

## **ALCESTER RFC MATCH REPORTS**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

**Midlands Division Four West South**

**Alcester 0 Kerseley 41**

Alcester surrendered their 20 month unbeaten home record in the league, in emphatic style as they were comprehensively outplayed by the former pit men from Kerseley. To make the defeat all the more painful, Alcester President Steve Faulkner and 80 guests at his first President's Lunch of the season, witnessed this mauling and those that haven't been to Kings Coughton previously this season, probably left wondering how Alcester had started the campaign so well, on the evidence of this showing.

Starting up the slope and in to the gale force wind and rain, Alcester were hit by a blitz start by the visitors that saw Kerseley take a three try advantage inside the first ten minutes. The conditions meant that Alcester had no opportunity to properly clear their lines, and that together with the missed tackles in defence, contributed to their down fall in the first half, as the visitors ran in another two tries to lead 27-0 at the break, through five tries and a conversion.

The weather conditions started to settle before the end of the first half, and at the start of the second, although the wind was still firmly at Alcester's backs it was not the force that Kerseley had enjoyed at the start of the game. In addition Alcester were a little nervy with ball in hand and were not able to make any real incisive moves through a dogged Kerseley defence. The red and blacks were better in the second half, and won more than their share of possession up front, but it was the visitors who always looked more dangerous out wide, and two more converted late tries, gave the score line a resounding look.

Alcester picked up two more injuries to add to their growing list, with tight head Nathan Webber having to leave the field early in the game and back rower Phil Birks, hobbling off midway through the second half.

Alcester will be hoping that they can get these players and more back for a double header in Nuneaton against Manor Park over the next fortnight. They visit the Griff Coton Ground for a Warwickshire Shield tie next Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>, before returning there the following week for a league game.