



## **RAMPAGES (7) September 2021**

### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

What a lovely sunny day after all the misery of the grey August weather.

September always reminds me of the start of the season – hard grounds, too much excess weight that needs to be shed, but training with the boys again - Magic!!!

(How many times did we run up that hill Andy Ball?)

### **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September**

I played a round of golf at Bury St. Edmunds Golf Club. Another lovely sunny day and for me not a bad round of golf. As old habits die hard, I stayed for a pint on the terrace overlooking the 18<sup>th</sup>. Next to me a group of Vets! All from BSE Rugby Club who are now in the big time or nearly in the big time depending on the cost of players, coaches, and donations from big sponsors – ring any bells?

This is a short Rampages with information regarding home games and VP lunches.

Chris and I recently met Alan Brooking at the Club who showed us the Wall of Sponsors who amazingly raised over £37,000 for the Club in three weeks – some achievement from you special people and shows how much the Club means to you. If you haven't donated yet, it's not too late, and any monies donated will be used shrewdly.

### **So the start of a new season.**

We must all thank Tracey Wedd for a sterling job as Chair for the last SIX years including the last two difficult years and we welcome our new Chair Paul Tucker who said "I hope you are as excited as I am by the next 12 months and the opportunities ahead ". I'm sure we would all like to second that and give Paul all our support and best wishes. There's always an air of optimism at the start of a season for every club and for ours - promotion perhaps? Wouldn't that be nice!

For all those who have retired from playing rugby, no more searching the garage to find your boots to give them an annual clean. Now it's wearing a shirt and tie and turning up for a VP Lunch to meet old friends and reminisce.

Such was an occasion a few weeks ago when I went to the first lunch with Mike Ryland. We had a wonderful time but the icing on the cake was meeting up with Bobby Ellis. Bobby, along with Kenny Gladden, were the Disco Boys in the 70's and 80's when Ram Promotions had aspirations of turning the Rugby Club into the Marquee Club of Harlow!

It's always the way after a few pints. I tried to persuade Bobby to join up with Kenny for a Farewell Disco Night. And what band would we put on? Frank the Cat? Were they still playing? Were they still alive? I'll probably repeat the same conversation to Kenny when I see him next. It's very good beer that IPA. Anyway Bobby, it was lovely talking about old times.



## Reminder

1<sup>st</sup> XV Home games and VP Lunches

25<sup>th</sup> September Braintree

16<sup>th</sup> October Upper Clapton

30<sup>th</sup> October Kings Cross Steelers

27<sup>th</sup> November Campion

11<sup>th</sup> December East London (ex-players Lunch)

After one of the Rampages, I received a lovely email from Jon Locke who is now living and teaching in Madrid. So if you have left Britain, we know that many of you are spread out all over the World. Let us know where you are and what you are doing now and your memories of the Club. I know that many of us here in Britain would love to know where you are and what you are up to.

Looking forward to a wonderful season. If you have any news or items, you'd like to share please email me at [rossloveday@btinternet.com](mailto:rossloveday@btinternet.com).

ROSS LOVEDAY

P.S. If you haven't listened to Paul Eynon's podcasts then you are missing a treat, especially his talk with David Stradling which is hilarious!

P.P.S. I'm still working on the spin pass Gary.