

# RUCKING GOOD NEWS



## The AKRFC Monthly Newsletter: May 2011

### **Introduction.**

Welcome to the last issue of RGN for season 2010/11. There has been much to celebrate this season and hopefully RGN has managed to record all of the successes and positives in this special review bumper edition.

### **AK Development Matters**

#### *Club Fundraising*

There will be a short presentation and Q&A session on Development matters at the forthcoming AK AGM on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May, which starts at 20.00hrs. This will be an opportunity for club members to get fully up to date, make suggestions and / or clarify any issues in relation to the proposed new changing facilities.

Currently circa £16,000 has been raised towards the target figure of £70,000, and it is expected that this figure will rise to over £20,000 by the first month of next season. Mike Wildgoose as the Development Fundraising Coordinator is planning to get all the individual team fund raisers together in the near future, to review progress to date, lessons to be learned and consider how AK take matters forward next season. In the meantime a big thank you is in order to Mike for his efforts and to everyone at AK who has contributed in whatever way to the fund raising. As Mr Tesco would say 'every little helps' and it certainly would if we could Tesco supporting the club with the profits they make!!!

A few other things to note re Development Fundraising

#### *Signed and Framed Manchester City shirt*

Junior parent Martin Daulby has kindly donated a signed Manchester City shirt for auction on behalf of the AK Under 12s, with the proceeds going towards the Club Development Fund. Taking into account that City won the FA Cup last Saturday and have also qualified for Europe this shirt is likely to worth a lot of money and a very sound investment for the future

The club is already in receipt of an offer of £300 for the shirt signed by the current City first team squad. Further offers should be made to Mike Wildgoose at [mike.wildgoose@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mike.wildgoose@hotmail.co.uk) stating: Name of person making the bid, contact mobile number and value of the bid. The auction is due to close at 12 noon on Friday, 20 May 2011. Happy Bidding!!!



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

Altrincham Kersal Women's Rugby Team present **Beer Pong!**

### Where & When

Altrincham Kersal RFC: 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 & your 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  
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 to get down to AK on 3<sup>rd</sup> June and join in!!! By that date you will have had best part of a month from the end of the season to recharge the batteries, so no excuses get down to AK and enjoy a top night!!!

### 'Buy-a-brick' appeal

Several AK members have already committed to this with actual cash up front. Following discussions the AK Committee has agreed that the actual wall will be placed in the Club's main entrance hall on the left hand wall as you walk in. The final design will actually depend on the number of bricks sold. Currently it is envisaged that there is space for at least 46 corporate bricks and 84 individual ones, but a variation on these numbers is possible depending on types and numbers finally sold. The corporate bricks cost £200.00 and measure 210 x 210mm, whilst the individual ones cost £100.00 and measure 210 x 105mm. Designs will be something on the lines of those shown below.



A record is being maintained of those paying for bricks and when, so that when we are ready to finalise the design and build, we will work down the list giving those people who have paid first the option as to where they would like their brick placed on the wall. This is your chance to have a lasting reminder of your personal contribution to AK Development for all to see, so don't delay. The Buy a Brick application form accompanies this edition 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

## Season 2010/11 Review

### *Men's Senior Rugby*

It's been a truly fantastic season for the AK 1<sup>st</sup> Team, having finish top of North 1 West and thus being promoted to the National Leagues, as well as signing the season off in style by beating Anselmians 51 to 22 (8 tries to 1) in the Cheshire Vase Final. This was a particularly pleasing result when taking into account AK had at least 10 regular 1<sup>st</sup> Team players out injured for that game. The young lads coming in did AK proud and produced a great performance, which showed the strength in depth the squad has. Even Rob (not young anymore!) Worsfold showed he still has though those silky skills – well for 60 minutes at least!



*AK 1st Team with the North One League Trophy*

Well done to all the lads who have played 1<sup>st</sup> Team this year and in particular Captain John Geddis and coaches Dylan O'Grady, Andy Daldry and Chris Nettleton. Also a mention for James Nettleton who despite being out injured all season has still come down helping out every weekend.

Two good wins at the end of the season saw AK 2<sup>nd</sup> Team move out of relegation danger and actually finish 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Premier B League. Yes there was very little points difference between top and next to bottom in that league. Well done to all the lads and in particular coach Brian Collier for his enthusiastic efforts and commitment this season.

A very busy last month of the season saw AK 3<sup>rd</sup>s win 3 out of 6 games played to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> in Division 4 South and win promotion. Well done to Diko, who took up the captaincy reins for the last few games of the season and all the lads who have played on the team this season, particularly when the going got tough towards the end.

Overall then it has been a great season for Senior Men's rugby at AK and much to look forward to next season.

