



Fairford RFC Newsletter

November 2020



Here's the latest Newsletter from Fairford RFC. Look out for the new 'Spotlight' section and for how the Club is supporting the wider community through its fund raising efforts.

Return to rugby roadmap – update

We have had an update from the government that there is to be a cessation of all community team sports during the lockdown that will began on 5th November and continues until Wednesday 2nd December. Therefore with effect from 5th of November, we returned to Stage A on the return to community rugby roadmap. This means that no competitive or formal rugby activities can be undertaken until at least 2nd December. Group training sessions are sadly also banned.

We will await to hear further guidance from the RFU in December and we will endeavour to keep you all informed. Please keep safe in these challenging times and if you need to reach out to the club for help in anyway please do rugby@fairfordrfc.co.uk.



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It's really sad that the excellent training sessions that have recently been taking place have to stop, but the priority has to be to keep everyone safe and abide by the rules. When the Tuesday KitKat sessions finished on 3rd November, so many of you commented how much they will be missed and what fun you'd had. If you've not been involved, head over to the Club Facebook page and have your heart warmed by the camaraderie shown by various posts on the night. The Club will be back rearing to go as soon as rules allow (see below for the Challenge set meanwhile to keep spirits and fitness levels high).

Fairford RFC Challenges – update



Hadgie's bench

We are pleased to report that everything is still on track on installation, with the memorial bench for Hadgie expected to be in place by mid November. It will be situated on the Mill Lane footpath, opposite the fields.

We will report in a future issue how much was left of the £4158 raised, after bench installation costs, and what the Club did with the remaining cash.

New Lockdown Challenge – Beavers v Badgers



Immediately that the lockdown in England was announced by the Government on 31st October, first team coach Danny Briggs was on Facebook asking if there was interest in another FRFC challenge, to keep people active and interested during the 4 week lockdown period.

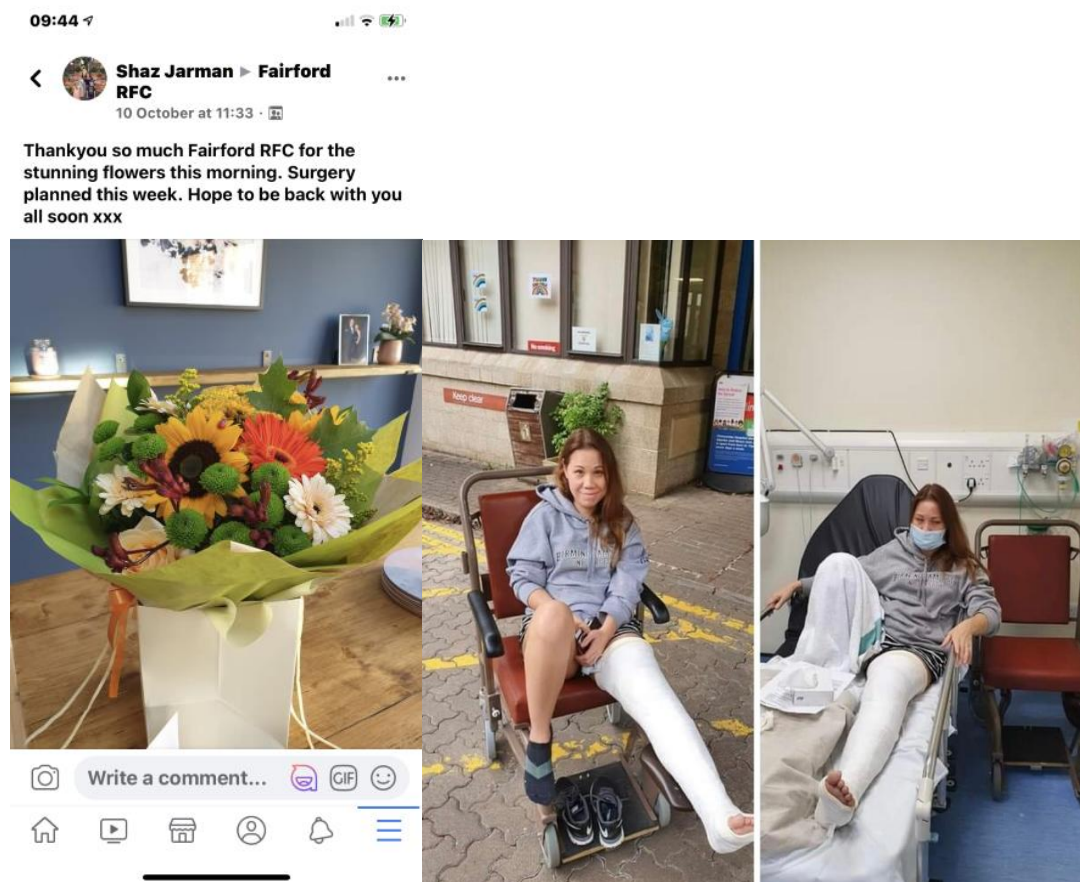
Danny's challenge was for the Club to collectively 'get to the North Pole' during lockdown, which he reliably informs us is 2646 miles. Within 48 hours more than 80 people had put themselves forward to take part, an awesome response. Obviously another great idea Danny!

There will be 2 teams this time, ladies (The Beavers) v men (The Badgers) who will contribute their miles on foot (walking or running) and/or cycling. So many volunteered to take part that the Challenge is now a race to the North Pole, with each team completing at least the 2646 miles required (in fact, a few days into the challenge, with everyone's activity levels high, the challenge was extended 'to the North Pole and back to Fairford').

