



Alumni Newsletter

University of York RUFC



President's Word

Merry belated Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us in UYRUFC and welcome to the second edition of the UYRUFC Alumni Newsletter. As previously mentioned this is your way to stay in touch with your old teammates, stay within the UYRUFC network, keep up to date with upcoming events within the club and increase our funding for all rugby related activities.

A lot has happened since our last edition:

On the Sunday of week 3 our new intake took the oath to UYRUFC and became fully fledged members, some provided poor excuses and didn't attend and a few that did, didn't last the course of the evening, better luck next year! The Freshers are very promising



and a number have already represented the 1stXV, with the vast majority competing for places in the 2ndXV and 3rdXV with existing members.

We have received the exciting news that this year's the 1stXV Roses match against Lancaster will be played under floodlights on Friday 13th May in Huntingdon Stadium. A sell-out crowd of 3,500 is expected in what will be a huge advert for how far UYRUFC have come over the recent



years. The Friday night event will also consist of the opening ceremony, and tickets are being provided to students at £5 which includes transport from campus. We would love to see as many old boys there as possible to cheer on UYRUFC to what will hopefully be their third consecutive white-wash over the red rose. More information will be provided nearer the time so keep an eye on your emails.

We have sadly parted ways with Alec who has been our coach for all of my time at the University, and from what I have been told has served the club for nearly 5 years. Alec took the club on leaps and bounds on the field and provided the basis and

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Spring Term 2011

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Upcoming Events

Vietnam Social

Wed 16th Feb

Roses 2011

Fri-Sun 13th May

Ticket prices and details to be confirmed.

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game-plan to ensure two promotions in two years, having particular success with the 1stXV only losing two BUCS games in two seasons. We wish Alec all the best in the future, and look forward to seeing his face at matches in the future, Captains

dinner, and President's 2011. In his place we have welcomed into the club as Head Coach Kerry Wood. Kerry, a Kiwi native, has recently played for Blaydon, Harrogate, has represented Wellington Maori and has recently been appointed as Director of Rugby at York RUFC. In his attempt to move into professional coach-



ing he has taken on the challenge of UYRUFC Head Coach for the next 3 seasons. Assisting him is current student Uche Oduza, a former member of the England 7s squad, Worcester Warriors and Newcastle Falcons. We are very excited as to the potential of our new coaching setup, and hopefully the club will continue its climb up the University league

tables.

We have received an order of new 1stXV and 2ndXV playing shirts pictures of which I believe will be featured in the Canterbury catalogue next year. Check out the photos of us in action throughout this newsletter.

Thanks to all of you that attended

President's weekend 2010. I believe from the feedback that an enjoyable time was had by all. The University comfortably beat the old boys in the annual President's Day match, but I presume that is because the old boys were hitting it a lot harder in York town on the Friday night, not because they have lost their touch?!

Finally a massive thank you must go out to all those that have already donated to the club and supported the Alumni fund. For those of you that haven't please dig deep and spare as much or a little as you can. We are not asking for monthly or even termly payments, rather a mere payment of once a year is more than generous. It is your funding that will support the development of the club in years to come. Keep an eye on your emails for club events this term, and booking your tickets for Roses 2011.

As always any feedback is more than appreciated. If you could send this along with contact details of fellow ex-clubmen to our Alumni Officer that would be much appreciated.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at Roses 2011, maybe even Vietnam social before then for the keenest amongst you.

RORY MCGREGOR
PRESIDENT
2010/2011
president@uyruc.co.uk



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The season so far

Fortress 22, the formidable home of 'the invincibles' and 'the legion,' remains unbreached. The record at time of writing stands at Played 6, won five, and the customary away loss to Leeds Met. That so few games have been played owes much to the inclement weather, with no less than 5 games being cancelled, this leaves a rather hectic schedule for the spring term, but as we have shown this season UYRUFcans are at their finest with their backs to the wall.

Following a convincing win over Leeds in a pre-season friendly, UYRUFc's second tilt at the Northern 1A championship was ready. That the championship was so cruelly robbed from us last year, by what is charitably described as administrative incompetence of the highest order, only served to further motivate. Newcastle were more comfortably dismissed than the 36-29 scoreline suggests, so it was our 2nd game of the season Vs Leeds 2s that was to provide the greatest threat to the 20+ game unbeaten home league record. In what Nouse described as "a thrilling advert for the game of rugby"

UYRUFc were to find ourselves at one stage 33-10 down. The escape act that followed is one Mr A.D.Wintle would have been proud of. Scoring tries from rolling drives, incisive back moves and even from beautifully weighted grubber kicks from the hooker Gregor Morris the score read 38-38 with full time on the clock. Despite numerous opportunities to settle for the draw winger Gabriel Adebisi was brutally chopped down by a high tackle between the half way and their ten metres line. Fly -half James Mortimer was never going to miss from there...

