

MY LOVE OF RUGBY SEVENS – THE BEST TEAM SPORT EVER

My first 7's experience was at Eltham College and the first winning experience was in the brilliant 1961 School Seven that won Kent Schools Tournament, lost the final of the Oxford Tournament and unluckily lost the quarter final of Rosslyn Park Schools sevens to Whitgift.

Three of us, Mike Mason, Barry Ellis and myself went on to win the Bec Old Boys Surrey Sevens with OE's. We were told it was the first tournament win for OE's.

The years I was away from OEs, 1965 - 71 I enjoyed Sevens successes with Blackheath and London Scottish and invitation teams Public Schools Wanderers and Penguins.

Then started again with OEs and helped a good number of OEs to play in teams like Combined London Old Boys and Late Nitters and also to represent OE in OE colours, especially at the Amsterdam Heineken Sevens

OLD ELTHAMIANS SEVEN'S SUCCESSES 1963 – 1981

SENIORS

1963 Bec Old Boys Sevens - WINNERS vs Streatham & Croydon (P)

George Crabb; Mike Mason; Mike Bairstow; Barry Ellis; John Lloyd; Robert Crabb; Iain Exeter

1973 London Old Boys Floodlit Sevens – WINNERS vs Old Brockleians

Andy Smith; Paul Evans (sub Dave Hodgson); Viv Auer; Kevin Foreman; John Lloyd; Iain Exeter; Nick Frost

1977 Percy Rees Memorial Sevens – WINNERS of Plate Trophy vs Shirley Wanderers

Martin Jenkins; Gordon Howes; ? ? ; John Finch; John Lloyd; John Gray; Trevor Hart

1979 Percy Rees Memorial Sevens – Runners up vs Askeans

Dave Potter; Paul Evans; Mick Shepherd; S Harper; Neale Houlden; Iain Exeter; Richard Buckley

1979 Kentish Times Sevens – WINNERS of Plate trophy

Dave Potter; Paul Evans; Mick Shepherd; Richard Laws; John Lloyd; Iain Exeter; Richard Buckley

1979 Best Seven in Kent – WINNERS of Plate Trophy vs Dartfordians

Dave Potter; John Fuller; Mick Shepherd; Richard Laws; Tim Frost; Iain Exeter; Richard Buckley

1981 Percy Rees memorial Sevens – Runners up vs Old Shootershillians

Dave Potter; Andy Dixon; Matt Watkins; Roger Kidney; Tim Exeter; Iain Exeter; Steve Midgeley

JUNIORS

1979 South East U19 Sevens – Runners up vs Felbridge Juniors

Duncan Read; L Broyd; Dave Potter; Roger Kidney; Steve Midgeley; Stuart Adair + ?

1980 Kent Junior U14 Sevens – WINNERS

1980 Kent Junior U16 Sevens – Runners up

1981 Kent Junior U16 Sevens – WINNERS vs Sidcup RFC (P)

Charlie Punnett; Jerry Browne; Will Wright; Robert Whichello; Tim Exeter; Tim Haden-Scott; Mark Woolley; Miles MacGregor; Nick Green

1981 Sutton & Epsom (U16) Sevens – WINNERS vs Westcombe Park (P)

Charlie Punnett; Julian Millo; Jerry Browne; Martin Holcombe; Tim Exeter; Tim Haden-Scott; Will Wright; Martin Sumners; Alan Marson

1981 Sutton & Epsom (U15) Sevens – WINNERS vs Esher RFC

F Gillespie; Nick Green; Miles Atkinson; Bruce Holcombe; Miles MacGregor; Richard Whichello; Mark Woolley
OE's, Paul Evan and Iain Exeter represented Golden Oldies losing the 1981 Heineken Amsterdam Final

Six OE's plus Tony Moll (Shootershillians) and Micky Moxon (Old Beccehamians) won the Arras (France) Sevens. OE's - Brendan McGurran, Jeremy Treliving, John Fuller, Iain Exeter, Paul Evans, Tony, Micky, John Finch
We took our own crowd!



During the 1980s' the Juniors became seniors, albeit very young seniors at Amsterdam! where they represented all three of our teams – Golden Oldies, Late Niters and Old Elthamians.