



November..... Where has the year gone? The 24/25 rugby season is now well underway, and dare I say it, the C word is just round the corner!



The **NEW CLUBHOUSE** build process is into the next stage, with detailed designs and the further reports and surveys needed being carried out. Massive thanks must go to the Clubhouse Development team for their continued hard work and commitment, ensuring the club is moving forward to achieve the clubs' vision of the much-needed new clubhouse, which will serve the club and the community for years to come! **Fundraising** is now key to this and the club **MUST** all come together to raise the funds to be able to commence the build, so if you can help at all, here are the details of how to get in touch:

- * Funding & Donations- dave.sharp.crfc@gmail.com
- * Fundraising Events & Activities- michelleforknallcrfc@gmail.com
- * Project Delivery & Supply Chain- clubhouse@cranbrookrugby.com

FUNDRAISING A few weeks ago, the club held a very successful fundraising Barn Dance, with over 140 club members and supporters from the local community coming together to enjoy an evening of dancing and fun. Thanks to Rachel and Lyndsey for helping to organise the evening, and a special thanks to Andy and Justine for supplying and serving the delicious hog roast. A great evening for the club, that helped raise funds that will go towards the new clubhouse build!



Coming up the club is holding a fundraising Christmas Fair on Sunday 8th December (more details in flyer), get your thinking caps on for a fundraising Club Quiz on Friday 17th January, and look out for dates for a club fundraising Bingo night and very excitingly, the long-awaited return of the Cranbrook Club Ball!

Thanks to those club members that have stepped up to organise these events- if anyone else would like to join the fundraising team and/or help out with one of these evenings, or indeed organise another fundraising event, then please do get in touch.

As it's been said before, the *whole club* must come together to raise the funds to make the new clubhouse come to life!

The **SENIOR MEN'S** season has got off to a good start, with over 30 training each Tuesday and Thursday evening. Pleasing wins for the 1XV at home against Crowborough (35-29) and Ashford (20-15), while the Nomads (the clubs 2XV) have had excellent wins v Aylesford (8-24) and Ash (24-14). A great statistic for the club is that in recent weeks, across the two playing squads, over 20 of the players have played their mini/junior rugby at CRFC- an excellent advert for community club rugby and one that the club should be proud of!



The **VETS** team kick off their return to league rugby this weekend, which will culminate in the Tom Chantler Memorial match on the 12th April 25. As always, if you'd like to come along to training and get involved, then do get in touch with the clubs DOR Chris Catt on chris@cranbrookrugby.com



The **LADIES** have also had good numbers at training and have played their first few games having re- entered the RFU leagues this season. They have seen an excellent home win v Maidstone (31-7), with a number of the squad playing their first ever game of rugby- well done ladies! The squad continues to build and welcome new players, with or without experience, so if you'd like to get involved then please contact the clubs Ladies Chair and this seasons Captain, Lyndsey on 07359 770624.

The **JUNIORS** have had a busy start to the season with training, friendly matches, and the Kent Waterfall and League competitions. Just to pick a few of the results that have come in;



the U16's had a good win in the first league game v Old Alleynians (30-12), the U15's have only played one game to date (others having been cancelled on them!) which saw a very narrow loss 14-12 after a conversion hit the post, the U14's won their opening league game v Sittingbourne (10-47), and the U13's have shown great team spirit, with a small squad, to show some of the bigger clubs how it's done and have kept the score line respectable in their games to date. The U12's head to the Land Rover festival this weekend, which is always a great day, competing against teams from all over the country. If you know of any boys wanting to join a team at Cranbrook

then please do contact Dave, our Junior Chair, on 07773 399334. All age groups welcome new players.



The **MINI'S** have been enjoying the start of the season with training, friendly matches and competing at festivals at Medway, Tunbridge Wells and Ashford. A few weeks ago, the U7's and U8's competed against each other in the inaugural Golden Boot competition, very kindly sponsored by The Golden Boot (the oldest independent shoe shop in the Country, based in Maidstone). The mighty U7's took the rather large "boot" at the end of the morning- well done all for showing some great rugby skills!

The minis must also thank The Golden Boot for the sponsorship of the very stylish age group sail flags- these are going to invaluable at festivals and on Sunday training to locate the age groups, so thank you again to Ed and all at The Golden Boot!



CRANBROOK RFC MINIS TOUR

Friday 25th - Sunday 27th April 2025
to Gloucester

- U9- U11 year groups
- All kids to be accompanied by a parent/guardian.
- Executive coach travel
- 2 nights B&B accommodation at Gloucester Robinswood hotel.
- Saturday matchday experience at Gloucester RFC comprising training in the morning, players Q&A, flag waving etc and watching the premiership match vs Exeter Chiefs.
- Sunday competitive matches with a local RFU club followed by tour awards.
- Tour merch for all.
- £250pp payable via GoCardless with a deposit in Dec followed by 3 instalments in the New Year.

