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.

Rugby legend Don Burgess was inventor of the Burge Tee  Remembrance

Except from Cleve Dheensaw / Times Colonist

There wasn’t a pair of uprights Don Burgess couldn’t clinically slice right through the heart. Burgess, one of Canada’s greatest rugby kickers, influenced hundreds of young players as a coach and invented the Burge kicking tee. He died Tuesday at age 85.

He competed at the club, Island, provincial, national and international levels and was inducted into both the B.C. and Victoria sports halls of fame. He played 17 games for Canada and was the national team fullback through much of the 1960s, when Test matches were rare.

Brent Johnston, manager of the Castaway Wanderers club and former national team manager, said Burgess “was as good, if not better, in his era” than D.T.H. van der Merwe, the all-time Test tries leader for Canada.

Burgess, a true marksman with his foot, also played 33 games for B.C.

His greatest moment representing the province came when he converted the winning try by Peter Grantham and kicked a penalty goal as B.C. shocked the legendary British Lions 8-3 at Empire Stadium in 1966. Most of his club career was spent with the Oak Bay Wanderers. He played all over the backfield and was noted for his kicking prowess, blazing speed and rapacious tackling. He played for the Vancouver Island Crimson Tide from 1958 to 1971, when he finally retired as a player at age 41.

Ebb Tide Curling Funspiel Report

The funspiel on Saturday night was just that! We had 46 curlers and many fans as well. I am happy to report that there were only half a dozen curlers wiping out on the ice and that none of them resulted in injury – so they were amusing!

As it was a fundraiser to help offset costs such as team travel and hosting incoming tours from Japan and England this year, I am pleased to report we raised over $1000 on the evening. Think how much more we could have raised with the full complement of 96 curlers!

A shout out to Dave Millard & Tim Walshaw for arranging the chili and the sandwich bar, and to Lori for running the 50/50 draw.

Chris Poulton’s “Better Half” was the big winner of the Wine Draw and I am sure the Case of
Wine will be well enjoyed. Finally, a big thanks to those members, family and friends of the Ebb Tide that came out to support the event.

**Photos of the Big Event**

Tim! The Rock is behind you!  
Boy, Are we getting a work out, are we done yet?

Still Standing!  
It's Biting!

Sweep, Sweep, Sweep!!!!  
It is not Cold in Here!
**Second Half of the Season**

It has been a long wet winter but it is time to suit up and start playing games again. 

**February 11th Abby RFC Home Game canceled**

I guess they could not get a “Day Pass”, who put Family Day a week ahead of the Rest of the Country? 

**March 4th Abby RFC Road Trip.**

**ROAD GAME REPORT FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2018 VS ABBOTSFORD**

A magnificent 17 braved the crossing last Sunday for a contest against an unproven Abbotsford/Seattle side. The “Abbseatt-ford” squad was a wee thin on the ground at the start of the match with two of their props being MIA. It was clear that rumours of a formidable Ebb Tide front row (Austin, Russ, David, and Ted from Burnaby) had instilled fear.

**Abby Short Players**

So as a gesture of good will, but really having pity upon the lesser side, Ebb Tide sacrificed their other Burnaby spares to help their opponents stitch together a competing side. This Frankenstein of a team, however, demonstrated to be a very worthy opponent throughout the game.

Did we mention that they had a former Seattle Seahawk slotback in their backline who still had some “Jets”, by the time you moved to tackle him he was 20 yards down the field and accelerating, and then he wasted more time having to walk back the ball for the next kickoff.

The first quarter began with four trys from Abbotsford followed on by one from Todd Cunningham, team captain for the game. His strong leadership and keen field sense in battle lead Ebb Tide to three more trys in the game… Unfortunately, the trys were matched one to five in favour of the opposing side.

**Moments of the Match**

There was a glimmer of promise in the second half, though, when loose-head prop Austin Jay, experiencing a moment of enlightenment, opted for a cheeky up and under only to find outer space. When asked by his appealing team-mates “WHY?” he replied, “Usually, my kicks are pretty good.”

But the resolve and the determination of this magnificent 17 went undeterred. Eighth-man Jay Jimmo tirelessly plied multiple eighth-man picks to break through Abbotsford’s back line to gain the yards needed for follow-on phases.

Hooker Russ Lazaruk gave an exceptional performance being in the right place at the right
time all the time, setting the play and making the personal sacrifice to advance the cause on
the field.
Scrum-half Harold Butler masterfully played the pivoting role in the game spinning the ball like
no-one else.
Outside-centre Jonathon Romphf had a 35-yard run after an exceptional pass ,breaking
through Abbotsford’s backline at speed to score the final try of the game.

And in accordance with “old-boys rules”, the last try wins!!

Summary:
It was a well-played game by both sides. To Ebb Tide’s credit, many players were playing in
alternate positions with three red-shorts giving 110% against a team of white and black. It was
hard fought and physical, but it was evident that the fitness of Abbotsford was also a factor in
the overall outcome of the score of 75-20.
The players sustained the usual scrapes and bruises but were treated well with iodine
precautions from Dr. Bob. Thanks, Bob!

Man of the Match
Abbotsford did a stellar job of hosting, offering the lads copious amounts of beer, rum, and
brownies afterward. Abbotsford’s pick for Man of the Match was eighth-man Jay Jimmo.
Ebb Tide’s pick was some prop that no one knew the name of , that didn’t show up in the
clubhouse afterward and was stood in by one of their members. It could have been a Burnaby
spare player for all they knew.
Ebb Tide’s own Man of the Match was Russ Lazaruk. Who will receive the coveted Red Jacket
at next practice as It was MIA for the weekend

Well Done to the players who made the commitment

Well done to all for honouring the commitment to play, making a strong effort, and
giving Abbotsford a game. And a big shout out to the Burnaby Lake players who filled
the holes and made the game possible.

Major Away Game Road Trip
Seattle NOB’s game in Seattle is an overnight away game,  so mark the date in your calendars
and earn some Brownie Points with your Good Wife,  so you can get a Day Pass and attend
the game.
Here is a breakdown of our games and events until June.
More details to follow as the dates and events

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