

PARKNEWS



The E-magazine for Rosslyn Park supporters Tuesday 13 July 2010 - Issue 156

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Welcome to Parknews. It's not quite appropriate to hang the "Under New Management" signs outside the Club, but last week's Annual General Meeting backed some fairly radical changes to the management structure of the Club, and some new faces.

Chairman John Adair told the meeting that whilst Rosslyn Park was strong in many areas, we were extremely weak in generating the revenues needed to fund our plans. It was therefore proposed that the Committee should be re-structured and re-named the Management Board in order to focus fully on these areas.

Whilst Parknews has frequently lampooned the Committee and some individuals on it (hopefully good naturedly!) it is appropriate to pay tribute here. There are not many such bodies who would effectively vote to dissolve themselves for the overall good of the Club. Most, if not all, of the individuals will retain key roles in their various Sections of the Club, dealing directly with Shaun Justice as Managing Director rather than themselves comprising the Committee. These are people who have freely given of their time for the benefit of others and are deserving of the respect of all of us.

The new Management Board will comprise the Officers of the Club, plus six members also elected at the meeting. (The position of Vice-Chairman has ceased; the President – as the post is given as an honour rather than for ex-



You admired the man - now buy the shirt!

A T-shirt has been produced to remember Andy Ripley and to aid the charity which he supported. Full details on the back page.



He's Back

Ed Lewis-Pratt poses for David Whittam's camera at training on Monday. Details of more player signings are on page 3

ective responsibilities – attends the Management Board in a non-voting capacity). John Adair, Pete Curry and Bob Evans were re-elected as respectively Chairman, Hon Treasurer and Hon Secretary. John Thurston stood down after 3 distinguished years as President, receiving the thanks of the meeting, and Peter Berryman takes over the Presidency.

The new individual Management Board members will not all be known to everyone, so here are the brief summaries of each which were circulated to Members prior to the meeting:

Alex Cadwallader

A Partner in Bridge Business Recovery. Alex has recently retired from 1st XV duties at Park due to injury after playing at the club for 2 seasons, previously he was a professional player at Bristol, Newcastle and London Welsh.

Nick Cook

Nick has worked in the City for the past 17 years and his most recent role was a Chief Executive of Glencairn Insurance Group. Nick played at Rosslyn Park in the 90's and now has 3 children involved in the minis. Since leaving Glencairn Nick has kindly been assisting the MD on a voluntary basis with

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Saturday 21st August

1st XV

v

Bedford Blues

Pre-season match

KO 2:30PM

Saturday 28 August

Internal Practice Match

KO TBA

Saturday 4 September

The Big Kick Off

Rosslyn Park

v

Cornish All Blacks

National League One

Kick off 2:30PM

Pre-season training is at the ground on Mondays and Wednesdays, Members and supporters are cordially welcome to come along for a drink and to catch up with the close season gossip.

FIXTURES 2010-11

The fixtures for our teams next season are set out below. Please note that the various Fixture Secretaries are still filling many of the dates that are shown as vacant here, and that inevitably there will be changes / cancellations as the season progresses.

1st XV

National League 1

August	
14 A	Henley (practice match)
21 H	Bedford Blues (practice match)
27	Internal practice match
September	
4 H	Cornish All Blacks
11 A	Blackheath
18 H	London Scottish
25 H	Barking
October	
2 A	Redruth
9 H	Otley
16 A	Tynedale
23 H	Stourbridge
30 A	Sedgeley Park
November	
6 H	Cinderford
13 A	Cambridge
20 H	Macclesfield
27 A	Coventry
December	
4 H	Blaydon
11 A	Wharfedale
18 H	Blackheath
January	
8 A	London Scottish
15 A	Barking
22 H	Redruth
29 A	Otley
February	
12 H	Tynedale
19 A	Stourbridge
March	
5 H	Sedgeley Park
12 A	Cinderford
26 H	Cambridge
April	
2 A	Macclesfield
9 H	Coventry
16 A	Blaydon
23 H	Wharfedale
30 A	Cornish All Blacks

