

CORNWALL RLFC VS LONDON SKOLARS 1.00PM

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME - BETFRED LEAGUE 1 ROUND FOUR



CORNWALL

	 <p>26.03.23</p>	
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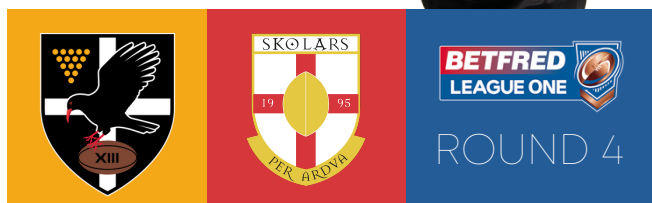
DYDH DA ONEN HAG OLL

HELLO One and All as we welcome London Skolars to the Duchy for today's Betfred League 1 clash. Cornwall and London's paths have already crossed this season with a keenly contested friendly which took place in Bristol last month. It was a good run out for both teams and

although Joe Mbu and his side took the spoils on that occasion, our Choughs will be hoping to turn the tables and claim a home victory. We came close to that a month ago when the Challenge Cup was in town but Rochdale Mayfield prevailed on a history making day.

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HEAD COACH



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MIKE ABBOTT

WELCOME to the Memorial Ground One and All for our first Betfred League 1 match in front of our own supporters.

I'd like to also welcome the visiting players, officials and supporters who have made the trip from London this afternoon.

We enjoyed a really tough match when London came to Cornwall last year and on another day, we could have picked up a first Memorial Ground win.

The game in London was dominated by the Skolars and Jarred Bassett was pretty much unplayable that hot and humid afternoon. It was no surprise to see him move up to play in the Championship with the London Broncos, which demonstrates just how good this division is for the development of players.

We are expecting a good honest contest today and although London haven't been on the winning side this season, I think they will be nery at the prospect of facing us. We showed what we could do in the second half against Midlands Hurricanes

and in spells against Rochdale Mayfield. Although we came out on the wrong side in the Challenge Cup, we completed at a really high rate.

We have had four weeks off and the boys sat down in the days afterwards and had a really honest chat.

I have spoken before about the players taking ownership for their actions and that is something that have said they are determined to do.

For such a young group, they have shown a great deal of maturity at taking ownership and looking at individual mistakes and where improvements can be made.

I must finish by thanking the support that the lads recieved here at the Mem. You really were our extra man against Mayfield and that was some noise when Cam and Harry scored.

Thank you for your support today and see you over Easter against Doncaster - Mike.



WELCOME TO THE SKOLARS

LONDON Skolars will be hoping to take the positives from 2022 into this term, while improving on the parts of their last campaign that resulted in a ninth placed finish.

The defeat of Oldham, in front of a bumper crowd 24-hours before the Betfred Challenge Cup final was an undoubted high, as was a comprehensive home win over Cornwall.

But sandwiched between those encouraging victories were big defeats to Keighly and Doncaster which perhaps shook some of the foundations laid by coach Joe Mbu, who returned to North London for a second spell some 12 months ago.

Skolars supporters will be hoping that their head coach can replicate previous victories he enjoyed in N22 with a club record fourth place achieved in 2013, under the tutelage of the Zaire born former London Broncos Super League star.

BITS AND PIECES

Ground: New River Stadium (5,000)

Head Coach: Joe Mbu

Captain: Aaron Small

Season 2023 finish: 9th Betfred League 1

Last time at home vs Cornwall: W 46-6

Last time at the Mem vs Cornwall: W 24-20

DID YOU KNOW?

- London Skolars were only formed in 1995 and for their first two years of their existence were simply known as Student Rugby League Old Boys.
- In three consecutive seasons during the early millennium years, the Skolars played Super League Opposition in the Challenge Cup – 2006 Warrington Wolves (L 0-52) 2007 Wakefield Trinity (L 4-52) and 2008 St Helens (L 0-56)



Louis Singleton is one of only two players to have played for the Choughs and today's opponents

CORNWALL CONNECTED

LOUIS SINGLETON

THE 31-year-old made one appearance for the Choughs last term in the 34-14 round 19 defeat to Rochdale Hornets at Spotland.

And despite Singleton's time in Cornwall colours only being brief, the Salford born hooker is back for the club's second professional campaign.

