

Old Instonians



RIFC
Golden Jubilee
1985-86



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THE HISTORY OF OLD INSTONIANS 1935-36 SEASONS 1985-86

• GOLDEN JUBILEE •



This publication is available from the
clubhouse priced £1

Message from the Chairman . . .

Fifty years ago a small group of friends met at Birkenhead Institute, then situated in Whetstone Lane, to form Old Instonians RFC. They did so because they wished to continue old friendships by playing the game they had learnt to love.

That is why in this season the club has decided to organise a series of functions and sporting events to demonstrate that whilst faces change, the simple aspiration of the founder members remains.

Coincidentally this Jubilee season has seen the club fielding six teams weekly, and enjoying a growing strength in membership. Perhaps this is no coincidence after all reflecting more on the hard work of a small group who as well as organising the playing strength of the club, have seen to it that the social events we have already enjoyed have been an outstanding success.

We now look forward to our celebrations on the field and particularly the visit of Instonians of Ireland on 18th January and the Public School Wanderers on 27th April. To both these clubs, and to all our old visiting friends we ask them to share with us the warmth, friendship and good sportsmanship which motivated our founders.

Gordon Williams

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*Best wishes to everyone
connected with the club
from*



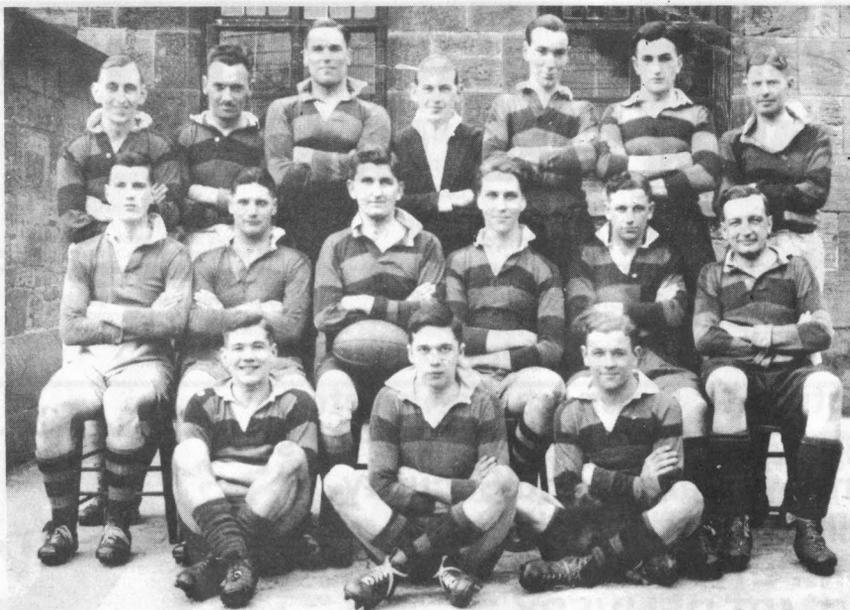
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THE FIRST OLD INSTONIANS OLD BOYS TEAM 1936-37



*Back Row: Ken Page, Don Rigby, Alan McFarlane, Referee Wilson, Freddie Francis, Ken Carr, George Nixon.
Sitting: R. M. L. Hill, Cliff Davies, Eric Hosker, Bob Lowson, Lionel Black, G. G. Wilson.
Front: Tiny Jones, Alan Theobald, Tommy Barnett.*

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Captain: B. Dixon

Secretary: R. Harrison

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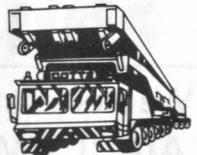
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The Old Instonians R.U.F.C. was born on Monday, November 18th, 1935. On that night at 7.45, fifty-two old boys and pupils of the Birkenhead Institute met in the dining room of the School in Whetstone Lane, Birkenhead. Their purpose was to set up a rugby club for ex-pupils of the school. It is ironic to think that the same dining room was later changed into the music room and many an Old Instonian voice which had been raised in rugby clubs throughout the land found its first public expression in the room where the club was founded.

The aim of the meeting was to organise the club in time for the 1936-37 season and to this end, the meeting was a success. Ken Rice opened the meeting and formally proposed that Mr. A. O. Jones, then the Senior Chemistry teacher at the school and later Headmaster, be elected Chairman and this was carried unanimously. So the early influence in the club, as with many others, was a Welsh Schoolteacher. The role of Welsh Schoolteachers in rugby clubs remains today throughout England and Wales where the combination of Celtic passion for rugby and a schoolteacher's delight in organising others make an acceptable combination.

A tradition was initiated that night that was to last for forty years. The headmaster

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eginning

over their paradise". Robert Lynd

of the school, Mr. E. Wynne-Hughes, was elected president and thereafter the president of the club was always the head of the school. This rule was changed in the 1970s but that early decision meant a close co-operation between school and club. Mr. Wynne-Hughes had been instrumental in the introduction of rugby to the school in 1934. Before that, association football had been the winter game of the school. As a young man in Cardiff, he had been a distinguished performer at both codes of football but rugby was his real love.

