



Nottingham Moderns Rugby Football Club

Newsletter Winter 2018

To everyone associated with Nottingham Moderns, whether you are a current or former player, club member, parent or volunteer, we would like to take this opportunity on behalf of Nottingham Moderns RFC to wish you a Merry Xmas and a good New Year.

We would also like to take the opportunity to update you all on what has been happening at your club over the past few months as well as the plans for the rest of the season.

We hope to make this newsletter the first of many, so please send us any feedback you have on it. Let us know what you would like to know about.

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Playing and coaching

1. Playing

We currently run 3 Senior teams, a Vets team, a Colts team and 10 Junior age groups, from u6/u7 through to u16.

This season, we have seen our first player (Jacob Careless) come all the way from u7s to play for the 3rd XV. For those of you involved in the Junior section over the years and seen the numbers grow from c10 kids across mixed ages through to the 200+ we have each Sunday, this has been a fantastic achievement and we look forward to more of our boys and girls following in Jacob's footsteps.



Last season, we launched our girls' section and quickly built it up to half a dozen u12 and u13s. Through the season, the girls participated in a number of NLD events, enabling them to play matches alongside other clubs around the region. As a result, they quickly forged an alliance with West Bridgford. This alliance was formalised at the end of the season with the creation of the South Notts Sapphires, a combined Moderns / West Bridgford team who split their training between ourselves and West Bridgford.



Key contacts:

Senior Rugby directorofrugby@nottinghammodernsrfc.com Sponsorship & Advertising marketing@nottinghammodernsrfc.com
Junior Rugby & Sponsorship stuartgrantham@hsbc.com Clubhouse Booking nottingham.modernsrfc@yahoo.com



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How can you help with playing?

Bring your friends, work mates, school mates, family along – no rugby experience necessary.

Need more details? Contact:

Roy Reeve (Seniors – directorofrugby@nottinghammodernsrfc.com or 07847 428009); or

Stuart Grantham (Juniors – stuartgrantham@hsbc.com or 07827 354425)

Or just come along to our Senior training sessions (Tuesday evenings – 7pm onwards) or Junior sessions (Sunday mornings – 10am to midday)

Links to the Nottingham Universities

Nottingham Moderns RFC benefits from a strong relationship with both local universities (University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University) and, as a result, the Senior section secures 15 to 20 players from the Universities each season.

How can you help our Student players?

As these players move towards the end of their studies in Nottingham, as a club, we may be able to assist them to gain employment locally, remain in Nottingham and continue to play for our club. Through his role at the University of Nottingham, Jeff Mapp has strong links with over 350 students involved in university rugby, so if you, or your employer, may be interested in getting involved in this project, contact Jeff (jeffmapp@icloud.com or 07972 028988)

2. Coaching

Within the Senior section, Roy Reeve has recently taken on the role of Director of Rugby, bringing more structure to the playing and coaching “needs” of the club. He works closely with the Senior coaching team of Billy Robinson (Nottingham Rugby’s Vice Captain), Steve Mason and Bob Fowkes (both of which are well known to you).

Ian Melrose has been appointed Head Coach of the Colts section. For this season, he is ably assisted by Stewart Newman and Simon Castle. Going forward, we hope to see our u16 coaches moving

up and joining Ian each season to help their players in the move from Junior rugby to Senior rugby.

Within the Junior section, each age group has their own coaching team, some of whom have made the transition from playing for Moderns to coaching the next generation of Moderns’ players. These include Ivan Jowett, Ade Malloy, Dave Finlinson, Charlie Gibbons, Matt Monaghan and Rob Clarke, to name a few.

We also have a Club Coaching Co-ordinator, Geoff Harrison, who helps recruit and develop our coaches.

How can you help with coaching?

Join our Junior coaching team – all you need is a love of the game.

All coaching courses/qualifications are funded by the club

We are particularly looking for new coaches at our youngest age group (u6s)

Interested? - contact Geoff Harrison (geoffharrison2412@gmail.com or 07857 661857)

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Upcoming events

RFU First Aid course – Tues 5, 12 and 19 February (7pm to 10pm), NMRFC Clubhouse. This is open to all coaches, players, club members or parents who want to help out

Contact Geoff Harrison (geoffharrison2412@gmail.com or 07857 661857) to book a place

3. Refereeing

Whatever you think about referees and match officials, without them, there are no games of rugby.

