



DRYBROOK
RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB
FOUNDED 1893
125th Anniversary Season

**The Last
25 Seasons**
1992 to 2017

BY PAUL MASON

DRYBROOK
RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB
FOUNDED 1893
125th Anniversary Season



The Last
25 Seasons
1992 to 2017

BY PAUL MASON

DRYBROOK RFC OFFICIALS FROM 1993/94 SEASON

| Season | President | Chairman | Vice Chairman | Secretary | Treasurer | Fixture Secretary | Junior Section Chair |
|---------|---------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1993/94 | Rev C. Davies | A.J.Tate | T.S.Ward | G.Tingle | R.Hale | P.Gaylard | Mrs G Ward |
| 1994/95 | Rev C. Davies | A.J.Tate | T.S.Ward | G.Tingle | R.Hale | P.Gaylard | Mrs G Ward |
| 1995/96 | Rev C. Davies | A.J.Tate | T.S.Ward | G.Tingle | R.Hale | D.Trigg | Mrs G Ward |
| 1996/97 | Rev C. Davies | A.J.Tate | T.S.Ward | G.Tingle | R.Hale | D.Trigg | Mrs G Ward |
| 1997/98 | W.T.P.Ward | A.P.Mason | T.S.Ward | G.Tingle | R.Hale | D.Trigg | Mrs G Ward |
| 1998/99 | W.T.P.Ward | A.P.Mason | T.S.Ward | G.Tingle | R.Hale | D.Trigg | Mrs G Ward |
| 1999/00 | C. J. Hale | A.P.Mason | T.S.Ward | G.Tingle | R.Hale | D.Trigg | Mrs G Ward |
| 2000/01 | C. J. Hale | A.P.Mason | T.S.Ward | G.Tingle | R.Hale | D.Trigg | Mrs G Ward |
| 2001/02 | C. J. Hale | A.P.Mason | T.S.Ward | G.Tingle | R.Hale | D.Trigg | D Auker-Howlett |
| 2002/03 | W.G.Ward | A.P.Mason | T.S.Ward | G.Tingle | R.Hale | D.Trigg | D Auker-Howlett |
| 2003/04 | W.G.Ward | A.P.Mason | T.S.Ward | G.Tingle | R.Hale | D.Trigg | D Auker-Howlett |
| 2004/05 | W.G.Ward | A.P.Mason | T.S.Ward | G.Tingle | R.Hale | D.Trigg | D Auker-Howlett |
| 2005/06 | W.G.Ward | A.P.Mason | T.S.Ward | G.Tingle | R.Hale | D.Trigg | D Auker-Howlett |
| 2006/07 | W.G.Ward | A.P.Mason | T.S.Ward | G.Tingle | R.Hale | D.Trigg | D Auker-Howlett |
| 2007/08 | W.G.Ward | A.P.Mason | C.J.Rawlings | G.Tingle | R.Hale | D.Trigg | D Auker-Howlett |
| 2008/09 | W.G.Ward | A.P.Mason | C.J.Rawlings | G.Tingle | R.Hale | D.Trigg | D Auker-Howlett |
| 2009/10 | W.G.Ward | A.P.Mason | C.J.Rawlings | G.Tingle | R.Hale | D.Trigg | D. Auker-Howlett |
| 2010/11 | W.G.Ward | A.P.Mason | C.J.Rawlings | G.Tingle | R.Hale | D.Trigg | M Wilcox /Y Jenkins |
| 2011/12 | W.G.Ward | A.P.Mason | C.J.Rawlings | A.Miles | R.Hale | D.Large | N Ricketts |
| 2012/13 | W.G.Ward | A.P.Mason | C.J.Rawlings | A.Miles | R.Hale | D.Large | G.F.Bourne |
| 2013/14 | W.G.Ward | A.P.Mason | C.J.Rawlings | A.Miles | R.Hale | D.Large | G. F Bourne |
| 2014/15 | W.G.Ward | A.P.Mason | C.J.Rawlings | A.Miles | D.Large | A.Milner | G.F.Bourne |
| 2015/16 | W.G.Ward | A.P.Mason | C.J.Rawlings | A.Miles | D.Large | A.Milner | G. F.Bourne |
| 2016/17 | W.G.Ward | A.P.Mason | C.J.Rawlings | A.Miles | D.Large | A.Milner | G. F Bourne |

Life Members

In the 125 year history of the club only a handful of people have been awarded life membership. They are:

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Austin Rawlings | Mike Rawlings | Tom Ward |
| Glyn Tingle | Bill Ward | Gerald Ward |
| Wilf Meek | Jeff Tate | Jack Smart |
| Paul Mason | Walter Roberts | Jean Rawlings |
| Jack Roberts | Roger Hale | |

Trustees

T. Ward
M. Rawlings
R. Hale
G. Tingle
C. Hale

INTRODUCTION

Written evidence of rugby in Drybrook can be traced back as far as 1881 and it is almost certain that some games would have been played in the area before this date. It was in this year that the Drybrook Good Templars took on the Forest Rangers at a field near Euroclydon and a lot of familiar Drybrook surnames were present in both line ups.

There were lots of rugby matches taking place all over the Forest of Dean around this time, some organised in line with the RFU which was itself a fledgling organisation, and others organised by enthusiasts who made their own rules as they went along.

The club with which we are familiar today came into existence in the 1892/93 season so this year marks the 125th year.

The first one hundred years of the club's history were recorded in "One Hundred Years of Drybrook Rugby" back in 1992 so the purpose of this book is to record the history of the last twenty five years.

There was much to celebrate in the first one hundred years but the last twenty five seasons have brought unprecedented success based firmly on stability, and togetherness coupled with sheer dogged determination and tenacity. All of this has been brought about by a great deal of hard work and commitment from a long list of dedicated players, volunteers and supporters.

The Drybrook rugby "family" is now the envy of many clubs, both locally and nationally. The increase in membership and improvement in both playing standards and facilities show no signs of slowing down.

One thing that has not changed though is that the enjoyment and friendship gained from playing or supporting rugby football at Drybrook is as important today as it was one hundred and twenty five years ago.

Acknowledgements

We would like to record our thanks to the following people who have assisted with information and advice; Dave Reed, Claire Smeeth, Mandy Morgan, James Smith, Lucie Smith, Chris Rawlings, Karen Large, Natasha Hunt, Ceri Large, Craig Lancett, Ben Large, Andrew Milner, Melanie Moore, Dave Auker-Howlett.



Dedication

This publication is dedicated to a great friend and supporter of Drybrook Rugby club Jeff Tate who passed away on 6th January, 2017

A MESSAGE FROM CLUB CAPTAIN MR BEN LARGE

My 23-year involvement with the club seems a little insignificant when preparing some words for a book celebrating 125 years of the club's existence, but like so many before me Drybrook Rugby Club has been a massive part of my life. For me it started from birth and as the youngest of four children the club was already a well ingrained part of family life. My brothers and sister were already at training on a Sunday and I was always in attendance in full kit playing with the others too young to join in.

As soon as I was old enough to play I was there. I progressed through the ages from under 7's through to under 16's building lifelong friendships. The junior section of Drybrook Rugby club is a truly great volunteer organisation and underpins so much of the success this village club is able to enjoy at such a high level.

From the junior section I transitioned through to the Colts XV. Colts rugby is a difficult age group for a club like Drybrook to maintain. The draw of senior rugby, university, and work drags people away. Through the hard work of some very dedicated people it is so pleasing to see that the Colts have continued to operate at the club.

From Colts the next step was the seniors and after a lifetime of playing rugby it was the only club I wanted to be running out for. The green, black and white jersey which I had seen involved in some pretty physical encounters through the early "noughties" was the shirt I wanted to wear.

I am now coming to the end of my third year as captain and having achieved the club's highest ever league position for the third season running I would say on the field it is clear the club is the strongest it has ever been. The ambition of playing national league rugby edges ever closer.

An equally important part of the club which is close to my heart is the Women and Girls' section. The reformation and success of the Women's team has been fantastic news for the club and we are now seeing some of the players from the long established girls' section having the opportunity to play senior rugby at the club.

Off the field the club continues to thrive with ever improving and new facilities such as the gym which has brought enormous benefit. The events held throughout the summer like the music festival and the touch tournament are now well established in everyone's calendar. All this in turn feeds back into the rugby and is a key reason we continue to see growth within all sections of the club.

I am sure there will be lots written through this book with regards to the recent successes of all the teams and sections, but what is clear to me is that Drybrook is more than a rugby club. It is an institution, a family, a way of life, and to me it is this which sets it apart. I am confident Drybrook RFC will enjoy success for the next 125 years and beyond.

Ben Large
Club Captain



SEASON BY SEASON

SEASON 1993-1994

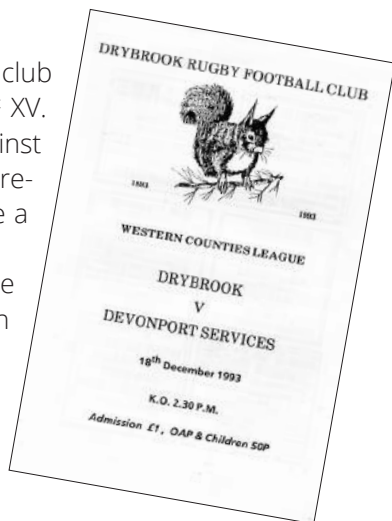
The centenary season was very busy for the club with a total of 38 matches played by the 1st XV. Many of these were celebratory games against both traditional and representative opposition so returning to an ordinary season was expected to be a bit of an anti-climax by most forecasters.

As it was Drybrook rugby was in pretty good shape with the club about to embark on its second season in the old Western Counties League.

Flanker James Bennett took over the captaincy from Chris Treherne with ex Gloucester forward Phil Winnel and Cinderford's Chris Jelf taking over the coaching duties from the long serving Peter Jones.

The season began with a very enjoyable pre-season training camp at the Bordon Army Barracks in Hampshire where a party of 35 players enjoyed the hospitality of the School of Mechanical & Electrical Engineers.

The training weekend took the form of a trial match on the Saturday against



Western Counties Final Placings

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------|----|----|---|---|-----|-----|-----|
| Old Patesians | 12 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 215 | 99 | 21 |
| Tiverton | 12 | 10 | 0 | 2 | 197 | 130 | 20 |
| Launceston | 12 | 8 | 0 | 4 | 204 | 110 | 16 |
| Penzance-Newlyn | 12 | 8 | 0 | 4 | 185 | 124 | 16 |
| Devonport Services | 12 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 183 | 128 | 13 |
| Old Culverhaysians | 12 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 178 | 207 | 12 |
| Drybrook | 12 | 5 | 0 | 7 | 140 | 181 | 10 |
| Crediton | 12 | 5 | 0 | 7 | 121 | 192 | 10 |
| Spartans | 12 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 132 | 160 | 9 |
| Avonmouth Old Boys | 12 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 146 | 193 | 9 |
| Bideford | 12 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 128 | 163 | 7 |
| Okehampton | 12 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 80 | 132 | 7 |
| Wiveliscombe | 12 | 3 | 0 | 9 | 103 | 193 | 6 |

SEASON 1993-1994

the Regiment's Rugby XV followed by the first match of the season against Petersfield RFC on the Sunday.

The match at Petersfield resulted in a 48pts – 10pts victory for Drybrook which set them up nicely for the season ahead.

Drybrook ended the season in 7th place in the very competitive 13 team league which at the time was not played on a home and away basis.

Travelling distances were not unfamiliar with today's games and opponents came from all over the south west of England and included the likes of Penzance & Newlyn, Launceston and Devonport Services.

The fixture list also contained many tough friendly games which included narrow defeats away at Lydney 1st XV and BerryHill 1st XV as well as a drawn match with Cinderford 1st XV.

One disappointment though was an early 3rd round exit from the county cup at the hands of Brockworth who were becoming a force to be reckoned with. The season



County President Mike Shore and Cyril Edwards from the Forest of Dean Combination presenting the cup to Vice-Captain Mike Johnson and Club Captain James Bennett who was under suspension for the final.



Action from the final where Mark Cook was a tower of strength at the line out

SEASON 1993-1994

ended with the club retaining the Forest of Dean Senior Combination cup in convincing style with a 20pts - 6pts victory over Cinderford United despite having prop Ian Treherne red carded after 20 minutes.



Drybrook 1st XV - Senior Combination Cup Winners April 1994

Back Row L to R; Derek Parry, James Bennett, Wayne Watkins, Dave Birtwhistle, Richard Sadler, Vic Jones, Anthony Wallace, Lester Bennett, Chris Rawlings, Nick Christopher, Richard Roberts, Mark Cook, Ian Treherne, Chris Jelf.

Front Row L to R; Leon Meek, Steve Skelton, Ian Dubberley, Mike Johnson, Neil Jeffs, Steve Lewis, Chris Treherne.



Drybrook United XV Junior Combination Finalists

Back Row L to R; Wayne Watkins, Jason Lawrence, Kevin Brown, Nick Christopher, Steve Lewis, Alan Miles, Paul Cocker, Pete Cinderey, Nigel Bennett, Chris Jelf, Clayton Ryder.

Front Row; Derek Parry, Gary Taylor, Chris Tingle, Martyn Hale, Jerry Fisher, Andy Taylor, Gary Knight, Ray Knight.

(Skipper Clayton Ryder was forced to miss the final through injury)

SEASON 1993-1994

Two newcomers who made an immediate impact to the Drybrook back division were Steve Skelton and Dave Birtwhistle but it was old hands Chris Treherne (148pts) and Vice-captain Mike Johnson (111pts) who monopolised the scoring.

UNITED XV

A disappointing display in the Forest of Dean Combination Junior final typified a season of under achievement for the Drybrook 2nd XV. They ended the final on the wrong end of a 12pts – 9pts defeat at the hands of Cinderford Stags after extra time but never really looked like lifting the trophy.

Scrum half Clayton Ryder was the season's skipper and he had to contend with a constantly changing team which led to an incredible 81 players being used throughout the season. Despite winning more than half their games this was not a vintage season for them but at least they had the satisfaction of tasting victory against all of the Forest clubs. Elsewhere the best displays were victories over Cheltenham North, Avonmouth and Luctonians and a drawn game with Old Patesians.

EXTRAS XV

Under the leadership of Jeff Russell the 3rd XV enjoyed a good first half to the season but then injuries, particularly amongst front row players, made life difficult and the season ended with a string of narrow defeats.

Of the victories the ones over Newent 1st XV, BerryHill Wappers, Dings Crusaders 3rds and Cinderford Bucks were the most pleasing and it was also nice to entertain a completely new club in Tudorville RFC and a thrilling game resulted in a 20pts – 19pts victory for the men from Ross.

4th XV

The 4th XV were again led by Jefferson Tate but inevitably bore the brunt of injuries and unavailability of players from the senior sides.

There were some particularly difficult fixtures played mainly because of the lack of genuine 4th team opposition from other clubs. Bredon 1sts, Dowty 1sts and a string of third and even second teams were encountered.

VETERANS XV

The Veterans XV managed 3 games during the season picking up victories over Westbury-on-Severn and Ledbury.

SEASON 1993-1994

LADIES RUGBY

The Drybrook Squirrels were only formed in the latter half of the previous season and spent most of this season searching for their first ever victory. That day duly came at the eleventh attempt against Luctonians by 15pts – 10pts and there was much cause for celebration in the clubhouse afterwards. Mandy Worthen, Emma Daughtry and Tracey Thomas grabbed the all-important tries. The Ladies only won one of their 12 games but gained valuable experience along the way.

JUNIOR RUGBY

On the junior rugby front the club benefitted from a well organised committee and a team of coaches who apart from arranging the weekly games and training sessions also organised a junior tour to Cornwall where they were hosted by Newquay Hornets RFC. The section also held their very own and highly successful junior sevens tournament.

In the season the club fielded teams at four age groups;

| Age Group | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | Points For | Points against | Leading Try Scorer |
|-------------|--------|-----|-------|------|------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Under 15/16 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 42 | 127 | Kieran Wall 3 |
| Under 13 | 16 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 415 | 214 | James Reed / Lee Ward 11 |
| Under 10/11 | 15 | 4 | 1 | 10 | 180 | 410 | Simon Rugman 12 |
| Under 8/9 | 12 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 150 | 185 | David Payne 15 |

SEASON 1994-1995

There was a lot of pressure building about whether the sport should go professional or not but the impact was already being felt even at Drybrook's level. Illegal payments or generous expenses were becoming commonplace amongst those who could afford it and this made for a distorted look about some leagues. Some clubs obviously benefitted from being able to attract better players and were able to increase their squad sizes whilst the rest of us were left to try and compete against the odds.

Nevertheless it was to their credit that in the main Drybrook was able to compete and eventually ended up in 10th position in an increasingly competitive Western Counties League.

James Bennett was elected captain for a second season and Chris Jelf took on the role of head coach following Phil Winnel's resignation in the summer.

Mike "Oscar" Rawlings was elected Drybrook's first ever 1st team manager, a role now vital to ensure the successful running of the team.

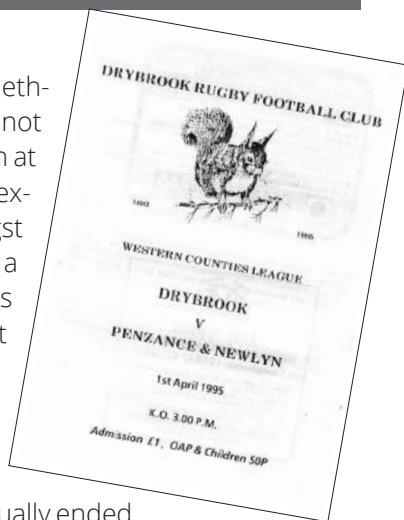
The season will be remembered for the appalling weather that blighted a lot of the games, both home and away, but thankfully the Dene Magna school pitches came to the rescue on a number of occasions.

There were some very difficult fixtures to contend with in the league with eventual champions Launceston, Penzance & Newlyn, Dings Crusaders and Devonport Services the best teams by some distance.

The friendly fixtures were equally as tough with games against Pontypool Athletic, Duvant Athletic, Luctonians, Hornets and Worcester 1st XV particularly difficult for the small squad to deal with.

In the county cup Drybrook succumbed to a third round defeat at Spartans whilst in the Forest cup they were unable to hang onto their crown for a third year when they were derailed by a last minute try from John Edwards in their 16pts – 18pts semi-final defeat at Lydney.

Of the other games there were some pleasing victories over the likes of Monmouth, Old Centralians and Old Patesians but perhaps the best was on New Year's Eve when Cinderford 1st XV were defeated by 18pts – 6pts in front of a very large crowd.



SEASON 1994-1995

Chris Treherne again dominated the scoring and included 9 tries in his overall total of 257 points. No 8 Victor Jones played in every one of the games with Chris Rawlings, Ian Dubberley and Lee Wilks all managing 29 appearances.

Two younger players to make a considerable impact were returning scrum half Leon Meek and winger Owen Salmon whilst flanker Chris Hale from Cinderford also proved a useful addition to the squad.

The season ended with a very enjoyable tour to Scotland with a fixture against Moray House RFC.

UNITED XV

Centre three quarter Martyn Hale took on the role of United XV skipper and the team managed 16 wins and four draws in their 31 games.

For the first time the Gloucestershire Police XV was on the fixture list and Drybrook managed to claim victory in both of those games. Elsewhere there were fixtures with Cinderford and Lydney United as well as more traditional opponents such as Hereford, Yatton, Old Patesians and Gordon League.

Some notable victories were achieved over Dings Crusaders, Luctonians and BerryHill with some highly entertaining drawn games against Longlevens, Hornets, Westbury and Tredworth.

Unfortunately the team tasted another narrow defeat in the final of the Forest Junior Cup, this time by 6pts - nil at the hands of Lydney Extras at Cinderford. In the previous rounds they showed much promise by overcoming Newent 1st XV and BerryHill Extras but they could not reproduce that form in the final.

EXTRAS XV

Hooker Nigel Bennett was elected captain for this season and had to contend with using 84 players in the 29 games played.

His side were rocked mid-way through the season with the death of popular back row player Mark Barrington who was tragically killed in a road accident.

The team won only 10 of the games and slipped to a number of close defeats but at least had the satisfaction of defeating Cinderford Stags, Newent 1st XV and Tudorville who they trounced 49pts – nil.

The season ended with a disappointing showing in the Forest Minor Cup Final when they went down by 22pts – 3pts to Westbury 2nds, a team they had beaten by 38pts – nil on New Year's Eve.

SEASON 1994-1995

4TH XV

The 4th's struggled to find suitable opposition at times and also struggled for players in a difficult season. Martin Burge, Simon Brain and Jeff Tate shared the captaincy duties

Their first victory of the season came against Old Centralians where Steve Johnson scored all his team's points in his first game for several years. After that there were only 3 more wins to celebrate against a total of 12 losses.

Opposition included Lydney 3rds, and even Ledbury 2nds, such was the dearth of genuine 4th teams operating at the time.

Dave Leighton headed the try scorers with 5 and Graham Bent missed just one of the 16 games played.

The Veterans' XV managed a few games during the season including a highly enjoyable tens tournament at Westbury RFC where they reached the semi-final. The tournament was held to raise money for the Alan Hyett appeal, a Westbury player who unfortunately sustained a broken neck in a match against Cinderford.

LADIES XV

The Ladies (or Squirrels) as they became known joined the South West Division 4 North this season where they enjoyed some degree of success.

Under the leadership of Jo Leighton they managed to record victories over Tewkesbury, Kingswood (twice), Chipping Sodbury and Avonmouth but were no match for the more experienced teams like Marjons (Plymouth), Clifton, Lydney Topcats and Tor who all had greater resources to call on. The team were also involved in drawn games at Shrewsbury and at Tetbury.

Powerful No 8 Annette Anstice was the leading try scorer with 9 and other players to make the headlines were Rachel Jones, Mandy Worthen and Sharon Townley.

The final playing record was Played 19 Won 6 Drawn 2 Lost 11 Points for 167 Points against 519

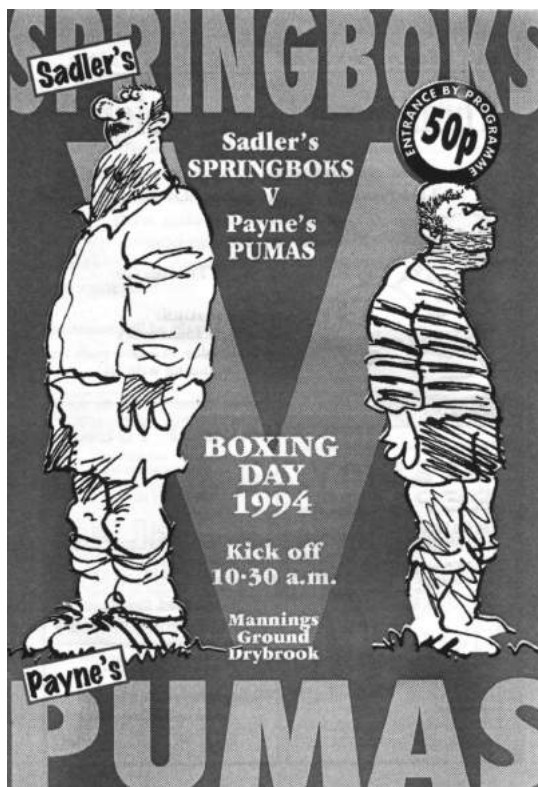
JUNIOR RUGBY

The section continued to expand and really took off in this season with Gaynor Ward as chairperson. Under her astute leadership the section became better organised and began to become a force to be reckoned with.

SEASON 1994-1995

The season ended with a very enjoyable tour to Somerset where the three coach loads of players and supporters were hosted by Minehead RFC

| Age Group | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | Points For | Points against | Leading Try Scorer |
|-----------|--------|-----|-------|------|------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Under 15 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 54 | |
| Under 14 | 16 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 337 | 298 | Lee Ward 14 |
| Under 11 | 13 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 139 | 237 | Ian Morgan 5 |
| Under 9 | 17 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 290 | 215 | James Wallace 13 |
| Under 8 | 9 | 3 | 0 | 6 | 160 | 195 | Carl Moore 6 |



Off the field the committee were concentrating their efforts on a project to raise the money to replace the leaking roofs on the function room and changing room.

Mrs Lin Tingle headed a fund raising subcommittee that produced miracles to raise the £9000 required in just over 12 months through the generosity of friends and supporters and lots of help from members of the club. A series of events were held throughout the year such as dances, raffles, auctions, quizzes and fun days etc. The highlight of the fund raising campaign was a grand challenge match that took place on Boxing Day between Gary Payne's Pumas

SEASON 1994-1995

XV and Richard Sadler's Springboks XV. Sadler's XV emerged triumphant but the real winner was the fund that was boosted by nearly £1000 thanks to an unexpectedly large and generous crowd. A cheque was handed over to Treasurer Mr Roger Hale at a special presentation ceremony where the roofing contractor Mr Doug Cook came in for special praise for the role he played in the project.



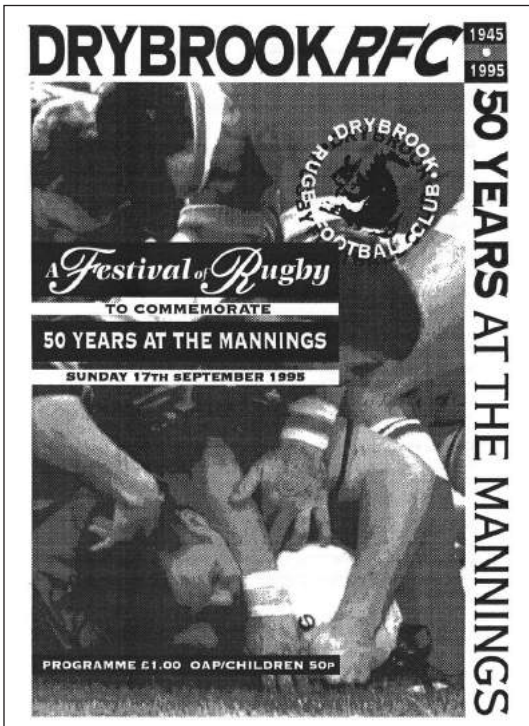
The photograph shows Lin Tingle handing the cheque over to Roger Hale and also in the picture is Paul Mason, Chris Rawlings, Tony Meakin, Andrew Mason, Ray Knight and Glyn Tingle.

SEASON 1995-1996

Fired by the success of the 1995 World Cup media moguls threw money at the sport and the IRB declared rugby union professional. The change came halfway through the northern hemisphere 1995/96 season but it made little difference to Drybrook who simply couldn't afford to pay any players and in any case had no intention of doing so.

On the other hand there were clubs at Drybrook's level who readily embraced professionalism and this made it a very difficult proposition for the season ahead.

It was against this backdrop that second row Richard Sadler took over as first team skipper with Chris Jelf again undertaking the coaching duties.



The excitement generated in travelling long distances to play new fixtures was beginning to lose its appeal especially given the strength of some of the opposition clubs.

Nevertheless Drybrook soldiered on and eventually ended up in 11th place in the 12 team league.

Relegation was only avoided by the knock-on effect from the higher leagues meaning only Crediton went down but Drybrook's cause was not helped by the deduction of 2 points for a player registration error.

The only real trouncing they had was at Keynsham where

SEASON 1995-1996

they had to play against half of the Bath Academy but the Somerset club were consequently docked a lot of points for flouting the registration laws and in doing so missed out on probable promotion.

Elsewhere there were victories over lower half teams Crediton, Paignton and Tiverton and a drawn match with Devonport Services.

In the friendly games the team enjoyed success most notably against Hereford, Stourbridge, ConeyHill, and Wotton Bassett as well as gaining a creditable draw away at BerryHill.

A special match was arranged to celebrate 50 years of playing at the Mannings Ground and Drybrook came out on top against the Invitation XV by 27pts - 5pts. The day also included a series of junior matches, a women's game and a veterans' match against Bream RFC who were the first ever visitors to the Mannings.

In the County Cup Drybrook lost out in the second round at Dings Crusaders whilst interest in the Forest Cup ended with a poor performance at Cinderford United.

WESTERN COUNTIES FINAL PLACINGS

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Dings Crusaders | 11 | 10 | 0 | 1 | 232 | 87 | 20 |
| Spartans | 11 | 7 | 0 | 4 | 272 | 121 | 14 |
| Penzance-Newlyn | 11 | 7 | 0 | 4 | 202 | 150 | 14 |
| Devonport Services | 11 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 227 | 192 | 14 |
| Tiverton | 11 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 160 | 153 | 13 |
| Keynsham ** | 11 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 304 | 108 | 9 |
| Okehampton | 11 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 145 | 164 | 9 |
| Old Culverhaysians | 11 | 3 | 0 | 8 | 187 | 271 | 6 |
| Paignton | 11 | 3 | 0 | 8 | 159 | 257 | 6 |
| Bideford * | 11 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 132 | 288 | 6 |
| Drybrook* | 11 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 147 | 236 | 5 |
| Crediton* | 11 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 137 | 277 | 0 |

** 10pts deducted by South West Committee

*2 points deducted for fielding an ineligible player

SEASON 1995-1996



1st XV 1995/96

Back Row L to R; Mike Rawlings, Chris Thomas, Steve Adams, Chris Rawlings, Vic Jones, Richard Roberts, Rob Norbury, Paul Cocker, Jason Lawrence, Pete Cinderey, Wayne Watkins, Chris Jelf.

Front; Owen Salmon, Martyn Hale, Ray Knight, Chris Treherne, Richard Sadler (capt), Neil Jeffs, Clayton Ryder, Chris Tingle, Dereck Trigg.

UNITED XV

The United XV enjoyed a very good season under the captaincy of scrum half Clayton Ryder winning 19 and drawing 1 of their 32 games. The season climaxed with victory in the Forest Combination Junior Final over a resilient Westbury 1st XV by 3pts – nil courtesy of a Dave Wilce penalty 10 minutes from the end.

There were some especially high scoring victories during the season over the likes of BerryHill, Lydney, Old Patesians, Longlevens, Stroud Nomads and ChosenHill.

Cinderford United were despatched in an early season game and there were two comfortable victories over Newent 1st XV.

In the cup Drybrook beat Tudorville by 3pts – nil and then overcame a strong Lydney Extras outfit by 14pts – 13pts at Regentsholme in the semi-final.

EXTRAS XV/4TH XV

Gary Payne took over the 3rd team captaincy but spent the majority of the season helping out the 2nds and 1sts. In the end the team had to rely on a number of stand in captains but still managed to win half of their games.

SEASON 1995-1996

The most notable landmark in the season was the 111pts – 14pts victory over Cainscross 3rds when 17 tries were scored.

The team again reached the final of the Forest Minor cup but lost out in a tight game by 7pts – 15pts against BerryHill Wappers.

Jeff Tate again led the 4th team but through a variety of reasons only 8 games were played during the season of which 3 ended in victory for Drybrook.

LADIES XV

The Squirrels decided not to compete in the league structure this season mainly due to the travel distances involved. They stuck to more local fixtures under new captain Nikki Ryder.

During the campaign they recorded victories over Gloucester Old Boys, Bream, Ashley Down (twice), and Gordon League.

The final playing record was Played 11 Won 5 Lost 6 Points For 145 Points against 90

Scrum half Mandy Worthen was the leading try scorer with 7 and was also selected for the South West Ladies XV.

In the 17pts – nil victory over Bream, Loughborough student Alison Burford scored all the team's points and was on the verge of an international cap at the time.



Ladies XV 1995/96 season

Back Row L to R; C Watkins, J Ricket, A Burford, W Parsons, S Preest, L Cheshire, C Meek, J Murray, K Gwynne, R Knight (Coach)

Front; E Roberts, S Bourne, C Lawrence, T Macauley, N Ryder (Capt), K Baker, C Adams, R Jones.

SEASON 1995-1996

MINI/JUNIOR SECTION

The section continued to go from strength to strength and increased the number of teams being run as well as the number of games being played. The tour destination this year was to South Coast World in Bognor Regis where the club enjoyed fixtures against Chichester and Wells.

| Age Group | P | W | D | L | Points For | Points against | Leading Try/Point Scorer |
|-----------|----|----|---|---|------------|----------------|--|
| Under 15 | 18 | 10 | 0 | 8 | 295 | 303 | Lee Ward 9 Tries, 3 cons (51pts) Danny Griffiths 10 (50pts) |
| Under 12 | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 135 | 227 | Simon Rugman 10 tries, 15 cons (80pts) |
| Under 11 | 18 | 14 | 0 | 4 | 488 | 276 | Scott Ward 39 tries, 40 conversions (275pts) |
| Under 10 | 15 | 8 | 0 | 7 | 370 | 290 | Damon Beaumont 24, James Wallace 21 |
| Under 8 | 17 | 13 | 1 | 3 | 480 | 248 | Tom Treherne 26 tries, Tom Roach 23 tries, Dean Large 20 |

Off the field the committee were involved in trying to raise money to provide a covered spectator area as well as exploring the possibility of a major lottery bid to replace the clubhouse and changing rooms.

SEASON 1996-1997

Richard Sadler was elected captain for a second year but in Nick Price the club had a new coach. The former Gloucester 1st XV winger replaced Chris Jelf who stood down after 3 seasons at the helm.

Price was assisted by Kevin Connors and together they brought a sharper focus to match days. Earlier meet times brought better preparation and they also introduced team meetings before each game. On longer away games this involved stopping en route for the consumption of energy boosting food and drinks in an effort to improve performance.

A restructuring led to the Western Counties league being divided into North and South Divisions which meant less travelling overall and a re-acquaintance with some familiar fixtures.

The RFU also introduced a National Intermediate Cup for the first time which was eagerly anticipated by both players and supporters and in the first round



1st XV

Back row L to R; Wayne Watkins, Chris Rawlings, Ian Watkins, Paul Cocker, Dave Brookes, Paul Sainsbury, Ian Treherne, Vic Jones, Dave Wilce, Richard Pegler, Dave Thomas, Dereck Trigg.

Seated; Clayton Ryder, Chris Treherne, Mike Johnson, Nick Price (Coach), Richard Sadler (Captain), Mike Rawlings (Manager), Martyn Hale, Dave Annetts, Gary Taylor.

Front; Chris Tingle, Chris Thomas

SEASON 1996-1997

Drybrook won a high scoring game with Cirencester by 53pts – 43pts.

In the league Drybrook started well with victories over Old Culverhaysians, Old Redcliffians, Avonmouth Old Boys, Bristol Harlequins and Chard as well as drawing with top of the table St Mary's Old Boys.

In the next round of the cup a handsome 56pts – 38pts victory over Thornbury set them up with a mouth-watering third round tie at neighbouring Cinderford.

The eagerly anticipated tie was played out in front of a very large crowd at Dockham Road with Cinderford staging a late rally to snatch victory by 18pts – 16pts.

WESTERN COUNTIES (NORTH) FINAL PLACINGS

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Keynsham | 15 | 14 | 1 | 0 | 584 | 180 | 29 |
| St Mary's Old Boys | 15 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 511 | 140 | 27 |
| Hornets | 15 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 432 | 145 | 27 |
| Cleve | 15 | 10 | 1 | 4 | 396 | 231 | 21 |
| Cheltenham North | 15 | 10 | 0 | 5 | 364 | 261 | 20 |
| Cirencester | 15 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 340 | 343 | 18 |
| Old Redcliffians | 15 | 8 | 0 | 7 | 261 | 248 | 16 |
| Old Culverhaysians | 15 | 7 | 1 | 7 | 337 | 383 | 15 |
| Drybrook | 15 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 311 | 420 | 13 |
| Oldfield Old Boys | 15 | 5 | 0 | 10 | 257 | 386 | 10 |
| Thornbury | 15 | 5 | 0 | 10 | 254 | 395 | 10 |
| North Bristol | 15 | 4 | 1 | 10 | 224 | 317 | 9 |
| Whitehall * | 15 | 4 | 1 | 10 | 234 | 336 | 7 |
| Bristol Harlequins | 15 | 3 | 0 | 12 | 211 | 405 | 6 |
| Avonmouth Old Boys | 15 | 3 | 0 | 12 | 195 | 429 | 6 |
| Chard * | 15 | 2 | 0 | 13 | 187 | 479 | 2 |

*Points deducted

SEASON 1996-1997

Drybrook's season spluttered after this, losing to Old Patesians in the county cup, before having to contend with some very difficult friendlies against the likes of Rumney, BerryHill and Spartans.

By the time April arrived the squad were down to the bare bones but managed to win through a bruising Forest Senior Cup Semi-Final match with Cinderford United.

A few days later Drybrook were back in league action at Keynsham where they were forced to field a very inexperienced team and were completely taken apart. The rampant home side, en route to the title, notched up victory by 110pts – 7pts.

In the Forest Cup final Drybrook went down to Lydney United by 18pts – 28pts at Bream RFC. Despite a long injury list and much unavailability during the season the team still managed to win 14 and draw 2 of their 31 games. Chris Treherne helped himself to 325 points (11 tries) which included setting a new club record of 31 points in the win over Avonmouth. Not to be outdone cousin and prop forward Ian Treherne also managed 11 tries.

UNITED XV

This was a fairly mediocre season for the United with constant problems over players' availability to travel to away games so consequently skipper Lee Wilks had a difficult campaign to oversee.

Of the 30 matches played 12 were won but there was a succession of away defeats with the team often finding themselves on the wrong end of some high scoring games.

The defence of the Forest Junior Cup ended at the semi-final stage with a 24pts – 3pts reversal at Westbury-on-Severn 1st XV.

No 8 Richard Probert again stood out with his try scoring ability and managed 13 in the 26 matches he appeared in. Utility back Andy Taylor was just short of the 100 point mark with 98 points to his name.

EXTRAS XV

Nigel Bennett was the skipper in a difficult season for the 3rds where a shortage of players often led to weakened teams being put out.

Indeed this was the first season when the club were unable to field a 4th XV since their establishment in 1977.

SEASON 1996-1997

Only 22 matches were played by the 3rds though the player availability problem was not unique to Drybrook with a number of clubs facing similar problems.

Only 7 matches were won during the campaign with the highlight being a 25pts – nil victory under the BerryHill floodlights against old adversaries the Wappers.

Newent 1st XV ended the Extras interest in the Forest Minor Cup with a narrow 24pts – 21pts semi-final victory at the Recreation Ground.



Extras XV

Back Row L to R; Glyn Tingle, Jeff Tate, Dave Russell, Scott Phelps, Lee Phelps, Nigel Cowmeadow, Jeff Russell, Pete Cinderey, Wayne Rawlings, Dave Brookes.

Front; Joby Mortimore, James Reed, John Jeffs, Dave Auker-Howlett, Steve Skelton, Alex Roberts, Nigel Bennett.

JUNIOR RUGBY

The junior section continued to expand and the end of year presentation evening was attended by a record number of players, their families and friends. Chairperson Gaynor Ward made a special presentation to Frank Beech and Chris Rawlings who both stood down after many years of helping out as coaches.

Another successful Sussex tour took place with games against Bognor and Chichester.

Representative honours came the way of hooker Chris Thomas who was selected for the County under 20 squad.

SEASON 1996-1997

JUNIORS: SEASONS PLAYING RECORDS

| Age Group | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | Leading Try/Points Scorer |
|-------------|--------|-----|-------|------|------------------------------|
| Under 17 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 | Dave Hartwell 2 |
| Under 16 | 16 | 6 | 1 | 9 | Scott Mayo 12 |
| Under 13/14 | 8 | 3 | 0 | 5 | Danny Clarke 11 |
| Under 11/12 | 22 | 14 | 3 | 5 | Scott Ward 42 tries, 36 cons |
| Under 9/10 | 21 | 16 | 0 | 5 | Ewan Pepperwell 27 |
| Under 8 | 17 | 12 | 1 | 4 | Tony Paul 39 |

LADIES RUGBY

The Womens' XV had a good season with coaches Ray Knight and Clayton Ryder getting the best out of a small squad of players. The final record was Played 14 Won 10 Lost 4 with some notable victories coming at the expense of Gordano, Ashley Down, Minchinhampton, Dursley and Gordon League. The team again lost out to Chew Valley Cats and Lydney Top Cats but the margins were getting tighter and there was much optimism for the future. Anita Brain headed the try scorers with 18 and skipper Rachel Jones was not far behind on 12. Other notable contributions came from Kirsty Gwynne 9 tries and Jessica Cox with 6.

OFF THE FIELD

The committee spent a lot of time working on the National Lottery bid and had plans passed for the erection of a new clubhouse incorporating changing rooms, function room and bar as well as the demolition of the existing buildings to allow for more car parking space. Floodlights, better drainage and even a covered spectator area were part of the £940,000 bid.

The club invested a lot of time and money on architect fees, planning applications, and consultancy fees in the hope that a bright future was on the horizon.

SEASON 1997-1998

There were some major changes at the AGM in July with Jeff Tate standing down after 17 seasons as Chairman - he was succeeded by Paul Mason.

The Reverend Cliff Davies also stood down after 11 seasons as Club President to be replaced by Life Member Mr Bill Ward.

On the field Club Captain Richard Sadler was replaced by Chris Rawlings who began his five year stint at the helm. Nick Price continued in his role as head coach.

The season began with a comfortable victory over Bream in a friendly fixture but the first league match with Oldfield Old Boys was called off in unusual circumstances due to the funeral of Princess Diana when all sporting fixtures were suspended.

In the National Intermediate Cup (now known as the NPI Cup) Drybrook saw off local rivals Bream (44pts - 14pts) in round one before pulling off a very good victory at previously unbeaten Hayle in Cornwall in Round 2.



1st XV and supporters 1997/98 Season

Back Row L to r; Ivor Kiernan, Nick Price, Derek Ryder, Mark Weaver, Scott Phelps, Paul Cocker, Vic Jones, Richard Sadler, Ian Treherne, Steve Moore, Neil Jeffs, Wayne Watkins, Chris Tingle, Mike Meek, Peter Meek.

Seated; Alf Mason, Gary Pegler, Tom Ward, Mike Johnson, Mike Rawlings, Chris Rawlings (Captain), Paul Mason (Chairman), Steve Skelton, Dereck Trigg, Gordon Mason, Tom Tingle.

Front; Steve Lewis, Clayton Ryder, Chris Treherne, Luke Pegler, Greg Kiernan, Owen Salmon, Dave Auker-Howlett.

SEASON 1997-1998

In the 3rd Round Drybrook travelled to Old Redcliffians in Bristol but lost out by 30pts – 32pts despite a fine fight back in the second half. In the league St Mary's Old Boys were the stand out team but Drybrook did well to end the season in 9th place with a number of outstanding victories along the way. Thornbury, Cleve, Old Richians and Cirencester were



Sponsor and former player Brian Hale (Polypipe PLC) handing over a new set of shirts to Drybrook team manager Mike Rawlings and coach Nick Price.

Western Counties (North) Final Placings

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| St Mary's Old Boys | 16 | 15 | 0 | 1 | 492 | 140 | 30 |
| Cleve | 16 | 12 | 1 | 3 | 300 | 212 | 25 |
| Old Richians | 16 | 12 | 0 | 4 | 426 | 145 | 24 |
| ConeyHill | 16 | 10 | 1 | 5 | 371 | 189 | 21 |
| Cheltenham North | 16 | 10 | 1 | 5 | 342 | 218 | 21 |
| Old Redcliffians | 16 | 10 | 0 | 6 | 348 | 212 | 20 |
| Hornets | 16 | 10 | 0 | 6 | 315 | 284 | 20 |
| North Bristol | 16 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 375 | 349 | 17 |
| Drybrook | 16 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 305 | 308 | 16 |
| Cirencester | 16 | 6 | 0 | 10 | 308 | 323 | 12 |
| Oldfield Old Boys | 16 | 6 | 0 | 10 | 277 | 384 | 12 |
| Thornbury | 16 | 5 | 1 | 10 | 274 | 372 | 11 |
| Avonmouth Old Boys | 16 | 5 | 0 | 11 | 193 | 378 | 10 |
| Gordon League | 16 | 4 | 1 | 11 | 163 | 347 | 9 |
| Whitehall | 16 | 3 | 2 | 11 | 190 | 330 | 8 |
| Bristol Harlequins | 16 | 4 | 0 | 12 | 180 | 368 | 8 |
| Old Culverhaysians | 16 | 4 | 0 | 12 | 226 | 426 | 8 |

SEASON 1997-1998

among their eight league victories with a rare victory over Matson in a friendly fixture also a fine achievement.

Ultimately it was Drybrook's away form in the league (only one win in eight games) as opposed to their home form that let them down.

In the county cup Drybrook defeated Cheltenham North 23pts – 18pts in Round 2 before falling at the next hurdle to old rivals Cinderford by 12pts – 14pts. Mark Roberts broke Drybrook's hearts with a penalty in the 5th minute of time added on to give Cinderford a victory they scarcely deserved.

At the end of a long season Drybrook's interest in the Forest Cup came to an abrupt end when they were well beaten by one of the strongest ever Lydney United sides by 6pts – 35pts in the semi-final.

Drybrook ended up winning 17 of the 32 matches played with Chris Treherne again in imperious form with the boot accounting for 269 individual points. Winger Jason Roberts came from obscurity to the first team squad and made a real impact to end up leading try scorer with 13.

The season ended with a tour to the North East, staying in Whitley Bay, but the match at Consett RFC ended in a 19pts – 29pts defeat.

DRYBROOK UNITED XV

Under the leadership of second row Alan Marfell the team finished on a high note by capturing the Forest Junior Cup with a victory over Ross 1st XV in the final at Westbury-on-Severn.

