

Member Profile – Club President – Rob Parkinson

EDUCATION;

Blackfyne Comprehensive, Consett
Junior Regiment Royal Signals
Trade Training School 8 Signal Regiment
British Army of the Rhine
Streets of Northern Ireland ('84-86)
Gulf War 1
Northumbria Police
Parenthood and the University of life

EMPLOYMENT;

Currently retired from Her Majesty's Constabulary of Northumbria and working part time with CO-OP Funeralcare (hope I don't see any of you in a professional capacity any time soon...)

FAVOURITE BAND/S;

A few of my favourite bands are:
Buddy Holly & the Crickets
Jonny Cash & the Tennessee Three
The Beatles
Rolling Stones
Pink Floyd
Dr. Feelgood
The Stranglers
ELO
I could go on, so many.....

BEST MUSICAL EVENT/S ATTENDED;

The Stranglers live at Hannover University 1992, small venue, great atmosphere right up close and personal with the band.

ELO at Wembley Stadium 2017, this was a last minute opportunity that presented itself when two of the party travelling from Morpeth had to drop out, myself and my predecessor Gary Stephenson stepped into the breach for a memorable trip, the only downside being I had to share a bed with Gary in the pre-booked accommodation, however we do remain friends to this day.

FAVOURITE FILM;

Another tough one, so many favourites but if I were to pick one:
Blues Brothers

BEST MORPETH RUGBY MOMENT;

To me personally it would be playing a match for the Stags with my son Carl, a very proud moment.

BEST MORPETH MATCH;

I've been managing the Colts now for 14 years, so it must be a Colts match:

Colts away to Carlisle 16th February 2008, we were second from bottom in the league, Carlisle were top of the league.

The week before we had a squad of 23 available playing at home v bottom of the league Consett, the following week for said match away to Carlisle we had 15 available, two of which had not played for several months due to injury. I could be wrong, but the thought did cross my mind at the time that some players simply didn't fancy it...

Carlisle had a team plus 7 replacements and were understandably full of confidence, we were even afforded the rare privilege of playing on their 1st team pitch for what was sure to be a runaway victory for the hosts.

The 15 who made the trip from Morpeth, backs up against the wall, fought for every inch of that pitch and played the game of their lives, everything seemed to click that day, the match finished 10-19 to Morpeth.

7 of that team went on to play for Morpeth 1st XV, an 8th member of that team is currently 1st XV Captain of Hull RUFC who are in National League 2.

IF YOU WEREN'T A HOOKER WHAT OTHER POSITION WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY;

No. 8, the only position I haven't played in the pack, a key part of any team, sees a lot of the ball and is always involved.

MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT/S ENCOUNTERED;

7 Signal Regiment in a British Army of the Rhine (BAOR) match.

7 Sigs was where you got posted if you were selected to represent the Royal Corps of Signals, so it was like playing against a very good County team, needless to say we lost by quite a bit, the only satisfaction I took in that match was taking a ball against the head v the Corps hooker (with the help of the rest of the pack of course).

BEST MORPETH PLAYER IN SAME TEAM AS MYSELF;

Forward - Jonta Walton (playing in the back row for the Eds)

Back - John Dungait (playing in the centres for the Stags)

PARKY'S MORPETH CLUB QUIZ QUESTION;

Q. In 1999 which former British and Irish Lion came to the club and presented the U8's 9's and 10's with their first ever tour shirts.

A. Doddie Weir