

ESSINGTON RUFC

NEWSLETTER

February 2026



Function Room For Hire

 essingtonrufc@gmail.com

 [@essingtonrugbyclub](https://www.facebook.com/essingtonrugbyclub)

 [essington_rugby_club](https://www.instagram.com/essington_rugby_club)

SAVE THE DATES!

MAY 2026

-  **Friday, 1st May: Dinner & Awards Night**
-  **Saturday, 2nd May: Mixed Touch Tournament**
-  **Sunday, 3rd May: Chairman's Day**

ESSINGTON RUGBY CLUB

MORE INFO COMING SOON!

RUGBY @ OUR CLUB

Rugby season is in full swing, and we're always on the lookout for new players to join our teams! Whether you're an experienced player or completely new to the sport, there's a place for you at the club.

Senior Contact Rugby - Men (Ages 18+)

Training takes place every Monday and Wednesday at 7:30pm. It's a great way to stay fit, improve your skills, and be part of a committed, welcoming team.

Mixed Touch Rugby (14+)

Join us for a fun, fast, and social game every Thursday at 7:30pm. Perfect for anyone who enjoys rugby without the contact — open to all adults, men and women alike.

Junior Rugby (Ages 14–18)

Our juniors train every Sunday from 10:00–11:00am. A fantastic way for young players to develop their skills, make friends, and enjoy the team spirit rugby brings.

Update on the State of the Training Pitch

As many of you will have seen, the current condition of our training pitch has deteriorated into something closer to a quagmire than a playing surface. Unfortunately, it's no longer safe to use. During the closed season, it was hoped that the area could be slit and vertidraind to improve drainage and recovery. However, the dry weather at the time meant the ground was too hard for this work to be carried out effectively.

Now, with the weather having turned the other way and continuous rain setting in, the ground is far too soft. The heavy machinery needed for maintenance cannot be used — it would cause more damage than good.

For this reason, the pitch will remain out of use until it has had a chance to dry out properly. In the meantime, the club has made temporary arrangements to continue training:

 **Wednesday 4th February – Contact Training**

 **Thursday 5th February – Mixed Touch Rugby**

 **Venue: Willenhall Sporting Khalsa Astro Turf, Noose Lane. WV13 3BB.**

 **Time: 8:00pm – 9:00pm both days**

We are also exploring other options for short-term training venues.

Please keep an eye on the club's social media channels and WhatsApp group for the latest updates and any changes to arrangements.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation — and for helping us keep everyone safe while we work to get back on home ground as soon as possible.

Support Our Sponsors

Please continue to support the businesses that support
Essington Rugby Club.

When you visit or buy from them, tell them you saw them
advertised at Essington Rugby Club — it helps them see that
their sponsorship is making a real impact.

When you see our sponsors online, don't forget to like,
comment, or tag them — every bit of engagement shows
how much their support matters!

Become a Sponsor – Be Part of Essington RUFC!

Essington Rugby Club is proud to be at the heart of our
community — promoting teamwork, respect, and the spirit of
the game. We're inviting local businesses and supporters to
partner with us through sponsorship opportunities for the
season.

Sponsorship with Essington RUFC offers great visibility for your
brand, connects you with our passionate rugby community, and
helps us continue to grow the sport at all levels. Whether you're
interested in Club Sponsorship, pitchside advertising, or event
sponsorship, we'd love to hear from you.

✉ Get involved today: SponsorEssingtonRUFC@gmail.com



1911
C A F E

Telephone
01922 408900
07958 788911

Email
hello@1911cafe.co.uk

Website
www.1911cafe.co.uk

**Essington's local community café and
proud sponsors of Essington RUFC
Serving quality hot and cold food and
drinks and open for you**

MONDAY – FRIDAY

9am - 3pm

SATURDAY

9am – 2pm

CLOSED SUNDAY

**Essington Community Centre
Hobnock Road, Essington WV11 2RF**

Find us on Social media: search [@the1911cafe](#)



The Nations Championship will take place every two years, outside of Rugby World Cup and British & Irish Lions Tour years. The tournament will see twelve of the strongest international rugby nations in the world form two groups of six teams.

The Six Nations teams form a European group to represent the Northern Hemisphere, and will face the powerhouse SANZAAR nations, plus invitational teams Japan and Fiji, who complete the line up representing the Southern Hemisphere.

In July, the Northern Hemisphere group of teams will travel to play three rounds of fixtures, with every team playing a different rival from the opposing Hemisphere group. In November next year, the Southern Hemisphere group will then travel north of the equator for the remaining three rounds.

The Finals Weekend will deliver wall-to-wall elite sporting entertainment to fans, with three days of double headers taking centre stage at Allianz Stadium.

