



ROTHERFIELD UNITED FC



SUN
28TH
JUNE

11.00

VIRTUAL
PRESENTATION
DAY

2019/20 SEASON



CLUB SPONSORS



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

Rotherfield United FC would not be as successful a Club without the continued support of our sponsors.



And thank you to Ecoscape for sponsoring our **Manager of the Year** 'Ecoscape Cup'.



Welcome to Rotherfield United Football Club's end of season presentation for the 2019/20 season.

The fact that the clubs most important day of the year is having to be done via a virtual video session is a clear example of the impact the Covid-19 is having on all our lives and I have provided an update on the clubs plans in the 2020/21 membership letter. Therefore in this Presentation day update I am going to focus on the positive aspects of the club and celebrate what we achieved over the past 12 months and what we are planning over the next year.

In 2023 the club celebrates its 50th anniversary and the clubs '2023 Committee' have been working hard to create our 2023 strategic vision which will scope out a number of major improvements we want to implement between now and that anniversary. We are currently awaiting the outcome of our application to Oxfordshire FA to be nominated as one of the clubs they will be supporting in the wider football development plan.

On the playing side I am pleased to confirm that as a club we continue to have strong membership numbers and teams that are playing in leagues in Reading and East Berks. We have continued to see an increase in the number of our older teams now play in the East Berks Football Alliance. In this league our teams play home and away, rather than a central venue, which meant that prior to lockdown Bishopswood was very busy on Saturday mornings with a real buzz about the place and fingers crossed we get to see that again come September/October.

Other highlights:

- **Grass Pitch Development funds** – you may have seen up at Bishopswood a lot of 'sand' on the pitches. I am pleased to confirm that earlier in the year the club were awarded a substantial grant from the Football Foundation which is to be used for a 4-6 year plan to improve our pitches. It will take some time for us to see the real benefits but the 'sand' is actually a special mixture of sand and soil that Dave our groundsman assures me is an important part of the improvements.
- **U6 squad** – Our U6 sessions had continued during the season and most of that group will become our new U7 team come September, with the remainder, plus any new players continuing U6 Sunday morning sessions. Please pass the word on to any year one and reception year children who can join in at 9:30 on Sunday mornings.



WELCOME TO ROTHERFIELD UNITED



- **Wildcats** – the club are very keen to grow girls football and I am very proud that we were awarded by the FA the status of 'Approved FA Wildcats centre'. This was followed by us successfully running our first session which was attended by 29 girls. These will restart as soon as we get the all clear from the FA. A big thanks to Merlin Meyer for setting up and running the Wildcats.
- **Walking footballers** – continue to go from strength to strength this season and now run a session on Monday evenings as well as the Wednesday mornings.
- **Men's team** - continue to do well and have maintained a mid table place in Division I of the very strong Thames Valley League.
- **Men's vets** – Mark Sumner is forming a Rotherfield United veterans team and all being well in the coming season they will be playing mid week in the Hellenic veterans leaguegood luck guys.

Off the pitch the members of the committee continue to work hard to develop the club and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their support: Paul Collier (Deputy Chairman), Tanya Gay (Fixture secretary), Trevor Back (Bishopswood maintenance), Eileen Elston (Registrations), Christine Atkinson (Child Welfare), Mark Laithwaite (2023 committee). I would like to make a special mention for Fiona Allnutt who will be standing down as Treasurer over the summer. Fiona has done a fantastic job over the last 12 months improving the clubs finances. In previous years Fiona has also been a very active member of various fund raising committee's.....many thanks Fiona for all you support to the club.

We are keen to get more people involved to work alongside the committee members so that we can ensure we have continuity in place for the future of the club. Please contact myself, one of the existing committee members or any of the team managers if you are interested. In addition to these roles we are keen to find volunteers to be: -

Treasurer
Schools liaison officer
Fund raising coordinator

Have a great 'virtual' presentation day!

Andy Tidswell (Club Chairman)
07710 875728



SPECIAL TROPHIES



As well as each age group presenting various medals and trophies we will also be presenting several special trophies, for people who have made significant contributions to the club during the year:

Clubman of the Year

In order to make the club run we have, in addition to the team managers and assistants, a band of people without whom we would not be able to function. This trophy is presented to one of those volunteers who the committee believe have done an exceptional job of pushing the club forward over the past 12 months.