Again, there will be a fundraising element to the Challenge, with funds raised being used to put together Christmas boxes for locals who would benefit most, kids, the elderly etc. If you're not involved on the exercise front but would like to contribute to the fundraising effort (through cash/other donation or by helping prepare the boxes) then the Club would love to hear from you. Or if you know of anyone whose life is difficult and would be cheered by a small gift box at Christmas then contact Danny Briggs either via Facebook or via email briggsfamily123@aol.com.

Shout Out – Shaz Jarman

The Club took its first injury of the Tuesday evening KitKat series on 6th October, with Shaz sadly breaking her leg and needing surgery. We hope the flowers cheered you up, Shaz and that you're making a speedy recovery.



KitKat Touch – Saturday Series

Whilst we could (and in place of competitive rugby matches) 10th October saw the introduction of some Saturday fun with the the Saturday KitKat Challenge. Three teams made up of a mix of Men Seniors, Vixens and Under 16s battling it out at Leafield Road. Head across to the Club's Facebook page for more details, but below are some pictures from 24^h October (courtesy of Chris Tanner), showing what fun was had!

Blue Team, captained by Wellis Reynolds, won the day. The overall result was decided using the age-old 'paper, scissors stone' method (!) after both Blue and Red team played 4, won 2, drew 1 and lost 1. Thanks to Chris for the pictures and everyone involved in making these events a success.

On the 24th Danny asked everyone who took part to consider a donation, in place of a normal 'match fee', for a good cause. Everyone stepped up and, as a result, Danny was able to take c£70 worth of groceries to the local food bank. What a generous thing to do, well done to Danny for sorting this out, sure it was gratefull received.





‘Spotlight’

This is a new regular section for this Newsletter, an opportunity to highlight one or two Club players in every issue. It will hopefully help the FRFC community get to know each other just a little better. Here’s this month’s feature:

Name	Ben Goodey	Ellis Frail
Which Team/section	Seniors, Captain	Vixens
Preferred Position(s)	Tighthead Prop	Never been assigned one, but Ellis says ‘I love a good tackle so I’ll say Flanker’
How long at Club	10 yrs	6 weeks
Best/worst memory of the Club	(Best) Promotion to Glos 1 or double over Cirencester	‘Not here long enough for bad memories, but everyone has been so welcoming and cant wait to get back at it and make some more memories
Fun Fact	Believe it or not, his first ever game for FRFC was at inside centre, ‘oh how times changed rapidly after that’ Ben said	Ellis ‘grew up’ in the grounds of the magnificent stadium that is Murrayfield. She says if youve bought a hamburger, pint or coffee there in the past 20 years, it was probably Ellis or her Mum that served you!



A little rugby poem for you

Danny Briggs shared this on the Club Facebook page on 25th September. Given the current situation and how lockdown affects how we all live our lives we thought it deserved another airing here, to remind us of the importance of the Club community.

Just take a moment.....:

**"It's just a Rugby Club 🤝🏉
 A pitch, a changing room a club.
 Pads and bags.
 Coaches motivating and keeping us moving.
 It's just my Rugby Club
 Things get built here -
 Stronger bodies.
 Fitter bodies.
 Confident bodies.
 Things get broken here -
 Barriers.
 Silence.
 Sweat.
 Shyness.
 Loneliness.
but It's just my Rugby Club
 Friendships are forged for life.
 Community is created.
 We rally together in the sad times.
 We celebrate the good times.
 We laugh together
 We cry together.**

**We lift each other in good and bad times.
but It's just my Rugby Club
 We conquer our demons.
 We relieve our stress.
 We quiet the voices in our heads.
 We feel at home here.
but It's just my Rugby Club
 It's the date in our diary we never miss.
 It's the time for us to be carefree.
 It's the place where we can let go.
 It's part of our lives.
 It's where lives are changed for the better.
 It's our family.
 It's not just a Rugby Club !
 It's OUR Rugby Club.
 My RUGBY FAMILY
 We will be back. Stronger than ever.
 Together."**

(Source unknown):

FRFC Support for Movember

Several FRFC members are once again fundraising for Movember. Adam Blizzard, Alfie Brown, Steve Keating and Chris Tanner are 'growing a mo' for the mens' health charity. A similar effort last year raised an impressive £1,720 for the charity. You can support their effort this time around via:

Adam: <https://uk.movember.com/mospace/12782789>

Alfie: <https://uk.movember.com/mospace/14021640>

Chris: <https://uk.movember.com/mospace/1234472>

Steve: <https://uk.movember.com/mospace/2521984>

FRFC 'Housekeeping' Content

FRFC Kit

As the cabin is not now open, you can still access Club kit by emailing our brilliant volunteer kit co-ordinator Debbie Rees-Jones on dbracewell72@googlemail.com . See what's available to order for Christmas in the flyers sent with this Newsletter. Also, if you ordered Club sliders, Debbie has these for collection.

More Volunteers Needed

Lockdown gives us the chance to boost our team before training and matches resume. Running of the Club and organizing of events for everyone's enjoyment obviously takes a good deal of effort. If you can dig deep and find time to share the load, it would be much appreciated, by the Club and team of current volunteers. You will probably enjoy the experience too so it's win win! THANK YOU to the ongoing support from existing volunteers. If you're interested in supporting this great Club with some of your time contact our volunteer co-ordinator Katharine Buchanan familybuchanan@outlook.com.

Keeping in touch via Social Media

Don't forget to give our Club Facebook pages a follow, so you can get real time updates, between Newsletters: <https://www.facebook.com/fairfordrfc/>

<https://www.facebook.com/frfcjuniors/>

<https://www.facebook.com/FairfordLRFC/>

(Note - we do also use email to update in-between newsletters for non-Facebook users)

Feedback is a gift

If you are receiving this newsletter but no longer wish to, have any feedback (on content, frequency etc) or have a contribution for a future issue, please email Karen at kspour@sky.com or Lindsey at rugby@fairfordrfc.co.uk.

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