To purchase tickets follow this link - <https://forms.gle/NPpWvfNseYsrHCWeA>

Find out more [HERE](#)

<p>Saturday 4th July 2026</p>  <p>RSA</p> <p>VS</p>  <p>ENG</p>	<p>Saturday 11th July 2026</p>  <p>FIJ</p> <p>VS</p>  <p>ENG</p>
<p>Saturday 18th July 2026</p>  <p>ARG</p> <p>VS</p>  <p>ENG</p>	<p>Saturday 8th Nov 2026</p>  <p>ENG</p> <p>VS</p>  <p>AUS</p>
<p>Saturday 14th Nov 2026</p>  <p>ENG</p> <p>VS</p>  <p>JPN</p>	<p>Saturday 21st Nov 2026</p>  <p>ENG</p> <p>VS</p>  <p>NZL</p>



Club Update – Progress and Development at Essington Rugby Club

Car Park Extension : Well the area seems to have drained and remained clear of standing water. There are still overhanging branches to be cleared, which of course incurs a cost. The car park itself will still need another layer of aggregate, but at this moment in time the club does not have the funds to progress this to the next level. Having said this, we are further ahead in the project than it is thought we would be. The first phase was to just move the bank back, but circumstance meant, that to stabilise the work done, extra ground work was done, which the club hadn't budgeted for.

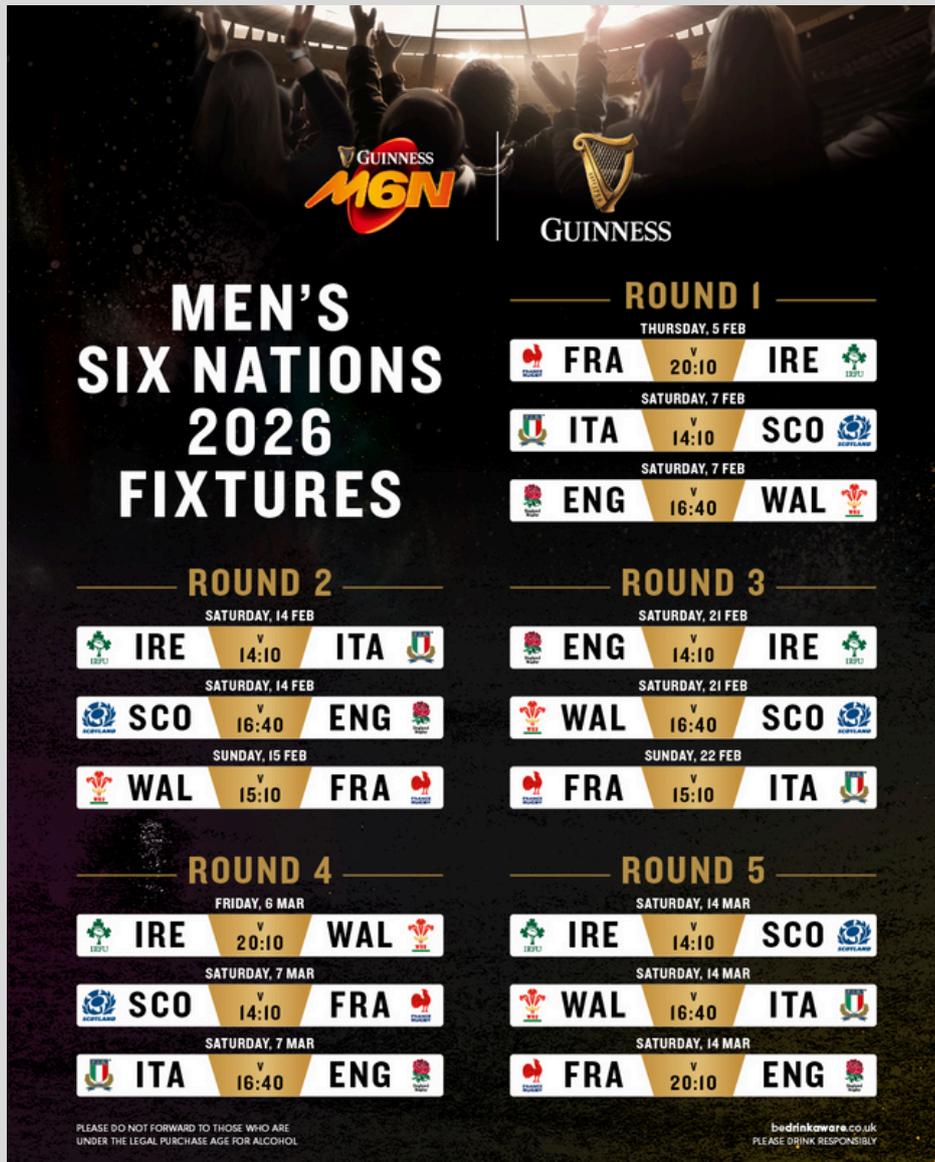
Accessibility Upgrades :A new accessible parking area has been added at the front of the club.

