



# In Touch

IPSWICH RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

## Welcome!

Welcome to the third issue of In Touch the fortnightly newsletter from Ipswich Rugby Club. This edition features the match report on our second home game of the season against Thurrock along with an interview with the Chairman of the Youth and Junior Section David Edwards. We also have a profile of the club's Vice Chairman Richard Goodall.



Richard has been involved with Ipswich Rugby Club for over 25 years and is now into his second year of second term of office as Vice Chairman. Richard first started playing rugby at school in Shropshire, then Shrewsbury RFC and joined Ipswich on moving to Felixstowe 25 years playing hooker for the seconds, thirds and veterans sides in the days when the club had more than two senior sides.

All of Richard's three boys started playing rugby in the Youth and Junior Section and have gone on to play for the seniors. Ben his middle son currently plays for the First XV although is injured at the moment. Adam plays for the seconds. Along with David Broughton our Director of Rugby, Richard helped to start the Youth and Junior Section which has gone from strength to strength. After taking a RFU course Richard's coaching career found him coaching the U8's to U14's when he was asked to become chairman of the Youth and Juniors Section. Since that time Richard has been stalwart of the club's committee serving as either Chairman or Vice Chairman with only a short break for one season.

As Vice Chairman Richard works closely with Aaron Brown (club coach) and David Broughton (director of rugby) in recruiting new players to the club. Another part of the role is to ensure that the senior squads have the right preparation and support they need to succeed, and although we have had a difficult start to the season with many pre season injuries to key players, Richard thinks that back-to-back promotion is within the First XV's capability and certainly the aim.

All of this takes up a significant amount of Richard's time. Away from rugby Richard runs his own logistics business Chief Logistics and is a keen horse man and motorcyclist. He and his wife Sally keep three horses on their farm outside Felixstowe.



Ipswich First XV v Thurrock 26th September



### Men at Work

Following on from the last issue do you recognise our Director of Bar and Catering getting stuck in clearing the club car park?

# First XV news

## Match Report 26th Sept Ipswich 10 Thurrock 47

A high spirited performance by Ipswich, still weakened by the ever increasing injury list and unavailabilities made league leaders Thurrock fight all the way for their hard earned points. It was a great match to watch and the score margin certainly did not reflect the way the game was played.

Ipswich kicked off forcing Thurrock into their own 22 metre and that's where they stayed until Thurrock were awarded a penalty for a high tackle. Thurrock took a quick tap and passed the ball quickly through the backs showing slick ball handling skills for No.15 D. Worster to run through the gap to score under the posts against the run of play. No.9 A. Burns converted. (0 – 7).

Ipswich continued to push forward still enjoying the majority of possession in the early stages of the game, Thurrock proved resilient in defence and on the 20th minute stole an Ipswich lineout ball, pushed the ball quickly through the backs, allowing No.14 M. Wakefield to show his pace to score right of the posts. A. Burns kicked the conversion. (0 – 14).

Ipswich did not drop their heads and continued to push forwards, on the edge of the 22 metre line Ipswich were awarded a penalty for an offside infringement. Ipswich No.10 Sam Corston kicked for the easy 3 points. (3 – 14).

The game continued with some aerial ping pong before Thurrock won a lineout ball deep inside the Ipswich half, a ruck was formed before the ball was spun wide for No.13 Ben Stanley crash over the line by the uprights with only 10 minutes of the first half remaining. No.9 A. Burns converted. (3 – 21).

On the stroke of halftime Ipswich knocked on inside their own 22 metre area, from the Thurrock scrum the ball was recycled into a rolling maul where No.12 Earl Gorham latched onto the ball before crossing the line next to the posts. No.9 A. Burns kicked the conversion. (3 – 28).

Ipswich still continued upbeat that points could come their way, however after some missed tackles No.15 D. Worster collected a high clearance ball and made good ground before passing to support runners before forward Ben Partridge crossed the line. No.9 A. Burns missed the conversion. (3 – 33).

Ipswich continued taking the game to Thurrock forcing the visitors to make many errors, but still the defence line seemed a tough nut to crack. After 21 minutes of the second half played Thurrock increased their lead when again the visiting backline showed their pace and centre And Eaton finished to move with a try left of the posts. No.12 Gorman kicked the conversion. (3 – 40)

From the restart Ipswich pushed up forcing Thurrock onto the back foot causing them to give away penalties, from a quick tap No.9 Ryan Potkins took the ball forward before passing to the supporting forwards to form a driving maul crossing the try line and Josh Todd getting the touchdown. No.10 Sam Corston kicked the conversion. (10 – 40).



On the stroke of fulltime Thurrock finished of the scoring, when again the fullback D. Worster gathered a long high kick and returned at pace carving a line through the Ipswich defence before passing to supporting centre Ben Stanley to cross in the right corner. Gorman converted. (10 – 47).

After the match Head Coach Aaron Brown praised the Ipswich team for a spirited performance in which no one dropped their heads and continued fighting the whole 80 minutes. A sincere thanks to players stepping up short notice to cover injuries and unavailabilities, and especially fullback John Searle who only knew 30 minutes before kick-off that he was playing for the 1st XV. Ipswich has a well earned rest from league rugby next week, which hopefully some respite for the injured to recuperate.

