

## On The Field

The season is over! It was a season of transition, a season of ups and downs, and a season of some genuinely strange results. As coach Gary Banks says, "the bottom line is results. The seniors finished respectably safe in mid-table in Hampshire 1, whilst the under 16 won their Hampshire 2 title without losing a single game". Captain Gareth Roberts says, "The bottom line is tries, and I scored 7 this season". As I write this, the U16 side are currently in the middle of a tour to Malta to celebrate their success and are beginning to look forward to playing as "colts" in 2011-12. The younger sides pitched in successfully with a menagerie of plates, cups and bowls from the various tournaments, such that the Romsey RUFC trophy cabinet is positively bulging at the edges, and looking in need of an off-season re-development of its own.

Thankfully we can all take this tremendous opportunity to rest our weary bodies, rebuild our domestic relationships, and re-acquaint ourselves with the beautiful feeling of waking up on a Sunday without aches and pains. Well, the younger members of the club can. Those of us who have long since passed to the "wrong" side of thirty will continue to ache until around mid-July, just in time for it to all start over again.

In the mean time we'll all be playing touch rugby tournaments (i.e. non-contact) every Wednesday throughout May and June, all are welcome. Check out the website for details and venues.

## In The Clubhouse

Off the field, we've been tremendously busy. Following on from two extensions in recent years we're busily planning and funding some renovation work in the clubhouse to improve facilities, access and security.

General funding has come along nicely. Firstly we won a Sport England Small Grant award to invest in mobile floodlights to open up training opportunities throughout the winter period. After this we re-signed our junior sponsors, Spire Hospital Southampton, for another year, and then used Lottery sportsmatch to double the value of that donation. We plan to use these funds to invest in the future of the club and develop the opportunities for youngsters to be recruited and retained within the sport, as well



as supporting endeavours to help the nationally important 16-24 age group to stay in the game.

Amongst all these fun and games, we've even set up a twitter account (@romseyrufc), but to be honest, 24 "tweets" in to our glittering twittering career, we've still no real idea of what it's all about.

## Charity & Community

It's all go gogo in July! Following on from our intrepid Three Peaks team in June, and our London Marathon participants in April, we're continuing the theme with a series of fundraisers and events throughout the summer to raise funds for The Cystic Fibrosis Trust and The Prostate Cancer Charity. July 2nd sees the big fundraising bash down at the clubhouse for the less physically inclined, until the very small hours of the morning. July 17th is the Romsey carnival, where we are pulling a lorry borrowed from one of our senior shirt sponsors, Ace Liftaway, around the course. It seemed like such a good idea at the time, but less so now. The following week, July 23rd, sees the latest instalment in the Romsey RUFC summer charity cycle ride. This year we're riding down to the Red Funnel ferry, around the Isle of Wight, and then back to the clubhouse to celebrate. Drop us an email if you want to join in the fun and games!

## Get in touch!

We are always keen to hear from new players of any level of experience, age or fitness, plus supporters, members, volunteers, fundraisers, social butterflies and sport enthusiasts. Visit our website at [www.romseyrufc.co.uk](http://www.romseyrufc.co.uk) or email [secretary@romseyrufc.co.uk](mailto:secretary@romseyrufc.co.uk).