



## *Puddletown 3 Swanage & Wareham 2nds 39*

by Geoff Puryer 27/02/10

The Villagers, desperately seeking only their second win of the season in Dorset & Wilts Division 1 South, knew that this would be a tough call against a Swanage & Wareham side which had won its last five games, and whilst they competed valiantly for the whole eighty minutes, they ended up well beaten yet again.

Fielding a strong team which included returning skipper Dan Udell, and a full bench of replacements, the home side began brightly enough and as the two sets of forwards tested each other out in midfield it was Puddletown who drew first blood with a well struck Udell penalty after fifteen minutes.

The lead was short lived however and five minutes later the Swans pack went through several phases to position themselves inside the Villagers' twenty-two, and picking their moment broke off the back of a ruck to score in the corner.

The try was unconverted, and undaunted the home side was soon back on the attack, with some good ball retention from the forwards leading to a series of fine breaks from the trio of Tom Yeatman, Udell, and his fellow centre Barry Dovell.

But despite this sustained pressure the visitors' defence held firm and, as so often this season, Puddletown were caught on the break with a second Swans' try following a hopeful punt upfield. A penalty on the stroke of half time increased their lead to ten points as the teams turned round.

The loss of second row Paul Chidley with a knee injury was a major set back for the Villagers, as he more than anyone had been particularly effective in countering the threat of the big visiting forwards. Gradually they began to exert more and more influence on the game and mid-way through the second period a trade-mark driving maul saw the Swans pack make a good 20 metres to cross the home line in the corner.

The try was converted to leave the hosts needing to chase four scores to reverse the result and whilst they continued to demonstrate some promising build up play, trying everything possible to break through their opponents' defence, inevitably the gaps appeared in their own as they pushed up, and in a late surge the visitors ran in four more tries to seal what was, in the end, a comfortable victory.

*Puddletown 1<sup>st</sup> XV:*

1. Jon Wilson 2. Tim Yeatman 3. Jim Talbot 4. James Perrett 5. Paul Chidley  
6. Harry Foot 7. Martin Spicer 8. Ed Malpas 9. Marcus House 10. Tom Yeatman  
11. Rob Franks 12. Dan Udell (capt) 13. Barry Dovell 14. Matt Isaac  
15. Mark Thomson

Replacements: 16. Matt Williams (for Paul Chidley - 40 mins) 17. Chris Thomson (for  
Rob Franks - 40 mins) 18. Jack Foot (for Mark Thomson - 50 mins) 19. Nigel Smith (for  
Jim Talbot - 60 mins) 20. Pete Gordon - not used.

*Scorers:*

Tries:	None
Conversions:	None
Penalties:	Dan Udell (1)

*Dorset Piddle Brewery Man of the Match:      Tim Yeatman*

*Next Match:*

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> March - kick off: 2:30 pm

Dorset & Wilts Division South - Puddletown v Oakmeadians 2nds