

**Version 6**

March 2021

Guest Editor: Daniel Kemp

## **WELCOME BACK TO BECCS**

Welcome to this sixth issue of the Beccehamian RFC Club newsletter, in this edition:

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# **BECCEHAMIAN NEWS**



## **What's going on at the club right now?**

Beccs must raise significant funds just to maintain the existing clubhouse which is now approaching 50 years old. The club has already spent almost £100,000 in overhauling the clubhouse internally which has given us a high-quality kitchen, a complete rewiring and heating overhaul so that we are fully fire and safety compliant, and a major upgrade of the bar areas so that we have something that is more 21<sup>st</sup> century than 1970s.

It would be great to pay ourselves back from any donations that we might receive and my thanks goes out to all those members and friends who have already made a donation which is greatly appreciated.

It does not end there as at the end of February a project was initiated to replace the entire roof as we have patched it up over the years to a point where we can patch it no more and if left unaddressed, we will leak water and ruin the great internal work which has just been completed.

We just have enough in reserves to cover the cost of this but we are hoping that we might be successful with grant applications to partly offset these costs, but again any donations towards this would also be very welcome at this time. You will see scaffolding up throughout March (current picture on page 2), but it will be gone in April as the job is expected to be done by the end of March.

There will over the coming months be a series of fundraising initiatives including crowd-funding and in person events when permitted to do so, where we will call on the entire Beccs community to support in any way you can. Your support, and particularly inviting contacts whose companies are able to match-fund would be greatly valued and appreciated.

The executive committee has representatives sitting on it covering all sections of the club, and we are very mindful and sensitive to the current economic climate and peoples' varying financial positions.

Naturally like all the hospitality industry over the last year, our one regular source of income over the bar has been significantly reduced over the past 12 months. Any ideas or suggestions that anybody has to raise much needed funds however big or small would be most welcomed as we have not previously had to undertake such a huge challenge financially.

We are solvent and in great shape with a solid clubhouse and still a burning ambition to provide our club with a 21<sup>st</sup> century clubhouse that we can all be proud of.

Hoping to see everybody in person again real soon.

**Nick Brooks, BRFC Chair**

## RFU Return to Rugby Update (email circular 02/03/2021)

*“We are close to revising the rugby roadmap for both age grade and adult rugby ahead of an anticipated return to activity from Monday 29 March. We are optimistic that clubs should be also able to plan Ready4Rugby and limited contact training and Ready4Rugby matches from Monday 29 March, with amended law fixtures from week commencing Monday 26 April. We hope to make a more comprehensive announcement this Friday” (05/03/2021)*



## TALE FROM A VICE PRESIDENT – ANGELA BROADHURST

**1st involvement:** I’m not sure of the exact year as it was so long ago now, but it was my brother, Peter (or Sags as he was known), who was a playing member at the time, who took me down for a drink. I didn’t become a regular though until the fateful Sunday I met Robbie! And as the saying goes “the rest is history”! Has to be around 40 years now!!

**Exec:** Currently, I’m one of the two-House Secretaries with Alan Boyle. My brief is to make sure the clubhouse is kept in good repair and to carry out repairs where necessary, or get someone else to do the job! A lot of the repairs are minor and luckily Al is a builder by trade, so he can invariably tackle bigger jobs. I also run the 250 Club with Julie Adkins and I’m still involved in the Safeguarding side, albeit more in the background now, since persuading two Mums in the minis to step up. I’ve been doing the role for well over 12 years, so it’s time for others to take on. Also, I used to help Robbie out with team admin as our youngest son, Paul, went through minis and juniors.

**Most disappointing moment:** My time at Beccs has always been happy, but if I had to choose, I’d say that the cancellation of rugby this last year has got to be right at the top of any list! Beccs 1st XV losing the Kent Cup Final to Cranbrook and all our pitches getting flooded twice would come a close second.

**Proudest moment:** Becoming the first female VP

**Best memories:** Our daughter Rebecca finding a love for rugby and becoming Ladies Captain after uni. And I suppose I’d better mention Paul being chosen to be 1st team captain this season. At least he can claim to be unbeaten in the league! Being sneaked into the ground by our friends at Tournan Rugby Club to watch England play France in Paris as there weren’t enough tickets to go round. The Guinness World Record challenge organised by the Kempster - what an incredible day that was. Helping the Cranbrook player (who’d cracked heads with Paul and had about 30 stitches to Paul’s 12) to find the showers after he’d had his head sewn up and Paul was getting his done, whilst he kept apologising for being an idiot to have popped his head in Paul’s way. And just standing on a touchline every week watching Beccs play.