Elsewhere the season started brightly enough with the team in good form but a dreadful run in mid-season gave a disappointing look to the final playing record and resulted in only 12 wins from the 30 games played.

In the friendly games the best results came against Ledbury 1sts, Westbury 1sts and CooneyHill and Avonmouth 2nds.



For the first time the Drybrook 2nds had its own team manager and its own shirt sponsor. Andy Gibbs of Andy Gibbs Antiques is pictured with team manager Glyn Tingle and Vice-Captain Chris Tingle.

SEASON 1997-1998



United XV – Forest Combination Junior Cup winners

Back Row L to R; Glyn Tingle, Nick Price, Roger Hale, Paul Sainsbury, Pete Cinderey, Dave Marfell, Richard Probert, Scott Phelps, Paul Tarry, Lee Wilks, Neil Jeffs, Steve Lewis, Paul Mason (Chairman)

Front; Greg Kiernan, Barry Powell, Gary Taylor, Darryl Moore, Alan Marfell (Captain), Martyn Hale, Jimmy Ryder, Jason Roberts, Peter Meek. Chris Treherne.

DRYBROOK EXTRAS XV

The Extras had a poor season with many games cancelled due to unavailability of players or lack of opposition. The final record, though disappointing, hides the fact that several games were lost by close margins.

Nigel Bennett was the skipper but could only help his team register 3 victories from the fifteen games played. They had to wait until April to record their first victory which came over Ledbury 3rds but the best was a week later over Newent 1st XV by 5pts – 3pts.

Interest in the Forest Minor Cup ended with defeat at BerryHill Wappers in the semi-final.

An area of concern for all of the senior sides was the poor attendance at training sessions which ultimately led to a number of disappointing performances on the field.

LADIES RUGBY

The Ladies XV only tasted defeat 3 times during the season, twice against the combined Ashley Down/Chipping Sodbury XV, and once to old rivals Lydney Top Cats. There were some very convincing victories with Minchinhampton, Dings Crusader and St Marys all being despatched by over 50 points.

SEASON 1997-1998

The ladies also had their first taste of floodlit rugby when they emerged comfortable victors at Old Cryptians.

Some familiar names Mandy Worthen, Anita Brain, Claire Russell and skipper Rachel Jones were among the leading try scorers once again.

JUNIOR RUGBY

The Junior section were able to field teams from Under 8's right up to Under 17's and had some pretty impressive records for the season.

It was not surprising therefore that representative honours were forthcoming for under 17 skipper Lee Ward who represented Gwent's Under 18s.

The club was rocked this season when winger/fullback Russell Smart (15) was killed in a car accident. One of the fastest players in the section he was due to play in a county trial the following day.

OFF THE FIELD

The long awaited decision on the club's lottery bid came in April but it was not good news. The demand for funds now far exceeded supply and a further pressure on the decision making process was the rise in good quality schemes being submitted. It was deemed that the club's application was not value for money in terms of sporting benefit in relation to the size of the grant and therefore support was not offered.

Extremely disappointed the committee had to resign themselves to the fact that any improvements from here on in would have to be self-funded and hopes of a brand new complex would be resigned to history.

This left the club in a bit of a dilemma as no maintenance work had been carried out on the clubhouse, changing rooms and grounds for the previous two years in the hope that National Lottery Funding would have come to the rescue.

FOREST OF DEAN & DISTRICT COMBINATION

75th ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON

Sunday 22nd February

@ BREAM RFC.

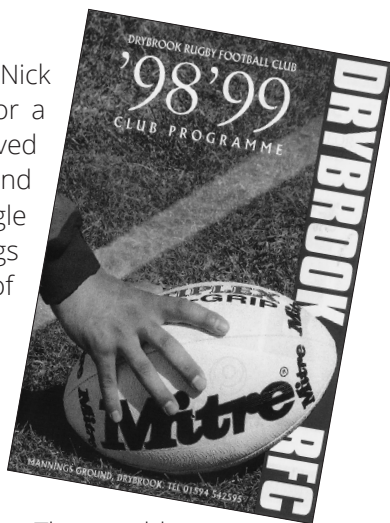
1:00 PM FOR 1:30 PM.

The Combination celebrated its 75th anniversary during this season and the club was presented with a plaque recognising its membership since the beginning.

SEASON 1998-1999

The club parted company with Coach Nick Price in the summer but their quest for a replacement to take on the role proved fruitless despite extensive advertising. In the end senior players Chris Treherne and Chris Tingle came on board to assist captain Chris Rawlings for a while until Peter Jones was coaxed out of retirement to come back for another stint. Jones soon got the squad motivated and was not afraid to blood some of the youngsters from the newly formed Colts XV.

Indeed in the opening game with Bream four teenagers, Tom Reed, Scott Mayo, Lee Ward and Danny Griffiths all made their 1st XV debut. They could not have picked a better game to start with as Drybrook roared to a 59pts – 10pts victory in a game best remembered for the scoring exploits of Chris Treherne. The talented Treherne created a new record by scoring 44 points in the match, a total that included 5 tries and he didn't even take all the kicks at goal. Drybrook ended the season in 5th position for their highest ever finish in the RFU league structure. Hornets RFC of Weston –Super-Mare were deserved champions of the division, but only some narrow defeats denied Drybrook a



1st XV 1998/99 Season

*Back Row (L to R): P.Jones (Coach), S.Rawlings, D.Critchley, I. Treherne, V. Jones, P. Crowell, M.Johnson, M. Hale, P.Meek, A. Cottrell, C.Tingle, S. Lewis.
Seated: M. Rawlings, D. Reed, A. Mason, D. Trigg, W. Ward (President), C. Rawlings (Captain), P.Mason (Chairman), G. Tingle, R. Hale, T. Ward, A. Gibbs.
Front Row: R. Norbury, C. Ryder, D. Auker-Howlett, A. Frazer-Holland, N. Jeffs, C. Thomas, A. Brown, G. Taylor, C. Treherne.*

SEASON 1998-1999

chance of the runner up spot which was easily within their grasp. In fact Drybrook beat second placed ConeyHill, and third placed Old Redcliffians as well as notching up several other notable victories but they lost out to some of the lesser teams albeit by some very close scores.

In other competitions Drybrook fell at the first hurdle in the National NPI cup at Thornbury (27pts – 43pts) and went down disappointingly to Lydney United in the Forest Cup semi-final (19pts – 31pts) where a late flourish brought victory for the men from Regentsholme.

In the county cup Drybrook pulled off a good win at BerryHill in Round 1, but were then eliminated from the cup over a dispute with setting up a date for the second round tie with Cinderford.

The impasse between the clubs could not be resolved and eventually the County Cup committee sided with Cinderford and selected a date for the tie which was totally unacceptable to Drybrook.

The Drybrook officials were having none of it and refused to be manoeuvred into a position that gave their opponents an advantage. The consequence was that Drybrook were thrown out but the local paper said it all when Cinderford's victory was described as "hollow". The report went on to ask if there was some behind the scenes negotiating we will never know but this whole issue has done little good for the County Cup competition or inter club relationships.

Western Counties (North) Final Placings

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|-------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Hornets | 16 | 15 | 0 | 1 | 558 | 119 | 30 |
| ConeyHill | 16 | 12 | 0 | 4 | 392 | 177 | 24 |
| Old Redcliffians | 16 | 11 | 2 | 3 | 302 | 178 | 24 |
| Cheltenham North | 16 | 10 | 0 | 6 | 355 | 267 | 20 |
| Drybrook | 16 | 10 | 0 | 6 | 326 | 263 | 20 |
| North Bristol | 16 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 300 | 247 | 19 |
| St Bernadettes Old Boys | 16 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 282 | 260 | 19 |
| Whitehall | 16 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 283 | 274 | 19 |
| Cleve | 16 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 269 | 245 | 17 |
| Old Richians | 16 | 7 | 0 | 9 | 269 | 292 | 14 |
| Wiveliscombe | 16 | 7 | 0 | 9 | 225 | 323 | 14 |
| Bristol Harlequins | 16 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 231 | 269 | 13 |
| Gordon League | 16 | 6 | 0 | 10 | 248 | 342 | 12 |
| Oldfield Old Boys | 16 | 6 | 0 | 10 | 212 | 360 | 12 |
| Cirencester | 16 | 4 | 1 | 11 | 217 | 324 | 9 |
| Thornbury | 16 | 3 | 0 | 13 | 206 | 414 | 6 |
| Avonmouth Old Boys | 16 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 88 | 409 | 0 |

SEASON 1998-1999

That incident aside it was a good season for Drybrook with Chris Treherne's 218 points and 20 tries coming in only 17 games.

Fullback Mike Johnson managed 104 points with other useful contributions coming from Pete Crowell (13 tries in 15 games) and Ian Treherne (8 tries in 13 games). Old campaigner Vic Jones was the only player to play in all 29 games with Chris Rawlings (28) and Mike Johnson (25) the nearest to him.

COLTS XV

After a gap of several years the Colts XV made a welcome return and had an enjoyable season under the captaincy of flanker Lee Ward and manager Dave Reed. Fixtures were difficult to come by at times and several games fell victim to the weather, which combined to reduce the total of games played.

The final record was Played 16 Won 6 lost 10 Points for 200 Points against 335 Leading points and try scorer was scrum half Danny Griffiths with 11 tries, just behind was Scott Mayo on 51 points with Danny Clarke getting 5 tries.

Scott Mayo was the only player to play in all of the games with Ben Taylor, Jon Mustoe, Danny Griffiths, Lee Powell and Tom Reed playing in 15 of the games. Second Row Dale Critchley was named player of the season.

The best victories were recorded over Hereford, Luctonians and Carleon.

The most pleasing aspect was the fact that six of the team represented the 1st XV during the season.

DRYBROOK UNITED XV

The United XV had a very poor season winning only two of their fixtures before Christmas and suffered some heavy defeats as they struggled with an ever changing team

After Christmas skipper Chris Tingle, and his brother and manager Glyn, had a more settled team that were able to produce some improved results.

The team failed in its bid to retain the Forest Junior Cup when they were just edged out by 12pts -13pts at Bream United in round 1.

No 8 Richard Probert was the leading points with 10 tries. Other useful contributions came from Andy Taylor (36pts), Andy Cottrell (29pts) and Andy Frazier-Holland with 5 tries. Hooker Scott Phelps played in 24 of the 29 games played with Pete Cinderey close behind on 23.

DRYBROOK EXTRAS XV

The Extras also had a poor season winning only two matches before an up-turn in fortunes saw them reach the Forest Minor Cup Final. In the final they

SEASON 1998-1999

lost out by the closest of margins to a very experienced BerryHill Wappers outfit but not before a gritty performance from Drybrook's young team.

Top points scorer was Andy Taylor with 46 points, Richard Whitmore made most appearances with 17, skipper Nigel Bennett 14 and Eddie Whitmore 13.

LADIES XV

The Ladies had a season to remember by staying unbeaten throughout the campaign. Again led by Rachel Jones and under the astute coaching of Ray Knight the final playing record was; Played 13 Won 12 Drawn 1 Lost 0 Points For 391 Points against 27.

Top points scorer and try scorer was scrum half Mandy Worthen with her 27 tries (a new team record) being worth 135 points.

Rachel Jones scored 7 tries with Clair Adams adding 6. Another useful contribution came from Jessica Cox whose 54 points included 17 conversions.

The most notable victory came against the combined Chipping Sodbury/Ashley Down team who supplied several of the County XV. It was Tewkesbury who denied Drybrook the distinction of winning every game played when they held their illustrious hosts to a 5pts all draw at Mannings Ground.

Sandal RFC from West Yorkshire were among the new fixtures played along with Aldermaston who provided the opposition in the very last match. All eyes were on the game to see if Drybrook could remain unbeaten and they duly delivered with a 51pts – nil victory over their Berkshire visitors.

Mandy Worthen proved herself to be the top scrum half in the area with Clair Adams, Tracey Jarrett, Jackie Atkins, Jessica Cox and Shelley Bourne all playing well throughout the season.

JUNIOR SECTION.

This season the club were able to field teams from under 8's through to the under 14's age group and were again successful especially in lower age teams.

The under 8 team contained future England women's international Ceri Large and she scored two tries in a handsome 55pts – nil victory over neighbours Cinderford in a game which saw Matt Sumner cross the whitewash four times.

New clubs on the fixture list this year included Avon and Penarth and the season ended with a very successful tour to Minehead in Somerset.

On tour the under 13's played in a tournament at Hornets RFC in Weston-Super-Mare and played matches for the first time against Devonport Services, Yatton and Midsomer Norton as well as against the host club.

SEASON 1999-2000

After their highest ever placing last term Drybrook could reasonably have expected to be among the front runners this season. Unfortunately the league campaign was blighted by a string of narrow losses by a team getting weary of travelling the M5 week in and week out.

It was commonplace for the team to travel under strength so it was little surprise that they faced an uphill battle for most of the season. The South West league committee had recognised the problems being faced by some clubs and proposed a complete restructuring with the possibility of sides meeting on a home and away basis in numerically reduced leagues. There were also suggestions for new national knock out competitions and play-offs for promotion.

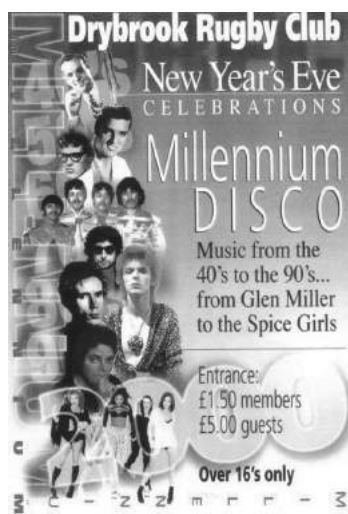
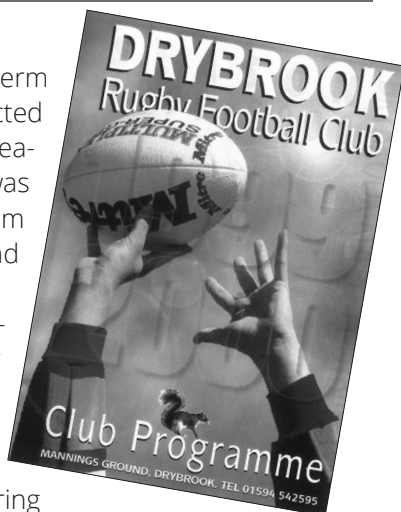
Although the league season proved to be disappointing it was in the cup competitions that the team excelled with the high point being qualification into next season's Senior RFU Cup Competition (Tetley Bitter Cup). This was a reward for their exploits in this season's county cup which began with a 37pts - 18pts victory at Cirencester in Round 1. Next up was the second round match at BerryHill which saw Drybrook victorious by 21pts - 16pts.

The best result was the quarter-final win at ConeyHill in a typically robust encounter that resulted in a 22pts - 19pts victory over the Western Counties League champions.

Drybrook refused to be intimidated and silenced the hostile home crowd with a resilient display against the odds to win through to the semi-final.

Drawn away again Drybrook travelled to Cheltenham North but were edged out by a strong home team who pulled away in the dying minutes to reach the final.

With other Gloucestershire teams already



SEASON 1999-2000

automatically qualified for the Tetley Bitter Cup by virtue of league status Drybrook were awarded the remaining place.

Drybrook also performed admirably in the Forest Cup with victory over Bream in a match played at Ruardean because the Mannings was waterlogged. Chris Treherne punished Bream's indiscipline with 5 penalties and the conversion of a penalty try before the visitors got their act together. Drybrook eventually went through by 43pts – 20pts. In the semi-final at Cinderford United, Drybrook squeezed a classic encounter by 22pts -21pts to set up a final with Lydney United.

Unfortunately arguments over the date and venue of the final resulted in it being held over until the start of the next season.

Chris Treherne managed 98 points in the 10 games he played in with scrum

Western Counties (North) Final Placings

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| ConeyHill | 16 | 15 | 0 | 1 | 423 | 193 | 30 |
| Cheltenham North | 16 | 13 | 0 | 3 | 423 | 171 | 26 |
| Old Redcliffians | 16 | 13 | 0 | 3 | 353 | 214 | 26 |
| Old Richians | 16 | 10 | 0 | 6 | 334 | 266 | 20 |
| Barton Hill | 16 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 252 | 192 | 19 |
| Gordon League | 16 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 340 | 313 | 19 |
| Chew Valley | 16 | 9 | 0 | 7 | 267 | 283 | 18 |
| Cleve | 16 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 332 | 280 | 16 |
| Whitehall | 16 | 7 | 2 | 7 | 277 | 243 | 16 |
| North Bristol | 16 | 7 | 0 | 9 | 269 | 275 | 14 |
| Cirencester | 16 | 7 | 0 | 9 | 303 | 346 | 14 |
| Thornbury | 16 | 7 | 0 | 9 | 270 | 318 | 14 |
| Wiveliscombe | 16 | 4 | 1 | 11 | 264 | 384 | 9 |
| St Bernadettes Old Boys* | 16 | 5 | 1 | 10 | 225 | 375 | 9 |
| Bristol Harlequins | 16 | 4 | 0 | 12 | 256 | 368 | 8 |
| Drybrook | 16 | 4 | 0 | 12 | 219 | 333 | 8 |
| Oldfield Old Boys | 16 | 2 | 0 | 14 | 177 | 430 | 4 |
| <i>*Points deducted</i> | | | | | | | |

SEASON 1999-2000

half Clayton Ryder getting the most tries with 10. Fullback Steve Rawlings played in 26 of the 27 games played.

Once again the resolve of players and spectators alike was put the severest test by the poor weather throughout the season. A number of games were postponed or played in quagmire like conditions but after an appeal for help to the nearby Drybrook Quarry, Hanson Aggregates came to the rescue. A donation of stone helped to solve the problems of the poorly drained pitch and the company went even further by supporting the club's mini and junior sections by providing new kit for the players.

On a sad note came the news of the death of stalwart Mr Jack Smart who passed away in January 2000.

Jack was a life member of Drybrook Rugby Club and a much respected man in the community and local rugby circles. For many years he was the first aid man at the club's games, a function he also carried out for the Forest Combination XV.

Equally he will be remembered for his magnificent fund raising efforts for the club where he did the after match raffle for countless years.

The life members' board in the club was donated in Jack's memory.

A welcome distraction to the normal end of season programme was the inaugural Kingsholm Sevens Competition. There were a number of very good



Drybrook RFC Kingsholm 7's Plate Winners

Back: (Left to Right) D. Trigg (Manager), G. Tingle (First Aid), G. Kiernan, N. Morgan, P. Probert, P. Meek, P. Jones (Coach), P. Mason (Chairman).

Front: (Left to Right) L. Ward, S. Rawlings, C. Rawlings (Captain), C. Ryder, L. Meek.

SEASON 1999-2000

teams in the main competition and Drybrook were eliminated in Round 1 by eventual finalists Cheltenham who went on to lose to Gloucester in the final. This brought qualification into the Plate Competition where Drybrook saw off the challenge of Longlevens (31pts – 10pts) in Round 1, and Thatcham (22pts – 10pts) in the semi-final. In an exiting Plate Final Drybrook ensured victory over Old Cryptians (26pts – 22pts) with tries from Greg Kieran, Lee Ward, Clayton Ryder and Chris Rawlings who also kicked 3 conversions. The competition was sponsored by Worthington who as well as presenting a nice trophy to the club also supplied several packs of beer to each of the finalists.



JUNIOR RUGBY

Drybrook fielded teams from under 8's through to Under 15's and all teams had good records for the year. The Under 15's in particular were strong and won most of their games with a line-up that included Scott Ward, Rich Tillier, James Hillcoat, Matthew Carpenter, Dave Bowen and Peter Kennaugh. The season also featured a number of Millennium Tournaments at five different age groups with the Under 11 event taking place at Drybrook. Hundreds of players and supporters descended on the Mannings that day but

Drybrook RFC Under 12's January 2000



for a change even the terrible weather failed to dampen the enthusiasm of those taking part. The section once again chose the Butlins Complex at Minehead as the destination for the end of season tour.

DRYBROOK UNITED

Chris Tingle again found himself in charge of the United XV and this season they had the opportunity to participate in a Merit Table organised by the county. Beset by problems from the start the Merit Table saw some clubs embrace it whilst others chose to practically ignore it. The consequence was that interest petered out as the season unfolded and the county printed this final version for interest only. Drybrook saved some of their best performances of the season for the Merit Table fixtures and elsewhere notched up some other good victories notably against the 1st XV's of Raglan, Ledbury, and Ross as well as over traditionally tough opponents Monmouth Druids and Matson United.

The side could not prevent Lydney Extras ending their interest in the Forest Junior Cup losing a tight semi-final by 11pts – 19pts. Chris Treherne headed the 2nd XV point's scorers with 97 points from only 7 games and this helped him pass the 5000 point barrier in his long and distinguished career at Drybrook.

Unofficial 2nd XV County Merit Table

| | P | W | L | % |
|---------------------|----|----|---|-----|
| Old Richians | 6 | 6 | 0 | 100 |
| Old Centralians | 10 | 10 | 0 | 100 |
| Cheltenham United | 9 | 8 | 1 | 89 |
| Old Patesians | 8 | 7 | 1 | 88 |
| ChosenHill | 17 | 14 | 3 | 82 |
| Cheltenham Saracens | 5 | 4 | 1 | 80 |
| Cinderford | 9 | 7 | 2 | 78 |
| Cirencester | 15 | 10 | 4 | 70 |
| Cheltenham North | 11 | 6 | 3 | 64 |
| Drybrook | 10 | 6 | 4 | 60 |
| Longlevens | 6 | 3 | 3 | 50 |
| Hucclecote | 8 | 4 | 4 | 50 |
| Spartans | 11 | 5 | 6 | 46 |
| Cheltenham CS | 9 | 4 | 5 | 44 |
| Lydney United | 7 | 3 | 4 | 44 |
| Old Cryptians | 13 | 5 | 8 | 38 |
| Gordon League | 8 | 3 | 5 | 37 |
| Smiths | 3 | 1 | 2 | 33 |
| Painswick | 6 | 2 | 4 | 33 |
| Gloucester Old Boys | 7 | 2 | 5 | 28 |
| Dursley | 4 | 1 | 3 | 25 |
| Stow | 4 | 1 | 3 | 25 |
| Stroud | 12 | 2 | 9 | 21 |
| Westbury | 5 | 1 | 4 | 20 |
| Brockworth | 5 | 1 | 4 | 20 |
| BerryHill | 6 | 1 | 5 | 17 |
| Cainscross | 6 | 1 | 5 | 17 |
| ConeyHill | 6 | 1 | 5 | 17 |
| Matson | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Tewkesbury | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Minchinhampton | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Gloucester CS | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Tetbury | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Bream | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

DRYBROOK EXTRAS XV

Andy Taylor had the difficult job of captaining the 3rd XV when on countless times the team travelled to face teams bolstered up by players from higher ranked sides. Despite these setbacks a real good team spirit evolved in the side and this was reflected in the number of fixtures played which dramatically increased from previous years. In all the team won 8 and drew 2 of the 26 games with Taylor scoring the most individual points with 61.

LADIES RUGBY

Ladies rugby was beginning to find itself at a bit of a crossroads with many of the local teams disbanding or merging to remain active. Drybrook managed to keep a team going but struggled to find fixtures and often had to look further afield to get games.

Only a handful of matches were played as opposed to previous years and the team were reasonably successful during the campaign. Unfortunately they could not repeat last season's unbeaten run and lost their unbeaten tag at Wotton Bassett. There were some victories to savour though most notably over Hereford, Dursley and Painswick as well as the newly formed Matson team.

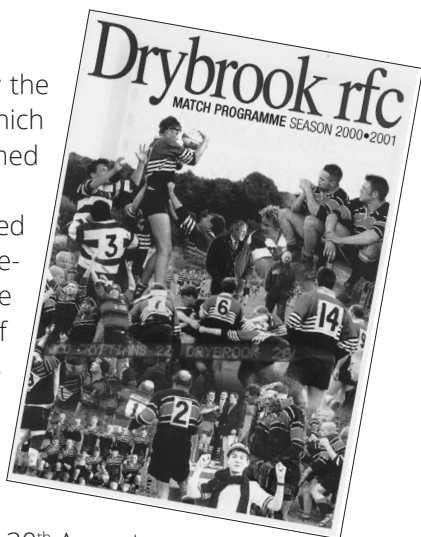
SEASON 2000-2001

The leagues were finally re-structured by the RFU ready for the start of this season which meant a fresh challenge in the newly formed Gloucestershire Premier League.

For the first time the games were to be played on a home and away basis which meant a reduction in the number of teams in the league from 17 down to 10. There were also end of season play offs introduced for the runners up in each league.

There was much to look forward to for skipper Chris Rawlings and Coach Peter Jones not the least of which was the rescheduled Senior Combination Final which took place on 30th August.

Just five days before Drybrook dispatched Old Richians in a warm up game at Sandyleaze and then ripped into Lydney United in the final at Dockham Road, Cinderford. A magnificent effort by Drybrook's young team led to them reclaiming the cup by 36pts – 14pts in the late summer sunshine.



Forest of Dean Combination Senior Cup winning team and officials.

Back row L to R; Alf Mason, Dereck Trigg, Mark Weaver, Neil Morgan, Vic Jones, Dale Critchley, Pete Meek, Paul Sainsbury, Lee Phelps, Pete Jones (Coach), Adrian Brown, Paul Mason (Chairman)

Middle; Greg Kiernan, Clayton Ryder, Leon Meek, Chris Treherne, Chris Rawlings (Captain), Chris Thomas, Lee Wilks, Neil Jeffs, Gary Taylor.

Front; Graham Jenkins, Scott Phelps, Danny Griffiths, Lee Ward.

SEASON 2000-2001



Skipper Chris Rawlings having a well-earned drink from the magnificent trophy

into league action after this and Drybrook were among the favourites for promotion and they came close to achieving it. Unfortunately the weather once again intervened with several matches postponed in the latter part of the season. This meant that the game with Bristol Saracens had to be played mid-week at Berry Hill RFC because of the poor state of the Drybrook pitch.

Only 3 days later and into May Drybrook travelled to Chipping Sodbury where a win would have guaranteed them the play off place.

It all went disastrously wrong and Drybrook threw away a healthy 24pts – 10pts half time advantage to somehow lose a match they were red hot favourites to win.

A string of injuries in the weeks leading up robbed Drybrook of a number of key players including skipper Chris Rawlings but with 3 minutes remaining they still held a 7 point lead. Chipping Sodbury scored twice in the dying minutes to win by 40pts – 33pts so it was Old Centralians who made it to the play off final with Gordano.

A newly formed club Worcester Wanderers provided the opposition for the next game and next win for Drybrook who then faced their next big challenge.

Drawn away to Amersham & Chiltern in the preliminary round of the RFU Senior Knock Out (Tetley Bitter Cup) three coach loads of supporters travelled to Buckinghamshire to cheer on their team.

Unfortunately the home club won an entertaining game by 33pts – 22pts and so Drybrook's dreams of another giant killing cup run was over.

It was straight

A flyer for a rugby match. At the top, it says "Amersham & Chiltern RFC" with a crest on the left. Below that is an illustration of four players in action. The text reads: "Tetley Bitter Cup, Preliminary Round, Saturday 9th September, kick off at 3.00pm. Chiltern v Drybrook". Below this, it says "Amersham & Chiltern 'Man of the Match' Sponsored by Marcello's Italian Restaurant, Little Chalfont." Then, "Pre Match Buffet (A convivial collage of culinary collations from our tame Dane) not to be missed at £ 5.00, from 1.15pm". At the bottom, it says "New Player or Supporter ? You will be made very welcome For more information ring Clive Newton 01494 782388 (day) 01494 727903 (evening)".

Amersham & Chiltern RFC
Tetley Bitter Cup, Preliminary Round,
Saturday 9th September, kick off at 3.00pm.
Chiltern v Drybrook
Amersham & Chiltern 'Man of the Match' Sponsored
by Marcello's Italian Restaurant, Little Chalfont.
Pre Match Buffet
(A convivial collage of culinary collations from our tame Dane)
not to be missed at £ 5.00, from 1.15pm
New Player or Supporter ?
You will be made very welcome
For more information ring Clive Newton
01494 782388 (day) 01494 727903 (evening)

SEASON 2000-2001

It was hard on Drybrook who had recorded wins over both of the teams above them in the table but some unexpected slip ups on the road transpired to scupper their season.

They could not even defend the Combination Cup this season with the entire tournament called off because of an outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease.

The club tour to Ireland went ahead as planned but the fixture at Coolmine RFC also fell victim to Foot and Mouth disease. The tour party had to make do with a visit to the Guinness Factory instead of playing rugby but no doubt they enjoyed that just as much!

Gloucestershire Premier League

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Thornbury | 18 | 16 | 0 | 2 | 528 | 165 | 32 |
| Old Centralians | 18 | 13 | 0 | 5 | 506 | 324 | 26 |
| Drybrook | 18 | 12 | 0 | 6 | 500 | 272 | 24 |
| *Longlevens | 18 | 11 | 0 | 7 | 400 | 321 | 20 |
| Bristol Saracens | 18 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 403 | 290 | 19 |
| Avonmouth Old Boys | 18 | 7 | 1 | 10 | 310 | 335 | 15 |
| Chipping Sodbury | 18 | 7 | 1 | 10 | 289 | 347 | 15 |
| Bream | 18 | 6 | 1 | 11 | 201 | 474 | 13 |
| Aretians | 18 | 6 | 0 | 12 | 328 | 310 | 12 |
| *Brockworth | 18 | 1 | 0 | 17 | 157 | 784 | 0 |
| *Points deducted | | | | | | | |

The Kingsholm Sevens again provided a welcome distraction but 15 seconds into the first match skipper Chris Rawlings tore his ankle ligaments which not only ruled him out of the tournament but meant he had to miss Drybrook's promotion push.

In the tournament Drybrook were eliminated at the group stage losing to Cheltenham and Old Cryptians which meant they were once again in the plate competition. Teams withdrawing gave Drybrook a bye straight to the final where they saw off a stiff challenge from Old Richians by 19pts – 17pts. Gavin Edwards (2) and Paul Price were the try scorers with Edwards and Simon Rugman kicking conversions.

SEASON 2000-2001



Kingsholm Sevens Plate Winners

*Back Row; Steve Rawlings, Simon Burke, Greg Kiernan, Richard Probert, Jim Rugman, Simon Rugman, Peter Jones (Coach), Chris Hale (President)
Front; Dave Reed, Gary Taylor, Paul Price, Chris Rawlings (Captain), Danny Griffiths, Danny Ireland, Jon Mustoe.
Gavin Edwards replaced Chris Rawlings due to injury.*

DRYBROOK UNITED XV

Prop forward Lee Wilks took on the captain's arm band for this season and the team did very well.

The county soon dropped the Merit League idea as a non-starter following the previous season's problems so there were only friendly games to negotiate plus a new floodlit cup competition for second teams.

Old Cryptians were the first Gloucester Combination club to install full match floodlights and decided to organise the new mid-week competition.

In the first round Drybrook won convincingly against Hucclecote Old Boys and then saw off the hosts Old Cryptians in round 2 to reach the semi-finals. A close match with old adversaries Cheltenham North on a bitterly cold evening went the way of the Cheltenham club.

In the friendly matches there were some very high scoring victories nota-

SEASON 2000-2001

bly over Spartans (73pts – 12pts), ChosenHill (45pts – nil), Painswick (57pts – 5pts) and Brockworth (45pts – 8pts). Other good wins were recorded over ConeyHill (twice), BerryHill, Longlevens, Bream and Lydney.

The last match of the season was at Raglan 1st XV in the last ever match played by that club. They had decided to call it a day through player shortage but managed to get a strong side together on the day to grind out a win.

No 8 Richard Probert had a season to remember with 26 tries (130 points) to his name to create a new record for the United XV.

EXTRAS XV

It was a familiar tale for the Extras with the 1st XV's crippling injury and unavailability crisis having a knock on effect in the lowest team. It was to skipper Nigel Bennett's credit that he managed to get a team out every week and they ended up playing 24 matches.

Lots of other clubs were experiencing difficulty in getting third teams out and cancellations were common. Neighbours BerryHill Wappers were also experiencing difficulty in obtaining fixtures so the teams ended up playing each other five times during the season.

Drybrook won the first two matches convincingly but BerryHill came back to take the honours in the next two. The series defining 5th match resulted in a 5pts – nil victory for BerryHill at Lakers Road.

The newly formed Bredon Star club were beaten by 13pts – 5pts and a good performance from the Extras also brought a rare victory over Matson Wolfhounds.

LADIES RUGBY

Interest in the women's game was beginning to evaporate to the extent that at a county trial match only 10 players showed an interest in playing representative rugby for Gloucestershire.

The county only had seven clubs now playing with Lydney Topcats and BerryHill the latest to disband.

Drybrook benefitted by attracting some of the BerryHill squad to bolster their numbers but even so fixtures were difficult to come by and only a few games were played.

Gordano, Old Redcliffians, Wotton Bassett and Matson were among the victories achieved during the season.

JUNIOR RUGBY

In 2000/01 Drybrook were inundated with county call ups; Dale Critchley (later of Pontypool fame) made the county under 20 team along with Danny Griffiths, and Gareth Roach, Simon Rugman, Josh Hale, Mark Castree & Jon Kear were called into the County under 17 squad. Scott Ward and Nick Christian represented the county under 15's.

New clubs such as Abertillery were added to the fixture list and the strength of rugby at Dene Magna School at this time saw their under 16, under 15, and under 13 teams unbeaten with most of the players also playing for Drybrook. Indeed the formidable Forest of Dean District XV contained 7 Dene Magna players, 5 with Drybrook connections; Rich Tillier, Scott Ward, Duncan Whatmore, Wayne Roberts and Ryan Tandy.

This season also saw 10 year old Richard Seaborn score 52 tries for the club, a new record for the junior section.

Drybrook could boast 120 boys in the section at this time with a few girls also being attracted to the game.

At the end of the season the section embarked on their first ever tour abroad



Under 12/13's

Back Row; Ian Dubberley (Coach), Liz Wynn, Daniel Large, Nick Lewis, Elaine Trigg, James Pickett, James Windridge, Tom Trenfield, Ryan Dubberley, Malcolm Williams, Steve Wynn.

Front; Tom Rhodes, Steve Turner, Carl Moore, Edward Williams(Captain) Rebecca Dubberley, Joe Jennings, Ben Deave.

OFF THE FIELD

The club committee made a bold decision to completely upgrade the clubhouse in pre-season by converting the lounge and bar into one larger room. Heritage Barfitters and Upholsterers from Accrington were awarded the £40,000 contract and the work completely transformed the social side of the club with increased membership and a considerable upturn in revenue.

President Chris Hale pulled the first pints at a special opening ceremony held in August where the life members Bill & Tom Ward, Mike Rawlings and Roger Hale were served the first drinks



Some familiar faces enjoying a drink on the last night in the old bar



The new facility opened on 12th August 2000

SEASON 2001-2002

Drybrook were again among the favourites to gain promotion from the Gloucestershire Premier League along with several other teams. Cirencester and Spartans had both recruited extensively after dropping down from the Western Counties League and Bristol outfit BartonHill were also looking strong. Spartans in particular assembled a very experienced and formidable squad and were most people's tip for the top spot.

Drybrook recruited flanker Sean Bourne and full-back Martin Ennis from Cinderford and with the return of centre Ian Murray from college prospects looked bright. Promising second row Dale Critchley was not available until late November having decided to go travelling during the closed season.

Chris Rawlings was elected skipper for a fifth season and Coach Peter Jones was joined by Leon Meek who concentrated on the backs. The club also welcomed new shirt sponsors in the shape of Gloucester company Supreme Services who were involved in the supply of labour to the haulage industry. The team also had a better playing surface to perform on as the club had spent a good deal of time and effort laying new drainage pipes in the first team pitch.

Drybrook lost their first league outing when they were beaten by 10pts – 13pts at Cirencester as well as suffering a first round exit in the RFU Intermediate Cup (18pts – 23pts) at Old Centralians.

Following these initial setbacks the league soon developed into a two horse race between Drybrook and Spartans.

The first meeting at Spartans went the way of the home side (15pts – 17pts) where skipper Chris Rawlings agonisingly missed a conversion kick in front of the posts that would have earned his side a draw.

A few weeks later the sides met again, this time in a county cup second round tie at the Mannings. Spartans again edged the contest which saw them clinging to a one point lead until they sealed victory with an injury time try in the corner (22pts – 28pts)

Elsewhere Drybrook did extremely well and notched up a string of victories with the exception of the match at home to ChosenHill Former Pupils which



SEASON 2001-2002



Drybrook 1st XV with officials and sponsors Supreme Services

Back Row – K Morgan (Sponsor), D Auker-Howlett, I Murray, M Ennis, G Kiernan, N Morgan, R Probert, P Sainsbury, R Sadler, M Weaver, S Rawlings, P Jones (Coach), P Williams (Sponsor)

Middle Row – C Ryder, S Skelton, A Mason, D Trigg, C Hale (President), C Rawlings (Captain), P Mason (Chairman), D Reed, M Williams (Sponsor), C Tingle, C Treherne.

Front Row – D Thomas, J Roberts, S Phelps, T Reed, S Bourne, G Taylor.

was abandoned after 12 minutes due to the weather. A monsoon like rain storm coupled with a terrific cross wind made playing rugby impossible and the referee was forced to call it off.

The return match with Spartans took place at the end of February but the visitors refused to play at the Mannings because they felt the conditions were unsuitable. The match was switched to the Ruardean ground where a 15pts – all draw was played out. Drybrook were extremely unlucky not to have got the win they so richly deserved after being frustrated by their opponents on the narrow pitch.

An unexpected loss at home to Barton Hill did not stop Drybrook achieving the runners-up spot but it did mean they would have to travel to Yatton in Somerset for the Play Off final to reach the Western Counties league.

A large crowd travelled with a good deal of optimism but Drybrook were blown away on the day by a fitter, faster and more committed team by 32pts – nil.

A week later Drybrook travelled to Bream for the last match of the season in the final of the Forest of Dean Combination Senior final against BerryHill United.

The aftermath of the Yatton defeat was still evident as Drybrook put in a very

SEASON 2001-2002

poor performance against a team they were expected to overwhelm. The 8pts -9pts defeat brought the curtain down on a very disappointing end to a season that had shown so much promise.

Drybrook won 17 and drew 3 of the 29 games played with prop Tom Reed and flanker Lee Ward scoring 11 tries each just ahead of skipper Chris Rawlings on 10.

The most points were scored by hooker Chris Thomas who was a surprise selection as first choice goal kicker but he defied the critics by scoring 147 points.

Gloucestershire Premier League

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Spartans | 18 | 15 | 2 | 1 | 561 | 226 | 32 |
| Drybrook | 18 | 13 | 2 | 3 | 445 | 217 | 28 |
| Barton Hill | 18 | 13 | 0 | 5 | 482 | 264 | 26 |
| Cirencester | 18 | 10 | 2 | 6 | 328 | 256 | 22 |
| Avonmouth Old Boys | 18 | 10 | 1 | 7 | 537 | 301 | 21 |
| ChosenHill Former Pupils | 18 | 10 | 1 | 7 | 495 | 313 | 21 |
| Longlevens | 18 | 8 | 0 | 10 | 342 | 394 | 16 |
| Hucclecote | 18 | 4 | 0 | 14 | 238 | 552 | 8 |
| Bristol Saracens | 18 | 2 | 0 | 16 | 206 | 459 | 4 |
| Chipping Sodbury* | 18 | 1 | 0 | 17 | 161 | 813 | 0 |

*Points deducted

DRYBROOK UNITED XV

Chris Tingle was elected skipper for the term and the team had some new kit courtesy of Mr Joe Perry.

In order to stimulate interest, The Citizen Newspaper introduced a Merit Table for the regions second teams. Drybrook managed to win 8 of the 11 merit table games they played but again the set up was mired in controversy.

It was common practice for clubs to not fulfil fixtures or to pull out of fixtures at the last minute. Drybrook suffered more than most with several clubs very reluctant to travel to the Mannings.

SEASON 2001-2002

In the end Gordon League were declared the champions of the 15 clubs who took part with Cheltenham North the runners-up. Drybrook ended in third place in the table which was worked out on a percentage basis.

The stand out results in the merit table were home wins against Matson (65pts – nil), ConeyHill (17pts – 15pts) and Spartans (37pts –nil). On the road the team won at Gordon League, Spartans, Matson, Longlevens and Chosen-Hill.

In other games Drybrook 2nds beat Ross 1sts, Tredworth 1sts and Newent 1st XV but again there was disappointment in the Forest Junior Cup.

In the final they slipped to a narrow defeat against BerryHill Extras (7pts -10pts) in a pulsating final at Cinderford.

Young stand-off Simon Rugman distinguished himself by scoring 10 tries in his 139 points from the 19 matches he played in. Not to be outdone his brother Jim was elected player of the year.



United XV

Back Row – Paul Mason (Chairman), Richard Roberts, Lee Wilks, Mark Castree, Scott Phelps, Ben Casey, Simon Burke, Vic Jones, Martyn Hale, Jim Rugman, James Hillcoat, Ian Murray, Glyn Tingle (Manager)

Front – Jimmy Ryder, Gareth Roach, Lee Phelps, Chris Tingle (Captain), Alan Parsons, Simon Rugman, James Reed.

EXTRAS XV

The thirds had a new skipper in prop forward Dave Williams who quickly set about transforming the fortunes of the team. With a larger than usual squad of players to select from the team managed 28 games but the ma-

SEASON 2001-2002



Skipper Dave Williams with the cup and in the background is Combination President Mr Dave Fields

majority of these games were away from home. There was a marked reluctance among the Gloucester Combination Clubs to travel over the Westgate Bridge with only Brockworth, Matson, Gloucester Old Boys, and Gloucester Civil Service 2nds making the journey.

The team saved their best performances for the Forest Minor Cup and they swept to victory over Cinderford Bucks in the final at Westbury by 22pts – 12pts.

Fullback Mike Johnson was in excellent kicking form for Drybrook, landing 17 points from five penalties and a conversion against his old club. Mark Teague got Drybrook's only try.

Fullback Mike Johnson was in



Extras Cup Winning team

Back Row – Mike Johnson, Steve Turley, Richard Powell, Jon Mustoe, Andy Jones, Pete Cinderey, Gareth Fletcher, Mark Teague, Dave Cooke, Ben Taylor, Nick Creswick, Mark Castree, Steve Rawlings, James Reed, Neil Jeffs

Front – Steve Lewis, Dave Williams, Clive Boughton, Alan Parsons, Lee Phelps.

VETERANS XV

The Veterans XV undertook a very enjoyable short tour to Cornwall at the end of the season staying at the Tir Chronaill Lodge Hotel in Newquay.

The only match was against the St Austell Veterans on one of the last games to be played at the old ground before it was swallowed up for development. Drybrook emerged victorious in a very close game.



Back Row – Andy Taylor, Gordon Bourne, Ray Knight, Steve Lewis, Dave Cooke, Chris Pegler, Martyn Hale, Mike Johnson, Roger Hale, Dave Williams, Andy Jones, Paul Wilkes, Glyn Tingle.

Front – Chris Tingle, John Jeffs, Gary Payne, Chris Hale, Clayton Ryder, Lee Wilks, Neil Jeffs, Clive Boughton, Alan Parsons.

WOMEN'S RUGBY

The Women's XV declined the opportunity to re-join the RFU leagues this season preferring instead to play more local fixtures though they were few and far between.

A rumour spread about that the team had disbanded so fixtures were harder than ever to find but Drybrook could still rely on a squad of twenty two players at the start of the campaign.

Unfortunately apathy began to set in and it became a struggle to keep going

due to the long periods in between games. As players began to lose interest it became an uphill battle to keep going and at the end of the season it was decided not to continue.

JUNIOR RUGBY

The highlight of another really successful season for the junior section was when they were rewarded for their efforts by the RFU. All the hard work and commitment that had been shown was recognised by being selected as one of two clubs to represent Gloucestershire at Twickenham.

Under 14 teams from Widden Old Boys and Drybrook were selected to take part in two warm up games before the grand slam decider against Ireland. Drybrook won the first match 30pts-10pts but lost the second by 20pts-5pts. Playing in front of 75,000 fans and rubbing shoulders with the England players all day was an amazing experience and one likely to live long in the memory of those who took part.



Drybrook Under 14's - Twickenham March 2002

Chris Seaborne, Malcolm Williams (Coach), Nick Lewis, Lee Jones, Ryan Dubberley, Tom Trenfield, Edward Williams, William Hollingshead, Gareth Holdsworth, Dean Jelf, Dan Large, Alaister Griffin, Tom Rhodes, Ben Deave, James Windridge, Carl Moore, Steve Turner, James Pickett, Luke Pickett, Ian Dubberley (Coach)

JUNIOR GIRLS

This season the club started their first ever all girls' team when an Under 16 team was formed. Shelley Bourne, a stalwart of the senior ladies team, and her father Gordon were the coaches.



The Under 16 Girls at their first match

The team was set up because it was found that there was a large gap between the ages of 12 and 16, when the girls became too old to play with the boys and too young to play in the senior ladies team.

Within four months the team could boast twenty two players and were ready for their first ever game. The squad also contained two players from Cheltenham and one from Gloucester as there were no other clubs in the area playing girls rugby.

The first match was against Thornbury and Drybrook showed great spirit to emerge victorious by 15pts – nil. Player of the match Chelsea Atkins scored two tries with scrum half Natasha “Mo” Hunt also touching down.

Atkins and the sisters Jayne and Nicola Coleman, who were part of sextuplets, were



Scrum half and future international Natasha Hunt sets off on a darting run against Thornbury.

called up for the South West of England Under 16 squad.