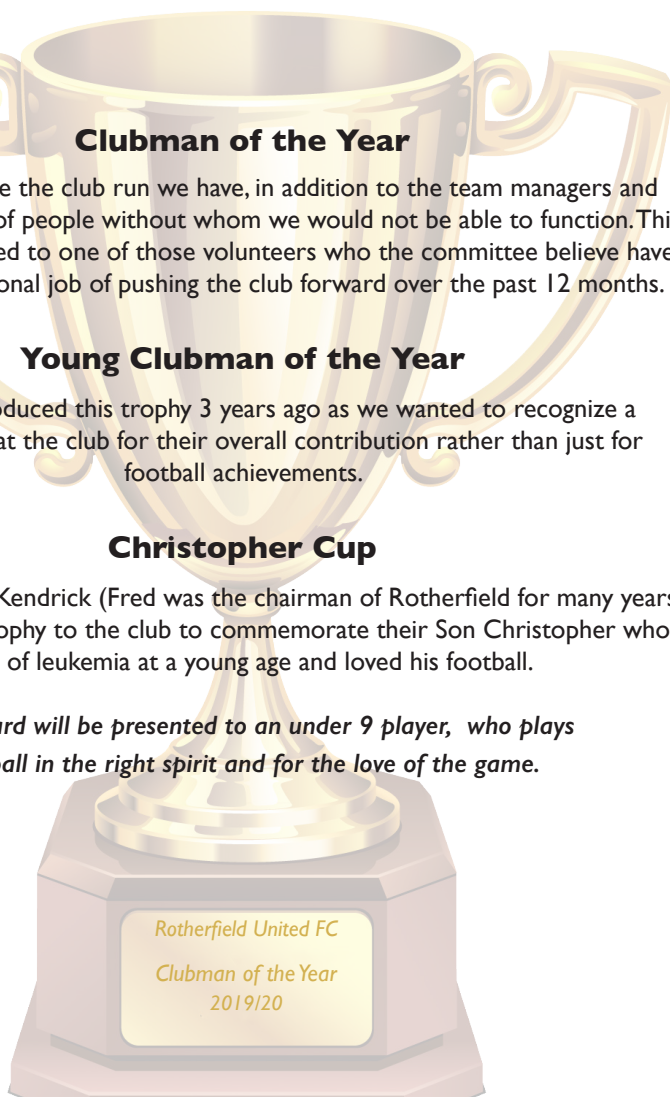
Young Clubman of the Year

The club introduced this trophy 3 years ago as we wanted to recognize a young person at the club for their overall contribution rather than just for football achievements.

Christopher Cup

Fred and Margret Kendrick (Fred was the chairman of Rotherfield for many years) presented this trophy to the club to commemorate their Son Christopher who died of leukemia at a young age and loved his football.

The award will be presented to an under 9 player, who plays football in the right spirit and for the love of the game.





WILDCATS - GIRLS FOOTBALL



FIRST 3
SESSIONS
FREE!*

*Nominal £3 per week thereafter.

BISHOPSWOOD
SPORTS GROUND
SUNDAY
10.30 - 11.30 AM

STARTING
SOON!



• GIRLS' FOOTBALL CLUB •

HAVE FUN, MAKE FRIENDS, **PLAY FOOTBALL**

ROTHERFIELD UNITED are excited to announce that they have been approved by the FA to start a new Girls Wildcats Centre for girls aged between 5 - 11

Join us for Wildcats session at Bishopswood Sports ground.

Regular weekly sessions will then continue to give the girls an opportunity to develop their **football skills**, **keep active** and **have fun!**



RUFC



TO BOOK A PLACE:

EMAIL INFO@ROTHERFIELDFC.COM OR CALL 07710 875728





UNDER 6 SQUAD



The U6 squad return to training

Merlin and David have been running the sessions with fantastic enthusiasm and, no matter what the weather, they have been up at Bishopswood at 9:30 every Sunday morning. I think their motto is "if its cold, wet and windy...put on an extra layer"

Following the relaxation of Government guidelines they have now just restarted the sessions and are getting the squad ready to form a new U7 squad this coming September and will be playing in BYDL.

Good luck guys



UNDER 7



AS, Max Leath, TD, Ronny Bradley, LB, Leo Nash, Joe Skilton

The U7s season started gently with a small core of players making up the Rockets squad and training at Bishopswood.

When the matches started we had developed into a good competitive group with an eye for a goal. We initially began in the BYDL at Goals in the beginners green league, but quickly advanced into the black league.

After the first run of games we also gained additional strong players from the U6 Sunday feeder training sessions and were then able to expand to run two teams as the Rebels and Rockets.





UNDER 7



Jenson Webb, Levi Bridges, Arthur Scott, Trystan Davies, Louie Bird, Anthony Mahoney, Leo Holland, Teddy Elliott, Other Players: Arthur Woodhouse, Hazel Bowker-Meyer, Justin Fowler, Issac de la Pascua, Ambrose Paviour

The players have really enjoyed the football this year and everyone has improved significantly in all areas. Whether we won, lost or drew the games was always played in good spirits and we made some good friendships with other teams.

The highlight of the season was the trip to The Madjedski Stadium to watch Reading play and all going in the coach together from the New Inn. We all had a smashing time.

On behalf of the coaches – we would like to thank all the players and their parents for their support throughout the season.

Nev Davies
June 2020



UNDER 8 HORNETS & RAPTORS



The end of our second season. One we should all be immensely proud of.