2nd XV

Rugby Tech Shield Division 1

August	
14 A	Henley (practice match)
21 H	Bedford Blues (practice match)
27	Internal practice match
September	
4 A	Shelford
11 H	Blackheath
18 H	London Scottish
25	TBA
October	
2 H	Henley
9	TBA
16 H	Richmond
23	TBA
30 H	Ealing
November	
6 A	Chinnor (friendly)
13 H	Cambridge
20 A	Esher

27 H	Plymouth Albion
December	
4 A	Southend
11	TBA
18 A	Blackheath
January	
8 A	London Scottish
15	TBA
22 A	Henley
29 H	Ealing
February	
5 A	Richmond
12	TBA
19	TBA
26 H	Shelford
March	
5 A	Ealing
12 H	Southend
19	TBA
26 A	Cambridge
April	
2 H	Esher
9 A	Plymouth Albion
16 H	Chinnor

Slingbacks

Championship 2

October	
3 A	Richmond 3
10 H	Aylesford
24 A	Thurrock
31 H	Quins
November	
14 A	Blackheath
28 H	Wimbledon
December	
5 A	Aylesford
January	
16 H	Thurrock
23 A	Quins
February	
20 H	Blackheath
March	
27 A	Wimbledon
April	
3 H	Richmond 3

Hatters

Rugby Tech Shield Division 3

September	
4 H	Esher Academy 2
11 A	Diss
18 H	Tring
25 A	London Cornish 2
October	
2 H	Bracknell
9 H	London Irish Amateur
16 H	North Walsham 2
23 A	Bishops Stortford
30 A	Maidenhead
November	
6 A	Wimbledon 2
13 A	Hertford
20 H	Dorking 2
December	
4 H	Ruislip 2
11 A	Staines
January	
15 H	Chobham (friendly)
22 H	London Cornish 2
29 A	Barnes 2
February	
12 H	Old Reigatians 2

19 A	London Irish Amateurs
26 A	Esher Academy 2
March	
5 A	Old Reigatians 2
19 A	Chobham (friendly)
26 H	Maidenhead
April	
2 H	Wimbledon 2
16 A	Ruislip 2

4th XV

Middlesex Merit Table Division 1

September	
4 H	Trial
11 H	Merlin
18 A	Imperial College
25 H	Civil Service 2
October	
2 H	London Welsh Occ
9 A	London New Zealand 2
16 H	Ealing Cougars
23 H	Hammersmith & Fulham 2
30 H	Black Baa Baas
November	
20 H	Imperial College
December	
4 A	Civil Service 2
11 A	London Welsh Occ
18 H	Old Reigatians 4
January	
8 H	Esher 4
15 H	London New Zealand 2
22 A	Ealing Cougars
29 A	Hammersmith & Fulham 2
February	
19 A	(H) Black Baa Baas
March	
5 H	Merlin
April	
2	Merit Table S/F
9 H	Kew Occasionals
16	Merit Table Final

B XV

Middlesex Merit Table Division 2

September	
4 H	Trial
11 H	Mayfair Occasionals
18 A	Bank of England 2
25 H	Imperial Medicals 2
October	
2 A	O P Saints
9 H	London Scottish 4
16 H	Hammersmith & Fulham 3
23 A	Chiswick 2
30 H	Grasshoppers 2
November	
20 H	Bank of England 2
December	
4 A	Imperial Medicals 2
11 H	O P Saints
18 A	Mayfair Occasionals
January	
15 A	London Scottish 4
22 A	Hammersmith & Fulham 3
29 A	Chiswick 2
February	
19 A	Grasshoppers 2
April	
2	Merit Table S/F
16	Merit Table Final

Nomads

Surrey Alliance

September

4 H Trial
11 H Sutton & Epsom 4
18 A Old Guildfordians 1
25 H St George's Wim

October

2 A KCS 2
9 H John Fisher 2
16 A London Cornish 4
23 A Old Whitgiftian 2
30 H Chobham 3

November

13 A Mayfair Occasionals
20 A Arioeh Crusaders

December

4 H Effingham 2
11 A Bec OB 2
18 A Esher B

January

8 H KCS 2
15 A John Fisher 2
22 H London Cornish 4
29 H Old Whitgiftian 2

February

5 A Chobham 3
19 H Mayfair Occasionals

March

5 H Arioeh Crusaders
12 A Effingham 2
26 H Bec OB 2

April

2 A Sutton & Epsom 4
9 A St George's Wim
16 H Esher B

Park Bench

Surrey Veterans League Division 1

September

18 H Guildford Vets
25 A Barnes

October

9 A London Scottish
23 A Richmond Heavies
30 A Esher

November

13 H Ealing

December

18 A Guildford Vets

January

8 H Barnes
22 H London Scottish
29 A Richmond Heavies

February

5 H Esher
19 A Ealing

Youth Fixtures

Under-13 'A'

