



# The Phoenix

## Alcester RFC's Newsletter – issue 2

Senior Section – May 2009



### 1<sup>st</sup> XV News

WE DID IT. Promotion was the primary objective for the season and was achieved via the play-off route. Congratulations to all who played their part, however big or small, it could not have been done without your efforts and commitment. Warley were the opponents in a match that was won with style and fair degree of comfort. Thanks to the coaching staff of Steve Lea and Rob Smith for their continued support for next season which will be a huge test for our new playing style, and the young lads in the team.

The Annual Awards Night went well (and long into Sunday Morning).

The Award Winners :-

1st XV P of Y = Phil Birks  
2nd XV P of Y = Jason Read  
& = Jamie Bowen  
Coaches Player = Aaron Mason  
Young Player = Jim Watson  
Most Improved = Ollie Braley

Well done to all for your achievements in a very successful year.

The 1<sup>st</sup> XV will play in Midlands 4 SW (E) next season.

### Other News

Pre-Season training officially starts on Thursday 16th July but the club will be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the closed season.

City Link played their annual charity match recently with Dean Richards and Andy Deacon playing. £2000 was made for the charity. Dusty Hare and Leon Lloyd were amongst the spectators.

### Andy Flynn's thoughts

Maybe it is because the local press like backing a winner, but the coverage we have received this season is the best I can remember in my years as press officer and I would like to take this opportunity to pass on my thanks to the teams at the Redditch Advertiser/Alcester Chronicle, Redditch/Alcester Standard and Stratford Herald in particular for the support they have given us. Obviously it makes my job a lot easier in reporting good news, and I have sometimes had to quell the enthusiasm for writing every little detail, in the really good wins we have had. The website shows the original report in all of the detail and Tony does a great job in keeping it up to date. If you compare what we have in our site to the other clubs around us, we are at least a couple of levels above even where we will be playing next season and so the challenge is on for the 1st XV to keep the progress going!

Before I sign off, I want to pass on my thanks to my esteemed 1st XV co-reporter Nev Teasdale. More good news to report next season please, boys!

### Vet's

The Vets played several games this season, with the highlight being victory over Shipston, twice. Geordie Newman hopes that in our Jubilee season the Vets will turn out on a more regular basis.

### Committee Update

The following members of the committee have decided that they will not seek re-election at the AGM; Director of Rugby, Nick O'Connor, Junior representative, Tony Darby and Assistant Treasurer, Debbie O'Connor. The following members of the committee will seek re-election; Chairman, Steve Lunn, Deputy Chairman, Andy Miller, Treasurer, Pete O'Dell, Secretary, Mike Edwards and Assistant secretary, David Billingsley.

There are up to seven positions available on the committee plus the officers.

It is essential that, in this most important of seasons, we fill all positions on the committee. If you feel that you would like to stand for the committee please complete the nomination form you received recently.

Our website can be found at [www.alcesterrfc.co.uk](http://www.alcesterrfc.co.uk).

### Jubilee Ties

Jubilee ties are now available @ £10 each.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> XV News

The 2<sup>nd</sup> XV had a successful season, especially in the second half of the season. It was pleasing to see a surplus of players being available for selection. As with the 1<sup>st</sup> XV the emphasis has been on youth, with a few oldies playing their part. The future looks good.