

Cork Constitution F.C. Matchzine



Ulster Bank League Division 1A

Cork Constitution F.C. V Terenure College R.F.C.

Saturday 5th November 2016 14.30 PM

On Saturday in Temple Hill Cork Constitution entertain Terenure College R.F.C. in the Ulster Bank All Ireland League.

We are pleased to welcome Terenure College President, Paddy O'Reilly and his committee members, team and supporters to Temple Hill.

Cork Constitution look in resurgent form with two league victories on the bounce leaving them fifth in the table and just four points off the summit.

Last week Tomas Quinlan's ever-accurate left boot set up a 20-14 win for Constitution over Old Belvedere at Anglesea Road. Quinlan landed five penalties which together with a second half try from half-time replacement Graeme Lawler after excellent work from scrum half Jason Higgins helped Constitution to a precious away win.

Terenure make the long trip to Cork hoping to get their season up and running after last Saturday's late loss to Mary's, but they can surely take heart from the fact that they have come so close in three of their defeats so far. Those bonus points could be vital at the end of the season and show that Terenure are not far away from their best form.

This is real test of Constitution's potential to be title challengers and Coach Brian Hickey will be aware that his charges need to make the most of home advantage in the next two matches if they are to maintain their push for a top four spot.

Last season Cork Constitution had two bonus point wins over Terenure 32-22 at Lakelands Park and 35-17 at Temple Hill.

Match Day Information

Admission: €10 for adults, OAP & students €5. Paid up members of Cork Constitution and all children under the age of 16 have free admission.

There will be limited car parking in Temple Hill on Saturday. We request that patrons respect our neighbours by not parking on the double yellow lines outside local housing estates

Ireland V New Zealand

Soldier Field , Chicago

Saturday 5th November 2016 Kick Off 20:00



Live on our Big Screens

The Ireland V All Blacks game will be shown live in the club house on Saturday night, coverage starts 7:30pm.

Please note that the game is being televised on BT Sport only (not on RTE).

Finger-food will be served in the bar after the ALL game vs Terenure and before the Ireland V All Blacks game.

Annual Business of Sport Lunch

Friday 18 November 2016

Cork Constitution F.C. are pleased to announce its Annual "Business of Sport" lunch which will take place on Friday, 18th November in the Clubhouse.

The lunch is an opportunity to connect with Rugby Friends and hear from Former all Black Captain and Sky Rugby Analyst Sean Fitzpatrick ONZM on the eve of Ireland's test match against the 2016 All Blacks at the AVIVA Stadium.

The Event will be hosted by our own Donal Lenihan:

Programme of Events

13.00 Pre Lunch Reception 13.45 (Sharp) Lunch.

Cost per table of 10 is €1,000.00 and includes Complimentary pre lunch reception, 4 course lunch and wine at the table. Individuals €100.00 per person Tables/Bookings may be secured Via:

Anthony O Leary 087 2562796

Brian humphries 087 6458592

Peter Good 087 2571100

Ian O Leary 087 2590861

Frank O Connor 087 2691212

Jerry Holland 086 2304089



Cork Con Jerseys in Africa

Below are photos of a group of African school kids who recently benefited from some excellent work by Ballinlough based GP, Dr. Orla Batt, ably assisted by people like Finbarr Buckley one of our under 14 coaches.



Dr. Batt via Finbarr looked for "old" jerseys and football boots that neither Con or the kids were using any longer but were in reasonable shape. We had a "collection" at the end of last season the proceeds of which were shipped to Africa and distributed as per these photos



