



# Aireline

15th February

Issue #1

A.R.U.F.C Official News Letter

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## Read all about it...

- Player from Juniors makes 1st team! See Pg 2
- Essex Tour—secure your place today! - See Matt
- Dinner dance and awards dates released.— below
- New team strip photo available—See Helmy

## Events Calendar

- St Patrick's social - Sat 17th March
- Essex Tour - Fri 11th May
- Schools Game - Thur 29th March
- Players Awards - Sat 21st April
- Dinner Dance - 18th May
- Club AGM - Sat 2nd June
- Aire Sevens Tournament - Sat 21st July

## Firsts fail to rise against Phoenix

Aireborough 15pts - Rotherham Phoenix 19pts

Aires hopes of extending their winning run against third placed Phoenix suffered a setback early on when a loose pass was intercepted and Phoenix touched down under the posts. Aire gradually worked their way into the game. In the 25th minute a clever kick over the Phoenix forwards by scrum half Chris Way was followed up by winger Rob Johnson to produce their first try. To the annoyance of the Aire faithful the forwards insisted on playing the game upfront even though conceding turnover ball and denying their speedier backs an

opportunity. Half time and only a two point deficit so still all to play for in the second half. Phoenix were first to break the deadlock in the 48th minute with an unconverted try and the game once again settled down to a forward battle. Phoenix scored again in the 70th minute, the conversion giving them 19-5 lead. Aire then decided to do what they should have been doing all game and provide some quick ball to their backs. In the 76th minute Ollie Catherall joined the line from full back and a perfectly timed pass sent winger Tony Clithe-

roe in from 40 yards to score in the corner. From the kick off Aire built the pressure again and after moving the ball along the line a gap appeared and back rower Jonny Mackey powered over the line. A final scoreline of 15-19 provided a bonus point to keep Aire in fourth place in the league but the hope has to be that they learn the lessons. Aire travel to Thornensians next week.

By Rod Catherall

How they stand Yorks 3 Table

	pld	pts
1 Roundhegians	18	77
2 Sheffield Medicals	18	73
3 Rotherham	19	67
4 AIREBOROUGH	19	54
5 Baildon	18	53
6 Old Rishworthians	19	50



## Seconds robbed by Pirates!

Harrogate Pirates 20pts — Aireborough 19pts

Aireborough arrived at Harrogate after a 2 week layoff for poor weather looking to put behind them a number of negative results from previous weeks.

An overused training pitch was the arena with Aire getting off to a flyer after Scott Waterhouse intercepted the ball on the halfway line and scored a try converted by Stu Williams. Aire pressed but pressure from Harrogate saw them crossing in the corner to make the score 7-5. Aire pressed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half with sustained ball control and excel-

lent handling from Dave Krushell and fullback Ross Bland resulting in wing Waterhouse going in under the posts for his second try, again converted by Williams. Against the tide Harrogate scored after some sloppy defence from Aire's midfield. Aire claimed their own restart kick and led by Stu Williams, Will Tomlinson and Donald Richardson, turned the screw on the older, tiring Harrogate pack and were camped under the opposition sticks as the hour mark past. Harrogate conceded penalties until eventually the ball was thrown wide to

Waterhouse on the right wing to claim his hat trick try. Unconverted it was 19-15 to Aire with 10 minutes left. Harrogate made 7 changes and fresh legs made the difference, with 2 minutes left Harrogate were awarded a scrum 5 metres from Aires' line. Reset 6 times the Harrogate number 8 picked up from the base of the scrum and seemed to knock the ball on but this was missed by the referee. Aire were penalised for slowing the ball down at the resulting ruck. Whilst Aireborough bodies lay strewn on the floor believing they had won the game. Harrogate took the quick tap and scored the try which broke Aireborough hearts and gave Harrogate a 20-19 victory.

## Focus on the Juniors

After 3 weeks of not playing due to the frozen weather the junior section get some games. But this week only the U11's and U12's actually played because after pitch inspection at 9am, the Nunroyd Park ground was deemed unplayable due to the frost..

