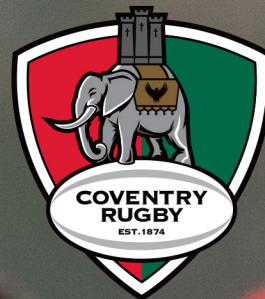


Saturday, 15th January 2022 | Butts Park Arena | KO 3.00 pm



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vs HARTPURY

2021/22 Championship Round 14
Matchday Programme Issue 7

CHAMPION

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THE TEAMS



HARTPURY

HARTPURY RFC

HOME

STARTING XV

AWAY

Tom **Curtis**

15

Ben **Foley**

Rob **Stevenson**

14

Sam **Smith**

Andy **Forsyth**

13

Robbie **Smith**

Will **Owen**

12

Charlie **Foley**

Sam **Aspland-Robinson**

11

Charlie **Powell**

Tony **Fenner**

10

James **Williams**

Joe **Snow**

09

Toby **Venner**

Toby **Trinder**

01

Conor **Maguire**

Jordon **Poole**

02

Will **Crane (C)**

Phil **Boulton**

03

Cieran **Knight**

James **Tyas**

04

James **Dun**

Jonathan **Kpoku**

05

Dale **Lemon**

Adam **Peters**

06

Oli **Robinson**

Josh **Bainbridge**

07

Joe **Howard**

Ryan **Burrows (C)**

08

Mitch **Eadie**

REPLACEMENTS

Joe **Richardson**

16

Ethan **Hunt**

Dan **Richardson**

17

Lewis **Holsey**

Jake **Bridges**

18

Shaun **Knight**

Nile **Dacres**

19

Josh **Gray**

Tom **Ball**

20

Harry **Short**

Josh **Barton**

21

Oscar **Lennon**

Evan **Mithcell**

22

Tommy **Mathews**

Rob **Knox**

23

George **Simpson**



Jacky & Peter
Redhead



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AR2 Greg Dawson **Assessors** Pete Huckle and Brian Campsall



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DIRECTOR OF RUGBY

ROWLAND WINTER

Welcome back to the BPA and a Happy New Year to all of our Coventry supporters.

The enforced break over the last few weeks has allowed us to refresh a number of players, and get them back on their feet ready for this weekend's game. There has been a few changes within the squad and a number of players returning from being unavailable for the Ampthill game.

James Tyas, 30, joins from London Scottish, initially on a short term contract, until the end of the season.

"James has plenty of experience in the Championship, and is comfortable in the second row or back row so he will be a great addition to the squad. James' also has an extensive background in performance analysis and will combine his playing role with supporting our young analysis team to learn and develop their skills."

Joe Jones has now joined Sale Sharks on a permanent basis.

"We have reached an agreement with Sale, to allow Joe to join them permanently. Whilst it was a short stay, Joe was a really positive influence on the squad and we wish him the very best with his next steps at Sale. It is another example of a Championship player being recognised and progressing to Premiership rugby, and we are pleased we were able to support Joe in his development."

Update from the medical room on squad injuries...

"Tom Emery and Rhys Thomas continue their rehab and are expected to return to training towards the end of March. Aaron Hinkley & Louis James both picked up small knocks in training this week, both are expected to be back in action within a fortnight along with Tiki Nayalo returning to training. Louis Brown is approximately a month away from being back involved following his knee op in December."

On team news for the game v Hartpury...

"We are without Fred Betteridge and Luc Jeannot whilst they complete their COVID return to play protocols, and Will Hurd has been recalled by Leicester Tigers for their European game this weekend. This means that Jake Bridges, our senior academy prop, comes on to the bench for his debut. Jake has been working hard and developing his game for some time, so I am excited to see how he goes.

It is great to welcome back a number of players who were ruled out with COVID or as close contacts for our Boxing Day game v Ampthill. We also see the return of Josh Bainbridge, who is a big influence on and off the pitch for the team. Josh is a welcome return and brings added leadership and experience to the back row.

Please continue to be loud today, do not underestimate the lift and energy you all give to the team, it could well be the difference today!"

