



The AKRFC Monthly Newsletter: February 2011

Introduction.

Welcome to the latest issue of RGN for season 2010/11. Contributions to RGN in the way of articles, photos, gossip or rumour are always welcome and should be forwarded to dave.elliott29@ntlworld.com

AK Development Matters

Current position reached re development of new changing facilities

RFU Whole Club Seal of Approval

Most of the work for this has now been completed to ensure that AK meets the required criteria. The majority of the evidence required for this will be incorporated into a new AK Club Handbook, which in the future will be accessible on the AK Website and in hard copy form. Any gaps currently identified in the criteria for the SoA will be incorporated into a 4 year AK Development & Action Plan to be submitted to the RFU. This together with the evidence detailed in the AK Club Handbook will be used by the RFU to assess AK's suitability for the award.

External Finance and Planning

Achievement of the SoA will greatly help in obtaining support from the RFU in the way of loans and grants, and other grants and funding from other organisations are being researched. Initial meetings with RFU representatives have been very positive and a preliminary loan application is to be made in the near future.

The architects plans have been provisionally accepted by the RFU and Council planning permission will be applied for in due course.

Club Fundraising

Currently circa £6,000 has already been raised in a relatively short time towards the target figure of £70,000.

Most AK teams were represented at a meeting on 20th Jan at discuss development fund raising ideas, and are committed to raising £2000 per team by the start of next season. From that meeting the following events are already scheduled

- Friday 4th February England v Wales on the big screen at AK with chilli meal provided, organised by the AK Under 15s
- Saturday 26th February Quiz Night with auction organised by the AK Under 7s
- Saturday 12th March Mods & Ruckers do with live band, organised by AK Under 13s
- Saturday 26th March Curry Night and Promise Auction organised by AK Under 15s
- Saturday 9th April Fancy dress do organised by the AK 3rd Team
- Sunday 10th April Children's Circus organised by the AK Under 10s

Full details for the first 4 of these events are shown in the 'Dates for Your Diaries' Section later in this RGN edition. Other fund raising events proposed include a Ladies Dinner with fashion show, Race Night, Beer Festival, Sponsored Runs for Minis & Juniors, Talent Show / Band Night, Pre Season Team Bonding Weekend including Sponsored Yorkshire 3 Peaks Walk for 1st & 2nd teams, Team Calendars, AK Sports Day plus It's a Knockout, Car Washes and Supermarket Bag Filling, to name just a few of the ideas so far forthcoming.

All events will be advertised on the AK website and in RGN, so please note your diaries. As you can see lots of great fund raising ideas have been forthcoming, so please make every effort to support (with your families and friends) these events and *your club's* future development.

Also don't forget the **'Buy-a-brick' appeal**, details of which are shown on the last page of this edition of RGN. That will be your chance to have a lasting reminder of your personal contribution to AK development for all to see.

Utility Warehouse

In conjunction with Development matters, please remember the benefits of the above for you and AK. Details are on the AK Website and by calling FREEPHONE 0800 131 3000 to find out how much you could save. Please quote Scheme number: C50193 - Altrincham Kersal RFC

What has been happening at AK in January

Men's Senior Rugby

The AK 1st Team continued their unbeaten run with wins against Sandbach, West Park St Helens and Wigton. This keeps them in 2nd place in North 1 West, 6 points behind Burnage, but with 2 games in hand. LSH are in third place 7 points behind AK, but having played one game more. Burnage lost their first game of the season to Northwich, who played with 13 men for most of the game.

AK 2nds started their campaign in the revised Bateman Premier League with a narrow loss to Chester, and an even narrower win over Broughton Park. That game saw the first appearance of the season for ex 1st Team Captain Will Harrison, who has obviously been taking tips from Rob Worsfold about come backs!

AK 3rds comfortably beat Acton Nomads but lost to Wilmslow in somewhat controversial circumstances. The WahWah's pack were getting a bit of a hammering, so one of their props goes down injured to force uncontested scrums. The same prop only then goes on as a replacement for the Wilmslow 2nd Team playing at the same time that day! AK 3rds remain in 3rd place in Division 4 South, with good chance of promotion.



AK 1st Team before the game with Wigton, and yes that is Rob Worsfold interloping on the pic

Women's Rugby

The AK Women's Team had a tough month with fixtures against the top 3 teams. Although they were well beaten away at Camp Hill, they put in two very spirited performances against the top 2 teams Leos and Waterloo, with the final scores not being anything like a fair reflection of the actual games. With several new players, squad numbers are good and with games against all the top teams out of the way now, AK have a good opportunity over the last two months of the season to move up the leagues.