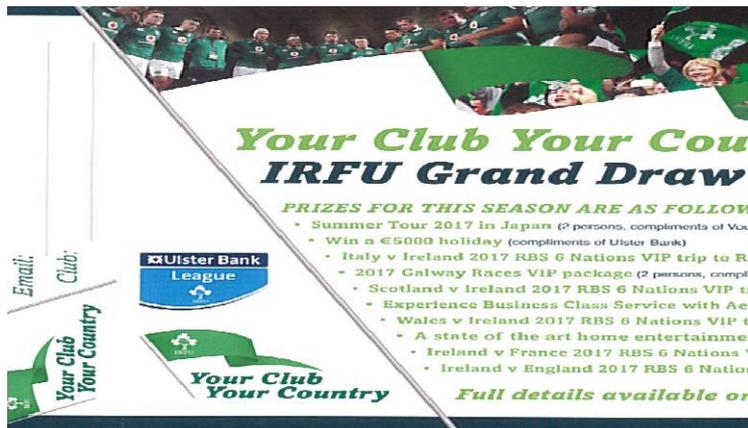
Well done to everyone who contributed to these very worthy cause.

Long Service Award

At a recent impromptu ceremony in the Club Jimmy Holmes was presented with a long service award by Pat Twomey.



Your Club Your Country - Grand Draw 2016



The IRFU "Your Club, Your Country" Draw tickets are on sale in the club now. The ticket sales are being coordinated by **John O'Mahony**. Tickets cost €10 per ticket

Grand Draw Prizes

1. Follow the Ireland Rugby Team on their Summer Tour 2017 in Japan - Return flights, hotel accommodation, match tickets and spending allowance for two persons (compliments of Vodafone).
2. Win a €5000 holiday - Holiday voucher worth up to €5000 (compliments of Ulster Bank).
3. Italy v Ireland 2017 RBS 6 Nations VIP trip to Rome with the IRFU Patrons Club - Return flights, hotel accommodation, match tickets and spending allowance for two persons (compliments of Canterbury).
4. 2017 Galway Races VIP package - Corporate hospitality at the Galway races and overnight hotel accommodation for two persons (compliments of Guinness).
5. Scotland v Ireland 2017 RBS 6 Nations VIP tripto Murrayfield Stadium in Edinburgh - Return flights, hotel accommodation, match tickets and spending allowance for two persons (compliments of Volkswagen).
6. Experience Business Class Service with Aer Lingus - Transatlantic business class return flights with Aer Lingus for two persons (compliments of Aer Lingus).
7. Wales v Ireland 2017 RBS 6 Nations VIP trip to Principality Stadium in Cardiff - Return flights, hotel accommodation, match tickets and spending allowance for two persons (compliments of The Hospitality Partnership).
8. A state of the art home entertainment system Flat screen TV and surround sound equipment to the value of €1500 (compliments of Aviva Home Insurance).
9. Ireland v France 2017 RBS 6 Nations VIP packagein Aviva Stadium - VIP package including official IRFU hospitality and match tickets for two persons (compliments of Eden Park).
10. Ireland v England 2017 RBS 6 Nations VIP package in Aviva Stadium - VIP package including official IRFU hospitality and match tickets for two persons (compliments of Lucozade Sport)

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Fond farewell Rala - the man who babysat the Irish rugby team. In the Irish Examiner of the 15 October 2015 Ronan O'Gara published a tribute Paddy (Rala) O'Reilly.



You've never met such a positive person, with such a great manner about him. And so his retirement is, for the players, an absolutely horrendous loss to Irish rugby.

I was trying to look up this week how many countries he's toured and how many Irish internationals matches he's done. For the former, I concluded that he's been to every rugby playing nation on the planet. The latter? I estimate about 181 caps for Rala, but that's an imprecise calculation.

What I do know as fact is that he was completely under-appreciated by many, as the hidden heroes who fulfil such duties frequently are. Irish rugby will never be the same, irrespective of who goes in there next as kit man, or baggage master (a title he hated, by the way). He was the pioneer and I am sure his replacement will be super-efficient but everyone will be judged by Rala's standards and his personality. An entire generation of rugby players, going back to Gaillimh, Claw and these lads, have had Rala as their confidante.