Northumbria 2nds were comprehensively squashed, with an all round supreme performance in the league, before the cup draw threw us up against Nottingham 2s, Premiership B opponents. Following an eventful coach journey in which Al-Qaeda somehow transpired to knock the wing mirror off (according to the driver) we arrived with 15 minutes before kick off and a referee obstinately refusing to put it back. A massive forwards effort, combined with dead-eye kicking, on an outrageously narrow pitch

meant UYRUFc emerged 9-5 victors over the team from the higher league. This momentum was sadly stalled not only by the weather, in the case of Sheffield rain, but also due to Liverpool's bus mysteriously breaking down. Having already lost two games the snowfall came at the worst possible time, with only 1 game made possible, the unfortunate loss against Leeds Met.

Fortunately Liverpool's bus made it on the first Saturday of 2nd term. Despite playing the majority of the game with 14 players due to the various indiscretions of Mortimer (and at one stage only 13) a defensive effort the likes of which were last seen at Thermopylae maintained the Fortress. With trips from the so far all conquering Manchester 1sts and the finest from Sheffield still yet to test their mettle against UYRUFc there are many tough matches ahead. Further victories? Yes. Promotion? Maybe. Losing at fortress 22? Not a chance!

TOM WEIR

UYRUFc CLUB CAPTAIN

2010/2011

captain@uyrufc.co.uk

League Tables

	Northern Conference 1A	Pts
1	Manchester 1stXV	18
2	York 1stXV	12
3	Sheffield 1stXV	12
4	Liverpool 1stXV	9
5	Leeds Met 2ndXV	9
6	Northumbria 2ndXV	6
7	Leeds 2ndXV	6
8	Newcastle 2ndXV	0

	Northern Conference 2B	Pts
1	Hull 1stXV	18
2	Durham 3rdXV	18
3	Sheffield 2ndXV	15
4	Leeds Met 3rdXV	6
5	York 2ndXV	6
6	Newcastle 3rdXV	3
7	York St John 1stXV	3
8	Teesside 1stXV	0

	Northern Conference 4B	Pts
1	Leeds 3rd XV	15
2	Leeds 4thXV	12
3	Huddersfield 1stXV	12
4	Bradford 1stXV	9
5	Hull 2ndXV	6
6	Sunderland 1stXV	3
7	York 3rdXV	3
8	Teesside 2ndXV	3
9	Hull 3rdXV	3
10	Sunderland 2ndXV	3
11	York St John 2ndXV	3
12	Leeds TASC 1stXV	0

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Socials so far...



Last term UYRUFC once again established itself as the best-attended social club on campus. Socials were by and large a huge success. Particular mention must be paid to cross dressing, the storming of the library once again proving a highlight of the evening. The willingness of many club members to consume only VK's and sparkling wine the only disconcerting part of a very 'memorable' night.

UYRUFC socials have also had to deal with a fair amount of adversity this year having been banned for a total of three weeks of the term from Ziggys. However as I'm sure all will maintain this allowed us the opportunity to frequent some of York's more 'classy' establishments such as BPM and reflex. UYRUFC has also had

to deal with the demolition of that most sacred haven of the 'champagne lounge'. Whilst this is a huge blow it has also opened our eyes to the rest of Ziggys. Who among us really knew there were in fact three floors or that, owing to the light, the

beaver takes on a far better appearance downstairs. The champagne lounge will be sorely missed but I have no doubt UYRUFC will continue to be a dominant force week in week out.

The term was finished off in due style with the infamous All-Day-Booze. After a slow start the day was soon in full swing with drunken students making a nuisance of single 16yr old mothers spending their benefits Christmas

chopping in TK-Max. A number of true noble UYRUFCans were even spotted



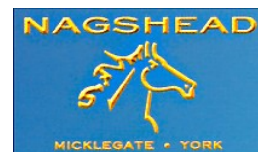
at Derwent bar 12pm, in town mid afternoon, back in Derwent for a stinky college event and then even at the Willow in the early hours of the morning. Freshmen, the bar has been set!