Inside the Clubhouse : Inside the clubhouse, the main hall has been partitioned to allow for the installation of an accessible toilet and a new storage area for tables, chairs, and bowling equipment. This is getting very close to completion, which is all very exciting.

A Team Effort : This has been a huge team effort not only in the planning and also the numerous progress meetings & emails to ensure progress of the project. It has also seen huge cleaning management by Josie and a few others, to ensure that the club is in a reasonable state for the outside clubs that use the hall.

A huge thank-you to everyone involved — your passion and persistence continue to drive the club forward.

The Men's 6 Nations is Back



The poster features a background image of a crowd at a rugby match. At the top, it displays the Guinness 6 Nations logo on the left and the Guinness logo on the right. The main title is 'MEN'S SIX NATIONS 2026 FIXTURES'. The fixtures are organized into five rounds:

- ROUND 1**
 - THURSDAY, 5 FEB: FRA v IRE (20:10)
 - SATURDAY, 7 FEB: ITA v SCO (14:10)
 - SATURDAY, 7 FEB: ENG v WAL (16:40)
- ROUND 2**
 - SATURDAY, 14 FEB: IRE v ITA (14:10)
 - SATURDAY, 14 FEB: SCO v ENG (16:40)
 - SUNDAY, 15 FEB: WAL v FRA (15:10)
- ROUND 3**
 - SATURDAY, 21 FEB: ENG v IRE (14:10)
 - SATURDAY, 21 FEB: WAL v SCO (16:40)
 - SUNDAY, 22 FEB: FRA v ITA (15:10)
- ROUND 4**
 - FRIDAY, 6 MAR: IRE v WAL (20:10)
 - SATURDAY, 7 MAR: SCO v FRA (14:10)
 - SATURDAY, 7 MAR: ITA v ENG (16:40)
- ROUND 5**
 - SATURDAY, 14 MAR: IRE v SCO (14:10)
 - SATURDAY, 14 MAR: WAL v ITA (16:40)
 - SATURDAY, 14 MAR: FRA v ENG (20:10)

At the bottom, there are two lines of text: 'PLEASE DO NOT FORWARD TO THOSE WHO ARE UNDER THE LEGAL PURCHASE AGE FOR ALCOHOL' and 'bedinkware.co.uk PLEASE DRINK RESPONSIBLY'.

(Except for the Italy game - away fixture for Essington)

club!

Watch England games at the



We Need a Second Team Captain!
Essington Rugby Club is looking for a motivated person to take on the role of Second Team Captain. This is a great opportunity to:

- Develop a new team within the club
- Promote rugby and bring in new players
- Lead and inspire on and off the pitch

We want someone passionate, energetic, and ready to take the next step in their rugby journey.

If that's you, we'd love to hear from you! Email : essingtonrufc@gmail.com or chat to a Committee member!



Vets Tournament

Essington RFC is heading to the Willenhall RFC Veterans Tournament! 🏆
📅 Sat 4th April 2026
👉 Over 35? Can you play? Are you free?
Watch this space for further info.

Bar Prices Increasing from February

From 1 February 2026, the UK government is increasing all alcohol duty rates as outlined in the 2025 budget.

This means the cost of wine, spirits, and other alcoholic products is going up. Plus most producers have scheduled their annual price increase at the same time.

As a result, bar prices at the club will rise slightly to reflect these changes.



New Bowls Club at Essington Rugby Club!

Exciting news! A Bowls Club has moved right here to Essington Rugby Club.

Whether you're an amateur or professional player, everyone is welcome to come along, have a go, and be part of something new in our community. It's a great way to socialise, stay active, and enjoy some friendly competition.

 Location: Essington Rugby Club

 Interested? Pop along any Thursday between 10am-12pm & ask for Phyl
Come and join us — let's get the bowls rolling! 



thank
you

A huge thank you to everyone who helped clear the snow from the club drive and car park recently. Your efforts ensured that the 50th birthday party booked at the club was able to go ahead safely and smoothly.

A special thanks from Glynn, whose party it was — he was extremely grateful!

social **MEDIA**

We are incredibly lucky to have such a fantastic social media team at Essington Rugby Club! They work tirelessly to keep everyone updated with:

- Posts about all rugby events
- Highlights from Rugby Trylights
- Game photos every week

Plus, did you know that games are available to watch back on [YouTube](#)? And the most recent club video is absolutely amazing – check it out [here](#)!