Rowland
Director of Rugby

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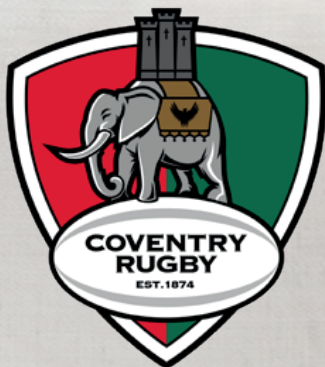
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Wing

On Loan From
Leicester Tigers



JOSH BAINBRIDGE
Back Row




JOSH BARTON
Scrum Half



PHIL BOULTON
Prop



LOUIS BROWN
Fullback



ROUBAN BIRCH
Second / Back Row

Dual Registered
Sale Sharks




RYAN BURROWS
Back Row

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ETHAN CAINE
Hooker

Dual Registered
Sale Sharks




TOM CURTIS
Fly Half

Dual Registered
Sale Sharks



NILE DACRES
Second Row

Deeley



TOM EMERY
Fullback /Wing

GB Rugby Sevens



TONY FENNER
Fly Half




ANDY FORSYTH
Centre



TOM GRIFFITHS
Centre

On Loan From Dragons
Rugby



TOM HOWE
Wing / Fullback

Dual Registered
Worcester Warriors



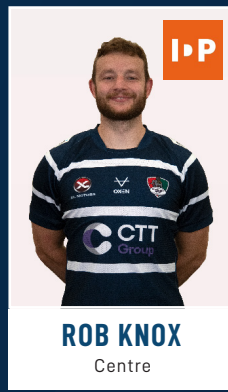
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LUC JEANNOT
Prop



JOE JONES
Prop



ROB KNOX
Centre

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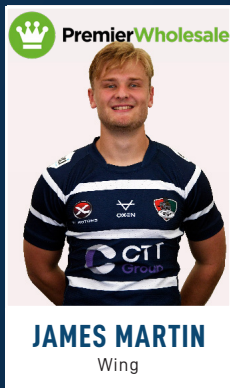


JONATHAN KPOKU
Second Row

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SUVA MA'ASI
Hooker



JAMES MARTIN
Wing



SENITIKI NAYALO
Back Row



WILL OWEN
Centre

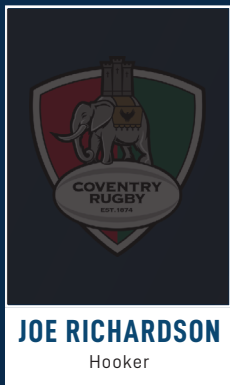


ADAM PETERS
Second / Back Row



DAN RICHARDSON
Prop

Dual Registered
Leicester Tigers



JOE RICHARDSON
Hooker

Dual Registered
Worcester Warriors



JOE SNOW
Scrum Half

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Centre / Wing / Fullback

Dual Registered
Gloucester Rugby



ROB STEVENSON
Wing



TOBY TRINDER
Prop

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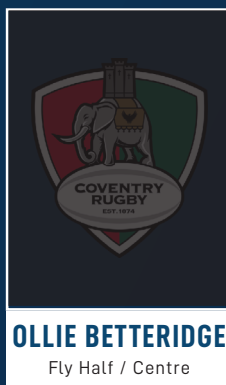
COVENTRY RUGBY DEVELOPMENT SQUAD



TOM BALL
Back Row



FRED BETTERIDGE
Back Row



OLLIE BETTERIDGE
Fly Half / Centre



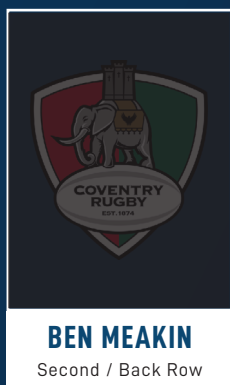
JAKE BRIDGES
Prop



LOUIS JAMES
Centre / Wing



JOE BROCK
Fullback



BEN MEAKIN
Second / Back Row



Jacky & Peter
Redhead

EVAN MITCHELL
Fly Half



KIT SMITH
Back Row



RHYS THOMAS
Second Row

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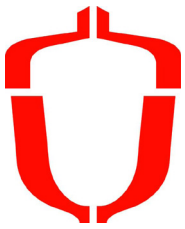
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SEASON SO FAR

After some disappointing performances within the short season of early 2021, in which a large but inexperienced squad failed to meet the requirements of Tier 2 rugby, Hartpury have made a much more encouraging start to the current campaign.

At the half-way point of the season, the playing record was won five, lost five, although the New Year home win over Nottingham nudged them back into positive territory and up to fifth place in the table.

On the whole, the squad has a better balance this year and more depth in key positions. The back-line selections have been particularly stable, with players like fly-half James Williams, centres Robbie Smith and Charlie Foley, winger Sam Smith and full-back Ben Foley being virtually ever-present (covid allowing).

Co-captain and scrum half JB Bruzulier, an experienced Championship campaigner, has been side-lined by a niggling groin injury which has made the re-appearance of the jet-heeled Hartpury graduate, Toby Venner, as a DR from Gloucester, particularly timely.

