



LICHFIELD

v OUNDLE

SATURDAY 15TH OCTOBER | 3PM



@LichfieldRugby



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RUGBY GEAR



WELCOME **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

WELCOME to the players, officials and supporters of both sides today. I hope we witness a game played in the true spirit of Rugby Football. We welcome back to Cooke Fields to the sides we played at Level 5 a couple of years ago and we look forward to renewing old rugby friendships as well as meeting new opponents Oundle. It is important that we all, from both sides, respect the referee please – without them we do not get a game!!

We also welcome any new players and hope they enjoy being part of the Lichfield 'family'. Those who have moved from the Colts to Senior Rugby for this season have helped boost numbers in a very competitive squad. Good luck to all our teams and I hope the great progress made by the 1st XV last season is continued.

There are games on a Sunday for the Ladies this season and it is always a day full of action, along with Didi rugby, Rugger Rats, minis, juniors and colts all either training or playing fixtures/tournaments. Come down and watch if able and watch the future players/stars of the club. As a club we put on many really good social events and when Autumn Internationals or Six Nations matches take place we show them on our big screen. So please support any or all of these with friends and family – to enjoy the atmosphere in the Lichfield Rugby Club.

Thank you to all who have supported me as President of the club which has been a great honour over the years. Particularly to those, past and present, who give up so much of their spare time to ensure Lichfield Rugby functions and develops so well – THANK YOU.

Enjoy your time at Cooke Fields and safe journey to you all. See you in the bar to review the game and share memories for the future

Barry Broad – Club President.

KEY CONTACTS

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A FEW WORDS FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Welcome to Cooke Fields – the home of Lichfield Rugby Club. I really hope you enjoy the game and get to see some exciting and entertaining rugby.

We started last season, after a long period of inactivity, not really knowing what to expect, and it's fair to say that we were very pleasantly surprised by how all of our teams resumed playing with a great deal of style and a lot of success. A great credit to all of the coaching teams and the commitment of the players who kept the fitness and skill levels going throughout all of the lockdowns.

This time around things are a bit more 'normal' and we certainly know a bit more about what to expect for the Men's First team – as we step up to resume competition with many of the teams we battled with a few years ago. A much bigger challenge for sure, but one which the squad are eagerly anticipating.

Across our other senior Men's teams, the new season is harder to predict. One of the very few disappointments from last season was the much lower number of games that the 2s and the 3s had. This was largely through no fault of their own as we had fixtures agreed, and teams ready and very keen to play. But opposition cry-offs (and at times referee shortages), meant far too many games didn't happen, and as a result, very disjointed seasons for both teams. This underlying shortage of adult men now playing rugby regularly is a problem everywhere and is creating a major challenge for all clubs – both in maintaining playing standards and remaining financially viable. Let's hope the new season sees an improvement for everyone.

On the Ladies side, whilst playing numbers generally are on the increase, we now face our first season after 'losing' a significant number of our more senior players to the newly founded Leicester Tigers Women's team. This was always factored into our plans as part of the partnership with Tigers, and we now have a new second team entered into NC2 Midlands (West), but nevertheless (and for different reasons to the men) early season playing numbers may still be challenge.

There are always different challenges, but our focus remains on enabling as many players as possible to participate and enjoy the game. Obviously, we are immensely proud of our playing successes, but our pride really comes from seeing the numbers and the skills of the players on view and the fact that most of them have developed those skills through the junior sections of our club. And then very importantly that we proudly remain a community amateur club, and that players are playing here because they enjoy the challenge, the camaraderie and the resources and experiences that we can provide. And not because of any financial incentives they have been offered or could enjoy elsewhere. If you like what you see and would like to get involved in playing here (at whatever standard), please visit our club website (www.lichfieldrugby.co.uk), or pop into the clubhouse and ask for more details.

The role for myself and the others involved in the management of the club is 'simply' to provide the facilities and the environment to attract and support the players and coaches and in doing so, also provide an asset to the local community that many other people can enjoy. I'm glad to report that after a very challenging few years for us all, the club is still extremely buoyant, and well-placed to continue our development – both on and off the field.

So, in conclusion, many thanks to those of you who help us do this. In particular to our generous sponsors who support us in providing these facilities, and our members and volunteers who all contribute to make our club such a success.