*AK Women's Team after their game against Waterloo
Looks like Mike the coach has been playing as well?*

Junior / Mini Rugby

A mixed month for the AK Senior Colts with good league wins over Sandbach, Preston Grasshoppers and Wilmslow, but a bit of a hammering by Caldys due to a lot of unavailability's and then injuries on the day. They remain in 5th place in the Senior A league and the Wilmslow game counted as a double header as also a Cheshire Cup game, so they are through to the next round.

AK Junior Colts won one and lost one of their league fixtures and are currently 7th in their league but with games in hand on most of the teams above them.

The Cheshire Cup games started for the rest of the Juniors, with the AK Under 16s, 15s and 14s all comfortably progressing to the next round. AK Under 15s did lose their unbeaten record this season to Manchester, obviously due to coach Doz Leach being away skiing? Skiing Doz with your knees?

In mini rugby the AK Under 7s and 9s were unbeaten in January and the AK Under 10s had a couple of good wins too. The editor would like to comment on the results of the other teams, but not all are entering their results and reports on the AK website! Any chance guys of updating your results and putting some match reports on there?



*AK Junior Colts get some scrum advice from coach Chris Barlow
Bucks coaches Netty and Emers look on somewhat bemused by it all?*

Results for all teams and some match reports can be seen on the AK Website. It should also be noted that match reports, photos and news items can easily be uploaded onto the new website once you are registered on there. Quite a few of the Junior and Mini Teams are already doing this, but if you need further advice or help on this please speak to Berty on 07971 870591 or email him at MWeeden@graingerplc.co.uk

AK Team of the Month

Did consider the AK Women's Team for their spirited displays against top of the table opposition, and the AK 1st Team who remain unbeaten despite not playing quite at their best. There have also been some good results and performances amongst the Junior Teams this month. However decided to do a joint award this month to the AK Under 7s and 9s for being unbeaten this month, the great progress they are making this season and to the amusing and well worth reading match reports their coaches put on the AK website most weeks. Top reports guys! Lemonades are on your coaches kids, who I have no doubt will also celebrate with a shandy or two, knowing the way they like to drink!

AK Player of the Month – NOT!

Did think about Rob Worsfold for the second month running, for managing to get on the 1st Team photo for the second year insuccession having played just one game! Obviously being taking lessons from Kieran Charleston who always seemed to get on the team pic, even when he wasn't actually playing at AK!

However, and you had to there to see this one, the award goes to Stella aka Hannah Barber on the Women's Team. Having had a 'handbags' confrontation with an Amazon back row from the Leos Team, she got absolutely pulverised and knocked back 5 yards shortly afterwards by the same Amazon, when Stella tried to run a tap penalty, as seen in the photo below. Yes it is blurred but that was due to the impact shaking the ground that much. Well that's the editor's excuse anyway!



*Stella hits a brick wall (literally) against Leos
Honest the ground really did shake!*

AK Sportsman Dinner:

This was an absolutely top night at the Cresta Court Hotel, with Dean Richards a great speaker despite very few 'blood' references, and a great comedian in Rod Woodward despite him being Welsh! The editor unfortunately can't remember any of the stories or jokes from them, as he was a bit the worse for wear, as demonstrated by him calling the compere Mike when his name is actually Peter! Yes he knows it is an age thing – reached 60 and all downhill from here.

Great to see Charlie Oulton there on behalf of AK's main sponsor Halo Furnishers, plenty of other club sponsors there too and a table of Colts players as seen below entering into the spirit of things – literally! Circa £4000 was raised for club finances, so a big thank you to everybody who supported this event, and in particular to Berty and Goosie for organising the event – top effort once again guys.



Berty & Goosie laying tables



*Deano autographing auction items
With £ signs going thro Berty's head*



*Colts entering into the spirit of things
literally!*

What's happening in February at AK

Men's Senior Rugby

AK 1st team will be looking to maintain their unbeaten record and league position this month, with home games against Wirral and Kirby Lonsdale followed by a tough away game at Vale of Lune, before then being at home to Leigh.

AK 2nd Team have LSH at home, Waterloo away and then Fylde at home as they aim for a top position in their revamped league

AK 3rd team will be looking to keep in contention for promotion with tough games against Macclesfield away and then home to top of the table Lymm on the 19th.