Singleton came through the academy set up at Premiership rugby union side Sale Sharks and throughout his playing career, has played both codes.

Singleton made his international bow for Malta in 2015 whilst still playing union as the country of his grandfather's birth defeated Belgium 35-34 in a mid-season international at Headingley, home of Super League outfit Leeds Rhinos.

For the 2021 campaign, Singleton signed for Cornwall's fellow non-heartland rivals London Skolars and last year, started the campaign at Rochdale.

ERROL CARTER

COMFORTABLE playing at either centre, full-back or on the wing, Carter spent last year with the Choughs' non-heartland rivals London Skolars.

Southampton born, Carter started his rugby league career with Championship outfit London Broncos before going on to represent their capital rivals, Oxford, Gloucestershire All Golds and the Coventry Bears.

The 26-year-old has also played rugby union during his career and has captained England at sevens students level.

Whilst studying at the University of Gloucestershire, Carter also played for the full England students rugby league team too.

Owing to his Turkish heritage, Carter has gained full international honours with the Turkey rugby league side which were formed in 2018.

CORNWALL RLFC 14 ROCHDALE MAYFIELD 20



CORNWALL'S Challenge Cup debut ended in defeat after Rochdale Mayfield edged a pulsating clash thanks to Harry Sheridan's late try.

In front of the BBC cameras and a bumper four-figure crowd, the visitors were good value for their win with Cornwall's late fightback not enough for the Choughs to book their place in round three.

After an opening day reverse at the hands of Midlands Hurricanes, Mem chief Mike Abbott made changes in both backs and forwards for this history-making clash. Try scorer in the Midlands defeat, Nick Slaney was unavailable due to his commitments with the Royal Air Force with his place taken by former Bradford centre Coby Nichol.

Up front, Jack Ray missed out for similar reasons to Slaney with the Choughs' club captain on Royal Navy duty for their game against North Wales Crusaders. His place was taken by Harry Boots with Josh

Hartshorne also returning to the front row as Paul Bolger missed out altogether. Kaine Dimech was rewarded for his Player of the Match award at Midlands six days previously and he took the place of Welshman Charley Bodman in the second row.

Cornwall's final pack change came with the return from suspension of Luke Collins as Louis Singleton dropped to the bench. A traditional cup tie in every sense of the word, Mayfield were the team to draw first blood, in fortunate circumstances too, after the opening exchanges were even.

The National Conference League outfit, who boasted former Super League star Sean Penkywicz and Fijian international in their ranks, benefited from a knock-on that went unpunished for stand-off Sam Wright to score. Devlin Long knocked over the extras from bang in front but going behind did little to dampen the spirits of Cornwall's vocal and partisan home crowd.



And the decibel levels around Penryn went up a notch further after 15 minutes when the hosts opened their account. A towering Adam Rusling bomb was fumbled by Jordan Parr under pressure from Harry Aaronson and Cornwall had an attacking platform to build upon. They took full advantage of the Mayfield winger's indiscretion as powerhouse centre Tom Ashton crashed over for a try which Rusling could not convert into a six-point score.

The remainder of the first stanza saw both defences holding firm although just two minutes before the siren, Mayfield scored a second try as Wayne English plucked a long looping ball from the Cornish sky to dot down.

It got even better for Mayfield just 90 seconds after the interval when Travis Long surged through the Cornish rearguard to score under the sticks. His brother Devlin knocked over a routine conversion and Mayfield had opened up a two score cushion.

Cornwall huffed and puffed looking for a way back into proceedings and only last-ditch defending stopped Mayfield putting their name in the hat for round three. But with 11 minutes left, the pendulum swung in the home side's favour when they scored an outstanding try. Rusling's long pass found Aaronson who put his foot on the accelerator and beat two tacklers on the outside.

He found the supporting Liam Whitton who fed Cameron Brown to coast in under the sticks.

Rusling converted and it was very much game on.

Cornwall were awarded a penalty for a high shot from the kick off and they were back on the attack and after Rusling's kick on the last was mopped up by Mayfield, they then spilt the ball and Aaronson somehow finished acrobatically out wide. The extras were missed but Cornwall were back within two points and the wind very much in their sails.

However, Mayfield and Sheridan had other ideas and his powerful run and finish six minutes from time sealed the visitors' progression into round three.