November

14 H Cobham

December

12 A Guildford

January

16 A Effingham
23 H Reeds

March

6 A Kings
20 H London Irish
27 A Richmond

Under-13 'B'

November

14 H Battersea

December

12 A Cobham

January

16 A Chobham
23 H Old Whitgiftians

March

6 A Effingham
20 H Vandals
27 A Richmond

Under-14 Lions

November

14 A Wimbledon

January

16 H Kingston
30 A Guildfordians

February

13 H Vandals

March

6 H Dorking

Under-14 Stags

November

28 A Cranleigh

January

16 H Esher

March

6 A Old Whitgiftians
20 H Battersea
27 A Southwark

Under-15 Lions

November

14 A Richmond
28 A Sutton & Epsom

December

12 A Esher

January

16 H Kings
30 H Reeds

February

13 H Old Rutlishians

March

6 H London Irish
20 A Effingham

Under-15 Stags

November

14 A London Irish

28 H Vandals

December

12 H Chobham

January

30 A Old Reigatians

February

13 A Old Caterhamians

March

20 A Reeds
27 H Esher

Under-16 Rhinos

October

10 A Guildford

November

7 A Chipstead
21 H Kings

December

12 H Alleynians

January

9 H Haslemere
23 A Vandals

February

6 A Old Whitgiftians

March

6 A Farnham
27 A Wimbledon

New Signings

Park have re-signed flanker Harry Rowlands for next season. Harry will need little introduction, being a product of our Youth Section where he captained the Club at every age level, before breaking into the 1st XV pretty much as soon as he left youth rugby. Understandably he decided to accept an offer to go full-time professional with London Irish. Harry spent last season with Moseley in the Championship, but on his return to London he has opted to re-join his old club. Harry's presence will ensure even more intense competition for back row places.

Shaun Justice also announced the acquisition of further players who are Dually - Registered.

Joe Launchbury, Second Row, London Wasps- Joe was on loan at Worthing last season and had a very impressive season in National 2 South. He was selected in the Rugby Paper's national 2 South "Team of the Season" and also won 'Player's Player' and 'Coaches Player of the Season' at Worthing.

Christian Wade, Winger, London Wasps, Christian represented England U20 in the World Cup in Argentina in the summer, he is also an established member of the England 7's set up.

Also joining Rosslyn Park from London Wasps on Dual Registration are:

Jonah Holme, Scrum Half

Mark Atkinson, Fly-Half/Centre

Alex Fan, Back-row

SLINGBACKS LOOKING FORWARD

With the Women's World Cup coming to Surrey and London in August / September the ladies' game has never been in better health. The RFU now has a seat on the RFU Council, representing 6000 adult players and 8000 youths from 300 clubs. The tournament gets under way on August 20 at Surrey Sports



The Slingbacks 2009-10

Park, Guildford. Contrasting the England women's ball-in-hand running style with the bullying power game, former England prop, Jeff Probyn, in his regular '*Rugby Paper*' column, said, "I have to say the games I have seen are actually better in pure rugby terms than the men's. ...if you want to watch some good, open running rugby and support an England rugby team that has a consistency that Martin Johnson dreams of, this summer's games should be well worth watching".

Get your tickets

The final of the Women's World Cup will be played at the Stoop on Sunday 5th September. If you fancy seeing the best womens' rugby the world has to offer (v likely to be England vs New Zealand) you can book tickets through the Ticket Master website, starting at £20 <http://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/Womens-Rugby-World-Cup-tickets/artist/1016500>

Use club code AROSS04 to book with and the Slingbacks will get some kind of financial kick back.

There's a really interesting interview with England scrum half, and former Slingback, Amy Turner at <http://scrumqueens.com/news/411-turner-eyeing-the-big-prize.html>

So what of our own Slingbacks this season? Over to Communications Officer and star fly half Milo Brueton:

Slingbacks look forward to new season.