Women's Rugby

AK's Satnav team really justify their name this month with rearranged away games against Lakenham Hewitt in Norwich and Team Northumbria in Newcastle.

Mini / Junior Rugby

AK Senior and Junior colts will be finishing off their league campaigns before moving into end of season cup competitions. AK Juniors at Under 14s, 15s and 16s have the next round of the Cheshire Cup to play on Sunday 6th.

The AK Minis have home games on the 6th and 13th against Sandbach and Liverpool Collegiate

Dates for your diary

England v Wales with a chilli ! - Friday, 4 February at 7pm



Come down and watch England v Wales as the 6 Nations Competition kicks off. As a fundraising event the Under 15s will also be providing a Chilli with proceeds going to the Club Development Fund.

Six Nations games on the Big Screen at AK

Why not come down in February and watch the other 6 Nations games on the big screen at AK

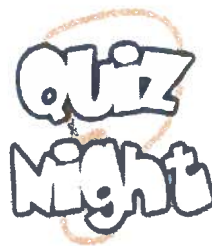


Yes I know it last years photo and hopefully Steve Borthwick won't be playing for England!

Games are as follows in February

Saturday 5 February: Italy v Ireland	ko 14:30:	France v Scotland	ko 17:00
Saturday 12 February: England v Italy	ko 14:30:	Scotland v Wales	ko 17:00
Saturday 26 February: Italy v Wales	ko 14:30:	England v France	ko 17:00

Altrincham Kersal RFC Big Fun Quiz night - Saturday 26th February 7.30 pm



Quiz starts at 8.00 pm. Teams of 6 - £7.50 per ticket: Limited to 90 tickets (15 teams) due to size of room. Do you want an intellectually stimulating experience; do you want to be stretched mentally and test the breadth of your knowledge and experience against other like-minded geniuses. Then this is probably not the night for you...

If however you want to have a good fun evening out with your friends, if you can answer questions that range from slightly stumping to downright daft, if you don't mind joining in and having a laugh; if you want to win prizes in a raffle and do all this whilst helping your club Then this is definitely the night for you.

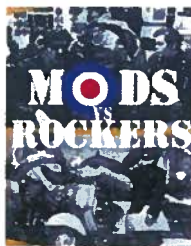
"We want more" I here you shout, what a demanding bunch you are, OK we will also throw in a hot pot supper and a glass of wine, spot prizes on the night and a great prize for the winning team. And you don't want to pay more than £7.50 for all of this, go on then you've twisted my arm.

So get in touch with your friends and pull a team together and we will see you on the night.

See the U7s coaches for tickets, who you will find at home games on the side of the main pitch on Sunday mornings

or Contact: robert.pattison@manairport.co.uk (07958 877 012) or Debbie.ford66@btinternet.com

Mods & Rockers Night - Saturday 12th March



This is being organised by the Under 13's Junior Team. Great live music from local band *XL5* and a bar of course! Grab your friends and come along and literally help Raise the Roof!! Tickets at £5 per head are available from Simon Gallimore and Henrik Hack.

Curry Night & Promise Auction - Saturday, 26th March at 7.30pm



Come and join us for a Curry Night and Promise Auction in the clubhouse. Enjoy a home cooked selection of curries and accompaniments, served by your Under 15 Team. Grab a great deal at our Promise Auction, where there will be a wide variety of treats, services and bargains on offer..... Our U15's have so far promised

- A dinner party for 4, cooked at your home, including a main course of steak with a red wine sauce.
- A session at the Chill Factor with tuition.
- The perfect party tent, a 6m by 4m marquee, with lights and heaters, all set up for your special occasion and dismantled afterwards.
- A bespoke bouquet of flowers, weekend retreats and a case of fine wine.

Tickets are on sale now at £10 per person including food and entertainment. Contact Suzanne Tsiantar 07887987246 or Chris Barlow behind the bar.

Other News

Congratulations to

Pete and Alice Kilburn on the birth of their second daughter Sophie. Strange how the birth coincided with Pete's hamstring injury. Too many marathons Pete, not enough short, sharp stuff!



Pete scoring (a try this time) against Vale earlier this season

Au revoir to

Dan Smith who is moving to Bath to take up a new post. As an ex AK 1st Team Captain and stalwart of the team over the last few years, Dan will be sorely missed. AK wish him and his partner Jen all the best for the future.



