



### **Chelmsford Rugby club Senior news:**

There has been a very positive start to the season throughout the club. I would like to thank the team captains for their help thus far. My one worry is that we are having great numbers at training but when it comes to the games on Saturday players are not making themselves available. This means we have lost a couple of games already this season through lack of experienced players in the higher teams

Please could all the players have a look on the clubs website and check this year's fixture lists. We need everyone focussed for this season to maintain all league status. All players can also help the team captains by emailing or texting them early in the week of availability or unavailability. After the first four weeks of the new season the records state that the

1st team have won 2 lost 2  
2nd team have won 2 lost 2  
3rd team have won 1 lost 2  
4th team have won 2 lost 0  
Vets have won 2 lost 1

**Eddie Gooby**  
**Director of Rugby**

### **Ladies Rugby**

Having shipped over 70 points to Shelford last season at Chelmsford, the return fixture away was set to be a strong test.

Shelford dominated the first half, mainly through a very strong forwards unit, coupled with an aggressive 9 who broke from the base of the scrum three times, scoring twice and setting up a third try. A lack of calm, game sense and support led to a number of turn-overs and two further Shelford tries, leaving CLRFC 29 - 0 adrift at half time.

Fewer errors, coupled with the realisation that constantly running into larger forwards was not going to accomplish anything, led to better use of the ball in attack in the second half. A great evasive run from Kath Pearson led to an unconverted try and a forward drive after some sustained pressure led to Jenny Kenway breaching the Shelford defence with Nicola Lopez converting. Shelford had scored only once in the second half, prior to the last minute of the game, when they again crossed the line to record 12 points for the half and a final score of 41 - 12.

The cliché "A game of two halves" could hardly have been better illustrated and the effort shown by CLRFC to hold the Championship Midlands 2 side to 12 each in the second half bodes well. More opposed practice is definitely needed before the league fixtures start as the communication, decision making and defence all need significant work under pressure. Good and promising debuts from Vic, Siobhan and Amy, a great performance from Charlotte in her new role at 6 and, certainly in the second half, a better team performance from all of the regulars.

This was a really good effort, against a side from the Championship with a significantly more powerful pack, so plenty of encouragement to take from it and some signs of real improvement on areas of difficulty last season. Well done, Ladies.

### **Jenny Kenway Captain**

#### **Club Extension**

We now have full planning consent and RFU approval and are about to go out to tender. The project as most people will know comprises two changing rooms, a physio room together with a first floor extension.

The only trouble is that we are about £35,000/£45,000 short. Since the building was opened some 3 years ago the Club has grown enormously. There is more senior sides, a Ladies team and a full compliment of Minis and Youths. Our membership has probably increased by some 20%-25% and as everyone knows we are very short of changing room accommodation.

I am therefore appealing to members as to whether they could make a contribution or pledge to contribute say within the next 5 to 6 months. I do appreciate it is only a short while ago since we were appealing for funds and we are also coming out of recession. However, we cannot always choose our timing. The good news is that we should get a really good tender price, but we do need further contributions if this is to proceed. The Club will obviously Gift Aid all the contributions and if you are higher rate tax payer you should benefit to the tune of some 23% tax back.

I would be grateful if members could give this urgent consideration and we would really appreciate your support if possible.

#### **Demolition of Old Clubhouse**

On Thursday 3rd September history took place in as much as the old clubhouse was finally demolished which was part of the planning permission for the building of the new clubhouse.

Great debt is owed by the Club to Steve Allen (Pikey) for carrying out the job single-handed with no profit to himself. This was done entirely at cost and we probably would have paid twice as much. Again, many thanks Steve.

### **Robin Smylie**

**200 Club:**

Some of you maybe aware that the club has run a 200 Club for many years, but you have never taken the opportunity to sign up. The 200 Club is a monthly draw whereby its members win prizes equal to 50% of the money contributed by them, with the balance going to the club. I have recently taken over the running of the 200 Club and my aim is to increase the membership of the club significantly and make this a real fund raiser. For the moment all proceeds will go towards the Club Development Fund, but once the extension is built the monies will then revert back to its original purpose, which was to buy equipment and additional items for the club as sanctioned by the general committee.

Please remember the more members we get then the more we can pay out in prize money. Currently there are 3 prizes each month, paying £25, £15 and £10 respectively. You can decide how much you wish to pay, which can be from as little as £1 per month, but of course the more units you purchase the greater chance you have of winning a prize.

The club needs your financial help and on behalf of the Club I would kindly urge you to give your support to this scheme. Hard copies of the forms have been sent out with membership packs and fixture cards. You can join by completing the application form and the direct debit mandate and return both of these forms to the Membership Secretary at the club's address. Thanks for your kind support.

**Stuart Bolton**  
**Fundraising Committee**

**Membership news:**

A reminder to all players your membership payment via standing order should have been changed to direct debit by now and certainly by the end of October. Please see Pete Tyrie or Claire Coleman for the forms, some of which are behind the club house bar.



Lastly if you wish to add to the newsletter or interested in advertising please contact me by October 25<sup>th</sup> 2009 for the next edition.  
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