There was some discussion concerning the name but eventually Old Instonians was settled upon after Birkenhead Institute Old Boys Rugby Football Club and Birkenstonians were rejected. Ken Rice was elected vice chairman and Peter Burrell, later a distinguished captain of Oxtou Cricket Club, was elected Secretary. At the beginning of the first playing season, 1936-37, G. G. Wilson was elected Captain and Ken Rice Vice Captain of the first team whilst C. K. Coughtrie was to captain the second team. Mr. H. T. Davies and Don Rigby were also elected to the general committee. Of those mentioned above, Don Rigby is still a regular visitor to the club both in the capacity of spectator and social member.

BB

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CLUB COMMITTEES

Bar Chairman:

D. Welch

Bar Team Leaders:

G. Pandit, A. Russell, T. Mallion,
P. Foster, J. Dade

Social Team:

E. Dade, G. Pandit, P. Lee

House:

A. Howarth

Ground:

Chairman: L. Collins

Committee:

G. Knapman, L. Collins, J. Tuohy

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OLD INSTONIANS FIRST SQUAD v THE CASTAWAYS XV DECEMBER 1st 1985 INSTONIANS 21 CASTAWAYS 36

OLD INSTONIANS R.U.F.C.



BACK ROW: Alan Chapman, Brian Bowker, Billy Bailes (New Brighton), Mark Doyle (New Brighton), Phil Mealar, Graham Billington (New Brighton), Peter Buckles (New Brighton), Billy Robertson, Steve Miles (New Brighton), Mitch Dearman (Wakefield), A. N. Other (Orrell), Andy Norman (New Brighton), Robin Johnson (Caldy), Eric Dade, A. N. Other, Carl Rogers (New Brighton), A. N. Other, Ian Mackie, Darren Hebden, Brian Riley. MIDDLE ROW: Denis Welch, Martin Henshaw, Bernie Herne (New Brighton), Len Davis, Gary Williams (Orrell), Barry Dixon, Mike Merry (New Brighton), Danny Hughes (Instonians Coach), Ian Hill (Wakefield), Greg Pandit, Dave Griffith (New Brighton), Robbie Harrison, Mark Gray. FRONT ROW: Peter Collins, John Tuohy, Mal Jackson, Mike Dalton, Steve Copple, Ritchie McKie, Keith Jones, Alan Parke, A. N. Other, Mike Coffin.

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Today we welcome distinguished visitors Public School Wanderers to our club to help us celebrate our Jubilee Season. We are naturally deeply grateful to all the players for giving so freely of their time and hope that they enjoy their visit to Old Instonians. For one player at least it will mean the return to the club where he played some of his early rugby even if the selection committee of the time didn't feel he had the necessary potential for the third team. All selectors make a mistake at sometime.

Great thanks is due to Ian Robertson, erstwhile B.B.C. rugby and racing correspondent, for his help with this fixture. Luckily we will be welcoming Ian as our guest of honour at the Jubilee Dinner on May 7th, an event we are all looking forward to immensely.

Thanks are also due once again to Witral Borough Council Leisure Services Department who have given enormous help with the staging of this fixture. This body has done much over the past few seasons to help local clubs organise fixtures like this and we are all truly grateful.

Overleaf is printed the Public Wanderers side which may be altered depending upon injuries, knocks etc. received in Saturday's games.

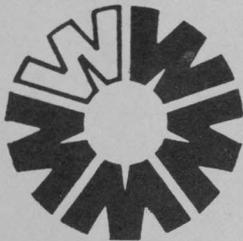
To all the spectators we hold out a very strong welcome and hope you enjoy your visit to Old Instonians. We hope that many among the spectators will be old friends from local clubs and our welcome is especially warm to them.

Final hope is for good weather and a fine game.

PUBLIC SCHOOL WANDERERS XV.

15. K. O'Brien (Broughton Park)*
14. H. Thomas (Sale)*
13. A. Bond (Sale)*
12. P. Stansfield (Sale)
11. M. Cotter (Waterloo)
10. P. Morgan (London Welsh)
9. J. Price (London Welsh)
1. N. Fox (Northampton)
2. D. Reid (Waterloo)
3. P. Simon (Waterloo)
4. S. Bainbridge (Fylde)* and British Lions.
5. J. Syddall (Waterloo)
6. T. Wilde (Broughton Park)
7. S. Tipping (Sale)
8. S. Gallagher (Waterloo Lancashire and Old Instonians IV)

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**PUBLIC SCHOOL
WANDERS**



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September	7	Oldershaw	H		28	Macclesfield	H
	11	St. Edwards O.B.	H	January	4	Old Anselmians	A
	14	Halton	H		11	Delyn	A
	18	Birkenhead Park	A		18	Instonians of Ireland	H
	21	Colwyn Bay	A		25	Liverpool University	H
	22	Bromley	H	February	1	Ashton-on-Mersey	H
	28	Vickers (Barrow)	H		8	Sefton	H
October	5	Wallasey	A		15	Moore	A
	12	Shell	A		22	Collegiate Old Boys	A
	19	Chester College	A	March	1	Bolton	H
	26	Old Rockferrians	A		8	Old Parkonians	H
November	2	Fleetwood	A		15	Sandbach	A
	9	St Mary's O.B.	H		22	Aspull	A
	16	Ormskirk	H		29	Wirral	H
	23	Hoylake	A	April	5	Bury	A
	30	Burnage	A		12	Whitchurch	H
December	1	Castaways	H		19	Merseyside Police	A
	7	Rhyl	H		26	Bangor	H
	14	Eccles	H		27	Public School Wanderers	H
	21	Mold	H				

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