Unfortunately the demise of the senior ladies team at the club meant there was no team to join at the club once they were old enough.

Dave Auker-Howlett who had taken over from Gaynor Ward as chair of the section was instrumental in applying for funding to provide separate changing facilities for the girls.

SEASON 2001-2002

Apart from the under 16 girls, the junior section had 140 members on its books this season with another 10 girls playing within the mini section alongside the boys.

The section experienced the very best of French hospitality on their Easter weekend tour to the South of France. After hosting their French counterparts last season, the section made the eagerly awaited return trip.

Games were arranged on the Saturday for all groups from 8 to 12.

The younger players took on Bruscaïn while the 11 & 12 year olds played with Bruscaïn against their main rivals, La Siene. The under 14's played against Italian club, Parma.

The best performance came from the Under 15's who rose to the occasion to win 32-5 on the bowling green type conditions.

Following the rugby the tour party were entertained at Bruscaïn's clubhouse in Le Bruscaïn harbour.

On Sunday the Under 17's played Bruscaïn colts whilst the Drybrook seniors won a great game of flowing rugby by 15-10.

Monday saw the touring party take a day off from rugby to take in the sights of St Tropez.

The trip was a great success, much of it down to the months of hard work put in by Tony Smith.

SEASON 2002-2003

Chris Rawlings stood down after five seasons as club captain and Neil Morgan was elected to succeed him. Peter Jones continued for the sixth year of his second spell as club coach and quickly set about bolstering the squad. Ex Lydney outside half Neil Merrett joined the club and made an immediate impact in his first season. Danny Griffiths returned at scrum half after a year playing in Australia and New Zealand and looked sharper and fitter than most. Prop forward Kenny Davies was another newcomer who quickly established himself in the squad and was rewarded for a good season by selection for the County under 20 XV.

Dale Critchley moved on to National League Lydney and when fellow second row Paul Sainsbury departed to join the Metropolitan Police the search was on to replace them. Fortunately back row man Mark Weaver returned and was pressed into playing in the second row and Ryan Phillips joined from



1st XV - Gloucestershire Premier League Champions

Back Row; Dave Auker-Howlett, Mike Rawlings, Sean Bourne, Leon Meek, Chris Rawlings, Simon Rugman, Neil Merrett, Ryan Phillips, Greg Kiernan, Jamie Roberts, Kenny Davies, Tom Reed, Peter Jones (Coach)

Middle; Roger Hale, Gary Taylor, Chris Hale, Dereck Trigg, Neil Morgan (Captain), Paul Mason (Chairman), Alf Mason, Dave Roberts, Tom Ward.

Front; Lee Phelps, Peter Meek, Lee Ward, Steve Skelton, Mark Weaver, Danny Griffiths, Chris Thomas.

SEASON 2002-2003

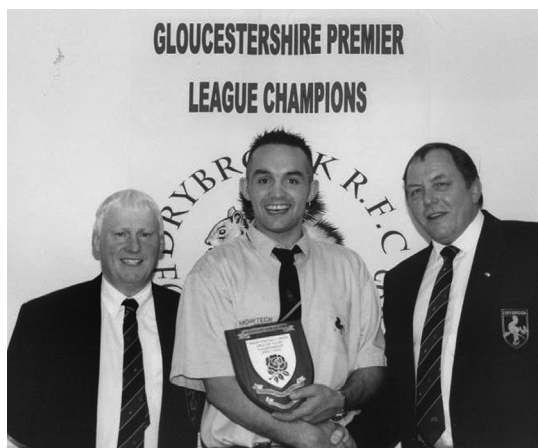
Cinderford and made the position his own. Elsewhere Drybrook had a lot of promising youngsters stepping up from the junior section; Mark Castree, James Hillcoat, Gareth Roach, Nick Creswick and Scott Ward were all expected to feature at some point during the season.

Off the field the club had a new President in Gerald Ward and he encouraged former players and supporters to stay involved by initiating a new vice-presidents scheme.

More work was done on the drainage problems in the first team pitch when £10,000 was spent on composite banding to link up with the new pipes fitted in the previous summer.

A £5000 Sport England grant was awarded to go towards the provision of the new changing room for girls and women's rugby and the club was a busy place in pre-season with a large group of volunteers getting it ready in time. The training lights also got upgraded with Robert Morgan donating some additional equipment to enhance the existing set.

The season started with a big win over Cirencester and this set the tone for a memorable campaign with the team never looking back after this. They managed to win all 18 of their league games with some tremendous rugby played. The only serious rivals to the title were Barton Hill but Drybrook won both games through sheer determination to overcome an intimidating team.



Club Dinner May 2003 – Skipper Neil Morgan receiving the league winners plaque from President Gerald Ward and Chairman Paul Mason.

In the RFU Powergen Cup Drybrook saw off three higher ranked teams in Old Redcliffians, Cleve and Stroud before succumbing to Keynsham in Round 4. The Somerset outfit then operated two leagues above Drybrook but were matched throughout in a thrilling tie that eventually went the way of the visitors by 15pts -18pts.

The county cup had its usual problems and Drybrook were handed a walkover when Old Centralians pulled

SEASON 2002-2003

Gloucestershire Premier League

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Drybrook | 18 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 565 | 175 | 36 |
| Barton Hill | 18 | 15 | 0 | 3 | 335 | 117 | 30 |
| Avonmouth Old Boys | 18 | 13 | 0 | 5 | 432 | 215 | 26 |
| ChosenHill Former Pupils | 18 | 10 | 0 | 8 | 309 | 279 | 20 |
| Longlevens | 18 | 8 | 0 | 10 | 222 | 317 | 16 |
| North Bristol | 18 | 7 | 0 | 11 | 205 | 310 | 14 |
| Aretians | 18 | 6 | 1 | 11 | 320 | 312 | 13 |
| Painswick | 18 | 5 | 0 | 13 | 264 | 459 | 10 |
| Cirencester | 18 | 4 | 0 | 14 | 240 | 446 | 8 |
| Hucclecote | 18 | 3 | 1 | 14 | 178 | 440 | 7 |

out of the first round tie. Drawn at home to Clifton in Round 2 the club were looking forward to organising that when the county cup committee suddenly decided to allow other clubs to enter who had missed the original deadline for registration.

Drybrook were then ordered to play Matson in a first round tie but the Drybrook committee steadfastly refused. After much deliberation Drybrook were thrown out of the competition. Legal action was threatened against the cup committee but after due consideration and a plea from the county it was dropped for the sake of the game and the future of the competition. Drybrook felt particularly hard done by and some members of the county cup committee did not cover themselves in glory throughout the dispute.

Lydney United pulled off a terrific win in the semi-final of the Forest senior Cup when they squeezed through by 18pts – 15pts against Drybrook who were hot favourites. Unfortunately the team was showing signs of battle weariness having just come through a bruising encounter at BartonHill a few days before.

The season culminated with a visit from Bruscaïn RFC from the south of France. The visitors – from the fishing town of Le Bruscaïn – did not find the wind and rain to their liking and found themselves on the wrong end of a 60pts – 12pts battering.

SEASON 2002-2003

Neil Merrett distinguished himself by scoring 301 individual points in the season, a total that included 15 drop goals.

The team scored a total of 112 tries with Chris Rawlings just ahead of a number of players with 15 to his credit.

A party of 41 players and supporters enjoyed themselves on a visit to Black



Tour Party: Left to right; Roger Winman, Glyn Tingle, Lee Wilks, Chris Hale, Richard Pegler, Alan Parsons, Andy Arkle, John Pegler, Chris Tingle, Steve Lewis, Ray Knight, Andy Taylor, Dave Cook, Ray Benton, Alan James, Ivor Kiernan, Paul Phelps, Tom Ward, Neil Jeffs, Don Wilkes, Chris Pegler, John Jeffs, Colin Pegler, Paul Wilkes, Chris Treherne, Martyn Hale, Richard Powell, Simon Rugman, Gary Taylor, Andy Jones, Jon Mustoe, Pat Ward, Chris Rawlings, Gary Payne, Jim Rugman, Ian Treherne, Pete Jones, Mark Cook, Neil Morgan, Dave Auker-Howlett.



The victorious Tour XV

Back Row; Alan Parsons, Andy Taylor, Pete Jones, Simon Rugman, Steve Lewis, , Martyn Hale, Chris Treherne, Jon Mustoe, Lee Wilks, Ian Treherne, Chris Rawlings, Dave Cook, Mark Cook, Paul Wilks, Chris Pegler, Andy Jones, Jim Rugman.

Front; Chris Hale, Andy Arkle, Gary Payne, Ray Knight, Scott Powell, John Jeffs, Dave Auker-Howlett, Neil Morgan.

SEASON 2002-2003

pool in May where the only fixture played was against Thorton & Cleveleys. This was the last match played at the ground and it resulted in a fine victory for Drybrook.

DRYBROOK UNITED XV

Steve Rawlings took on the captaincy of the 2nd XV for the season and inspired his team to a good season.

With no merit tables or leagues being run the team had to rely on friendly fixtures with a predictable number of cancellations reducing the number of games played to a mere 23.

The team only lost 6 games all season with three of those coming at the hands of Cinderford RFC, with both Cinderford United and Stags being played.

Some of the more notable performances were recorded against Cirencester 2nds (46 – 14), Avonmouth 2nds (25-nil), Newent 1sts (40-3), Ross 1sts (47-12) and Gordon League 2nds (20-10)

In the Forest Cup the team overwhelmed BerryHill Extras (43-nil) but went down (8-15) in the semi-final at home to Cinderford Stags.



United XV:- Back Row; Scott Williams, Jim Rugman, Clark Price, Simon Burke, Ollie Dennis, Richard Probert, Victor Jones, Mark Castree, Ian Kear.
Middle; Jason Roberts, Alan Parsons, Glyn Tingle (Manager), Steve Rawlings (Captain), Paul Mason (Chairman), Lee Wilks, Adrian Brown.
Front; Jimmy Ryder, Steve Lewis.

DRYBROOK EXTRAS XV

Chris Tingle took over from Dave Williams as captain and the team ended up with a satisfactory playing record of 10 wins, 2 draws and 10 losses in the 22 matches played.

Three victories were achieved over old adversaries BerryHill Wappers including one in which the only score of the game came from a try from former Wapper Ian Kear.

In other games the best performances were the victories over the 2nd XV's of Dursley, Widden Old Boys, Gloucester All Blues, Gloucester Civil Service and Westbury-on-Severn.

The performance in the Forest Cup at Bream 3rds was poor with an injury ravaged side going down by 3pts – 14pts.

JUNIOR RUGBY

The junior section was as strong as ever with boys teams from under 7's to under 16's together with a girls under 16 team. Chairperson Dave Auker-Howlett was appointed to coach the Gloucestershire under 15 squad and Chris Tingle became the new rugby coach at the Forest of Dean College. The college used the facilities at Drybrook for their Wednesday afternoon games.

A feature of the season was the county competitions and festivals in which Drybrook distinguished themselves by getting to the latter stages of most age groups.

Controversy also surfaced in the junior cups with Drybrook under 13's expelled after refusing to take part in a re-organised competition to suit some clubs that had originally declined to take part.

The stand out performance was from the Under 14 XV who reached the county plate final against Thornbury but lost out in the final held at Stroud's Fromehall Park. The team only tasted defeat twice all season with both of those coming in the county cup.

Several new clubs appeared on the fixture lists including Launceston, New Panteg and Stevenage.

There were not many clubs for the Under 16 girls to compete against but they achieved some good victories over Oxford, Thornbury(twice), Avon(twice) and Hereford. They also competed in a tournament featuring Hereford Lions, Hereford Tigers, Avon and Thornbury. Some high tempo rugby was played

SEASON 2002-2003

and Drybrook won three of their four matches to finish level on points with tournament winners Hereford Lions.

The only side to lower their colours during the season were Bridgend who had a formidable team.

Representative honours were earned this season by Rebecca Dubberley, Chelsea Atkins and Jade Armitage (South West of England Under 16 girls), Alistair Griffin (Gloucestershire Under 15 boys) and Dave Bowen (Gloucestershire Under 17 boys)

The end of season junior presentation day was attended by a huge crowd of players, their families and supporters.

Former international player John Watkins and ladies' International Selena Rudge were guests of honour and presented awards to the following players;

| Age Group | Player of the Year | Most Improved |
|------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Under 8 | Joe Tingle | Dan Pearson |
| Under 9 | Ben Large | Jack Davis |
| Under 10/11's | Tom Morse | Sam Chappel-Davis |
| Under 12 | Ceri Large | Jack O'Connell |
| Under 13 | Chris Tuck | Mitchell Browning |
| Under 14 | Ed Williams | Nick Lewis |
| Under 16's | Dean Large | Thomas Treherne |
| Under 16 Girls | Emma Hunt | Jess Green |

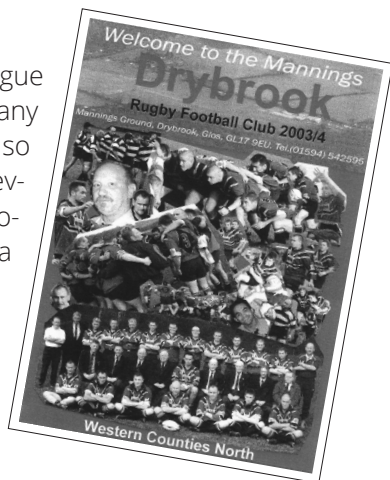
The award for young club person of the year went to Dean Large.

SEASON 2003-2004

Promotion back to the Western Counties league provided a fresh challenge for Drybrook but any hopes of carrying forward the team who did so well the previous season were quickly dispelled. Several players either moved on, stopped playing altogether, or did not make themselves available on a regular basis.

Skipper Neil Morgan and coach Peter Jones had to make do with what they had but this led to disjointed season with a constant concern over relegation.

Veteran Alan Parsons was pressed into coming back as scrum half due to the departure of both Danny Griffiths and Leon Meek and elsewhere Ryan Phillips, Lee Phelps, Lee Ward, Chris Thomas and Greg Kiernan were long term absentees for a variety of reasons.



Drybrook 1st XV 2003/2004

Back Row; Peter Jones (Coach), Mark Weaver, Scott Williams, Lee Phelps, Chris Rawlings, Peter Meek, Neil Merrett, Simon Rugman, Steve Rawlings, Jim Rugman.

Middle; Mark Cook, Tom Ward, Gerald Ward (President), Neil Morgan (Captain), Paul Mason (Chairman), Alf Mason, Dereck Trigg.

Front; Jason Roberts, Alan Parsons, Steve Skelton, Dave Thomas, Scott Phelps, Tom Reed, Jamie Roberts.

SEASON 2003-2004

Western Counties North League

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|----------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Gordon League | 22 | 20 | 0 | 2 | 565 | 182 | 40 |
| Spartans | 22 | 16 | 0 | 6 | 691 | 332 | 32 |
| Walcot * | 22 | 16 | 0 | 6 | 411 | 294 | 30 |
| Yatton | 22 | 10 | 2 | 10 | 385 | 438 | 22 |
| Bristol Harlequins * | 22 | 11 | 1 | 10 | 273 | 325 | 21 |
| Old Centralians | 22 | 10 | 0 | 12 | 469 | 524 | 20 |
| Whitehall | 22 | 9 | 2 | 11 | 262 | 350 | 20 |
| Matson * | 22 | 10 | 0 | 12 | 429 | 377 | 18 |
| Drybrook | 22 | 8 | 2 | 12 | 313 | 379 | 18 |
| BartonHill * | 22 | 8 | 1 | 13 | 243 | 356 | 15 |
| Old Richians | 22 | 6 | 0 | 16 | 357 | 465 | 12 |
| Gordano | 22 | 3 | 2 | 17 | 279 | 655 | 8 |

Points deducted *

This inevitably led to opportunities for some of the club's younger players and James Hillcoat, Craig Moore and Tad Chapman became regular additions to the squad.

The season started well enough with a mid-week victory over Lydney United – the first defeat for them for over two years.

Next up was the first league match at Whitehall where a 13pts – all draw was recognised as a good start.

Unfortunately the season started to fall away after that with the team struggling to make an impact on the road but the home form was as good as ever and effectively kept Drybrook in the league.

The best result was achieved over eventual runners-up Spartans (20-15) and there was also a first ever victory at Matson's Redwell Road ground to savour. Champions Gordon League scored a late try to win (5-10) at the Mannings but perhaps the most memorable game was a nil-nil draw at Yatton which was played out in atrocious conditions with the powerful wind making constructive rugby impossible. Neil Merrett had the chance to give Drybrook victory with a kick in front of the posts, but such was the strength of the wind, the ball ended up behind him!

SEASON 2003-2004

In the RFU Powergen cup Drybrook saw off Old Richians (13-12) in round one but were well beaten in the next round (0 – 34) by a slick Gloucester Old Boys outfit who were operating around the top of South West 2 at the time. Old Boys carried their form right through the competition and reached the Twickenham final.

The future of the county cup was debated at great length during the season with suggestions sought for an improved structure to save the competition. In the Forest Senior Cup Drybrook overwhelmed BerryHill United (34 – nil) at Lakers Road but came unstuck against a very powerful Lydney United team in the final. The Lydney 1st team were operating at National League 1 so consequently had a very talented squad to call on and many of these players were prominent for their United XV in their successful cup campaign.

At the end of the season Peter Jones stood down as coach after a second spell lasting six seasons. He felt it was time for the club to change direction and bring in a fresh face to move things forward. His contribution was recognised with a special award at the end of season dinner.

The club tour this year was based at the Quality Hotel in Wigan with a match against nearby Newton-le-Willows.

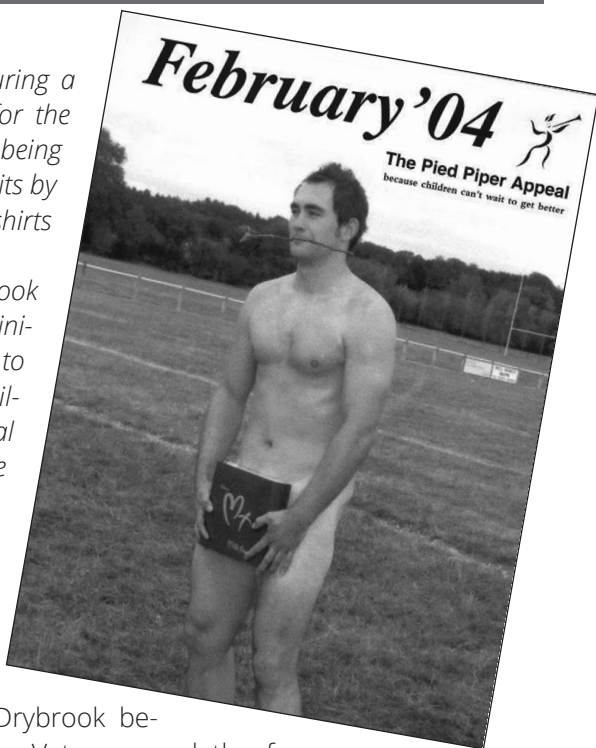


*Gerald Ward, Andrew Clements (Mowtech), Chris Rawlings, Neil Morgan, Neil Merrett
Tania Merrett, Mike Botchett (Royal Forest Kitchens), Ian Pritchard (Mowtech),
Robert Morgan (Morgan Electrical)*

The club were fortunate in securing a number of sponsorship deals for the season with the 1st XV shirts being sponsored by Mowtech, Track suits by Dean Forest Kitchens and dress shirts by Morgan Electrical.

Throughout the season the club took part in a number of fund raising initiatives for the Pied Piper Appeal to help raise funds for the new children's wards at Gloucester Royal Hospital. This included a nude calendar.

February's choice, Peter Meek is seen advertising Valentine's Day.



A match also took place at Drybrook between the Forest Combination Veterans and the famous Cherry Pickers (Gloucester Veterans). The match ended in a rare defeat for the Cherry pickers.

DRYBROOK UNITED XV

With the 1st XV constantly calling up players the second team had a season of disruption and for the first time ever no official captain was appointed. Lee Wilks, Clayton Ryder and Andy Jones were at various times the unofficial captain so in the circumstances their record of 14 victories, 4 draws and 13 losses was quite an achievement. The fixture list was also strengthened and included the 1st XV's of Ross-on-Wye, Cheltenham Civil Service, Gloucester All Blues, Smiths Industries, Westbury-on-Severn, Dursley and Bream.

There were some good victories to savour, not least over ConeyHill, Spartans and Cinderford Stags. The four drawn matches were all against decent teams in Monmouth, Gloucester Old Boys, Smiths 1sts and BerryHill. The BerryHill match in particular was a thriller with Drybrook coming back from 13pts - 35pts down to draw level at 35pts - all.

The team should have improved on their poor record in the Forest Junior Cup where they again reached the final but lost out by 5pts - 6pts to Cinderford Stags. Phil Probert scored the only try of the game but Drybrook had numerous chances to win the game but could not put over one single kick.

Prop forward Ian Treherne was the leading try scorer with 12 and they came from the 17 games he played in which included 9 appearances as a replacement.

Dave Payne played in 26 of the 31 games and Jimmy Ryder managed the most points (73) despite spending a lot of the season moving between the senior teams.

DRYBROOK EXTRAS

Dave Auker-Howlett was elected 3rd team captain and his team inevitably suffered the most with call ups to the 2nd team a regular feature of the campaign. Nevertheless a good team spirit developed and they managed 30 games winning 11 and drawing 3. The majority of the games were against local 2nd XV's as well as the 1st XV's of Dowty, Newent and Greyhound (Hereford)

Results improved dramatically in the latter part of the season when more players became available but the Forest Minor Cup again eluded them when they lost out to a strong Cinderford Bucks team 3pts - 6pts in the semi-final.

JUNIOR RUGBY

The club were competitive at almost every age group with the under 14 team being particularly strong. They achieved a first ever victory over ConeyHill (19-12) and hammered Old Richians (62-nil), Thornbury (59-nil) and Cinderford (70-nil) as well as notching up a string of other victories including one over Suffolk tourists Bury St Edmunds. The team included Mitch Browning, Dan James, Aaron Ryder, Jamie Fox, Chris Tuck and Dan Auker-Howlett.

There was disappointment in the county cup though when they lost out to Hucclecote (10 -15) in the quarter final.

The under 14's also enjoyed a short end of season tour with a match at Devonport Services.

The Under 15 boys reached the Gloucestershire Plate final after seeing off Bristol Shoguns in the semi-final. There was disappointment for them in the final once again but six of the team were selected for the Forest of Dean District under 15's; Nick Lewis, Nathan Gurney, Ashley Nelmes, Gareth Ruck, Tom



Under 8's

Back Row – Guy Pearson, Dan Pearson, Ryan Evans, Scott Frowen, AJ Jenkins, Harry Johnson, Front; Alex Iles, Kieran Auker-Howlett, Andrew Hoult, Amelia Andrew, Nathan Morgan.

Maskell and Ryan Dubberley. In the younger age groups the Under 10's won through a couple of county tournaments before being undone by eventual winners Cirencester (5 – 10) in the semi-final by a late try.

The under 8's also suffered a last minute defeat (15 -20) in their semi-final, this time to Minchinhampton, but the squad could reflect on a fine season that brought 17 wins and three draws in the 24 games played overall. Only Minchinhampton and Painswick lowered their colours during the season.

Due to a lack of numbers, the Under 17's joined forces with BerryHill RFC to embark on the county cup trail together. The combined team started well enough by dismantling Old Patesians (42-nil) in Round 1 but subsequent disciplinary problems led to the team being withdrawn from the competition.

GIRLS RUGBY

The Under 16 girls entered into the newly formed South West Merit league and quickly stamped their authority with some convincing performances over Avon (63 – nil) and Trowbridge (46-nil). The merit table folded soon after this with so few teams and a gulf in ability between some of the clubs hastening its demise.

Jess Green joined Rebecca Dubberley and Jade Armitage in the South West squad this season.

SEASON 2004-2005

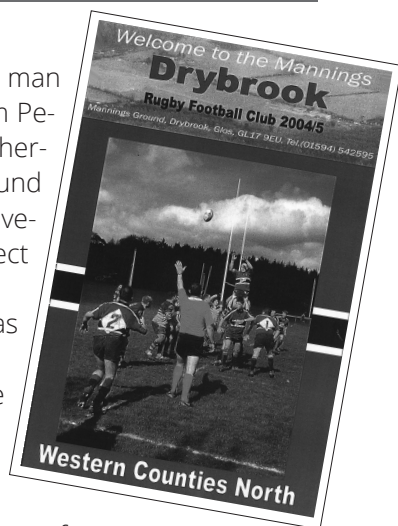
Gulf war veteran Dave Guyan (40) was the man appointed to take over as head coach from Peter Jones. The former Taunton, North Petherton and Royal Navy player had a varied background in rugby coaching circles which also included involvement with the RFU women's section helping to select the next academy and full England squads.

Working alongside was new captain Chris Thomas who had taken over from Neil Morgan.

The hope that some fresh faces would bring a change of fortune was cruelly dashed by a poor turnout at pre-season training and an unprecedented injury crisis once the season was underway.

The terrible run of bad luck led to the loss on average of two players a game for the first six weeks of the season leaving them marooned at the bottom of the league with a series of heavy defeats doing little to boost morale.

It took until mid-October to record the first victory of the season over Matson



Western Counties North League

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Taunton | 22 | 16 | 2 | 4 | 601 | 289 | 34 |
| Thornbury | 22 | 16 | 0 | 6 | 512 | 309 | 32 |
| Cheltenham North | 22 | 15 | 0 | 7 | 525 | 339 | 30 |
| Yatton | 22 | 13 | 0 | 9 | 452 | 324 | 26 |
| Bristol Harlequins | 22 | 12 | 2 | 8 | 438 | 314 | 26 |
| Old Centralians | 22 | 11 | 0 | 11 | 532 | 481 | 22 |
| Whitehall | 22 | 10 | 2 | 10 | 400 | 351 | 22 |
| Walcot | 22 | 10 | 1 | 11 | 424 | 373 | 21 |
| Oldfield Old Boys | 22 | 9 | 3 | 10 | 362 | 390 | 21 |
| Drybrook | 22 | 7 | 0 | 15 | 293 | 528 | 14 |
| Nailsea & Backwell | 22 | 4 | 0 | 18 | 277 | 643 | 8 |
| Matson | 22 | 4 | 0 | 18 | 283 | 758 | 8 |

SEASON 2004-2005



Drybrook 1st XV 2004/2005

(Back row); Mark Cook, Neil Morgan, Alan Parsons, Simon Rugman, Scott Phelps, Craig Moore, James Hillcoat, Chris Rawlings, Sean Bourne, Steve Turley, John Everitt, Dean Large, Simon Burke, Dave Payne, Tad Chapman, Pete Meek.

Seated; Danny Griffiths, Tom Reed, Dereck Trigg, Peter Jones, Gerald Ward (President), Chris Thomas (Captain), Alf Mason, Steve Skelton, Steve Rawlings, Neil Merrett

in the county cup and it was November before the first league points arrived with victory over Oldfield Old Boys.

With no sign of results improving Dave Gyan left the club by mutual consent and senior players Chris Rawlings and Neil Morgan stepped in to replace him until the end of the season.

Slowly but surely results improved as players began to return and the target was to try and keep Drybrook in the league. They almost did it by ending up third from bottom and out of the automatic relegation places. Restructuring higher up in the leagues, and the knock on effect though, led to three going down so unfortunately it meant a return to Gloucestershire Premier.

It was not all doom and gloom and from January onwards the playing record was actually quite good with the team even giving the title winners Taunton a run for their money at their impressive new headquarters. The Taunton team included five Fijians in their line up and won the title that day in front of a very large crowd.

In the Forest Cup Drybrook saw off BerryHill and Bream but once again fell at the last hurdle to Lydney United (5 - 20) in the final.

At the end of the season the club enjoyed a short tour to the North West, staying at Blackpool and playing a fixture against Preston Grasshoppers.

The disappointment of relegation was quickly forgotten when news filtered through that the club had been successful in its application to the RFU for

a new state of the art floodlighting system to replace the existing training lights. The £43,000 award included the addition of a 3 phase electricity supply to the club.

UNITED XV

The GRFU joined forces with the Citizen newspaper to come up with a plan to achieve more meaningful fixtures for the teams below first team level and so another new competition was launched.

Drybrook 2nds were placed in the top flight which at least meant a lot fewer games were called off but even so it failed to capture the imagination. Skipper Andy Jones had to contend with an ever changing team and called on 77 players during the season. A more committed approach would surely have led to a higher placed finish but in the end they had to make do with 4th spot and a 50% record.

The overall record of 18 wins from 31 games was an under achievement considering the depth of talent in the squad.

GRFU Citizen Merit Table - Division 1

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|-----------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| ConeyHill 2nds | 13 | 12 | 0 | 1 | 409 | 51 | 57 | 87.69 |
| Matson 2nds | 13 | 10 | 0 | 3 | 205 | 185 | 49 | 75.38 |
| Gordon League 2nds | 11 | 7 | 0 | 4 | 185 | 168 | 39 | 70.91 |
| Drybrook 2nds | 14 | 7 | 0 | 7 | 188 | 206 | 42 | 60.00 |
| Stroud 2nds | 11 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 245 | 155 | 39 | 70.91 |
| Old Richians 2nds | 13 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 118 | 154 | 25 | 38.46 |
| Stow-on-the-Wold 2nds | 14 | 3 | 0 | 11 | 119 | 322 | 26 | 37.14 |
| Cinderford 3rds | 13 | 1 | 0 | 12 | 92 | 320 | 13 | 20.00 |

Drybrook Extras

It was business as usual for the 3rd XV who were placed in a league made up almost entirely of 2nd XV's. Even so four of the matches were called off by opposition clubs who could not raise teams and it was not much better in the friendly fixtures where a further five games were also cancelled.

The team took part in a charity match against the Forest Pirates SCUBA Club XV to raise money for the Pied Piper Appeal as well as hosting the 1st XV of touring Fawley from Southampton – both games resulting in victories.

SEASON 2004-2005

GRFU Citizen Merit Table - Division 3

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|--------------------|----|----|---|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Bream 2nds | 14 | 10 | 0 | 4 | 279 | 195 | 54 | 77.14 |
| Hucclecote 2nds | 14 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 369 | 139 | 52 | 74.29 |
| Old Cryptians 2nds | 14 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 266 | 173 | 52 | 74.29 |
| Brockworth 2nds | 11 | 6 | 0 | 5 | 172 | 148 | 31 | 56.36 |
| Cheltenham CS 2nds | 14 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 146 | 252 | 36 | 51.43 |
| Westbury 2nds | 12 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 183 | 239 | 30 | 50.00 |
| Drybrook 3rds | 10 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 114 | 226 | 18 | 36.00 |
| Smiths 2nds | 11 | 2 | 0 | 9 | 134 | 291 | 11 | 20.00 |

The team also had the satisfaction of ending the season on a high when they lifted the Forest Combination Minor Cup after beating Westbury-on-Severn 2nds in the final.



Skipper Dave Williams is hoisted aloft after leading his team to victory in the Forest Minor Cup over Westbury 2nds at Bream.

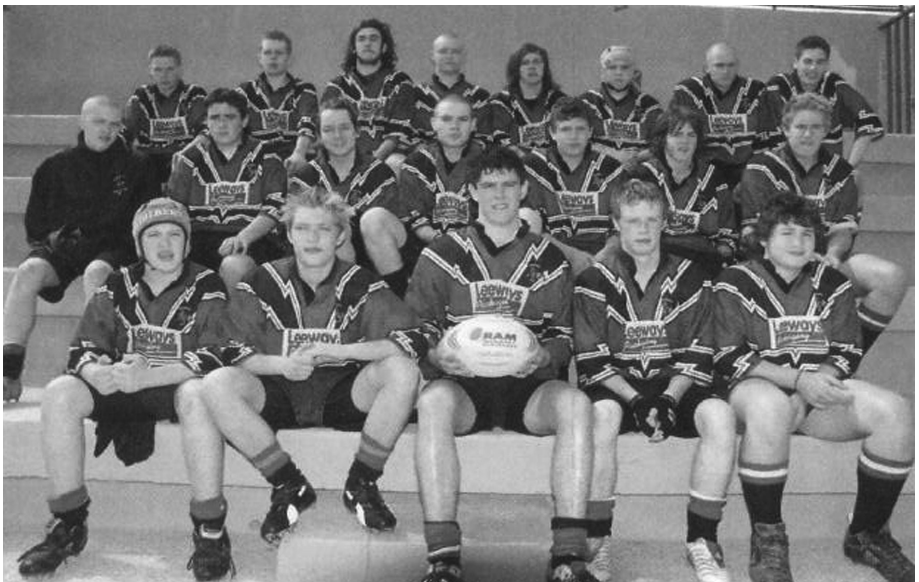
L to R; Greg Kiernan, Dave Auker-Howlett, Pete Cinderey, Phil Probert, Chris Tingle, Ryan Tandy, Dave Williams, Nigel Bennett, Adam Yemm, Chris Treherne, Tom Roach, Dave Appleby, Matt Jackson, Lee Wilks, Craig Jackson, Richard Probert, Dave Thomas.

JUNIOR SECTION

The highlight of another successful season for the junior section came in January 2005 when world cup winner Phil Vickery arrived to present the club with the RFU Seal of Approval. Drybrook became one of the first junior sections in the county to be accredited with this prestigious award that recognised good practice in a number of disciplines including management, coaching and safeguarding. Chairman Dave Auker-Howlett, Secretary Dawn Frowen, Treasurer Tony Smith and Child Protection Officer Karen Large were the key drivers in ensuring Drybrook complied with all the necessary standards.



It was another busy year for the section with teams competing at nearly every age grade and a tour to the South West of France for the Under 16 XV.



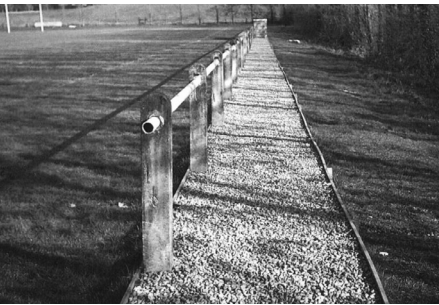
Skipper Gareth Ruck with his Under 16 squad prior to the game with Sanary/Le Brusca which resulted in a 12pts – nil victory for the combined team.

SEASON 2004-2005



A spot of training on the beach in preparation for the fixture with Mourillon obviously stood the team in good stead as they triumphed by 12pts - 5pts thanks to tries from Dean Jelf and Nick Lewis plus a conversion from Ryan Dubberley.

There were tournament successes and some impressive playing records for the teams including the Under 11's who were just edged out of the county cup when they drew in the quarter final with Cinderford. Alas, points scored in pool games earlier in the tournament, was used to decide who went through. On a sadder note Dave Roberts, one of the pioneers of the junior section, died in February 2005. Dave had family connections at the club spanning three generations and was also instrumental in a lot of fund raising and event organising at the club.



The Mannings was a hive of activity in early September when a contingent of students from the Royal Forest of Dean College came along to build some team dug outs and to provide a gravel path as part of their construction course.

Under the watchful eye of co-ordinators Chris Tingle and Dave Auker-Howlett the students beavered away for several weeks to produce the much needed facility improvements.

SEASON 2004-2005



Drybrook under 8's pictured at the Gloucestershire RFU County Plate Final where they shared the trophy with Cirencester after drawing 25pts – all in the final.

Josh Peck, Jordan Taylor, Luke Roberts, Alex Iles and Kieran Auker-Howlett scored tries in the final. The other squad members were Will Biggs, Shaun Carter, and George Cinderey.



Drybrook under 11's were victorious in the BerryHill RFC Invitation tournament in which 15 clubs competed – they saw off the hosts in the final.

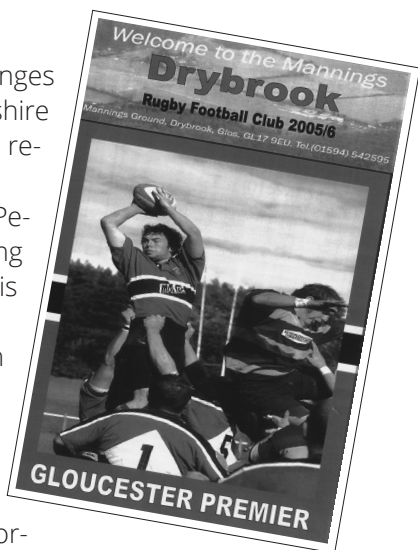
SEASON 2005-2006

There were some organisational changes made for the return to the Gloucestershire Premier League with the goal of a quick return to a higher level.

Neil Merrett took over as 1st XV captain and Peter Jones returned as director of rugby working closely with coaches Neil Morgan and Chris Rawlings who remained in position.

There was a lot of excitement in pre-season with the new floodlights being installed and a belief that the improved training facilities would encourage better participation at training leading to improved results on the field.

Pre-season went very well with prop Wayne Morris joining from Cinderford and fellow prop Mark Castree returning from university expected to push for 1st XV places. Ex Spartans back row



Drybrook 1st XV

(Back Row) Mark Cook (First Aid), John Duffin, Steve Rawlings, Simon Burke, Scott Phelps, Neil Morgan, Chris Rawlings, Richard Roberts, Clayton Ryder, James Hillcoat, Peter Jones (Director of Rugby)

(Front Row) Dereck Trigg (Manager), Craig Moore, Clive Boughton, Chris Thomas, Neil Merrett (Captain), Steve Skelton, David Payne, Tom Reed, Jamie Roberts, Dean Large.

SEASON 2005-2006

man John Duffin was a welcome addition to the squad particularly as work commitments had led to No 8 John Everitt leaving the area.

Early season went well with the club participating at the Droitwich Tens tournament as well as recording good victories over Matson and Gloucester Old Boys in friendly games.

Gloucestershire Premier League

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|-----------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| ChosenHill FP | 18 | 17 | 0 | 1 | 591 | 195 | 34 |
| Barton Hill | 18 | 13 | 0 | 5 | 437 | 240 | 26 |
| Widden Old Boys | 18 | 12 | 1 | 5 | 305 | 263 | 25 |
| Old Colstonians | 18 | 12 | 0 | 6 | 396 | 314 | 24 |
| Old Richians | 18 | 10 | 0 | 8 | 378 | 324 | 20 |
| Matson | 18 | 9 | 0 | 9 | 374 | 384 | 18 |
| Drybrook | 18 | 7 | 0 | 11 | 306 | 332 | 14 |
| Aretians | 18 | 6 | 1 | 11 | 292 | 439 | 13 |
| Longlevens | 18 | 2 | 0 | 16 | 226 | 537 | 4 |
| Painswick | 18 | 1 | 0 | 17 | 214 | 491 | 2 |

Drybrook won the first league match at BartonHill and then overcame Bream in the 1st Round of the RFU Powergen Vase.

Aretians were overwhelmed (55 -8) in the next game which was a personal triumph for Chris Rawlings who not only played in his 500th 1st XV game but also became the first person to play in 200 league matches for the club.

Things went rapidly downhill after this with the team losing five league matches on the trot and an injury to skipper Neil Merrett left them without a regular goal kicker for a period.

The only ray of hope during this period was a victory at Cheltenham Saracens in the 2nd round of the RFU Vase but in the next round they were blown away at BartonHill (3 - 41)

Drybrook had to wait until December for their next league victory over Longlevens and the following week they won again, this time at Painswick, where they ended the game with only 12 players after two red cards and a yellow had threatened to de-rail them again.

SEASON 2005-2006

Suspensions, injuries and a lack of confidence all took their toll after the Christmas break but a late rally ensured they were never in danger of going down. In the county cup Drybrook went out to a strong Old Patesians outfit under the new floodlights but interest was retained by a new county cup plate competition for the first round losers.

Gordon League handed Drybrook a walkover in the plate quarter final and in the semi-final they were drawn away at Clifton who were riding high in South West One at the time.

Drybrook gave their hosts an unexpectedly tough evening under the Cribbs Causeway floodlights in one of their better performances of the season before succumbing to a late rally (20-39)

It was a familiar story in the Forest Cup with a loss at the semi-final stage at old adversaries Lydney United (15 - 24)

At the end of the season both coaches decided to stand down after finding it hard concentrating on playing and coaching but they remained committed to the club.

It was the hope that the club could secure the services of an experienced player/coach and the search began in earnest.

Skipper Neil Merrett, and manager Dereck Trigg also declined the opportunity to continue in their roles.

On a more positive note the committee took the decision to pay off its existing brewery loan (£22,000) to enable the club to become completely debt free and to create the opportunity for better trading deals in the future.

The season ended with a short tour to Yorkshire where the team scored an impressive victory at Sheffield Tigers RFC.

GRFU Citizen Merit Table 2005/6

Division 1

| | Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | Scratch | For | Agst | Diff | Points | %age |
|------------------|--------|-----|------|-------|---------|-----|------|------|--------|--------|
| Coney Hill 2nd | 12 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 294 | 69 | 225 | 52 | 86.67% |
| Berry Hill 2nd | 15 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 284 | 146 | 138 | 55 | 73.33% |
| Chelt North 2nd | 15 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 223 | 157 | 66 | 53 | 70.67% |
| Old Richians 2nd | 15 | 8 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 238 | 277 | -39 | 47 | 62.67% |
| Drybrook 2nd | 14 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 165 | 164 | 1 | 42 | 60.00% |
| Spartans 2nd | 11 | 8 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 220 | 249 | -29 | 23 | 41.82% |
| Matson 2nd | 14 | 5 | 9 | 0 | 2 | 181 | 308 | -127 | 26 | 37.14% |
| Gordon L'gue 2nd | 15 | 5 | 10 | 0 | 2 | 216 | 282 | -66 | 27 | 36.00% |
| Glos OB 2nd | 15 | 2 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 172 | 314 | -142 | 23 | 30.67% |
| Chelt.Sabres | 6 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 104 | 131 | -27 | -20 | 0.00% |

DRYBROOK UNITED XV

When the 1st XV struggle, the lower teams usually feel the knock on effect but skipper Andy Jones did a very good job in his second term. The first division of the GRFU Citizen Merit table contained some tough fixtures but the team won half of their games and were very competitive in the ones they lost.

The best achievement was in recording the double over neighbours BerryHill United whilst in the non-league fixtures a 62pts – 8pts win at Monmouth Druids was especially memorable. The young team ripped the Welshmen apart with Dean and Dan Large, Dave Appleby, Tom Roach and Carl Moore all having a significant impact.

The overall record showed 15 wins from the 28 games played with Andy Milner beginning to make a name for himself by scoring 122 points with the boot.



Cyril Ravenhill, president of Gloucestershire Rugby Football Union, performed the switch on of the club's newly installed floodlights surrounded by club officials and representatives from Gloucestershire RFU.

Left to right; Chris Tingle, Glyn Tingle, Terry Berwell, John Darlaston (Chairman, GRFU), Alan Miles, Cyril RavenHill, Gerald Ward, Paul Mason, Dereck Trigg, Chris Hale and Dave Stublely (RFU)

A junior exhibition game was followed by a match between Drybrook 1st XV and an Invitation XV made up of players from around the Forest of Dean went the way of the Invitation XV by 19pts – nil.

SEASON 2005-2006



Club captain Neil Merrett receiving a set of polo shirts for his team from D & F Coleman Ltd Haulage Services.

DRYBROOK EXTRAS

Again under the leadership of prop forward Dave Williams the Extras struggled for a large part of the season. For the first time the team had to hand walkovers to two opposition clubs in the Merit league, both coming when calls from the senior sides were at their peak.

Results improved as more players became available and the team won five games in April in some style as well as managing to retain the Forest Combination minor Cup.

Division 4

| | Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | Scratch | For | Agst | Diff | Points | %age |
|-------------------|--------|-----|------|-------|---------|-----|------|------|--------|--------|
| Westbury 2nd | 13 | 11 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 347 | 113 | 234 | 61 | 93.85% |
| Dursley Nomads | 11 | 6 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 200 | 211 | -11 | 35 | 63.64% |
| Glos C S 2nd | 14 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 222 | 212 | 10 | 42 | 60.00% |
| Cainscross 2nd | 13 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 222 | 218 | 4 | 35 | 53.85% |
| Berry Hill 3rd | 9 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 154 | 135 | 19 | 23 | 51.11% |
| Old Patesians 4th | 8 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 138 | 76 | 62 | 20 | 50.00% |
| Drybrook 3rd | 11 | 2 | 9 | 0 | 2 | 135 | 242 | -107 | 11 | 20.00% |
| Chelt C S 3rd | 7 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 6 | 80 | 239 | -159 | -17 | 0.00% |
| Tetbury 2nd | 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 98 | 152 | -54 | -15 | 0.00% |
| Smiths 2nd | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 9 | 81 | 79 | 2 | -25 | 0.00% |

SEASON 2005-2006

Cinderford Bucks were thrashed (48 – 0) in round one but it was much closer against Westbury 3rds in the semi-final (6 - 3)

The final, again played at Bream, turned out to be a lot easier against the Westbury second string where Drybrook emerged victorious by 29pts – 9pts. Gareth Roach ended the season with the most points (44) and considering he only played in the cup run it was some achievement.



At the start of the season a special match was played to remember Dave “Quango” Roberts who had died earlier in the year. Drybrook Boys v Quango’s Boys featured 46 players in all, with ages ranging from 8 to 50+. Many played under Dave during the days when he was heavily involved in running the club’s mini section. Drybrook Boys narrowly won the game 31 – 28 but the score was hardly important. A barbecue followed the match and Tom Jones and Shania Twain tribute acts sang to a packed clubhouse. A collection was made for the Diabetic Clinic at Gloucester Royal Hospital.

