

Essington RUFC Newsletter

November 2014

BONFIRE NIGHT

What a fantastic night. A few hundred people from Essington village turned out to watch a spectacular firework display and stand round a blazing bonfire.

Thanks to Dave 'bucket' Myatt for his gray peas which he had brewed over the days running up to the bonfire. Thanks to the BBQ kings, Matt Myatt, Simon 'Faz' Farrow & Stu Russell.

A lot of hard work had gone on behind the scenes to make it successful...the fire wardens, the fire builders, the firework lighters, the bar tenderers, the bucket donation collectors, the people who tidied up, the people who organised the food, the people who locked up..... and to anyone else Thank You

The fireworks cost £500 of which £250 was sponsored by a club member, the bucket collection raised £170.



CRY OFF

The first's game against Trentham was cried off mid-morning Saturday by Trentham, who couldn't field a full team. If the game had gone ahead Essington would have fielded a team where all the players were under 35!!!

VETS

The second vet's game of the season saw them playing Wolverhampton 3rds. The 15-21 loss does not do full justice to the way that Essington vets played. The team members were a mixture of players from Essington, Bloxwich, Wulfrun and Old Oaks.

The first Vets game played on 4th October, was a narrow victory over local vets from Willenhall RFC, where 59 ¾ year old, Jeff Osbourn broke his hand. It was also the first time we have had one of our own ladies ref - CJ Smith ensured fair play all round.



FREE MEAL

If you work behind the bar for 5 events at the club before the beginning of May 2015, you get a free ticket to the dinner/dance. If you are willing to offer your services can you please contact Mike Chandler.

The club's nominated charity this year is the British Legion.

Mike Chandler, Sammie Blake, Dave Myatt attended the Remembrance service at the village church, where ladies player, Nanny McNee, laid the wreath on behalf of Essington RUFC



LADIES RUGBY

This season sees Essington Ladies taking part in the newly created Midlands Development Programme. The programme brings together a number of developing teams in the area with the aim to get more women playing regular rugby.

The ladies have played 2 games so far with the continued support from Cannock Ladies. A comfortable win against Sutton Coldfield at home, as well as a solid win away against Wolverhampton.

When not playing for Essington, a number of the ladies have supported other development teams in the programme, including Cannock and Longton, to further their game playing experience, as well as CJ, Danii, Maz G, Lyndsay and Maz S all playing a game with Lichfield 2nds.

Stacey and Maz G recently had the opportunity to play for the Army Womens Development Squad, which saw the pair take part in a 3 day event, training with the Army coaches, culminating in a game against Exeter University. The skills learned through this experience are now being passed on to the rest of the team to great effect.

This Sunday the Essington and Cannock ladies combine once again and travel to Derby for the first round of the Junior Cup. This will be a chance to put all those new skills into practise against a tough opposition and aim to come out on top!

The squad continues to grow in numbers and in strength with a number of new players joining this season. Please continue to spread the word!

Upcoming fixtures

16th November – Derby (away) (KO TBC) seats available on coach

23rd November – Dudley Kingswinford (home)

NAG NAG NAG!!!

The club is run by members for the members. Everyone on the committee gives their time voluntary. The club is run exactly like a business and takes a lot of effort and dedication. Everyone can do their bit, all captains have a to do list for match days please make their job easier by doing these jobs without being chased. If glasses need collecting, lend a hand – if the bar needs a bar person, lend a hand, make sure that all equipment is put away in its correct place. Working together makes the club work!

WIFI

Coming soon – watch this space!!

MEMBERSHIP

Have you paid your membership yet??? Mr Neil Birt is now distributing membership forms and collecting money for this season. All the money received is ploughed back into the club. It also means that you will only pay £5 for weekly subs instead of £10 if you are not a paid up member.

PRESIDENTS MEAL

Every few months club President, Dave Brawn, hosts a pre match meal for vice presidents. If you would like to be a part of this contact Dave Brawn

CLUB GRANTS

We have been awarded a Sports England grant of £49,850 towards refurbishments, including solar panels, kitchen reburbishment, showers being re-tiled.

This is part of plans to improve the club with grants through the RFU Lead up and Legacy match grant and the RFF Grounds match grant, which will enable us to refurbish the bar, create a soft furnishing relaxation area, repaint the main hall, new entrance doors and provide a disabled toilet.

CAN YOU/CAN'T YOU

Captains text players to tell them which team/where /when. If you can or can't play please reply ASAP. Friday night/Saturday morning is not enough time for captains to make the necessary arrangements.

DID YOU KNOW

That Ladies captian Maz Grieve is the County Organiser of Womens Rugby!

AND

Chair Women of the girls Forum. This Involves Liaising with WRDO to come up with recruitment/retention strategies e.g. development programme, development days, girls festivals Attend Rugby Development Partnership meetings and report on progress of female game in Staffs.

TRAINING

Men's training 7.15pm EVERY Wednesday, rain, hail or sunshine!

Ladies training 7.00pm every Thursday

TRAIN AS A TEAM – PLAY AS A TEAM