For your reading enjoyment here is the current club news and information, game reports and stories to follow as the season progresses. Any club member who wishes to make a submission, please email myself at davidrmillard@shaw.ca.

**Recap of the Weekend**

It was a very busy weekend, a very successful Christmas Party, a send off for Beau and Sharon, the best house band in Victoria "Joe and the Ebbtones", a tough match with the Twits and a very emotional Celebration of Life for Ray Ramsay.

**Christmas Party**

The Christmas Party was well attended and everyone enjoyed themselves and many of the older retired players were at hand to share their past glories with the younger members. Everyone chipped in with the Food Hamper and the club was able to make a substantial donation to the Salvation Army as usual. Thanks to the Royal Colwood Golf course for hosting us again and to Joe Frenette and Draino for coordinating the event.

Joe and the Ebbtones were in fine form and had added a few guest performers to the band, they sounded great and we are waiting for their “Greatest Hits” U tube video as soon as Anne Marie has it mixed and edited. Thanks Guys.

Beau and Sharon are moving to New Zealand in January so Shane Muldrew and myself presented Beau with a few parting thoughts and gifts to remember all of us. The club presented Beau with a framed 40th anniversary team picture. Bests wishes you two on your next great adventure.

**Ray Ramsay Celebration of Life**

After the game all the club members attended Ray’s “send off and buyout “ many thanks to JBAA, especially John De Goode and the club members for supporting Carole and the Family.

Many tributes were made to Ray and on Ebb Tide’s behalf Ian Cameron regaled us with his story of when Ray first met him, I could just hear Ray’s words as he instructed Ian on his performance on the pitch.

It was great to see many of the retired club members in attendance such as Mel, Frank, Bruce, June, Ken, Irene and so many others.

Ray was a special member of the club and he was involved with rugby development in Victoria, he will be missed and I half expect to see him in the bleachers at the next JBAA home game.

**Ebbtide RFC “GAME REPORT”**

December 3, 2017 – Ebb Tide versus Twilighters (MacDonald Park)

The setting was quite a nice day for December weather standards. This day would not only be the last regulation match for the first half of the season but also be the setting for the Celebration of Life for the recent passing of Ray Ramsay.
A good contingent of Ebb Tide members suited up and the TWITS came in significant numbers to participate in the game to pay respects to Ray Ramsay. In total, there were 28 Ebb Tide players. Many thanks to Murk for stepping up and performed the role of referee.

Before the game both teams with Ray’s Family and Friends lock arms in a circle at mid field for a moment of silence to pay respect to the newest member of the RIPTIDE. We now have enough players for two full sides with spares and Jan is there to referee the game.

The game report as follows:

The Ebb Tide started well moving the ball around and steadily moving up the field but soon the skill sets started to let them down and found they were losing possession readily. The TWITS to their credit, put up a stout defense and could adjust to any breaks the Ebb Tide were able to attain. Soon they were winning back ball and doing their own counterattacks. With a few clever kicks to get behind the Ebb Tide defense they started to score their own tries. With more pressure, they built a substantial lead by half time, 4-0. Ebb Tide put in a good effort in the last half to decrease the deficit scoring 2 tries and very closely a third but it was not enough to level the score. Final score 5-2.

Ebb Tide scorers were Todd Cunningham and Dave Knox. Man of the match as chosen by the TWITS was newcomer Corey Payne while the coveted Red Jacket Man of the Match as chosen by Ebb Tide went to Don Swainson.

Again thanks to Murk for performing as referee. Shortly after these ceremonies, many of the Ebb Tide members went to the Celebration of Life service upstairs at the JBAA hall.

Despite the loss, I think everyone can agree that Ray would have appreciated there being an Ebb Tide rugby match prior to celebrating his life and what he meant to local rugby and abroad.

Curling Bonspiel at Esquimalt Curling Club Feb 24th

2018 EBB TIDE CURLING FUNSPIEL

SAVE THE DATE!!

WHEN: SATURDAY FEBRUARY 24th - doors open @ 5:00 pm, curling starts @ 6:00 pm

WHERE: ESQUIMALT CURLING CLUB, 1151 Esquimalt Road at the Archie Browning Recreation Centre

THE VENUE:
The curling club has 6 sheets of ice so the hope is that we can fill them with 24 teams of 4 curlers in two flights. We are playing two enders (Up and Back, Drink, Socialize, then go back down for a second and third set) Total 6 ends / team

While one group is curling the other group is socializing! And there will be food served too.

DRAWS:
There will be a bucket draw and a wine draw – after all, it is the CLUB’S only major Fundraiser!

BONSPIEL IS OPEN TO EVERYBODY AND FUN NIGHT FOR ALL

This event is open to family and friends invite all your friends and their friends, more the merrier!

Team Fees, fundraising details and registration forms to follow in the New Year.

If you want to help organize – contact Glen glenok@shaw.ca or 250-813-2281