On Saturday 19th September Ipswich played away to Norwich. A full match report can be found on the website [www.ipswichrugby.com](http://www.ipswichrugby.com)

## League Table - London 2 North East

	P	W	D	L	PF	PA	PD	Pts
Thurrock	3	3	0	0	131	28	103	6
Colchester	3	3	0	0	128	5	93	6
Norwich	3	2	0	1	89	7	40	4
Sudbury	3	2	0	1	71	22	27	4
Chelmsford	3	2	0	1	69	12	20	4
Romford & Gidea Park	3	2	0	1	72	12	0	4
Braintree	3	2	0	1	81	16	-9	4
Harlow	3	1	0	2	56	19	-8	2
Saffron Walden	3	1	0	2	58	39	-50	2
Enfield Ignatians	3	0	0	3	30	32	-35	0
<b>Ipswich</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>-79</b>	<b>0</b>
Mersea Island	3	0	0	3	25	42	-102	0

## Next Match

10th October **Mersea Island**, Humber Doucy Lane, 3pm kick-off.

# Youth & Juniors news



## Interview with **Dave Edwards**

Dave Edwards is the new Chairman of the Youth and Juniors Section, following on from coaching the youth teams at the club for many years.

Dave's involvement with the club began when he moved to Ipswich from Rotherham with work in 1992 and joined the senior squad playing mainly in the front row. His first foray into coaching was as coach to the club's ladies' side. Following on from that role he has coached the current U13's side since they were the U7's as well as various school sides. From talking to Dave it is clear that he is passionate about rugby and coaching and admitted that he enjoyed coaching almost as much as playing. He maintains that it's the best team sport for developing character, discipline and teamwork.

Dave stated that the Youth and Juniors section faced many challenges this season such as implementing greater structure and organisation. All of this will take time along with continued help from the section's dedicated team of coordinators and coaches. Some improvements have already been put in place, namely the role of a communications officer carried out by Stella Day, and the regular Duty teams that operate on training and match days.

The Youth and Junior section is large with 12 teams across all ages, many of which are very well organised. Dave wants to share their good practices across the other sections where possible

and is keen to have a policy of openness within the section. He asks that all parents bear with him and his team whilst the planned improvements are made, and to remember that all are volunteers with a life outside of rugby. He specifically pointed out that Stuart Hudson Head Coach of the U12's has been particularly supportive and has done an incredible amount of work behind the scenes on areas like fixtures and refereeing and kit provision.

Dave added that the continuing challenge will be to manage everyone's expectations and for all to understand the economic realities of the climate and to strive towards the 'one club' mentality. He would welcome further help from coaches and parents and particularly any financial support from any generous benefactors.

Outside rugby, Dave works as a Business Studies and Economics teacher at St Joseph's College, Ipswich. To add to the fun he and his wife Nicola recently became parents to another baby girl, Grace, who joins her two year old sister Lily in making sure that he has a full and hectic home life as well. He stated that based on past experiences he would be insisting that they never go out with rugby players in the future!

## Under 17's continued

Most of the team, accompanied by some of the parents and younger siblings, went around the course after a picnic and a game of rounders and cricket, although a rugby ball was sighted once or twice.

Just to highlight how dangerous some of these games can be, one or two coaches (anonymous) demonstrated how to deal with unwanted spectators on the pitch, by aiming a straight throw at a passing couple, who clearly hadn't seen our marked up playing area! They apologised and retreated, clearly shaken by the experience.

Despite this mishap we were allowed to go on the course up in the trees, where we found quite a few budding Tarzans amongst the troupe.

Earlier in the season our year group went on tour to Newcastle and Edinburgh, a great tour enjoyed by all who went. After an initial skirmish in Gosforth the touring party of 26 players and 9 adults went over Hadrian's wall to Edinburgh. Although we did not quite conquer the Scots this time, the players came back with some great memories of the tour and a determination to continue playing despite other distractions.

We have a number of new players joining the squad this year: James Godfrey, Daniel Lansley and Danny Pratchett. We also welcome back Jordan Emsden who returns after a year's break.

We welcome any new players who want to enjoy the sport of rugby in a friendly atmosphere with a dedicated bunch of lads (and coaches). Anybody wishing to join the U17's will find the team training on Tuesday evenings and Sunday mornings at Humber Doucy Lane or contact Baljit Sarpal, Mal Lane or Dave Clift (contact details on the website).

**Training** is held every Sunday at Humber Doucy Lane from 10am - 12noon.



## Under 17's Go Ape in Thetford

The Ipswich U17's went to 'Go Ape' in Thetford Forest for a great team building event prior to the start of the season. It was a great way to unwind after the GCSE exams and a long season...

# Youth & Juniors news

## What a start for the U9s!

This season has already been busy and eventful for the U9 squad who've just started playing contact. They've benefited from an excellent training session with Aaron Brown and three of his 1st XV squad which was featured in the Evening Star Grass Roots Section. Ten of the youngsters have been official ball boys and girls at the recent 1st XV home match vs Thurrock and the squad celebrated their first wins of the season against Lowestoft with scores of 7 – 2 and 6 – 1.

