

Scrum Down

Farnham RFC

Presentation Evening Success

The Senior Club gathered at Blacknest Golf Club for their presentation evening this year, and had a memorable night as the major playing awards were distributed.

Organiser Keith Moore, assisted by Gav Baker, ensured that the 90+ players and their partners who attended had a great night, with good food followed by the presentation of awards, and then a disco and casino afterwards.

The main award winners were:

1st XV Player: Gareth Yeomans

1st XV Player's player: Ritchie Phillips

2nd XV Player: Jon Darke

2nd XV Player's Player: Ant Bartram

3rd XV Player: Big Jase

3rd XV Player's Player: Mike Richards

Vets XV Player: Simon France

Vets XV Player's Player: Paul Keogh

Yong Player: Michael Salmon

Most Improved Player: Andy Stent

In addition to the players receiving their awards, each of the Captains was presented with an engraved hip flask in recognition of their superb work on behalf of the club throughout the season.

Once again the club staged a great event, and with everyone who attended having a great evening, the event will be staged along similar lines again next year.

June 2009

Issue no: 8

Teas

The club require a new person to take on the responsibility for senior match teas on a Saturday.

The job requires the purchase and preparation of suitable food, and clean up afterwards, and provides an ideal opportunity for someone to earn some extra cash each weekend.

If you are interested or know anyone else who might be willing to take up the role please contact Karl Brown on: 07795490922

Pre-Season Training

The league fixtures have now been published, and Farnham kick off their campaign with a home game against old rivals Chipstead towards the end of September.

Prior to the start of the league campaign Farnham will be playing a number

of friendly matches, including Cirencester and Camberely, and pre-season training starts on Tuesday 7th July at the club (7.15pm start).

The first two weeks of pre-season will focus on handling skills and conditioned touch games, be-

fore we ramp it up as we go into August.

New and existing players of all abilities are welcome, with players able to keep fit over the break with Summer touch on Thursdays at the club, and some touch games prior to the Lions fixtures.

Coaching

The club is actively looking to develop new coaches to help throughout the club, with a number of players having already started out on their coaching careers.

If you would like to start getting involved in coaching please let the Club Captain know so that suitable courses can be set up.

New Social Secretary Unveiled

In a stunning coup to rival the ousting of President Marcos, Jonny "Speedos" Andrews was elected as the new club social secretary at the recent AGM.

Speaking immediately after the event Jonny Speedos promised many things, but the most optimistic plans appear to centre on the establishment of the Farnham RFC Morris Men, and the Farnham RFC Male Voice Choir.

Fortunately there are many positive points to Speedos appointment (not least the fact that he is regularly seen with top totty), and being a teacher he is keen to hear the views of the mem-

bership. If you have any good ideas about social events, or would like to join Jonny for one of his swimwear parties to help plan this year's social calendar please give him a ring.

"Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great."

Mark Twain



Lions Touch

To coincide with the Lions efforts in South Africa, there will be an opportunity to take part in some touch rugby at the club, followed by a barbecue, prior to the games on television.

On the 13th June informal games for both adults and juniors will take place from 12 Noon.

On the 20th June a senior tourna-

ment will be staged starting at 11am. Teams will consist of 7 players (unlimited rolling substitutions), with teams playing on a round robin basis to decide the winners.

On the 27th June a junior tournament will be held, following the same format as the seniors, except that teams will be created on the day to ensure a mix of ages and talents.

Finally on the 4th July a family tournament will be held, with teams requiring two females, an under 18, and an under 14 to be on the pitch at all times.

For further information contact Karl Brown (07795490922) or Richard Brackstone (07788553535).

Pre-Season Training Weekend

After last year's successful pre-season experience in Stroud, plans are afoot to play Cirencester this year.

The aim of the weekend is to develop team spirit and also to provide an opportunity to establish patterns of play prior to the start of the league campaign.

This year Woody has again come up trumps in helping organise cheap accommodation and transport, and apart for some beer and food money, the overall costs will be minimal.

Last year Steve "Animal" Simmons excelled in all aspects of the weekend, but are you up for taking his crown?

Blackie is taking responsibility for co-

ordinating the weekend, with the dates fixed for the 28th–30th August. All senior players are invited to attend what is sure to be an excellent stepping stone to ensure that we are successful this year.

