

## **ALCESTER RFC MATCH REPORTS**

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2010**

### **Harold Stillwell Trophy**

Nearing the end of what has been a busy Golden Jubilee Season for the Kings Coughton club, Alcester hosted the 21<sup>st</sup> playing of this tournament. With this season's league campaign extended for most clubs following the postponements in the bad weather earlier in the year, only three teams entered this year's tournament with sides from Stratford and Wellesbourne joining the hosts.

In the first game a depleted Alcester side were well beaten by a strong Stratford outfit who moved the ball around well and at pace away from the hosts' scrum that were dominating the set exchanges. In warm conditions the Alcester side were not helped by the fact that the ball didn't leave the field once in the half hour of rugby played, meaning their forwards were not able to get the break in play from any line outs.

After a short break, Stratford stayed on to play Wellesbourne and for a long period of the game it looked like a shock might be on the cards, after a committed performance by the village side. In the end a late score gave the Midlands One side the win to ensure they were guaranteed a place in the final.

The second final spot depended on the result of the last "pool" game between Alcester and Wellesbourne. The home side were no match for a nearing full strength and much improved village side to the one they faced in league action two seasons ago. The makeshift nature of Alcester's side, featuring no fewer than six front row forwards in the fifteen, were mostly given the run around by their committed visitors, who outscored them by six tries to two. Alcester's points came from a try by wing Jim Watson whilst Dom Skinner added a try and two conversions.

In the final Stratford got the better of Wellesbourne for the second time in the afternoon, this time in more comprehensive fashion, to claim the main trophy. As runners up Wellesbourne were awarded the Plate whilst Alcester's consolation prize was the Shield, awarded to the team finishing third. Stratford captain Drew Pritchard finished as the tournament's leading points scorer.

### **Alcester vs. Moseley XV**

On Thursday May 6<sup>th</sup> former Alcester coach and now Moseley Chief Executive Dave Warren is bringing a Moseley XV to play Alcester at Kings Coughton for a 7pm kick off. All are welcome to come and watch this rare meeting of the two red and blacks.

### **Alcester Fun Run 2010**

Preparations are now well underway for next month's fun run, once again organised by Alcester RFC. Entrance details for the four mile run, jog or walk through the countryside surrounding Alcester on Sunday June 13<sup>th</sup> can be obtained from the club. For more details visit the Alcester RFC website [www.alcesterrfc.co.uk](http://www.alcesterrfc.co.uk).