



www.dursleyrfc.co.uk

Dursley RFC News

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Special points of interest:

- Don't forget to enter the RFU draw. You can purchase Raffle tickets from Committee members.
- Interested in the 200 Club? Contact Angie Valentine or Phil Case via the club website.
- Want to get involved in the club as a coach, player or volunteer? Contact Ken Eales or Shane Aldridge via the website.
- Did you know you can hire the clubhouse for a party or function. For information, contact Shane Aldridge on shane.aldridge1@virgin.net

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ClubMark is the Sport England mark of high quality junior clubs

New Pitch Opened



Applause as the ribbon is cut by Roger Batty

On the 20th December 2009 Dursley RFC was very proud to officially open its purpose built new pitch.

The new £200,000 facility was opened by Club Chairman Martin Greaves and Club Development Manager Roger Batty. Martin thanked all those who have been involved in the raising of funds to create the pitch.

He went on to pay special tribute to club Life Member Alan Smith, whose company Smiths - Gloucester Ltd has carried out

the majority of the work to build the new car park and lay the pitch. Alan has been involved in the club for over 20 years and has been a player, administrator and financial

backer. Without his continued support, Dursley RFC would not have completed this project on schedule and on budget.

Chairman Martin Greaves said "The players, members and supporters of Dursley Rugby Club should be very proud of what we have achieved here. We have grown very rapidly in the last 5 years and the opening of this pitch signals our intention to provide excellent sporting facilities for the young people of our community. As we marvel at this wonderful facility, our thoughts turn to the

development of the clubhouse and changing rooms, which represents our next big challenge,"

Many people and organisations have contributed to the fundraising effort. From Sponsored Swims and Race Nights, from Marathon Runs to Beer Festivals, all sections of the club have contributed and many, many people have been involved.

Stones have been removed by the Senior club and Trees have been planted by the Junior club. All we need now is for it to stop snowing and we will all have the opportunity to play on our pitch.



Councillor Brian Tipper plants trees around the pitch.

Minis go to Wales



Braving the freezing weather and prepared for 'Welsh Rules' more than 200 people set off for South Wales before Christmas to honour our only 'overseas' fixture of the season. Our hosts Llanishen RFC worked hard to ensure the fixture could be played and our boys and girls were keen to experience another Rugby culture.

Our convoy of 5 coaches deposited their loads at Llanishen's clubhouse and the walk to the pitches began. The '10minute' walk served as an excellent warm up for all with at least one age-group regretting bringing quite so much kit!

As ever, Dursley played competitive rugby with the emphasis on enjoyment and inclusion. Most age groups played to slightly different rules but gave very good accounts of themselves.

Back at the Llanishen clubhouse, many hot dogs and chips were consumed. Toasts were made and commitments entered into to continue to build our cross border relationship. Rumours abound that a challenge has been laid down to our Vets team for next season!!

Only the under 9s failed to return home by 4pm. Explanations are still thin, but it seems they took in the scenic North Cardiff estates on the long journey home!

Table Top Sales.

DRFC Table Top Sales will take place in the clubhouse on the following dates:

- # 13th February
- # 13th March
- # 17th April

Please support the efforts of those involved in these events. If you would like further information please contact Jayne Atkins on jayne@cpsuk.eu

Watch out for our new Fund Raising Thermometer in the Club House next month. What can YOU do to contribute to YOUR Club?



AGM elects your committee



The recent Club Annual General Meeting was held at the clubhouse on the 26th November. A new Executive Management Committee was elected to take the club forward. Details of a successful year were discussed and Chairman Martin Greaves thanked in particular Roger Batty, David Weekes and David Dungworth all of whom are leaving the committee

after many years service. Simon Bilous also announced his retirement from his post as Senior Rugby Manager, but he will stay on in post while a suitable replacement is found. Minutes of the meeting along with details of the club accounts can be viewed on the club website www.dursleyrfc.co.uk.

Committee members are from left to right:

Ken Eales (Social & Fund Raising Manager), Ali Kerr (Treasurer), Shane Aldridge (Business Manager), Phil Case (Administration Manager), Paul Winterbottom (Facilities Manager), John Darlston (President), Wayne Lucas (Chairman Minis and Junior Youth section), Martin Greaves (Chairman), Simon Bilous (Senior Rugby Manager), Mark Smyth Roberts (Junior Rugby Manager)

Fund Raising update

A new Social and Fund Raising committee has met for the first time in the post Christmas period. Under the Chairmanship of Social & Fund Raising Manager Ken Eales, the team will take responsibility for raising funds for our club's next exciting development plans.

With plans for new events such as table top sales, Body Shop mornings, an Auction of

Promises and the RFU Grand Draw, the committee has set objectives to achieve the challenging target required. Ken said 'We need to build on the great success of events such as the Beer Festival and the Summer Ball and we will seek funds from external sources to compliment and add to the great efforts of our Membership.'

All Teams and all Age groups

will be asked to make their contributions to the target and a new 'Fund Raising Thermometer' will shortly appear in the clubhouse to measure and illustrate the successes of the whole club effort,

If you would like to help with Fund Raising or have ideas for events please contact Ken Eales on kleales@yahoo.co.uk

A Fund Raising newsletter will be published shortly.

Results & Fixtures update

With the recent extended spell of cold weather preventing much play in the County, all our teams have continued to train in preparation for the second half of the season.

Upcoming fixtures for our First XV are as follows. Home matches are highlighted in Bold.

1st XV

16th Jan Home vs Painswick

23rd Jan Away vs Longlevens

30th Jan Home vs Old Bristolians

6th Feb Away vs Cheltenham CC

13th Feb Away vs Old Cryptians

20th Feb Home vs Aretians

27th Feb Away vs Tewkesbury

For other team fixtures, please visit our website www.dursleyrfc.co.uk

All spectators are always welcome at our matches. The Bar is open and food is available after games.

Calling all Minis players. Would you like to have the opportunity to become the Dursley 1st team mascot for the day? Watch out for information coming soon on our website and available through your Team Manager.