JUNIOR RUGBY

When Drybrook’s young players turned up for training at the start of this season they were issued with a smart new match strip. Every team from Under 7’s to Under 17’s now had matching club colours for the first time.

Three teams attracted local sponsors while the rest were funded by a £500 grant from the parish council in recognition of the work done in the local community.

The sponsors were; U16’s – Richard’s Crane & Transport, U10’s – Fisher Builders, U9’s – Ross Aviation.

SEASON 2005-2006

The section also had some assistance in the form of students from Hartpury College and the University of Gloucestershire for the first time. As part of their courses the students came along to provide first aid cover, referee matches and help out with the coaching duties. This helped to ease the burden of running such a large and successful section.

The teams did not let their new sponsors down and the playing records were again impressive. The Under 12's in particular did extremely well and won the Cheltenham tournament as well as defending their crown at the BerryHill tournament. They failed in their bid to reach the county final when they were defeated by eventual winners St Marys at the quarter final stage after coming through a tough pool that included Bristol, Cirencester, Painswick and Stroud.

The Under 10's were the unluckiest side in the county tournament when they were beaten by the weather. A heavy snow storm in the Forest made it impossible to travel so they had to drop out. As a way of compensation two hastily arranged tournaments were organised, the first at Drybrook against Oxford Harlequins and Old Patesians resulted in victory for the home side.

Two weeks later they repeated their success, this time at an all Forest tournament at BerryHill RFC.

The Under 9's scored 15 tries in their four county pool matches but were adjudged runners -up as Longlevens had scored more tries. This meant they had to face the all-conquering Cirencester "A" team in the quarter final where, after a valiant effort, they lost by 2 tries.

The girls' section ran teams at under 14 and under 17 age groups but with a lack of fixtures they often found themselves helping other teams in the county with players just to gain match experience.

Nikki Thomas took on the coaching duties after Shelley Bourne took some time out for maternity leave.

On the representative front Jess Hunt, Ceri Large, Lucy Meek and Louise Morton were all selected for the Gloucestershire under 17's with Kelly Marie-Burke, Chloe Moore and Rosie Morse making the county under 14 team. The under 14 team also included try scoring machine Lauren Graham in their ranks but although she missed out on representative honours this term she was soon to make her mark.

The end of season presentation had to be held in a marquee for the first

SEASON 2005-2006

time as the club house was not big enough to accommodate the increase in numbers.

England and British Lions prop Phil Vickery was the guest of honour, presenting the awards and giving a well-received speech about the value of grass roots rugby.

Sally Morse won the Dave Roberts Memorial Trophy for volunteer of the year and Tracey and Ian Dubberley were presented with gifts to mark their retirement after 11 years cooking, coaching, and helping the junior section.

Other awards presented were;

| | Best Player | Most Improved |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Under 7's | Kerry Powell | Macauley Moore |
| Under 8's | Joe Watts | Sam Jenkins |
| Under 9's | Connor Gardiner | George Cinderey |
| Under 10's | Dan Pearson | Joel Osbourne |
| Under 11's | Craig Boughton | Lewis Hek |
| Under 12's | Kyle Frowen | Hayden Parker |
| Under 14's | Rob King | Richard Mace |
| Under 16's | Liam Jackson | Steve Virgo |
| Under 17's | Gareth Ruck | Ashley Burris |
| Under 14 Girls | Chloe Moore | Lauren Graham |
| Under 17 Girls | Ceri Large | Louise Morton |

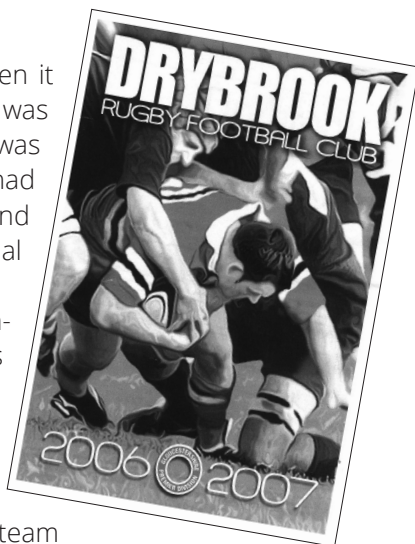
There was also a special award to Ollie Moore (under 7's/8's) for scoring more than 50 tries and after the formal presentations Mr Tony Cole of Harriers Financial Services presented the girls' section with new match shirts for next season.

SEASON 2006-2007

Drybrook pulled off a massive coup when it was announced that Julian Horrobin was to be the new player/coach. Horrobin was arguably the best rugby player the Forest had produced over the previous 10 -15 years and had enjoyed a long and successful professional career with Gloucester, Bristol and Coventry. He also represented England Schools and England Under 21's as well as the East Midlands and the Barbarians and saw the Drybrook job as the ideal opportunity to launch his own coaching career.

Prop forward Tom Reed was to be the new 1st XV captain and he was joined by a new team manager in Alan Miles.

The buzz of Horrobin's appointment immediately reaped dividends with greater numbers at pre-season training and several of the previous season's absentees returning.



Drybrook 1st XV

(Back Row) – Alan Miles, Mike Rawlings, Luke Beard, Simon Ballinger, Chris Rawlings, Neil Morgan, Julian Horrobin, Leon Meek, John Duffin, Peter Meek, Steve Skelton, Jason Roberts, Mark Cook.

Middle; Tom Ward, Dereck Trigg, Brian Hale, Gerald Ward (President), Tom Reed (Captain), Paul Mason (Chairman), Roger Hale, Chris Hale, Alf Mason.

Front; Jamie Roberts, Chris Thomas, David Payne, Craig Moore, Carl Moore, Tom Treherne, Scott Phelps, Steve Williams.

SEASON 2006-2007



Brian Hale (Polypipe), Alan Miles, Tom Reed, Roger Hale (Hale & Co), Gerald Ward.

The club also received another boost with the news that a Colts XV was to be run for the first time in 10 years.

Pre-season went very well with comfortable victories over Ross and Gloucester Old Boys but a reversal at home to a higher ranked Gordon League was not unexpected.

Once the league programme got underway Drybrook set the pace with a string of victories

including those over eventual champions Avonmouth and runners-up Widden Old Boys.

The league soon became a three horse race with Drybrook as the favourites but unexpected defeats against Old Richians and Cirencester (twice) meant that Avonmouth and Widden were always in contention.

Into the business end of the season Drybrook defeated Widden for the second time but lost out at Avonmouth (12 - 18) in a game that went the way of the Bristol men on a saturated pitch.

It all came down to the last weekend and if all three won then points difference would come in to it. Avonmouth claimed top spot but although Drybrook beat Matson, news came through that Widden had won by over 80 points at sorry Painswick to claim the play-off spot.

Drybrook achieved the same number of wins as the two teams above them and had the best defensive record in the league but their undoing was undoubtedly two narrow home defeats to Old Richians (10 - 11) and Cirencester (10 - 11)

There was not much luck on the cup front either with defeat at Bicester in the EDF Energy Senior Vase and a 26pts - nil reversal at Dings Crusaders in the county cup. The National 3 South outfit paid Drybrook the compliment of fielding a full strength team in a game moved to the Ashley Down Ground because of the appalling weather. It was not much better there and at one stage the game had to be halted when the posts looked in danger of collapsing.

SEASON 2006-2007

In the Forest cup Drybrook's wretched luck deserted them again when they lost out by 25pts – 27pts to Cinderford United in controversial circumstances after declining to take a conversion that would have levelled the scores.

Referee Nigel Stephenson advised them that the conversion would not be enough to see them through as a try count system was used to determine the winner. Drybrook were told they were level on tries when in fact they were ahead. They opted not to take the conversion in order to save time but could not score again as time ran out amid scenes of anger and frustration. Drybrook's desperately disappointing season concluded with the news that Horrobin had agreed to become the player/coach at BerryHill the following season.

The club put all this disappointment behind them and enjoyed a short end of season tour to Yorkshire, staying at the Regent Hotel in Doncaster, and playing against Wheatley Hill RFC.

Gloucestershire Premier League

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Avonmouth Old Boys | 22 | 18 | 0 | 4 | 624 | 209 | 36 |
| Widden Old Boys | 22 | 18 | 0 | 4 | 633 | 262 | 36 |
| Drybrook | 22 | 18 | 0 | 4 | 484 | 183 | 36 |
| Old Richians | 22 | 16 | 0 | 6 | 454 | 301 | 32 |
| Cirencester | 22 | 14 | 0 | 8 | 530 | 300 | 28 |
| Whitehall | 22 | 10 | 1 | 11 | 399 | 359 | 21 |
| Aretians | 22 | 10 | 1 | 11 | 411 | 439 | 21 |
| Frampton Cotterell | 22 | 9 | 0 | 13 | 376 | 401 | 18 |
| Matson | 22 | 9 | 0 | 13 | 250 | 357 | 18 |
| Old Colstonians | 22 | 6 | 0 | 16 | 430 | 554 | 12 |
| Painswick | 22 | 3 | 0 | 19 | 248 | 597 | 6 |
| Longlevens | 22 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 83 | 877 | -6 |

DRYBROOK UNITED XV

It was business as usual for the second team who were under the leadership of Andy Jones for a third term. Placed in the top division of the local merit league they again ended up with a mid-table finish but were left frustrated by

SEASON 2006-2007

the lack of games some clubs managed in the competition.

Drybrook's games against the eventual winners ConeyHill were close, 5 – 14 at home, and nil -10 away but a lot of other clubs found excuses not to play them and consequently demeaned the competition.

A poor showing in the Forest Junior Cup led to a 20pts - nil defeat at Cinderfod Stags in the semi-final.

Dan Large had a season to remember by ending up with the most tries (11), the most appearances (24) as well as picking up the player of the year award.

GRFU Citizen Merit Table – Division 1

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|-----------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| ConeyHill 2nds | 10 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 335 | 80 | 45 | 90 |
| Old Richians 2nds | 16 | 10 | 0 | 6 | 396 | 255 | 56 | 70 |
| Cheltenham North 2nds | 13 | 7 | 0 | 6 | 279 | 153 | 41 | 63 |
| Gordon League 2nds | 11 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 182 | 158 | 33 | 60 |
| Drybrook 2nds | 15 | 7 | 0 | 8 | 205 | 180 | 43 | 57 |
| ChosenHill 2nds | 13 | 5 | 0 | 8 | 188 | 316 | 33 | 50 |
| Old Centralians 2nds | 14 | 4 | 0 | 10 | 172 | 294 | 22 | 31 |
| BerryHill 2nds | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 127 | 160 | 14 | 28 |
| Spartans 2nds | 10 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 92 | 307 | 12 | 24 |
| Matson 2nds | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 141 | 214 | 4 | 8 |

DRYBROOK EXTRAS

New skipper Jon Mustoe led his team to a good season where they won 15 and drew 3 of their 28 games. There was a much improved performance in the GRFU Citizen Merit Table Division 4 with a fourth placed finish and a 52% record. Several clubs failed to raise teams throughout the season with a marked reluctance for some to cross the Westgate Bridge.

In the Forest Minor Cup the Extras swept the board for the third year in a row by accounting for Westbury 2nds, then Westbury 3rds in the early rounds before seeing off BerryHill Wappers (21 – 8) in the final at Cinderford.

Dave Appleby put in a man of the match performance in the final but it was hard luck on skipper Jon Mustoe who had to sit out the final and hand the reins over to Dave Williams.

SEASON 2006-2007

GRFU Citizen Merit Table - Division 4

| | P | W | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|----------------------|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Cainscross 2nds | 17 | 9 | 5 | 281 | 249 | 59 | 69.41 |
| ChosenHill 3rds | 11 | 7 | 3 | 274 | 186 | 37 | 67.27 |
| BerryHill 3rds | 10 | 5 | 5 | 155 | 160 | 30 | 60.00 |
| Drybrook 3rds | 11 | 5 | 5 | 167 | 153 | 29 | 52.73 |
| Cheltenham CS 2nds | 14 | 5 | 7 | 317 | 355 | 30 | 42.86 |
| Dursley Nomads | 14 | 4 | 10 | 146 | 304 | 30 | 42.86 |
| Old Centralians 3rds | 9 | 4 | 4 | 184 | 139 | 6 | 13.33 |
| Old Patesians 4ths | 5 | 3 | 1 | 139 | 40 | 3 | 12.00 |
| Gloucester CS 2nds | 10 | 1 | 9 | 93 | 300 | 5 | 10.00 |
| Stroud 3rds | 6 | 6 | 0 | 167 | 37 | 2 | 6.67 |

JUNIOR RUGBY

The junior section got their season off to a bang when Bath, England and Lions lock Danny Grewcock came to a festival day to represent the supporting charity, Access Sport.



Danny Grewcock with some of the younger age group players

Access Sport used central government funds to enable children to take part in grass roots sporting activities and Drybrook's seal of approval helped it to qualify for funding.

Danny spent a good deal of time with every team, training, offering tips and

SEASON 2006-2007



A new junior scrum machine was purchased as part of the Access Sport funding and in particular the under 13's found it extremely useful.

answering questions and after a most successful day he presented a £2000 cheque to Chairperson Dave Auker-Howlett as the first part of a two year funding arrangement.



GRFU U 11's County Plate Winners - Drybrook/Cinderford combined
Team; Jordan Hopwood, Will Kemp, Nathan Morgan, Zac Miles, Tom Leadbeater, Andrew Hoult, Sam Jackson, Matt Wilce, Matt Alcock, Charlie Davis, Mitch Skelton, AJ Jenkins, Ben Corbin, Caleb Meek, Chez Williams, Dan Pearson.

SEASON 2006-2007

The season was again a very busy one for the section with the under 10's playing an incredible 35 games of which 22 were won and five drawn. Few will forget the county festival at ConeyHill where the weather was absolutely dreadful and the pitches a sea of mud.

Drybrook under 10's did remarkably well to win their group and progress to the latter stages of the competition at Dursley where they beat Longlevens in the quarter final. Unfortunately they lost out by one try to Stow in the semi-final.

The under 11's struggled for numbers a bit during the season so they combined temporarily with Cinderford in the county cup. The combined team upset the odds by winning through to the plate final where they overcame Painswick (10-nil) in the final.

The Under 13's also won through to the plate final having beaten Bristol (40-0) and Painswick (20-0) in the quarter and semi-finals. Their form deserted them in the final where they ended runners-up to Old Richians (10-26)

The Under 9's beat Cinderford to end up in third place in the county plate – the first rounds of this tournament were held in a festival at Drybrook. Meanwhile the under 8's reached the quarter finals of the cup competition.

The Colts XV struggled to get fixtures as there were so few teams in the area and their presence in the national Colts cup was short lived. They went out to a very experienced Cheltenham Colts (0 – 3) in the first round and were unlucky to be held up twice in the in goal area. In the county cup Drybrook went out at the hands of eventual winners Stroud.

GIRLS RUGBY

The girls' teams had some very good seasons under the coaching of Nikki Thomas and Mark Graham. The under 17's won the Thornbury Sevens Festival beating Taunton, Burton, Thornbury, and Comets of Warwickshire along the way. Six of the under 17's made the county squad with four going on to represent the South West Regional Squad.

The under 14 girls were also sevens champions at Thornbury beating Taunton, Thornbury and Trowbridge en route to the trophy. Three of the under 14's represented the county and the South West with Rosie Morse being selected for a Talent Identification Day, a development trial for the England set up.

The greatest achievement was when the under 14 girls combined with Thornbury to contest the National Cup. Under the name Dry/Thorn they won

SEASON 2006-2007

through to the final at Lichfield RFC where they beat North West side Tyldsley 17 -15 in an exciting final. Chloe Moore showed great pace to open the scoring for Dry/Thorn but Tyldsley equalised immediately.

Thornbury's Emily Bradley restored the lead with a try, converted by Janine Millan. Tyldsley hit back again but with 6 minutes to go Drybrook's Rosie Morse scored the winning try to ensure the team were National Champions.



The victorious Drybrook teams at the Thornbury Sevens Tournament
pictured with coaches Nikki Ryder and Mark Graham



Dry/Thorn -
*The National
Champions*

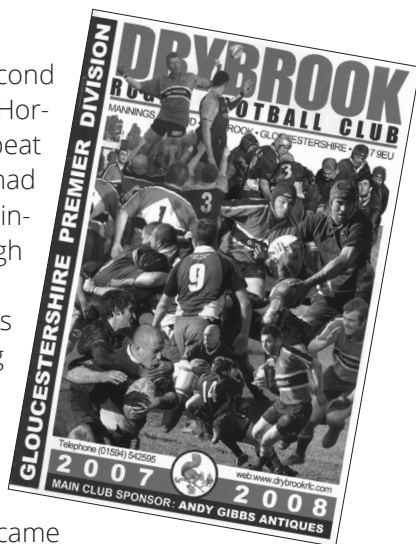
SEASON 2007-2008

Tom Reed took on the captaincy for a second season and Leon Meek replaced Julian Horrobin as the new player/coach. Meek beat off three serious contenders for the job and had experience of National League rugby with Cinderford and Lydney after progressing through the Drybrook junior and senior sections.

The club's sponsorship secretary Pete Griffiths was a busy man during the summer managing to acquire two new 1st XV shirt sponsors for the first time as well as a host of other deals for the various teams.

Off the field the club spent another £20,000 on drainage improvements, £5000 of which came from match funding through a grant from the RFU.

The season began with a special match played under floodlights to attract new players to the game. The match was part of the RFU Go Play Initiative and the interest was huge with lots of new players of all abilities signing on as a result.



Drybrook 1st XV

(Back Row) Mike Rawlings, Scott Phelps, Simon Rugman, Carl Moore, Mitch Browning, Dale Critchley, John Duffin, Chris Rawlings, Simon Ballinger, Liam Jackson, Dave Hartwell, Neil Morgan, Mark Cook.

Middle; Alan Miles, Chris Hale, Andy Gibbs, Gerald Ward (President), Tom Reed (Captain), Paul Mason (Chairman), Tom Ward, Dereck Trigg, Leon Meek.

Front; Chris Thomas, Lee Phelps, Aaron Ryder, Steve Hale, Danny Price, Danny Griffiths.

SEASON 2007-2008



Captain Tom Reed holds aloft the Combination Cup following Drybrook's unexpected victory in the 2007/08 Combination Cup final

It was always going to be a difficult season with Hartpury College arriving in the Gloucestershire Premier after three successive promotions. The College brought their vast resources to bear and went unbeaten throughout the season.

It was to Drybrook's credit that they gave the College their toughest games but some early season defeats effectively rendered the play-off spot out of reach.

It was at this stage that Meek threw caution to the wind by introducing a lot of the previous season's Colts players and Liam Jackson, Nick Lewis, Mitch Browning, Aaron Ryder

and Danny Price became regular members of the team.

Other young players also featured throughout the campaign with the investment in junior rugby beginning to pay dividends for the club.

At the end of the day 5th place overall was a good achievement with the team not quite ready to challenge for a return to the Western Counties league.

In the EDF Energy Senior Vase Round 1 the team went down disappointingly at home to Chipping Norton (13 – 16) but in the Senior Forest Cup there was success at last after eight years of waiting.

BerryHill were defeated (16 -12) at the Mannings in the first round and the team then triumphed (13 – 10) at Lydney United in the semi-final.

No one gave Drybrook much hope against the semi-professional players of Cinderford United in the final at Bream but a valiant effort proved otherwise in a narrow 13- 11 win.

Carl Moore scored two tries for Drybrook in the final with a penalty from Aaron Ryder providing the other score. Moore was driven over for his second

SEASON 2007-2008

try late in the game after a thunderous tackle from replacement Ben Steward had set the tone for a grandstand finish.

A party of 41 players and supporters went on the end of season tour to Lloret de Mar on Spain's Costa Brava for the first time where a fixture was played at RC Stiges. The dust bowl of a pitch and the soaring temperatures threatened to de-rail the tourist's ambitions but in the end they pulled through to claim victory.

The Colts XV also enjoyed a taste of foreign travel when they visited Malta on a superb tour organised by Richard Jackson and Steve Virgo where they played a fixture against Valetta Lions.

High Bridge Jewellers Gloucestershire Premier League

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---------------------|----|----|---|----|------|-----|-----|
| Hartpury College | 22 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 1100 | 156 | 44 |
| North Bristol | 22 | 18 | 0 | 4 | 534 | 258 | 36 |
| Old Richians | 22 | 14 | 0 | 8 | 472 | 315 | 28 |
| Whitehall | 22 | 13 | 1 | 8 | 411 | 367 | 27 |
| Drybrook | 22 | 12 | 1 | 9 | 367 | 277 | 25 |
| Old Colstonians | 22 | 10 | 0 | 12 | 307 | 478 | 20 |
| Frampton Cotterell | 22 | 8 | 3 | 11 | 299 | 478 | 19 |
| Matson | 22 | 9 | 0 | 13 | 324 | 521 | 18 |
| Hucclecote | 22 | 6 | 1 | 15 | 268 | 552 | 13 |
| Cirencester | 22 | 6 | 0 | 16 | 324 | 412 | 12 |
| Gloucester Old Boys | 22 | 5 | 1 | 16 | 228 | 451 | 11 |
| Aretians | 22 | 5 | 1 | 16 | 198 | 567 | 11 |

DRYBROOK UNITED XV

The 2nds had a new captain in 18 year old Tom Treherne whose youthful enthusiasm encouraged his team to a very good season, culminating in the runners -up spot in the GRFU Merit Table Division 1.

Joining him was his dad Chris in the capacity of team manager and occasional player. Between them they introduced more young players to senior rugby.

The Merit leagues were expanded to 5 divisions this season and Drybrook did extremely well to lose only three games. Two of those games were to eventual

SEASON 2007-2008

champions Cinderford Stags who did not even feature in the league the year before but were clearly benefitting from the club's strong recruitment drive. The overall record for the season was 22 victories in the 29 games played with the only real disappointment being an early exit in the Forest Junior Cup to BerryHill United (12 – 14)



Drybrook United XV

(Back Row) – Ian Pritchard, Lee Wilks, Andy Jones, John Mustoe, Dan Large, Richard Roberts, Adam Yemm, Dean Large, Nick Lewis, Chris Treherne, Mark Perkins.

Middle; Chris White, Steve Hussey, Chris Hale, Gerald Ward, Tom Treherne (Capt), Paul Mason, Dereck Trigg, Tom Ward, Dave Payne.

Front; Steve Lewis, Lee Jones, Luke Roberts, Dan Auker-Howlett, Jimmy Ryder

GRFU Citizen Merit Table – Division 1 (Final Placings)

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|-----------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Cinderford 3rds | 14 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 356 | 48 | 70 | 100 |
| Drybrook 2nds | 15 | 12 | 0 | 3 | 262 | 137 | 63 | 84 |
| Gordon League 2nds | 15 | 9 | 0 | 6 | 336 | 191 | 51 | 68 |
| Cheltenham North 2nds | 15 | 7 | 1 | 7 | 329 | 205 | 45 | 60 |
| ConeyHill 3rds | 15 | 7 | 1 | 7 | 265 | 234 | 40 | 53.33 |
| Widden Old Boys 2nds | 15 | 7 | 0 | 8 | 165 | 331 | 38 | 50.67 |
| Old Richians 2nds | 16 | 3 | 2 | 11 | 187 | 385 | 32 | 40 |
| BerryHill 2nds | 12 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 140 | 272 | 18 | 30 |
| ChosenHill 2nds | 11 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 171 | 148 | 3 | 5.45 |
| Old Centralians 2nds | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 41 | 301 | -23 | -46 |

SEASON 2007-2008

The match with Greyhound (Hereford) was abandoned in bizarre circumstances when the Greyhounds coach asked the referee to stop the match in the 51st minute because too many of his players were receiving injuries. With the score at 6pts – 7pts in Greyhounds favour he said he needed them for league action next week!

To rub salt into the wounds Drybrook had just been awarded a penalty in front of the posts and the referee would not allow them to take it.

Tom Treherne ended the season with the most points with 118 and the most tries (10) and it was no surprise when he was awarded the player of the year award at the club's annual presentation evening.

DRYBROOK EXTRAS XV

The Extras also had a season to remember with the team ending as runners-up in the GRFU Merit Table Division 4 as well as lifting the Forest Minor Cup for the 4th season on the trot.

Jon Mustoe was elected captain but spent most of the early season in the 2nd XV so was replaced by Andy Milner.

The team also had the satisfaction of inflicting one of only two defeats on



Drybrook Extras celebrate beating BerryHill Wappers 17pts – 12pts in the Forest Minor Final. Steve Rawlings was man of the match for Drybrook.

Drybrook Extras team; Back row; Jason Roberts, James Hillcoat, Paul Lydiard, Tom Maskell, Rob Clyne, Zac Boothman, Adrian Brown (Manager), Richard Probert, Jon Mustoe, Clive Boughton, Matt Freeman, Ben Steward, Lee Jones, Steve Hussey(First Aid)

Front; Steve Hale, Dave Appleby, Steve Virgo, Andy Milner(capt), Steve Rawlings, Chris Tingle, Jamie Daunter, John Duffin.

SEASON 2007-2008



1st XV Shirt Sponsors – Andy Gibbs Antiques
Tom Reed, Gerald Ward, Alan Miles, Leon Meek, Andy Gibbs



1st XV Change Strip Sponsors – Forest Pipe Lines Grab Hire *G Davies, A Jones, G Ward, T Reed*



3rd XV Polo Shirt Sponsors - Darren Meek and Matt Giles of Loading Bay Systems
with Chairman Paul Mason and Captain Andy Milner

eventual champions Cirencester.

In the 29-15 victory over Newport's 1st XV prop forward Lee Wilks made his 800th appearance for the club and there were also other records set. Andy Milner broke the 3rd XV individual record with 197 points and his team also scored a record number of points (677) for the season.

For the first time since 1996 the club also managed to field a 4th XV in two matches. It was not all plain sailing for the thirds - in one match they had to rob their entire replacements bench to supply visiting Old Centralians with players so the game could go ahead. They also lost Chris Tingle who had to referee.

Matters became even more farcical when it was found that no whistle was available meaning poor Tingle had to take charge by shouting instructions. By half time he was practically hoarse.

At this stage Dave Auker-Howlett agreed to take over and fortunately, a passer-by was able to produce a whistle to the relief of everyone.

SEASON 2007-2008

GRFU Citizen Merit Table – Division 4 (Final Placings)

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|-----------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Cirencester 3rds | 12 | 10 | 0 | 2 | 297 | 68 | 52 | 96.67 |
| Drybrook 3rds | 12 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 237 | 73 | 41 | 68.33 |
| Cinderford 4ths | 14 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 153 | 185 | 46 | 65.71 |
| Longlevens 2nds | 14 | 9 | 0 | 5 | 355 | 167 | 45 | 64.29 |
| Old Richians 3rds | 14 | 5 | 0 | 9 | 180 | 253 | 34 | 48.57 |
| Cheltenham CS 2nds | 15 | 4 | 1 | 10 | 178 | 439 | 28 | 37.33 |
| Dursley Nomads | 12 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 151 | 281 | 20 | 33.33 |
| ChosenHill 3rds | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 134 | 156 | 14 | 28.00 |
| Old Centralians 3rds | 6 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 67 | 135 | -27 | -90.0 |
| Gloucester Old Boys 3rds | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 83 | 78 | -46 | -306.7 |

JUNIOR SECTION

This was a land mark season for the junior section with the announcement that one of its former players Natasha “Mo” Hunt had been selected to represent the England Women’s Under 20’s XV.

The first International recognition for the girls came on the back of years of hard work and dedication by the volunteer coaches and supportive parents who had helped to make it all possible.

Now playing at Bath RFC, Mo did not disappoint her legion of fans by scoring a hat-trick of tries on her debut in a 31 – 0 victory over Wales at Taffs Well RFC. Another match with Wales was up next before the squad departed for a two week tour to Canada.

Elsewhere in the junior section it was business as usual with talented teams at nearly every age group and trophies and representative honours continuing apace. Drybrook School even got in on the act by winning the Primary schools cup for the 3rd year in succession. The competition for feeder schools to Dene Magna Comprehensive was organised and run by the club’s junior section and was in its 15th season. Schools taking part were Drybrook, Steam-Mills, Ruardean Woodside, Ruardean, Mitcheldean and HopeBrook.

Other local clubs were beginning to take note of the success at Drybrook and started to improve their own junior sections meaning that competition for

SEASON 2007-2008



Drybrook U11s pictured with Mike Tindall and coach Pete Cinderey; Kieran Auker-Howlett, Will Biggs, Shaun Carter, Rhys Chandler, George Cinderey, Tom Cooper, Ben Evans, Connor Gardiner, Alex George, Will Greenway, Alex Iles, Charlie Kibble, Josh Peck, Luke Roberts, Tom Simms, Tom Woodman.

The playing kit this season was sponsored by Butlers Venue Bar in Gloucester & Brierley Service Station.

out Dursley 14 -12 after extra time thanks to tries from Will Biggs and Connor Gardiner with Rhys Chandler converting both.

The joint Cinderford/Drybrook under 12 team continued to do well but exited the county cup at the semi-final stage when they lost to eventual winners Cheltenham. Kerry Powell was one of the rising stars of the Under 8's team and scored a hat full of tries for his team.

Drybrook under 14's enjoyed a really good season, winning 11 and losing 5 of their games. One of the better victories was over the touring Welsh club Tylerstown (14 - 7) and there were also good wins against the likes of Cheltenham, Matson, BerryHill, Hereford , Widden, ChosenHill and Longlevens.

The team were very fortunate to acquire sponsorship from a number of sources with Hale & Co providing playing shirts, Taylor's Tool Hire provided

players was fierce. Despite introducing many Year 5 and Year 6 schoolchildren to the game, Drybrook's under 9 team were in danger of folding through lack of numbers. A big recruitment drive and the securing of a kit sponsor in Mr Dave Marfell of QEP Engineering meant they were able to continue for the time being.

They recovered well enough to end as runners-up at the BerryHill tournament and managed to record a number of other victories during the season.

Drybrook Under 11's got to meet England World Cup winner Mike Tindall after winning the final of the county plate at Stow-on-the-Wold.

In the final the team edged

SEASON 2007-2008

polo shirts and Belbridge Gun Dogs lent their backing to waterproof training tops. The team which included Kyle Frowen, Ben Large, Mitch Baldwin, Callum Lusted and Jordan Niblett played some spectacular rugby but lost out in the county cup semi-final to Clifton (12-17)

Girls rugby focused on Under 18 and Under 15 age groups and both teams had strong seasons. The Under 18's demolished Cinderford in one game 62 - 5 and also had resounding victories over Cirencester and Thornbury to their credit. Ceri Large was an inspiration to a lot of the younger girls in the team who were also well served by Rosie Morse, Lauren Graham, Laura Simmonds and Jazz Norman.

The under 15's relied heavily on the class of Morse and Chloe Moore but also introduced a lot of younger girls such as Jaz Rodway, Masie Morgan, Chanise Beard, Beth Graham, Abigail Greaves and Lizzy Matthews.

The Girls section was indebted to the Two Rivers Housing Association who gave a grant which helped considerably to offset the running costs.



During the season the club held a special presentation ceremony to honour those players who had played 200 or more 1st XV games and/or 300 or more games for the club. Pictured is former President Reverend Cliff Davies presenting a badge to Roger Hale who holds the record for the most senior appearances for the club.

SEASON 2008-2009

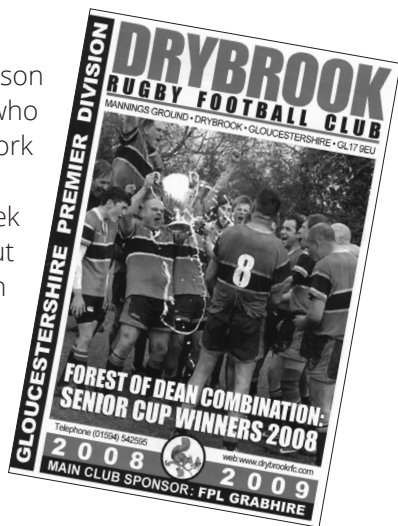
Paul Hudson was appointed coach for this season after taking over the reins from Leon Meek who stood down because of a struggle with work commitments.

The former Lydney flanker was brought in by Meek halfway through the previous campaign to help out and as a result the team had a great end of season run.

Tom Reed also stood down and Neil Morgan came back for another stint at captaincy with Alan Miles continuing as team manager.

Off the field the club replaced the changing room boiler with £5000 of the cost coming from match funding from the RFU.

The kitchen had a facelift via a £5000 grant from the Parish Council and the committee also set about obtaining outline planning permission for a covered spectator area.



Drybrook 1st XV 2008/09 Season

Back Row Alan Miles, Simon Rugman, Scott Phelps, Tad Chapman, Chris Rawlings, Dale Critchley, Liam Jackson, Dave Hartwell, Carl Moore, Danny Price, Paul Hudson (Coach) Mark Cook.

Middle Row Tom Reed, Andy Jones (Sponsor), John Pegler, Tom Ward, Gerald Ward (President), Neil Morgan (Captain), Paul Mason (Chairman), Roger Hale, Dereck Trigg, Gary Davies (Sponsor), Mitch Browning.

Front Row Ian Pritchard, Lee Ward, Chris Thomas, Steve Skelton, Danny Griffiths, Jamie Roberts.

SEASON 2008-2009

The club's pre-season preparations got off to the best possible start with victory in the Chepstow RFC 10-a-side tournament where they beat the host club by 5pts – nil in the final, courtesy of a try from Tom Reed.

A team also played in the Droitwich 10's tournament where they reached the semi-final, losing out to eventual winners Droitwich YMCA, a guest team made up of players from a variety of Midlands clubs.

Pre-season training went well and there was lots of competition for places.

Neil Merrett returned from Lydney and Steve Skelton came back from Berry-Hill. Cinderford hooker Gareth Baldwin also joined and much was expected from the younger elements of the squad including stand-off Ed Williams who had been a prolific scorer in the junior section.

Going the other way were second row Dale Critchley who signed for Pontypool and Aaron Ryder opted to join BerryHill after weighing up his options.

The team did not disappoint and won the 10 of the opening 11 games. The only blemish came in the RFU EDF Energy Vase when Drybrook went out by 30pts – 31pts to Stroud in controversial circumstances when the opposition linesman came in for some harsh criticism after allowing the winning try.

In the previous round Drybrook were given a walkover by Oxfordshire club Harwell who did not relish a trip to the Forest of Dean.

High Bridge Jewellers Gloucestershire Premier League

| | P | W | D | L | Pts |
|---------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|
| Drybrook | 22 | 21 | 0 | 1 | 42 |
| Southmead | 22 | 18 | 0 | 4 | 36 |
| Cirencester | 22 | 15 | 0 | 7 | 30 |
| Matson | 22 | 13 | 1 | 8 | 27 |
| Bristol Saracens | 22 | 12 | 1 | 9 | 25 |
| Old Richians | 22 | 12 | 0 | 10 | 24 |
| Whitehall | 22 | 12 | 0 | 10 | 24 |
| Old Colstonians | 22 | 9 | 0 | 13 | 18 |
| Gloucester Old Boys | 22 | 8 | 0 | 14 | 15 |
| Spartans | 22 | 8 | 0 | 14 | 14 |
| Frampton Cotterell | 22 | 3 | 0 | 19 | 6 |
| Hucclecote | 22 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 0 |

SEASON 2008-2009

The only defeat in the league came midway through November at main challengers Southmead in a very physical encounter.

After that Drybrook played some champagne rugby and dished out a lot of hidings including Spartans (52-8), Hucclecote (72-3), Frampton Cotterell (57-14) and Matson (62-0) at Red Well Road. Chris Rawlings scored his 100th first team try in the victory over Frampton Cotterell.

Spartans could not even raise a team for the return fixture at the Mannings and when Southmead were beaten (26-13) in mid-March the title was effectively won.

They had to wait a couple more weeks to wrap up the title officially and did so in a high scoring game with Old Colstonians (37-28)

They were unable to hang on to their Forest of Dean crown though and went out in a high scoring semi-final at Cinderford United (26-35)

Scrum half Carl Moore was named player of the season after scoring 23 tries.

Ed Williams scored 213 points in his only full season for the club's 1st XV and another young player Liam Jackson played in every game (28) as did veteran Chris Rawlings.

DRYBROOK UNITED XV

Centre three quarter Dan Large took over as second team skipper but managed only 8 appearances after breaking his leg at Cheltenham North.

The team did quite well in Division One of the Merit table ending in third place

GRFU Citizen Merit Table - Division 1 (Final Placings)

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|-----------------------|----|---|---|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Old Patesians 2nds | 9 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 423 | 46 | 45 | 100 |
| Cheltenham North 2nds | 15 | 9 | 0 | 6 | 291 | 250 | 51 | 68.00 |
| Drybrook 2nds | 16 | 9 | 0 | 7 | 217 | 240 | 52 | 65.00 |
| ConeyHill 3rds | 13 | 7 | 0 | 6 | 301 | 238 | 41 | 63.08 |
| Old Richians 2nds | 16 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 259 | 368 | 48 | 60.00 |
| Cinderford 3rds | 13 | 6 | 0 | 7 | 259 | 159 | 37 | 56.92 |
| Tewkesbury 2nds | 14 | 6 | 0 | 8 | 244 | 311 | 38 | 54.29 |
| Widden Old Boys 2nds | 15 | 6 | 0 | 9 | 282 | 499 | 39 | 52.00 |
| Gordon League 2nds | 10 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 163 | 205 | 17 | 34.00 |
| BerryHill 2nds | 11 | 3 | 0 | 8 | 105 | 228 | 8 | 14.55 |

SEASON 2008-2009

and were only really out played by Old Patesians who won both games comfortably.

Lots of clubs handed Patesians walkovers but elsewhere it was a very competitive division with Drybrook claiming two victories over old rivals Cinderford Stags along the way.

In the Forest Junior Cup the team suffered a surprise defeat at BerryHill United in Round 1.

Andy Milner still managed 100 points after alternating between the 2nds and 3rds and prop forward Will Chung was named player of the season after a number of fine performances.

DRYBROOK EXTRAS

The third team had a season to remember and swept to the Division 4 title under new skipper Steve Rawlings.

They recorded a record number of wins and only tasted defeat once during the whole season when they were surprisingly beaten (3 -6) at home by Cinderford Bucks in the Minor cup when bidding to win that competition for a 5th year on the trot.

GRFU Citizen Merit Table - Division 4 (Final Placings)

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|--------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| Drybrook 3rds | 14 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 369 | 84 | 70 | 100 |
| Old Richians 3rds | 14 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 283 | 227 | 50 | 71.43 |
| Gordon League 3rds | 12 | 8 | 0 | 4 | 319 | 145 | 40 | 66.67 |
| Cheltenham North 3rds | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 195 | 156 | 23 | 46.00 |
| Dursley Nomads | 9 | 3 | 0 | 6 | 116 | 196 | 17 | 37.78 |
| Cinderford 4ths | 8 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 82 | 153 | 14 | 35.00 |
| Cheltenham CS 2nds | 12 | 2 | 0 | 10 | 216 | 306 | 16 | 26.67 |
| Longlevens 2nds | 10 | 2 | 0 | 8 | 196 | 269 | 6 | 12.00 |
| ChosenHill 3rds | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 105 | 145 | -3 | - 8.57 |
| Cheltenham Saracens 2nds | 6 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 37 | 237 | -12 | - 40.00 |

Problems continued with four of the Merit table games called off by clubs who were unable to raise teams but nothing could take the gloss of such a good year.

In the non-merit table games the high light was the three victories recorded over BerryHill Wappers in this long running series of games.

Andy Milner headed the point's scorers for the 3rd XV as well this season with 76 points whilst Matt Freeman weighed in with 11 tries. Skipper Steve Rawlings passed the 1000 point barrier for the club in the victory over Cheltenham Saracens 2nds and hooker/ flanker Chris Tingle recorded his 800th senior game for the club during the season.

JUNIOR SECTION

The club again ran teams at virtually every boy's age group as well as girls under 15 and under 18 teams.

The under 15's boys were particularly strong and accounted for most of the county opposition but could not overcome the strong Cinderford team. They beat Fairford (81-7), Lydney (33-0), Monmouth (51-5), Newent (38-0) as well as seeing off a host of other clubs.

Losing out in the main county cup competition they defeated Stroud (36-10) in the plate semi-final before beating ChosenHill (17-10) in the final at the Prince of Wales Stadium in Cheltenham. Kyle Frowen (2) and Jacob Landon scored Drybrook's tries with Tom Biggs adding one conversion.

The Under 13's still combined with Cinderford lost to Cheltenham in the cup quarter final.

Drybrook under 12's were desperately unlucky to be eliminated from the cup at the semi-final stage after drawing with ConeyHill (7-7). The Gloucester club went through to the final by virtue of being the first team to score. In their five festival matches the team scored 103 points with only 17 against, winning 3 and drawing 2. The team benefited from a new partnership with John Kyrle High School in Ross-on-Wye and attracted a lot of new players as a result.

Mark Wilcox was the coach of the under 11 team and his team distinguished themselves on county finals day by coming in 4th place as well as lifting the fair play award. They also won the BerryHill Invitation tournament.

The under 10 team struggled with numbers so only played a limited number of games but the under 9's were strong and achieved 3rd place in the county plate competition.

At under 7 and under 8 level there were some well organised and enthusiastic teams which gave the club some optimism for the future.

The county also recognised what a good job Drybrook were doing and asked

SEASON 2008-2009

the club to host a Fun day - One day - Sunday at the club where teams from all over the county could introduce children to the game. Over 100 kids pitched up and the magnificent weather made it a day to remember for everyone involved.

On the representative front Ben Large and Kyle Frowen both represented the Gloucestershire Under 15's while Tom Biggs played for Herefordshire and the North Midlands.

Kyle Frowen and Callum Lusted were both selected for Gloucester Rugby Club's development programme.

Club captain Neil Morgan handed out the awards at the annual presentation evening to the following players;

| | Best Player | Most Improved |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Under 6's | Marshall Chisholm | CJ Hudson |
| Under 7's | Jamie Evans | Ian Weyman |
| Under 8's | Alex Ricketts | Ian Weyman |
| Under 9's | Kerry Powell | Finlay Reed |
| Under 10's | Ollie Moore | Sam Evans |
| Under 11's | Mac Dale/Ben Element | Harry John/Harry Rushworth |
| Under 12's | Alex George | Jack Davies |
| Under 15's | Kyle Frowen | Joe Tingle/Mitch Baldwin |
| Under 15 Girls | Maizie Morgan | Anna Weyman |

Under 18 Girls

Thornbury Sevens Player of the Tournament – Lauren Graham

Gloucester 10's Player of the Tournament – Ceri Large

Other Awards

Club person of the Year – Louis Wall

Volunteer of the Year – Mandy Meredith

More excellent news for the club came this year when Ceri Large joined Natasha Hunt in the England under 20 squad. Ceri played for the Drybrook Junior section from the age of 6, joining in 1996. She played mixed rugby until 13 years of age and then started playing for the club's under 16 girls' team.

She played both county and regional level at under 15's and under 18's and captained the Drybrook under 18's this season.

SEASON 2008-2009



Natasha “Mo” Hunt came back to the club to present her England under 20 shirt. She had just returned from Canada where she played in the Under 20's Nations Cup victories over Canada and the USA.

Pictured with Natasha are Paul Mason (Chairman), Neil Morgan (Club Captain) and Roger Hale (Treasurer)



The under 15 girls (pictured at the Thornbury Sevens) were a very young squad but their keenness and sense of enjoyment was noticed and remarked upon by several rival coaches. Craig Wintle (coach) and Mandy Meredith (manager) did an excellent job in developing the squad.

Back Row (L to R); Elisha Priestley, Anna Weyman, Abigail Greaves, Beth Graham, Rachel Wilks.

Bottom ; Maizie Morgan, Chanise Beard, Ashleigh Wintle.

SEASON 2008-2009



Again combining with Hucclecote, the under 18 girls were unbeaten in all their fixtures this season. Along the way they won the inaugural Gloucester City Tens Tournament at Hartpury, beating teams from Northamptonians, Welwyn Saints, Exeter Saracens, and Burfield in the group. A 19 – 0 win over Suffolk Sabres in the semi-final was followed by victory against Worcester Warriors (29 -7) in the final. They also retained the Thornbury Sevens trophy for a third year and skipper Ceri Large is pictured here with the cup.

Lauren Graham, Ceri Large and Rosie Morse made significant contributions representing South West North in the Regionals Tournament and were all invited to trial at the RFU High Performance Academy (HPA).

The trio also played for the Gloucestershire under 18 team where they were joined by club mates Chloe Moore, Natalie Hughes and Louise Morton.



Ceri Large whose selection for the National under 20 squad came on the back of inclusion in the National Development group earlier this season.

SEASON 2009-2010

Having swept to the Gloucestershire Premier League title the previous season, Drybrook had high hopes of a top four finish back in the Western Counties League.

The club attracted a new sponsor in Dave Morgan (DMB Builders) and managed to retain the bulk of the previous season's squad along with the same captain (Neil Morgan), coach (Paul Hudson) and manager (Alan Miles).

The most notable exceptions were Ed Williams who stopped playing, and Tad Chapman who moved away from the area through work.

Disaster struck for the club on their first pre-season engagement when they attempted to retain the Chepstow Tens title. Captain Neil Morgan was side lined with an ankle injury that kept him out until late October and hooker Chris Thomas sustained a dislocated collarbone which ended his playing career.



