

## BURNT ASH COLTS END OF SEASON NEWSLETTER - 2008

It has been another packed season in the Colts section and I think everyone enjoyed themselves.

We completed the second year of our collaboration with Access Sport which they considered very successful, and then gained re-accreditation of our "Clubmark" status. We also achieved membership of the Jack Petchey Foundation Awards Scheme, enabling the club to recognise achievement and commitment to the club by our younger members whilst gaining valuable funding for the club. Our first six award winners attended the presentation ceremony at the Mermaid Theatre in March and had a great night.

Membership of the section remains at approx 150 with average weekly attendances in excess of 100. This is only made possible due to the efforts and support of our coaching team and I thank them sincerely for all their hard work.

This season saw the formation of the Colts committee which proved to be very successful and I would like to thank all the members for their assistance and efforts in the running of the section and of course my usual but sincere thanks to Mary, Joy and Martin for their sterling work in the Colts kitchen.

Our league results were mixed, with the girls fairing slightly better than the boys who suffered from a shortage of players, especially at U16 level.

The parent's matches at Christmas and the end of season were superbly supported and great fun and for many are now the highlights of the season.

I would like to congratulate this year's cup winners who are as follows:

**Boys:** U9 - David Reddington; U12 - Martin Wright; U14 - Alex Bennett; U16 - Ryan Scott

**Girls:** U9 - Caitlin Joy; U12 - Lizzie Howard; U14 - Rosie Smedley; U16 - Chloe Cunningham

Finally after 30 years involvement with the Colts section it is time to move on. When Brian Stacey and I held our first training session we had just six boys attend. It is very gratifying to see that two of the original six are still playing for the club.

Obviously I cannot name everyone who has assisted me over the years but I thank them all. I must however single out Shirley for a special mention as she has been the driving force behind me for the last 20 odd years and the section owes a tremendous debt of gratitude towards her.

On behalf of both of us I thank everyone for our fantastic send off and the very generous gifts which will always remind us of very happy times spent with you all.

The foundations of the section are strong and I wish Sue, Mark and the team every success for the future. If you achieve half the enjoyment from your involvement with the Colts section that I have over the years you will be very, very lucky.

Good luck to you all

David Jervis  
Youth Development Officer.

May 2008