Itinerary

Friday 28th

5-6.30pm Practical session at the club

7pm Depart Cirencester

9pm Team building activities in Cirencester town centre

Saturday 29th

8am Nutritional breakfast

11am Match preparation at Cirencester RFC

2pm Match v Cirencester RFC

5pm Partake in Cirencester RFC Beerex

Sunday 30th

8am Nutritional breakfast

11am Training match v Cirencester RFC

Midday (ish) Fluid replacement

4pm (approx) Head home

6pm (approx) Chance for a beer at Farnham RFC

Caption Competition



“It's lack of faith that makes people afraid of meeting challenges, and I believed in myself. “

Mahummad Ali

Instantly Campese knew that he had made a mistake in having washed the dirt off his hands with soap prior to kick off.

Player Profile: 2nd Team Captain Andy James

Occupation:

Male escort, Deadpan comedian

Nickname:

Dobbin

Position:

Fly Half

Heroes:

Jonathan Davies, Gareth Rees

Favourite saying:

“If only the scrum half could pass”

Worst kept secret:

Timing his marriage to Penny so that his honeymoon could be in South Africa whilst the Lions were playing!

Ambition:

To outrun a wild animal like Brian Habana did in the adverts – we suggest a tortoise Andy!!!!!!!

Greatest Achievement:

Playing 12 consecutive games of Sevens at the FRFC event last year

and still being asked by Ralph to star for his team

Worst Achievement:

Being selected by Animal to be taped to his bed after a few beers on last season's pre-season training weekend

Scrummagers Cricket

The rugby club cricket team (The Scrummagers) continues to play mid-week matches in the Blackwater Valley Twenty20 league, using the Wreclesham Cricket Club pitch for home matches.

Despite going out of the cup, the team beat the Farnham Teachers in the league, and also enjoyed a fun game against the Optimists (a team of rugby dads put together by Marc Chaumer-

ton).

Jonny Andrews has been the discovery of the season, having taken several wickets with his unusual delivery style. Further strong performances have come from Sticky Lewis (36 not out against Anite), Rob Milner (hattrick against HRG), and Dave Hurley who has finally shown that as well as having all the gear he does have some idea of how to play cricket.

The team have home games on Wednesday 10th and 17th June, and Wednesday 8th July if you want to come and support them. The bar will of course be open before, during, and after each of the matches.

Anyone interested in playing for the Scrummagers or getting a team out to play against them should check out the website: www.scrummagers.co.uk

Key Contacts

Club Captain: Karl Brown (07795490922)
1st XV Captain: Graeme Black (07977424133)
2nd XV Captain: Andy James (07799834012)
3rd XV Captain: Mark Woodward (07531127231)
Vets XV Captain: Gav Baker (07778752055)
Chairman of Selectors: Keith Daniels (01252315979)
Coach: Gary Stennett (07919893282)
Coach: Simon Lewis (07776181496)
Coach: Pete Simmons (01483417024)
Social Secretary: Jonny Andrews (07912322244)
Fixture Secretary: Bob Smith (01252650719)

www.farnhamrugby.org



"Our success has not been a continual series of victories. We have had a number of devastating setbacks; how these are handled is the making of a great team... winning does not happen in straight lines."

- Clive Woodward

Coaches Corner

Last season saw the senior club make good progress in a number of areas, with the 1st XV retaining their place in Surrey 1, the Vets reaching the Shield final, and good numbers at training through most of the season. However, last year was last year, and if we want to progress as a club it is vital that everyone steps up to the plate and delivers. Throughout the senior club we are looking for new players to complement those existing members, but we are also very keen to promote players from within our own

ranks to higher teams. To do this we need all of the players to attend training regularly, particularly during the pre-season when much of the groundwork will be covered. It would also be fair to say that one of the key areas that we could improve would be with players' fitness levels, and it is essential that the players take responsibility for doing their own fitness work away from the club.

Another area for the club to progress is in the number of tries and points generally that we score. To achieve this we

need to be more clinical when chances arise, and not panic into rushed actions when patience is needed.

The pre-season training weekend looks like being great fun in addition to providing an opportunity to bed in a settled team, and we hope that as many players as possible will attend this event.

Enjoy the challenges that the season is sure to bring!

The Coaching Team