

The Society of Sports Therapists

NEWS RELEASE

World Cup Rugby Stars Pay Tribute to Society Member David Jones

The testimonial year of Wycombe Wanderers Sports Therapist David Jones just gets better and better. England World Cup heroes, Lawrence D'allaglio and Jason Leonard, joined the former University of North London (now London Metropolitan University) Sports Therapy graduate at a special tribute dinner in his honour at Wycombe Wanderers FC earlier this week. The event was hosted by former England international Martin Bayfield and, Samoan and Wasps rugby star Trevor Leota and new Wycombe boss Tony Adams completed the star-studded line up.

David has been a Sports Therapist at the club since its Isthmian Non League days in 1986 and now joins a very small but elite band of therapists who have received testimonials from their club. He has worked with 8 different managers including the effervescent Martin O'Neil, now manager at Celtic.

His wife Bridget and two boys Mathew and Daniel, together with a packed audience were treated to a night of great humour and celebration led in no small way by former England player Martin Bayfield. Bayfield has most definitely not lost his sense of humour since retiring from the game and it was the Scottish rugby team who bore the brunt of most of his jokes.

Members of the Society of Sports Therapists also took time out to pay tribute to David and his family on this very prestigious occasion. Society Chairman Professor Graham Smith commented:

'David thoroughly deserves this evening. He is a credit to the Society, his profession and his club. This has been a marvellous night and it is tremendous that this event has coincided with the fantastic success of the England rugby team.'

The World Cup stars proved as professional off the field as they were on it, recalling the historic events in Sydney with huge pride and great humility.

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Leonard, the world's most capped player and the former England captain D'allaglio spent time signing autographs and chatting to the audience. An auction of sporting memorabilia including several World Cup items and a signed Thierry Henry shirt, organised by Society members Joel Harris and England physiotherapist Gary Lewin, proved a huge hit with the audience who dug deep to acquire the prized possessions.

For David, it was a night of great emotion and one to treasure forever. He said:

'This has been brilliant and I want to thank everyone who contributed to the evening to make it such a success.'



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