

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

Lancashire's Volunteer receives Lifetime Achievement Award at Twickenham

Bill Lyon a stalwart player, coach and administrator for Orrell RUFC and Lancashire received a Lifetime Achievement Award from England's Coach Eddie Jones at the recent England v France game at Twickenham.

Bill and his wife Janette were hosted for lunch and post match dinner by RFU Representatives Rob Briers and Ken Andrews along with County President Tom Fitzgerald and his wife Angela.

Bill is currently President of Orrell RUFC where he has been a member for 56 years, he is a past captain of the club and has coached many generations of players. As a PE teacher for over 35 years at a local school he has promoted the game to several generations of pupils.

As a player Bill was a member of the Orrell side of the seventies that started to put the club on the map. He represented Lancashire on many occasions in the 1970s and was a member of the Northwest counties squad that beat the All Blacks in 1973. He captained the sevens team in the years where the club had great success in seven's tournaments around the country further helping to add to the clubs growing reputation.

When he retired from playing Bill applied his intelligent rugby brain to coaching, he was an ever present on the various coaching teams through the years of success and during the club's decline. Bill carries great respect around the clubs of Lancashire and amongst the coaches and players that he has dealt with. His experience and unstinting effort have been a key factor in helping Orrell RUFC survive.

Since the club was restructured 10 years ago as a fully amateur set up Bill has been present, helping mentor younger coaches and players. Bill is a true club man and outstanding ambassador for the game.