### *Women's Rugby*

As previously reported the AK Women's Team did not win a game this season. However one has to take into account that they are just one league below the Women's Premiership and the amount of match day travelling they have to undertake, so it is a very tough league to be in. On the plus side they have retained good squad numbers and there has been a tremendous improvement in their performances through the course of the season, with them being unlucky in their last few fixtures not to record a win.

So well done to Rhino (Team Manager), Bendy (captain) and Mike (coach) for keeping it all together and the progress made throughout the season. Well done also to Amy-Jane Dutton, Pam Read, Kate Morley and Lauren Worthington who represented Cheshire in their win over Staffordshire.



*Action from the last Women's game of the season*

## ***Junior / Mini Rugby***

AK Junior Teams were involved in 7 finals towards the end of the season, which included both Colts teams in 2 finals each.

AK Mini Teams brought back 3 Cheshire Plates, 3 Southport Festival Trophies, a Manchester Festival Plate, a Land Rover Shield and a Fair Play Trophy.

Thanks to all the coaches who have supplied RGN with season info which RGN has summarised in the '**AK Honours Board**' Section later in this edition.

### ***AK Team of the Month for April***

Yet again did consider the AK 2<sup>nd</sup> Team for their efforts in avoiding relegation and then actually finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Premier B League. Also all the mini teams which were successful in the Southport Festival. However decided to give a joint award to both the AK Junior and Senior Colts for appearing in two finals each and both winning one of those.

### ***AK Player of the Month for April – NOT!***

A few names came into the frame late on, such as a certain 'Walter Mitty' character, who promised the earth but failed to deliver on a number of counts. Unfortunately he can't be named as he has taken out a super injunction against RGN!!! Let's see how long that one takes to get on the Internet???

The Club President was also considered for allegedly wearing a chicken hat in Nicholson's after the Captain's Dinner. Unfortunately (or was it fortunately as we don't want to scare our younger readers) no one has come up with any photographic evidence and he certainly doesn't qualify as a player anymore, well not rugby wise at least!

So the award goes to Mitch from the 2<sup>nd</sup> team, who stood in for Smally at the Captain's Dinner, to receive and dress up in the nurse's outfit. Sorry Mitch but you just looked far too comfortable wearing it!!!



*Smally's outfit*

### ***AK Team of the Year***

Over the course of the season, taking in to account that there have been a couple of joint awards, 3 AK Senior Teams, 4 AK Junior Teams and 3 AK Mini Teams have been recipients of the RGN Team of the Month Award. Other teams have also come into consideration in some months, which really demonstrates how well the rugby has gone this season right across all our teams at AK, and makes it a very hard decision for Team of the Year.

However never a publication to shirk a responsibility (or also let the facts get in the way of a good story!), RGN has decided to award 'RGN Team of the Year' to (drum roll.....) AK 1<sup>st</sup> Team for winning the league, thus getting promoted to the National Leagues and winning the Cheshire Vase. Beers guys are Smithy as Manager of Rugby – not again I can hear him saying!!! At least you got on the photo in the SAM last week Smithy!

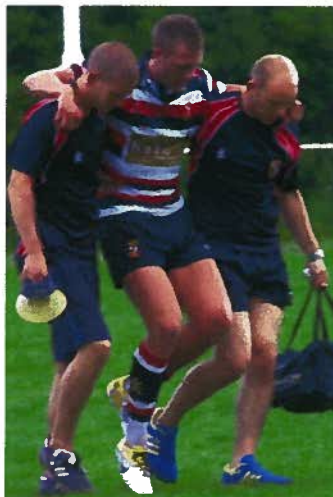


*AK celebrate with the Cheshire Vase*

### ***AK Player of the Year – NOT!***

The great thing about rugby clubs is that there are always plenty of people prepared to do daft things and then even if they are not caught out, also to make the schoolboy error of letting everybody know about it – don't they Sean Rogers!

Yes *Player of the Year – Not* goes to Sean, the only difficulty has been to decide for which of his many faux pas this season. Well RGN decided that crying off the AK 1<sup>st</sup> team game against Kirby Lonsdale, due to being offered an all expenses paid weekend away, with a young lady he had met on a previous trip abroad was good enough. However it got even better once the full facts (facts???) emerged (courtesy of Sean!) and it was found out that he and Psycho Sid (as he affectionately called her) didn't actually spend much time together on this trip. Sean apparently took offence when early on the trip she was unfaithful to him. It only happened once but in Sean's defence it was with a Welsh stag party!!!



*This time it was a rugby injury that stopped Sean performing!!!*

Sean got his award at the Captain's Dinner with the 'Ticket to Ride' presentational CD. Think about that one???