The next term promises some of the best-loved socials the club has to offer. This coming Wednesday sees the return of wrestlers and, as all who attended last year will acknowledge, this is a great excuse to parade around half naked wearing spandex. Vietnam will be held in Week 6 for any old boys who feel they would like to make a return; you will be more than welcome. A new theme awaits the club in Week 8 with the 'Grand Lashional'. Already an established favourite at other universities I have no doubt it will prove a success here as well.

CMS

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<http://www.cms-cmck.com>



varsity

Vudu Lounge
Cocktail Bar & Club



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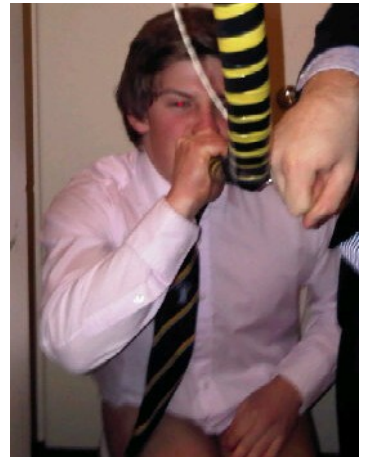
Player Profile . . . Richard Draper



It's strange to think there was a point in my life when joking around wasn't my first and foremost priority. However, I was once a dedicated athlete in the sport of canoeing slalom.

How does one get into such a sport you might be wondering, a natural lack of ability for most other mainstream sports coupled with a family holiday to the Ardeche in France and that was it, a rather wet path of fame and fortune lay ahead of me.

Training in the Welsh waters became my life, come rain or shine I could be found on the river (This is true to this day, but my aquatic antics are limited to the River Ouse on a Wednesday evening, a special thank-you to Phil Johnson). As I can testify, being an oily pig does have its benefits in this sport; my greasy skin gave me a significant hydro-dynamic edge over my competitors. Success followed suit, I gained three consecutive promotions through the league based ranking system, becoming one of the highest ranked juniors in the country. This led to my greatest honour: being selected for the England squad in my third season, taking part in several European competitions. I was most definitely kingin' it all over the slalom scene.



However, despite my greasy skin and my astute technical ability, my newfound fame across the canoeing world (including a naked photo shoot for the cover of 'Canoeing Monthly' I shit you not) was ultimately my demise. It went to my head, with the acquisition of a 'fake id' courtesy of Mr Redshaw's friend, Tristan Brooke and the discovery of the 'poon tang' my canoeing career came to a premature end.

My ambitions were not the same as they had been in the early days, where I had once dreamt of Olympic gold medals I now dreamt of joining UYRUFC. And so with a beer in one hand and a VK in the other I left the wet water of the river behind me, looking forward to basking in the splendour of UYRUFC on a journey of enlightenment and self discovery. Woof Woof

Life UYRUFCans



From left: Josh Andrade (A.S.Shole 07/10), Tum Murriss (Club Fag 07/10), Robert Grant (President 09/10), Ali Handy (Arkhan), James Stone (Wise Old Guard), Alex Redshaw (Captain 09/10)

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Where are they now?

PETE NATHAN aka SPANKY (Social Sec 08/09, P&P/Vice Pres 09/10)

I am currently sitting in my fairly basic classroom, looking out onto the beautiful scene that is Tettenhall council estate in the middle of Wolverhampton. I left York Uni last summer and began my teacher training over the summer, and am now teaching at a "challenging" school. It really is a huge departure from the glory days of running around Zig-gys waving the ultimate prized possession (for any freshers in any doubt, this is your UYRUF C tie) in the face of any unwitting female that happened to venture into the champagne lounge! A prime example of this being the sheer bewilderment of the pupils when I strode in one day wearing a pair of chinos - this was just too much for them.



However I have not left UYRUF C behind me as only last week I made pupils in detention copy out the match reports of the mighty UYRUF C whilst wearing the mighty tie.

How to contribute to the UYRUF C Alumni Fund

We are asking for a voluntary contribution of £10 (obviously more will be accepted) at the start of every academic year, what this generates will be put into an account separate from our other accounts and will be used solely for equipment and improving our facilities.

For more information on the UYRUF C Alumni Fund please go to and join our facebook group <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=88321142179&v=info>

Sort Code: 08-90-72

Account No.: 65387768

Account Name: University of York Students Union

NB: please state "MENS RUGBY - SURNAME- ALUMNI" when making payment (as your Payee Reference) to ensure that funds reach the club account.

**Cheques Payable to "YUSU" "Mens Rugby Alumni"
on the back sent to:**

Men's Rugby

The University of York / The Student Centre
James College / Newton Way
Heslington / York / YO10 5DD