



C H E S T E R
RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL CLUB

“IN TOUCH”

NEWS LETTER SEPTEMBER 2016

All

With the new season upon us, here's September's newsletter. As always, your feedback is very welcome.

Changes to Club Responsibilities

We've recently reorganised the areas of responsibility for the clubhouse, as follows:

Karon Davies has taken over as Clubhouse Manager, with responsibilities for the bar and general clubhouse duties such as cleaning and kit laundry. As such she will now report to Joe Youdan. She will also be assisted by Billy Evans, who will offer specific support and advice regarding the operation of the bar.

Rick Nieto remains in situ as Vice Chairman.

I believe this will prove to be the most efficient and cost effective way of operating the clubhouse and I'm sure I can rely on you all to support Karon in her new role.

Clubhouse Opening Hours

In view of the above changes, the official club opening hours are now as follows:

Monday: 10.00 am – 3.00 pm

Tuesday: 2.00 pm – 11.00 pm

Wednesday: 10.00 am – 3.00 pm

Thursday: 9.00 am – 11.00 pm

Friday: 9.00 am – 6.00 pm

Saturday: From 9.30 am

Sunday: From 9.30 am

However, we frequently have ad hoc reasons to open the club outside of the above, so it's always worth phoning to check.

Bar Prices

You'll recall from the last newsletter that we planned to introduce membership cards programmed to give discount on beer when swiped at the bar. This was originally thought to be achievable at minimal cost to the club. However, in true "best made schemes of mice and men" style, it subsequently became very apparent that this estimate was widely inaccurate. In fact, the revised overall cost of the swipe readers, their installation and ongoing maintenance fee became prohibitively high, and as such we've abandoned that particular scheme.

But fear not good reader (no pun intended), we have not abandoned the commitment to reduce prices. Therefore from the 10th September, beer prices per pint at the bar will be as follows:

Bitter - £3.00

Carling Lager - £3.00

Guinness - £3.30

Draught cider - £3.30

Incidentally, we are currently looking for new bar staff so if any of you have friends or relations who might be interested, please ask them to call Karon on the clubhouse number, 01244 336017.

Car Boot Season

The car boot season is over for another summer, and I'm delighted to say that this year it has been a particularly lucrative one.

In fact, our takings over fourteen sales this summer (net of skip and portaloos costs) are greater than the amount we have budgeted from bar net profits for the entire year.

Now I completely understand that for many folks, spending a couple of hours in a High Viz jacket, being ignored or abused by some of our more colourful guests, is not their idea of a relaxing Sunday morning.

However, put in the above financial perspective, I hope you can equally understand why we hold the car boot sales and equally why we badger and cajole people from all sections of the club to help out.

For most folks, this amounts to no more than one appearance per summer. However, there are a number of volunteers who attend just about every week, without whom we would be never be able to run these events as successfully as we do.

My very special and sincere thanks therefore go to all the Commercial Committee members, and particularly the following car boot stalwarts:

Alison Fox

Alison Simcock

Allan Weddell

Sabrina McGill

Rick Nieto and Lorenzo Mansutti

Many thanks to you all.

Squash

New Squash Season Approaches

The new squash season starts in a couple of weeks and this year we have four teams in the Thursday night North West Counties League – in Divisions 2, 3, 4 and 5, and the Tuesday night Welsh League Division 1. With a pool of over 40 players to call on, playing a total of nearly 100 fixtures from mid September until early April, there will be plenty of opportunity to see competitive squash at the club most weeks. Spectators are always welcome so get yourself a drink and come along and support the club's squash teams.

We Have a Professional in Our Midst!

Rachael Chadwick is the latest in a line of club members who have achieved international status. Rachael has broken into the top 100 World ranking and is now competing in her second season as a professional. Last week Rachael reached the final of the Belfast Open and we wish her every success in the 2016-17 season.

Saturday Morning Beginners and Improvers Coaching

Anyone wishing to start play squash, or wanting to rediscover lost skills (like the aforementioned team players!) is welcome to join in our Saturday morning coaching sessions. Sessions start at 9.30 and are run by volunteer coaches, including Rachael Chadwick when she's not playing in international tournaments. If you're interested in joining in please contact Ian Walton on 07871 595 210.

And finally for this month....

One Club

We adopted the "One Club" motto a few years ago, but I've yet to come across a definition as to what this actually means. I've heard a number of unofficial and anecdotal theories regarding this subject, but frankly nothing that really hits the mark.

Therefore I've put together a definition of how I believe "One Club" should apply to Chester RUFC. I'm not the most original of thinkers, therefore I offer due deference to Aristotle who first coined the essence of the statement below:

One Club – Chester RUFC is an all inclusive club, one where all members understand that the whole is bigger than the sum of all its constituent parts; equally, all members understand they have a commitment to the best interests of the Club, a commitment which extends far beyond that of any one specific team or age group they may play for, coach or support.

Here's to a great season everyone, see you in the Sin Bin!