We need your help to keep spreading the word: like, share, and comment on posts so we can get the club out there and show the wider community everything that's happening.

A big thank you to the social media team for keeping Essington Rugby Club in the spotlight – let's all help amplify their great work!

EssFest 2026 – Volunteers Needed



Exciting news — Essington Rugby Club will be hosting the Parish Council's EssFest on Saturday, 30th May 2026!

As part of hosting, the club is providing volunteers for the day, including:

- Marshalling around the event
- Running the bar
- Helping with the BBQ

We need your support to make this a success! If you're able to help, please put your name down [HERE](#) and let us know what you're happy to assist with. Every pair of hands helps, and it's a fantastic way to get involved, support the club, and have fun on the day.

If any local charities, community groups or organisations would like a stall for fundraising, please also complete the 'Expression of Interest' form [HERE](#). The Parish Council will be allocating pitches early in the new year!

We want this to be a fun event for all the Essington Community! Follow specific updates on the [Ezz Fest Facebook Page!](#)

Burns Night Celebration – What a Fantastic Evening!

Did you miss it? What a fantastic night it was! Our Burns Night celebration was filled with great food, lively dancing, and plenty of laughter.

The highlight of the evening came when Matt Myatt gave a brilliant presentation on the life of the Haggis — entertaining and educational in equal measure!

Guests enjoyed a wonderful night of traditional Scottish fare, music, and ceilidh-style dancing that kept everyone on their feet.

A huge thank you goes out to everyone who helped with the preparation and organisation of the event — your hard work made the evening such a success.

Here are some of the photos from the night — we can't wait to do it all again next year!



Essington RUFC 2026 Fixtures



February

14 Stoke on Trent 2nd's (H)
28 Bloxwich (A)

March

7 Aldridge (A)
21 Newcastle (Staffs) 3rd's (H)
28 Telford 2nd's (A)

April

11 Trentham 2nd's (H)
18 Burntwood 2nd's (A)
25 Whitchurch 2nd's (A)



Quiz Time

What is the inside of the
6 Nations Cup coated with
& why?

Answer to
essingtonrufc@gmail.com

Winner wins a free drink
at the club

Christmas Shared

A big thank you to the Jones family
for their generosity in sharing some
of their Christmas gifts with the
Black Country Foodbank.
Mike kindly delivered the donations
to the Foodbank – a wonderful
gesture!



That time of year is upon us 

Join the fun and pick your team for the fantasy 6 nations league,
will Alex Baldwin rise to the top again or will we see a new
winner get the bragging rights. Click the link to get started

Join us in the league now no.51698 : Essington RUFC
Password : ISQKT

By clicking on the following link : https://fantasy.sixnationsrugby.com/m6n/#welcome/register?sponsor_player_code=3nwyk4i&league_id=51698&league_password=ISQKT



We are delighted to welcome Stone Cross Scaffolding to the Essington Rugby family. Stone Cross Scaffolding specialises in professional solutions for domestic, commercial, and industrial projects. Their fully trained team is known for reliability and safety, handling everything from home extensions to complex bespoke structures.

We can personally attest to their great work, having used their services ourselves, and we are proud to have the support of such a well-regarded local firm. We look forward to a successful partnership. Ben Richards is helping us with scaffolding for some forthcoming work. This is alongside club sponsors 1911 cafe, Paragon bank, Walsh funerals, Hilton Main construction, plus our many players sponsorships.

Club sponsors currently benefit from being seen by over 8,000 visitors a year to the club house, for games or community clubs or external events. Our social media posts currently get over 40,000 views a month on Instagram and Facebook and on other platforms (we got a video to 65,000 views on tiktok in a week in December - our highest viewed tiktok so far).

Support our sponsors : say you saw them advertised at Essington rugby club - online, give them a 👍, comment, or tag — it shows them their support really matters!

We're looking for volunteers to join the The Friends of Essington Litter Pick — a simple way to make a big difference.

MAKE A DATE IN YOUR DIARY
Friends of Essington
 &
Essington Wombles
Great British Spring Clean

PARISH OF ESSINGTON
 A COMMUNITY EVENT
 IN ESSINGTON CENTRAL
 Taking place at 9-00am till 11-30
 Saturday 14th March 2026
 Meeting & starting from
 Essington Scouts & Guides HQ
 Brownshore Lane

If you have 'hi-vis' jacket and a litter picker please bring them with you.
 Equipment can also be supplied, just come along in suitable shoes and clothing to help clean up our patch.
 If you can help, we would welcome your support.
 For more information call Jon Hanson 07725 623449