Drybrook 1st XV

Back row (L to R); Mark Cook, Simon Rugman, Liam Jackson, Mitch Browning, Ben Steward, Chris Rawlings, Jamie Roberts, Danny Price, Carl Moore, Rob Clyne, Richard Jackson.

Seated; Tom Ward, Pete Griffiths, Chris Hale, Gerald Ward (President) Neil Morgan (Captain), Paul Mason (Chairman), Dave Morgan (Sponsor), Dereck Trigg, Paul Hudson.

Front; Andy Jones, Tom Reed, Ashley Howells, Dan Cox, Tom Treherne, Colin Morgan, Lee Ward, Steve Virgo.

SEASON 2009-2010

Tribute Western Counties League (North)

| Pos | Team | P | W | D | L | PF | PA | +/− | TR | LR | Pts |
|-----|------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|------|----|----|-----|
| 1 | Old Redcliffians | 26 | 23 | 0 | 3 | 939 | 304 | 635 | 0 | 0 | 46 |
| 2 | Thornbury | 26 | 21 | 0 | 5 | 680 | 360 | 320 | 0 | 0 | 42 |
| 3 | Keynsham | 26 | 16 | 1 | 9 | 482 | 444 | 38 | 0 | 0 | 33 |
| 4 | Barts Rugby | 26 | 16 | 0 | 10 | 620 | 397 | 223 | 0 | 0 | 32 |
| 5 | Old Centralians | 26 | 15 | 2 | 9 | 520 | 475 | 45 | 0 | 0 | 32 |
| 6 | Stroud | 26 | 13 | 1 | 12 | 583 | 478 | 105 | 0 | 0 | 27 |
| 7 | Berry Hill | 26 | 13 | 1 | 12 | 475 | 511 | -36 | 0 | 0 | 27 |
| 8 | Drybrook | 26 | 12 | 0 | 14 | 442 | 452 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 24 |
| 9 | Burnham-on-Sea | 26 | 12 | 1 | 13 | 554 | 588 | -34 | 0 | 0 | 23 |
| 10 | North Bristol | 26 | 11 | 1 | 14 | 429 | 485 | -56 | 0 | 0 | 23 |
| 11 | Gordon League | 26 | 10 | 1 | 15 | 374 | 442 | -68 | 0 | 0 | 21 |
| 12 | Hornets | 26 | 9 | 1 | 16 | 410 | 598 | -188 | 0 | 0 | 19 |
| 13 | Southmead | 26 | 3 | 1 | 22 | 306 | 656 | -350 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| 14 | Widden Old Boys | 26 | 3 | 0 | 23 | 275 | 919 | -644 | 0 | 0 | 4 |

To make matters worse the team were unable to hang on to their trophy after being eliminated at the group stage on points difference but they did have the satisfaction of inflicting the only defeat on eventual winners Tonyrefail (10-7)

The Tankard competition for early round losers saw Drybrook reach the final after beating Bettws (21-12) in the semi-final. The Tankard final was won against the host club (24-0)

The other pre-season games went very well with victories over Manchester Metropolitan University (45-10), Monmouth (13-3) and Tongwynlais (93-0)

Poor Tongwynlais were under pressure throughout in a match that saw Liam Jackson scored a hat trick in less than 10 minutes in the second session.

Injuries continued to decimate the squad with Craig Moore (knee ligaments), Andy Reid (broken leg) and Dave Hartwell (shoulder) all playing no part after October.

In the circumstances Drybrook did well to end in eighth position in the league and they were competitive in the games they lost although they often had to field depleted teams.



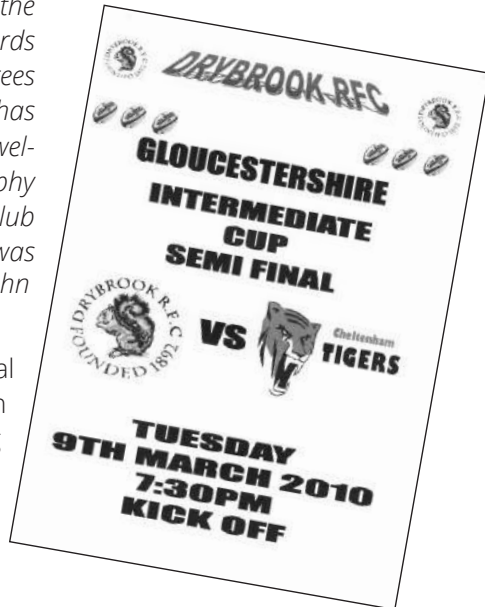
More good news for Drybrook came with the announcement that the club had claimed the coveted Whistler Trophy at the annual awards dinner of the Gloucester and District Referees Society. The trophy is given to the club that has given referees the most support and best welcome during the season. The Ray Arnold Trophy for the best novice referee went to former club captain Chris Thomas. The Whistler Trophy was presented to Dereck Trigg by the society's John Hackett.

The final was twice postponed against local rivals Berry Hill before finally taking place in January at Lakers Rd. Despite dominating the game in terms of possession and territory they suffered the agony of a 6pts – nil defeat which came from two penalties scored by former player Aaron Ryder.

Morgan's return to playing was short lived however; as soon as he was back he dislocated his hip in a match at Stroud which put him out of the game for nearly two years.

The team did excel in cup competition rugby though and won the Gloucestershire County Intermediate Cup as well as reaching the Gloucestershire area final of the RFU Level 7 cup.

In the RFU level 7 Cup Drybrook beat Thornbury in the quarter final (18-15) before seeing off Stroud (8 -3) after extra time in the semi-final.



SEASON 2009-2010

In the county Intermediate Cup Drybrook beat Cheltenham with a very good performance (31-21) under the Mannings floodlights to set up a floodlit final with Cheltenham North at the Prince of Wales Stadium in Cheltenham.

Carl Moore put in a man of the match performance to steer his team home (9-6) with all the points scored by young fullback Aiden Price with 3 penalties. Winger Sam Peaper was unlucky not to score a try on his first XV debut when he was adjudged to have put a foot in touch in a tense finale to the game.

April was a very busy month for the team with four games having to be played in eight days as a result of catching up from the bad weather and the extra cup games.

Drybrook sent out a below strength squad for the Forest cup semi-final at Ross and paid the penalty as they slipped to a shock (3-5) defeat.

Keeping players back for the league matches was deemed the priority and it paid off with victories over Hornets and Southmead to ensure survival.



County Intermediate Cup Winners v Cheltenham North

Back Row; Tom Treherne, Carl Moore, Mitch Browning, Aiden Price, Duncan Whatmore, Simon Rugman, Andy Milner, Lee Ward.

Middle Row; Mark Cook, Richard Jackson, Ben Steward, Dan Cox, Nick Lewis, Steve Virgo, Rob Clyne, Danny Price, Ian Pritchard, Alan Miles.

Seated; Scott Phelps, Ashley Howells, Jamie Roberts, Chris Rawlings, Sam Peaper, Mitch Bourne, Liam Jackson, Dean Large.

Front; Rhys Gardner, Luke Roberts, Mitch Baldwin

SEASON 2009-2010

At the end of the campaign Drybrook were down to the bare bones and lost at home to both BartonHill and Burnham-on-Sea before falling short at BerryHill in the last match on 1st May.

Former county Under 20's captain and new signing Ashley Howells was named player of the season after filling the void at hooker left by Thomas's retirement.

DRYBROOK UNITED XV

Flanker Sean Bourne took on the captaincy for this season but faced a formidable task with a tough fixture list and a team constantly shorn of resources due to injuries in the 1st XV.

Old Patesians 2nds were head and shoulders above everyone else due in no small measure to the fact that their 1st XV were operating and funded at National League level meaning they had a large squad of talented players to select from.

The match against Patesians in October brought a record breaking (0-88) defeat for the United XV and another painful afternoon was endured against Dursley 1st XV (0 - 69). Elsewhere the team were competitive and ended the season in 5th position in the league due more to the fact that they received points for fulfilling fixtures than anything else. The majority of clubs were very selective who they chose to play and made a mockery of the competition once again.

GRFU Citizen Merit Table - Division 1 (Final Placings)

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|-----------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Old Patesians 2nds | 8 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 198 | 20 | 40 | 100 |
| Cinderford 3rds | 13 | 10 | 0 | 3 | 402 | 49 | 53 | 81.54 |
| ConeyHill 3rds | 14 | 11 | 0 | 3 | 262 | 173 | 54 | 77.14 |
| Cheltenham Sabres | 11 | 9 | 0 | 2 | 367 | 91 | 39 | 70.91 |
| Drybrook 2nds | 16 | 5 | 1 | 10 | 216 | 254 | 38 | 47.50 |
| Old Richians 2nds | 13 | 5 | 0 | 8 | 229 | 221 | 29 | 44.62 |
| Matson 2nds | 10 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 161 | 312 | 13 | 26.00 |
| Widden Old Boys 2nds | 9 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 73 | 255 | 11 | 24.44 |
| Tewksbury 2nds | 11 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 98 | 386 | 3 | 5.45 |
| Cheltenham North 2nds | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 6 | 251 | -36 | -144.0 |

SEASON 2009-2010

Of the non-league games the most bizarre was the fixture with Lydney United which was abandoned at half time because the referee was fed up with players questioning his decisions. The score was 0-0 at the time – a remarkable end to a quiet game that lacked the normal intensity of a forest derby.

Defeat in the Forest Junior Cup came in the first round at home to a very talented Cinderford Stags (0-20) and the season ended with the visit of the touring Plymouth Command XV. The navy team were very strong and emerged victorious (5 – 29) in the late April sunshine.

DRYBROOK EXTRAS XV

Promotion to Division 3 of the GRFU Merit leagues brought a new challenge for the Extras XV and in the first season they did reasonably well.

Former club captain John Jeffs was the new skipper but frustration was felt throughout the season in the number of fixtures not played because of teams crying off.

Drybrook were hit particularly hard by this and even had to cancel a few games themselves when calls to the higher sides made it impossible to field a team. Only 21 games were played in the whole season with the team achieving a 50% record. Interest in the Forest Minor cup was ended in the first round with defeat at Ross-on-Wye 2nds (6 -10). Andy Milner top scored for the Extras with 43 points to add to his 87points for the United XV.

GRFU Citizen Merit Table – Division 3 (Final Placings)

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|--------------------------|----|---|---|----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Old Richians 3rds | 9 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 224 | 126 | 41 | 91.11 |
| Old Cryptians 2nds | 11 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 264 | 191 | 41 | 74.55 |
| Bream 2nds | 10 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 276 | 164 | 34 | 68.00 |
| BerryHill 3rds | 13 | 6 | 0 | 7 | 220 | 205 | 37 | 56.92 |
| Cirencester 3rds | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 174 | 104 | 19 | 54.29 |
| Spartans 2nds | 13 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 249 | 248 | 27 | 41.54 |
| Drybrook 3rds | 10 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 231 | 116 | 16 | 32.00 |
| Westbury 2nds | 13 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 168 | 285 | 20 | 30.77 |
| Cainscross 2nds | 11 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 109 | 413 | -2 | -3.64 |
| Gloucester Old Boys 2nds | 7 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 119 | 182 | -11 | -31.43 |



R. F. U Roadshow at Drybrook – 25th October 2009

Chris Rawlings, Andrew Scoular (Director, Community Rugby), Martin Thomas (RFU Chairman), Richard Jackson, Neil Morgan (Drybrook 1st XV Captain), Francis Baron OBE (RFU Chief Executive), Dereck Trigg, Rob Udwin (Chairman, Community Rugby), Pete Williams (GRFU), Paul Mason (DRFC Chairman), Stuart McWalter (GRFU), Geoff Davies (GRFU Chairman), Mike Heath (GRFU), Glyn Tingle, Keith Plain (GRFU) and Mark Wilcox.

JUNIOR RUGBY

A county whose passion for rugby sets it apart – that's the impression Gloucestershire made on the Rugby Football Union hierarchy when they came to visit in October. This was in no small part thanks to the efforts of Drybrook RFC, selected as one of four hosts for the week-end visit. It was an honour for the club to host such major figures within the RFU and they really came away with a good impression after turning up on a wet Sunday morning to witness the club's junior section in action.

There was a significant amount of success for the junior section in terms of both trophies and representative honours again this season. The club did a terrific job in hosting the Gloucestershire under 9's festival in which 22 teams took part from across the county pulling in more than 500 spectators. Drybrook and BerryHill put old rivalries aside to enter a team and they quickly gelled to reach the quarter finals.

East Kilbride RFC (Scotland), North Dorset RFC, Stourbridge RFC and Shipston-on-Stour RFC all visited Drybrook for the first time in a packed itinerary.



Under 15 Girl's XV-

*Back row (L to R); Lauren Wall, Maizie Morgan, Chanise Beard
Middle row; Beth Graham, Beth Hewitt, Annie Ridgeway, Kat Brain, Emma Puddle, Anna Weyman, Chloe Fisher, Abigail Greaves, Emily Lewis
Front row; Alisha Priestley, Charlotte Fisher, Charlotte Pye, Saffron Waite, Ashleigh Wintle.*

Five Drybrook girls represented South West North; Lauren Graham (captain) and Rosie Morse (under 18's), and Kat Brain, Beth Graham and Beth Hewitt (under 15's) All of these girls also represented Gloucestershire along with Emma Puddle (under 15's) An additional six boys were also awarded county and divisional honours as well as three players going through the Gloucester RFC talent programme.

Drybrook under 11's had a rewarding time at the BerryHill RFC Festival where they reached the final after heading a group containing Malvern, Tewkesbury, BerryHill and Dursley. In the final they lost out to Hucclecote who played some class rugby throughout the tournament.

Drybrook under 12's won the Gloucestershire County Plate by defeating Wid-

SEASON 2009-2010

den Old Boys (21-0) in the final at ChosenHill RFC. Tries were scored by Josh Element, Dewi Wilcox and Ollie Peacey with BJ Bowdler converting all three. The Under 13 team were particularly strong this season winning 13 of their 18 games under coaches Pete Cinderey and Aaron Ryder. One of the stars of the team was Jack Davies (43 tries, 215 points) with other useful contributions coming from Alex Iles (11 tries) and Rhys Chandler (114 points). They missed out on county honours though when they lost to Clifton at the semi-final stage.

The Under 16 XV won the Gloucestershire County Plate by defeating ChosenHill (17-9) at the Prince of Wales Stadium, Cheltenham. Callum Lusted, George Gardener and skipper Ben Large scored tries with Rhys Garner adding one conversion.

Gloucestershire captain Matt Long was the guest of honour at the junior section awards day. A marquee was used to accommodate more than 150 players and their families. Joe Tingle won the Rex Organ Memorial Trophy for high achievement, following his call up to the Gloucester RFC junior squad.

Louis Wall collected the junior club volunteer of the year prize for the second year running while Dave Auker-Howlett picked up the Dave Roberts Memorial Trophy for club volunteer of the year.

Team Award Winners;

| | Best Player | Most Improved |
|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Under 7's/ 8's | Jack Beech | Ethan Hancocks |
| Under 9's | William Callard | Harry Cranshaw |
| Under 10's | Finlay Reed | Nathan Powell |
| Under 11's | Dan Williams | Joe Smyth |
| Under 12's | Joe Watts | Ollie Peacey/James Hamilton |
| Under 13's | Will Greenway | Luke Johnson |
| Under 16's | Ben Large/Joe Tingle | Callum Lusted/Tom Greenway |
| Under 12 Girls | Charlotte Fisher | Ashleigh Wintle |
| Under 15 Girls | Beth Graham | Charlotte Pye |

SEASON 2010-2011

With skipper Neil Morgan forced to stand down due to long term injury, flanker Lee Ward became the new club captain.

Little did anyone realise what a difficult season lay ahead with injuries, unavailability and defections decimating the squad, leading to a lack of confidence and commitment.

It started with a poor turnout at pre-season training and the announcement that coach Paul Hudson had decided to stand down citing increased personal and work commitments.

The club moved quickly to secure a new head coach and showed great vision to appoint Anthony O'Riordan as his replacement.

O'Riordan hailed from Essex but a knee injury sustained at Newbury RFC led to a career in coaching. He pioneered a rugby academy at South East Essex College which eventually led to a career at Hartpury College to teach BTEC sports performance and excellence in rugby.

Once the season got underway it became clear that an uphill battle was inevitable.



Drybrook 1st XV

Back Row (L to R) Steve Virgo, Aaron Ryder, Alan Miles, Dave Groves, Simon Rugman, Fraser Goatcher, Mitch Browning, Chris Rawlings, Jim Rugman, Tom Reed, Liam Jackson, Alex Lloyd, Steve Hussey, Aiden Price, Anthony O'Riordan.

Middle Row; Pete Griffiths, Ceri Boseley, Roger Hale, Gerald Ward (President), Lee Ward (Capt), Paul Mason (Chairman), Tom Ward, Richard Jackson.

Front Row; Danny Griffiths, Dean Jelf, Danny Price, Ashley Howells, Tom Treherne, Dan Cox.

SEASON 2010-2011

itable and the team lurched from one defeat to the next.

After six defeats on the bounce the first league win finally came over Cirencester (23-19) but it was not until the end of March that a second victory was claimed over North Bristol (32-20)

It was to O'Riordan and Ward's credit that they kept the team going through the most difficult of times and slowly but surely the young squad began to show a marked improvement.

By April the team was playing with positivity and recorded victories over St Marys (33-10) and Old Centralians (78 -12). The Gloucester team sent a virtual second string side as they were holding players back for their forthcoming North Gloucester Combination cup final – had the referee not called time after 60 minutes, a century of points looked a distinct possibility.

Relegation was inevitable after such a disappointing season but the gradual improvement throughout the season at least gave cause for optimism in the years ahead.

Tribute Western Counties League (North)

| Pos | Team | P | W | D | L | PF | PA | +/- | TR | LB | Pts |
|-----|-------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|------|----|----|-----|
| 1 | Berry Hill | 26 | 24 | 0 | 2 | 795 | 400 | 395 | 18 | 1 | 115 |
| 2 | Thornbury | 26 | 21 | 0 | 5 | 719 | 376 | 343 | 16 | 3 | 103 |
| 3 | Barts Rugby | 26 | 17 | 1 | 8 | 707 | 532 | 175 | 16 | 6 | 92 |
| 4 | Old Centralians | 26 | 17 | 0 | 9 | 621 | 523 | 98 | 11 | 3 | 82 |
| 5 | Bristol Harlequins | 26 | 12 | 1 | 13 | 538 | 539 | -1 | 10 | 6 | 66 |
| 6 | Matson | 26 | 12 | 0 | 14 | 533 | 555 | -22 | 8 | 4 | 60 |
| 7 | North Bristol | 26 | 12 | 0 | 14 | 517 | 606 | -89 | 6 | 5 | 59 |
| 8 | Gordon League | 26 | 12 | 0 | 14 | 510 | 619 | -109 | 7 | 2 | 57 |
| 9 | Stroud | 26 | 11 | 0 | 15 | 482 | 630 | -148 | 6 | 3 | 54 |
| 10 | Keynsham | 26 | 8 | 1 | 17 | 522 | 464 | 58 | 7 | 8 | 49 |
| 11 | Cirencester | 26 | 14 | 1 | 11 | 606 | 458 | 148 | 8 | 7 | 48 |
| 12 | Yatton | 26 | 9 | 0 | 17 | 459 | 562 | -103 | 6 | 5 | 47 |
| 13 | St Mary's Old Boys (SW) | 26 | 6 | 2 | 18 | 435 | 689 | -254 | 2 | 6 | 36 |
| 14 | Drybrook | 26 | 4 | 0 | 22 | 383 | 874 | -491 | 3 | 5 | 24 |

SEASON 2010-2011

Drawn against BerryHill in the Forest Cup semi-final Drybrook were given a walkover to the final as their opponents decided to concentrate on the push for the league championship.

Drybrook saved their best performance of the season for the final against Cinderford United at Lydney's Regentsholme ground. Although defeated (13-14) it took a last gasp penalty in the sixth minute of injury time to snatch the cup from their grasp. It was a really committed performance from a young side that had stuck together through thick and thin.

It was perhaps the worst season ever to erect a scoreboard on the ground and it was not often that operator Pete Griffiths was able to post a win.

The improvement to the facilities, and in particular to the playing surfaces, was recognised by the visit of RFU head grounds man Mr Keith Kent in October. He complemented the club and the contractors Mowtech on the vast improvement seen at the Mannings.

DRYBROOK UNITED XV

The second team's season got off to the worst possible start when it was announced that they had been promoted to the new Gloucestershire Reserve League Premier Division. This came about because their top half of the table



Drybrook United XV

Back Row (L to R); Gordon Bourne (Manager), Steve Turley, Steve Skelton, Kerry Bourne, Steve Hale, Chris Parker, Zac Boothman, Mark Castree, Mitch Bourne, Gareth Jones, Tom Maskell, Steve Hussey.

Seated; Max Davies, Andy Milner, Roger Hale, Gerald Ward, Sean Bourne (capt), Paul Mason, Ceri Boseley, John Pegler, Peter Meek.

Front; Ian Pritchard, Ryan Dubberley, Tony Paul, Bobby Walding.

placing from the season before was deemed suitable qualification for inclusion by the county committee.

No one took into account that a lot of Drybrook's points came from simply fulfilling fixtures that gave a false position of the team's actual strength.

Faced with having to compete against the second XV's of seven National League clubs, most of whom were semi-professional, prompted the decision to withdraw the team before a ball had even been kicked.

The aim of the new structure was to provide teams with more competitive rugby and less travelling but Drybrook were let down badly by the game's administrators.

With no league rugby to look forward to a new fixture list was hastily arranged but only 21 games were actually played in a miserable season for the side.

Sean Bourne's team inevitably bore the brunt of calls to the 1st XV who were going through a crisis of their own and won only four games all season.

Fixtures were difficult to come by and the uncertainty of knowing if the team had a match each week caused some players to drift away from the game.

The end of the season couldn't come quickly enough and there was even more controversy in the Forest Combination Junior Cup. Ross 2nds eventually pulled out of the quarter final tie after much wrangling about dates and then Drybrook were excluded for refusing to play at Newent in the semi-final on a date determined by the cup committee.

DRYBROOK EXTRAS XV

Under the capable guidance of skipper Chris Tingle the Extras enjoyed a relatively successful season in the new Division 3 North Merit table. They were denied a realistic chance of competing for the top spot due to so many clubs calling off matches with them and in the end they played only 8 of the scheduled 16 games.

During the rest of the season only another 8 games were played which was probably a good indication of the desperate situation rugby had found itself at 3rd and 4th team level locally.

JUNIOR RUGBY

The Drybrook Junior section celebrated the 35th anniversary of its formation this year and was as successful as ever. They started this campaign with a rugby camp to attract even more players to the club and as a consequence were able to field teams at nearly every age group.

SEASON 2010-2011

GRFU Citizen Merit Table - Division 3 North (Final Placings)

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|--------------------------|----|---|---|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| BerryHill 3rds | 12 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 209 | 130 | 48 | 80.00 |
| Cinderford 4ths | 9 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 261 | 87 | 33 | 73.33 |
| Gloucester Old Boys 2nds | 13 | 8 | 0 | 5 | 219 | 260 | 45 | 69.23 |
| Drybrook 3rds | 8 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 235 | 146 | 24 | 60.00 |
| Cirencester 3rds | 11 | 5 | 0 | 6 | 229 | 199 | 31 | 56.36 |
| Hucclecote 2nds | 11 | 6 | 0 | 5 | 254 | 237 | 30 | 54.55 |
| Bream 2nds | 9 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 208 | 109 | 15 | 33.33 |
| Spartans 2nds | 11 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 228 | 290 | 16 | 29.09 |
| Westbury-on-Severn 2nds | 12 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 87 | 472 | 12 | 00.00 |

The best news came when former player Natasha Hunt was elevated to the England Elite squad and Ceri Large became a permanent fixture in the England under 20's team.

Representative honours came thick and fast for the girls section with Rosie Morse elevated to the national under 18 talent development group and Beth Graham and Beth Hewitt both gaining selection for the South West under 15's. Girls' section head Mandy Meredith ensured a vibrant future by orchestrating a vigorous recruitment campaign to ensure the club could run teams at under 13, 15 and 18 age groups.

Five other girls also gained county under 15 recognition; Bryony Edwards, Mazie Morgan, Ashleigh Wintle, Anna Weyman and Annie Ridgeway.

The boys' teams were very successful with the under 13 team becoming the first from the club to reach a county cup final. They saw off Cheltenham (7 - 0) in a tense semi-final only to lose out in an even closer final.

Matson scored the only try of the game in the second half of an absorbing final and then just managed to keep Drybrook at bay with some fantastic defending. Drybrook were held up on a number of occasions close to the Matson line but just could not break through as time ran out for them.

Drybrook under 14's had a really good season and dished out some hidings to a number of teams. Chepstow (98 -7), Monmouth (52-0) and Old Richians (61-0) were the most eye catching but once again Clifton were too strong for them in the county cup.

SEASON 2010-2011

This meant another crack at the county plate and they did not disappoint by winning through to the final at the Prince of Wales Stadium where they beat Stow-on-the-Wold (24-20).

Alex Iles (2), Connor Gardiner and George Cinderey were the try scorers in the final with Rhys Chandler converting 2.

The under 11 team got to play a match at the Sixways stadium in Worcester where they defeated the host club (28-14).

The under 17's also had a good season in which they twice defeated Coney-Hill as well as gaining a victory over the touring Erias High School from North Wales.

They won most of their other fixtures but lost out in the county cup to neighbours Cinderford (7 -10)

At the end of the season they played as a Colts XV in a match at Droitwich in preparation for the following season



Drybrook Under 13 XV – County Cup Finalists

Back Row (L to R); Ollie Peacey, Jake Porter, Taylor Morgan, James Hamilton.

2nd row; Nicky Butler, David Freeman, Cameron Hill-Whatmore, Mac Dale, Dewi Wilcox, Ben Moss, Niall Farbowski, Mitch Giles,

3rd Row; Joe Watts, Dan Williams, Tom Davies, Ciaran Barcoe, Michael Green, Ben Element, Josh Element, Harry Rushworth.

Front Row; Jordan Dainty, Dev Cassells, Ciaran Hunt, Tim Beard, BJ Bowdler.

Club stalwart Jean Rawlings, pictured with Gerald Ward and Paul Mason, was presented with life membership at the club's end of season dinner. It was a very popular decision and well deserved for a member of the rugby community that often gets overlooked.

It was estimated that Jean cooked over 100,000 after match meals for players and supporters in her 43 year stint since 1968.



The club put the disappointment of relegation behind them by working tirelessly behind the scenes to make sure that the right structures were put in place to ensure future success.

In June the club became only the third in the county to be presented with the Rugby Football Union's Whole Club Seal of Approval.

To get the award the club had to demonstrate excellence in all facets including club management, player development and recruitment, child protection, sports equity, coaching, refereeing and volunteering.

Working closely with development officer Don Parsons throughout the assessment the club also managed to forge strong links with a number of schools and colleges.

There was cause for celebration too when club stalwart Roger Hale was presented with a special award by the Gloucestershire Rugby Football Union for exceptional service to the game in Gloucestershire.



SEASON 2011-2012

The awarding of the Whole Club Seal of Approval brought a sharper focus to future planning and there were some major changes at the AGM.

Hooker Ashley Howells was appointed club captain and one of the club's all-time greats Chris Treherne was appointed first team manager.

Long serving Secretary Glyn Tingle stood down after a tremendous stint of 23 years and was replaced by Alan Miles. Dean Large took over as fixture secretary from Dereck Trigg, who had also given the club tremendous service by filling the post for 16 years.

The Colts XV were reformed and formed part of the new County Colts League with Dave Auker-Howlett as manager.

Development plans were put in place and one of the first initiatives was a major recruitment drive through a touch rugby tournament held in conjunction with the RFU's Choose Rugby Campaign. Drybrook were one of eight clubs in the whole country to receive 100 pints and 100 pies for their work in promoting the grass roots game through the O2 Touch campaign. They also



Drybrook 1st XV 2011/12

Back Row - Dean Large, Alan Miles, Anthony O'Riordan (Coach), Pete Meek, Simon Rugman, Chris Rawlings, Ben Steward, Will Chung, James Gahan, Frazer McArdell, Jun Sing Lee, Steve Hussey, Chris Treherne (Manager), Mike Rawlings.

Middle Row - Pete Griffiths, John Pegler, Roger Hale, Jake Hale, Gerald Ward (President), Ashley Howells (Captain), Paul Mason (Chairman), Les Hale, Steve Hale, Chris Hale, Jeff Tate.

Front Row - Sam Peaper, Max Davies, Danny Griffiths, Danny Price, Carl Moore, Lee Ward, Tom Treherne, Andy Bulumakau.

SEASON 2011-2012

received a pile of flags, flyers, England rugby kits, baseball caps and balls and members were delighted to tuck into the fayre when it arrived just in time for the first six nations match.

It all had the desired effect with healthy pre-season training numbers and a high expectancy of a good season ahead mainly because so many talented younger players were stepping up from the junior section.

The inclusion of four Hartpury College players, Jun Sing Lee, Frazer McArdell, Rich Cottrell and Andy Bulumakau brought a greater depth to the squad and some exciting and enjoyable rugby was played as a result.

Old Bristolians proved to be worthy winners of the league but Drybrook were always involved in the race for the play-off spot.

Just before Christmas coach Anthony O'Riordan announced he was leaving the area and Drybrook wasted no time in appointing Frazer McArdell as his successor.

McArdell who had been side lined through a recurring knee injury consisting of three ACL reconstructions and numerous cartilage and bone grafts was forced to call it a day on a stellar playing career and to take up coaching instead.

Gloucester Premier League

| Pos | Team | P | W | D | L | PF | PA | ± | TR | LR | Pts |
|-----|-------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|------|----|----|-----|
| 1 | Old Bristolians | 22 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 655 | 338 | 317 | 13 | 2 | 88 |
| 2 | Drybrook | 22 | 15 | 0 | 7 | 620 | 344 | 276 | 9 | 5 | 74 |
| 3 | Southmead | 22 | 15 | 0 | 7 | 483 | 347 | 136 | 5 | 5 | 70 |
| 4 | Bristol Saracens | 22 | 14 | 0 | 8 | 422 | 393 | 29 | 7 | 3 | 66 |
| 5 | St Mary's Old Boys (SW) | 22 | 13 | 1 | 8 | 447 | 407 | 40 | 7 | 4 | 65 |
| 6 | Widden Old Boys | 22 | 11 | 0 | 11 | 616 | 433 | 183 | 11 | 5 | 60 |
| 7 | Tewkesbury | 22 | 11 | 1 | 10 | 507 | 468 | 39 | 5 | 5 | 56 |
| 8 | Frampton Cottrell | 22 | 9 | 0 | 13 | 367 | 478 | -111 | 4 | 6 | 46 |
| 9 | Old Richians | 22 | 9 | 1 | 12 | 425 | 544 | -119 | 6 | 1 | 45 |
| 10 | Old Colstonians | 22 | 7 | 1 | 14 | 428 | 621 | -193 | 6 | 6 | 42 |
| 11 | Bishopston | 22 | 5 | 1 | 16 | 346 | 475 | -129 | 4 | 6 | 32 |
| 12 | Longlevens | 22 | 1 | 0 | 21 | 239 | 707 | -468 | 0 | 5 | 9 |



1st XV Shirt Sponsors - Hale & Co

Steve Hale, Gerald Ward, Roger Hale, Les Hale, Ashley Howells, Jake Hale.

McArdell had previously represented Scotland under 18's, 19's and 20's and played Premiership A team rugby for Gloucester. He was also captain of the Hartpury College 1st XV and led his team to victory at Twickenham in the British Universities' Championship.

He proved an instant hit at Drybrook and was instrumental in helping the team to Gloucestershire Senior Vase success over Bristol Saracens (28 -10) in the final. In the previous rounds Drybrook played some of their best rugby for many years to overcome Southmead (47-5) and Old Richians (71 - 0).

Wells arrived for the next round (the Gloucestershire/Somerset area final) and won (6 - 18) in a game in which Drybrook were reduced to 14 men early on when Lee Ward was shown a red card.

Back in the league old adversaries Southmead were neck and neck with Drybrook for most of the season but a fantastic try from Bulumakau, a player of rare talent, led to victory against them in March and with it the runners-up spot.

This led to a Western Counties League play-off final at Wells at the end of April but Drybrook just lost out (10 -18) to a team that had just reached a Twickenham final as well.

Chris Rawlings finally broke the long standing 1st XV appearance record held by Gerald Ward when he played in his 555th game.

To mark the achievement a special cap was awarded to him at the end of season dinner by GRFU Chairman Peter Williams and Henry Trinder (Gloucester RFC). Rawlings has now gone on to notch up 616 1st team appearances for Drybrook.



DRYBROOK UNITED XV

There was a return to league rugby this year for the United XV and a new captain in Ryan Dubberley together with a new manager in Jon Mustoe.

There were some heavy defeats in the first part of the season but the team eventually settled down to achieve a respectable mid table position.

The Combination cup committee experimented this year by bringing the early rounds of the cup matches forward to avoid fixture congestion at the end of the season. Drybrook lost out at Cinderford Stags (3 -5) on a cold and wet Saturday in February in a game that lacked the normal intensity and passion of a forest cup tie.



No one at home – The 2nds travelled to Hereford 2nds for this last match of the season only to discover the home team did not bother to turn up. After several phone calls and futile attempts to locate the Hereford team it was decided to spend the afternoon in the city – which naturally focussed on the pubs rather than the cultural attractions.

SEASON 2011-2012

GRFU Citizen Merit Table – Division North 1 (Final Placing)

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|-------------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Matson 2 nd XV | 16 | 14 | 0 | 2 | 437 | 168 | 62 | 77.50 |
| Tewkesbury 2 nd XV | 17 | 12 | 0 | 5 | 585 | 243 | 65 | 76.47 |
| Dursley 2 nd XV | 16 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 342 | 276 | 50 | 62.50 |
| Cirencester 2nds | 15 | 10 | 0 | 5 | 463 | 249 | 46 | 61.33 |
| BerryHill 2nds | 16 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 255 | 416 | 46 | 57.50 |
| Drybrook 2nds | 17 | 6 | 0 | 11 | 261 | 497 | 41 | 48.24 |
| Old Patesians 3rds | 11 | 6 | 0 | 5 | 257 | 192 | 22 | 40.00 |
| ConeyHill 3rds | 11 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 245 | 193 | 18 | 32.73 |
| Gordon League 2nds | 12 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 182 | 275 | 15 | 25.00 |
| Cheltenham North 3rds | 11 | 2 | 0 | 9 | 177 | 384 | 7 | 12.73 |
| Old Richians 2nds | 12 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 57 | 368 | -11 | -18.33 |

DRYBROOK EXTRAS

Chris Tingle and Clive Boughton took on the responsibility of running the Extras XV and did a very good job of getting them to third place in the league. Only Old Centralians 2nds proved to be too strong as they romped to the



Drybrook Extras XV

Back Row (L to R) – Roger Hale, Ricky Davies, Kane Hale, Matt Grindle, Joe James, Simon Ballinger, Richard Probert, Ben Venner, Craig Lancett, James Meek, Mark Head, Joe Tingle.

Front – Ian Rawlings, Greg Kiernan, Phil Probert, Gerald Ward, John Jeffs, Paul Mason, Billy Head, Lee Phelps, Connor Auker-Howlett.

SEASON 2011-2012

league title but elsewhere all games were close save the one at Stroud 2nds when they happened to turn up on a day that Stroud's 1st XV was not in action. Interest in the Forest cup ended in November with a narrow (10 – 13) defeat at Newent 2nds.

Ben Roberts had a good season at outside half and scored a personal tally of 141 points with Jamie Roberts heading the try scorers on 8.

GRFU Citizen Merit Table – Division 3 North (Final Placing)

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|--------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Old Centralians 2nds | 13 | 12 | 0 | 1 | 435 | 112 | 61 | 93.85 |
| Cirencester 3rds | 14 | 10 | 0 | 4 | 307 | 223 | 54 | 77.14 |
| Drybrook 3rds | 13 | 9 | 0 | 4 | 294 | 278 | 41 | 63.08 |
| Stroud 2nds | 15 | 8 | 0 | 7 | 316 | 273 | 47 | 62.67 |
| Brockworth 2nds | 14 | 7 | 0 | 7 | 233 | 201 | 42 | 60.00 |
| Painswick 2nds | 14 | 7 | 0 | 7 | 313 | 260 | 38 | 54.29 |
| Hucclecote 2nds | 13 | 5 | 0 | 8 | 192 | 245 | 28 | 43.08 |
| BerryHill 2nds | 14 | 2 | 0 | 12 | 162 | 342 | 17 | 24.29 |
| Gloucester Old Boys 2nds | 12 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 155 | 473 | 3 | 5.00 |

DRYBROOK COLTS XV

The newly formed Colts XV had a really good season under the captaincy of Ben Large. They got their first taste of action at the JP Morgan Sevens at Kingsholm and did well to reach the final of the Plate Competition.

They were unfortunate to draw eventual winners Matson in round one of the main competition where defeat meant they had to compete in the plate competition. A mouth-watering semi-final with neighbouring Cinderford saw Drybrook emerge comfortable 17-5 victors. In the final against ChosenHill the Colts left themselves too much to do after trailing 24-5 at the break. A good fight back saw them reduce the deficit to 29-19 but they ran out of time.

In other fixtures Drybrook's playing record was Played 15 Won 10 Drawn 1 Lost 4 Points for 467 Points against 163.

There were some spectacular victories along the way including Chipping Sodbury (89-0), Winscombe (64-17), Old Patesians (63-7), Keynsham (47-7), Newent (38-0) and Monmouth (29-5)

One of the stars of the team was centre/wing James Gahan whose forceful



Ian Ritchie (4th from left), the new Chief Executive Officer of the RFU came to visit the club in May. In the morning he visited Gloucester RFC and Hartpury College before spending time at Berry Hill, Drybrook and Matson.

Forest of Dean Community rugby officer Don Parsons (2nd from right) helped set up the visit of one of rugby's most powerful men and said the club should feel very privileged as there are hundreds of clubs in the South West he could have gone to.

running and electric speed led to him scoring five try hat tricks during the season.

Victory in the Gloucestershire Colts League Plate Final at Old Richians RFC was a great way for the team to round off 2011.

In the final against Thornbury, Drybrook won 20-12 with tries from Joe Tingle and Ben Large who also dropped a goal. Mitch Baldwin's kicking was faultless and he added two difficult conversions as well as a penalty.

The squad were indebted to Graham Sleeman from GLS Windows, Henry Gardner of Countryside Landscapes, and Cavendish Park Builders for sponsoring the team kit.

JUNIOR RUGBY

The Drybrook under 15 boys had a really good season which started with the JP Morgan Sevens at Kingsholm. They did really well to reach the final but lost to red hot favourites Coney Hill 24-40.

The Forest Combination ran a junior competition this season and Drybrook's impressive Under 15 team swept into the final by beating Lydney (53-7) and then brushing aside Cinderford (36-0) in the final played at a wet and windy Westbury.

Try scorers for Drybrook were; Rhys Chandler (2), Luke Kavanagh, Adam Rees, Alex Iles and skipper Kieran Auker-Howlett with Chandler adding three conversions.

Drybrook under 14's travelled to the Prince of Wales Stadium to play their third county plate final in as many years. This time they beat Minchinhampton.

SEASON 2011-2012

ton (17-7) and secured victory with tries from Mac Dale, Dewi Wilcox and Ben Element with Mitch Giles adding one conversion.

When it came to girls' rugby Drybrook continued to lead the way and apart from having two players in the full England side, a further 13 girls gained representative honours this season.

Beth Graham and Beth Hewitt retained their places in the Gloucestershire under 18 team with a further nine girls gaining selection for the county under 15 team.

The nine were, Chloe Fisher, Robyn Hancock, Millie Jones, Beth Lawrence, Hannah Meek, Mazie Morgan, Charlotte Pye, Mollie Teague and Lauren Wall. Drybrook also had two girls in the Somerset county set-up in Chanise Beard (under 18) and Ashleigh Wintle (under 15)

The girls' teams had to look further afield for meaningful opposition this term and enjoyed fixtures with the likes of Melksham, Gloucester Reds, Swindon Supermarine, Caerphilly, Cardiff Harlequins, Newport and King Henry 8th School, Abergavenny.

This season the section went on an enjoyable weekend to Liddington, Swindon where they enjoyed a range of activities including raft building and zip wires.

The season ended when the entire section went to Esher RFC to see two of their own make rugby history. Natasha "Mo" Hunt and Ceri Large were part of the England team that scooped a record breaking seventh successive Six Nations Crown and a sixth Grand Slam in seven years.

The RFU rebranded the Whole Club Seal of Approval award to enable more clubs to be able to achieve it and renamed it the RFU Club Accreditation Programme. Chairman Paul Mason and his wife Carol travelled to Twickenham to pick up Drybrook's award from RFU President Paul Murphy. Drybrook were among the first clubs in the country to pick up the Accreditation award.



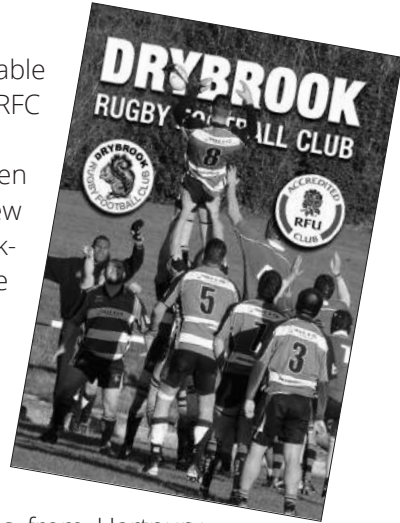
SEASON 2012-2013

No one could have predicted what a memorable season this was going to be for Drybrook RFC when pre-season training started in July.

It all began with the news that the club had been selected as the venue to host the launch of the new England kit and ended with a fairy tale trip to Twickenham to contest the final of the RFU Senior Vase Competition.

In between there were some terrific games of rugby played by one of the best teams ever assembled at Drybrook. This led to a league championship as well as a Gloucestershire and South West Senior Vase triumphs.

Newcomers to the squad were prop Nick Ovens from Hartpury College, Mitch Renton (Hooker) and flanker Andy Chesters (Hartpury). Ovens



ENGLAND CAPTAINS TO UNVEIL NEW STRIP AT DRYBROOK RUGBY CLUB

**WEDNESDAY
19th September 2012
from 2.00pm**

All Drybrook supporters, friends and players past and present are welcome to come along.

See the England captain Chris Robshaw in a training session with the Drybrook junior players alongside England 7's Captain Rob Vickerman, England Womens Captain Katie McLean and England Womens 7's Captain Michaela Staniford.

Come and meet the England players as well as former British Lions skipper Bill Beaumont. (And to get autographs!)

THE DAYS SCHEDULE

- 2.00pm** Hog roast in the Marquee
- 2.30pm** Training session with Drybrook Juniors and England Captains run by RFU CRCS
- 3.30pm** Training session ends
- 3.45pm** Autograph signing session with England Captains on Main Pitch
- 4.00pm** Event ends. Everyone welcome to stay for the evening!

The Heart of Forest Rugby

Telephone: (01594) 543595 Email: info@drybrookrfc.com

Drybrook RFC was selected as the venue for the launch of the new England playing kit sponsored by Canterbury. It all came about when club chairman Paul Mason put the club forward in a competition being run by the RFU to find a real community club in which to stage the event.

The prize of five full sets of playing kit and various other sportswear was worth £21,000 to the club and with it came a day that will live long in the memory.

The nation's media, made up of various TV and satellite channels plus the national press descended on Drybrook together with a host of celebrities from the world of rugby. The local community came out in force to support the event and the celebration lasted long into the evening.

SEASON 2012-2013

Gloucester Premier League

| Pos | Team | P | W | D | L | PF | PA | +/- | TB | LB | Pts |
|-----|----------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|------|----|----|-----|
| 1 | Drybrook | 22 | 21 | 0 | 1 | 820 | 140 | 680 | 14 | 0 | 98 |
| 2 | Frampton Cotterell | 22 | 18 | 1 | 3 | 529 | 323 | 206 | 10 | 1 | 85 |
| 3 | Bristol Saracens | 22 | 13 | 1 | 8 | 460 | 340 | 120 | 12 | 3 | 69 |
| 4 | Stroud | 22 | 13 | 0 | 9 | 471 | 422 | 49 | 7 | 1 | 60 |
| 5 | Whitehall | 22 | 11 | 0 | 11 | 364 | 468 | -104 | 8 | 4 | 57 |
| 6 | Southmead | 22 | 9 | 1 | 12 | 394 | 447 | -53 | 4 | 5 | 47 |
| 7 | Gordon League | 22 | 8 | 3 | 11 | 388 | 451 | -63 | 4 | 3 | 45 |
| 8 | Painswick | 22 | 7 | 2 | 13 | 434 | 490 | -56 | 6 | 6 | 44 |
| 9 | St Mary's Old Boys (SW) | 22 | 7 | 0 | 15 | 324 | 483 | -159 | 3 | 8 | 39 |
| 10 | Tewkesbury | 22 | 7 | 1 | 14 | 358 | 656 | -298 | 3 | 2 | 35 |
| 11 | Dursley | 22 | 6 | 2 | 14 | 284 | 461 | -177 | 1 | 5 | 34 |
| 12 | Widden Old Boys | 22 | 6 | 1 | 15 | 294 | 439 | -145 | 2 | 3 | 26 |

joined fellow props Craig Clarke, Tom Reed and Jun Sing Lee to provide the club with real strength in depth in the front row. The back row was also particularly strong and had six players of real quality fighting for the three places. Other signings included second row Marcus Cowles, winger Rory Day and centre three quarter Luke Fisher.