Also should mention Stella from the Women's Team for her 'you won't like me when I'm angry' pose at the Captain's Dinner, as seen below. Close Stella but even you couldn't match Sean antics this season!



*Bring on that Leo's amazon*

## AK Honours Board 2010 / 11



*League Trophy*



*A selection of the Mini/Junior trophies won*



*Cheshire Vase*

### *AK Senior Men's*

AK 1<sup>st</sup> Team: North 1 West League Championship Trophy & Cheshire Vase Winners.

AK 3<sup>rd</sup> Team: Division 4 South Runners Up and promoted.



*AK 3<sup>rd</sup> Team with their runners up plaque*

### *AK Colts*

AK Senior Colts: League Vase Winners & Cheshire Cup Finalists.

AK Junior Colts: Cheshire Plate Winners & National Bowl Northern Division Finalists.



*AK Senior Colts (and Alec) with the League Vase Plate*



*AK Junior Colts 'celebrate' with the Cheshire Plate*

## ***AK Juniors***

AK Under 16s: Cheshire Vase Finalists.

AK Under 15s: Cheshire Cup Finalists.

AK Under 14s: Cheshire Vase Finalists.



*AK Under 16s after their Cheshire Vase Final*

## ***AK Minis***

AK Under 12s: Land Rover Plate Winners, Southport Festival Finalists & Cheshire Cup Semi Finalists.

AK Under 11s: Manchester Festival Plate Winners, Land Rover Shield Winners, Southport Festival Winners & Sedburgh Tournament 3<sup>rd</sup> place

AK Under 10s: Cheshire Plate Winners.

AK Under 9s: Cheshire Plate Winners & Southport Festival Finalists

AK Under 8s: Cheshire Plate Joint Winners. Southport Festival Winners and Fair Play Plate Winners

AK Under 7s: Southport Festival Winners, Hoylake Festival Finalists & Cheshire Cup Semi Finalists



*Southport Festival winners AK Under 7s, 8s & 11*



*Cheshire Plate Winners AK Under 9s & 10s*

## AK Player of the Year Awards

### AK Senior Teams

AK 1<sup>st</sup> Team:            Player of the Year:            Tristan Laga  
                                  Young Player of the Year:    James (Link) Watson ????

AK 2<sup>nd</sup> Team:            Player of the Year:            Ben Davies  
                                  Most Improved Player:        Gav McDarmaid

AK 3<sup>rd</sup> Team:            Player of the Year:            Adam 'Trigger' Johnson  
                                  Most Improved player:        Matt Smith

AK Women's Team:    Player of the Year:            Fiona O'Kelly  
                                  Young Player of the Year:    Lindsay Harvey  
                                  Clubwomen of the Year:        Lottie Galloway

Neil Purcell Trophy for Clubperson of the Year            Leeanne (Rhino) Cardus



*Tristam Laga receives his award*



*Rhino receives her award from Jim Purcell*

### AK Junior Team Awards

Roger Salt Trophy for Senior Colt Achievement            Callum Yates

***Player of the Year:***

AK Senior Colts:            Luke 'Beefy' Maitra  
 AK Junior Colts            Jack Whitby  
 AK Under 16s                Jake Langmead-Jones  
 AK Under 15s                James Shepherd

AK Under 14s:                Will Price  
 AK Under 13s:                Elliott Connolly

***Clubman of the Year:***

Nathan Bailey  
 Chris Hesketh  
 Alastair Berryman  
 Matthew Samuels  
 (As Cheshire Cup Final MOM)  
 Eddie Brady  
 Robbie Lee

***Most Improved Player:***

Christian Connolly  
 Chudi Emeagi  
 Greg Boudin  
 Will Carson  
 Ali MacDonald  
 Cameron Moore



*Callum receives his award from Roger Salt*

## ***AK Mini Team Awards***

	<b><i>Player of the Year:</i></b>	<b><i>Clubman of the Year:</i></b>	<b><i>Most Improved Player:</i></b>
AK Under 12s:	Will Seth-Smith	Conor Rutherford	Oliver Merrill ( as kicker of the year)
AK Under 11s:	Connor Doherty (A Team) Tom Hunt (B Team)	Sam Jones	Jamie Munn
AK Under 10s:	Oscar Johnson & Max Brooks	Tom Sullivan	Will Holland & Will Bannister
AK Under 9s:	Ben Abbott	Tom Hack	Sean Green
AK Under 8s	Charlie Watson	Alex Wright	Tom Rogan
AK Under 7s Eagles Falcons	Max Hastings/Tomas Soar Thomas Pattison	Harry Hughes Archie Kington	Oliver Riediger Freddie Gray



***AK Under 10 award winners***

And it is not all about winning or making finals. RGN has already mentioned the positives in relation the AK 2<sup>nd</sup> and Women's Teams, but other successes / achievements to note in the season were.

