

THE ALL WHITES

A History of Newton Abbot Rugby Club 1873-2013

Major John Evans and Michael Bennie
With a Foreword by Scott Hastings

Formed as Newton Volunteers in 1873, just two years after the founding of the Rugby Football Union, Newton Abbot Rugby Club has had an interesting and varied history. This highly illustrated book traces the development of the club, from the early days, when the rules were lax and 'anything goes' seemed to be the order of the day, to today's organised and formalised game, and from when rugby was a male-only preserve to today's era which includes girls, ladies and youth teams. Among the highlights are the hosting of three All Black touring teams, who spoke of the town's 'wonderful hospitality', as well as one from South Africa and one from Australia.

Development was not always peaceful, and the book describes arguments aplenty: disputed match results leading to walk-outs and boycotts; internal disagreements about selection decisions; and the 'great rumpus' caused by a brief flirtation with rugby league. But it weathered these storms, as well as two World Wars, to become the strong, vibrant club it is today at the core of its community.



Major John Evans, DSO

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

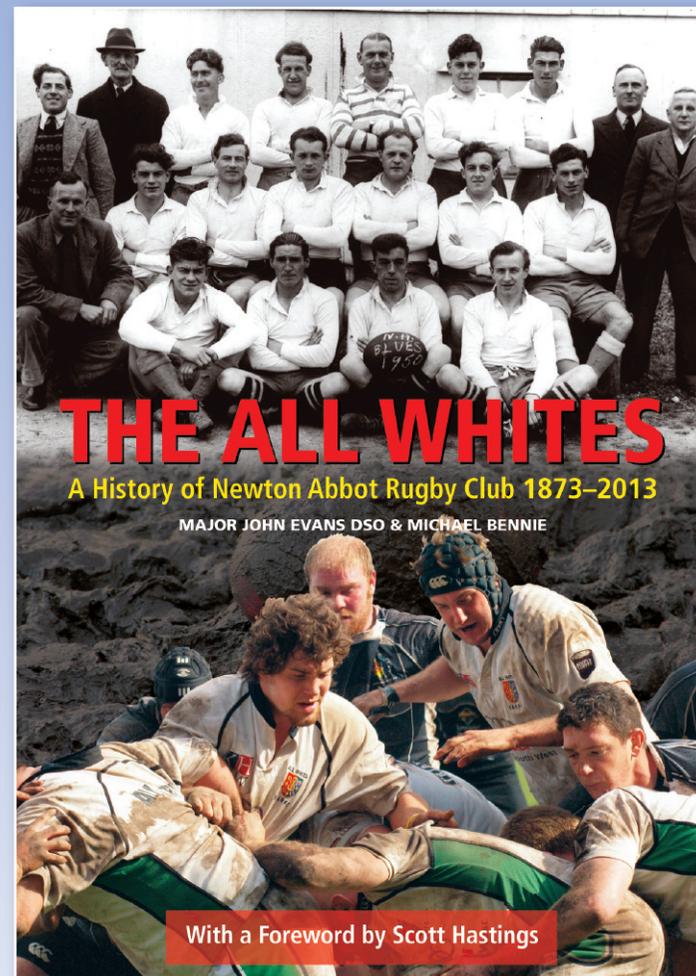
Major John Evans, DSO, joined Newton Abbot Rugby Club in 1947. He played for Tenby, Pembrokeshire County, the Welsh Guards and Plymouth Albion in the pre-war years, but lost his left arm during the war, which put an end to his career. He served the club for 23 years, 11 of them as Chairman, and also served on the Devon Rugby Union for many years.

Michael Bennie is an acclaimed local author.

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Left, above, and right:
Matches & Events 1990-2013

Below: Example of a double-page spread.



Above: 1922

Right: Souvenir programme 1935-36

Below: c.1979/80