A clever confidante too. He got great enjoyment from pioneering Rala's quote or thought of the day. Each evening on the players' next-day itinerary, there was a Rala thought for the day. Some of them would be hugely motivating, others just funny. That was a nice touch from Irish management at the time, because they recognised that Rala was a tie that bound. Those pearls ultimately culminated in Brian O'Driscoll's legendary one about the tomato - knowledge is recognising that a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is knowing not to put it in a fruit salad. We had one of those every day from Rala.

His duties entailed a bit of everything. He might have been official kit manager, yet he also had dibs on basically anything else a player had forgotten - because he'd remembered it.

From six different shapes and sizes of studs for the forwards, to underpants for beneath your rugby shorts, or boxer shorts for under your monkey suit. He could have shoes of all sizes, socks, dickie-bows, cuff-links. Different class.

I would have been very close to him, closer than most. And mainly because of the Wednesday Club. That was officially a day off for players in international week but invariably it was a day for the kickers to work on our stuff.

Rala had one of those big Transit gear vans - at this time we were training in Greystones - and there could be myself, Elwood, Humphreys. One fella sitting up the front with Rala and the rest sitting in the darkness in the rear of the van coming home. No light. Some craic. Then he'd hand over the keys to one of the players to drive to fill up his tank of exaggerated stories for the evening about how close to death we all came.

As my own career developed, we did every trip together to Lansdowne Road on those Wednesdays. He'd be friendly with the stadium staff and would have the soccer ball ready for a five-a-side kick-around first to warm up. Afterwards there was always the hot chocolate or cup of soup waiting for you.

I completely trusted him and he would have known me better than anyone.

He loved the fact that we could break from convention or the strict regime or diet and have a club sandwich and a bottle of Coke when we returned to the hotel late. That was his payment and he got an almighty kick out of it. For those days off, the players would get an allocation in an envelope on the Tuesday night of maybe €30 for Wednesday lunch and dinner off your own bat. Rala would have it cleared with management that he could order a la carte at Carton House, the Berkeley Court or the Radisson. That was the Wednesday treat - get the kicking done and have the long, extended lunch afterwards to discuss the world and all that sailed in her. He was clever too on the Fridays with the Captain's Run at 11am. That would typically finish for 12pm before everyone showered and returned to the hotel for lunch. But we would stick around for an extended kicking sessions because Rala wanted to miss the set menu lunch, so he could have the club or steak sandwich.

There was laundry collection at certain hours during the afternoon on match weeks but we used have our own arrangement where I could leave a bag with him at any time and it would be returned the following morning. 'Have you anything to send down Yellow Brick Road' was all he'd say to me. The other players would be looking and wondering: what sort of dialect are those pair talking? It could be anything from your black tie to gear to casual clothes, but it was all back on a hanger in your own bedroom the following morning. Mollycoddled beyond belief.

He's the reason we are all struggling to cope in the real world because he was a mother and a father to the players - in fact he was more than a father in some respects, because with your dad, you'd get a bollocking or two. There was never a suggestion of that from Rala, he was always in good form. Friday nights were special. On the eve of a massive game, his room was the assembly point for everyone. We all went down on the pretence of getting our shorts and socks for the game or needing to polish shoes and stuff for the function the following evening. But really just being there made us all feel better about ourselves and what we were facing into.

The format was the same: pick up socks and shorts and there was usually a match programme too. Your jersey was hanging up with the other 21 if you wanted to examine it, just to have a look or a feel, or peek inside the collar to make sure how many caps you have. Everyone had their own little routine and treated the room as their own to some degree, which is the ultimate display of how comfortable everyone was with him around.

He's a perfectionist who also had huge respect for the hotels and the fact that we were their guests. He'd have plastic covering everything, he introduced a totally professional set-up long before it actually went professional. Friday nights are fraught enough. It's a nervous time, it's a long night sometimes, but Rala's room was the place to go to break up your evening.

We've met up on a few sidelines since I retired and we'd still grab the cup of tea together down under the tunnel. But I'm conscious he's in match mode now and I'm intruding. He's forever been the consummate professional. And they're always tough to let go.