Paul Massey – Club Chairman 2022-23

REGION

SEPTEMBER

Saturday, 3 September

Saturday, 10 September

Saturday, 17 September

Saturday, 24 September

Lichfield v Derby

Dudley Kingswinford v Lichfield

Lichfield v Kenilworth

Lichfield v Syston

OCTOBER

Saturday, 1 October

Saturday, 15 October

Saturday, 22 October

Saturday, 29 October

Nuneaton v Lichfield

Lichfield v Oundle

Stoke on Trent v Lichfield

Lichfield v Bridgnorth

NOVEMBER

Saturday, 5 November

Saturday, 12 November

Saturday, 26 November

Broadstreet v Lichfield

Lichfield v Bromsgrove

Burton v Lichfield

NAL 1 MIDLANDS

DECEMBER

Saturday, 3 December
Saturday, 10 December
Saturday, 17 December

Lichfield v Dudley Kingswinford
Kenilworth v Lichfield
Syston v Lichfield

JANUARY

Saturday, 7 January
Saturday, 14 January
Saturday, 21 January
Saturday, 28 January

Lichfield v Nuneaton
Oundle v Lichfield
Lichfield v Stoke on Trent
Bridgnorth v Lichfield

FEBRUARY

Saturday, 11 February
Saturday, 18 February

Lichfield v Broadstreet
Bromsgrove v Lichfield

MARCH

Saturday, 4 March
Saturday, 11 March

Lichfield v Burton
Derby v Lichfield





MATCH PREVIEW

Oundle are making their first ever visit to Cooke Fields today, at any level of rugby, so we are pleased to be able to host them along with members of the Staffordshire RU committee, including the President, John McDermott. In addition, it is our annual VPs' luncheon and we are hoping the majority of them (60+) will be attending. The club continues to appreciate all the hard work, general support and financial commitment these ladies and gentlemen provide on an ongoing basis all year round.

The 1st XV league match is round 6 (of 22), with our current record showing two victories and three defeats. Our last two outings were contrasting games. Three weeks ago, top of the league side, Syston, produced a thoroughly competent, all round performance here defeating us 51-14 (seven tries to two), thereby showing their nous of how to be successful at level 5 from a few years' exposure to all the necessary requirements. Our tries came from David Mott and Ben Meads, his first at senior level.

The game at Nuneaton contained in total 12 tries and 89 points, including 29 in the opening dozen minutes and sixty by half time. We deserved the victory (50-39), earning us 5 points to Nuneaton's one, but we made it hard for ourselves with some inconsistencies within the encouraging overall performance. Charlie Milner, our captain, made his first start of the season after injury and contributed thirty five points from four tries, six conversions and a penalty – he also hit the post twice with other penalty shots in the second half. The other scores came from Joe Bourne, Ben Meads and Chad Southam in a "crazy" opening 40.

Whilst last week was meant to be a fallow week for rugby at the community level, coincidentally Nuneaton and Oundle played each other, with the former winning 32-29 away. The hosts were 25-7 down at one stage before debutant Misi Drauvaki (wearing the 13 shirt – another coincidence after the week before!!) scored three 2nd half tries. This was the Nuns first success, which mirrors Oundle's record, having beaten Bromsgrove in round 1.

The mini/junior section continues to provide mascots for our main match and this week they are Jack Ward and James Goroll from the under 7s, enjoy your day lads.

The 2s, who narrowly lost at Nuneaton, are also at home today to Walsall (league) in their 4th match and we are hopeful that the 3rd XV will get another outing at Leek.

Rory Davis was selected for the notional team of the month for this league for September, recognising his unstinting efforts in every outing and for virtually every minute of all the matches last month. Sod's law was that he then was injured after five minutes in the Nuneaton game and that was his afternoon over. However, well done to Rory.

Both the women's Red and Green sides are top of their leagues after the first two rounds, a feat also achieved by Leicester Tigers women's side. The Red team defeated Birmingham Moseley in their last match by 101-0, which provided added confidence as the emerging new side evolves.

The colts have gained two valuable victories in the past couple of weekends, defeating Stourbridge by a point in the league and then progressing to the national cup 3rd round after a 28-12 success at Wolverhampton – the draw for the next round is not known at the time of going to press.

It's the time of the year when we like to promote some of our social events. Importantly, let's start with the annual Bonfire Party on Friday 4th November, gates open at 6pm with two displays at 7:30 and 8:30pm. The Christmas lunch takes place on Saturday 3 December, starting at 12:00 with a three course lunch on offer – this is the only home league game we have that month, against Dudley K. The mini/junior Christmas party is on Sunday 18 December. Full details of all of these events are also available on our website and on our social media.