The Slingbacks have begun preparations for their upcoming season. Pre season fitness training began 3 weeks ago, led by Head Coach, Rob Love. A healthy mix of faces old and new have been meeting on Barnes Common on Monday nights for a fun, but intensive session, focusing on conditioning and core strength. The hard hours put in now will benefit in terms of fitness, but also help prevent injuries, which were a major problem for the squad last season.

Rugby skills will be introduced in August, with a second training session, each week on Wednesday evenings.

League matches begin proper on 3rd October with an away match against Richmond III's. The Slingbacks will be playing pre season friendlies on 4th, 12th and 26th September, and going away for a team building weekend over 18th & 19th September.

In Championship 2 South East East (yes that's not a typo), the Slingbacks will be facing old rivals Thurrock, Ayelsford, Harlequins and Blackheath. They have been joined by Richmond III's, and Wimbledon making it a very local league this year.

Rosslyn Park Slingbacks are always on the look out for new players - those who have played before or those who just fancy giving rugby a go. If you, or anyone you know might be interested in joining us, please contact Liz Delves on 07788 651 537 or email lizdelves@gmail.com

Slingbacks' Retain Coaches

The Slingbacks are delighted to have retained their team of 3 excellent and committed coaches this season. Head Coach, Rob Love is supported by assistant coaches Will Redhead and Nick Huggett (Huggy). Will and Huggy are the two chaps at the left in the top two rows of the team photo

Rob Love on the season ahead: "What do I, and the other coaches, want to achieve with the Slingbacks? Principally, we want to grow the number of people playing rugby at the club and ensure that everyone increases their enjoyment of the game.

"I believe that people enjoy the camaraderie, friendships and team spirit that rugby brings, but this enjoyment is increased massively by improving as individuals and as a team. Which in turn, wins matches.

"It is our job to not only improve your skills and implement team strategies, but also to manage the team to get the very best out of the Slingbacks. A challenge that we are really looking forward to!"

Slingbacks Cycle to Barcelona!

Alice Watchorn and Julia Daffy, inspired by cycling from John O'Groats to Lands End last year with a crew of Slingbacks, have set off on a more leisurely London to Barcelona trip, taking with them winger Danielle, and centre G.

They will be going through the French wine valleys, skirting the edges of the Pyrenees to cruise along the coast into Barcelona, incorporating some wine tasting along the way, and staying in hostels, b&b's and the odd rugby club.

If you would like to follow the girls' progress, check out their blog at: <http://rosslynparkslingbacks01.sports.officelive.com/default.aspx>

"If you want good, open rugby, then watch the women play" - Former England Prop Jeff Probyn

From front page...

various projects, in particular the successful Vinopolis lunch and the London Floodlit Sevens

Donnie Masters

Owner and Director of Serious Pictures. Donnie's job entails working with many blue chip companies on adverts / commercials. Donnie has 2 children involved in the Rosslyn Park mini's. Donnie has played a hand's on role at the club in the last year helping and funding the clubhouse refurbishment as well assisting in the marketing and promotions side of the business.

Paul Lyons

A Partner specialising in real estate finance at the city law firm Travers Smith LLP, Paul has been an enormous help to the MD already in helping to co-ordinate job opportunities for potential 1st XV players. Paul has 2 boys involved in the Rosslyn Park mini's.

Adam Tyrer

Director with PricewaterhouseCoopers where he is responsible for the commercial development of PwC's actuarial consulting business across Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Adam started playing at the club in 1992 as one of the founding members of the Nomads XV and is still playing for the Nomads today whilst also serving as the team Chairman. This season Adam has taken over as Secretary of the Obolensky Association and he is also seen at the club on Sunday mornings as his eldest son Henry plays for the Under-7s.

Jim Turley

Former Managing Director & Global Head of Sales at Deutsche Bank, where he worked for 13 Years. Jim has 3 children who play in the mini's and coaches across the mini's age groups. Jim is already involved in the office 5 days a week on a voluntary basis helping the MD with the running of the club. Jim played at Rosslyn Park in the 80's.