There has been a little more rotation among the forwards, although the blend of experience – as typified by former Premiership tight-head Shaun Knight – and youth, such as recent graduate open-side Harry Short, has proved to be effective in most games.

Predictably, the season started with a defeat at Ealing Trailfinders although Hartpury were far from disheartened by a performance which saw them dominate long periods of the second half after a slightly tame opening.

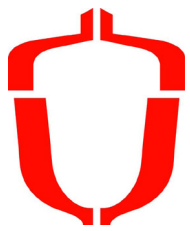


This was followed up by a convincing bonus-point home win over the Cornish Pirates – a team that Hartpury had never previously beaten in multiple league and cup games since promotion in 2017. Subsequent results have been slightly mixed, although the Red & Blacks come into today's game at Butts Park Arena on the back of three straight 5-pointers against Amphill, Richmond and Nottingham respectively.

The covid-related postponement of matches with both the Trailfinders and the Pirates in December has nothing to do with the current good record!

We look forward to today's game, in what is the closest that we have to a local derby. Coventry will be keen to set the record straight after a defeat at the Alpas Arena back in early October, while Hartpury will be looking to pick up a fourth successive win for the first time in their Championship history.

By Andrew Beacham



TWO TO WATCH

JIMMY WILLIAMS



Jimmy is in his second spell with the club, having originally played in our debut Championship season, before a move which eventually saw him playing European rugby for Sale Sharks. He returned to the club for the truncated 2020-21 season and has been ever-present since then.

He is an exciting playmaker who is equally at home at 10 or 12 (mainly playing fly-half this season), with an eye for a gap and a boot that he uses equally well in kicking for points or position on the field.

Shaun was another player to sign ahead of the 2020-21 season, having decided to become semi-pro after a full-time career that saw him play in England, Scotland, Wales, New Zealand and France.

A Gloucester native and very much part of the 'old school' local tradition, the Cherry & Whites were his first Premiership club, after playing junior rugby with local team Matson.

SHAUN KNIGHT



He played almost 50 times for the Kingsholm outfit before a 2015 move took him to the Newport Gwent Dragons and then on to Gloucester's local rivals, Bath, in 2016. Two years later he moved to Rouen, coached by former England scrum-half Richard Hill, where he helped them achieve promotion.

Never one to take a backward step, he has formed part of an effective front row for Hartpury this season, occasionally joined by his cousin Ciaran, a current Gloucester prop who is available to Hartpury as a dual-registered player this season.

Tom made his Amphill debut last March in a narrow defeat to Doncaster Knights, and went on to make 7 appearances scoring two tries, including a fine individual effort against old club Hartpury at Dillingham Park in the short 2021 season. Tom has moved to his preferred Centre position this season where he has formed a consistent partnership with Ben Cambriani.

By Andrew Beacham



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TODAY'S OPPONENTS

Our first home match in 2022 sees us welcome today Hartpury RFC, with our two squads having met earlier in the season at the Alpas Arena.

Whereas our opening match of 2022 away at Richmond was postponed last weekend for COVID 19 reasons, the same applied to Hartpury in December, which saw two of matches postponed for the same reason.

In welcoming the Hartpury squad, coaches, officials & supporters, they arrive here today on the back of a close 30 points-26 home success over Nottingham last Saturday. Victory which sees them in 6th place in the Championship, having played 11 games with 6 wins & 5 defeats. Cov are currently 8th following the Ampthill win, although we have played one game more & are 6 points behind Hartpury.

Our Gloucestershire visitors have won twice on their travels so far this season at Ampthill & London Scottish.

There are two players in the Hartpury squad with a Coventry link. Lock Forward Cameron Jordan, dual registered with Gloucester Rugby, made 9 appearances in blue & white before being injured, whilst prop forward Olly Adkins featured for us on loan earlier in the season when coming on as a replacement away at London Scottish.

Hartpury's rugby programme began in September 2000, in partnership with Gloucester Rugby. They entered the league pyramid in 2004 & then fast forward to 2016/17 which saw them promoted as National League One champions to the Championship.

First fixtures between us were first played out during season 2014/15 in National League One. Today is the 12th overall & following their 18 -7 win over us at the Alpas Arena earlier, Hartpury currently lead 8-3 in victories.

Hartpury's last win at the Butts Park Arena came three visits ago in season 2016/17.

We know our squad will be more than anxious to get back on to the field of play following the Richmond postponement last week. Today will see them seeking a 4th straight home win, whilst also seeking revenge for the earlier defeat in Gloucestershire.

Next week, the squad face the awesome challenge of a visit to Ealing Trialfinders, before returning here in two week's time to take on the Cornish Pirates.

