



Bury Rangers FC – Mar '09 Newsletter



Following a lengthy gap the Newsletter is back!! There have been many on and off pitch developments since the last copy, so in a bumper issue, we can reflect on these but also to look forward and highlight some diary dates.

Jane Williams:

First and foremost, it is with great sadness that we announce the news of the death of Jane Williams. Jane was the partner of Russell Willard, one of our U10 coaches and mother of Cameron Willard who plays for the U10 Blues. Jane was not only a great supporter of Cameron's talents, but also believed in giving 100% support to every player who wore a Bury Rangers FC (BRFC) shirt. Her presence on the touchline will be sorely missed, but her kindness will be missed even more. Our thoughts and sympathies are with Russell, Cameron & their family and would like to offer our friendship and support now and in the future.

Bury Tours 2009:

We have three separate tours involving Bury teams this year:

Bury Main Tour: Following the success of last year's R&T tour, we are returning to Clacton in 2009. We have 100+ caravan booked (395+ people). Keith Powell is organising this and following the success of the Saturday night wig-fest last year, this year's fancy dress theme is LOUD shirts. Dates: 22nd -25th May.

Bury Girls Tour: Sadly, R&T did not have a Girls tournament running at Clacton on the same weekend, so instead they have entered a competition up the coast at Camber Sands (25 people). Dates: 22nd – 25th May

U15's Tour: The U15's are venturing further afield and are taking part in a tournament at Zandvoort, Centre Parcs in Holland (30 people). Dates: 10th – 13th April.

With over 450 people (players, family and friends) representing BRFC, it is a testament to the strength in depth and the popularity of the club. Here's wishing everyone a good time and fingers crossed for good weather!!!

Presdales Ground Project:

As you may know, EHDC have withdrawn their funding for the Football Foundation (FF) Presdales project scheme. The decision was based on a funding shortfall due to the current economic climate, ongoing revenue concerns. At first glance, this looked terminal for the Presdales Ground Project, however from the ashes a phoenix may arise!

At a joint EHDC & BRFC meeting on 11th Feb, both parties agreed that funds previously set aside for the project, were still to be used for Presdales pitch and building improvements. As the pitch work is nearly completed, this leaves approx £250k (EHDC) + £50k (Bury) = £300k for the building. Consequently a structural engineer has been hired to assess the building, as both parties would like to determine the viability of the following improvements:

- 8 x Team changing areas & 1 x Ref's changing area using blockwork
- Central corridor and a storage area
- Improved shower and toilet facilities
- Removal and replacement of the timber roof (excluding trusses) and exterior cladding
- Creation of a Bury Clubhouse from the current entrance and storage facilities at the front of the building

If the engineers report is OK (due on 16th March), the next steps are to design and tender the build. As the project is now just an EHDC and Bury joint venture, we would look to utilise the skills and help from within the club and try everything to bring the costs within budget. Additionally by using the existing building, planning permission will not be needed, so no significant delays are expected. This proposal is very beneficial for Bury, as it would result in us having our own clubhouse, rather than being part of a community collective, as per the original FF scheme.

The clubhouse would incorporate a kitchen, more toilet facilities and a seating area, with lockable access to the changing rooms, enabling us to use the clubhouse area without having to open the whole building.



Bury Rangers FC – March Newsletter



FA Community Status & Guidelines:

As one of only seven FA Community clubs in Hertfordshire, we are mandated to adhere to the FA guidelines to the letter. To that end, we are significantly off the mark when it comes to:

- FA Level 1 Coaching & CRB Checks

From Sept 2009, the CRB check will be made more thorough and every club coach or official be a legally required to have a current CRB certificate. This can be done online and the club will reimburse the £10 costs incurred. If this is not done by end May, the club will name and shame those outstanding. If they fail to complete the CRB check by end July, then they will not be able to represent Bury Rangers until CRB clearance is obtained.

All new CRB checks will need to be given to our Child welfare Officer (Paul Ross-Gardner).

Presentation Day 2009:

Whilst the Presdales Ground Project is still pending, we continue to be without a clubhouse. Therefore we intend to repeat last year's arrangement and hold the Presentation Day 2009 at Hertford Rugby Club. Intended date: **Saturday 27th June**, subject to confirmation.

This now means that the club has two major annual events: The Presentation Day and the Bury Tournament. In future, rather than the task of organising these, falling onto the shoulders of a few dedicated and willing volunteers, the Committee have decided, that the organisation of these events should be split across the club:

- Bury Tournament – U6 – U11 age groups.
- Presentation Day – U12 upwards to the Seniors.

