

# RUCKING GOOD NEWS



## The AKRFC Monthly Newsletter: Special Edition: April 2011

### Introduction.

Welcome to this special edition of RGN, which was originally intended to Development Special Edition in respect of the new changing rooms. However in the light of some great efforts on the rugby field of late, RGN has taken the opportunity to update on those games and what is happening on the field in the next few weeks. So firstly to the rugby.....

### AK 1<sup>st</sup> Team

After two great away wins at Wilmslow 39pts to 17 and Leigh 76pts to 7, AK 1<sup>st</sup> Team need just one point from a possible maximum of ten in their last two league games, to ensure promotion to National League 3 North. Support from the AK faithful at the last two away games has been tremendous, so let's keep that up this weekend when the lads go to 3<sup>rd</sup> placed Liverpool St Helens, looking to secure 1<sup>st</sup> place and automatic promotion. Kick off is 15.00.

The Captains Dinner (including Player of the Year and 'Alternative' Awards) is being held on Saturday evening in the clubhouse (meet 18.30 for a 19.00 start). All players (including the Senior and Junior Colts), coaches and supporters are welcome to attend. Cost is only £5.00 (plus your drinks!) and hopefully there will be much to celebrate on the night!

The last league game of the season for the 1<sup>st</sup> Team is a rearranged game at home to Wirral on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, kick off 15.00. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us as the intention is to put on a bbq from 13.30ish and throughout the afternoon on the patio area, courtesy of the Club President. Appreciate that it is Easter weekend and many may have other plans. However it would be good to see lots of AK members including junior and mini players in their AK shirts down for the last 1st Team league game of the season, and to hopefully help us celebrate winning the North One West League Trophy.



AK 1<sup>st</sup> Team are also in the Cheshire Vase Final on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May at Lymm, kick off 15.30, where they will play Anselmians, who are currently top of South Lancs and Cheshire League 1. All support on the day will be welcome. Please also note that AK 2<sup>nd</sup> Team are at home on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April, to LSH kick off 15.00. This is a game they need to win to ensure safety in the Bateman Premier League, so if you can please come down and support the lads if you can.

Due to injuries and end of season unavailabilities the AK 3<sup>rd</sup> Team have been struggling for numbers of late and it is really imperative that the team fulfil their remaining fixtures, which are as follows

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April: Didsbury Toc H (away)  
Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April: Marple (away)  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April: Macclesfield (away)  
Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April: Old Bedians (home)

If you are available for all or any of these games, or have any mates who might want an end of season run out (or even part of a game if not that fit!), please let AK 3<sup>rd</sup> Team skipper James Ward know asap, on 07956 078300.

***RGN cannot stress enough, just how important it is that we get a team for each of these fixtures, so please turn up and play if you can.***

## Junior Rugby

AK Senior Colts are in the League Vase Final, against West Park St Helens on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April, at Bowdon RFC, kick off 15.00. It would be good to see lots of support from AK there on Sunday, so please try and come down to cheer on the future of AK.

The Senior Colts also beat Winnington Park last Sunday to go through to the Cheshire Cup Final on 1<sup>st</sup> May against Caldy. AK Senior Colts have won this competition for the last 3 years, so it is great to see AK in the final again.



*Action from last Sunday's Senior Colts Cheshire Cup Semi Final*

AK Juniors also have several other teams in Cheshire Finals, all to be played on 1<sup>st</sup> May (kos times tbc) as follows

<b>AK Under 14s:</b>	Cheshire Vase Final v Stockport at Northwich.
<b>AK Under 15s:</b>	Cheshire Cup Final v Chester at Anselmians
<b>AK Under 16s:</b>	Cheshire Bowl Final v Wilmslow at Wilmslow
<b>AK Junior Colts:</b>	Cheshire Plate Final v Anselmians at Wirral
<b>AK Senior Colts:</b>	Cheshire Cup Final v Caldy at Wirral

Taking into account several of the AK mini teams have already won trophies this season, the future continues to look good for AK.

## **AK End of Season Ball: Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May**



This is always our Blue Riband Event to celebrate our season and this year as shown above in the Rugby Section there is much to celebrate!