We are lucky to have a number of qualified referees associated with the club able to referee Senior and Junior matches. In particular, each of our Junior age groups has someone, typically one of the coaches, who is responsible for refereeing.

The most recent addition to this team is Jo Batten who, shortly after completing her refereeing qualification, refereed both a Moderns Vets game and a couple of Moderns u16s games – that is what we call a baptism of fire!



Clubhouse and playing facilities

1. Clubhouse

As a club, we are lucky enough to own our own clubhouse and playing facilities. This means that we can use these facilities for the benefit of all our club members. It also means that we need to continually invest and maintain these facilities.

Last season, we invested over £4,000 in developing a new first aid / treatment room, providing the club with excellent facilities whilst also providing the opportunity to lease this space to an independent physio or sports masseur.

From Jan 2019, this facility is available to rent. So, if you know anyone who may be interested in renting this facility, please contact Rob Clarke

rob.clarke88@hotmail.co.uk

Over the past few months, we have spent over £5,000 undertaking a complete refurbishment of the electrics within the clubhouse. As much of the wiring has been there since the clubhouse was first built with many additions over the years, this was much needed expenditure.

How can you help with the clubhouse?

Redecorating the clubhouse

– as a result of the rewiring, the clubhouse (particularly the function room) is in need of redecorating. So, if you can provide paint, painting equipment or just labour to help with this, please contact Matt Wright (matt061171@hotmail.com or 07852 465171

Use the clubhouse to host your function – whether you are holding a birthday party, wedding reception or work event, why not use our clubhouse?

Contact Charlotte Turner (nottingham.modernsrfc@yahoo.com or 07539 951824)

NatWest Workforce

Weekend (Sat 23/Sun 24 June)

– sign up to help on our club maintenance weekend at the end of June

To volunteer, contact Rob Clarke rob.clarke88@hotmail.co.uk

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2. Playing facilities

With 2 full sized pitches, plus our Bonfire pitch (which is the perfect size for our u11s) and use of Emmanuel school's rugby pitch, we are able to host 2 Senior matches each Saturday and up to 5 Junior age groups' matches each Sunday. In addition, our Senior and Junior sections are able to train on Tues and Wed evenings throughout the season.

We also hire our facilities out to the Universities and we are about to enter our 3rd season with Nottingham Scorpions Aussie Rules Football team who use our facilities for training and matches through the summer.

These facilities are also used by Wilford Village for their annual bonfire night and hired by local companies for corporate events.

Alongside spending £5,000 to £10,000 each season to maintain these playing facilities, we had to spend a further £3,000 last season to replace the posts on the 2nd XV pitch which were blown down in the strong winds at the start of 2018. A massive thank you to everyone who

bought a RFU Raffle ticket to support the fundraising effort required to replace these posts.

Currently, we are in the process of fixing the floodlights on the 2nd XV pitch as well as the training lights on the training grids. As this is likely to cost over £2,000, we are currently selling RFU raffle tickets to raise these funds. In addition, one of our u12 parents has been selling special edition candles which, so far, have raised over £75 towards our fundraising target.

How can you help with the playing facilities?

Buy an RFU raffle ticket – the club receives 90p from every £1 ticket sold. So this is a great source of funds for the replacement of our floodlights.

To buy tickets, contact your captain or team manager or Mike Burke (marketing@nottinghammodernsrfc.com)

Buy a candle – these make a great gift for any occasion and each one sold generates £2.50 towards our floodlight appeal



**SUPPORT THE
NOTTINGHAM
MODERNS RFC
FLOODLIGHT FUND**



BUY YOUR
SPECIAL MODERNS EDITION "10AM SUNDAY" CANDLE
ONLY £8.50 EACH



**FLOODLIGHT FUND
GETS £2.50 FROM
EVERY CANDLE SOLD**

- Quality soy wax candle
- Handmade by a Moderns Junior team member and his mum
- Approx. 35 hours burn time
- Smells like freshly washed linen, called 10am Sunday Morning because it's the only time the rugby kit is guaranteed to smell like that!

