Exeter Chiefs v Leinster Rugby
Sunday 10th December 2017
KO: 5.30pm
Sandy Park Stadium
The moments that make Christmas special

Season’s greetings from Bank of Ireland.

Bank of Ireland is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.
Exeter is the setting for the first of our double header December fixtures. Located in the county of Devon, the city has a population of roughly 129,000 and is a popular tourist spot given its good transport links by both road and air.

This city in the south west of England is home to the famous Exeter Cathedral that is surrounded by cobbled streets as well as a number of churches, parks and the River Exe. Exeter itself was the most south-westerly fortified settlement in Britain, although there is evidence a Cornish tribe existed in Exeter before the Roman Invasion. During the late 19th century, it became an affluent centre for the wool trade although by the First World War the city was in decline, however by the end of the Second World War, much of the city centre was rebuilt and the city is now considered to be a centre for modern business and tourism in both Devon & Cornwall.

Devon has many beaches along it’s coastline that are popular with visitors, however the area also has a reputation for fresh foods and is home to a number of fine dining establishments.

Exeter last took on Leinster in the old formatted Heineken Cup back in the 2012/13 season, with Leinster the victors on both occasions. A 9-6 victory in front of a packed crowd of 18,500 in the RDS in October ‘12, was followed by a 29-20 win in January ’13 in front of an almost capacity crowd of 10,198 in Sandy Park. Leinster come into the fixture on the back of two victories in the competition while Exeter comfortably disposed of Glasgow in Round 1 but squeaked past Montpellier in round 2. These results leave Leinster top of the Pool 3 with 10 points with Exeter right behind on 8 points.

It is interesting to note that in 1905, Exeter Rugby Club hosted the first match played by the New Zealand national rugby team both on English soil and also in the Northern Hemisphere. The game at the County Ground was between New Zealand and the Devon County XV and it was from that game that New Zealand became known as the “All Blacks”

**Getting to Dublin Airport**

Get to/from Dublin airport the easy way with Aircoach, official coach supplier to both the team and the OLSC for our inter-provincial away trips. Full time table information and their cheapest fares can be found at www.aircoach.ie

Those driving who need car parking at Dublin Airport can get 15% off during the festive period by using the code ‘XMAS2017’ at www.dublinalairport.com or via their app.

If you need a taxi, try www.irelandbytaxi.com to pre book and lock in your fare to/from the airport – there will be no unexpected surprises.

**Tax free shopping at Dublin airport**

Get in some Christmas shopping before you leave for the airport and collect when you land on Monday afternoon. Visit www.theloop.ie and quote ‘THELOOP10OFF90’ to get 10% off when you spend €90

**Getting to Exeter**

We expect the vast majority of supporters to use Bristol Airport this weekend, it will be familiar to those who travel to away games over the years.
OLSC special airport bus transfer service

The OLSC is once again running a special bus service that covers Ryanair flight FR506 arriving into Bristol on Sunday and flight FR507 departing Bristol on Monday. Details will be provided to all passengers this week but in summary the service will pick supporters up outside arrivals at the airport shortly after arrival and drive directly to Exeter city centre. The journey time is expected to be approximately one hour. On Monday, the coach will pick supporters off at the same place they are dropped off.

At the time of writing, the service priced at €23pp return was full. However a cancellation list is in operation. To express your interest please email olsc@leinsterrugby.ie

On Monday please ensure that you are ready to board the bus at the same location you were dropped off at 11am. Please don't be late as we can't wait – if you need to contact us in an emergency please text + 353 86 8939 129

Other options from Bristol airport include the train from Bristol Temple Meads (you’ll need to take the Flyer bus) Another option is the hourly SW Falcon bus service, see www.stagecoachbus.com or National Express. Flybe serve Exeter from Dublin, if you are using this airport tax a bus or tax from outside arrivals for the 6.4km journey to the city centre.

OLSC Supporters HQ

Adam and the team at the Blackhorse in central Exeter welcome Leinster supporters this weekend. Located on Longbrook Street our base is open from 11am-11pm on Sunday and Monday (open till midnight on Saturday for those around).