PLEASE EMAIL
cranbrookrfcministour@gmail.com

Include:
Participant's names
Child's age group
Mobile number

The deadline is Sunday 3 November.
For more information speak to Andy Howell (Minis Chair)

Plans for a mini's tour to Gloucester (25th- 27th April) are well underway- please see flyer for more details and to secure your spot on what will be a great weekend for the children and parents alike!

If you know of any girls or boys under 12 years old that would like to give a rugby a go, then please do contact Andy, our Mini's Chair, on 07977 561155.

The **JUNIOR GIRLS** (aged 11+) are thoroughly enjoying their Tuesday evening training sessions lead by the clubs Ladies Captain, Lyndsey, and it's great to see how much they are relishing the sessions, with numbers building each week. All girls over 11 years old are welcome to join in, whether experienced or new to the game!

A few of the more experienced players continue to train and play with their team mates at TJ's and it's good to see their progress, but also for them to know they are always welcome to train at Cranbrook too.

Any girls that would like to give rugby a try or get back to the game can contact Lyndsey on 07359 770624

Girls RUGBY TRAINING

Girls aged 11+

TUESDAY EVENINGS
6:30 - 7:30pm

@Cranbrook Sports Club

The **CRICKET** nets are now packed away for the season, but plans are already underway for Winter Cricket nets, and teams being entered into various leagues ready for next summer. If you'd like more details on the winter nets then please do get in touch with Lucy on cranbrookcricketers@gmail.com



The **LADIES WALKING RUGBY** sessions every other Friday continue to be very popular with everyone getting to grips with passing backwards and not running, and even scrummaging! The ladies are hoping to shortly be able to play their first friendly games with other ladies walking rugby teams, which is great news- now just the all-important playing kit to design!

Held in partnership with Highgate Hawkhurst WI, with no mud or tackling involved, and taking place every other Friday at 2pm, we invite ladies of any age from the club or the local community to come and join the fun- tea, coffee and cake will also be on offer! Contact Rachel on 07786 222637 or CRFC.walkingrugby@gmail.com No experience needed, and everyone welcome!

A reminder that **CLUB MEMBERSHIP** for the 24- 25 season now falls due. To pay your membership, whether a player, family, social or club member, please log onto your RFU GMS account or contact Peter on peter@cranbrookrugby.com **The club operates a “No Pay No Play” rule, and this applies across the whole club!** There is the option to spread the cost of your membership using GoCardless so if you would like to use this option then please do contact Peter before trying to pay.

Hopefully by now, most people will have seen on the club's social media pages **THE GOLDEN BOOT CLUB TEAM OF THE MONTH**. This new whole club initiative sees a player from



each age group/section being nominated to be part of the team, with myself and the Clubs Director of Rugby, then choosing a “Captain” of the team for the month, who will then be

presented with a water bottle and voucher. This is kindly been sponsored by **The Golden Boot** and we thank them for their generous sponsorship across the club. I highly recommend a visit to The Golden Boot for the whole family's shoe requirements! www.thegoldenboot.co.uk



Now that we are in November, Chris and I look forward to receiving all age group and sections “player of the month” for October asap, and getting the “team and captain” up in lights!

The **DRAINAGE WORKS ON FITZ** were completed in September and it has been great to see the pitch looking in such good condition and being used over the last week or so by the whole club. As always, please do remember to rotate drills/training on any of the clubs pitches, especially with all the wet weather of late! Thanks to Mark Scott and the whole grounds team for their continued hard work, ensuring that the 3 pitches and the training area are ready for the whole club to use weekly.



The club has for many years run a **“500 Club”** with monthly draws made and prizes won. We would like to “relaunch” this and invite new members and supporters to sign up to the monthly cash draws. For £5 per month, you could be in with a chance of winning a share of the monthly “pot”. Please contact Lyndsey Posey on to be part of this monthly club fundraising draw. The monthly winners will be contacted directly and announced on our social media pages.

If you have been into the clubhouse in the last few weeks, you will have seen that the **TV SCREEN** is now showing information and announcements from across the club, including the team of the month, Senior Man (or Lady) of the previous weekends matches, updates on the clubhouse build, fund raising events, club Sponsors details, team sheets, and squad photos from all age groups. This will be updated each week with new photos and events, especially as new squad photos are received from the age groups and sections. The club are hoping to get another TV in situ in the next week or so too; a great opportunity to keep up to date with what is going on across the club. Thanks to Chris Catt and Josh Forknall for the efforts that go into this each week, and to all sections for getting the photos over promptly!

DATES FOR THE DIARIES

CRANBROOK CLUB LUNCH DATES

- 23RD NOV** CHRISTMAS LUNCH VS CANTERBURY IIS
- 1ST FEB** 1ST XV VS DEAL & BETTESHANGER
- 5TH APRIL** 1ST XV VS HEATHFEILD
- 12TH APRIL** TOM CHANTLER MEMORIAL VS MAIDSTONE

BOOK BY CONTACTING:
CHRIS@MCVEIGHPARKER.CO.UK



SAVE THE DATE 17TH MAY