	5	David	Longrigg	1	5
				Rich	Hayes	1	5	Steve	Hewitt	1	5
				Rich	Hughes	1	5	John	Brimley	1	5
				Chris	Jones	1	5	Ross	Tonkin	0	0
				Chris	King	1	5				
				Ash	McEwan	1	5				
				James	Morgan	1	5				
				Ben	O'Reardon	1	5				
				Jody	Roderick	1	5				
				Danny	Treherne	1	5				
				Andy	Vigus	1	5				
				Rhys	Wade	1	5				
				Daz	Price	0	2				

Good Luck To The OL's

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Action from last year's home match against Droitwich



Carl on the charge



Jeff Thomas goes for lineout ball



Reedo sets his backs away



Glenn Todd takes the ball on



Another lineout



Pikey sizes up the options

Photos by Ray Todd

You can see all of the OL's photos by visiting www.raytodd.jalbum.net



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The Old Laurentian Rugby Club every success!



Welcome to the new season

Hope springs eternal as we kick off a new season. Preparation is finished, plans are made and optimism is high. That optimism is justifiable, based on the best parts of the last two seasons, in each of which we started as one of the favourites for promotion.

Two years ago, our fate was in our own hands as the season reached its climax, and we blew it. Last term, some indifferent mid season performances meant that we were out of the running before the final reckoning. There were glimpses of our potential throughout, but we were unable to string the performances together to allow a concerted push for promotion. This time round, we aim again for promotion to Midlands Two, the league that our status and history demand we should be in.

In terms of preparation, the programme of trial games has meant that many of our squad have played the equivalent of three or four eighty minute games already. Pre-season training started in early July and as the season has approached, the sessions have become increasingly well attended. Taken together, those factors should ensure good levels of fitness and match hardened condition.

New first team skipper Carl Adams has been meticulous in his planning and is already showing (as if anyone should doubt it!) that he will be an inspirational captain who will lead from the front. The 2nd and 3rd teams face a full and demanding season as they compete in the new Warwickshire Leagues, but under the control of highly experienced campaigners in David Longrigg and Stuart Birch, they can be expected to feature prominently as the season unwinds. And you can be sure that the trio will have come up with some innovative plays to take advantage of the experimental law variations.

Sadly, a job move means that we are losing the services of Head Coach Neil Leeming. Neil has, nonetheless, had a major part to play pre-season and will still be around to lend his weight in the early part of the campaign. Stuart Birch will co-ordinate our coaching team and will be able to call upon the services of some experienced and talented individuals to support him, including the likes of Chris Wade, Mark Palmer, Jason King and Denzil Evans.

Injury will force Denzil to start the season on the sidelines, as it will for the other half of that highly experienced half back combination, Ricky Reed. In other seasons that might have presented a serious headache for us, but this term we welcome the return of the highly rated Richard Parker at scrum half, in combination with the emerging talent of Danny Orr at number 10.

For the early part of the season at least we are delighted to welcome Leif Berg from Minneapolis. Leif will be joined soon by two other players from that club; and we are expecting the arrival of a young Australian prop in the weighty shape of Ben Williams. Another new face, centre Matt Cockman, will miss the start of the season through injury but expect to see him featuring before too long. Taken together with the 1st team claims of other seasoned campaigners already here, this gives us greater strength in depth across the teams.

Sponsorship & Advertising Opportunities

As a club, we rely ever more heavily on the valued support of sponsors and advertisers. This season, several new names appear on pitch-side banners, in the programme and as match and ball sponsors. We welcome them, along with our regular sponsors, and thank them for their generosity and support.

This season we have a full list of 1st team jersey sponsors for the whole season. Many thanks for the generous contributions of those sponsors, whose names you will see on today's team pages.

However, many opportunities still remain, particularly as match sponsors and ball sponsors; and there are still spaces for programme advertisers.

If you would like to take advantage of these, and other opportunities, or know of any individuals or organisations who could be approached, then please contact Bill Wallis, either at today's match, by 'phone on 01788 822687, or email to bill@wallis21.wanadoo.co.uk.



