

St. Neots 0 March Bears 12

Last Saturday, the March Bears travelled to St. Neots to play in their opening game of the season in the Greene King Premier League. With their hosts being one of the favourites for promotion this year, March knew they had a tough fixture, especially playing away to a team that had beaten them last season by thirty points.

Undaunted by the challenge, March started the game well and soon took control of the set piece. The much heavier pack of forwards from St. Neots were soon pushed off the ball by the streamlined well drilled March pack in the opening exchanges, which led to the first points of the afternoon. Following three phases of close forward play, March prop Ross Neale opened his try count for the season crashing over between the posts; Craig Buck's easy conversion gave the Bears a well earned seven point lead.

Soon after the restart, the Bears were once again on the rampage. In a similar move to the first, Neale once again made it over the line to double his tally; Bucks conversion was unsuccessful but March were content with their lead.

For the next ten minutes, only stout defending from St. Neots stopped March from scoring again, constant attacks from March were wearing away the defending line but March were unable to capitalise on it. With just ten minutes of the half remaining and half time approaching, the game was brought to a sudden halt as news from the other game on the adjacent pitch of a player needing urgent medical help following a heart attack. Both captains agreed to stop the game in respect for the player and agreed to rearrange the fixture for later in the season.

Training sessions on Thursday evenings are vital to the success of the club and all players are encouraged to attend. Next Saturday March play host to Ely RUFC at the sports field in Elm Road, again, all players past and present are invited to come along and cheer the team on.