Great for secret santa presents, gifts for teachers, sporty types, clean freaks or even a treat for yourself

You'll be supporting your club as £2.50 from each candle goes towards refurbishing the floodlights.

We'll be in the clubhouse taking orders on the following dates:
Sunday 25th November
Sunday 2nd December

Payment will be required up front as the candles are being handmade to order. They will be delivered to the club ready for collection on Sunday 16th December. If you miss us at the club but would still like to order please contact us at hello@jambosjars.co.uk

www.jambosjars.co.uk



jambosjars

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Sponsorship and advertising

1. Sponsorship

We are proud that the following companies have chosen to support our club with sponsorship across the Senior and Junior sections:

1st XV kit sponsors



www.kentphk.com



www.greeneking.co.uk



<https://home-starterewash.co.uk/>

With the support of these sponsors, we have been able to provide our 1st XV with a brand new kit of shirts, shorts and socks.

U11 team sponsor



www.theqshield.com

Based at the University of Lincoln, Lincoln, Q Biotechnologies Ltd, the developer of Q Shield specialises in surface disinfection and decontamination

With Q Shield's support, our u11s will be able to invest in some specialist training equipment as well as potentially taking the team on tour.

South Notts Sapphires funding



With the help of Clifton Bidding Bargain page on Facebook, the South Notts Sapphires raised over £1,200 which has funded their playing shirts along with training shirts and assisted with their player recruitment activities.

Junior and Senior coach sponsor

J. T. HODSON
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS LTD

www.jthodson.co.uk

We are also proud to take this opportunity to announce a new sponsor, J T Hodson Electrical Contractors Ltd, who have just signed a 2-year agreement to sponsor our coaches across the Junior and Senior sections. As a result of their support, we will be kitting out all our coaches in jackets and / or tops in the new year.

Senior kit supplier

macron

This season, we have secured a new Senior kit supplier, Macron, who provide sports kit for Nottingham Forest, as well as rugby teams including Scotland and Northampton.

We have also linked up with Macron to provide an online shop for club branded products – the link to that shop can be found on our club website:

www.nottinghammodernsrfc.com/shopping/list/

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How can you help with sponsorship?

Do you know a local, national or international business who would like to support grass roots rugby? What about your employer? We can offer sponsorship packages to fit all budgets. Need more details? Contact:

Mike Burke (Seniors – marketing@nottinghammodernsrfc.com or 07748 684868); or

Stuart Grantham (Juniors – stuartgrantham@hsbc.com or 07827 354425)

2. Advertising

After a number of years of trying, we have finally been granted planning permission to erect advertising on and around the clubhouse. Initially, we are focussing on banner advertising along the railings in front of the clubhouse and the 1st XV pitch. We are able to offer season long advertising to any interested businesses.

How can you help with advertising?

Do you know a local business who would like to advertise at your club? Introduce them to Mike Burke (marketing@nottinghammodernsrfc.com or 07748 684868) and he can provide them with the details

Events

1. Sportsman's Dinner

At the end of November, we hosted our annual Sportsman's Dinner at the Crowne Plaza. This year, the special guests were:

Iestyn Harris – ex-rugby union and rugby league player; and

Lea Roberts – comedian extraordinaire

Attended by over 300 people, we raised c£5,000 towards the continued running of the club. As a result, this dinner is one of the key contributors to our club finances.

Our thanks go to Dave Hargreaves and his team at FHP for the hard work that they do every year to make this event a huge success.

2. South Notts Beer Festival (Fri 3 to Sun 5 May)

Whilst it might seem a long way away, it is just over 4 months until our annual beer festival. This is held on the first May bank holiday and coincides with the end of the season and our President's Day celebrations.

With a fantastic selection of real ales and ciders, as well as a gin bar and our normal bar, there is something for everyone.

So, whether you come along to the Drinker's session on Friday afternoon, the ticketed event on Friday night, President's Day celebrations throughout Saturday or the 'mop up' session, come along and support our second major fundraising event of the year.