The newcomers were joining an already established squad that had only just missed out on promotion the year before so expectations were high.

Coach Frazer McArdell, his assistant Tim Stevenson, and new captain Simon Rugman sensibly rotated the squad available to them and the pre-season matches went very well with victories at Trimsaran and a thumping (66-7) win over Swindon Supermarine.

In the first league match at Whitehall Drybrook surprisingly went down (12-26) but after that they just kept winning and winning.

The team notched up 27 consecutive victories and swept to the league title brushing aside all before them in spectacular fashion.

The rugby played was of a really high calibre and the rolling maul in particular proved unstoppable to every opponent.

It was the glorious cup run that captured the imagination of both players and supporters alike and to end with a final at Twickenham was a dream come true.



Drybrook 1st XV and Officials at Twickenham

Back Row; Frazer Mc Ardell, Gerald Ward, Steve Hussey, Craig Clarke, Chris Rawlings, Andy Chesters, Liam Jackson, Mitch Renton, Marcus Cowles, Rich Cottrell, Joe Tingle, Neil Morgan, Nick Ovens, Lee Ward, Paul Mason, Tim Stevenson, Alan Miles. Front; Charlie Dagwell, Adam Swordy, Ben Large, Rory Day, Carl Moore, Jun Sing Lee, Simon Rugman, Luke Fisher, Sam Peaper, Tom Reed, Tom Treherne, Andy Bulumakau, Mitch Baldwin, Richard Jackson.

It all began with a fairly straightforward victory over Tewkesbury which proved to be the only home match in the competition.

Next up was a return to Whitehall and this time victory was achieved in a game spoiled by the wind and rain. The Gloucestershire final of the Senior Vase took place at Bristol Saracens where a very accomplished display led to an emphatic victory and the first piece of silverware for the season.

A tricky tie at Chew Valley was negotiated in the next round and then another great performance led to victory at Teignmouth in the South West Vase Final. The quarter final at Marlborough was played in sub-zero temperatures but Drybrook warmed their supporters up with another top class display.

Drawn away to hot favourites Maidstone in the semi-final no one gave Drybrook much of a chance but they showed great resolve to strangle the life out of the home side. There were some emotional scenes at the final whistle as the players realised the enormity of their achievement.

The trip to Twickenham involved 11 supporters' buses from the club and numerous others from the locality who did their best to cheer the team to victory. Sadly it wasn't to be and Drybrook's form deserted them on the day where a very good Selby outfit just claimed victory.

SEASON 2012-2013

Drybrook's Simon Rugman picked up their award at the Gloucestershire RFU AGM for winning the Gloucestershire Premier League



Despite the defeat it was still a glorious day for the club and one which will live long in the memory of those who were fortunate enough to be there.

THE ROUTE TO TWICKENHAM

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------|------|-------|
| 22 nd September | Tewkesbury | Home | Won | 47-0 |
| 13 th October | Whitehall | Away | Won | 22-3 |
| 10 th November | Bristol Saracens | Away | Won | 41-3 |
| 5 th January | Chew Valley | Away | Won | 26-9 |
| 2 nd February | Teignmouth | Away | Won | 47-13 |
| 23 rd February | Marlborough(Q/F) | Away | Won | 39-7 |
| 30 th March | Maidstone(S/F) | Away | Won | 16-6 |
| 4 th May | Selby (Final) | Twickenham | Lost | 25-29 |

The last game of the season was at Bream a week later when the final of the Forest Senior Cup was contested with Cinderford United.

The long season and aftermath of the Twickenham defeat eventually caught up with Drybrook whose luck deserted them once more.

The very cold and wet weather made for a dour encounter and the teams were locked 6 points apiece at the end of normal time.

Drybrook had the chances to take victory in extra time but missed their oppor-

SEASON 2012-2013

tunities and Cinderford converted one of their penalty awards to lift the cup. Nevertheless this was still an outstanding season for Drybrook with only 3 defeats in the 34 games. Player of the year Carl Moore was outstanding throughout and scored 25 tries with full back Tom Treherne scoring 250 points.

DRYBROOK UNITED XV

It was also a season to remember for the United XV as they swept to the league title. There were some emphatic victories along the way which included the games with Stroud (73-0), Cirencester (73-5), Cheltenham North (70-5), BerryHill (47-0) and Gordon League (97-5). Nine of the league matches were called off by opposition clubs and only Old Centralians and Lydney managed to lower their colours during the campaign.

In total the team won 18 of their 22 fixtures and in the Forest Junior Cup they



Drybrook United team and officials

Back Row; Clive Boughton, Roger Hale, Connor Hale, Mitch Browning, Peter Meek, Joe Tingle, Adam Swordy, Jim Rugman, Joe James, Frazer McArdell (Club Coach), Nick Rawlings.

Middle Row; Tony Hussey, Craig Boughton, Chris Tingle,(Manager) Andy Milner (Captain), Paul Mason (Chairman), Ryan Dubberley, Ben Warren

Front Row; Jack Davies, Dean Jelf, Tony Suter, John Baynam, Connor Auker-Howlett, Mitch Baldwin.

SEASON 2012-2013

GRFU Citizen Merit Table - Division 1 North (Final Placings)

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|-----------------------|----|---|---|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Drybrook 2nds | 11 | 9 | 0 | 2 | 456 | 80 | 47 | 85.45 |
| Old Centralians 2nds | 14 | 9 | 0 | 5 | 507 | 208 | 50 | 71.43 |
| ChosenHill 2nds | 12 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 265 | 96 | 38 | 63.33 |
| Old Patesians 3rds | 13 | 6 | 0 | 7 | 238 | 242 | 33 | 50.57 |
| Stroud 2nds | 14 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 327 | 511 | 32 | 45.71 |
| Lydney 2nds | 9 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 338 | 83 | 19 | 42.22 |
| Dursley 2nds | 11 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 149 | 311 | 22 | 40.00 |
| BerryHill 2nds | 9 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 179 | 241 | 13 | 28.89 |
| Cheltenham North 3rds | 14 | 2 | 0 | 12 | 209 | 626 | 14 | 20.00 |
| Gordon League 2nds | 9 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 155 | 429 | -12 | 0.00 |
| ConeyHill 3rds | 8 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 148 | 144 | -14 | 0.00 |

reached the final by seeing off the 1st XV's of Bream and Westbury. The final was played at BerryHill RFC against the all-conquering Newent 1st XV who had just returned from victory in the Junior Vase at Twickenham. It proved a game too far and Newent ran out winners by 7pts – 35pts to retain their unbeaten record for the season.

Skipper Andy Milner managed 167 points for his team and closed in on the all-time points scoring record for the United XV.

DRYBROOK EXTRAS XV

The Extras were skippered this term by Jimmy Ryder and found themselves placed in Division 2 North. The GRFU committee realigned the leagues again this year but predictably the same problems existed and Drybrook played only 10 of the scheduled 22 games. Even eventual champions Cheltenham Saracens cried off in one fixture and the frustrating season led to only four home games for the team.

Nevertheless they picked up friendly fixtures whenever they could and ended the season in style with victory in the Forest Minor Cup Competition.

They won (19-14) at Newent 2nds in the quarter final before edging a close game at Bream 2nds (11-9) in the semi-final.

SEASON 2012-2013

The final against BerryHill Wappers was played at Ross-on-Wye and the team emerged victorious (7 -3) where Chris Treherne scored and converted the only try of the game.

For the first time the Combination awarded a man of the match award and Drybrook's skipper Jimmy Ryder was the popular recipient.

GRFU Citizen Merit Table - Division 2 North (Final Placings)

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|--------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Cheltenham Saracens 2nds | 14 | 10 | 1 | 3 | 352 | 175 | 56 | 80.00 |
| Painswick 2nds | 12 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 370 | 90 | 43 | 71.67 |
| Old Richians 2nds | 14 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 351 | 122 | 48 | 68.57 |
| Longlevens 2nds | 15 | 7 | 1 | 7 | 233 | 363 | 45 | 60.00 |
| Gloucester Old Boys 2nds | 18 | 8 | 0 | 10 | 362 | 320 | 45 | 50.00 |
| Brockworth 3rds | 14 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 289 | 159 | 35 | 50.00 |
| Hucclecote 2nds | 14 | 6 | 2 | 6 | 216 | 298 | 32 | 45.71 |
| Drybrook 3rds | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 188 | 162 | 16 | 32.00 |
| BerryHill 3rds | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 131 | 171 | 5 | 10.00 |
| Widden Old Boys 2nds | 13 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 181 | 392 | 3 | 4.62 |
| Stow-on-the-Wold 2nds | 11 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 81 | 455 | -10 | 0.00 |
| Cirencester 3rds | 9 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 117 | 164 | -7 | -15.56 |

JUNIOR RUGBY

Ex Pontypool and former Drybrook player Dale Critchley was the guest of honour at the annual presentation day for minis and juniors.

He was there to present the awards throughout the day after another successful year for the section.

The Dave Roberts Memorial Trophy for volunteer of the year went to Mandy Meredith for her sterling work with the clubs girls' section. The young volunteer of the year went to Brad Morgan and Hannah Roberts.

County player Tyler Jerrum won the award for high achiever and there were numerous other representative selections to celebrate in a record breaking year for the club;

SEASON 2012-2013

During the summer the club was successful in obtaining a £5000 grant from the RFU Foundation to help towards the cost of a project to replace the clubhouse roof. The work was completed in early September and a big thank you was given to the contractors Lee Ward and his team and to main sponsors Hale & Co for their generosity and guidance in ensuring the project was able to go ahead. The club were also indebted to Pete Jones and Etheridges who supplied the scaffolding free of charge.



Work in progress

The completed project



County under 20's – Ben Large, Sam Peaper, Rich Cottrell

County Under 18's – Joe Tingle, Craig Boughton

Gloucester RFC Under 15's Academy – Dewi Wilcox, Mac Dale, Tyler Jerrum.

County Under 16's – Will Greenway, Tyler Jerrum and Kieran Auker-Howlett.

Forest of Dean District Under 16's – Luke Roberts, George Cinderey, Tom Sime, Jordan Taylor, Joe Lewis, Brandon Jacobs.

Forest of Dean District Under 15's – Joe Watts, BJ Bowdler, Tom Davies, Nicky Butler, Jake Porter, Ollie Peacey, Mitch Giles, Harry Rushworth.

County Under 18's Girls – Mazie Morgan, Chanise Beard, Charlotte Pye, Robyn Hancock.

County Under 15's girls – Bethany Lawrence, Bryony Edwards, Amber Probyn, Ashleigh Wintle, April Vanston, Chloe Wakefield.

Team Award Winners;

| | Best Player | Most Improved |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Under 7's | Kyran Meek | Freddie Ricketts |
| Under 8's | Thomas Wynn | Arthur Rudkin-McLaren |
| Under 9's | Ethan Hancock | Riley Durston/Ethan Davies |
| Under 10's | Charlie Rushworth | William Oversby |
| Under 12's | Brad Morgan | Kyran Worgan |
| Under 13's | Regan Marsh | Archie Wilson |
| Under 15's | Mitch Giles | Connor Parry |
| Under 16's | George Cinderey | Huw Rimmer |
| Under 13 Girls | Saskia Bowdler | Paige Fletcher |
| Under 15 Girls | Natalie Pye | April Vanstone |
| Under 18 Girls | Robyn Hancock | Chloe Fisher |

Played at the Prince of Wales Stadium, Cheltenham, Drybrook Under 15's made it a weekend trophy treble for Drybrook with a splendid victory over a spirited Cleve. Drybrook looked to be in control at 22pts – 5pts early in the second half and with the strong wind at their backs. However Cleve picked up their game with a series of pick and goes that eventually led to a second try and then disaster nearly struck for Drybrook. Skipper Dewi Wilcox was yellow carded and a minute later Nicky Butler was shown red which left Drybrook with 13 players.

The team stuck to their task and managed to keep Cleve out and when Wil-



Manager Mark Wilcox proudly displaying the GRFU Under 15 Plate winner's trophy at the Prince of Wales Stadium.

SEASON 2012-2013

cox returned they finished strongly and were pressing for another score. For Drybrook Harry Rushworth (2), Jake Porter and Ollie Peacey scored tries with Mitchell Giles adding one conversion.

Drybrook Under 12's won their Combination Final against Newent (47-5), In the match played at West-bury Jay Fellows scored 4 tries with others coming from Marley Wisniewski, Will Bees and Brad Morgan.



Mississauga Blues RFC U18 Girls

Saturday 16th March - Mississauga Blues RFC U18 Girls arrived for the final stay of their England tour. The Canadians proved to be excellent rugby players and won the match the following day (54 – 5) and are pictured here with the Drybrook girls. The 24 girls and 7 coaches arrived to a warm welcome by the host families the previous evening after travelling from Liverpool via Warwick Castle. They were treated to a traditional Fish and Chips supper and got to know the Drybrook girls and coaches before heading to their billets for the night!

Drybrook Girls in National Success

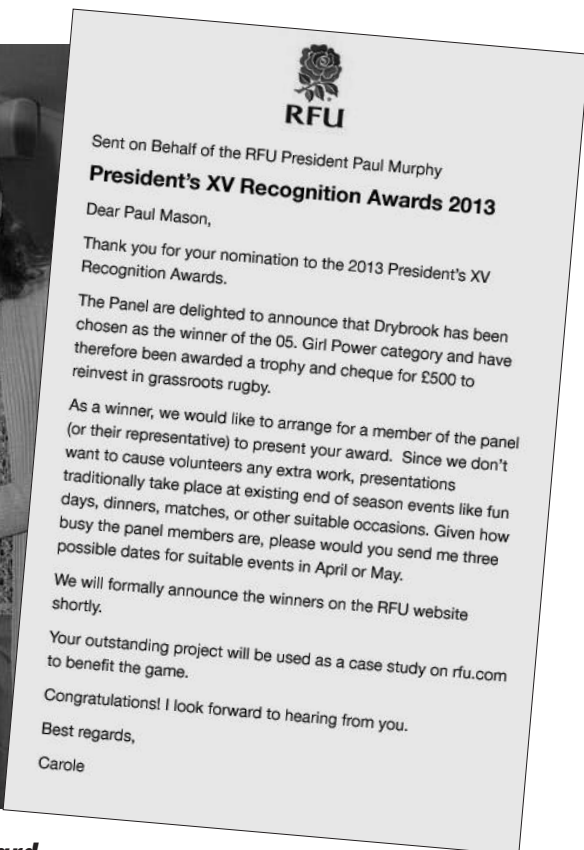
On Saturday 27th May, Dene Magna School year 7 and year 8 girls travelled to Staines RFC to take part in the U13's Girls Rugby National Schools Final. Six Drybrook RFC girls were in the Dene Magna school squad; Saska Bowdler, Paige Fletcher, Hollie Kibble, Megan English, Hannah Roberts and Katie Jeffrey. Teams from across the country had previously battled it out in district and regional competitions to win a place at the finals.

In the morning Dene Magna girls played 5 games in the pool matches at Staines RFC, they won their pool and that put them in the final.

The final was played at Twickenham that afternoon – they played at half time of the Army V Navy game in front of 76,000 people. Dene Magna Girls played outstanding rugby against Copleston High School from Suffolk, and they won by 2 tries to nil!



At the girls' section end of season ball in May, guest of honour Ceri Large presented her England shirt to Under 18's captain Mazie Morgan for display in the clubhouse.



Presidents' XV Recognition Award

Pictured is Mandy Meredith (Girls Section Manager) receiving the award on behalf of the Girls Section from ex-England captain Gill Burns MBE. Gill said "When the panel saw Drybrook's entry it was clear that they should be the deserved winners. Drybrook have an amazing Girls set up and I'm sure they will continue to with their commitment to girls rugby."

SEASON 2013-2014

There was a bit of concern that following such a successful 2012/13 season anything else would be an anti-climax. This was far from the case as Drybrook swept to a Western Counties North and Gloucestershire Intermediate cup double. There were also numerous other trophy successes throughout the club and a number of facility improvement projects to celebrate. Frazer McArdeall and Tim Stevenson continued as coaches and Simon Rugman enjoyed a second season as captain that was just as successful as his first.

Summer departures saw Andy Bulumakau depart for Gloucester RFC and Andy Chesters and Rich Cottrell were called back into the Hartpury College fold. On the plus side second row Dale Critchley and centre Dan Cox both returned to the club as did back row man Mitch Bourne after a spell at Cinderford RFC.



1st XV with officials and sponsors

Back Row; Dan Cox, Chris Rawlings, Nick Ovens, Mitch Renton, Marcus Cowles, Dale Critchley, Joe James, Ollie Clements, Dan Price, Kristian Taft, Aiden Price, Steve Hale (Sponsor)

Middle Row; Frazer McArdeall, Chris Hale, Tom Ward, Jake Hale (Sponsor), Gerald Ward (President), Simon Rugman (Captain), Paul Mason (Chairman), Roger Hale, Pete Griffiths, Mike Rawlings, Steve Hussey.

Front Row; Mitch Baldwin, Tom Treherne, Ben Large, Sam Peaper, Luke Fisher, Jun Sing Lee.

SEASON 2013-2014

Hale & Co Shirt Spon- sors 2013/14 season.

*Left to right –
Gerald Ward,
Jake Hale, Simon
Rugman, Steve
Hale, Roger
Hale.*



Stand-off Ollie Clements was a significant signing from Hartpury College and Gloucestershire University winger Harry Gooderham brought some exiting pace to the back division.

Pre-season Drybrook lost a difficult opener at South West 1 North Petherton (12-27) before turning on the style at High Wycombe (43-10).

The league campaign started with a defeat at Chew Valley, then victories over Midsomer Norton and Cirencester before further losses at Old Bristolians and Matson.

There were no signs that Drybrook would be serious challengers for the title but they slowly got their act together and began to march up the table.

They won the next nine games on the trot and this included the capture of the Gloucestershire Intermediate Cup. ChosenHill were beaten (38-7) in the first round and then Stow-on-the Wold handed Drybrook a walkover in the semi-final.

The final was played at the Mannings against North Bristol when Drybrook played some superb rugby to emerge victorious by 60pts – nil.

The team won every match from mid-October until the end of the year and a very large crowd witnessed the comfortable (22-0) victory over BerryHill in November.



The victorious team after winning the Gloucestershire Intermediate Cup Final against North Bristol by 60 points – nil

Back Row; Frazer McArdle, Steve Hussey, Carl Moore, Craig Clarke, Mitch Renton, Joe James, Ollie Clements, Rorie Day, Alan Miles, Mitch Bourne, Neil Morgan, Chris Rawlings, Dan Price, Dan Cox, Paul Mason.

Front; Ben Large, Nick Ovens, Jun Sing lee, Ashley Howells, Luks Fisher, Sam Peaper, Tom Treherne, Kristian Taft, Mitch Baldwin.

Ollie Clements made a real impact with some very reliable goal kicking and got Drybrook out of trouble on a couple of occasions when he held his nerve to kick some last minute goals.

The only sour note pre-Christmas was when Tim Stevenson suffered injury in his debut game against Oldfield Old Boys which led to him being side lined for over a year.

The first match of the New Year was the next round of the RFU Intermediate Cup but there was to be no return to Twickenham after the team slipped to defeat at Wells (0 - 8).

Left to concentrate on the league Drybrook won every game until the end of the season with the victories at Keynsham and BerryHill going a long way to determining the league title.

It came down to a show down in mid-April against second placed Chew Valley where Drybrook put in their best performance of the campaign to win (37-10)



Acting skipper Luke Fisher receiving the winners' plaque from GRFU competitions secretary Mike Heath.

SEASON 2013-2014

Tribute Western Counties (North)

| Pos | Team | P | W | D | L | PF | PA | +/− | TR | LB | Pts |
|-----|------------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|------|----|----|-----|
| 1 | Drybrook | 26 | 23 | 0 | 3 | 702 | 257 | 445 | 11 | 1 | 104 |
| 2 | Matson | 26 | 19 | 0 | 7 | 788 | 446 | 342 | 18 | 5 | 99 |
| 3 | Chew Valley | 26 | 21 | 1 | 4 | 721 | 396 | 325 | 11 | 1 | 98 |
| 4 | Keynsham | 26 | 15 | 2 | 9 | 558 | 482 | 76 | 9 | 3 | 76 |
| 5 | Chosen Hill Former Pupils | 26 | 15 | 2 | 9 | 595 | 544 | 51 | 9 | 3 | 76 |
| 6 | Barts Rugby | 26 | 15 | 0 | 11 | 610 | 585 | 25 | 12 | 3 | 75 |
| 7 | Avon | 26 | 14 | 1 | 11 | 529 | 508 | 21 | 5 | 4 | 67 |
| 8 | Old Bristolians | 26 | 9 | 0 | 17 | 535 | 679 | -144 | 9 | 8 | 53 |
| 9 | North Bristol | 26 | 10 | 0 | 16 | 442 | 587 | -145 | 4 | 5 | 49 |
| 10 | Bristol Harlequins | 26 | 9 | 0 | 17 | 443 | 612 | -169 | 5 | 6 | 47 |
| 11 | Midsomer Norton | 26 | 8 | 1 | 17 | 456 | 546 | -90 | 6 | 4 | 44 |
| 12 | Cirencester | 26 | 8 | 1 | 17 | 433 | 575 | -142 | 6 | 4 | 44 |
| 13 | Berry Hill | 26 | 8 | 0 | 18 | 446 | 549 | -103 | 4 | 7 | 43 |
| 14 | Oldfield Old Boys | 26 | 4 | 0 | 22 | 370 | 862 | -492 | 4 | 4 | 24 |

They officially wrapped up the title a week later at ChosenHill where some champagne rugby resulted in a resounding (67 -8) victory.

Into May, Drybrook were handed a walkover straight into the final of The Forest of Dean Combination Senior Cup where they faced a Cinderford United team loaded with National League standard players.

The physicality of the game took its toll and Harry Gooderham and Neil Morgan ended up being injured and taken to hospital. Several other players were nursing injuries as the game unfolded and Cinderford retained the cup (27 -5)

DRYBROOK UNITED XV

Andy Milner assumed the second team captaincy for a second season and led his team to creditable 3rd position in the Gloucestershire Reserve Premier League.

It was another very frustrating season with a number of clubs finding difficulty in fielding teams and in the end only 20 matches were played and this included friendlies and cup games.

In the Forest Junior Cup Drybrook beat Westbury's 1st XV (16-14) at the Man-

nings in the first round but the cup committee ordered the game to be re-played amid accusations of Drybrook fielding ineligible players.

The return game took place at Westbury and resulted in an emphatic victory for Drybrook (43-7).

A pulsating semi-final against Cinderford Stags ended in heart break for Drybrook when a penalty deep into injury time handed the visitors victory (14-15)

Milner had least had the consolation of breaking the all-time scoring record for Drybrook United when he ended the season on 969 points.



Saturday 31st August 2013 was a landmark occasion for club vice-chairman Chris "Soapy" Rawlings who made his 600th Drybrook 1st XV appearance in the match at High Wycombe.

DRYBROOK EXTRAS XV

It was a season of near misses for the Extras who ended up in third position in Gloucestershire Reserve League North 2 as well as suffering the agony of defeat in the Forest Minor Cup Final after sudden death.

The league was made up almost entirely of North Gloucester Combination 2nd XV's so in the circumstances the team did extremely well to finish where they did.

The cup campaign began with victory over Cinderford Bucks (20-16) before a more comfortable victory at BerryHill Wappers (22-5) in the semi-final.

The final against Ross 2nds was played at Westbury and Drybrook should have wrapped the game up in normal time but after 80 minutes the teams were locked (11-11) Drybrook had the chances to win in normal time and even more opportunities in the sudden death period as darkness loomed.

Ross somehow held out and then swept down field where former Drybrook junior section player Rhys Chandler crept in at the corner for the decisive score.

Skipper Tom Maskell did a sterling job for his team by ending up with the most points (38), the most tries (5) as well as making the most appearances by playing in 23 of the 25 games played.

SEASON 2013-2014



Drybrook Extras XV

Back Row; Ben Steward (Manager), Matt Freeman, Steve Turley, Chris Parker, Jon Mustoe, Dave Jones, Steve Virgo, Ben Venner, James Meek, Iain Murphy, Guy Williams (First Aid)

Middle Row; James Ryder, Dan Wilce, Ricky Davis, Paul Mason (Chairman), Tom Maskell (Captain), Roger Hale (Treasurer), Richard Roberts, Luke Roberts, Scott Phelps.

Front Row; Billy Head, Quentin Partridge, Clive Boughton, Grant Brown, Jack Freeman, Ben Roberts.

LADIES RUGBY

For the first time since 2002 Drybrook were able to field a Senior Ladies XV. Shelley Bourne was the only player to bridge the gap between the years and was made captain for the season.

There was plenty of interest and help from a number of club members and friends but the team owed a lot to husband and wife team James and Lucie Smith who were the real driving force behind the reformation. Rob Clyne was the head coach and Lucie Smith became the manager.

The first match was played against a much more experienced Newent Ladies team but despite defeat the team stuck together and made some real progress as the season went on.

All of the matches were friendlies with the goal of entering the league structure a priority for 2014/15 season.

Ellie Underwood was voted player of the year with Sarah Teague the most improved.

SEASON 2013-2014



Drybrook Ladies XV

Back Row; James Smith, Rachael James, Hayley Jones, Martha Cole, Roxanne Carter, Natalie Gay, Ellie Underwood, Nicki Hancock, Catherine Harden, Marie Grindle, Tara Hook, Natasha Kibble, Kara Tucker, Jess Hunt, Thomas Treherne, Gordon Bourne.

Middle; Sharon Roberts, Lucie Smith, Sarah Teague, Micha Harris, Roger Hale, Shelley Bourne, Paul Mason, Gavin Lewis, Vanessa Lusty, Jenna Large, Sarah Hadfield, Robert Clyde.

Front; Marie Williams, Kat Brain, Sarah Jelf, Louise Morgan, Alison Pye, Cassey Holdsworth, Abi Bradley, Victoria Treherne.



Drybrook Veterans XV vs Berry Hill Veterans 22nd March 2014

Back Row; Guy Williams, Simon Burke, Ian Jeffs, Steve Turley, Dave Thomas, Dave Brookes, Richard Roberts, Steve Hodder, Dave Wilce, Sean Bourne, Jason Roberts.

Front Row; Dave Auker-Howlett, John Jeffs, Steve Lewis, Clive Boughton, Chris Tingle, Chris Treherne, Kerry Bourne, Jimmy Rider, Lee Wilks.

JUNIOR RUGBY

There were now so many players in the junior section that the end of season presentation ceremony had to be split over two days.

1st XV skipper Simon Rugman attended the Saturday ceremony as guest of honour for the junior boys and girls.

Bath rugby star Matt Gilbert handed out the prizes to the mini section the following day.

Team Award Winners

| | Best Player | Most Improved |
|----------------|------------------------------|--|
| Under 7's | Kealan Price | Carter Ede |
| Under 8's | Kyle Quinn Ryan Edwards | Max Lancett |
| Under 9's | Keane Meek | Archie Dey |
| Under 10's | Harry Broadhurst | Billy Williams |
| Under 11's | Charlie Rushworth | Ollie Baker |
| Under 13's | Jay Fellowes Kyran Worgan | Aiden Haines |
| Under 14's | Bailey Watts | Fenton Bourne |
| Under 16's | Frazer Montague | Ciaran Barcoe Cameron Hill-Whatmore |
| Under 17's | Will Biggs Ben Howells | Jordan Bourne |
| Under 13 Girls | Hollie Kibble | Molly Lancett |
| Under 15 Girls | Charlotte Fisher | Freya Jones |
| Under 18 Girls | Bryony Edwards | Lauren Wall |

Special awards were presented to high achiever Mazie Morgan and young volunteer of the year Will Greenway. The Dave Roberts Memorial Trophy Volunteer award went to Stephanie Watts whilst there was a special leaver's award for Bernice Meadows.

SEASON 2013-2014

Several of the section's players gained District and County selection:

U16'S DISTRICT:

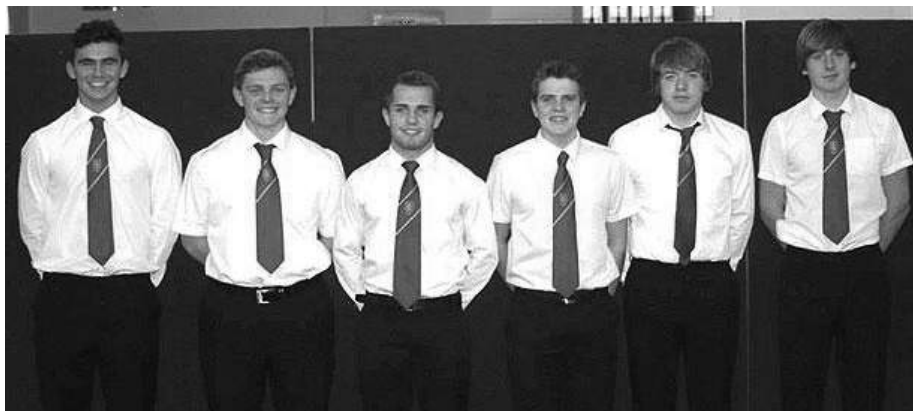
Joe Watts, Harry Rushworth, Billy Bowdler, Ollie Peacey, Jake Porter, Mitch Giles, Frazer Montague, Nicky Butler, Connor Parry, Dewi Wilcox, Mac Dale

U16'S COUNTY:

Joe Watts, Dewi Wilcox, Mac Dale, Billy Bowdler, Ollie Peacey, Mitch Giles.

U17'S COUNTY:

Will Greenway, Alex Iles.



Drybrook's Gloucestershire U16s County Players

Ollie Peacey, Dewi Wilcox, Mac Dale, Billy Bowdler, Mitch Giles and Joe Watts.



Drybrook Girls selected for Gloucestershire County U18s squad

Robyn Hancock, Maizie Morgan, Charlotte Pye, Chanise Beard.

SEASON 2013-2014

Drybrook girls selected for Gloucestershire County U15s squad

*Back: Saska Bowdler, Ellie Garside, Rebecca Stephens
Front: Georgia Wintle, Shauna Bennett, Jade Kibble and Katie Jefferey.*



Two of the girls gained selection for the South West.

Maizie Morgan (U18's) right, and Shauna Bennett (U15's).

Drybrook u13 girls took part in the first ever Gloucestershire u13s girls tournament run by GRFU at Cheltenham. The girls won every single game to become Gloucestershire champions.

The squad were undefeated this season and were the most successful team in the South West and beyond. They also won tournaments at Burnham-on-Sea, Minehead, Castle Carey and Drybrook.



The Undefeated Drybrook U13 Girls

Back Row – James Walker, Megan English, Paige Fletcher, Jasmine Parham, Jess Tingle, Hollie Kibble, Hannah Roberts, Leah Teague, Alice Cresswell, Ziggy Fletcher.

Front Row; Molly Lancett, Olivia Smeeth, Lily-Mae Walker, Lydia Handley, Helen Davis.



DRYBROOK GIRLS DO THE DOUBLE

Drybrook RFC girls section took 50 girls and 20 parents on tour to Minehead Butlins – where the u13s and u15s squads took part in a tournament organised by Leicester Tigers.

The girls played in games over the Saturday and Sunday, the u13s playing 5 games and the u15s playing 6 games.

The u13s won every single one of their matches, playing teams from Minehead, Weston, Castle Cary and Camberley, scoring an impressive 32 tries over the 5 games and conceding only 2 tries. The girls endured broken noses, black eyes, shoulder injuries and lots of mud to take the tournament title.



SEASON 2013-2014

The Under 15's battled against strong opposition and picked up injury after injury, seeing a 14 squad depleted to an 8 girl squad by the end of the week-end. In the Saturday games they beat Wells and Minehead and drew with Cleve. The Sunday conditions were muddy to say the least and even with so many injuries the girls won every game to emerge tournament winners. Under 15's player Katie Jeffery was also awarded a magic moment award from Leicester Tigers for the amazing try she scored in one of the games.



Vic Jones and his under 11 team were delighted to welcome Michael and Kathy Garland from The Love Drybrook Trust who have generously donated another £250 to the team.

The trust runs the Shop on the Cross which raises money to support good causes in Drybrook and so far around £24,000 has been donated to various organisations and projects.

Michael and Kathy picked a glorious morning to visit the club which became even better when the team came from behind to snatch victory over neighbours Cinderford by 3 tries to 2.

On the same day the Drybrook under 8 team were victorious at a new competition held at the Forest of Dean Activities Festival.

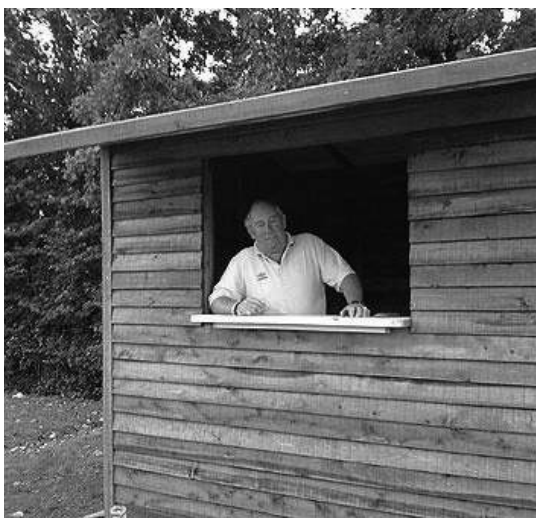
OFF THE FIELD

There was a significant amount of facility improvement work done in the closed season with the most welcome being the provision of two covered spectator areas.



A refreshment hut serving hot and cold drinks as well as snacks was also put up on the pitch side and Gordon Bourne can be seen adding the finishing touches. Note the wild boar damage in the foreground which necessitated the building of a £5000 boar proof fence. To pay for this the club were fortunate to receive a match funded grant from the RFU.





Hot and Cold snacks and beverages will now be available pitchside..



Gate steward John Brown also had a new hut built to provide some much needed shelter.

The committee were kept busy for most of the year with various applications for funding towards a new roof on the changing rooms.

An application to Sport England's Inspired Facilities Fund eventually proved successful and the news that the club were to receive £36,900 of National Lottery Funding to replace the existing flat roof with a pitched tiled roof was most welcome indeed.

Mark Harper MP said: "I am delighted to hear that Drybrook RFC has been awarded the grant by Sport England. I was happy to support their bid for funding, which they fully deserve. From their successful senior team, all the way through to their junior section, the club, with their improved facilities, will be able to continue their important role in the local community.

An amendment to include more roof space to incorporate a players' gymnasium caused a slight delay before it was given the go ahead. Work finally commenced in November 2013 and the project was completed in July 2014.

An Inspired Facility





The completed Changing rooms upgrade with new players gymnasium above.

Drybrook RFC had two people graduate from the RFU Leadership Academy – Dean Large and Chris Rawlings.

This was great news for the club who benefitted from the projects Dean and Chris have undertaken.

The RFU Leadership Academy is designed to give new or aspiring rugby leaders a solid foundation for their development. Units cover a variety of topics from leadership styles to motivating teams to planning change.

The Academy facilitates networking opportunities to allow participants to share experiences and solutions on similar issues under the guidance of a mentor. On completion of the Academy candidates become part of the Alumni where further development opportunities were offered.



Dean Large (second right) pictured at the graduation event. Unfortunately camera shy Chris was unavailable for the photoshoot

Before Drybrook even began their first ever season in South West One there was cause for celebration when both Natasha Hunt and Ceri Large were named in the England World Cup Squad.

There was even more celebration when England won the tournament and both Drybrook women appeared in the final. The clubhouse was absolutely full when a special night was organised to commemorate the notable achievement.



The pre-season touch tournament in July was the most successful to date and it set Drybrook up nicely for the Forest of Dean Combination sevens tournament at the beginning of August.



The busy summer also saw a special award given to Tom Ward at the Gloucestershire Rugby Football Union AGM in recognition of 67 years of service to the game.

SEASON 2014-2015

Held at the Mannings for the first time Drybrook's play was as hot as the weather and they swept to the title by beating Lydney (17-12) in the final. Tom Treherne scored a try hat trick in the final including the winning score in the dying seconds.



Skipper Ben Large with the trophy



Combination Sevens Winners

*(Back Row L to R); Will Greenway, Kristian Taft, Mitch Bourne, Kieran Auker-Howlett, Dan Price, Sam Peaper, Dan Griffiths, Gareth Holdsworth.
Front; Mitch Renton, Mitch Baldwin, Ben Large, Tom Treherne.*



Some of the crowd at the opening ceremony of the new gym.



New gym named in honour of Rugby World Cup winners

The new gymnasium was officially opened on Thursday 28th August in front of a very large crowd of friends and supporters.

In honour of our two world cup winners who did so well in the tournament in France the facility was named the Natasha Hunt and Ceri Large Gymnasium. The ribbon cutting ceremony was performed by Natasha 'Mo' Hunt and Drybrook skipper Ben Large who stood in for his sister Ceri who was on RFU business at a tournament in Exeter. They are pictured with club President Gerald Ward and Chairman Paul Mason.

The club also held its first ever outdoor beer and music festival and even a sponsored bike ride to raise money for new gym equipment. Held to raise money for the purchase of new gym equipment the intrepid riders + their magnificent support team raised the incredible sum of £1835. Held over a particularly wet weekend in late August the gruelling schedule around the Dorset coast proved a real test for the 11 riders who took part. Particularly deserving of a mention were skipper Ben Large whose logistical skills were key to making sure the ride took place with minimal



Ben Large presenting the cheque to Chairman Paul Mason

SEASON 2014-2015

problems and support staff members Emily Mattock and Emily Wilson. For the record, the 11 riders were; Ben Large, Sam Peaper, Dean Large, Luke Roberts, Mitch Baldwin, Adam Swordy, Rick Cottrell, Tom Treherne, Neil Morgan, Danny Price and Ceri Large.



After this it was back to concentrating on the formidable challenge of the South West One league.

Both coaches remained at the helm but this season centre three quarter Ben Large took over the captaincy from Simon Rugman.

Gloucester and England centre Henry Trinder also helped out with some skills sessions. Newcomers to the squad included Niall Gibbons (back row), Alun Richards (outside half), Elliot White (prop) and Jose Kalibe (No 8).

Later in the season hooker Harry Collins, centre Jack Simmons, and winger Cameron Roberts all signed up to give some much needed strength in depth.

Pre-season games resulted in victories over Trimsarin and a Hartpury College XV and then a drawn match with London One outfit Colchester.

Led by former coach Anthony O'Riordan, Colchester gave Drybrook the sternest of tests and left us in no doubt how hard rugby at this level was likely to be. The opening fixture against Cullompton resulted in a less than convincing victory (21-6) and the following week Wells became the first visiting team to win at the Mannings in two and a half years.

The trip to Ivybridge brought a reality check (7 – 38) before the ship was steadied with a narrow victory over Matson (28-18)

SEASON 2014-2015

South West One (West) League

| Pos | Team | P | W | D | L | PF | PA | Diff | FB | LB | Pts |
|-----|---------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|------|----|----|-----|
| 1 | Cleve | 26 | 22 | 0 | 4 | 705 | 376 | 327 | 17 | 2 | 107 |
| 2 | Ivybridge | 26 | 18 | 0 | 8 | 760 | 596 | 164 | 17 | 5 | 94 |
| 3 | Bridgwater & Albion | 26 | 16 | 0 | 10 | 669 | 505 | 164 | 16 | 5 | 80 |
| 4 | Bideford | 26 | 14 | 1 | 11 | 681 | 603 | 78 | 13 | 5 | 76 |
| 5 | North Petherton | 26 | 15 | 1 | 10 | 659 | 590 | 69 | 11 | 5 | 73 |
| 6 | Camborne | 26 | 13 | 0 | 13 | 638 | 580 | 58 | 11 | 8 | 71 |
| 7 | Thornbury | 26 | 12 | 2 | 12 | 583 | 591 | -8 | 11 | 3 | 66 |
| 8 | Wells | 26 | 12 | 1 | 13 | 610 | 569 | 41 | 9 | 5 | 64 |
| 9 | Avonmouth Old Boys | 26 | 12 | 2 | 12 | 509 | 580 | -71 | 7 | 3 | 62 |
| 10 | Clevedon | 26 | 11 | 2 | 13 | 558 | 565 | -7 | 6 | 6 | 60 |
| 11 | Drybrook | 26 | 12 | 1 | 13 | 436 | 511 | -75 | 4 | 5 | 59 |
| 12 | Matson | 26 | 9 | 0 | 17 | 552 | 684 | -132 | 8 | 7 | 51 |
| 13 | St Austell | 26 | 7 | 0 | 19 | 463 | 607 | -144 | 5 | 6 | 39 |
| 14 | Cullompton | 26 | 4 | 0 | 22 | 441 | 905 | -464 | 3 | 3 | 22 |

The rest of the season became a real dogfight along with several other clubs to maintain South West One status.

The best wins pre-Christmas were at Clevedon (13-9) and at Wells (31-20) whilst a 24 -24 draw at Thornbury was no mean feat.



Drybrook RFC was the delighted recipient of the coveted Whistler Trophy at the Referees' Society annual dinner held on 17th April.

Given annually to the club that has given referees the most support and best welcome on and off the pitch, this was the second time that Drybrook had lifted the award. Club committee men Andy Milner and Anthony Suter were on hand to receive the award on behalf of the club from Society chairman Adrian Danks.

SEASON 2014-2015

Into the New Year Drybrook managed to defeat Camborne (16-8) and a week later pulled off a very good win at St Austell (10 – 9) in atrocious conditions. Elsewhere there were some frustrating narrow losses punctuated by the odd win here and there which kept them just above the relegation zone. It came down to the last match before Drybrook finally secured their place for another year when they won at already relegated Cullompton (29-17). This was a particularly tough relegation battle involving a lot of teams and even with Drybrook's near 50% record they only just avoided the drop. The Forest of Dean Combination Senior Cup First Round tie at home to Ne-went proved a real disappointment with the visitors gaining victory (3 -15) following a very subdued performance from Drybrook.

DRYBROOK UNITED XV

Andy Milner continued as captain for the 2nd XV for a third season and helped steer his team to two cup finals.

Placed in the Gloucestershire Reserve Premier League Drybrook had to face some formidable opponents and did well to end in fourth position.

Clifton were the runaway winners but Drybrook were the only team to beat them after a thrilling match at the Mannings (25-24)



Forest of Dean Combination Junior Cup Winners

Back Row; Mitch Baldwin, Chris Rawlings, Ben Steward, Mitch Hale, Connor Hale, Glen Nott, Rhys Evans, Craig Moore, Jim Rugman, Joe James, James Smith, Neil Morgan, Steve Hussey.

Middle; Tony Hussey, Kieran Auker-Howlett, Connor Auker-Howlett, Andy Milner, Gareth Holdsworth, Craig Boughton, Jack Freeman, Luke Roberts.

Front; Ashley Howells, Anthony Suter.



Neil Morgan sends the champagne flying as Andy Milner hoists the cup

The organisers introduced a league cup competition for the first time but in the group stages both Matson and Old Centralians handed Drybrook a walkover.

In the remaining group matches Drybrook won at Cinderford Stags (9-5) before cruising past Lydney United (52-0)

The semi-final against Dings Knights was postponed on a number of occasions before the Bristol outfit were forced to hand Drybrook another walk over.

In the final Drybrook lost heavily (0-42) at Clifton on a day when they were without a number of regulars due to injury and unavailability.

In the Forest of Dean Combination Junior Cup, Drybrook squeezed past Westbury-on-Severn 1st XV in Round One (12-10). It was equally as tight in the semi-final but they managed to just pip Ross-on-Wye 1st XV (13-7)

The final was played at Dockham Road against Cinderford Stags where Drybrook controlled the game for long periods to emerge victorious (20-9)

Rhys Evans got Drybrook's only try but skipper Andy Milner was deadly accurate with the boot and put over 5 penalty goals.

SEASON 2014-2015



GRFU Community Officer Rez Aminnia came along to present the Gloucestershire Reserve Leagues Premier Cup Runners-Up Plaque 2014-15 to delighted skipper Andy Milner. Also pictured are United XV manager Ben Steward and Anthony Suter.

Gloucestershire Reserve Premier Division (Final Standings)

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|----------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Clifton Wanderers | 13 | 12 | 0 | 1 | 656 | 158 | 62 | 4.69 |
| Cinderford Stags | 14 | 9 | 0 | 5 | 402 | 316 | 53 | 3.57 |
| Old Centralians 2nds | 13 | 10 | 0 | 3 | 418 | 287 | 45 | 3.38 |
| Drybrook United | 16 | 9 | 0 | 7 | 361 | 354 | 54 | 3.25 |
| Dings Knights | 11 | 7 | 0 | 4 | 315 | 132 | 38 | 3.18 |
| Cleve United | 14 | 6 | 0 | 8 | 264 | 283 | 29 | 1.86 |
| Lydney United | 14 | 4 | 0 | 10 | 342 | 444 | 21 | 1.29 |
| Thornbury 2nds | 11 | 2 | 0 | 9 | 170 | 426 | 6 | 0.27 |
| Whitehall Wasps | 14 | 2 | 0 | 12 | 136 | 552 | -2 | -0.36 |
| Matson United | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 220 | 332 | -5 | -0.60 |

EXTRAS XV

Under new captain Steve Virgo Drybrook Extras ended up in third place in Gloucestershire Reserve 2 North League.

Apart from the matches against eventual Champions Longlevens, where they lost (7 - 59) & (28 - 49), Drybrook were very competitive throughout.