This year's event is being taken to a new level, with the fabulous Francs Restaurant doing the catering, larger marquee and also a special band called Groovy Revolution, providing the entertainment. Tables are available in 8s, 10s or 12s and are going quickly. Seating plan will go in accordance of when the tables are booked so please contact asap

Dominic Leach on 07530 273 775 or [Dominic@dominicleach.co.uk](mailto:Dominic@dominicleach.co.uk) or

Chris Barlow on 07983 724 106 or [chrisbarlow69@btinternet.com](mailto:chrisbarlow69@btinternet.com)

## ***Internal Fund Raising***

RGN understands that circa £15K has so far been raised and with other events planned through to the start of next season (details later in this edition of RGN) we confidently expect by then to be well over the £20K mark on our way to our target of £70K. This is a tremendous achievement in a relatively short period, with some great innovation demonstrated in coming up with ideas for fund raising. A big thank you is therefore in order to all the fund raising coordinators on the various teams, plus everyone who has attended and / or contributed to an event in whatever way. It is really good to see the teams and club members entering into the spirit and commitment of the necessary fund raising, and the really good social buzz around the club at the moment. Long may it continue, with hopefully many of the individual dos / fund raising becoming annual events.

### **Recent events held include**

#### ***Irish Night with Ceili band***

A very successful night organised by the AK Under 12s with a good turnout from all parts of the club. Lots of 'putting it when you should have been pulling out' so to speak, especially once the beer started to take effect!



*Good turn out at the Irish night*



*Sean & JP finally come out???*



*Players actually brought their g/f's along.*

#### ***Wine tasting***

This was organised by the Under14's and obviously went well judging by the noise in the upstairs bar, as witnessed by those at the AK Committee meet taking place below!!! For the record Jeff Atkins the organiser did though ensure that the committee members had an opportunity to partake later in the evening. It would though have probably helped to move the agenda along a bit quicker if he supplied the wine earlier in the evening. It was long committee meet!!!!!!

### **What is coming in the near future**

#### ***Saturday April 23<sup>rd</sup>: Easter Family Fun Run***



Come along and join us to complete 2000 metres to help meet our target of £2000. We want boys and girls, brothers and sisters, mums and dads, aunties and uncles, grans and granddads, the more the merrier really, to get sponsorship to complete the run and help the U7s smash our target. You can run, walk skip hop, anything you want really to get around. So book it into your diary: **1000-1200: Timperley Athletics Club, Park Road, Timperley.** There will be an Easter surprise for every child that completes the run and a great prize for the family that raises the most money. We will be sending out full information soon.

#### ***Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April: End of Season Fancy Dress***

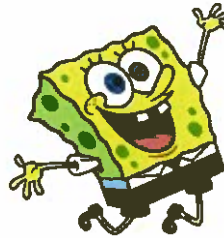
Your last chance to 'dress up' for fund raising reasons. What you do at home is your business??? The last fancy dress event was a top do, so no excuses get the party gear on and get down to AK to support this do.



The 3<sup>rd</sup> Team proudly Presents:  
**The AK End of Season  
 Fancy Dress Party**  
**Saturday 30 April 7pm**



Theme: Cartoon Characters



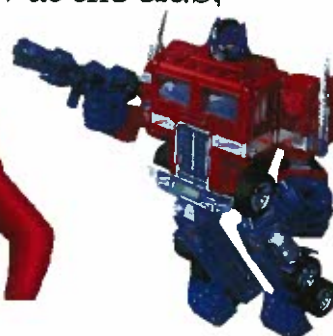
We're pleased to welcome back the hugely popular Rock and Roll band



**THE VILLAINS**



Plus DJ. Tickets £10  
 From Graham MW 07989402133  
 Or Chris Barlow at the club,



**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June: Beer Pong**

Altrincham Kersal Women's Rugby Team present

**Beer Pong!**

**Where & When**

Altrincham Kersal RFC, Stelfox Avenue  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2011  
6pm-6:45pm Registration & Practice  
6:45pm Tournament starts



**Great Drinks Promotions**

4-pint pitcher of Carlsberg	£8
4-pint pitcher of Turbo-Shandy	£10
Shot of Sambuca	£2
2 Jagerbombs for	£5

**How Do I Enter**

£12 for 2-man team – that's only £6  
This includes your tournament entry &  
first game  
Cups and ping-pong balls will be  
there will be a prize for the winning  
Email [akwrfc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:akwrfc@hotmail.co.uk) to book



each!  
beer for your  
provided &  
team

Spectators entry £2.50

Totally confused after reading the above – well so you should be, so the best way to find out what it is all about is get down to AK on 3<sup>rd</sup> June and join in!!! Promises to be a top night.

