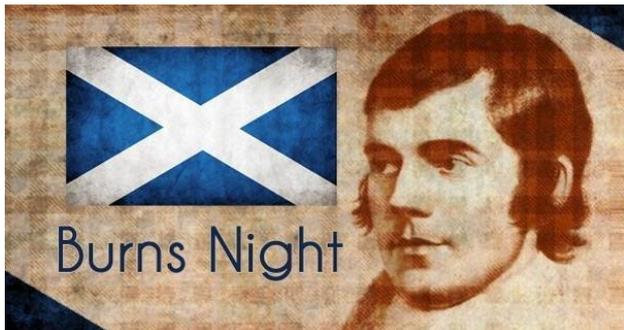




Newsletter

www.essingtonrugby.co.uk

January 2013



FRIDAY 25TH JANUARY (THIS FRIDAY!!)

Tickets £3.50 each.

7:30pm start.

Being organised by the Ladies team - all welcome.

Should be a good evening as we have McNick Prior on the bagpipes, DJ Bom in charge of music, the royal society of Scottish country dancers (includes participation if you so wish!), Burns poetry, Haggis, Neeps & Tatties and of course good ole fashioned excellent company...all this for £3.50!! :-)

You can see from Gerwyn's column
WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT



CHANDLERS FAREWELL FANCY DRESS PARTY

1ST MARCH

7:30pm start.

Dress Code: Please dress for an Arabian nights theme i.e. Sultan, Genie, Belly Dancer

A Word from the Vice Chairman

Happy new year to all members and friends of the club.

As I write this the snow is covered on the ground, we have just come back to some tough games of rugby. But looking at us, we are a club who have two strong male teams each week who are performing well in our respective tables, plus we have our newly formed ladies team who seems to have a very strong team, social spirit and their first win already under their belts! This is great club socially with a great atmosphere for anyone who walks through our doors.

Now you may not be aware of some of the things the committee is working on, but we have exciting and big news to announce...but also a call for some help.

To protect and improve the club facilities for all a few of the committee (primarily Dave, Mike and Mike) have spent a lot of effort over the last three years working on couple of projects to a) install new floodlighting both sides of the training area and b) introduce new drainage to both pitches. Two important and much needed improvements - I am sure you will agree.

The work in total is looking at around £70k and we are in final stages of receiving money from the grants we have applied for and agreeing contractors and timings, so we can allow the work to be done by the summer.

But at the moment we are £7,500 short! We are in discussion on a loan, but as Ian reminds me, it is money the club currently does not have and we still have to pay it off....so we are asking for your help:

"Your club needs your help, to help us raise the missing £7.5k to secure our new Floodlighting and Pitch Drainage improvement plans".

To avoid loosing the funding and the improvements and minimise the burden of a loan, we are looking to club members for ideas, help and support - Using the club spirit so that we need to pull together on this challenge.

What additional funding ideas do you have? Is there any one or companies out there to help us?

What fundraising social events/activities/ideas do you have? Can you organise? Can you ensure people attend? What can you assist with? Any (sensible) ideas will be considered.

Here is a great opportunity for the club..... Your club needs you !

Thanks, Gerwyn.

Vice Chairman, Essington

(RFU Core Values: Teamwork, Discipline, Respect, Enjoyment, Sportsmanship)



WHAT THE PAPERS SAID

Aldridge move to second after win

Aldridge 12 Essington 7

THIS hard-fought victory by Aldridge leapfrogged them over league rivals Essington into second spot in the Midlands Five West (North) table.

It was close all the way through, with Essington making the sharper start trying to open up the game via their back line.

The Aldridge midfield defence did a worthy job in containing them through most of the afternoon but could not do anything to prevent Essington scoring.

It came on the half-hour from a maul originating off the back of an attacking five-metre line-out. The ball was moved swiftly along the line to provide winger Nick Prior with space to cross unopposed between the posts. Scrum-half Nick Britton converted.

This sounded the alarm bells for the home side and they began to raise their game. Aided by some astute line-kicking from No. 10 Kenny Carter, they managed to shift play to the visitors' end of the field. The pressure paid off, scrum-half Chris Jones slotting a penalty before the break.

Aldridge had much the better of the second half.

The forwards gained the ascendancy and some determined running from the backs meant a lot of time was spent in visitors' territory. The pressure told and they began to transgress.

A further three penalties from Jones eased Aldridge into the lead but despite pressure, they failed to produce a try.

They were then forced to cling on grimly to secure the victory.

RUGBY A FAMILY AFFAIR AT ESSINGTON

Taken from <http://www.rfu.com> website

04 January 2013

- Smith family get women's section up-and-running
- Promising start for Essington women

Rugby is a family affair at Wolverhampton-based Essington where three members of the same family are involved in the club's recently-established women's team.

First team front-row forward Nick Smith is coaching the team with his daughter Callie-Jo, a hooker, and wife Trish Martin, a prop, in the side.

Callie-Jo, who has played for Staffordshire, West Midlands and England Colleges, previously played for Lichfield where her father first took up coaching.

"It's a big rugby family," Smith said. "When Callie-Jo went to Lichfield they were looking for volunteers and I'm not the sort of person who will tell somebody how to do something unless I can do it myself so that's why I got involved.

"I ended up coaching there for three years but work commitments forced me to take a step back so I concentrated on playing at Essington. When we tried to start up a girls team I got back involved with coaching again.

"A couple of adults turned up for the first session and we didn't want to turn them away. They brought some friends along for the next session and within about three weeks we had enough players to get a side out."

Essington women's team played their first match recently and beat Warley 44-20. They intend to continue playing friendlies for the rest of this season but are hoping to enter a league next year to play regular competitive rugby.

Essington mount challenge

Mids 5 West North

ESSINGTON RFC 31
STOURPORT 7

ESSINGTON will end 2012 well positioned in second place in Midlands Five West North after this fine victory over Stourport.

The scoreline was slightly misleading as both sides braved the soggy pitch and bad weather to produce an entertaining and, for the most part, close encounter.

Essington went ahead as Steven Gallagher stamped his authority on the game and crossed the try line after sustained early pressure.

The visitors rallied and a missed tackle, superb pace and nifty feet from the full-back bought Stourport back on level terms at 7-7.

Essington began the second half with renewed purpose and a strong and determined run, and resultant try, from Chris Gibbs proving the breaking point in Stourport's defensive resolve.

A few injuries to Stourport players and Essington's continued pressure meant holes began to appear in the visiting defence. Essington exploited these gaps with two tries from number eight Neil Birt and Andy Barker to put the icing on the victory cake.



CODE OF RUGBY

Everyone involved in rugby in England, whether as a player, coach, referee, administrator, parent or spectator is expected to uphold the Core Values of our sport.

Teamwork · Respect · Enjoyment
Discipline · Sportsmanship

- Play to win - but not at all cost.
- Win with dignity, lose with grace.
- Observe the Laws and regulations of the game.
- Respect opponents, referees and all participants.
- Reject cheating, racism, violence and drugs.
- Value volunteers and paid officials alike.
- Enjoy the game.

**THIS IS
RUGBY.**