

Alcester u14s travelled the short distance to Claverdon on a bright but cold morning. Claverdon were lacking players so Alcester lent 4 players to their opposition. Early in the match Alcester spoiled some good moves by knocking on. Soon however, Josh French kicked ahead, put the defence under pressure, stole the ball, passed it down the line to Ryan Clark who used his speed to score for Alcester. Tom Alder converted with an excellent kick. Clark soon scored again and after a knock on by the home side Chris Cook took advantage to add to the try tally. Alcester were really finding their form and Will Atterbury outpaced the defence to score. It was then the forwards' turn to show their skills as a well worked maul gained 15 metres, the ball expertly worked backwards to the scrum half who passed for Alder to score. Cristian Rushton put Claverdon under pressure to score down the right wing with Alcester in full control at half time 36 – 0 ahead.

Alcester asked a different four to play for the opposition in the second half, including try scores Alder and Cook, to try and even things up. The tries continued to flow. A penalty to Alcester allowed Rushton to power over for his second try and he soon scored again to bring up the 50 points for Alcester. Claverdon fought back to score two tries with Alder and Cook combining well for their adopted team. Alcester's French made an excellent run through Claverdon's defence to make a try a formality. Prop Henry Jenkins who scores very rarely kept up well with French, shouted to his team mate to give him a try. French obliged with a simple gift pass and all Jenkins had to do was touch down under the posts to give the spectators a good laugh. French converted, as Alder the usual kicker was now with the opposition. Rob Newton finished off some good rugby to power over for his very first try for Alcester. An Alcester exile kept up the competitive spirit and scored for Claverdon. Due to the wind, Alder managed to hit the same upright for the third time with his conversion attempts – a feat not usually seen in one match. Lewis Hopkins – the short Alcester scrum half scored a try and Jacob Turner got a rare attempt for the conversion which he slotted home. Finally with the last play of the game, Claverdon scored with one of their own players which generated the loudest cheer of the morning – the Alcester parents enthusiastically joining in.

Alcester won by 79 – 24, their highest ever score and the first time they had been involved in a match grossing one hundred points. Coach Scott Carmichael praised an excellent performance from all his players and thanked those who had performed well for the opposition. Man of the match was awarded to forward Rob Newton who had put in his usual solid display and scored his first try for the club.