**6 NATIONS  
FANTASY LEAGUE  
UPDATE following  
round 3 (27/02/2021)**

1. Paul
2. Toby
3. Jonathan
4. Nigel Putner
5. Eoin
6. Ross
7. TB
8. Reidy
9. Mike Delay
10. Paul Thirkettle
11. Putners Pudgy  
Props
12. Bill
13. Macca
14. Sputs
15. Oddjob
16. Foggy
17. DLB
18. Kempy
19. Paul B
20. Graeme K-J
21. Louis
22. Dylan
23. Brooksie
24. Pete
25. Tasty
26. Justin
27. Nick Brooks
28. Team Thomo
29. Marco
30. Hughesy
31. Jack D
32. Gunther
33. Sweets
34. Shirley
35. LeeG80
36. Cooper
37. Chambo
38. Jackson
39. Curly
40. Speedy
41. Miles
42. Murdo's Swamp  
Donkies
43. Verity
44. Gunners

## PLAYER PROFILE – LUCY THOMPSON



**Name and age:** Lucy Thompson, 18

**Position:** Second Row

**Length of time playing rugby:** 6 years

**Best rugby memory:** Definitely winning the league this season and seeing us all grow and perform so well together. Would say it has been my favourite season of playing rugby and my first season at Beccs.

**Why did you start playing?** My step dad used to play so I would always go and watch him, then they were setting up a girls team there and he couldn't play anymore so he started to coach us and I just loved every moment of it!

**Why do you recommend playing rugby?** The rugby is great and the socials are amazing. It is a massive anger release and there's no other feeling like being in a rugby family.

**How have you been keeping entertained during lockdown?** I have basically watched the whole of Disney + and Netflix combined and currently binge-watching Stranger Things.

**Favourite quarantine workout:** I started running most days to try and keep my fitness up and have also started to do some CrossFit workouts which I love.

## FOLLOW BECCS ONLINE & SOCIAL MEDIA

Link to all Beccs social media accounts are on the club website

<https://bit.ly/2PeH7Nb>

### FACEBOOK

- Beccs public club page
- Beccs closed member page
- Beccs Ladies & Girls
- Beccs Rugby Pod
- Beccs minis tour

### INSTAGRAM

- Beccs club account
- Beccs Ladies
- Beccs Rugby Pod

### LINKEDIN

- Beccs club account

### STRAVA

- Beccs running
- Beccs cycling

### TWITTER

- Beccs club
- Beccs Ladies
- Beccs Rugby Pod
- Numerous age groups U7-Academy
- Beccs minis tour
- Beccs tour mascot

## PLAYER PROFILE – KAYLA



- Name/Nickname: Kayla (U13s)
- Age: 12
- Position/Shirt Number: 15 – Fullback
- When did you start playing rugby: 2019
- When did you join Beccs: 2019
- What is your favorite moment playing for Beccs: Friday night lights – beating Beckenham

### Teammates

- Who is the most vocal in training/leadership: Sasha Spain
- Who is the toughest team mate: Scarlett Atkinson
- Who is the most improved player: Dorothy Thirkettle

## CJ MEMORIAL FUNDRAISING & ALL BECCS CLUB ACTIVITY DAY

As many are aware Beccs have championed our minis festivals which we are not able to hold this year in memory of Christy Jordan (2006-2017). It is fantastically well supported, with a huge collective effort required to deliver the day, as well as a major highlight I know we take a lot of pride in, whilst raising money for The Brain Tumour Charity.

With this in mind, we are hoping to encourage all sections of the Beccehamian RFC community to actively participate in a club wide virtual run/walk/crawl with an initial target of completing 2,000km in a single day fundraising for both the charity and the BRFC clubhouse refurbishment / extension project.

We have set up a draft JustGiving page which will also be updated and shared in due course. In light of some government restrictions hopefully lifting over the coming weeks, the provisional date of 21 March 2021 (which would have been festival day) may change to allow for an even more sociable and fun day for all.

**Final details and date to be confirmed via all BRFC channels**



## **PAST PRESIDENT & HON LIFE MEMBER PROFILE – IAN DOUGLAS**

I joined Old Beccehamians RFC, as it was known, in 1962.

After I left the grammar school I didn't play rugby but found myself playing for Woolwich Polytechnic after a boozy party at the age of 22.

I joined Beccs the following season and found myself in the second team under Captain Tony Worboys. For my first game I was playing open side and scored a try. The game was at Tonbridge in the local recreation ground. The next year or so I played for the second team and occasionally for the first with Captains John Robson and Alan Pinfold.

I did play for the club as openside and hooker. In those days you didn't have to be 6feet plus for back row. I also played in the first team under Captain Bill Byars.

In 1966 I was elected Captain of the second team but had to withdraw as business took me to Leicester. Tony Kallend took over.

Whilst in Leicester I played for a local team, Birstall and for Beccs when we came home at weekends. I was married by then.

On my return I somehow ended up as club secretary, despite friends saying " don't do it"

I also captained the Extra A for two years and we won the team trophy.

I stayed as secretary for 8 years with Tony Kallend as Treasurer. Tony found that the club was basically insolvent as the previous treasurer was funding the club himself.

The upshot was that Chris Fitzpatrick, Tony and myself guaranteed a bank loan of £5000 when I was only earning about £1500 pa.

Tony also found out that the bar takings were being robbed in various ways and we employed a specialist bar detective via Mike Clark who worked for Whitbread.