John Linnell presents the new set of jerseys sponsored by M & M Jewellery to 3rd team skipper Stuart Birch before the team's recent game against Long Buckby.

P

Good Luck OL's

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John Tull
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Notable Dates & Events

Check out www.oldlaurentianrfc for updates and new events

Date	What's happening
Sept. 13 th	Ladies Day, at first home league game v Droitwich - TODAY
Nov. 1 st	VP's Lunch, at home game v Old Coventrians
Nov. 5 th	Bonfire Night Party
Nov. 8 th	Snail Racing
Dec. 26 th	Inter-club game
Jan. 1 st	New Year's Day Party
Jan. 24 th	VP's Away Day, at game v Old Coventrians
March 14 th	Captain's Day, at home game v Kidderminster
March 21 st	Games against touring party from Metropolis RFC, Minneapolis
April 4 th	Sponsors Day, home game v Berkswell & Balsall
May (TBC)	Club Dinner

This year's social programme is in the capable hands of Tim Dougherty and started with a bang at last Saturday's pre-season party, featuring *Twisted Vision*. All those that were there, and there were many, had a great night out.

Tim has a number of other schemes at the planning stage, so it is advisable to keep up to date by visiting the website so you don't miss anything.

Final League Table 2007-08

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	PF	PA	PD	Pts
1	Sutton Coldfield	22	20	1	1	805	205	600	41
2	Droitwich	22	19	1	2	465	249	216	39
3	Leamington	22	14	0	8	478	311	167	28
4	Earlsdon	22	13	1	8	393	375	18	27
5	Old Laurentians	22	13	0	9	488	409	79	26
6	Kidderminster	22	12	1	9	447	368	79	25
7	Berkswell & Balsall	22	11	0	11	394	379	15	22
8	Nuneaton O. E.	22	8	2	12	472	384	88	18
9	Silhillians	22	9	0	13	384	327	57	18
10	Stourbridge Lions	22	5	2	15	322	549	-227	12
11	Bedworth	22	4	0	18	234	513	-279	8
12	Edwardians	22	0	0	22	106	919	-813	-6

Fixtures Matrix

	Bark	B&B	Droit	Earl	Kidd	Leam	Newb	NOEs	OCs	OLs	Sils	Spart
Barkers Butts		27/09	11/10	13/09	01/11	21/02	14/03	15/11	31/01	10/01	18/04	06/12
B & Balsall	07/03		21/02	20/09	11/10	15/11	10/01	31/01	18/04	06/12	28/03	01/11
Droitwich	14/02	04/10		07/03	31/01	18/04	15/11	01/11	06/12	28/03	20/09	10/01
Earlsdon	28/03	14/03	27/09		21/02	10/01	01/11	11/10	15/11	18/04	06/12	31/01
Kidderminster	24/01	14/02	25/10	04/10		06/12	18/04	10/01	28/03	20/09	07/03	15/11
Leamington	04/10	20/12	29/11	08/11	04/04		27/09	13/09	14/02	25/10	24/01	14/03
Newbold	20/09	08/11	20/12	24/01	29/11	07/03		04/04	04/10	14/02	25/10	13/09
Nuneaton OEs	20/12	25/10	24/01	14/02	08/11	28/03	06/12		20/09	07/03	04/10	18/04
Old Covents	25/10	29/11	04/04	20/12	13/09	11/10	21/02	14/03		24/01	08/11	27/09
OLs	08/11	04/04	13/09	29/11	14/03	31/01	11/10	27/09	01/11		20/12	21/02
Silhillians	29/11	13/09	14/03	04/04	27/09	01/11	31/01	21/02	10/01	15/11		11/10
Spartans	04/04	24/01	08/11	25/10	20/12	20/09	28/03	29/11	07/03	04/10	14/02	

The above matrix shows the Midlands 3 West South League fixtures and results. Numbers separated with a dash (8-3) are results; numbers separated with a slash (8/03) indicate date of fixture. Home side is in the left column, away side along the top, home side score is always to the left. All OL's fixtures are shaded

The Experimental Law Variations -a brief guide

Much has been written about the ELVs, which came into force from August 2008 for an experimental period of 12 months. The IRB will then review all the ELVs before deciding if all or any of them should be accepted into the full laws of the game. You can download the full document from the home page of our website – but here is a brief guide to them.