- The AK Under 13s, whilst not making any finals have managed to increase their playing numbers from 17 at the start of the season to 29 by the end of it, which has to be a great result in itself.
- Likewise the AK Under 7s started with very few players at the start of the season but were up to nearly 30 by the end of it.
- Seeing all the kids in their new 'streamlined' kit was also a big plus for AK, so well done to Doz Leach for organising and all the kind sponsors who made that happen. As an aside on that, a Lymm ball boy at the recent Cheshire Vase Final was heard to say to his mates ' have you seen the new Alty Kersal kit – it looks really good, cos it's tight fitting with lots of sponsor's badges on it'. Praise indeed from Lymm!
- Tom and Sam Moncur from the Junior Colts both played for Scotland Under 17's this season, whilst Jack Emerson, Tom Smart and Jack Whitby were selected for the Cheshire Under 17 Development Squad
- Cameron Neild from the AK Under 16s played for and captained England at his age group.
- AK Under 15s had 3 players Matthew Samuels, Will Carson and Connor Whyley in the East Cheshire U15s Group Squad
- AK Under 14s had 5 players Aidan McGoff, Freddie Atkins, Jack Conteh, Lucas Dowling-Kennedy and Matt Anderson in the East Cheshire Development Squad and 3 players Eddie Brady, Will Price and Sam Yarrow in the Lancashire (Manchester District) Development Squad.
- Will Price went on to play for Lancashire Under 14s, whilst Matt Anderson has been nominated for the RFU's School of Rugby (SoR) programme. This aims to identify and develop young players and athletes who have the potential to play at the elite levels of the game in England. It provides a route for players into the England Rugby Academy system through the Elite Player Development Group (EPDG).
- Rob Conville represented Lancashire Under 20s

- Callum Yates represented Cheshire Colts
- The AK Website has regularly been in the top 20 or so viewed Pitchero rugby club websites throughout the season, so well done to Berty and Graham for your webmaster efforts in that respect

## **Other End of Season News**

### ***AK Ball***

This was an absolutely top night, with superb food prepared by Francs Restaurant, a great band and wonderful atmosphere. Photos from the event can be seen on the AK Website. Even though the numbers attending were down somewhat this year a good profit was still made, so thank you to everyone attending and those that bid on the auction items. Particular thanks also to the organisers Doz, Chris and Georgie.

### ***Officer of the day responsibilities***

Pip Thomas the coordinator for this role is looking for some additional volunteers to take on this important task on match days. If you can spare the odd Saturday during the next season, to come down before the games to put out and then later take back in the post protectors and flags, plus ensure the referees are looked after please contact Pip on 07718 757046 or email him on [pip\\_thomas@hotmail.com](mailto:pip_thomas@hotmail.com)

### ***Au revoir***

AK under 11s coach Tim Jones is moving to Devon so will no longer be involved with coaching at AK. Tim will be sorely missed and everyone at AK wishes him and his family all the best for the future



*Tim is Q&A'd by Doz Leach, amongst other things at the Awards Day*

### ***Bowdon 7s Saturday 21st May***

AK has a team in this event and will be looking to go one better than last year, when they controversially lost in the final. So please get down if you can and support the lads.

### ***Sponsorship***

Firstly thanks to Charlie and Tim Oulton at Halo Furnishers for again agreeing to be the main AK sponsors for next season. Your generosity is much appreciated.

Also please note that AK now has a new Sponsorship Coordinator in Lindsey Wordley, who can be contacted on 079209 019008 or on email at [lindsey\\_wordley@hotmail.com](mailto:lindsey_wordley@hotmail.com). Lindsey is already looking at potential player sponsorship for the 1<sup>st</sup> Team Squad next season and programme sponsorship, so if interested please get in touch. Also please get in touch with her if you know of any contacts that may be interested in sponsoring AK in any other way

So that's it from RGN for this season. The next scheduled edition will be a pre season one, coming out in early August. In the meantime please regularly check out the AK Website for events happening/news updates and enjoy your summer.





# 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

<b>Sponsors name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>County</b>	
<b>Postcode</b>	
<b>Contact no.</b>	
<b>Email</b>	

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	LINE 1		£
	LINE 2		
2	LINE 1		£
	LINE 2		
3	LINE 1		£
	LINE 2		
4	LINE 1		£
	LINE 2		
5	LINE 1		£
	LINE 2		
<b>Total</b>			<b>£</b>