Cornwall: Whitton, Carter, Nichol, Ashton, Aaronson, Brown, Rusling, Hartshorne, Collins, Boots, Cullen, Dimech, Lloyd.
Interchange (all used): Howe, Prisk, Mitchell, Singleton.

Tries: Ashton (15), Brown (69), Aaronson (72)
Goals: Rusling 1/3

Rochdale Mayfield: Butterworth, Parr, McDaid, Tolhurst, English, Wright, D Long, Dash, Penkywicz, Mills, T Long, Metcalfe, Talatoka. Interchange (all used): D Sheridan, Hargreaves, H Sheridan, Taira.

Tries: Wright (9), English (38), T Long (41), H Sheridan (74)
Goals: D Long 2/4

Referee: Matthew Rossleigh
Attendance: 1,061

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WHITTON**

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&
Tony Waite**



**HARRY
AARONSON**

**Charlton
Morris.**



**BRAD
HOWE**



**TOM
ASHTON**



**JAMIE
PRISK**



**JAKE
LLOYD**

**Louis
Turner**



**JACK
RAY**



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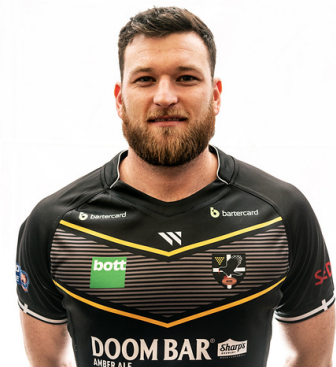
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TODAY'S SQUADS



Betfred League 1 Round Four
Sunday, March 26
Memorial Ground 1.00pm

CORNWALL RLFC

Coach: Mike ABBOTT

Harry AARONSON
Tom ASHTON
Charley BODMAN
Paul BOLGER
Harry BOOTS
Cam BROWN
Errol CARTER
Jermarie CHATHAM
Luke COLLINS
Nathan CULLEN
Kaine DIMECH
Josh HARTSHORNE
Brad HOWE
Jake LLOYD
George MITCHELL
Coby NICHOL
Jack RAY (C)
Adam RUSLING
Louis SINGLETON
Decarlo TRERISE
Liam WHITTON

LONDON SKOLARS

Coach: Joe MBU

Delaine BEDWARD-GITTENS
Luciano BEJANIDZE
Daniel BRISTOW
Edward BROWN
Lamont BRYAN
Douglas CHIRNSIDE
Anthony COX
Alexander DEERY
Christian GALE
Elliott HUTCHINGS
Shane LEE
Malikhi LLOYD-JONES
Liam O'CALLAGHAN
Louis O'SULLIVAN
Todd PEUT
Fraser PIERCY-FARLEY
Mathew ROSS
Jack RYAN
Aaron SMALL (C)
Jacob THOMAS
Jerome YATES

Referee: RYAN COX
Touch Judges: PETER WROE & PHIL JOHNSON
Reserve Referee: TO BE CONFIRMED

BETFRED LEAGUE 1 PREVIEW

ROUND FOUR of 2023 in Betfred League 1 begins today in the Duchy as the Choughs host London Skolars who make the trip west from the capital.

Both sides are yet to register a league victory, with Skolars losing their opening three matches, meanwhile Cornwall have only played one game.

Skolars will be looking for a repeat of last year, as they completed the double over Cornwall. The first of which was a close 24-20 success in Cornwall for the capital side in Round 10.

North Wales will also be searching for their first win when Oldham travel across the border.

Crusaders have lost their three league matches; however, they have beaten the Royal Navy and Thatto Heath Crusaders in the Challenge Cup.

North Wales won both their meetings last year against Oldham and Rob Massam has been prolific against the Roughyeds with four tries in his last three appearances against Stuart Littler's side.

Oldham, who announced former Great Britain international Mike Ford as part of a new ownership consortium earlier today, were beaten late in the Challenge Cup away at Doncaster. However, they had impressed previously with a 62-18 hammering of London Skolars as Jordan Paga bagged a four-timer.

Dewsbury Rams will be looking to extend their 100 per cent record as they travel to Rochdale in one of two 3.00pm kick-offs.

The Rams produced a huge victory against Workington Town last time out as Perry Whiteley scored twice as the Rams left Cumbria with a 25-6 success.

Dewsbury have won their three previous meetings with Rochdale, including the 38-18 Challenge Cup third round contest just two weeks ago. Brad Graham scored a hat-trick as the Rams progressed into round four.