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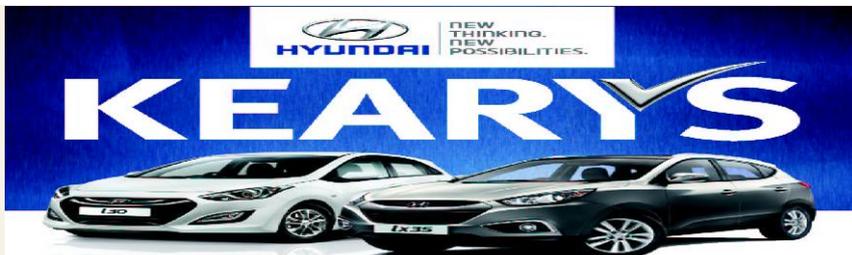
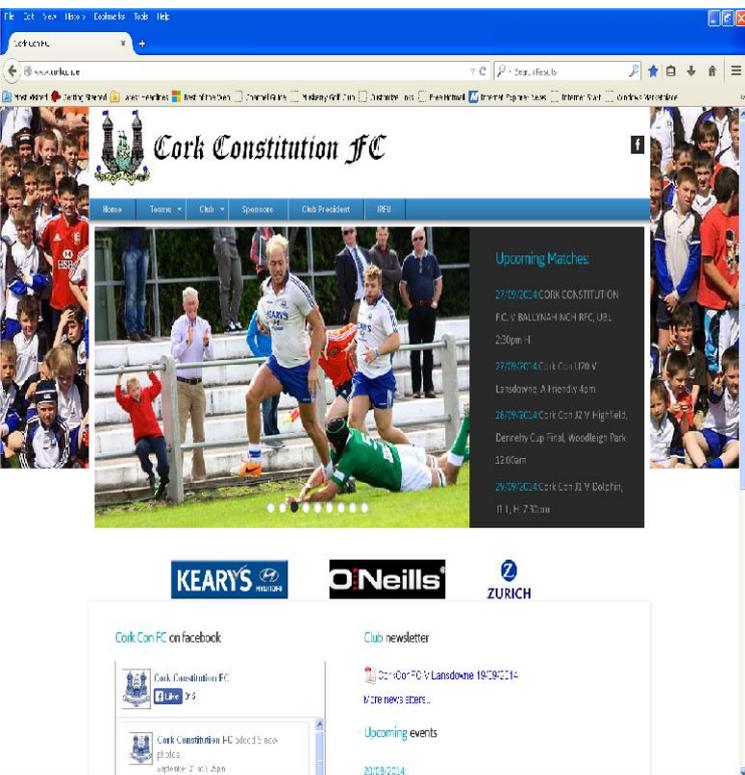


Pitchside Hoardings

Our Pitchside Hoardings are a valued source of income to the Club and a number of spaces are available for the coming season.

If you are interested in becoming a Hoarding Sponsor please contact **Fiona Burke** at 021 4291960 or e-mail info@corkcon.ie

For the latest news & match reports visit corkcon.ie and Facebook.



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Cork Constitution has one of the finest facilities in Irish Rugby.

The club benefits from 3 bars and our facilities are ideal for all sorts of functions including Parties, Weddings, Funerals and Corporate team building days.

If you are holding a function why not consider using your own Club House, you won't regret it!

Call Fiona Burke on 021 4291960 or email: info@corkcon.ie to discuss your requirements and arrange to see the facilities.

Joke of the Week

The club president, coach, a prop and a wing are taking a charter flight to the National Finals when the engines cut out.

The pilot enters the passenger compartment and says, "We're going down. There's only four parachutes! Since I'm the pilot I'm taking one," and then jumps from the plane.

The coach says, "Without me the team won't have a chance, so I'm taking one," and he jumps out.

The winger says, "I'm the fastest and smartest man on the pitch and without me the team can't win a game, so I'm taking one," and he jumps out of the plane.

The club president looks at the prop and says, "You take the last parachute. The team needs you more than it needs me".

The prop responds, "We both can take a parachute. The smartest man on the pitch just jumped out of the plane with my kit bag on his back."