***Buy a brick***

The AK Development committee will be deciding in the near future, exactly where the 'buy a brick' wall will be placed within the clubhouse and what form it will take. Once a decision is made, a plan will be put up in the clubhouse and on the website so those wishing to purchase can pick their spot on the wall so to speak. To date 5 bricks have been sold and those purchasers will be given first choice of location on the wall. Thereafter it will be first come (obviously with money up front!) first served! Thanks to Dave Conville for that idea.

One thought on this. If you have a birthday coming up and can't think of what you want people to buy you, why not get them to buy you a brick directly, or give monies towards it. Thanks to Garret Coulson for that idea. The 'buy a brick' order form is attached to this issue of RGN.

***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

***Development Process & Procedures***

A Development Plan has now been finalised and agreed by the AK General Committee. Representatives from the AK Development Committee intend to meet with the RFU's Regional Development Officer in the near future to further discuss the content of the plan, any further work required thereto and the club's funding requirements.

At the same time, the progress made to date in respect of the criteria required to make application to the RFU for the Whole Club Seal of Approval, will also be discussed with the RDO. At the moment there are still several areas and / or

roles required, where AK falls short of meeting the full criteria. The AK Development and General Committees are currently trying to address these areas and it is hoped by the start of next season most of these will be covered. In this respect the AK General Committee has recently put in place and reviewed a 'Club Succession Plan', which as well as being a requirement for the SoA, also helps the committee identify all required roles within AK (both for the SoA and in general terms for running the club), and in particular where we have gaps in personnel. NB. The Succession Plan is designed to cover administrative type roles within the club rather than coaching and captaincy roles, which are obviously an important but separate issue.

A copy of the 'AK Succession Plan', as updated after the last AK General Committee meeting is attached with this copy of RGN, and identifies those prepared to stand for election in certain roles next season and where we have gaps. With the Club's AGM planned for Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May it would be good to be in a position before then to have volunteers for each role specified. If anyone is interested in any of the roles (including general committee members) and / or would like more information re specific roles, please speak to Dave Elliott, John Wilks, Chris Smith or Dominic Leach asap.

### ***External Fund Raising***

Kate Morley has been taking the lead on this for the Development Committee and has identified several external sources of funding in relation to the building of new changing rooms. Obviously the main one is the RFU and this will be the subject of further discussion at the planned meeting with the RDO. Other areas of funding become more accessible, the more sports that are played at a club. Obviously there may have to be limitations on this, depending on the type of sport, space required and how that might impact on AK's current rugby commitments. However the Development Committee are prepared to consider offers in this respect and have made some initial but unsuccessful enquiries with Trafford Council. So if anyone does know of other sporting bodies looking for use of facilities, that we think we could accommodate, please discuss with one of the Development Committee.

On a separate external funding matter, an application has been made to the RBS Rugby Work Force to improve car parking facilities at AK. RBS make awards of £5K each year to certain clubs to improve their facilities. We should know by the end of April if we have been successful. Successful or not, AK will need to have a work party during one weekend this summer to generally tidy up the clubhouse and surrounds. Details of this will be circulated later and it would be appreciated if as many AK members would turn out to help when it is held. Doing this type of work ourselves, obviously helps keep costs down, which with rising overheads and running costs is ever more important.

### ***Communication Process***

Obviously RGN is doing it's best to keep you up to date with what is happening, progress made and all fund raising activities are also being announced on the AK Website. The AK Annual General Meeting has now been set for Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 20.00. Copies of the AGM Notice (and copy of the Club Accounts) will be sent out to Club Members in due course. At the AGM it is proposed that the Development Committee will do a brief update presentation re the Development aspects, with time then allocated for a Question and Answer session afterwards. That will be your opportunity to confirm progress and / or ask any relevant questions, so please make every effort to attend that meeting.

### ***Future editions of RGN***

So trust that you have enjoyed reading this edition of RGN. The next edition will be a bumper end of season version in mid May. If you would like any articles or photos included from such as tours, tournaments, trophies won etc (the funnier the better) please email them by Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May to [dave.elliott29@ntlworld.com](mailto:dave.elliott29@ntlworld.com). Also please remember that they can be put onto the AK Website

