



Huntingdon Rugby Club

STAGS HORN

May 2009

Welcome to the ninth edition of Stags Horn, the invaluable organ of communication for players, members, parents and supporters within Huntingdon Rugby Club.

We will be producing this as a hard copy, albeit in ever decreasing numbers, and also a more readily accessible email version, so if you haven't signed up for the Stags Social Email yet, email me on simon.millar@uk.lockton.com, and I'll add you to the Stags online community. I can also always be contacted on 07717-516315.

Any news articles from all sections of the Club – Seniors, Youth or Minis – will be welcome, as the intention is to make this a very inclusive form of communication. Photos are also very welcome. We will also be promoting social events, fundraising activities and anything else relevant. Please support all of these – they are all for your benefit, and the benefit of the Club, so we look forward to seeing you there.

For up to date information on events, issues and fixtures, you are advised to consult Stagschat on

WWW.HUNTINGDONRUF.C.CO.UK



Lewis Moody MBE (Leicester & England) might have won the World Cup, but he didn't make the squad for the Old Boot – the disappointment is etched on his face

The Thoughts of Chairman Roy

I am sorry to have to report that we have still not reached agreement with the racecourse over the terms of the proposed licence.

The sole sticking point is the clause dealing with the racecourse's right to terminate the licence on any breach of covenant, however trivial, by the club without giving the club a reasonable time in which to remedy the breach.

It is a narrow point but an important one and all the feedback I am getting is that the club is right not to concede on this issue. We are trying to arrange a further meeting with the racecourse, perhaps with Board Members and or their solicitors in a final attempt to resolve these differences. All this means delay but we are still just within the time frame within which the works to the clubhouse and all other arrangements can be completed before next season.

The RFU has a website "Rugby First" which it is asking clubs to use as a register of all their data. It is a notoriously difficult site and, as with most clubs, we have struggled with it for some time. Now, thanks to the Herculean efforts of Dave Ruddy who has mastered the site's intricacies, our junior and mini data is about 90% complete and accurate. The next task is to achieve a similar success rate for adult players (whose records are pretty hopeless at present) and the beginning of next season will see a big push in this direction. The site is open to all to view, but only a limited number of people have access codes.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Hunts & Peterborough Cup Final at Hinchingsbrooke on Saturday 2nd May, where we face Peterborough Lions – I know your support would be greatly welcomed by the team in the final match of a long and difficult season.

Roy Shutz

Chairman

Stags Golf Day – Wyboston Lakes Golf Club, Thursday 28th May

Another date for your diary, and a chance for the sporting all-rounders in the club to display their prowess a little closer to home, and remove their lights from under bushels (as opposed to removing their Titleists from under bushes).

The day follows the usual format of coffee and bacon rolls at some un-Godly hour, followed by eighteen holes of Stapleford on the water featured course at Wyboston, in two person teams, and then a carbo-loaded lunch and prize giving.

This always a good day, and caters for all standards of golf (your correspondent went around with only three clubs last year, to avoid the temptation of trying to thrash the ball, and inevitably ending up in some foliage). Good players can come along too.

Cost is £40 per player (ladies most welcome), to include coffee and food, and please feel free to bring your friends and make this a big social and sporting occasion.

Contact Rick Wilcox to register your team on 07778-777328, or RJWWilcox@aol.com

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Match report from HUNTS AND PETERBOROUGH Under 14's v Cambridgeshire

In their first match together, H and P under 14's gave a solid and confident display, showing a good mix of commitment and technical ability. H and P got stuck in straight from the whistle and dominated in the early exchanges. Sam Morgan and Jake Bailey worked solidly in the scrums, and Zak McLure and Jack Plumbridge worked well in open play. But it was Cambs who got the first points, with the only try of the first half.

The second half again saw H and P in good form but unable to turn possession into points, despite good breaks from Nathan Deacon and Connor Thorpe. H and P generally defended well with strong tackling from Josh Doonan and Brad Simmons in particular, but with a bigger and more experienced side, Cambs scored twice in the second half to give them a deserved although slightly flattering 17-0 win.

Congratulations to Josh Doonan who played superbly for the H & P team in his 1st representative match and also to Shaun Gomez, Jack Summers and Adam Burgess who played for Cambridgeshire. Jack Summers was Man of the Match, well done to you all.

