

# Blandford Rugby Club

## Newsletter

Issue 2

Nov 2012

### Chairman's Message

We are now well into the season and both our teams are currently sat mid table in their respective leagues with a number of good strong results achieved. We have bid a sad farewell to some of the Senior squad leaving us to go onto university, college or following changes in their employment. In their place we have welcomed a number of young home grown players who have now become eligible to take part in the senior game. They are fitting in well and adjusting to the game at the adult level.



Senior training is being held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at the pitches commencing on both evenings at 1900. Numbers initially were strong but in recent weeks they have dipped. This makes developing game plans and practicing set pieces difficult. I would like to stress to all senior players the importance of attending at least one session each week.

We will be holding a number of events in the run up to Christmas and over the holiday period. Details of these are included in this news letter and will be published on the website. You are all invited to come along and join in the fun.

### 2013 Tour Update

The accommodation for the Tour has now been booked and there are still a few places left if anyone is interested in going to Yorkshire. You do not have to be a player to come along and have a fun filled weekend combined with two games of rugby.

If you are interested please contact Club Captain Matt Cowlard on 07724 896644

### VP Day

Our next VP Day will be held on 15th December when our 1st XV will be playing Oakmedians 2nd XV and will be held at the Club-house. Full details have been sent to all VPs.

There will be additional VP Days organised for later in the season. If you are interested in becoming a VP please contact the VP Secretary Mike Jones at [mjbones@hotmail.com](mailto:mjbones@hotmail.com) to find out more Information about becoming a VP.



### Presents with Santa

Our traditional senior players evening of presents with Santa will be held on Saturday 15th December after the 1st XV game against Oakmedians 2nd VX. If you are interested in being included by Santa please contact Club Captain Matt Cowlard on 07724 896644 so your details can be passed onto Santa.



## Academy News

The Academy has had a busy start to the season. Before a ball had been played we were winning silverware – the “Most Humorous Entry” in the Carnival was won in the first week of September. Well done to all involved and thank you to Louis for arranging.

The Big Rugby Day was held on Sunday 23 September. Despite being probably the wettest day of September for many years, we saw players new and old join in for a fun morning of rugby training after a rousing talk from Bath Rugby Club President, David Trick. We were also delighted to have three Bath players working on the coaching team – Guy Mercer, Jack Cuthbert and Tom Vaughan-Edwards. After free bacon butties, everyone retreated home for hot baths and a well-earned rest. A huge thank you to all involved, especially Paul Speakman.

Matches have started for the U7-10 squads, with Swans, Bridport and Oakmeadians played so far. The U12 and 13's are training hard and matches will commence soon. We are delighted to announce an U15's squad who are now regularly training on Sundays and matches are being arranged. The coaches, led by Doug Thring, are essential for the success of each squad and their time, enthusiasm and commitment are greatly appreciated. Don't forget that hot lunches are provided at the Clubhouse after home matches – a good opportunity to entertain our visitors.

The Fireworks evening was a great success and once again so well organised by clans Minchella and Thring.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the many new players and parents who have joined us this year. Likewise it is good to see the new volunteers attending the coaching courses, standing as new committee members or helping on Sunday mornings in the Sprinkles Café. We would like to identify parents from each age group to assist the coaches with some of the basic administrative work – please do contact myself or Doug Thring if you would be prepared to help in this way.

**JD Bowerman**

Academy Chairman

## Children's Christmas Party

Father Christmas has kindly agreed to visit the Club on Sunday 16th December at the Clubhouse after the Academy training session at 1200 hrs.



There will be food and entertainment for all the family.

Contact Jason on 01929 459204 for further details



## Raggy Dolls



The traditional Raggy Dolls Charity match is coming early in the New Year. Watch the website for full details of date and time.



## RFU Grand Draw

RFU Grand Draw tickets are available. Purchasing tickets is a great way to raise funds for the club as we keep 90% of the funds raised. To purchase or help in selling tickets contact Joy. (joypentney@outlook.com)

## Old Boys v New Boys Match

The traditional game between the clubs senior players who are classed as the “Old Boys” against the “New Boys”, those who have played senior rugby for less than 10 seasons will be held on Sunday 30th December at the pitches.

Old Boys Captain for this game is Andy Williamson with Doug Baker and Kieran Mitchell sharing the captaincy of the New Boys side. If you are interested in playing for either side please contact the designated Captains

After the match players, spectators and family members are all welcome back at the clubhouse.