3. President's Day (Sat 4 May)

As always, the season will finish with our President's Day celebrations on Sat 4 May. This event provides the opportunity for the entire club to get together and enjoy a family fun day.

Kicking off at midday, there will be rugby matches for young and old, alongside bouncy castles and stalls. In addition, there will be food (including an ice cream van) available all afternoon.

Live music will continue the event into Saturday evening

How can you help with events?

It is really simple – just come along and show your support for your club. Bring your friends, family, neighbours, work colleagues and show them how much fun it is to be part of Nottingham Moderns RFC

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People

Finally, your club is all about people – the people who play rugby, coach rugby, referee rugby, the parents who bring their children to play rugby and the volunteers who make everything in the club work.

At the heart of the club are the people involved in the various committees.

This season, we have added a few new faces including:

Rob Clarke who has taken on the role of Buildings Manager;

Roy Reeve, our new Director of Rugby;

Rick Tasker, Martin and Emma Goodman and Mark Tillet who have taken on the team manager roles for the u16s, u8s and u6/7s respectively; and

Loretta Seymour-Barnes who has joined Charlotte Careless to run our Junior shop

We would also like to thank those volunteers who stepped down at the end of last season, including:

Dave Hassall who stepped down from the role of Head of Game Development (to be replaced by Roy);

Chris Richardson, Rob Careless and Mike Astley who stepped down as team managers for the Colts, u16s and u15s respectively.

At the end of this season, we will see the departure of the following key people:

Neil Highfield who is stepping down as Club President after a 50 year association with the club. Since joining the club in 1968, Neil has served as player, captain and coach throughout the very successful 70s, 80s and early 90s. Since he stepped down from coaching, Neil has been a valued committee member and instrumental in our annual Sportsman's Dinner;

Jeff Mapp who, after many years' service to the club, is stepping down as he moves onto pastures new elsewhere in the UK. Jeff's roles are many and varied, including Chairman, Buildings Manager, Ground Manager and Grants Manager. Whilst Rob Clarke has taken on the role of Buildings Manager, we will be looking to fill some or all of Jeff's other roles; and

Stewart Newman (Club Secretary and International Tickets Manager) – as Stewart's age group finishes their time with the Colts and progress through to Senior rugby, Stewart is stepping down to allow more time to support his daughter's rowing.

We wish to thank all our exiting volunteers for their time and dedication to our club – without their hard work, the club would not exist. We wish them well with all they do in the future and look forward to welcoming them back to the club whenever visit.

How can I help with people?

Volunteer and get involved – with Jeff and Stewart stepping down, we are looking for people to take on the following key roles:

Club Secretary – this is the primary administrative role in the club, acting as the main contact point for all club communication and maintaining club records. In addition, the club secretary takes the minutes for the main committee meetings. This role involves 2-4 hours per week, mainly in evenings or at weekends;

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International Ticket

manager – this role involves managing the club's England ticket allocation, liaising with club sponsors and undertaking the draw for members' applications. This role is primarily undertaken in Aug/Sept and Nov/Dec each year as the tickets for the Autumn Internationals and Six Nations fixtures become available;

Ground manager – this role encompasses managing the external pitch maintenance team and the associated ground maintenance budget, alongside liaising with external users of the playing facilities. This role involves approximately 2 hours per week, mainly in evenings and weekend; and

Grants manager – this role involves identifying and applying for grants from sources, such as the RFU, the NLD and Sport England. This role involves approximately 2 hours per week, mainly in evenings and weekend

In addition, we have included a full list of all the current committee members and roles at the back of this newsletter. As you will see, there are a few more roles we are looking to fill, so if you fancy getting more involved in your club, please contact:

