

ALCESTER RFC MATCH REPORTS

Saturday 29th May 2010

The Trevor Lee Memorial Cup

Alcester 67 West Mercia Police 10

The final action of a long season at King's Coughton came in the form of this charity game, played in aid of prostate cancer. The game was staged in memory of Trevor Lee, a civilian worker for West Mercia Police, who sadly died late last year following a brave fight against the illness.

Both teams suffered the frustration of several late cry offs and no shows and after a reshuffling of players that had turned up, an eleven a side game ensued with both teams foregoing back rows and a full back, which meant that there was plenty of space for the "runners" on both sides to show their form.

Playing up the slope in the first half, Alcester took the lead from the first play of the game when left wing Ben Hope crossed and scored under the posts allowing Max Biltcliffe a straight forward conversion.

On the ten minute mark the visitors hit straight back with a try of their own through Ben Smith, but the drop goal conversion kick was missed and the kicker hurt himself in the run up to the score and had to leave the field. He was replaced by a late arrival to ensure the sides were still even in numbers.

Playing down the slope in the first half the police side took the lead with a second try through Josh Elliott before Alcester scrum half Robbie Parker reclaimed the lead for his side with the red and blacks second score.

Alcester's Mika Pieri, today playing at outside centre, was another revelling in the space that the game offered and he scored following a powerful run from his own half, which had seen him blaze through several tackles to the try line.

Before half time Parker added his second try which Biltcliffe again converted and Pieri also doubled his tally to leave his side 31-10 ahead at the break.

Alcester skipper Dave Marriott was forced to leave the field with an ankle injury at half time. He was replaced by veteran Dickie Hinckley who moved to tight head, allowing original prop Chris Lowe to replace Marriott in the second row.

With the benefit of the slope in the second half, Alcester reasserted their authority and Parker completed his hat trick after a trademark darting run to the line. Biltcliffe again converted.

Andy Heap, normally a front row forward, but today operating at inside centre, was another to be enjoying himself in the afternoon and he cut a great line from a Pieri inside pass to add to the scoring.

The Alcester kicker was soon on hand again to convert his own score, before Pieri became the second Alcester player to complete his hat trick of tries.

Parker was not happy with the prospect of being out done in the try scoring stakes and so he added a fourth individual score, which he converted himself before he rounded off the scoring with a fifth try and a second conversion for a personal points tally of 29 during the game.

Alcester claimed a good win, with a score line that didn't really do justice to the battling performance of the West Mercia side. They were competitive throughout particularly up front, but in the end were outdone by the home side's extra pace and power out wide. Trevor's widow, Karen Lee, presented the trophy to Alcester captain Dave Marriott and it is hoped that this match will become an annual event.

Alcester Fun Run 2010

There is still time to register for this year's 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 13th can be obtained from the club. For more details visit the Alcester RFC website www.alcesterrfc.co.uk.