

GUYS, KINGS, ST.THOMAS HOSPITALS R.F.C

Supporters Club Newsletter. November 2006

As the medical and dental school expands, sport should become more and more a cohesive activity. It is not certain that it is seen as a priority and the facilities for medical and dental students are less than they were. The old St. Thomas clubhouse is a press venue for Chelsea Football Club and the pitches made available there by Chelsea are now half a mile away. The old Guys clubhouse is in need of demolition or repair and the stand looks dilapidated. The vaunted renovation of the Honor Oak playing fields has awaited planning approval. This has recently become available but funding may now be the obstacle. Add to this the intransigence of Kings Student Union in failing to support Saturday rugby and you might think the scene wholly depressing. Not so. This year has seen the recruitment of many enthusiastic freshers and training nights have been attended by 30-40 players. Given the size of the medical and dental school this should be no surprise.

The club is more or less off to a good start. We won the UH sevens competition defeating Imperial medicals in the final by 2 points. The first fifteen are doing well in Kent One League; the second fifteen not so well in their league and the third fifteen are so far unbeaten. The fourth fifteen have yet to win. Mid week games are fewer and the club is in a tough BUSA league.

The Scanlan and St. Thomas Hospital awards recognise established players and there are always plenty of applicants. The scholarship that is planned is designed to encourage rugby playing school students to apply for places. Unfortunately we have so far raised only £4,500 and we need at least £12,000 to make it viable. If any supporters who have not contributed to this venture so far would like to do so, please send cheques to be made out to Guys RFC Supporters Club.

The UH cup competition is reverting to a knock out competition and the final back to a Wednesday. This will be held at the London Welsh ground on Wed March 21st 2007
The ball and annual past v present games will take place at HOP on April 28th 2007
Please put these dates in your diary. Both events have suffered from a lack of senior support in the last few years.

Tickets for the home internationals can be requested through me. These are against Scotland on Feb 3, Italy on Feb 10 and France on March 11.

I am enclosing bank order forms for those who wish to revise their annual subscriptions.

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