Dan on the charge for AK at Wigton earlier this season

Memberships Subscriptions

Big thanks to Mike Wildgoose, Liz Foster, Chris Smith and the Men's Team Captains for ensuring that the vast majority of subs have been paid or are now being paid through standing orders. Next season guys, let's pay early and save all the hassle!

Nostalgia (All our Yesterdays) Section

Don't know how many you recognised from last month's photo below, taken on the AK Tour to Prague a few years ago, but quite a few are still around in one shape or another – mostly larger shapes! Looks like Ollie at the front has scratched his knee. Not surprised – he never could tackle!



This month's photo is even older, taken from the Kersal (as we were then) tour of the Isle of Man in 1982. The photo is from the team's first game on tour against Beaconsfield, which we won by a lot to a lot, being a typical tour game, with lots of open rugby but little tackling!

If you look carefully you should spot the current Junior Chairman (disguised with hair), Chairman of Selection and Captain at that time (with page boy hairstyle) and President (with moustache). Oh how times change!

See how many of the players above you can recognise. Unfortunately (or maybe fortunately) there wasn't a picture taken before the second game played, which was on Easter Monday at 10.00am, after 3 days on the lemonades and most of us having been in the casino until at least 05.00 that morning. For the record we won that one too, probably due to the opposition playing their forwards in the backs and their backs in their forwards, plus Kersal not kicking the ball other than at kick offs and confusing the opposition by doing 'dead ant's' when the opposition kicked off to us – oh happy days on tour!



Interesting story about this game (one which doesn't have to actually stay on tour). For games that tour weekend, you changed at your hotel and then were picked up by coach to go to the game, with the opposition being on the same coach as you. The game was a bit late kicking off as the Beaconsfield captain had to be bailed out of the local cop shop, having been arrested literally minutes after arriving in the IOM!

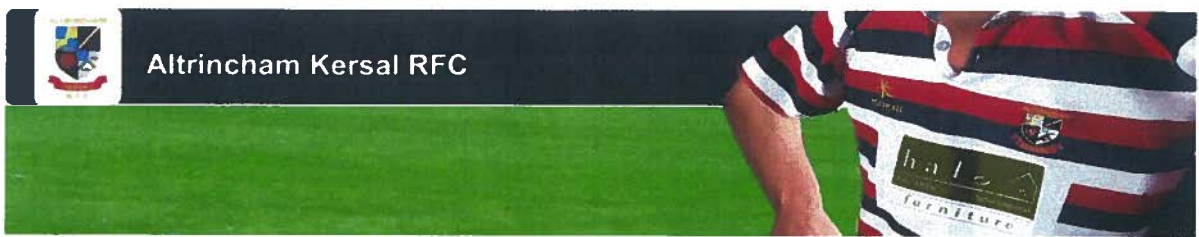
On the journey over on the ferry from Liverpool (no fancy flying on tour in those days), he had managed to get into the ferry captain's cabin and 'borrowed' his spare uniform, epaulets, gold braid and all. As it was absolute chaos coming off the ferry, with lots of other teams and coaches waiting to pick them up, the Beaconsfield captain decided he would do a bit of traffic direction, and he thought that standing on the middle of the roundabout at the end of the Douglas pier, wearing the ferry captain's uniform might just get him better noticed in doing that. Well it certainly did as he got arrested, but released before the game and the ferry captain did not press charges once he got his uniform back.

One of many great stories from that tour, but the rest will just have to stay there, well maybe for the time being perhaps? Taxi for Mr Gunning I seem to remember!

Future editions of RGN

So trust that you have enjoyed reading this edition of RGN. The next edition will be coming out early in March, Any articles and photos relating to AK are very welcome. Please email them to dave.elliott29@ntlworld.com





Club Development Fund Buy-a-brick



Help to raise money for the development of the clubhouse with a lasting reminder of your contribution for all to see.

Each brick can contain up to 2 lines of 16 characters each. The cost is £100 for individuals or £200 for corporate sponsors.

ORDER FORM

Sponsors name	
Address	
County	
Postcode	
Contact no.	
Email	

Please make cheques payable to AKRFC *

Send payments to:
Club Development Fund (BAB)
AKRFC
Stelfox Avenue,
Timperley
Cheshire
WA15 6UL

Brick	Message (Please write in capitals)	Corporate Y/N	Cost
1			£
2			£
3			£
4			£
5			£
Total			£