A wide range of food is served from opening time until 9pm daily and with selected pints from £2.49 it's an ideal place to meet before or after the game. The Blackhorse will also be showing other rugby over the weekend and have free wifi

Top 5 things to see and do during your stay

• Exeter v Leinster – 5.30pm on Sunday, gates open at 3.30pm
• Explore the history of the city on a daily free Red Coat Walking Tour
• Exeter Cathedral – a magnificent example of Gothic Architecture located in the heart of the city centre
• Underground Passages – a network of subterranean passages which can be explored on a guided tour
• Exeter’s Historic Quayside located about 15mins from the City Centre

Interesting Facts You Didn’t Know About Exeter

• The oldest civic building in Britain is Exeter Guildhall, with some parts dating back as far as 1160
• Exeter Cathedral, otherwise known as The Cathedral of St Peter dates back to around 1050, with some parts being re-built in 1258 in the style still seen today
• Famous people from Exeter include Harry Potter creator JK Rowling, songwriter and actress Joss Stone & Coldplay frontman Chris Martin
• The first stages of Exeter’s Royal Albert Memorial Museum were built in 1813, however the building work proper wasn't actually started until 1865 before being completed three years later
• If you are out and about in Exeter you could be caught on CCTV over 300 times a day!
Flags

A very limited number of flags with white poles as given away in the RDS, Aviva Stadium and on the road will be available at the ground from the OLSC volunteers. These are cleared as hand luggage so please bring what you can from home.

OLSC / Bank of Ireland Santa hats

Thanks to Bank of Ireland we’ll have a limited number of hats to give away at the ground on Sunday, if you get one please remember to bring it to the Aviva stadium for the return fixture next weekend, then on to Munster in Thomond Park if you are going on St Stephen’s day and finally Connacht in the RDS on New Year’s Day.

Getting to the Stadium

The venue for this weekend’s fixture is Sandy Park which is located just off junction 30 of the M5 Stadium, and just a short walk from either Digby & Sowton or Newcourt Railway stations.

The Exeter to Exmouth railway line runs right past the stadium with a regular service on match days. Using the bridge over the A379, Digby & Sowton Station is less than 10 minutes’ walk from Sandy Park, while Newcourt Station is also an option for travelling fans and is also less than a 15-minute walk from the stadium. Journey duration is around 10 minutes and return fares should be from around £3.40pp.

The 77 bus service is run by Dartline Coaches and has a starting point at Victory Hall in Exminster before it continues to Fore Street (BHS) and onto Sandy Park. Buses run every 15 minutes, while the 78 starts at Exeter St David’s Station and onto Sandy Park.
The C bus starts at Exeter St David’s Station to Sandy Park and runs up to every 15 minutes. Fares for this service are £2.50 (Single) and £3.50 (Return). https://www.stagecoachbus.com
Alternatively share a taxi with other supporters, the fare will be approximately £15 each way.

Once you are at the stadium The Chiefs Supporters Club gather in the Wigwam Bar located inside the ground, they are looking forward to welcoming us there for friendly beers and banter. Entertainment aplenty is the running order of the day with plenty going on for all ages and supporters both on and off the pitch! You may even spot the Chief himself wandering around the ground enjoying the atmosphere supporters.

Remember to dress according to the weather conditions as some areas of the stadium are exposed to the elements

The Ground is located at:
Sandy Park Way
Exeter
EX2 7NN

Exeter Chiefs Rugby on Social Media;
Twitter: @exeterchiefs and @ExeterChiefsSC
Facebook: Exeter Chiefs Official
Instagram: officialexeterchiefs
Life Style Sports
OLSC members receive 10% off all full priced stock store-wide by showing their plastic card in store. If shopping online, quote the code that was printed on your season ticket card letter that you received in August.

The Bridge 1859
Season ticket holders who present their plastic card, receive 20% off all food 7 days a week. In addition to this, food and drinks will have 20% off 2 hours before and after any Leinster AWAY game.

Lemon & Duke
Season ticket holders receive 20% off all food, between 5pm-9pm Sunday to Wednesday when they present their plastic card.

The Exchequer
Gordon D’Arcy’s Exchequer bar on Exchequer Street, Dublin 2 offers €4.50 pints on selected beers before and after a home game. The Exchequer Wine bar in Ranelagh offers a complimentary glass of wine with any main meal purchased before or after a game.

Sportsfile
Sportsfile capture both players and supporters home and away. Purchase any image from their website and quote ‘OLSC1718’ to receive a 15% discount.

Horse Show House
OLSC members can show their card at the Horse Show House for pints of Guinness for €4.70 on match days.

Zambrero
Ex Leinster player Darragh Fanning offers season ticket holders a 15% discount on all food and drinks when you show your plastic season ticket holder card.

Oslo Beauty
Rob Kearney is offering season ticket holders a 10% discount on treatments on Monday and Tuesdays. To avail of the discount quote ‘Leinster Rugby’ or simply say ‘Rob sent you!’.

Windsor Motor Group
Season ticket holders who show their plastic card will receive 15% off any car service including labour, parts or bodyshop work.

Dublin Airport Car parking
The discount code covering the entire season no longer applies. A unique code for each European away trip will now be included in each OLSC away guide.

Mao
Mao Restaurants offer season ticket holders 10% off the A La Carte Menu in their restaurants only. Does not apply to At Homes. Terms and Conditions apply.