#	Team	P	W	D	L	PF	PA	+/-	TB	LB	Pts
1	Syston	5	5	0	0	145	59	86	2	0	22
2	Dudley Kingswinford	5	4	0	1	167	80	87	3	1	20
3	Derby	5	4	0	1	164	120	44	2	1	19
4	Bridgnorth	5	4	0	1	127	106	21	2	1	19
5	Burton	5	3	0	2	144	130	14	4	1	17
6	Kenilworth	5	3	0	2	108	107	1	2	1	15
7	Bromsgrove	5	2	0	3	156	128	28	3	3	14
8	Lichfield	5	2	0	3	143	182	-39	3	1	12
9	Broadstreet	5	2	0	3	129	173	-44	2	0	10
10	Nuneaton	6	1	0	5	151	191	-40	2	3	9
11	Oundle	6	1	0	5	96	169	-73	2	2	8
12	Stoke on Trent	5	0	0	5	128	213	-85	4	1	5



COACH'S CORNER

DAN HEMINGWAY



**DAN
HEMINGWAY**



**JON
PERKS**



**HUW
MARSDEN**

A warm welcome this afternoon to all our visitors; Oundle, Staffs RFU and our esteemed Vice Presidents. We hope you have a great day.

An inconsistent start to the season continued two weeks ago with an odd game of rugby that, despite all its points, never really got going. It's fair to say that both sides decided that defence was optional and we lacked any real cohesion. That being said, the team did well to stick with it and come away with 5 points. The group have worked hard in the off week, and we feel we are starting to get towards the levels we expect of ourselves in order to play the game in the Lichfield Way. We hope to build some consistency with selection and performance over the next portion of the season.

In a couple of weeks which has seen the game of rugby take some real hits with the plight of Worcester, and by the looks of things Wasps, it highlights the incredible work done by so many to make the game of rugby tick at community level. As we approach 150 years of Lichfield RUFC, a huge thank you must go to everyone who is part of the club: from the smallest rugger rat to the senior men and women's sides, the bar staff, the volunteers, the exec committee and the sponsors. Without all these people doing what they do for the love of the game, we wouldn't be able to have the experiences we do. Thank you.

Here's to two great games of rugby, and some great rugby company in the bar.

Hemo

REGIONAL 1 MIDLANDS

SATURDAY 15TH OCTOBER | 3PM

LICHFIELD	V	OUNDLE
Fraser Goatcher	1	Taylor Gourlay
Kieran Reynolds	2	Saad Sait
Josh Machin	3	Ross Murray
Jake Turley	4	Jack Sharpley (c)
Matt Cowley	5	Nathan Wilson
Jack Hurst	6	Rob Shingles
Cal Turner	7	Darren Fox
Rich Burton	8	Grant Snelling
Sam Benson	9	Tom Aviss
Adam Spinner	10	Jordan Carey
Joe Bourne	11	Ashley Elvers
Charlie Milner (c)	12	Harry Winch
Ben Meads	13	Semisi Drauvaki
David Mott	14	Veliki Bulicokocoko
Ollie Green	15	Joe Sagoe
Jack Dace	16	Aaron Brown
Rory Davis	17	George Lane
Chad Southam	18	Craig Tandy

The referee today is Henry Pearson, from the Manchester & District Refereeing Society. We wish him an enjoyable time at Lichfield RUFC.

Mascots for today's match are Jack Ward and James Goroll (U7s).

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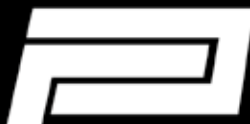
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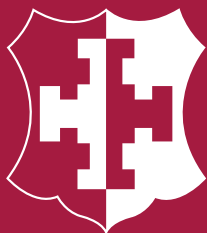
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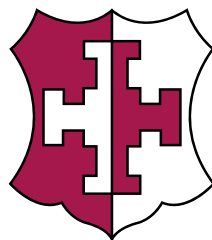
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Ian Turner is a Health and Fitness Professional with over 25 years experience as an Army Physical Training Corps Instructor and Rehabilitation Specialist. A Sports Therapist with Lichfield RUFC and the England Women's Rugby team. Ian has also worked with other sports men and women in Athletics, Running, Cycling, Hockey, Football, Cricket, Water Skiing and the Britains Strongest Man Circuit

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LICHFIELD

U7s – U12s

FIXTURES: 2022-2023



OCT 02 BURTON – H

OCT 16 BROMSGROVE – A

NOV 13 SUTTON COLDFIELD – H

DEC 04 BARKERS BUTTS – A

JAN 08 OLD LEAMINGTONIANS – A

FEB 05 NUNEATON – A

MAR 05 LICHFIELD MJ FESTIVAL: U7s – U9s

MAR 26 TRENTHAM – A

APR 16 LICHFIELD MJ FESTIVAL: U10s – U12s

APR 30 NEWPORT SALOP – H



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