SEASON 2014-2015

There was also a league cup competition for the 3rds but after beating Ashley Down and Chipping Sodbury in the group they lost narrowly at St Brendan's Old Boys.

The next match at home to Cotham Park did not take place and the competition then appeared to fizzle out.

In the Forest of Dean Minor Cup the team were well beaten at Cinderford Bucks (6-32) in Round 1.

Gloucestershire Reserve 2 North league - (Final Standings)

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | %age |
|--------------------------|----|----|---|---|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Longlevens 2nds | 16 | 12 | 0 | 4 | 538 | 242 | 65 | 4.00 |
| Chelt Saracens 3rds | 16 | 10 | 0 | 6 | 386 | 332 | 56 | 3.50 |
| Drybrook 3rds | 14 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 283 | 291 | 36 | 2.57 |
| Tewkesbury 2nds | 14 | 5 | 0 | 9 | 289 | 384 | 35 | 2.43 |
| Old Richians 2nds | 14 | 7 | 0 | 7 | 279 | 337 | 34 | 2.36 |
| Dursley United | 14 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 220 | 283 | 34 | 2.29 |
| Gloucester Old Boys 2nds | 14 | 6 | 0 | 8 | 207 | 349 | 28 | 2.00 |
| Brockworth 2nds | 14 | 5 | 0 | 9 | 266 | 323 | 28 | 1.86 |
| ConeyHill 3rds | 9 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 267 | 134 | 7 | 0.78 |
| Painswick 2nds | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 39 | 99 | -41 | -13.67 |

COLTS RUGBY

Drybrook ran a successful Colts XV this year under the supervision of coaches Mitch Renton and Luke Fisher.

Kieran Auker-Howlett was the team captain and they won nine of the 18 games played.

Placed in the GRFU Development League North Division they ended up in the lower half with five of the teams handing them walk overs.

They recorded wins over Longlevens, Bream, Cheltenham and Newent during the season but lost out in the county cup to Old Redcliffians.

This meant they had to compete in the County Plate and after victories over Gordano and Yatton they lost out in the semi-final at Cleve.

A place in the Development League bowl awaited them and after despatching Winscombe (35-10) they met Cirencester in the final at Cleve RFC.

SEASON 2014-2015

A strong performance led to Drybrook taking the trophy (39-24)

Kieran Auker-Howlett notched up 56 points for his team with Josh Element the leading try scorer with 9.

Josh and his twin brother Ben were the only players to appear in every game.



Drybrook U18s 39pts Cirencester U18s 24pts

Drybrook Development Squad (in no particular order): Harry Rushworth, Josh Element, Brandon Collins, Ben Element, Jon Pritchard, Max Watkins, Jordan Eacups, Jake Bourne, Tyler Jerrum, Billy Bowdler, Will Greenway, Harry Howard, Will Biggs, Ciaran Barcoe, Connor Parry, Ben Howells, Kieran Auker-Howlett, Rhys Chandler, Huw Rimmer, Kevin Otenyo, Jake Porter, Joe Watts, Frazer Montague.

GRFU COLTS DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE-NORTH DIVISION

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | Scr |
|---------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Matson | 14 | 11 | 0 | 3 | 255 | 124 | 52 | 1 |
| Cheltenham | 14 | 9 | 0 | 5 | 170 | 141 | 46 | 1 |
| Newent | 14 | 9 | 0 | 5 | 126 | 194 | 43 | 0 |
| Old Patesians | 14 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 125 | 176 | 41 | 0 |
| Longlevens | 14 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 155 | 173 | 39 | 0 |
| Drybrook | 14 | 8 | 0 | 6 | 112 | 152 | 39 | 0 |
| ConeyHill | 14 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 22 | 5 | 7 | 12 |
| Lydney | 14 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 12 |



Drybrook Veterans XV

Back Row; Dave Marfell, Jon Mustoe, Clark Price, Chris Tingle, Peter Meek, Craig Lancett, Neil Ricketts, Dave Brookes, Vic Jones, Richard Probert, Guy Williams.

Front Row; Chris Treherne, Graham Jenkins, Dave Thomas, Clive Boughton (capt), Jimmy Ryder, Kevin Wynn.

The Veterans XV enjoyed a very successful tour to Malta where they entered a tournament organised by the Malta Marauders RFC.

Up against a very youthful Blackheath team in the first match Drybrook slipped to defeat (10-14) and a crop of injuries decimated the squad.

Five Marauders players made up the numbers against the eventual tournament victors Les Tubes a Essis (one of the two French sides) in the next game. The Frenchmen quickly punished Drybrook for some rather tired tackling with two unconverted tries to run out 10 – 0 winners.

With everyone dropping like flies in the afternoon heat wave it was decided to regretfully concede defeat and retire from the tournament gracefully.

WOMEN'S RUGBY

The Women's XV entered the league this season and were placed in NC South West North 2.

Shelley Bourne continued as captain and there were a number of changes and additions to the coaching team. James Smith replaced Rob Clyne as head coach, Victoria Treherne became forwards coach and the backs were overseen by Tom Treherne and Jack Freeman, Dean Jelf came on board as fitness coach and he worked closely with his sister Lucie Smith who continued as

SEASON 2014-2015

Women's NC South West North 2

| Pos | Team | P | W | D | L | PF | PA | +/- | TB | LB | Pts |
|-----|---------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|------|----|----|-----|
| 1 | Hornettes Ladies | 16 | 14 | 0 | 2 | 661 | 81 | 580 | 0 | 0 | 59 |
| 2 | Drybrook Ladies | 16 | 13 | 1 | 2 | 618 | 150 | 468 | 0 | 0 | 59 |
| 3 | Chipping Sodbury Ladies | 16 | 11 | 0 | 5 | 285 | 119 | 166 | 0 | 0 | 52 |
| 4 | St Mary's Old Boys Ladies | 16 | 11 | 1 | 4 | 558 | 236 | 322 | 0 | 0 | 48 |
| 5 | Devizes Ladies | 16 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 300 | 377 | -77 | 0 | 0 | 39 |
| 6 | Westbury Ladies | 16 | 3 | 2 | 11 | 133 | 543 | -410 | 0 | 0 | 37 |
| 7 | Yeovil Ladies | 15 | 5 | 0 | 10 | 357 | 455 | -98 | 0 | 0 | 34 |
| 8 | Old Redcliffians Ladies | 16 | 5 | 0 | 11 | 203 | 574 | -371 | 0 | 0 | 29 |
| 9 | Gordano Ladies | 15 | 1 | 0 | 14 | 142 | 722 | -580 | 0 | 0 | 19 |
| 10 | To be arranged | 64 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

manager. They enjoyed a splendid season and gained promotion at the first attempt and only missed out on the league title by points difference.

Even this was slightly misleading as two clubs forfeited games against Drybrook and in doing so denied them the chance to close the gap on Hornettes. A measure of Drybrook's improvement as the season unfolded was that they lost at the eventual champions (5-27) in an early season game but gained revenge just before Christmas (14 – 12)

Drybrook were neck and neck with Hornettes all season but it was an unexpected reversal at Chipping Sodbury and a drawn match at Westbury on Trym that ultimately proved costly.

The team did manage to go undefeated at home.

The final playing record was; Played 16 games, won 13, lost 2 drawn 1. Total tries scored 97.

Top scorer was Ellie Underwood with 321 points which included 38 tries. The most improved player of the year award went to Roxsanne Carter and players' player of the year was awarded to Jessica Hunt. Coaches' player of the year was Stevie Liddiatt.

The success of Drybrook's Ladies did not go unnoticed and thirteen of the team were invited to attend County trials; Kat Brain, Jess Hunt, Julie Norbury, Sarah Bevan, Ellie Underwood, Kara Tucker, Roxsanne Carter, Sarah Teague, Chanise Beard, Stevie Liddiatt, Micha Harris, Shelley Taylor, and Lucie Smith. Ellie Underwood, Lucie Smith and Roxanne Carter all went on to represent the Gloucestershire County XV.

JUNIOR RUGBY

Another very busy year for the section led to even more success and regional representation for several of the players.

Four Drybrook Colts' players, Joe Watts, Huw Rimmer, Will Greenway and Will Biggs were all selected for the County U18 Squad along with former junior section player Mac Dale.

Eight Drybrook girls were selected for South West trials; Shauna Bennett, Saska Bowdler, Ellie Garside and Chloe Wakefield (U15s) and Robyn Hancock, Emma Hughes, Jade Kibble and Maizie Morgan (U18s).

There were 18 Drybrook girls selected for the county squads; Georgja Wintle, Chloe Wakefield, Katie Jeffery, Ellie Garside, Shauna Bennett, Hannah Roberts, Leah Teague and Saska Bowdler (U15)

Bryony Edwards, Emma Hughes, Robyn Hancock, Molly Teague, Kirsty Gwilliam, Tyler-Ann Tucker, Becca Cooper, Brittany Morgan, Jade Kibble and Mazie Morgan (U18)

The Drybrook u15s and u18s Girls teams both made it through to the National RFU South West finals - just 2 steps away from the RFU National finals. Played at North Petherton RFC they unfortunately lost out to Crediton RFC and Exeter Saracens respectively.

The boys' teams also all had good seasons and there was much to celebrate at the end of year presentations.

The season ended in sadness though with the death of former junior section player Ollie Floyd (20) in an accident at work. A very popular member of the section and from a family deeply rooted in the history of Drybrook RFC, his death was both untimely and profoundly shocking to his family and many friends.

An annual award at the junior presentation day now bears Ollie's name.



Annual Presentation Day - Team Award Winners;

| | Best Player | Most Improved |
|----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Under 7's | Ava Lancett Kiera Kibble | Harri Ryder |
| Under 8's | Finlay Morris | Travis Price Ellis Ryder |
| Under 9's | Ryan Edwards Alisha Smith | Joshua Phillips |
| Under 10's | Oliver Brain | Oscar Baggs |
| Under 11's | Wilf Bond | Riley Durston Callum Kibble |
| Under 12's | William Oversby | Leo Baker Louis Morgan |
| Under 14's | Rohan Parry | Caleb Lloyd |
| Under 15's | Kerry Powell | Alfie Bayliss |
| Under 13 Girls | Jasmine Parham | Aesha Kaddem |
| Under 15 Girls | Bobbie Ward | Poppy Bond |
| Under 18 Girls | Mazie Morgan Robyn Hancock | Brittany Morgan |

The Ollie Floyd Junior Dedication Award was awarded to Maizie Morgan and the Rex Organ Cup (High Achiever) went to Shauna Bennett. The young volunteer of the year was Regan Durston and the Dave Roberts Memorial Trophy for volunteer of the year went to long serving Sally Morse.

*Drybrook under 15s
pictured in their new
Raging Bull tracksuits
kindly sponsored by
Mike Bayliss –
Bespoke Architectural
Solutions*



SEASON 2014-2015



The U14's and U15's boys travelled on tour to Butlins Holiday camp, Minehead from the 24th to 26th April.

Taking part in the 'Tigers' Challenge tournaments both teams enjoyed success, with the U14's runners up in the cup competition and the U15's (pictured) winning the Shield competition.



Under 13 Girls – County Champions again

The Under13 girls travelled to Cleve to take part in the GRFU county cup finals day determined to retain their county title.



SEASON 2014-2015

A 14 strong squad of girls battled their way through 4 games throughout the afternoon to bring the trophy home once more. Jasmin Parham, Georgia Peglar, Tegan James and Amber Stamp-Dunstan were girls of the games.

The team also won a RFU tournament held at Drybrook RFC with victories over BerryHill, Old Richians, Kingswood and Newent, as well as another RFU tournament at Old Bristolians RFC.



Drybrook under18 Girls welcomed Canadian tourists Waterloo to the Mannings in March for a floodlit game.

The 19 strong Canadian squad played their part in a very evenly matched and hard fought encounter with Drybrook just edging it (17 – 5). Jade Kibble, Brittany Morgan, and Robyn Hancock got the Drybrook tries with Mazie Morgan slotting one conversion.

In the clubhouse presentations were made followed by rousing renditions of God Save the Queen and the Canada national anthem.

At the 2014 Gloucestershire Media Awards Natasha Hunt was presented with the Rugby Player of the Year Award (over 18) by Sir Geoff Hurst. The club came runners-up in the Community Club of the Year category. Natasha and Ceri were further honoured when they were included in the Team of the Year award on the prestigious BBC's Sports Personality of the Year show.



SEASON 2015-2016

With the Rugby World Cup 2015 taking place in England there was a lot of interest generated in the game and club members were at the forefront of some of the local celebrations.

It began with four club members being invited to a special celebration dinner at Kingsholm Stadium, Gloucester when the cup itself was on view after being paraded through the county at a series of smaller events.

The club's under 18 girls' squad were invited to Townsend House, Mitcheldean to help promote the event to the residents and the mini section were out in force at the Festival in the For-

est promoting the club and the tournament to a wider audience.

Drybrook's huge contribution to junior rugby was recognised when some of its members were invited in their role as young rugby ambassadors to take part in some of the more prestigious events.



The national RWC2015 Trophy Tour was in Gloucester on Wed 15th July 2015. Four representatives from the club attended an exclusive dinner held that evening in the 1873 suite at Kingsholm, for 250 members of the Gloucestershire Rugby Family, organised by Gloucestershire Rugby Football Union and Gloucester Rugby.

They were invited to be cap and medal bearers at the two welcome ceremonies taking place in the county. Chanise Beard and Robyn Hancock presented the Tonga team with their caps and medals at Cheltenham Town Hall while Will Greenway and Mazie Morgan presented the awards to the Scotland national team at Gloucester Cathedral. Mazie also led the Scotland team through the cathedral as flag bearer.

This was a once in a lifetime experience that will never be

SEASON 2015-2016

forgotten for the four young ambassadors who were thrilled and privileged to be part of such a wonderful occasion.

Aside from the World Cup there were plenty of other things happening at the club including the Nat West Rugby Force Initiative.



Over 50 members of the club turned out to take part in the second Nat West Rugby Force Initiative. Nat West Bank sponsor clubs throughout the land to encourage volunteers to help out with necessary maintenance tasks and improvement projects. Drybrook were successful in obtaining a £1000 grant towards material costs and used the money to spruce up the club house, outbuildings and grounds in readiness for the Rugby World Cup.



A centre section was also added to the covered spectator area.

Pre-season began with the resignation of club coach Frazer McArdle who was leaving the country to take up a coaching role in Singapore. The club were very fortunate that they had a ready-made replacement in assistant coach Tim Stevenson who stepped up to take on the head coach role.

The club moved quickly to install Luke Fisher as assistant coach who concentrated on

SEASON 2015-2016

the forwards, whilst elsewhere Ben Large remained as captain and Chris Rawlings and Alan Miles continued as joint team managers.



A large crowd assembled at the Mannings on Thursday 23rd July to wish retiring coach Frazer McArdeall the warmest of send offs. Club Captain Ben Large presented Frazer with a framed Drybrook shirt and emblazoned around the outside were a number of brass plaques listing his considerable achievements in his short time at the club. Ben outlined in his speech what Frazer had help to achieve at the club in his three and a half year stint but went on to say what a great coach, ambassador and friend Frazer had become to everyone at the club. On behalf of the club Ben wished Frazer all the best in his new role in Singapore.

The first rugby played was in the Forest Combination Sevens tournament held at BerryHill RFC. There was to be no repeat of the previous season's trophy success when the team lost out in the group stages to Cinderford and Newent.

This meant a stint at the Plate competition and the team improved as the day went on to win through to the final where they demolished Bream (45-14)

The trial games went very well with victory over Llantwitt Fardre (14-10), a narrow loss at home to Hereford (14-19), followed by a very good victory over a Hartpury College XV (36-10)

Jack Combes (scrum half), Robbie Faulkner (centre) and Alex Gibson (prop) were all



Combination Sevens Plate Winners

Craig Boughton, Luke Roberts, Ben Large, Mitch Baldwin, Chris Rawlings, Neil Morgan, Ollie Moore, Brad Morgan

SEASON 2015-2016

newcomers to the squad and quickly established themselves in the 1st XV. They were joined by fellow Hartpury students Ollie Gray and Ben George a little later in the season and both added considerably to Drybrook's strength in depth.

The team got off to a much better start this season and there were thumping victories over Clevedon (42-10) and ConeyHill (33-14) followed by perhaps the best result of the campaign when they won at high flying Weston-super-Mare (21-18) with the deciding score coming in injury time.

There was an epic encounter at Newent which ended with the sides locked at (12-12) and so the league points were shared but this game doubled up as a Forest Senior Cup first round match. This meant extra time but Newent squeezed home in the thrilling extra time period.

With only the league to focus on Drybrook played consistently well and ended the season in 6th position, the highest the club had been since the leagues were started in 1987.

South West One (West) League

| Pos | Team | P | W | D | L | PF | PA | +/- | TB | LB | Pts |
|-----|---------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|------|----|----|-----|
| 1 | Camborne | 26 | 23 | 0 | 3 | 774 | 306 | 468 | 15 | 2 | 110 |
| 2 | Thornbury | 26 | 19 | 0 | 7 | 779 | 411 | 368 | 14 | 5 | 95 |
| 3 | Newent | 26 | 20 | 1 | 5 | 594 | 395 | 199 | 9 | 3 | 94 |
| 4 | Weston-super-Mare | 26 | 16 | 0 | 10 | 685 | 530 | 155 | 8 | 5 | 77 |
| 5 | Bideford | 26 | 15 | 0 | 11 | 571 | 515 | 56 | 8 | 4 | 73 |
| 6 | Drybrook | 26 | 14 | 1 | 11 | 547 | 446 | 101 | 8 | 4 | 70 |
| 7 | Bridgwater & Albion | 26 | 14 | 0 | 12 | 452 | 553 | -101 | 6 | 2 | 65 |
| 8 | Clevedon | 26 | 13 | 0 | 13 | 567 | 503 | 64 | 8 | 4 | 64 |
| 9 | North Petherton | 26 | 11 | 0 | 15 | 496 | 620 | -124 | 7 | 5 | 56 |
| 10 | Teignmouth | 26 | 9 | 0 | 17 | 478 | 699 | -221 | 10 | 5 | 52 |
| 11 | Chard | 26 | 8 | 1 | 17 | 535 | 613 | -78 | 5 | 8 | 47 |
| 12 | Wells | 26 | 9 | 0 | 17 | 378 | 596 | -218 | 1 | 4 | 41 |
| 13 | Avonmouth Old Boys | 26 | 7 | 1 | 18 | 465 | 653 | -188 | 3 | 4 | 37 |
| 14 | Coney Hill | 26 | 2 | 0 | 24 | 296 | 777 | -481 | 2 | 4 | 4 |

SEASON 2015-2016



Drybrook 1st XV, sponsors & officials pictured before the Wells game;
Back Row L to R; Tim Stevenson (Coach), Mike Rawlings, Alex Gibson, Dean Large, Neil Morgan, Joe Tingle, Will Greenway, Glenn Nott, Jamie Cook, Oliver Gray, Mitch Bourne, Kristian Taft, Danny Price, Steve Hale, Steve Glynn.
Seated L to R; Tom Treherne, Mitch Baldwin, Chris Hale, Wayne Long, Paul Mason (Chairman), Ben Large (Captain), Chris Rawlings, Jake Hale, Roger Hale, Mitch Renton, Luke Fisher.
Front L to R; Brad Morgan, Sam Peaper, Jack Combes, Ollie Moore.

The club worked particularly hard to finish as high as possible because a review of the whole league structure had taken place and recommendations should have led to Drybrook being placed well above the majority of teams in the county in the proposed new structure.

However the powers that be decided to abandon the costly exercise after three years of consultation to keep things as they were.

The club used a £5000 'Active Together' Sport and Physical Activity Grant from Gloucestershire county council to replace outdated and worn out training kit. County Councillor Colin Guy-



Presentation of 1st XV shirts for 2015/16 season from sponsors Hale & Co (Drybrook) Ltd, Timber & Builders' Merchants.
L to R - Steve Hale, Ben Large, Jake Hale, Wayne Long

SEASON 2015-2016

ton, who acted as sponsor for the application, came along before the club's trial match with Hereford to officially hand over the kit and to pose for a photograph with club officials and players.



UNITED XV

Dave Auker-Howlett came on board as 2nd XV manager this season and together with skipper Andy Milner quickly established a winning formula that led to the Gloucestershire Premier Reserve League Championship. The start of the campaign was delayed because of the World Cup so the team had to be content with playing local friendlies whenever they could.



Drybrook Veterans XV enjoyed a tour to Portugal where they won a very entertaining game against Loule RFC (29-21)

SEASON 2015-2016



DRYBROOK UNITED XV 2015/16 SEASON

GLOUCESTERSHIRE RFU RESERVE LEAGUE PREMIER CHAMPIONS

FOREST OF DEAN & DISTRICT COMBINATION JUNIOR CUP FINALISTS

Back Row; (L to R) Paul Mason (Chairman), Dave Auker-Howlett (Manager), Jon Pritchard, Jim Rugman, Mitch Browning, Ashley Jennings, Marcus Cowles, Glenn Nott, Simon Rugman, Rhys Evans, Dan Lewis, Alex Smailes, Steve Hussey (First Aid)
Middle Row; Max Renouf-Watkins, Mitch Hale, Kieran Auker-Howlett, Tony Hussey, Andy Milner (Captain), Anthony Suter, Dean Jelf, Joe James, Luke Roberts
Front Row; Huw Rimmer, Gareth Holdsworth, Jack Freeman, Connor Hale.

One very disappointing cancellation came from the touring German team, Freiburger who were visiting the country to take in some of the World Cup games. An outbreak of food poisoning was the official reason given for the late cancellation but unfortunately this was not the only game called off during the season.

A total of 13 matches were called off and not surprisingly most of those games were scheduled to be played at the Mannings. Fortunately one or two rearranged fixtures were picked up to fill some of the gaps and in the end 21 matches were actually played.

A lack of continuity and match practice towards the end of the season was a major factor in the below par performance in the cup final. Once the league got underway the Bristol United Hospitals XV failed to fulfil both fixtures and National League outfits Lydney and Dings both failed to play one of the fixtures against Drybrook.

This led to a very disjointed season but when Drybrook did get some game time they performed very well. They recorded the double over Newent 2nds, Cleve United and Cinderford Stags as well as winning a very tight match at Dings (11-10)

SEASON 2015-2016

Gloucestershire Premier Reserve League Final Table

| Team | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts | % |
|-------------------|----|---|---|---|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Drybrook 2 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 137 | 132 | 36 | 90.00 |
| Cinderford 3 | 10 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 233 | 139 | 34 | 68.00 |
| Old Centralians 2 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 268 | 121 | 20 | 57.14 |
| Newent 2 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 95 | 137 | 8 | 22.86 |
| Lydney 2 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 54 | 168 | -2 | -6.67 |
| UBH | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 60 | 101 | -5 | -20.00 |
| Dings 2 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 58 | 92 | -11 | -73.33 |

Of the other games they played particularly well to beat Monmouth (24 - 0) under the Mannings floodlights, as well as a resounding victory over Gordon League (60 - 0)

They reached the final of the Forest of Dean Combination Junior Cup but lost out in an epic encounter with Ross-on-Wye 1st XV. The teams were level (20-20) at the end of normal time and in extra time they were locked (23-23) with four minutes left. Ross then scored a drop goal to take the cup but it was heart breaking for Drybrook not to have achieved a league and cup double.



Skipper Andy Milner receiving the League winners' plaque from County Chairman Peter Williams

EXTRAS XV

James Smith took on the 3rd team captaincy for this season and helped his team to a satisfactory playing record of Played 23 Won 11 Lost 12.

There was no league rugby for the 3rd XV this season due to the organisers' decision to delay the start until after the World Cup and then to offer clubs several alternatives in format.

By the time some clubs got round to deciding which format to adopt it was really too late and the lower leagues were postponed for the year.

Two newly formed clubs appeared on the fixture list for the first time in Norton and Hardwicke & Quedgeley Harlequins and there was also a first visit to Fairford RFC. The Extras won both games at Hardwicke & Quedgeley but went down heavily at Norton (5 – 47). The match at Fairford ended with Drybrook winning a thriller (27 – 24)

Elsewhere the team achieved considerable success over Ross 2nds (85 - 5) & (58-0) as well as a tight game at Broad Plain 2nds (12-10)

In the Forest Minor Cup Drybrook won comfortably at Westbury (42-7) in the semi-final but lost out again to Cinderford Bucks in the final at Bream (15 -26)

Veteran Jimmy Ryder was a key player for the team who not only scored the most tries (9) and the most points (87) but made more appearances than anyone else (20)

WOMEN'S RUGBY

The Ladies XV surpassed their wildest dreams this year by not only winning the South West One league at the first attempt but also in capturing the National Junior Cup.

The prize for winning the league was promotion into Championship 2 South and Drybrook deserved it after playing consistently well throughout.

| Pos | Team | P | W | D | L | PF | PA | +/- | TB | LB | Pts |
|-----|---|----|---|---|----|-----|-----|------|----|----|-----|
| 1 | Drybrook Ladies | 12 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 292 | 141 | 151 | 6 | 3 | 45 |
| 2 | Ellingham & Ringwood Ladies | 12 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 249 | 94 | 155 | 3 | 3 | 42 |
| 3 | Cullompton Ladies | 12 | 8 | 0 | 4 | 209 | 131 | 78 | 3 | 4 | 39 |
| 4 | Oakmeadians Ladies | 12 | 8 | 0 | 4 | 281 | 161 | 120 | 4 | 2 | 38 |
| 5 | Hornettes Ladies | 12 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 109 | 189 | -80 | 0 | 2 | 18 |
| 6 |  Exonian at Topsham Ladies | 12 | 3 | 0 | 9 | 71 | 303 | -232 | 0 | 3 | 15 |
| 7 | North Petherton Ladies | 12 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 42 | 234 | -192 | 0 | 3 | 7 |

SEASON 2015-2016

Captain Shelley Bourne spent a large period on the side lines through injury so Kat Brain wore the arm band in a lot of the fixtures. James Smith was the head coach and Lucie Smith remained as manager.

Anthony Suter took on the responsibility for the forwards and Ceri Large came on board as backs coach.

It was the cup run that created the most interest and it ended in glory with a magnificent performance to overcome Barnsley Ladies (31-24) in the final at Lichfield.

Ellie Underwood had a great season and deservedly won the Player of the Year Award. She was the top try scorer with 35 and scored the most points (292). Most Improved player was Lorna Griffiths and players' player was Julie Ann Norbury.

Two Drybrook players were selected for Gloucestershire Ladies county, Stevie Liddiatt and Julie Ann Norbury.

The team were nominated for the national sports team of the year and attended the presentation



Tight head prop Julie Ann Norbury (left) and hooker Stevie Liddiatt (right) were both selected for the senior County XV.





Drybrook Ladies XV – National Cup Winners

Lucie Smith, Stevie Lydiatt, Julie-Ann Norbury, Roxsanne Carter, Marie Grindle, Micha Harris, Jess Hunt, Molly Teague, Sarah Bevan, Judith Arslan, Emma Gibson, Kara Tucker, Ellie Underwood, Hannah Meek, Kathryn Brain (capt).

Replacements; Karina Hall, Sarah Teague, Shelley Bourne, Bethany Powell, Natasha Kibble, Hayley Jones, Gemma Wittington.

The Route to the Final

| | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----|---------|
| 7 th Jan | Newent | Away | Won | 3 – 0 |
| 28 th Feb | Old Leamingtonians | Home | Won | 38 – 15 |
| 10 th Apr | Bletchley (s/f) | Away | Won | 19 -10 |
| 23 rd Apr | Barnsley (Final) | Lichfield | Won | 31-24 |

event at Twickenham. They were also nominated for the Gloucestershire Media sports team of the year.

In all the team won 18 of the 21 games played and used 30 different players during the campaign..

The event held at Cheltenham racecourse was attended by a host of Gloucestershire's finest and included Gloucester Rugby's Gareth Evans and BBC sports presenter John Inverdale.

JUNIOR RUGBY

The end of season presentation ceremonies again emphasised the enormous contribution that Drybrook make to junior rugby. This year there were teams in 12 age groups and another very impressive amount of county and regional call ups.

Will Greenway, Luke Roberts, Jonathan Pritchard and Oliver Gray all made the County Under 20 squad with Will Greenway and Robbie Faulkner going on to play for the South West.

Award winners at the end of season presentations

| | Best Player | Most Improved |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Under 6's | Ollie Meek | Charlie Bell |
| Under 7's | Harry Ryder/Ava Lancett | Noah Rawlings |
| Under 8's | Louis James | Mason Phelps |
| Under 9's | Carter Ede/Lee Kibble | Connor Hook |
| Under 10's | Ryan Edwards | Callum Sims |
| Under 11's | Toby James | Matty Edgington |
| Under 13's | Will Oversby | Owen Stephens |
| Under 14's | Brad Morgan/Aiden Haines | Ben Jones |
| Under 16's | Bret Thomas/Regan Marsh | Max Roberts |
| Under 13 Girls Higher Age Group | Lily Mae Walker | Charlotte Probert |
| Under 13 Girls Lower Age Group | Amelia Clarke | Lyla Freeman |
| Under 15 Girls | Hannah Roberts/ Leah Teague | Aesha Kaddem |
| Under 18 Girls | KirstyGwilliam/Emma Hughes | Tyler Evans |

Junior Volunteer of The Year - Hannah Roberts

Senior Volunteer of The Year - Craig Lancett

Ollie Floyd Cup - Lauren Wall

Rex Organ Award (High Achiever) - Bailey Watts

SEASON 2015-2016



Drybrook girls were very well represented after the County trials that saw the largest number of girls ever trial for a county place.

U15s selected: Hannah Roberts & Leah Teague.

U18s selected: Shauna Bennett, Saska Bowdler, Ellie Garside, Kirsty Gwilliam, Emma Hughes, Brittany Morgan, Kayla Skidmore, Lauren Wall, Ashliegh Wintle and Georgia Wintle.

Outside half Leah Teague (left) was selected in the South West u15s squad, and Emma Hughes (centre) who plays scrum half and Shauna Bennett (right) who plays centre were selected for the South West Under18's.

For the 3rd year running Drybrook u13 girls have become County Champions. The girls travelled to Tewkesbury for the GRFU tournament and won every single game – they beat Wyevern 25 -15, Cinderford 30-15, Berry Hill, 35 -5 and



Drybrook u13s Girls Squad

SEASON 2015-2016

Old Richians 35-10 to take the title. The tournament try scorers were Lily Mae Walker 8, Haidee Field 6, Lyla Freeman 3, Shannon Wintle 2, Amelia Clarke 2, Dionne Eaccups, Charlotte Probert, Ebony Pendery and Olivia Smeeth. The team were also unbeaten in all their games this season.

U13's County Plate Winners

Drybrook u 13s eventually triumphed 24-22 in a pulsating county plate final against Longlevens at Hartpury College They had to fight back after going behind early on and showed a lot of character to do so.

Try scorers for Drybrook were Will Oversby 3 tries, and Charlie Rushworth. Leighton Davies kicked 2 conversions.

Man of the match went to Will Oversby who really rose to the occasion with an outstanding performance.



Oliver Baker, Brandon Evans, Jez Jones, Jack Moss, Malyn Davies, Leo Baker, Owen Stephens, Boden Watton, Leighton Davies, Charlie Rushworth, Andres Nelmes, William Oversby, Josh Brain, Keenan Nehu, Matthew Maher, Thomas Rich, Presley Brown, Dylan Godwin, Bradley Johnson, Lewis Claydon. Oliver Johnson, Jake Houghton.

SEASON 2016-2017

The summer months saw a lot of activity once more with work to alleviate drainage issues in some parts of the pitch. A camera investigation highlighted a number of collapsed or silted up drains and Ian Pritchard (Mowtech Landscape and Sports Ground Maintenance) in conjunction with Phil Roberts Plant Hire were busy putting it all right. It certainly had the desired affect and Ian won an RFU 'Rugby Groundsmen Connected' award when Drybrook's pitch was named as one of the top 15 pitches in the country.

Elsewhere another huge improvement to the club's facilities led to the building of a completely new male toilet block. The project was supported by a £15000 grant from the Gloucestershire Environmental Trust and the Landfill Communities Fund, as well as a £2500 grant from the Summerfield Trust.



FIRST XV

For Drybrook's third stint in South West One Ben Large continued as skipper and the majority of the coaching and management positions remained the same. The only change saw forwards coach Luke Fisher depart to Hereford RFC and his position was filled by former Gloucester Rugby and Worcester Warriors hooker Chris Fortey.

The pre-season preparations began with the Forest Combination Sevens Tournament held at Lydney RFC.

Drybrook's team were unlucky in the group stages when they lost very narrowly to both Cinderford and Newent where a spate of yellow cards contributed to their downfall.

Forced to compete in the Plate competition Drybrook really got their game together and cruised past Ross in the semi-final (40 – 0)

The final against BerryHill proved to be very one sided and Drybrook romped to victory with some spectacular scores to retain the trophy (57 – 0)



Combination Sevens Plate winners

Back Row; Brad Morgan, Danny Price, Alex Smailes, Nathan Tucker, Neil Morgan, Rhys Gardner, Len Mullhane, Rhys Evans, Mitch Renton, Paul Mason, Luke Roberts. Front; Ben Large, Dean Jelf, Ben George, Harry Howard, Mitch Baldwin, Tom Treherne, Ollie Moore.

The pre-season trial games did not go very well and left Drybrook a little under cooked when the proper season began.

The club were only able to send a shadow team to Llantwit Fardre but nevertheless won (26 – 7). The next match scheduled against Hereford was called off at late notice leaving only a Friday night fixture at Hartpury College.



Drybrook's 1st XV team and officials with shirt sponsors Hale and Co (Drybrook) Ltd, Timber & Builders' Merchants pictured before the Clevedon match

Back Row; Neil Morgan, Chris Fortey, Mike Rawlings, Ollie Moore, Huw Rimmer, Kristian Taft, Danny Price, Glenn Nott, Will Greenway, Rhys Gardner, Elliot Beattie, Mitch Bourne, Sam Peaper, Mitch Baldwin, Alan Miles, Bradley Morgan, Chris Rawlings.

Middle Row; Tom Treherne, Tom Ward, Roger Hale, Steve Hale, Gerald Ward (President), Ben Large (Captain), Paul Mason (Chairman), Jake Hale, Chris Hale, Steve Glynn, Ashley Howells.

Front Row; Jack Combes, Harry Howard, Alex Wolfe, Ben George, Len Mullane

The college XV came from behind to win (31-26) in a game in which Drybrook used a squad of 23 players.

Once the league campaign got underway there was cause for concern as Drybrook lost 4 out of the first 5 games with only a solitary victory over Thornbury (32-13) to show for their efforts.

It was at this stage that Drybrook put together an excellent run of results with eight wins from the next ten fixtures.

Drybrook ended the year in good form as well with victory over Newent at the Mannings (21 – 17) and then a very impressive win at Okehampton (20 -17) just before the Christmas break.

The team carried this form over into the New Year and were clearly benefitting from the excellent coaching team and fitness facilities as they played some very impressive rugby.

Drybrook lost only two matches between January and the middle of April and both of these were on the road at Thornbury (16 – 25), and Clevedon (12 -17) against teams who were fighting for the play-off spot.

SEASON 2016-2017

The run also saw runaway leaders Weston-super-Mare almost lose their 100% win record when they just managed to hold out for a draw at the Mannings. A late penalty kick would have given Drybrook a well-deserved victory over the big spending visitors but unfortunately the kick went wide.

On the final day of the league season Drybrook had to beat North Petherton with a bonus point try to secure third place in the league. They managed to do this with another top class performance and in doing so secured the bragging rights as Gloucestershire's highest placed club in the division.

This was the highest ever position Drybrook had achieved since leagues began with only eight county clubs placed higher in the structure. This list included Premiership giants Gloucester and Bristol as well as Championship destined Hartpury.

The Forest Senior Cup was beset by the now regular problems of teams with-drawing and Drybrook received a bye into the final when Lydney pulled out of the scheduled semi-final tie.

South West One (West) League

| Pos | Team | P | W | D | L | PF | PA | +/- | TB | LB | Pts |
|-----|---------------------|----|----|---|----|------|------|------|----|----|-----|
| 1 | Weston-super-Mare | 26 | 25 | 1 | 0 | 1123 | 259 | 864 | 23 | 0 | 125 |
| 2 | Clevedon | 26 | 20 | 1 | 5 | 908 | 356 | 552 | 12 | 5 | 99 |
| 3 | Drybrook | 26 | 16 | 1 | 9 | 618 | 424 | 194 | 8 | 4 | 78 |
| 4 | Matson | 26 | 16 | 0 | 10 | 643 | 581 | 62 | 11 | 3 | 78 |
| 5 | Newent | 26 | 15 | 0 | 11 | 676 | 454 | 222 | 11 | 6 | 77 |
| 6 | Thornbury | 26 | 15 | 0 | 11 | 624 | 585 | 39 | 12 | 2 | 74 |
| 7 | North Petherton | 26 | 13 | 1 | 12 | 663 | 679 | -16 | 11 | 4 | 69 |
| 8 | Okehampton | 25 | 13 | 1 | 11 | 547 | 414 | 133 | 8 | 7 | 64 |
| 9 | Bridgwater & Albion | 26 | 13 | 0 | 13 | 564 | 569 | -5 | 8 | 4 | 64 |
| 10 | Teignmouth | 26 | 10 | 1 | 15 | 564 | 783 | -219 | 14 | 2 | 58 |
| 11 | Bideford | 26 | 9 | 0 | 17 | 474 | 635 | -161 | 7 | 5 | 48 |
| 12 | Chard | 25 | 6 | 0 | 19 | 385 | 751 | -366 | 7 | 3 | 34 |
| 13 | Kingsbridge | 26 | 5 | 1 | 20 | 380 | 753 | -373 | 4 | 3 | 29 |
| 14 | Midsomer Norton | 26 | 1 | 1 | 24 | 278 | 1204 | -926 | 1 | 1 | 8 |



Presentation of 1st XV shirts for 2016/17 season from sponsors Hale & Co (Drybrook) Ltd, Timber & Builders' Merchants. L to R – Roger Hale, Gerald Ward, Ben Large, Jake Hale, Steve Hale

The final against Newent was played at Bream on an extremely hot afternoon in May and the result was in doubt until the final whistle between the two very evenly matched teams.

Drybrook came back from an 8 point deficit to close the gap to 22pts – 23pts with a late try through Sam Peaper. It all hinged on the conversion kick and the very large crowd held its breath for what seemed an eternity but unfortunately for Drybrook the kick drifted wide and Newent hung on to the trophy by the skin of their teeth.

It was a hugely disappointing end to an otherwise very impressive season but the Drybrook team left the field with their heads held high knowing that they had given their all.

DRYBROOK UNITED XV

The 2nd XV were again led by Andy Milner with Steve Hussey doubling up as team manager and physio.

This season they had a new league to look forward to when the RFU brought in a new structure to accommodate some of the stronger South West second teams.

The idea was for more competitive rugby and to do away with the merit table type structures normally associated with 2nd team leagues. The league was governed by the same rules as the 1st XV leagues and by only allowing the stronger XV's into the competition the RFU also hoped for less cancelled games.

Unfortunately only 9 clubs entered in the first season and mid-way through Old Centralians' record was expunged because they failed to fulfil enough fixtures.

SEASON 2016-2017

South West Pilot League

| Pos | Team | P | W | D | L | PF | PA | +/- | TB | LB | Pts |
|-----|--------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|------|----|----|-----|
| 1 | Taunton II | 14 | 12 | 0 | 2 | 395 | 217 | 178 | 8 | 1 | 60 |
| 2 | Bournemouth II | 14 | 10 | 0 | 4 | 335 | 204 | 131 | 8 | 1 | 51 |
| 3 | Cinderford III | 14 | 9 | 0 | 5 | 397 | 307 | 90 | 6 | 2 | 46 |
| 4 | Clifton II | 14 | 9 | 0 | 5 | 410 | 256 | 154 | 8 | 0 | 45 |
| 5 | Dings Crusaders II | 14 | 6 | 0 | 8 | 219 | 317 | -98 | 3 | 0 | 24 |
| 6 | Drybrook II | 14 | 5 | 0 | 9 | 330 | 341 | -11 | 3 | 1 | 24 |
| 7 | Cleve II | 14 | 5 | 0 | 9 | 152 | 328 | -176 | 1 | 0 | 8 |
| 8 | Old Patesians II | 14 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 94 | 362 | -268 | 0 | 2 | -8 |

One or two other clubs also failed to fulfil all their fixtures with Bournemouth being the worst affected when several teams failed to travel to Dorset.

Drybrook as ever honoured all their fixtures but found some of the games to be very challenging indeed with Taunton, Bournemouth and Clifton in particular able to field some very strong teams.

At the end of the season the team enjoyed another good cup run, accounting for BerryHill United (45-0) in the first round. In the semi-final they beat the holders Ross-on-Wye 1st XV (20 - 13) after a very physical and close game.

The final at Newent was played against Cinderford Stags who monopolised possession and territory to win (20 - 10)

DRYBROOK EXTRAS XV

On paper it would appear that the 3rd XV had a really good season as they ended up third in the league as well as being finalists in the Forest Combination Minor Cup.

However their season tailed off badly in April after going from November through till the end of March unbeaten.

James Smith was elected captain but had to stand down at the end of September because of injury so veteran Jimmy Ryder took on the captaincy. Adam Harris was the team manager.

Once they had a settled side they looked destined for the Gloucester & District Reserve League 4 title as they swept all before them on a long unbeaten run. They owed a lot to Chris Rawlings who played occasionally for them and amassed 115 points from only 11 games which included 14 tries. Six of those came in one match against Cheltenham Civil Service when he equalled a long standing club record.

Once April arrived the team found themselves decimated by injury and unavailability to the extent that they got soundly beaten by both Hucclecote and

SEASON 2016-2017

Gloucester & District 4

| Team | P | W | D | L | F | A | Diff | Avg | B Pts | Pts |
|---------------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|------|--------|-------|-----|
| Old Cryptians 3rd XV | 14 | 10 | 1 | 3 | 527 | 347 | 180 | 4.00 | 0 | 56 |
| Hucclecote 2nd XV | 12 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 534 | 235 | 299 | 3.67 | 2 | 46 |
| Drybrook 3rd XV | 12 | 8 | 0 | 4 | 345 | 242 | 103 | 3.33 | 2 | 42 |
| Tewkesbury 2nd XV | 14 | 8 | 0 | 6 | 395 | 356 | 39 | 3.00 | 0 | 42 |
| Hardwicke & Quedgeley | 16 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 500 | 389 | 111 | 2.88 | 3 | 49 |
| Smiths Rugby 2nd XV | 15 | 7 | 1 | 7 | 288 | 333 | -45 | 2.73 | 3 | 44 |
| Ross-on-Wye 2nd XV | 12 | 3 | 0 | 9 | 236 | 339 | -103 | 1.67 | 4 | 24 |
| Cheltenham Civil Service 2nd XV | 13 | 2 | 0 | 11 | 242 | 518 | -276 | 1.00 | 3 | 16 |
| Dowty | 11 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 169 | 552 | -383 | -0.27 | 0 | -3 |
| Dursley Nomads 3rd XV | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 92 | 17 | 75 | -11.00 | 0 | -33 |

Hardwicke & Quedgeley and then found they were unable to field a team for the title decider at Old Cryptians.

The Forest Minor Cup was also beset by problems and Westbury 2nds pulled out of the semi-final tie at Drybrook because of player shortage.

This put the team through to the final against Cinderford Bucks who were too strong for them on the day and ran out convincing winners (5 – 46)

WOMEN'S XV

In the first season in the Women's Championship South West 2, Drybrook Ladies had to contend with some very famous names in English Rugby in Bath, Bristol, Plymouth Albion and London Welsh.

To compete as well as they did was a testament to the whole squad, management and coaching staff.

Ellie Underwood was the new captain and the back room staff remained mainly the same with Rhys Gardner added as assistant backs coach.

Women's Championship South West 2

| Pos | Team | P | W | D | L | PF | PA | +/- | TB | LB | Pts |
|-----|---------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|------|----|----|-----|
| 1 | Bath Ladies | 16 | 13 | 1 | 2 | 470 | 229 | 241 | 6 | 2 | 62 |
| 2 | Plymouth Albion Ladies | 16 | 12 | 1 | 3 | 476 | 279 | 197 | 9 | 2 | 61 |
| 3 | Supermarine Ladies | 16 | 9 | 0 | 7 | 495 | 280 | 215 | 9 | 6 | 51 |
| 4 | Drybrook Ladies | 16 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 408 | 392 | 16 | 7 | 1 | 46 |
| 5 | Bristol Ladies II | 16 | 7 | 0 | 9 | 463 | 308 | 155 | 7 | 6 | 41 |
| 6 | Teddington Ladies | 16 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 309 | 310 | -1 | 3 | 5 | 36 |
| 7 | Guildford Gazelles Ladies | 16 | 7 | 0 | 9 | 268 | 361 | -93 | 3 | 4 | 35 |
| 8 | Wimbledon Ladies | 16 | 4 | 1 | 11 | 202 | 480 | -278 | 1 | 1 | 20 |
| 9 | London Welsh Ladies | 16 | 2 | 0 | 14 | 162 | 614 | -452 | 2 | 3 | 13 |

SEASON 2016-2017



Drybrook Ladies 2016/2017

Back row (left to right);Natasha Kibble, Gemma Withington, Shelley Bourne, Bethany Powell, Judith Lack, Roxsanne Carter, Carla Brown, Micha Harris, Kara Tucker, Karina Hall, Jenna Large.