He found that the brewers draymen, the fruit machine, club halves, till theft and the cleaners helping themselves to spirits were responsible for 40% losses.

When we built the current clubhouse, opened in September 1972, I was actively involved, being a chartered engineer. Our architect was Peter Moore, a club member.

The contractor was Syme and Duncan, former club members, cost £26,000, raised from sale of original club plus RFU loans.

One thing of note was that the electrics were designed by Roger and Alan Croxford and the first fix electrics were installed by club members in one weekend. Three miles of cable being installed. Syme and Duncan remarked that our effort was incredible and if only electrical contractors on their other projects were as good.

After 8 years I was elected President, following Mike Moxon and after 6 years I handed over to Clive who remains as President to this day.

I think at this time we created the role of Chairman, prior to which I chaired the Executive Committee and the club AGMs.

When Tony Kallend retired as Treasurer he was elected as an Hon Life member as was I. This was announced at a club lunch, in 1997.

## BECCS RUGBY POD: THE ONE WITH TOSSELL

Direct website link here  
<https://bit.ly/305lpMr>

"I've loved rugby ever since I saw Gary Lineker score a century at Wimbledon"



thebeccsrugbypod

In this episode the boys discuss all things post-match, including everything from full-time music selection to some very questionable songs & games. If you've ever wanted to know what happens at your local rugby club after dark... this is the pod for you.

As always thank you to our loyal listeners and if you know a rugby fan feeling starved of content in lockdown send it over and share the love

Speedy & Fog

## VETS LOCKDOWN ACTIVITY

Covering the period 21 to 27 February 2021, 14 vets covered a very impressive 359.21km between them, with resident Forest "Kempster" Gump casually throwing in, literally, a mid-week marathon for good measure, all 26.2miles / 42km of it. Great effort again everyone.

## UNDER 15s ACTIVITY CHALLENGE – THE FINAL COUNTDOWN

Why we undertook the challenge:

- **Improve our fitness** – we don't become great players by sitting in front of the PC or Xbox. So when we do actually get back together again we are all fit enough to be at our best and be a valuable member of the team
- **Challenge ourselves** – try something new, challenge ourselves to be better i.e. a faster runner, if you can do 10 press ups today can you do 10 tomorrow etc
- **Work as a team.** Encourage each other, motivate each other and all do your bit to add to the teams score. Every little helps.
- **Try something new.** Joe Wicks HIIT workout, boxercise and Yoga.
- Actually really good for connecting with other parents as well and finding how ridiculously competitive they all are!

### Total Activity – Weeks 1-4 - 23 January to 19 February 2021

- 18 squad (3x teams of 6)
- 20 parents plus 1 sibling (3x teams of 7)

	Running (KM)	Walking (KM)	Cycling (KM)	Sit Ups	Squats	Rugby Ball Passes	Press Ups
Week 1	137.25	480.45	987.63	9075	2010	75	5970
Week 2	365.78	391.14	711.76	8965	11850	12525	5150
Week 3	228.93	667.20	817.22	9520	12460	14925	6025
Week 4	327.87	746.61	1397.90	13970	25525	20877	5520
	<b>1059.83</b>	<b>2285.40</b>	<b>3914.51</b>	<b>41530</b>	<b>51845</b>	<b>48402</b>	<b>22665</b>

- We have run to Germany,
- Walked to Bulgaria and
- Cycled to Egypt

**Overall Team Rankings**

<b>Team Name</b>	<b>Week 1 Total</b>	<b>Week 2 Total</b>	<b>Week 3 Total</b>	<b>Week 4 Total</b>	<b>TOTAL Points</b>
We Will Ruck You! (Sarah)	339.20	839.51	742.93	1296.41	<b>3218.05</b>
Scrum Like it Hot (Karen)	391.33	694.30	687.36	1357.13	<b>3130.11</b>
Bunch of Flankers (John)	354.75	653.91	861.91	942.28	<b>2812.84</b>
Border Runners (Fraser)	198.10	547.17	674.57	1141.00	<b>2560.83</b>
Life's a Pitch (George)	213.03	412.83	542.33	1335.86	<b>2504.04</b>
The Try Liners (Toby)	278.91	532.14	351.58	585.40	<b>1748.03</b>

**Individual Leaderboard – Boys**

<b>Name</b>	<b>TOTAL Points</b>
George H	847.10
Fraser M	613.00
Leo K	597.85

**Individual Leaderboard – Adults**

<b>Name</b>	<b>TOTAL Points</b>
Sarah Harding	916.09
Natalie Mould	841.76
Nicky Kemp	709.66

Thanks in particular to all the team captains for keeping track of each teams activities each week.

A huge WELL DONE to everyone who took part and ran, cycled, walked, boxercised, Yoga'd and worked up a sweat getting points for their teams especially in some rather icy and wet conditions.

It's been a great event, polished off with a zoom get together to find out the final results and award winners with chocolates / bottles of refreshments. We look forward to seeing everyone in person hopefully very soon too !

**John Milburn & Daniel Kemp  
U15s**