By John Butler



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Championship Rugby

Doncaster Knights H CHAMP W 39 - 22
18th September 2021

Amphill Rugby CHAMP L 19 - 21
25th September 2021

Richmond Rugby H CHAMP W 10 - 05
2nd October 2021

Hartpury University A CHAMP L 18 - 07
18th October 2021

Ealing Trailfinders H CHAMP L 73-24
23rd October 2021 KO 3.00pm

Cornish Pirates A CHAMP L 40-05
30th October 2021 KO 2.30 pm

Nottingham Rugby H CHAMP
6th November 2021 JO 3.00 pm

London Scottish A CHAMP
27th November 2021 KO 3.00 pm

Bedford Blues H CHAMP
4th December 2021 KO 3.00 pm

Jersey Reds A CHAMP
11th December 2021 KO 3.00 pm

Doncaster Knights A CHAMP L 31-09
18th December 2021 KO 2.30 pm

Amphill Rugby H CHAMP W 26 - 22
26th December 2021 KO 1.30 pm

Richmond Rugby A CHAMP
2nd January 2022 KO 3.00 pm

Hartpury University H CHAMP
15th January 2022 KO 3.00 pm

Ealing Trailfinders A CHAMP
22nd January 2022 KO 3.00 pm

Cornish Pirates H CHAMP
29th January 2022 KO 3.00 pm

Nottingham Rugby A CHAMP
11th February 2022 KO 7.45 pm

London Scottish H CHAMP
26th February 2022 KO 3.00 pm

Bedford Blues A CHAMP
12th March 2022 KO 2.00 pm

Jersey Reds H CHAMP
19th March 2022 KO 3.00 pm

League Table (Last update 15 Jan 2021, 7am. 2021/22 Championship)

1	Ealing Trailfinders	11	9	0	2	529	212	317	9	1	46
2	Doncaster Knights	12	9	0	3	329	213	116	5	0	41
3	Jersey Reds	11	7	1	3	309	221	88	7	2	39
4	Cornish Pirates	10	8	0	2	256	156	100	6	0	38
5	Bedford Blues	11	6	0	5	330	304	26	7	2	33
6	Hartpury University	11	6	0	5	315	284	31	5	2	31
7	Amphill	13	5	1	7	308	371	-63	5	2	29
8	Coventry	12	5	0	7	236	323	-87	3	2	25
9	Richmond	10	3	0	7	235	292	-57	4	3	19
10	Nottingham	12	3	0	9	245	418	-173	3	3	18
11	London Scottish	13	1	0	12	226	524	-298	2	2	8

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Coventry Rugby Player Stats Compiled by John Butler

PLAYER	STARTS	AS SUB	TL APPS	TRIES	CONS	PENS	D GOALS	POINTS
Ewan Ashman		1	1	1				5
Josh Bainbridge	6		6	1				5
Tom Ball		5	5					
Josh Barton	8	4	12	3				15
Fred Betteridge	6	4	10	2				10
Seb Blake		2	2					
Phil Boulton	9	2	11					
Louis Brown	2		2	1				5
Ryan Burrows	8		8	3				15
Tom Curtis		3	3	1	5	1		18
Nile Dacres	10	2	12	1				5
Tom Emery	1		1					
Tony Fenner	8	3	11		8	7		37
Cal Ford	1	1	1					
Andy Forsyth	5		5					
Tom Griffiths	5	3	8	1				5
Aaron Hinkley	5	2	7	2				10
Tom Howe	5		5					
Will Hurd	1	5	6	2				10
Louis James	7		7	2				10
Luc Jeannot		4	4					
Rob Knox	10	1	11	1	1	1		10
Jonathan Kpoku	9	2	11	1				5
Suva Ma'asi	4	1	5					
James Martin		3	3					
Evan Mitchell	5	3	8	1	8	5		36
Senitiki Nayalo	2		2					
Will Owen	7	2	9					
Jordon Poole	4		4					
Adam Peters	12		12	1				5
Dan Richardson	4	4	8					
Joe Richardson	3	7	10					
Sam Aspland-Robinson	3	1	4	2				10
Joe Snow	4	8	12	1				5
Tom Stanton	3	2	5					
Rob Stevenson	10		10	2				10
Rhys Thomas		4	4					
Toby Trinder	8	2	10					
Max Williams	3	1	4					
TOTAL								
HOME				30	22	14		236
AWAY				45	30	12		323

Also played: Olly Adkins, Connor Doherty, Oli Curry, Ryan Bower, Tom Emery, Cal Ford, Finn Theobald-Thomas and Harry Clayton.

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