As Parknews is available to anyone on the internet, it is probably improper to report on debates on the rules and constitution, which are the prerogative of Members (if you're really interested – join!). But it would be very remiss not to report that after his long and distinguished service, Chris Ritchie was made a Vice – President.

sponsorship

The Chairman made two announcements at the AGM that have a significant effect on the Club's finances. Firstly, the ever-generous Simon Tindall has fully committed to another season. Simon doesn't wish the full scale of his financial help to be publicised – and even if it was the headline figure would be under-stated. In addition to his main commitment, more than once during the season the Tindall cheque book has got the Club out of tight corners. Suffice to say that it would be nigh on impossible to be contemplating a season in National One without his contribution. We are extremely grateful.

The second announcement was that the Chairman was guardedly optimistic that a further main sponsor had been identified. This is important because it is extremely unlikely that the second year's sponsorship from Arena Events Group will be forthcoming. We remain grateful for the funding received during the first year of that agreement, but we need to move on. There are still details to be ironed out, but we are very hopeful that it will be possible to make an announcement shortly.

If we are to continue to advance as a Club we desperately need to identify further potential sources of funding. If you know of any potential sponsors or advertisers, or have any other ideas in this direction, please get in touch with Shaun in the Club Office. We're happy to follow up on any leads you can give.

Cricket report

Will Thorogood reports that, "The Nomads turned their dexterous hands to cricket last Saturday, and showed what versatile sportsmen they are, by returning to Park's original game! Sadly, for the Nomads, they lost by 1 run, in a nail-biting thriller. Please, see the link for the President's XI website, and go to "Fixtures" for a report and scorecard, if you are, and Parknews readers, interested.

www.presidentseleven.org.uk

I would like to thank Martin, for organizing the Nomads, and the lads for turning out, and playing, typically, with such a commendable spirit! Hopefully, we will repeat the fixture next sesason. "

Andy Ripley shirts

Gareth Sharpe of the Tideway Scullers School rowing club contacted us to say, "I row at Tideway Scullers School which you may know as the club where



Andy Ripley was, until fairly recently, our President. With my first love being rugby I remember being in awe when I first met Andy and discovered that he was the

president of the rowing club I had just joined - I also knew I had clearly chosen the right club!

"To show the high regard in which Andy is held by our club we have had 1,000 t-shirts produced that are being sold for a suggested donation of £10.00 per shirt the proceeds of which go to the Prostate Cancer Charity. TSS will not receive any proceeds - this is entirely about the charity and showing support for Andy Ripley. The t-shirts have cost approximately £2.50 per t-shirt to produce so we are hoping to raise close to £7,500 for the charity.

"We had in fact decided we wanted to do this whilst Andy was still alive and asked Andy and his family for their permission - they were delighted with the idea. Unfortunately one week later he died. So far we have sold close to 500 to both TSS club members and the wider rowing community. What I was wondering is whether Rosslyn Park were interested in joining our fundraising effort given the long association he had with your club.

"The t-shirts are distinctively coloured so the cause being supported is immediately recognisable. We sold them at Henley Royal Regatta and the visible nature of them certainly did work in terms of showing the wide level of support the cause generated.

"The sports clothing company Crewrooms have kindly agreed to distribute them for us at no cost and are available for purchase online". Contact:

http://www.crewroom.biz/andy_ripley_charity_tshirts/default.aspx

The shirts are very good quality and highly recommended. Crewroom, who have produced and are distributing the shirts, is run by Slingback Kate Giles.

Shaun goes under the knife

Park Managing Director, Shaun Justice, got more than he bargained for from a recent visit to Bath. Shaun had gone to watch Bath's pre-season training and was hoping to pick up some ideas that could be transferred to our own preparations. Feeling severe pain in old injury, he consulted a member of the Bath medical staff. A nasty haematoma around the ankle was diagnosed, and Shaun was almost immediately under the knife for an operation lasting around four hours. This is why he missed the AGM that day! Doctors told him to completely rest the injury and keep it elevated. So what was he doing limping around the club on crutches on Monday? "I can put my foot up on the desk!" he told Parknews.



New man

Pictured left is new signing John Rudd, from London Irish. An England Saxons player, he also has Premiership experience with Wasps, Northampton and Newcastle. [Photo: David Whittam]