Bury Tournament 2009:

The Presdales Ground Project delay has also impacted our ability to hold a Bury tournament for a second year. There **WILL NOT** be an official Bury Tournament in 2009, however each Age group will have the option of holding their own event, and we have been asked by the FA to run a mini tournament. Further details to follow.

As there will only be the Presentation Day event for 2009, could any volunteers, from the U6-U11, please contact the relevant co-ordinator, when someone from the U12-Seniors has volunteers to organise the Presentation Day. We really need help with this, as without the help of 4-5 people last year, the day would have been a shambles.

Veterans Team:

Bury Rangers FC are looking for players to create our own Veterans football team. This would be in addition to our Seniors side, and is aimed at the more "elderly statesmen" amongst us, who may have lost a yard of pace, but can still read the game..... Eric McNeil has stated that the only criteria, is that you have to be over 35.

Which day of the weekend the fixtures will take place is unknown, however if anyone is interested, parents, friends, coaches, please contact your Age Group Manager, who can then pass the contact details onto Eric or myself.

Provided there is sufficient interest, we intend to arrange a couple of friendlies in April and May and then start properly next season.....even I'm putting my name down!!!



Bury Rangers FC – March Newsletter



Referee's Courses:

All team managers know that trying to find a referee for any given fixture, can be an onerous task. A number of Bury players have completed Referee training courses (Ben Palmer, Ryan Richards) and the club regularly uses them to ref Bury fixtures. In order to keep continue this trend, the club is prepared to fund any players through the Referee's training courses for U14's / U15's. In return, the club would then use these new ref's for a number of games to recoup the club costs. If anyone is interested in attending the course, please contact Paul Connolly.

The 2009 Fundraisers:

Three years ago, a group of Bury coaches took part in a truly gruelling event known as The Great Bury Run. Approx 20 Bury coaches, ran a relay event from Bury Football Club, Lancashire to the Presdales Pitches in Ware, covering 210 miles and taking two days and one night to complete. The event raised sponsorship for the Presdales Project. With the Bury clubhouse becoming more of a possibility, the club would like to be able to kit it out with Table & Chairs, TV's, Projection Equipment, Marker Boards.....even a trophy Cabinet!! To achieve this, we have decided to run two fundraisers this year and get everyone involved. The two events are:

The Great Bury Run (5,4,3,2,1.....Go!!) – For All Players

The Great Bury Cycle (Brighton to Bury) – For Coaches / Managers Only

The Great Bury Run will take place at the Presdales pitches on **Sat 13th June**. The aim being different age groups run different distances around the perimeter of the Presdales site. The distance will vary depending upon Age.

5 miles: U17's, Seniors & Veterans

4 miles: U14's – U16's

3 miles: U12's – U13's

2 miles: U9's – U11's

1 mile: U6's – U8's

These are not races but rather distant events



Each player would be sponsored for completing their respective distance, and more importantly everyone can take part in raising money for the club. Photos of the event will be taken and displayed at the Presentation Day.

The Great Bury Cycle will take place on **Sat 27th June – the same as the Presentation Day!!!**

A team of coaches/ trainers will cycle (in relay format) from Brighton to the Hertford Rugby Club. That's 90 miles and we are planning to cover the distance in 5 hours, at an average of 18mph, which is a **BIG** ask!!! The average cyclist travels at 12-15mph and we must be consistently quicker than that despite the route taking us through the busy and congested streets of Central London.

Sponsorship will be based on completion time (i.e. £1 per hour for every hour under 5 hrs = £5. If we take longer than 5 hours, the sponsorship amount pledged is halved for up to 5 hours = 50p per hour = £2.50). The plan is for the Cycle event to arrive and to formally open the Presentation Day.....not much pressure to be fast then..... It **WILL** really be a race against time!! Once again, photos will be taken and will be displayed later that day.

Full details of both events will be distributed shortly to your relevant Age Group Managers for distribution, however we would like to get as many registered players entered in the run and approx 8-10 coaches involved in the Cycle.

Social Events: Coaches Social: Fri 27th Mar (Old Barge – 7:30pm onwards). All managers and coaches welcome.

Thank you for taking time to read this Bury Newsletter. Hopefully you found it informative and useful. If you have any comments / suggestions / or items for the next issue then please e-mail me on phil.spears@buryrangers.co.uk