



Academy makes its mark!

After only five years in existence, a badminton club now boasts a membership of over 70!

Academy Badminton, which has two homes, namely Letchworth Sports & Tennis Club and Knights Templar Sports Centre - was founded by its current Chairman Gabor Otyehel and is a Badminton England registered club working towards Silvermark Accreditation.

It has doubled the number of teams from five to 10 this season and the ability of members range from beginners to elite standard. Member Anna Collis scooped the 'Young Sportsperson of the Year' award in The Comet run Sports Awards at the Plinston, Broadway, Letchworth Garden City, in January. Anna has played in international tournaments, including the 2008 Annual Vancouver International Junior Badminton championships in Canada, where

she reached the quarter finals.

Gabor told **Insight**: "The club has good standard county players coming through its ranks and it believes in re-investing in its members and with the club's growth it is even more necessary not to dilute its potential."

Academy Badminton has a new ladies only section which meets every Friday from 8pm-10pm at the Letchworth Tennis Club in Muddy Lane where it plays on four courts. Two qualified female coaches lead the sessions and more girls/ladies, regardless of ability are invited to attend - "just turn up, play and find out more about the club" is the invitation from Gabor.

The club has groups to cover most ages, including an under 13 beginners group,

"where parents are not always stronger than their offspring!" Gabor quipped.

Gabor concludes: "The Heritage Foundation helped out greatly with equipment and coaching grants for the club."

So it's onwards and upwards for a club that has now definitely made its mark!

To find out more about the club, email gabor.otyehel@ntlworld.com or academy59@ntlworld.com



Rugby 'legends'

Letchworth Garden City Rugby Club, who play in the London 1 North Division, welcomes spectators to support the club at its home fixtures at Legends Lane (behind the North Herts Leisure Centre), or indeed for its away games. Visitors will always receive a warm welcome.

The club has senior teams, ladies, juniors and minis and is always on the look-out for new talent.

First XV remaining fixtures for the 2009/2010 season are:

Dec 12, LGC v Staines; Dec 19, Stevenage v LGC; Jan 9, Civil Service v LGC; Jan 16, LGC v Ruislip; Jan 23, Harpenden v LGC; Jan 30, LGC v Bury St Edmonds; Feb 13, Westcliff v LGC; Feb 20, LGC v Woodford - all the above games start at 2.15pm. The following fixtures start at 3pm - Mar 6, Eton Manor v LGC; Mar 13 LGC v Rochford Hundred; Mar 20, Brentwood v LGC; Mar 27, LGC v Welwyn and April 10, Chingford v LGC

