



## *Stafford Rugby Club*

# *Match Report*

**Ludlow 27–6 Stafford XV**

*12<sup>th</sup> September 2009*

Midlands West 2 (NORTH) League

## *No Match Report.*

**Stafford Development XV 3–10 Stoke on Trent**

*12<sup>th</sup> September 2009*

Friendly Fixture

Stafford's first complete game of the season was against a very strong and physical Stoke team. Stafford were starved of possession as Stoke dominated the line outs, but made some good breaks from deep and coupled with some excellent defensive work as they twice found themselves in try scoring positions. Unfortunately Stafford failed to capitalise and conceded 2 soft penalties which enabled Stoke to clear. Despite this Stafford pressed well from deep and were rewarded by a penalty easily converted by veteran scrum half Mark Broomhall, but during the final minutes of the second half a temporary lapse in concentration at the scrum enabled the Stoke number 8 to break free and score. In the second half, man of the match Andy Carter made an excellent break from his own half that almost developed into another try, frustrated by some strong Stoke tackling. Concerted Stoke pressure earned them a well deserved try, but failure to convert left Stafford in contention. In the closing minutes of the second half a good forward drive and an excellent pass from centre Will Richards put the Captain Dave Wain into space who came within inches of scoring and potentially levelling the match, narrowly denied by the Stoke cover. This was a very strong performance from a Stafford side that reflected well the clubs ethos of youth and experience.

On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2009, Stafford XV return to home turf to entertain Shihllians, Development XV also host Aston Old Edwardians also on the 19<sup>th</sup>, Ladies travel to Dudley

*Match Reports for Week Ending 13th September 2009*

Kingswinford to kick-start their new season.