Hunts and Peterborough next fixture is against Northants Alliance and joining Josh in the squad is Jack Skidmore who was unable to play in the game v Cambs due to illness.



Congratulations also to the following U13s Stags who were selected for Hunts & Peterborough to play Cambridgeshire.

Charlie Gabriel
Tomas Guillatt Griggs
Toby Dewar
Sean Morkel

Zayd Makorie
Charlie Lee
Joss Ward

Well done to all.

Spencer Burgess – Youth Chairman

Stags Quiz Night – Saturday 4th April

Congratulations must go to the wittily named Norfolk N'Chance, who retained their Quiz Night crown on 4th April, in reasonable style. It may have been the new surroundings of the Racecourse Clubhouse, it could have been the weight of the fish and chips consumed beforehand, or could have been that the questions weren't dumbed down enough for the eager teams. Whatever the reason, it was the skill of Matt Griggs et al in deciphering No 1 pop songs by the initials of artist and song, in the second table round that won them the 'trophy', as on the 100 questions asked aloud, the winners would have been Clubhouse, a Shutz /Garrood combined effort.

Thanks to everyone who took part, and we look forward to the Autumn, and the next instalment of Roy's Question of Sport Quiz night, when the many others within the club of a quizzing bent will no doubt re-surface to take on all comers. Watch Stags Chat & Stags Horn for details.

Guinness Premiership Final – Saturday May 16th

This is the end of season finale at Twickenham, and Stags are running a coach trip which is open to all players, parents, supporters and friends. Very much a family day, the coach will leave from Hinchbrooke, and will pick up at the George in Buckden and somewhere near to the Wyboston/Eaton Socon turn off on the A1 (TBA). We'll even drop you back there afterwards.

A picnic lunch in the Car Park at Twickenham will be included, which will cater for both adults and children alike, in terms of both food and drink.

There are still one or two spaces left on the coach, and we have secured a few extra tickets. The cost is £55 adults, £30 children, to include match ticket, return luxury coach transport and sumptuous picnic lunch with full liquid refreshments, and you should speak to Roy Shutz to snap these last opportunities up.

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STAGS 100 CLUB

THE STAGS 100 CLUB IS A MONTHLY LOTTERY, WITH A SPECIFIC NUMBER ALLOCATED TO EACH PARTICIPATING PLAYER. MONTHLY DRAWS ARE MADE FOR CASH PRIZES OF **£50, £25 & £10**, AND THERE ARE ADDITIONAL SUPER DRAWS IN JUNE AND DECEMBER FOR A VERY EXCITING **£250**.

ENTRY IS ONLY £5 PER MONTH, PER NUMBER, PAYABLE BY STANDING ORDER – YOU CAN HAVE AS MANY AS YOU WANT! APPLICATION FORMS AND STANDING ORDER MANDATES FROM SID MILLAR – 07717-516315, OR SIMON.MILLAR@UK.LOCKTON.COM

THIS IS A MAJOR PART OF THE CLUB'S FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES GOING FORWARD, AND AT PRESENT THE ODDS ON WINNING A PRIZE EACH YEAR ARE REALLY, REALLY GOOD! THIRTY EIGHT PRIZES EACH YEAR. PLEASE RETURN THE FORMS TO SID MILLAR, 5 BRIGLAND CLOSE, HUNTINGDON PE29 6GF ASAP, TO BE IN THE APRIL DRAW.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT, AND GOOD LUCK!



Leon Lloyd (Leicester, Gloucester and England) thinks the bow he goes with the shirt, in a desperate attempt to become a Staggerer.

Staggerers Crowned County Champions in the Old Boot

A lovely day at St Ives Rugby Club, with the wind in a preferable direction, saw the Staggerers retain the Old Boot, the Veterans Tournament between the three sides in Huntingdonshire, which had been gathering dust on Chris Durrant's TV for two years. Two hard fought games against the hosts and St Neots, were taken very seriously by all, so much so that Mark Garrod borrowed two knees to show his midfield genius on a Huntingdonshire playing field for the first time in a while.

