



# Park life



Have you got a Park Life story? WRITE TO: Evening Herald Sports Desk, 17 Brest Road, Derriford, Plymouth PL6 5AA TEL: 765522 FAX: 765633

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF LOCAL FOOTBALL

# Brown ends 15-year wait to score a try

IN HIS own words, Paul Brown is a 'big, unfit, useless prop'.

And after 15 years and 500-odd games of rugby, he had never crossed the try-line – until this season.

The prop finally tasted his moment of glory for OPM IV in their 33-7 win against DHSOB Warlocks.

Brown admits his team-mates were unaware he had broken a 15-year duck.

He said: "We do all the donkey work up front and make the backs look good!"

"Sometimes I go a whole 80 minutes without touching the ball, so it is no wonder I haven't scored before.

"It was a ruck situation and the ball was popped up to me and I ran in from five yards out.

"If I hadn't scored I would have shot myself!

"The lads could not believe it when I told them I had not scored before.

"They made me man-of-the-match and I would have bought all the drinks – but luckily I left my wallet at home."

Brown began his career in rugby as an 18-year-old when he was asked to play the sport due to his sheer size.

He has only had two clubs in his career – Jestres RFC and then OPMs when the clubs were amalgamated.

by ADAM BEARDSMORE

Sports Reporter

His career has spanned 15 years, with a break of five years due to knee and hip injuries.

"It is just the social side I enjoy. We are all amateurs and I don't like to take it too seriously," the 33-year-old said.

"The fourths are largely made up of older players like me and youngsters who are with us for four or five games before they move up.

"Rugby is a chance to get rid of pent up aggression and forget your week at work."

Training is not on Brown's agenda – and he has only attended a handful of sessions during his time at the club.

"If they want me to go to training they would have to give me a map," he joked.

"I am not known for my athletic ability. I enjoy my rugby, and after playing 80 minutes with the lads it is time for the bar."

Brown admits he may be coming to the end of his rugby career.

"At the end of every season I chuck my boots away, and at the start of a season I get a new pair," he said.

"This season may be my last though – or I may do one more."

**ONE TRY WONDER: OPMs' Paul Brown celebrates his first try in 15 years**

Picture Claire Tregaskis EAA17270\_CLT\_002