All was not lost for the younger squads as they managed not to waste the day and spent there morning training on the better areas of the park to prepare for next week's games

The U12's went to Wetherby and although they put there back into it lost 7-5

The U11's went to Yarnbury where they also faced Keighley who turned up with a huge motley crew of a squad. Aire scoring in the first half,

Keighley then dominated and walked straight through us to post a score of 17 to Aire's 7. The following game against Yarnbury was a struggle with them dancing through the pack and not giving Aire a chance, winning 21-0.

The team reflected on beating Yarnbury on the last 2 meets but you can't win them all, even though it would be nice to!



### THE AIREBOROUGH MASH A POT-POURRI OF KINDLY MUSINGS & WHIMSICAL BANTER (YEAH RIGHT) R. HELM

Greetings and salutations to the Aire faithful.

Firstly congratulations to you for having the good taste to read the newsletter and this blog in particular. As we are an inclusive club could anyone who has mastered the art of reading please help the tight five so they don't feel left out.....

Tour Shocker: Friday evening (around midnight) in Cellar V; a distraught Will Marlow was heard to utter: "*Nathan told me the committee have got horrible things planned for the virgins!*" The tour committee commented: "*Of course we have. We comprise of a hobbit, an orang-u-tan, an albino, a dwarf and an idiot. Tour is... ..our only chance to exact revenge on a cruel and uncaring society.*"

Oops, did I mention a 1st XV member was in Cellar V on a Friday.

#### What a picture!

A new team photo in the new strip is available from Richie Helm.

Many thanks Richie!!



## CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER JACK OSBORN...

I was 32 years old when I moved to Guiseley as newly promoted manager of a computer company. I had retired from rugby but, with a need to stay fit, went for a jog around Esholt. I saw a group of rugby players training (only two second teamers there) and went into the bar. I was made welcome by Jim Dolan, Chris Payne, Ian Claughton and Dwaz and heard for the first time the words that were to fill me with dread for the next 25 years-Jim Dolan "Do you want to join my round?"

From my previous club Doncaster I brought to Airebronians (as the club was then called) some Pantomime scripts, a cavalier attitude to full back play and my own version of the Boxer. I proudly played my last game with Matthew when I was 52. He wouldn't pass me the ball so I retired again.

Fast forward 25 years or so from when I joined. I am now proud to be chairman of Aireborough RUFC. I have witnessed the development of the club and a long succession of great blokes who have worked tirelessly for the good of the club. Thanks to the efforts of those who have gone before we have a great club of which to be proud.

Any committee are custodians of a club for their short span in office, their brief is to leave the club in a better state than they found it. Starting in November I asked a dozen key members for their concerns, added a couple of my own, and was able to set my own goals. All of the following have had a start but are a work in progress. The goals are in no particular order.

- Breathe life into the tired clubhouse
  - Improve internal communications
  - Improve external communications
  - Retain existing players
  - Recruit new players
  - Get more money into the club
  - Improve training facilities
  - Improve after match atmosphere
  - Make it fun
  - Get the right people to do the above
- I am impressed with the effort and talents of all on our committee who are helping to deliver the above. There are areas where I could do with more help. If you feel you can do a bit, give me a call.

### Joke of the week

How do you make the Mrs go "mmmmmm" all through the night?  
Put ductape on her mouth!!!!

### LETS GET SOCIALIZING! A WORD FROM MATTY OZ...

"The official social side of the club got off to a great start last weekend, with a great turnout in the clubhouse despite the poor results on the pitch. The next big event is on St. Patrick's Day, Saturday 17th of March, which will include watching England vs Ireland in the 6 Nations, an official social, cheap Guinness and an all round good evening. The clubhouse is booked out for the evening so we really want everyone to get involved.

The social team is putting together an 'Aireborough Hymns' document, full of songs that the club have adopted as their own, now getting a regular airing in the club. This will be distributed by email. If you have any suggestions, get in touch with Matt Oz.

### THE PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE JIM CHAPMAN...

Welcome to the first President's Prattle! First up, congratulations to everyone who has been involved in producing this newsletter with a special mention to Steve Jacobs who's done a fantastic job in collecting, collating and publishing all the information.

Sadly, I haven't been around the club over the past few weeks and, unfortunately, I will not be around this weekend as I travel to HQ for my first home international as a Council Member. It's good to see the club in good stead, Well done to everyone who's turned out for the club both Senior and Junior. I look forward to seeing you next week!