Barnaby and The Padre kept up their record of playing in every Old Boot tournament, and newly qualified Staggerers, James Pinkney and Huw Williams, had a lovely time. Our thoughts go out to Mick Morgan, who was majestic at 10, but who suffered a very bad bruise or something, which not only curtailed his tournament early, but kept him off work for two weeks. But at least he is a County Champion, which is as good as kissing it better.





Go-Green
Telecom

Simon Leader
Business Development Manager
simon@go-greentelecom.com
tel: 07854 085338

Simon's overall aim will be to:

- Reduce Communication costs for your business*
- Offer free and impartial advice*
- Improve levels of support and service*
- Increase your Business Productivity*
- Reduce Business Down Time*
- Reduce telecom costs:
voice, data, broadband, fixed and mobile*

We offer the perfect balance!



Mobile Phones Landlines
VoIP
Telephone Systems Broadband

Where are they now?



Look at these young Turks, after a tour game in Salou a couple of years ago. Who would have thought that a few short years later, most of them would have played for either the 1st or 2nd XV while only 18. And more importantly, who would have thought that Dave Ruddy would look so comfortable in pink. The future's bright, the future's pink.

STAGS 007 SUMMER BALL

SATURDAY 20TH JUNE, 7.30pm – 1am

BURGESS HALL, ST IVES

If you are not already on table for the Stags Summer Ball, then why not?

For only £50 per person you get

A three course sumptuous meal, with cheeses and coffees

Swing Singer

Disco

Casino

Table Magicians

Silent Auction

Goody Bags

Vodka Luge

And of course, the company of your fellow Stags

There is a table being organised by every team, and every age group – ask the team captain, coach, or social co-ordinator. Or speak to Sid, who will find you a table of nice people to join.

It is Huntingdonshire's Premier Social occasion – beware of more expensive imitations!!!



Stags Wines and Port

Don't forget the range of fine wines and Port that we can offer through the good offices of TJ Wines of St Ives. Magnificent Merlot, Splendid Sauvignon Blanc and Cheeky Chardonnay, to go with the Pretentious Port - all good drinkers, and reasonably priced by the case - £65 for case of 12 bottles of Wine, £60 for 6 bottles of Port. Delivery to the Club on training nights / mornings, or at matches, as required. Mixed cases available – why not buy one to try with a friend. You'll never go to Tesco's for your bottles of Mother's Little Helper ever again!! Orders to Sid Millar – email as on front cover.

Advertising

We are still keen to encourage advertising in Stags Horn - £5 for a small advert, £10 for a quarter page advert. Circulation is approximately 250 (and growing) by email and more in hard copy, but all will be solid Stags people, keen to support their fellow club men and women. All ads to me by 27th April please for the May 2009 edition. If you have your own business, let the Stags community know about it, so that they can support you, while at the same time you will be supporting the Stags.

HUNTS AND PETERBOROUGH CUP FINAL

HINCHINGBROOKE, SATURDAY 3RD MAY – 3PM KICK OFF

HUNTINGDON V PETERBOROUGH LIONS

ALL SUPPORTERS WELCOMED TO THE FINAL MATCH OF THE SEASON, TO GIVE THE 1ST XV A SHOUT

STAGS DIARY 2009

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME	ORGANISER
2nd May	Hunts & P'Boro Cup Final	Hinchingsbrooke	3pm KO	Tim Furbank
15th May	Wooden Spoon Golf	Diss Golf Club	Probably early	Mike Francis
16th May	Trip to Guinness Premiership Final	Twickenham	11.00AM	Alan Knowlton
28th May	Stags Golf Day	Wyboston Lakes GC	Crack of Sparrows	Rick Wilcox
20th June	Stags 007 Summer Ball	Burgess Hall, St Ives	7.30 PM	Sid Millar
1st July	AGM	Racecourse Clubhouse	7.45PM	Roy Shutz
Advance Notice for your diaries				
22nd August	Presidents Day	Racecourse Clubhouse & Pitches		TBA
27th November	Dr Busker at the Clubhouse	Racecourse Clubhouse	8PM	John Doonan

DEADLINE FOR ITEMS, PHOTOS AND ADVERTS TO BE INCLUDED IN JUNE'S STAGS HORN – FRIDAY 29TH MAY – PLEASE CAN WE HAVE MORE CONTRIBUTIONS & PHOTOS FROM TEAM COACHES, CAPTAINS, PARENTS ETC

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