*Current as at 1st September 2017.
Message from the Coach

A very warm welcome back to Champions Cup action after an eventful few months for Leinster and indeed Ireland.

The first block of games in the Guinness PRO14 and the Champions Cup went well but it could have gone better. A total of eight wins from the ten on offer is a positive return from both competitions but we maybe feel that along the way we left points behind us.

That cannot be said of our first two games in the Champions Cup pool against Montpellier and Glasgow when two assured performances secured us the maximum return from the two games.

This was a hugely satisfying start to the European campaign when we know that there will be twists and turns along the way. Like every season we are targeting a home Quarter-Final first and foremost and in order to do that wins like we had with the maximum five point return are hugely important.

Obviously these performances led to international recognition for many of our players and congratulations to the 18 selected initially and to the additional players called up during the Guinness Series.

We are very proud of their achievements while with Ireland and it was great to see so many flourish on the highest stage. But of course while they were away we had PRO14 action against Glasgow Warriors and Dragons.

The absence of so many players does of course give opportunities to others to stake a claim and we are delighted that the likes of Conor O’Brien and Josh Murphy have made their debuts and that other players have added more experience to their Leinster CVs.

At the time of writing we have yet to travel to Italy for Round 10 of the Guinness PRO14 but it is fair to say that the next few weekends will have a massive impact on our season both domestically and in Europe.

Our last visit to Sandy Park wasn’t that long ago, January 2013 to be exact so many of you will be familiar with your surroundings. Exeter were always a strong side with a huge sense of community but of course now they are playing with a confidence that only comes from winning and indeed winning the Aviva Premiership for the first time in their history last season.

Like us, they are also very much in contention in the Pool and they will be under no illusions as to the opportunity that presents itself this weekend. A huge opportunity for both teams to grab a hold of the Pool and to take a huge step towards those Quarter-Finals.

Of course once Sunday is out of the way we will have to do it all over again as we welcome Exeter to the Aviva Stadium on Saturday, 16th December and what an occasion that will be in front of over 40,000 supporters.

Whatever way you look at it – it promises to be two hugely entertaining weekends of rugby and we look forward as always to your support.

Safe trip and looking forward to seeing you all in Sandy Park.

Leo
Head Coach
Meet your personal mobile mortgage manager

A mortgage service designed around you.

To find your local mobile mortgage manager:

bankofireland.com/mmm

Text MMM to 50365

Bank of Ireland Mortgage Bank trading as Bank of Ireland Mortgages and The Mortgage Store is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.
Message from the Committee

Our second away pool game in Europe this season awaits this weekend with a visit to Exeter, home of the 2016/17 Aviva Premiership Champions. The city itself is located on the banks of the River Exe and is a cathedral city and the county town of Devon. A small city that packs a big punch is an understatement as it’s one of the most vibrant, attractive and historically interesting cities in England given it pre-dates the arrival of the Romans themselves in AD 50. The history itself is long and rich and reflected in the many fascinating visitor attractions as outlined previously in the guide.

Quite simply there is far too much to do in Exeter to try break it all down so we think it best that you explore for yourselves and savour the delights as you see fit. Go to www.visitexeter.com and you can see what is currently happening. One thing that is sure to delight however is the Exeter Christmas Market based on Cathedral Green which will be on at the time of our visit.

Given the last encounter between the sides was way back in the 2012/13 season, it’s impossible to predict how this fixture will go. What we do know is that facing into the first of a double header of fixtures against the Chiefs will make this a mouth-watering fixture. Narrow scores in the previous games when the sides last met, coupled with a narrow win in the recent fixture for Exeter’s second pool game, will mean they are more than fired up for this given the two teams sit first and second in the group and both will want to establish a position of dominance before the end of the year.

Full voice is needed from the time the boys in blue run onto the pitch until the final whistle. Be sure to wear your blue, something that will be easy for the female supporters with their new OLSC jackets.

Leinster’s last visit to Exeter at Sandy Park was before they stamped their authority on the 2016/17 Aviva Premiership and took home the spoils, so this is certainly a game to savour and enjoy. The Chiefs supporters are proud of their ground and their team so we need to ensure we’re in full voice here as well as the following week back in the Aviva where we can hopefully roar on the boys to victory in what is usually a cracking festive fixture. The team have always fed off and appreciated vocal Leinster support and whether it’s 100 or 1,000 who travel we know they’ll appreciate each and every one who makes the journey so let’s continue with our great travelling tradition and roar on the boys in blue.

Finally, The Blackhorse is our meeting point while we are in Exeter – we hope to see you there at some point over the weekend.

Enjoy the weekend.

C’MON LEINSTER!
The OLSC Committee