The Hornets, chasing a second win of the campaign welcomed Doncaster in Round Two and were narrowly beaten 20-10.

Since then, Rochdale have followed up with a 32-24 away success at Midlands.

Andy Clarke scored twice on that occasion, as well as a try by former Hurricanes man, AJ Boardman also crossed.

The final match of the weekend will see Midlands Hurricanes welcome Workington Town to the Alexander Stadium.

Midlands got off to a perfect start, as they comfortably defeated Cornwall on the opening day.

Since then, the Hurricanes have lost two matches – at Dewsbury and then on home soil against Rochdale.

For Anthony Murray's Town, they will be looking to bounce back after suffering a home defeat to Dewsbury last Sunday.

Betfred League 1 Round Four Fixtures

Cornwall vs London Skolars

Midlands Hurricanes vs Workington Town

North Wales Crusaders vs Oldham

Rochdale Hornets vs Dewsbury Rams



LEAGUE 1 RESULTS & FIXTURES

DATE	OPPOSITION	V	SCORE	ATT	REFEREE	FULL BACK	WING	CENTRE	CENTRE	WING	STAND OFF	SCRUM HALF
FEB												
Sun 19	Midlands Hurricanes	A	L 6-40	453	K Moore	Whitton	Slaney 1T	Carter	Ashton	Aaronson	Brown	Rusling 1G
Sat 25	Rochdale Mayfield	H	L 14-20	1,061	M Rossleigh	Whitton	Carter	Nichol	Ashton 1T	Aaronson 1T	Brown 1T	Rusling 1G
MAR												
Sun 26	London Skolars		H									
APRIL												
Sat 08	Doncaster		H									
Sun 16	Dewsbury Rams		A									
MAY												
Sun 07	Oldham		A									
Sat 13	Hunslet		H									
Sun 21	Rochdale Hornets		A									
Sun 28	North Wales Crusaders		H									
JUNE												
Sun 04	Workington Town		A									
Sun 11	Dewsbury Rams		H									
Sun 18	Hunslet		A									
JULY												
Sat 08	London Skolars		A									
Sun 16	Midlands Hurricanes		H									
Sun 23	Workington Town		A									
Sun 30	North Wales Crusaders		A									
AUGUST												
Sat 06	Oldhan		H									
Sun 20	Doncaster		A									
Sun 27	Rochdale Hornets		H									

FACTS AND FIGURES FROM 2022

TOP TRY SCORERS

- 1 Harry Aaronson (8)
- 2 Liam Whitton (7) →
- 3 Aaron Jones-Bishop (4)
- = Jamie Prisk(4)

MOST SUCCESSFUL GOALS

- 1 Joe Purcell (13)
- 2 Adam Rusling (11)
- 3 Kyle Johns (9)
- 4 Jamie Prisk (5)

TOP POINTS SCORERS

- 1 Joe Purcell (46)
- 2 Adam Rusling (38)
- 3 Harry Aaronson (32)
- 4 Liam Whitton (28)



LEAGUE 1 RESULTS & FIXTURES

PROP	HOOKER	PROP	SECOND ROW	SECOND ROW	L FORWARD	INT-CHANGE	INT-CHANGE	INT-CHANGE	INT-CHANGE	MAN OF THE MATCH
Ray	Singleton	Bolger	Cullen	Bodman	Lloyd	Boots	Dimech	Prisk	Nichol	Dimech
Hartshorne	Collins	Boots	Cullen	Dimech	Lloyd	Howe	Mitchell	Prisk	Singleton	Aaronson

NEXT UP FOR THE CHOUGHS

CORNWALL are back in action on Easter Saturday, April 8, with Doncaster, many neutrals' favourites for promotion to the Betfred Championship, the visitors. In the past two campaigns, Richard Horne's side have fallen at the last hurdle in the play-offs, losing to Workington and Swinton. The men from South Yorkshire will be hoping to go one better and make it third time lucky. Doncaster have made a solid start to the campaign with five consecutive wins in all competitions. Horne's men have made it through to the fifth round of the Challenge Cup after victories over Oldham and Workington. In the league, Doncaster currently sit joint top the standings with a 100 per cent record. Their victories have come over Hunslet, Midlands Hurricanes and North Wales.



BETFRED



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