The Maul – (1) Failure of players to keep their heads and shoulders above their hips throughout a maul will no longer be an offence. (2) Players may defend a maul by pulling it down. To do this, the defender must grasp an opposing player in the maul anywhere between shoulders & hips and then pull that player down.

Touch & Lineout – (1) Teams will no longer be able to pass or play the ball back into their own 22 and then kick directly into touch to gain ground. This also applies to a ball won at lineout or scrum outside the 22 from which the ball crosses the 22 before being kicked into touch. In such cases (when no opposition player has touched the ball) the lineout is taken at a point opposite where the kick was taken. (2) A quick throw in may be thrown in straight or towards the throwing team's own goal line. (3) There is no restriction on the number of players from either team who can participate in the lineout, as long as each team has a minimum of 2 players in the lineout and all lineout players fit between the 5-metre line and 15-metre line. (4) The receiver of a ball from a lineout must be 2 metres away from the lineout; and the player who is in opposition to the player throwing the ball must stand between the 5-metre line and the touch line but must be 2 metres away from the 5-metre line. (5) Players in the lineout will no longer be required to wait until the player throwing in has released the ball before they grip a player who will jump to catch the ball. (6) Players will be able to lift team-mates in the lineout. However, support players must wait until the ball has left the hands of the thrower before lifting their team mate.

The Scrum – The introduction of an offside line 5 metres behind the hindmost feet of the scrum. This means that at a scrum, the backline (all non participants in the scrum) must be 5 metres back from the hindmost feet of the scrum

Corner Posts – The corner posts are no longer considered to be in touch-in-goal except when the ball is grounded against the post. This means that a try will no longer be disallowed if the ball carrier touches the corner post before grounding the ball as long as that player has not otherwise been in touch. But a try will still be disallowed if the ball is grounded against the corner post. If a ball hits the corner post and bounces back into the playing area, the game continues.

What should the ELVs achieve? Although Northern hemisphere countries believe that the ELVs are a Southern hemisphere plot designed to neutralise their physical, forward based game, they should allow the ball to stay in play for a greater time; and they may encourage players and coaches to consider what they can do with the ball apart from crashing into the nearest defender. Will they work? The jury will be out for a while!

Saturday 13 th September, 2008			Tries	Kicking	Cards	Cards	Kicking	Tries	Midlands 3 West (South)		
<i>Old Laurentian RFC</i>									<i>Droitwich RFC</i>		
<i>Sponsored By</i>		Player							Player		The Official
<i>Adie Cleaver</i>	15	James Murray							15	<p><i>Today's referee is Andy Cross to whom we extend a warm welcome, along with our thanks for officiating over today's game.</i></p> <p><i>As always we expect you to treat him, and his decisions, as you would expect to be treated yourself.</i></p>	
<i>Excel Heating</i>	14	Simon Bayliss							14		
<i>Jim Darcy</i>	13	Iain Wallis							13		
<i>Simon Bracken</i>	12	Ted Wallis							12		
<i>Spike Pawsey</i>	11	Andy Coleman							11		
<i>Cottons Accountants</i>	10	Danny Orr							10		
<i>F & F Fencing</i>	9	Rich Parker							9		
<i>The Merchant's Inn</i>	1	Leif Berg							1		
<i>Martin Valentine</i>	2	Mark Todd							2		
<i>Dave Eales</i>	3	Chris Le Poidevan							3		
<i>Tom Costello</i>	4	Dan Volkman							4		
<i>Arwel Jones</i>	5	Jeff Thomas							5		
<i>Stuart Gleghorn</i>	6	Glenn Todd							6		
<i>Electrical Testers</i>	7	Steve Pike							7		
<i>Ray Roberts</i>	8	Carl Adams (c)							8		
	16	Russ Kennedy							16		
	17	Tom Gleghorn							17		
	18	A N Other							18		