Jeff Mapp
(jeffmapp@icloud.com or 07972 028988); or

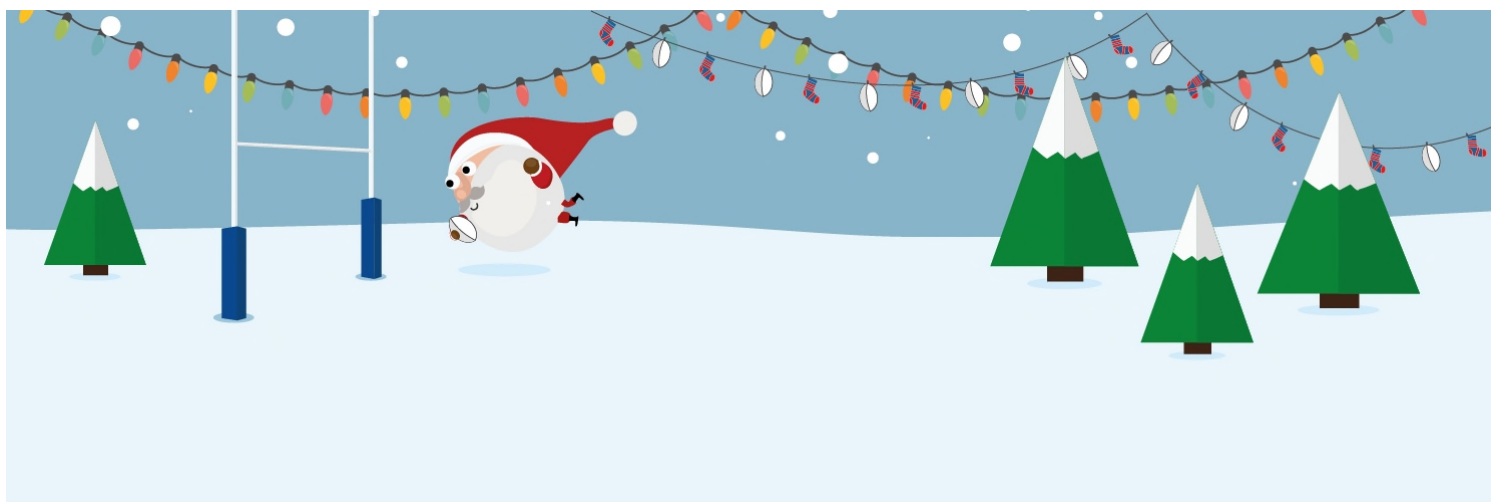
Stuart Grantham
(stuartgrantham@hsbc.com or 07827 354425)

Thank you all for taking the time to read through our Christmas newsletter. As the first one, it is probably a bit longer than we would expect, but, hopefully, it has let you know all the things your club has been up to over the past 6 months.

In addition, hopefully it has provided you with a few ideas on how you can help make your club even better.

So, have a great Christmas and a Happy New Year and we look forward to welcoming you all to the club in January for the second half of the season

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Role	Current holder	Proposed 2019-20 holder
Main Committee		
Chairman	Jeff Mapp	TBC
President	Neil Highfield	TBC
Club Secretary	Stewart Newman	Vacancy
Treasurer	Matt Wright	Matt Wright
Director of Rugby (Seniors)	Roy Reeve	Roy Reeve
Senior player representative	Phil Jackson	Phil Jackson
Junior Chair	Stuart Grantham	Stuart Grantham
Coach co-ordinator	Geoff Harrison	Geoff Harrison
Clubhouse manager	Charlotte Turner	Charlotte Turner
Marketing and Sponsorship manager	Mike Burke	Mike Burke
Buildings manager	Rob Clarke	Rob Clarke
Ground manager	Jeff Mapp	Vacancy
Grants manager	Jeff Mapp	Vacancy
International Ticket manager	Stewart Newman	Vacancy
Junior Committee		
Junior Chair	Stuart Grantham	Stuart Grantham
Treasurer	Matt Wright	Matt Wright
Fixture Secretary	Alistair Clark	Alistair Clark
Welfare Officer	Alison Smith	Alison Smith
Shop manager	Charlotte Careless Loretta Seymour-Barnes	Loretta Seymour-Barnes Vacancy
Catering manager	Clare Grantham	Vacancy
Volunteer co-ordinator	Clare Grantham	Clare Grantham
Social secretaries	Vacancy	Paul and Joe Penny
Vice Junior Chair		New role – vacancy
Vice Welfare Officer		New role - vacancy
Finance Committee		
Chair	Stuart Grantham	Stuart Grantham
Treasurer	Matt Wright	Matt Wright
Others	Andrew Rule, Jeff Mapp	Andrew Rule

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