Middle; C J Bourne, Lucie Smith (Manager), Stevie Liddiatt (Vice- captain), Julie Ann Norbury, Frankie Meadows, James Smith (Head coach), Ellie Underwood (captain), Ceri Large (coach), Hannah Meek, Jess Hunt, Kathryn Brain, Emma Gibson, Alisha Smith.

Front; Lorna Griffiths, Chantal Lewis, Helen Goode, Lauren Wall, Carla Jenkins, Olivia Pritchard, Kirsty Beavis, Hayley Morgan, Lucy Meek, Sarah Bevan.

The team attained fourth position and along the way beat eventual runners-up Plymouth Albion as well as earning a draw at Bath Ladies.

The final playing record was; Played 17, won 9, lost 7, drew 1.

Ellie Underwood was top points scorer with 235, a total that included 34 tries. Player of the season was Emma Gibson, and players' player Judith Lack. The most improved player this season was Karina Hall.

The section also started an occasional second team that managed to win through to the quarter final of the Junior National Cup.

They won four of the five games played with Dorrie Morley scoring the most tries (4) and points (22).

JUNIOR RUGBY

The secret of Drybrook's success in the playing and promotion of girls' rugby was recognised once again when the club was chosen as the venue for one of three development centres being set up in the county. The County RFU committee were delighted to announce the launch of the first Development Centre for Girls at Drybrook, as per their on-going strategy for supporting clubs

The RFU sent a delegation down to present Tom Ward with a special memento to mark his astonishing 70 years on the Drybrook committee. Tom (85) has been a member of the Drybrook RFC committee since 1946/7.

Mr Nigel Gillingham, one of the County reps on the RFU committee came along to present Tom with a framed letter from RFU President Mr Peter Baines.



in the recruitment & retention of players. The Development programme was open to all U13, U15 & U18 girls of any ability from any club or school and the sessions at Drybrook were very well attended.

No fewer than 28 girls from Drybrook RFC went on to be selected to represent Gloucestershire this season!

This was an absolutely amazing achievement for Drybrook RFC and a credit to both the girls and the coaching staff.

Girls Under 15 XV

Olivia Smeeth, Shannon Wintle, Charlotte Probert, Ebony Pendery, Megan Meek, Lily Mae Walker, Jasmine Parham, Kenzi Sheen, Amber Dunstan Stamp, Georgia Peglar, Dionne Eaccups, Aesha Kaddem, Jayda Jenkins, Haidee Field and Maddie Ballinger.

Girls Under 18 XV

Sauna Bennett, Kirsty Gwilliam, Brittany Morgan, Hannah Roberts, Leah Teague, Robyn Marsh, Wendy Kear, Kayla Skidmore, Jenna Skidmore, Lucy Moore, Harlie Field, Freya Lake and Georgia Wintle.

Sauna Bennett and Kirsty Gwilliam again went on to play for the South West XV.

The Drybrook under 13 girls had a particularly good season winning 24 of the 25 matches played. The only defeat came in a tournament at Peterborough RFC against the only other side in the country with an unbeaten record.



**GLOUCESTERSHIRE
RUGBY
FOOTBALL
UNION**

GRFU DEVELOPMENT CENTRES FOR GIRLS

SEASON 2016-2017

On the way to the final Drybrook beat Hitchin (15-5), Leicester Lions (55-0), Welwyn (20 -10) and Lutterworth (15-10).

The final was played immediately after Drybrook's last group game but with little recovery time they slipped to defeat (0-15).

There were some major changes in mini rugby brought in this season with the county competitions becoming less competitive to bring a focus on enjoyment and participation rather than the normal structures which often served to bring disillusionment to players from clubs who were unable to compete with those with greater resources.

There were also new age grade regulations brought in as well meaning that in the lower age group the focus was on the development of skills with less players per team to allow everyone to have a chance with the ball in their hands. Drybrook's teams bought into the new structure and enjoyed themselves at fixtures and tournaments all over the county.

The Under 11 team were unbeaten at home all season and the under 12's even had the luxury of playing at a tournament at Gloucester's Kingsholm Stadium.

In terms of representative honours for the club's boys there was plenty of Drybrook interest in the County Under 20 team with Will Greenway retaining his place alongside Robbie Falkner. Former player Dewi Wilcox was also in the starting line up alongside another former player Tyler Jerrum. On the replacements bench was another former Drybrook junior section player Mac Dale whilst Ben George was a travelling reserve.



Will Greenway

Will Greenway went on to represent the South West XV with fellow Drybrook first teamer Elliot Beattie representing the North of England Under 20's.

Drybrook U16s boys Brad Morgan and Louis Jayne were both selected to represent Gloucestershire v Bristol Boys Schools in a match at Filton college. The club were also delighted to be awarded £15000 from the county council's "Active Together" Sport and Physical Activity Grant Fund.

SEASON 2016-2017

District Councillor Mr Colin Guyton acted as sponsor for the application and the money is to be used to purchase a temporary building to provide additional changing facilities for girls' rugby matches. In addition some of the money will be used to purchase rugby training equipment and playing kits.

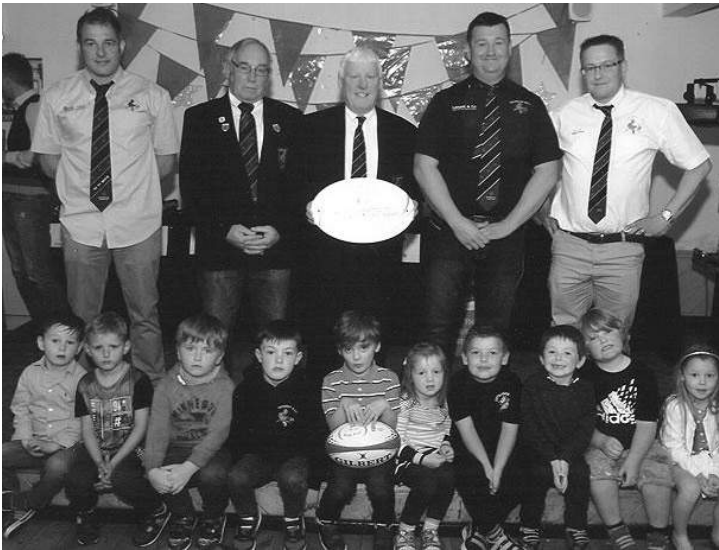
Scrum half Brad Morgan attended a week long residential camp at Wellington College, Berkshire, after being selected for the Gloucester Academy's U16s squad.



Drybrook were the first club in the Forest of Dean to be awarded the Old Mutual Wealth 'Kid First Rugby Pledge' for their mini-section.

They agreed to commit to a range of standards to constantly improve the quality of youth rugby provided.

The pledge includes commitments to put children at the heart of everything done in the section, to encourage fun on the pitch through equal opportunity and realistic expectations of the children and to champion rugby's core values; inspiring a lifelong bond between children, adults and the sport.



Pictured with the award and some of the Drybrook Kittens are Chris Rawlings, Gordon Bourne, Paul Mason, Craig Lancett and Jason Roberts.

SEASON 2016-2017

Award winners at the end of season presentations

| | Best Player | Most Improved | Coaches Award |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Under 6's | Lucas Roberts | Freddie Hornchurch | Heath Rawlings |
| Under 7's | Georgia Barnes | Bonnie Ryder | Sam Childs |
| Under 8's | Liam Jenkins | Anais Critchley | |
| Under 9's | Ryland Davies / Mason Phelps | Trent Brown | |
| Under 10's | Frederick Ricketts / Kealan Price | Jude Critchley / Codi Overthrow | |
| Under 11's | Ollie Brain | Harry Stanton | |
| Under 14's | Will Oversby / Charlie Rushworth | Andres Nelmes and Joe Leonard | |
| Under 16's | Aiden Haines | Lee Wakefield | Bradley Morgan |
| Under 13 Girls | Hannah Kibble / Teagan Davis | Regan Durston and Maddie Ryder | |
| Under 15 Girls | Rhian Roberts / Ebony Pendrey | Rebecca Haines Vincent | |
| Under 18 Girls | Kirsty Gwilliam / Leah Teague | Lucy Moore / Jenna Skidmore | |

Rex Organ Award 2016/2017 - Bradley Morgan

Ollie Floyd Award 2016/2017 - Regan Marsh

Drybrook RFC Junior Volunteer 2016/2017 - Hannah Roberts

Drybrook RFC Junior Clubman 2016/2017 - Ollie Moore

Drybrook RFC Senior Volunteer 2016/2017 - Jason Roberts

CLUB HONOURS

RFU Senior Vase

Finalists v Selby 4/5/13

County Cup (Senior Section)

Gloucestershire County Cup Finalists 1988/89

Gloucestershire County Cup Semi – Finalists 1969/70, 1976/77, 1979/80, 1988/89, 1992/93, 1999/2000

Gloucestershire County Cup Best Result (6pts – 3pts) v Lydney 4th March, 1989 – £350 Awarded.

Gloucestershire County Cup Try Pernod Attack 4th Position 1986/87, 1987/88

English Clubs Championship

Western Counties North League Champions 2013/14

Gloucestershire Division 1 Champions 1988/89

Gloucestershire Premier League Champions 2002/03, 2008/09, 2012/13

Gloucestershire / Somerset League Runners-Up 1991/92

Gloucestershire Premier League Runners-Up 2001/02, 2011/12

Western Counties League Play Off Finalists 2001/02 v Yatton, 2011/12 v Wells

RFU Level 7 Intermediate Cup

Gloucestershire County Intermediate Cup Winners 2009/10 v Cheltenham North

Gloucestershire Finalists v BerryHill 2010/11

Gloucestershire County Intermediate Cup Winners 2013/14 v North Bristol

RFU Level 8 Senior Vase

Gloucestershire Senior Vase Winners v Bristol Saracens 2011/12

Gloucestershire Senior Vase Winners v Bristol Saracens 2012/13

South West Senior Vase Winners v Teignmouth 2012/13

Forest of Dean Combination Senior Cup

Winners 1929/30, 1956/57, 1967/68, 1968/69, 1969/70, 1973/74, 1975/76, 1976/77, 1978/79, 1979/80, 1988/89, 1990/91, 1992/93, 1993/94, 1999/2000, 2007/08.

Runners-Up 1951/52, 1957/58, 1966/67, 1974/75, 1982/83, 1983/84, 1984/85, 1987/88, 1989/90, 1996/97, 2001/02, 2003/04, 2004/05, 2010/11, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2016/17.

Forest of Dean Combination Junior Cup

Winners 1976/77, 1991/92, 1995/96, 1997/98, 2014/15.

Runners – Up 1978/79, 1979/80, 1980/81, 1982/83, 1984/85, 1985/86,

CLUB HONOURS

Forest of Dean Combination Junior Cup (continued)

1986/87, 1988/89, 1993/94, 1994/95, 2001/02, 2003/04, 2012/13, 2015/16, 2016/17.

Forest of Dean Minor Cup

Winners 1992/93, 2001/02, 2004/05, 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2012/13
Runners-Up 1988/89, 1989/90, 1994/95, 1995/96, 1998/99, 2013/14, 2015/16, 2016/17.

Curacho Cup

Finalists 1925/26, 1927/28

Citizen Merit Tables/ Reserve Leagues

"Pink Un" Merit Table Winners for Forest Clubs 1973/74 (1st XV)

Citizen Merit Table Runners-Up 1983/84 (1st XV)

GRFU Reserve Premier League Champions 2015/16

GRFU Citizen Merit League 1 Champions 2012/13 (2nd XV)

GRFU Citizen Merit League 1 Runners –Up 2007/08 (2nd XV)

GRFU Citizen Merit League 4 Champions 2008/09 (3rd XV)

GRFU Citizen Merit League 4 Runners – Up 2007/08 (3rd XV)

Premier Reserve League Cup Finalists 2014/15

Gloucestershire Division 4 Runners-Up 2016/17

Gloucester & District Referees Society Whistler Trophy

Winners 2009/10, 2014/15

Seven a Side Competitions

Ross-on-Wye Invitation Tournament Winners 1969/70, 1971/72, 1972/73

Ross-on-Wye Invitation Tournament Plate Winners 1968/69

Ross-on-Wye Invitation Tournament Plate Runners-Up 1982/83

Drybrook RFC Invitation Tournament Winners 1975/76, 1988/89, 1989/90.

Drybrook RFC Invitation Plate Winners 1983/84

Drybrook RFC Invitation Plate Runners-Up 1982/83, 1986/87.

Matson RFC Invitation Tournament Runners-Up 1986/87

Spartans RFC Invitation Tournament Runners-Up 1985/86.

Kingsholm Invitation Tournament Plate Winners 1999/2000, 2000/01.

Kingsholm Invitation Tournament Plate Finalists 2011/12 (u19's)

Kingsholm Invitation Tournament Cup Finalists 2011/12 (u15's)

Forest of Dean Combination Tournament Winners 2014/15,

Forest of Dean Combination Plate Winners 2015/16

Forest of Dean Combination Plate Winners 2016/17

Ten a Side Competitions

Chepstow Tournament Winners 2008/09

CLUB HONOURS

UNDER 18 DEVELOPMENT (COLTS) XV

Gloucestershire Development League Bowl Winners 2014/15

JUNIOR SECTION

County Tournaments

GRFU Under 17 Development League Cup Runners – up in 2013/14

Gloucestershire under 19's Plate Winners 2011/12

Gloucestershire under 16's Plate Winners 2009/10

Gloucestershire under 15's Plate Winners 2008/09, 2012/13

Gloucestershire under 15's Plate Finalists 2003/04

Gloucestershire under 14's Plate Winners 2010/11, 2011/12

Gloucestershire under 14's Plate Finalists 2002/03

Gloucestershire under 13's Cup Finalists 2010/11

Gloucestershire under 13's Plate Winners 2015/16

Gloucestershire under 13's Plate Finalists 2006/07

Gloucester & District Mini / Junior Association (U13) Runners –Up 1985/86

Gloucestershire under 12's Plate Winners 2009/10

Gloucestershire under 11's Plate Winners 2006/07 (Combined with Cinderford RFC)

Gloucestershire under 11's Plate Winners 2007/08

Gloucestershire under 11's Fair Play Award 2008/09

Gloucestershire under 8's Plate Winners 2004/05 (Shared with Cirencester)

Forest of Dean Combination Youth Cup

U12's Winners v Newent 2012/13

U12's Finalists v Cinderford 2010/11

U15's Winners v Cinderford 2011/12

U16's Finalists v Lydney 2012/13

U16's Winners v Newent & Bream (Round Robin) 2013/14

Forest of Dean Combination Sevens (under 16 section)

Winners 2014/15

Other Tournaments

Drybrook RFC Invitation Tournament Runners-Up 1987/88 (U13), 1987/88 (U14), 1992/93 (U12)

BerryHill RFC Invitation Tournament under 12's Winners 2006/07.

BerryHill RFC Invitation Tournament under 11's Winners 2004/05, 2008/09

BerryHill RFC Invitation Tournament under 10's Winners 2006/07.

CLUB HONOURS

Other Tournaments (continued)

BerryHill RFC Invitation Tournament under 9's Winners 2006/07.
BerryHill RFC Invitation Tournament under 9's Runners – up 2007/08.
BerryHill RFC Invitation Tournament under 8's Runners-Up 2006/07.
Cheltenham Invitation Tournament under 12's Winners 2005/06
Butlins Minehead – Leicester Tigers Challenge U12 Shield Finalists 2012/13
Butlins Minehead – Leicester Tigers Challenge U14 Tournament Runners Up 2014/15
Butlins Minehead – Leicester Tigers Challenge U15 Tournament Shield Winners 2014/15
Bream RFC Endeavour Winners 2006/7
Forest of Dean Activities Festival Under 8's Winners 2013/14

GIRLS RUGBY

National Final under 14's Winners 2006/07 v Tyldsley at Lichfield – Combined Thornbury/Drybrook team.
Gloucester U18's Tens Winners 2008 /09 (Combined with Hucclecote)
Thornbury Sevens Tournament Winners 2006/07 (U17), 2006/07 (U14), 2007/08 (U18), 2007/08 (U15), 2008/09 (U18 – Combined with Hucclecote)
Cirencester Sevens Tournament (u15 Runners – up) v Super Miren 2010/11
RFU Presidents Award – Girl Power Category – 2013 (+ £500)
BerryHill RFC Under 13's Tournament Winners 2015/16
Burnham-on-Sea RFC Under 13's Tournament Winners 2013/14
Castle Carey RFC Under 13's Tournament Winners 2013/14 + Fair play award.
Gloucestershire RFU Under 13 Tournament Winners 2013/14, 2015/16.
Drybrook RFC Under 13 Tournament Winners 2013/14, 2015/16.
Old Richians Under 13's Tournament Winners 2015/16.
Tewkesbury RFC Under 13's Tournament Winners 2015/16.
Butlins Minehead "Leicester Tigers Challenge" Under 13 Tournament Winners 2013/14.
Butlins Minehead "Leicester Tigers Challenge" Under 13 Tournament Runners Up 2014/15.
Under 13 Girls GRFU County Cup Winners 2014/15.
Peterborough Tournament Runners-Up 2016/17
Butlins Minehead "Leicester Tigers Challenge" Under 15 Tournament Winners 2013/14
Butlins Minehead "Leicester Tigers Challenge" Under 15 Tournament Runners Up 2014/15

CLUB HONOURS

Under 15 Girls Rugby – RFU National Cup South West Area Finalist 2014/15
Under 18 Girls Rugby – RFU National Cup South West Area Finalist 2014/15

WOMEN'S RUGBY

RFU Junior Cup Final – Winners v Barnsley 31pts – 24pts on 23/4/2016
Women's NC South West North 2 League Runners-Up 2014/15 Season
Women's NC South West North 1 League Champions 2015/16 Season

CLUB RECORDS

MOST OVERALL APPEARANCES FOR CLUB-R HALE 886
MOST OVERALL POINTS FOR CLUB-C TREHERNE 5551
MOST OVERALL TRIES FOR CLUB-C TREHERNE 415
MOST POINTS IN ONE SEASON-C TREHERNE 424 (1986/87)
MOST TRIES IN ONE SEASON-C TREHERNE 38 (1987/88)

1ST XV RECORDS

MOST OVERALL APPEARANCES-C RAWLINGS 616
MOST OVERALL POINTS-C TREHERNE 4466
MOST OVERALL TRIES-C TREHERNE 318
MOST POINTS IN ONE SEASON-C TREHERNE 395 (1986/87)
MOST TRIES IN ONE SEASON-C TREHERNE 31 (1986/87) (1987/88)
MOST APPEARANCES IN ONE SEASON-R SADLER 38 (1992/93)
MOST POINTS IN ONE MATCH-44 C TREHERNE V BREAM 5/9/98
BIGGEST EVER VICTORY V PAINSWICK 96-4 3/11/84
MOST TRIES IN ONE MATCH-7 N LANE V PAINSWICK 3/11/84
MOST WINS IN ONE SEASON-31 (1988/89) (2012/13)
MOST TRIES IN ONE SEASON-176 (2012/13)
MOST POINTS IN ONE SEASON-1183 (2012/13)

UNITED XV RECORDS

MOST OVERALL APPEARANCES-P MASON 428
MOST OVERALL POINTS-A MILNER 1335
MOST OVERALL TRIES-R PROBERT 112
MOST POINTS IN ONE SEASON-J FISHER 217 (1986/87)
MOST TRIES IN ONE SEASON-R PROBERT 26 (2000/01)
MOST APPEARANCES IN ONE SEASON-P MASON 36 (1987/88)
MOST POINTS IN ONE MATCH-32 J FISHER V PAINSWICK 'A' 2/11/85
BIGGEST VICTORY V GORDON LEAGUE 'A' 97-5 03/11/12
MOST TRIES IN ONE MATCH-
5 C DAVIS V SMITHS 'A' 2/10/76
5 R HALE V WIDDEN OLD BOY 'A' 15/10/77
5 A WALLACE V ROSS-ON-WYE 'A' 8/4/87
5 P JONES V NEWENT 1ST XV 15/12/90
5 G HOLDSWORTH V GORDON LEAGUE "A" 13/2/16
MOST WINS IN ONE SEASON-29 (1987/88)
MOST TRIES IN ONE SEASON-168 (1987/88)
MOST POINTS IN ONE SEASON-932 (1987/88)

EXTRAS XV RECORDS

MOST OVERALL APPEARANCES- N. P. BENNETT 305
MOST OVERALL POINTS- S. RAWLINGS 596
MOST OVERALL TRIES-R FYFFE 75
MOST POINTS IN ONE SEASON-A MILNER 197 (2007/08)
MOST TRIES IN ONE SEASON-P GAYLARD 16 (1990/91)
MOST APPEARANCES IN ONE SEASON-S RAWLINGS 33 (1987/88)
MOST POINTS IN ONE MATCH-36 C.RAWLINGS v CHELTENHAM CIVIL SERVICE 2nds (4/2/17)
BIGGEST EVER VICTORY V CAINSCROSS 'B' 111-14 (9/12/95)
MOST TRIES IN ONE MATCH-6 C.J.HALE V WIDDEN OLD BOYS 'B' (4/2/84)
C RAWLINGS V CHELTENHAM CS 2NDS (4/2/17)
MOST WINS IN ONE SEASON-24 (2008/09)
MOST TRIES IN ONE SEASON-121 (1989/90)
MOST POINTS IN ONE SEASON-677 (2007/08)

4TH XV RECORDS

MOST OVERALL APPEARANCES-N.P.BENNETT 153
MOST OVERALL POINTS-C TREHERNE 165
MOST OVERALL TRIES-C TREHERNE 22
MOST POINTS IN ONE SEASON-C RYDER 76 (1990/91)
MOST TRIES IN ONE SEASON-C RYDER 12 (1990/91)
MOST APPEARANCES IN ONE SEASON-M HALE (JUN) 25 (1990/91)
MOST POINTS IN ONE MATCH-33 C TREHERNE V GLOUCESTER OLD BOYS 'C' 17/4/93
BIGGEST EVER VICTORY V GLOUCESTER OLD BOYS 'C' 74-0 17/4/93
MOST TRIES IN ONE MATCH-5 C TREHERNE V GLOUCESTER OLD BOYS 'C' 17/4/93
MOST WINS IN ONE SEASON-12 (1990/91)
MOST TRIES IN ONE SEASON-65 (1990/91)
MOST POINTS IN ONE SEASON-389 (1992/93)

RECORDS UP TO AND INCLUDING 2016/2017 SEASON.

CLUB RECORDS

1ST XV PLAYING RECORDS

| Season | Captain | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | Points For | Points against | Leading Points Scorer | Leading Try Scorer | Most Appearances | Player of the Year | Young Player of the Year |
|---------|----------------|--------|-----|-------|------|------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1993/94 | James Bennett | 34 | 17 | 2 | 15 | 527 | 484 | Chris Treherne 148 | Chris Treherne 9 | Chris Rawlings/ Vic Jones 33 | Richard Sadler | Steve Skelton |
| 1994/95 | James Bennett | 32 | 13 | 1 | 18 | 572 | 745 | Chris Treherne 257 | Chris Treherne 9 | Vic Jones 32 | Lee Wilks | Owen Salmon |
| 1995/96 | Richard Sadler | 31 | 14 | 2 | 15 | 558 | 634 | Chris Treherne 279 | Chris Treherne 15 | Chris Rawlings/ Vic Jones 31 | Clayton Ryder | Phil Probert |
| 1996/97 | Richard Sadler | 31 | 14 | 2 | 15 | 715 | 782 | Chris Treherne 325 | Chris Treherne/Ian Treherne 11 | Chris Rawlings/ Richard Sadler/ Gary Taylor 31 | Clayton Ryder | Jason Roberts |
| 1997/98 | Chris Rawlings | 32 | 17 | 0 | 15 | 672 | 573 | Chris Treherne 269 | Jason Roberts 13 | Richard Sadler / Vic Jones 32 | Victor Jones | Paul Tarry |
| 1998/99 | Chris Rawlings | 29 | 16 | 0 | 13 | 649 | 528 | Chris Treherne 218 | Chris Treherne 20 | Vic Jones 29 | Pete Crowell/ Chris Rawlings | Dale Critchley |
| 1999/00 | Chris Rawlings | 27 | 10 | 0 | 17 | 441 | 567 | Chris Treherne 98 | Clayton Ryder 7 | Steve Rawlings 26 | Peter Meek | Dale Critchley |
| 2000/01 | Chris Rawlings | 27 | 15 | 0 | 12 | 660 | 415 | Steve Rawlings 134 | Chris Rawlings 13 | Rich Sadler/ Dave Thomas/ Steve Skelton/ Neil Morgan 24 | Neil Morgan | Danny Griffiths |
| 2001/02 | Chris Rawlings | 29 | 17 | 3 | 9 | 609 | 387 | Chris Thomas 147 | Tom Reed/ Lee Ward 11 | Sean Bourne/ Tom Reed/ Chris Rawlings 29 | Sean Bourne | Tom Reed |
| 2002/03 | Neil Morgan | 27 | 24 | 0 | 3 | 861 | 326 | Neil Merrett 301 | Chris Rawlings 15 | Neil Merrett/ Tom Reed/Chris Rawlings 27 | Neil Morgan | Kenny Davies |
| 2003/04 | Neil Morgan | 29 | 12 | 2 | 15 | 378 | 473 | Neil Merrett 165 | Simon Rugman 8 | Neil Morgan/ Simon Rugman 29 | Neil Morgan | Tad Chapman |

PLAYING RECORDS - THE LAST 25 SEASONS

| Season | Captain | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | Points For | Points against | Leading Points Scorer | Leading Try Scorer | Most Appearances | Player of the Year | Young Player of the Year |
|---------|----------------|--------|-----|-------|------|------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 2004/05 | Chris Thomas | 30 | 11 | 0 | 19 | 472 | 632 | Neil Merrett 165 | Danny Griffiths 8 | Scott Phelps/ Chris Rawlings/ Tom Reed 30 | Craig Moore | Craig Moore |
| 2005/06 | Neil Merrett | 27 | 11 | 0 | 16 | 445 | 508 | Neil Merrett 98 | Steve Skelton 6 | Craig Moore/ Scott Phelps/ Chris Rawlings 26 | Craig Moore | Carl Moore |
| 2006/07 | Tom Reed | 28 | 19 | 0 | 9 | 587 | 331 | Carl Moore 85 | Carl Moore 17 | Julian Horrobin/ Tom Reed 28 | Carl Moore | Carl Moore |
| 2007/08 | Tom Reed | 31 | 18 | 2 | 11 | 498 | 358 | Aaron Ryder 162 | Carl Moore 15 | Liam Jackson/ Chris Rawlings/ Aaron Ryder/ Chris Thomas 30 | Liam Jackson | Mitch Browning |
| 2008/09 | Neil Morgan | 28 | 21 | 0 | 7 | 807 | 362 | Ed Williams 213 | Carl Moore 23 | Liam Jackson/ Chris Rawlings 28 | Carl Moore | Ed Williams |
| 2009/10 | Neil Morgan | 33 | 17 | 0 | 16 | 527 | 484 | Aiden Price 103 | Simon Rugman 9 | Chris Rawlings 33 | Ashley Howells | Danny Price |
| 2010/11 | Lee Ward | 28 | 4 | 0 | 24 | 406 | 908 | Tom Treherne 90 | Liam Jackson 10 | Chris Rawlings 28 | Danny Price | Sam Peaper |
| 2011/12 | Ashley Howells | 31 | 20 | 0 | 11 | 838 | 484 | Tom Treherne 287 | Simon Rugman 17 | Tom Treherne 31 | Andy Bulumakau | Rich Cottrell |
| 2012/13 | Simon Rugman | 34 | 31 | 0 | 3 | 1183 | 252 | Tom Treherne 250 | Carl Moore 25 | Simon Rugman 34 | Carl Moore | Sam Peaper |
| 2013/14 | Simon Rugman | 31 | 25 | 0 | 6 | 821 | 327 | Ollie Clements 203 | Mitch Baldwin win 17 | Nick Ovens/ Tom Treherne 30 | Ollie Clements | Kristian Taft |
| 2014/15 | Ben Large | 30 | 14 | 2 | 14 | 489 | 548 | Tom Treherne 91 | Mitch Baldwin win 7 | Ben Large 30 | Mitch Bourne | Will Greenway |
| 2015/16 | Ben Large | 27 | 15 | 1 | 14 | 583 | 481 | Tom Treherne 2016 | Mitch Baldwin win 9 | Mitch Baldwin/ Sam Peaper 27 | Ben Large | Will Greenway |
| 2016/17 | Ben Large | 28 | 16 | 1 | 11 | 637 | 479 | Tom Treherne 160 | Mitch Baldwin win 16 | Mitch Bourne/ Sam Peaper 27 | Ben Large | Will Greenway |

PLAYING RECORDS - THE LAST 25 SEASONS

UNITED XV PLAYING RECORDS

| Season | Captain | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | Points For | Points against | Leading Points Scorer | Leading Try Scorer | Most Appearances | Player of the Year |
|---------|------------------------------------|--------|-----|-------|------|------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1993/94 | Clayton Ryder | 31 | 17 | 1 | 13 | 511 | 444 | Ray Knight 52 | Anthony Wallace 6 | Gary Taylor 26 | Clayton Ryder |
| 1994/95 | Martyn Hale | 31 | 16 | 4 | 11 | 381 | 486 | Jimmy Ryder 64 | Gary Taylor 6 | Jimmy Ryder 27 | Richard Roberts |
| 1995/96 | Clayton Ryder | 32 | 19 | 1 | 12 | 770 | 490 | Dave Wilce 100 | Jimmy Ryder 10 | Richard Probert 25 | Richard Probert |
| 1996/97 | Lee Wilks | 30 | 12 | 1 | 17 | 615 | 775 | Andy Taylor 98 | Richard Probert 13 | Richard Probert 26 | Jimmy Ryder |
| 1997/98 | Alan Marfell | 32 | 12 | 1 | 19 | 510 | 526 | Andy Taylor 73 | Richard Probert 11 | Dave Marfell 26 | Paul Tarry |
| 1998/99 | Chris Tingle | 29 | 7 | 1 | 21 | 371 | 609 | Richard Probert 50 | Richard Probert 10 | Scott Phelps 24 | Scott Phelps |
| 1999/00 | Chris Tingle | 24 | 13 | 0 | 11 | 435 | 404 | Chris Treherne 94 | Richard Probert 7 | Simon Burke 21 | Graham Jenkins |
| 2000/01 | Lee Wilks | 29 | 19 | 1 | 9 | 700 | 373 | Richard Probert 130 | Richard Probert 26 | Simon Rugman 25 | Richard Probert |
| 2001/02 | Chris Tingle | 28 | 19 | 0 | 9 | 543 | 422 | Simon Rugman 139 | Simon Rugman 10 | Vic Jones 26 | Jim Rugman |
| 2002/03 | Steve Rawlings | 23 | 17 | 0 | 6 | 570 | 255 | Jimmy Ryder 63 | Richard Probert 10 | Vic Jones 20 | Steve Lewis |
| 2003/04 | Lee Wilks/Clayton Ryder/Andy Jones | 31 | 14 | 4 | 13 | 523 | 566 | Jimmy Ryder 73 | Ian Treherne 12 | Dave Payne 26 | Jimmy Ryder |
| 2004/05 | Andy Jones | 31 | 18 | 0 | 13 | 487 | 397 | Andy Milner 94 | Chris Morgan/Richard Probert 7 | Jimmy Ryder 29 | Tom Roach |
| 2005/06 | Andy Jones | 28 | 15 | 0 | 13 | 403 | 341 | Andy Milner 122 | Various 3 | Andy Milner 27 | Jimmy Ryder |
| 2006/07 | Andy Jones | 25 | 14 | 0 | 11 | 403 | 342 | Jimmy Ryder 61 | Dan Large 11 | Dan Large 24 | Dan Large |
| 2007/08 | Tom Treherne | 29 | 22 | 0 | 7 | 432 | 283 | Tom Treherne 118 | Tom Treherne 10 | Steve Lewis/Jimmy Ryder 28 | Tom Treherne |
| 2008/09 | Dan Large | 26 | 14 | 0 | 12 | 434 | 378 | Andy Milner 100 | Tom Treherne 7 | Ryan Dubberley 24 | Will Chung |
| 2009/10 | Sean Bourne | 29 | 9 | 2 | 18 | 328 | 466 | Andy Milner 87 | Ben Steward 6 | Ryan Dubberley 24 | Mitch Bourne |

PLAYING RECORDS - THE LAST 25 SEASONS

| Season | Captain | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | Points For | Points against | Leading Points Scorer | Leading Try Scorer | Most Appearances | Player of the Year |
|---------|----------------|--------|-----|-------|------|------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| 2010/11 | Sean Bourne | 21 | 4 | 0 | 17 | 219 | 581 | Andy Milner 102 | Tony Paul 4 | Ryan Dubberley 17 | Mark Cas-tree |
| 2011/12 | Ryan Dubberley | 24 | 7 | 0 | 17 | 299 | 692 | Andy Milner 102 | Mitch Baldwin 4 | Andy Milner 21 | Ben Warren |
| 2012/13 | Andy Milner | 22 | 18 | 0 | 4 | 686 | 207 | Andy Milner 167 | Kane Hale 9 | Jack Davies/Connor Hale/Kane Hale/Adam Swordy 20 | Joe James |
| 2013/14 | Andy Milner | 20 | 11 | 1 | 8 | 419 | 370 | Andy Milner 142 | Connor Hale/Mitch Hale 5 | Connor Hale 19 | Mitch Browning |
| 2014/15 | Andy Milner | 25 | 15 | 0 | 10 | 558 | 524 | Andy Milner 130 | Mitch Hale/Gareth Holdsworth 10 | Joe James 23 | Mitch Hale |
| 2015/16 | Andy Milner | 21 | 14 | 0 | 7 | 433 | 341 | Andy Milner 89 | Gareth Holdsworth 7 | Kieran Auker-Howlett 19 | Ashley Jennings |
| 2016/17 | Andy Milner | 27 | 11 | 1 | 15 | 587 | 552 | Andy Milner 147 | Gareth Holdsworth 10 | Andy Milner 25 | Jack Whiting |

EXTRAS XV PLAYING RECORDS

| Season | Captain | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | Points For | Points against | Leading Points Scorer | Leading Try Scorer | Most Appearances | Player of the Year |
|---------|--------------------------|--------|-----|-------|------|------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1993/94 | Jeff Russell | 31 | 15 | 1 | 15 | 531 | 403 | Andy Taylor 86 | Ron Jones/Andy Taylor 5 | Roger Hale/Jimmy Ryder 24 | Jeff Russell |
| 1994/95 | Nigel Bennett | 29 | 10 | 0 | 19 | 386 | 483 | Fred Johnson 37 | Dave Leighton 6 | Paul Mason 22 | Nigel Bennett |
| 1995/96 | Gary Payne | 27 | 13 | 1 | 13 | 577 | 409 | Steve Johnson 51 | Chris Treherne 8 | Dave Marfell 19 | Dave Marfell |
| 1996/97 | Nigel Bennett | 22 | 7 | 0 | 15 | 382 | 454 | Andy Taylor 34 | Roger Hale 6 | Nigel Bennett/Roger Hale 19 | James Reed |
| 1997/98 | Nigel Bennett | 15 | 3 | 0 | 12 | 133 | 349 | Andy Taylor 22 | Dave Leighton 4 | Nigel Bennett 13 | Nigel Bennett |
| 1998/99 | Nigel Bennett/James Reed | 20 | 4 | 0 | 16 | 275 | 515 | Andy Taylor 35 | Chris Rawlings 3 | Richard Whitmore 17 | Richard Whitmore |
| 1999/00 | Andy Taylor | 26 | 8 | 2 | 16 | 337 | 641 | Andy Taylor 61 | Adrian Brown/Andy Taylor 4 | Dave Williams 20 | Robert Burford |
| 2000/01 | Nigel Bennett | 24 | 9 | 0 | 15 | 400 | 440 | Richard Powell 41 | Simon Brain 7 | Nigel Bennett 24 | Andy Jones |

PLAYING RECORDS - THE LAST 25 SEASONS

EXTRAS XV PLAYING RECORDS continued

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|--------------------|---------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| 2001/02 | Dave Williams | 28 | 10 | 0 | 18 | 409 | 623 | Mark Teague 50 | Mark Teague 10 | Clive Boughton/ Pete Cinderey/ Gareth Fletcher/ Dave Williams 24 | Clive Boughton |
| 2002/03 | Chris Tingle | 22 | 10 | 2 | 10 | 388 | 328 | Alan Parsons 31 | Richard Roberts 5 | Pete Cinderey 21 | Andy Jones |
| 2003/04 | Dave Auker-Howlett | 30 | 11 | 3 | 16 | 425 | 449 | Steve Rawlings 67 | Steve Rawlings 10 | Dave Williams 28 | Gareth Fletcher |
| 2004/05 | Dave Williams | 25 | 11 | 0 | 14 | 487 | 542 | Richard Probert 50 | Richard Probert 10 | Pete Cinderey 22 | Adam Yemm |
| 2005/06 | Dave Williams | 25 | 12 | 0 | 13 | 415 | 456 | Gareth Roach 44 | Pete Cinderey/ Tony Hussey 6 | Dave Williams 23 | Tony Hussey |
| 2006/07 | Jon Mustoe | 28 | 15 | 3 | 10 | 582 | 383 | Andy Milner 107 | Chris Tingle 10 | Jon Mustoe 24 | Vfc Jones |
| 2007/08 | Jon Mustoe/Andy Milner | 29 | 20 | 1 | 8 | 677 | 228 | Andy Milner 197 | Zac Boothman 15 | Steve Virgo 28 | Steve Virgo |
| 2008/09 | Steve Rawlings | 25 | 24 | 0 | 1 | 609 | 128 | Andy Milner 76 | Matt Freeman 11 | Vic Jones 23 | Chris Tingle |
| 2009/10 | John Jeffs | 21 | 10 | 1 | 10 | 343 | 288 | Andy Milner 43 | Greg Kiernan 5 | John Jeffs 20 | Chris Tingle |
| 2010/11 | Chris Tingle | 16 | 9 | 0 | 7 | 353 | 261 | Jimmy Ryder 53 | Phil Probert 7 | John Jeffs 15 | Billy Head |
| 2011/12 | Chris Tingle | 20 | 13 | 0 | 7 | 444 | 374 | Ben Roberts 141 | Jamie Roberts 8 | John Jeffs 18 | Jamie Roberts |
| 2012/13 | Jimmy Ryder | 20 | 11 | 0 | 9 | 364 | 293 | Chris Treherne 64 | Paul Cocker 6 | Paul Cocker/ Steve Turley 19 | Jimmy Ryder |
| 2013/14 | Tom Maskell | 25 | 15 | 1 | 9 | 389 | 360 | Tom Maskell 38 | Tom Maskell 5 | Tom Maskell 3 | Steve Turley |
| 2014/15 | Steve Virgo | 23 | 11 | 2 | 10 | 539 | 423 | Rhys Evans 107 | Rhys Evans 10 | Steve Turley 21 | Jimmy Ryder |
| 2015/16 | James Smith | 23 | 11 | 0 | 12 | 649 | 564 | Jimmy Ryder 87 | Jimmy Ryder 9 | Jimmy Ryder 20 | Adam Harris |
| 2016/17 | James Smith/ Jimmy Ryder | 17 | 9 | 1 | 11 | 421 | 384 | Chris Rawlings 115 | Chris Rawlings 14 | Steve Turley 17 | |

4TH XV PLAYING RECORDS

| Season | Captain | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | Points For | Points against | Leading Points Scorer | Leading Try Scorer | Most Appearances | Player of the Year |
|---------|------------------------------------|--------|-----|-------|------|------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1993/94 | Jeff Tate | 20 | 3 | 1 | 16 | 171 | 430 | Paul Gaylard 20 | Paul Gaylard 4 | Graham Bent/ Gavin Jones 17 | Neil Lewis |
| 1994/95 | Simon Brain/Martin Burge/Jeff Tate | 16 | 4 | 0 | 12 | 164 | 437 | Dave Leighton 25 | Dave Leighton 5 | Graham Bent 15 | Gavin Jones |
| 1995/96 | Jeff Tate | 8 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 185 | 182 | Mike Johnson 21 | Mike Johnson 3 | Nigel Bennett 7 | No award |

ENGLAND SHIRT LAUNCH 19TH SEPTEMBER 2012



Paul Mason
 From: Paul Mason (Paul.Mason@hale.co.uk)
 Sent: 18/09/2012 11:00
 To: Paul Mason
 Subject: Re: Application for RFU & Canterbury placements to launch

On 14 Sep 2012, at 08:57 PM, "Paul Mason" wrote:

Hi Paul,
 I've been NYC would be to be considered for this event and I have not asked our entry below.

Regards,
 Paul Mason (Chairman)

To Drybrook rugby is more than a game, it is the heartbeat of the community. The club has been at the heart of the village since 1883 and is a club that brings together boys and girls, men and women, young and old alike.

It is a club that gives pleasure to the community when they come along to support us but we also have a strong sense of duty to our club and our players. We are proud to have the support of the local community, the local club, the local business, the local school and the local police. We are proud to have the support of the local community, the local club, the local business, the local school and the local police.

It is a club that gives pleasure to the community when they come along to support us but we also have a strong sense of duty to our club and our players. We are proud to have the support of the local community, the local club, the local business, the local school and the local police.

It is a club that gives pleasure to the community when they come along to support us but we also have a strong sense of duty to our club and our players. We are proud to have the support of the local community, the local club, the local business, the local school and the local police.

It is a club that gives pleasure to the community when they come along to support us but we also have a strong sense of duty to our club and our players. We are proud to have the support of the local community, the local club, the local business, the local school and the local police.

RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

Dear Paul,

Many thanks for your reply to the Canterbury UK Launch competition for all of the RFU associated clubs.

I am pleased to announce that after careful consideration of all the entries by you and your club, Canterbury UK have been selected as the winners and are invited to launch the launch of the new Canterbury England kit in our store.

Canterbury's great heritage and strong links to the local community, with very impressive and the RFU are pleased to have you and your club as our winners.

In terms of next steps, please see one of our staff on 0203 821 7717 for your nearest possible opportunity to visit the store.

We are pleased to have you and your club as our winners and are invited to launch the launch of the new Canterbury England kit in our store.

We are pleased to have you and your club as our winners and are invited to launch the launch of the new Canterbury England kit in our store.

The Citizen 01 539 02 www.thisisgoucestershire.co.uk LOCAL

LOCAL SPORT

Tongue in cheek scribble led to Drybrook's day in the sun

Picture: Essex Widdowson 014540112818102 032



RFU WOMENS JUNIOR CUP FINAL . LICHFIELD . 23RD APRIL 2016



RFU Cup & Net 100s Championship Finals
TWICKENHAM STADIUM
 Saturday, 4 May 2013

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| RFU Cup Final | 10:00 | 10:00 | 10:00 |
| Net 100s Championship Final | 12:00 | 12:00 | 12:00 |
| RFU Cup Final | 14:00 | 14:00 | 14:00 |
| Net 100s Championship Final | 16:00 | 16:00 | 16:00 |

RFU Cup Final
 Twickenham Stadium, London
 10:00

Net 100s Championship Final
 Twickenham Stadium, London
 12:00

RFU Cup Final
 Twickenham Stadium, London
 14:00

Net 100s Championship Final
 Twickenham Stadium, London
 16:00



SELBY RUFC

| | | |
|------------|----|----|
| Full Back | 1 | 1 |
| Centre | 2 | 2 |
| Wing | 3 | 3 |
| Prop | 4 | 4 |
| Hooker | 5 | 5 |
| Lock | 6 | 6 |
| Flanker | 7 | 7 |
| Number 8 | 8 | 8 |
| Scrum Half | 9 | 9 |
| Fly Half | 10 | 10 |

DRYBROOK RFC
 (Includes 100s & Net 100s Championship Finals)

| | | |
|------------|----|----|
| Full Back | 1 | 1 |
| Centre | 2 | 2 |
| Wing | 3 | 3 |
| Prop | 4 | 4 |
| Hooker | 5 | 5 |
| Lock | 6 | 6 |
| Flanker | 7 | 7 |
| Number 8 | 8 | 8 |
| Scrum Half | 9 | 9 |
| Fly Half | 10 | 10 |

T P H

DRYBROOK RFC
 WALD L.L.D.-L.S. 40thrs
 04/05/2013

RFU SENIOR VASE FINAL . TWICKENHAM . 4TH MAY 2013

WORLD CUP WINNERS

DRYBROOK LADIES NATASHA HUNT AND CERI LARGE



Natasha Hunt

England Under 20's Caps – 10
First U 20 cap v Wales at Taffs Wells,
Full Caps 35
First full cap in July 2011 Nations Cup
tour to Canada

Great Britain Sevens
(Olympic Games 2016 in Rio, Brazil)

Countries visited playing for England/
GB sevens: Spain, France, Canada, USA,
New Zealand, Ireland, Brazil, Russia,
Holland, Wales, Scotland, Italy, Dubai.

Vice captained a European sevens
squad in 2013.

Ceri Large

England Under 20's Caps – 5
First U 20 cap v France at Worcester,
Full caps 52
First full cap in November 2011 in
France against France..

Vice-captain of the Nations Cup 2013
squad in USA

Countries visited playing for England:
France, Ireland, Scotland, Italy, Wales,
Spain, New Zealand, USA, Canada,
Dubai.

Captained Worcester 2015/16
Premiership Champions 2012/13

STADE JEAN BOUIN, PARIS, FRANCE 17TH AUGUST 2014