Unfortunately on the same day Thomas Shaw broke the radius and ulna in his right arm after an awkward fall while warming up.

“Our objective this season is to help the players develop their courage, loyalty to each other, rugby game sense, consistent application of their skills under pressure and a burning desire to do well for one another” said Head Coach Paul Rowland “and inviting the senior squad to run training sessions is just one of the ways we hope to achieve this.”

The squad enjoyed an hour's skill session with the Ipswich Senior Coach, Aaron Brown and a trio of his First XV players, Sam Corston, Jono Fell and Sam Howie.

“There is no doubt that the lessons in passing, rucking and tackling have already helped to improve the squad's individual and collective skills. It was the attention to detail such as body angles and presentation of the ball that were so well put across and absorbed by our players.”

“It was great afterwards to have a chat with the First XV boys all of whom were generous in their praise of the squad saying that they were greatly impressed with our players' enthusiasm, politeness and skills and commented on a number of the boys who showed some great promise. We are already looking to book a further session in a couple of months' time so that we can learn more from them and demonstrate our squad's progress,” said Paul.

The training session was captured in a number of action shots by Tim Bowden,

professional photographer, parent of Gideon and a rugby fanatic who took a whole series of pictures of the players. These have been made available to be sold on to proud parents which in turn creates funds for the squad. Proceeds from last season have enabled coach Cam Bunyan to purchase a complete set of 6 Centurion rucking pads and a tackle bag.

By way of thanks, 10 players from the squad volunteered to act as official ball boys/girls at the home match against Thurrock; Zack Beazley, Lucas Bissett, Callum Bunyan, Oscar Codling, Joe Hindley, Anna Holland, Harry Rowland, James Taber, Charles Wareham and Harry Williamson.

As both sets of players came off the pitch, the U9's lined up to applaud them and were sought out later by some of the players from both sides and thanked for their support!

All photos taken and supplied by Tim Bowden  
[www.timbowdenweddings.co.uk/orders](http://www.timbowdenweddings.co.uk/orders)



The Happy U9 squad !



Coaches Kevin Parrish and Paul Rowland take a real bashing from the boys !



Edward Chevalier and George Field showing real purpose as they get stuck into Coach Steve Beazley with Anna Holland watching on in the background. Both players are displaying a real talent for the endurance and power of forward play while Anna continues to impress with her courage in the tackle and speed across open ground

# News...

## Help for Heroes

The club shop now sells donated second hand kit such as old items suitable for training. All proceeds will be given to Help for Heroes and in just one morning over £70 was raised.

If anybody has any old kit that they would like to donate for this charity please hand in to the club shop during opening hours.

Source: Alison Young

## Sad news

We are sorry to announce the sad passing of Keith Harris, former Trustee and Chairman of the club. Keith passed away suddenly on Friday 25th September. A minute's silence will be observed at the next home game 10/10/09 in his memory.

## Ref's Corner

"Offside Ref"! I often here the shout from the touchline, but it's not always correct. Over the next few weeks I will look to enlighten you all. Then you can shout even louder with confidence and if you have youth or junior players you can help them to understand also.

### Law 11

#### Offside and Onside in General Play

At the start of a game all players are onside. As the match progresses players may find themselves in an offside position. Such players are then liable to be penalized until they become onside again. In general play a player is offside if the player is in front of a team-mate who is carrying the ball, or in front of a team-mate who last played the ball.

Offside means that a player is temporarily out of the game. Such players are liable to be penalized if they take part in the game. In general play, a player can be put onside either by an action of a team-mate or by an action of an opponent. However, the offside player cannot be put onside if the offside player interferes with play; or moves forward, towards the ball, or fails to move 10 metres away from the place where the ball lands.

Simple is it not! Remember the Ref will decide if it's offside. The object is to let the game flow! So they may just tell players to get back on side or play an advantage.

Stu Hudson

## Club Shop

The Club Shop is open on Sundays for the sale of sportswear including replica shirts, club shorts, socks, studs and leisurewear. The club office is manned Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm for enquiries. Alternatively telephone the club office on **01473 724072** and leave a message or email [club@ipswich-rugby.co.uk](mailto:club@ipswich-rugby.co.uk)

## Online Shop

Alternatively you can purchase kit from the new online club shop not only do we offer our familiar Black and Gold kit, but also additional rugby items, plus selected clothing for the ladies as well! We continue to stock Gum shields, socks, studs, ties etc in the club shop plus a small selection of other items for immediate purchase or to view.

Visit [www.ipswichrugby.com](http://www.ipswichrugby.com) and follow the link to the online shop.

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[www.ipswichrugby.com](http://www.ipswichrugby.com)

**Contact:** If you have any questions or comments regarding the content of this newsletter or wish to contribute please contact Kate Hughes on 07740 554418 or email: [kate.a.hughes@btconnect.com](mailto:kate.a.hughes@btconnect.com)

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