The Hornets by the end of the season, were a team unrecognisable from the team that started in the Red (top league) back in January 2019. We started the season back in September in much the same vein as we had finished our U7 season. Playing well, being competitive against the best teams in our age group, scoring goals but finding ourselves on the reverse of too many defeats by one goal. Some of which we really should have won. The boys never seemed to get too down about the defeats and instead myself, Nick and James actually saw it start to galvanise them both in terms of effort, but also actual playing levels. The Cup was a welcome distraction and we sailed through the first two rounds with 14-1 and 19-2 victories that saw us up to Christmas. At the start of 2020 everything clicked, we won our first league game 3-2 with a last minute winner (a moment all of us will never forget) and we never looked back. In the end we beat every team in the red league barring the top 4. The cup run continued and we made it through to the Semi Final, a game we should have won! But it was our second semi final in two years so something we should all be very proud of and build on going into next year.

The Raptors were practically unstoppable all season, winning 15 of their 22 games. Including big wins 11-1, 10-0, 9-0. With nearly all the boys playing for them at some point, it was a real team effort. The best thing about the Raptors was it allowed the boys to develop their skills, build up their confidence and really by Christmas we should have been promoted to the second highest league. Most importantly some of the newer members of the squad came into the team and hit the ground running. We saw some very strong performances from all the boys, and they should all be very proud, and some absolutely fantastic team goals, with some of the best passing we put together all year.





UNDER 8 HORNETS & RAPTORS



HORNETS & RAPTORS



As you all know we are going to one team next season, and myself, Nick and James are all excited to see how we go. Our squad has a bit of everything, pace, strength, a lot of skill, a definite eye for goal (over 250 goals scored between the teams last season) and most importantly a good team ethic which is going to stand us in good stead as we move onto grass and 7 a side.

My thanks to all the boys for their commitment and hard work at training and on match days, and for most importantly enjoying themselves. It's also been a pleasure to see their personalities growing on and off the pitch.

To Nick and James for all their help this season and to you Parents for all the support at the matches. The backing you have given the boys has been brilliant.

Here's to next season!

Thanks, Jonathan



UNDER 9 LIONS, TIGERS & PANTHERS



I won't deny it, I like winning...I like winning a lot! However, I have come to realise that the final score is not really what success is about.

During the season there may have been the odd loud cheer or high five with the subs when we scored in the last minute to secure a win, but today success for me is simple, it's about:

- Encouraging our players to be the best they can be and to play enthusiastically as a team
- Giving all our players an equal chance and game time every week with the ability to try new skills
- Having fun with their teammates, encouraging a love of the game despite the ups and downs, and having the desire to do it all over again the following week!

I am so proud to be part of a club that has a philosophy of never turning away any player, regardless of their ability. The Under 9's are an inclusive club and I know this attitude is shared by our community of coaches, players, parents and extended family. We have shown that it is possible to create teams that allow each player to develop and learn at their own pace, giving each child the ability to shine.

Every year we grow in size, with more players wanting and registered to play than the previous year - this is my measurement of true success. In the short period of time I have been coaching, I have witnessed how children's abilities can change. Come the start of next season they will have changed again! It's hard to put into words how special it is to watch a new or existing player develop, grow in confidence and become a key member of the team. I am looking forward to the new season and excited to see how each player will apply themselves and achieve their potential.





UNDER 9 LIONS, TIGERS & PANTHERS



Football Stats:

In our age group (U9s) we have three teams, Lions and Tigers who both play in the (EBFA) East Berks Football Alliance and Panthers who play in the (BYDL) Berkshire Youth Development League.

Lions – 9 wins; 3 draws; scoring 51 goals and conceding 46.

Maintaining division 2 status throughout the season, the Lions have had some memorable matches against tough opposition. The 'never give up' attitude made them difficult to beat and left every opposing team knowing they had been in a game. The Lions are blessed with two colossus goalkeepers who every week have shown courage and consistency. Our strong defensive players are rocks who deliver core stability; the pace and skill on the wings combined with a solid, creative central midfield deliver attacking football that takes your breath away. I look forward to seeing how far this team can progress.



UNDER 9 LIONS, TIGERS & PANTHERS



Tigers – 8 wins; 4 draws; scoring 52 goals and conceding 46.

Having been rewarded with a well-deserved mid-season promotion to Division 3, the Tigers have had an amazing first season in the EBFA. Their style of play is based on great possession and use of the ball, with added individual flair that at times leaves us gobsmacked. The Tigers have managed to mesmerise stronger opponents with an exciting style of football based around a playmaker in every position who can not only create but also defend. This team has been an absolute pleasure to coach.

Panthers – 4 wins and 3 draws most notably a sweet victory over AFC Caversham!

September saw the coming together of a new team with some players having no prior match experience. The Panthers bonded quickly and each player vastly improved throughout the season. Score lines have never defined my measure of success, it is the effort, teamwork and enthusiasm which is important, and each player has demonstrated this by the bucket load! I could not be prouder of what the Panthers have achieved this season.

Onwards to the new season

At the heart of this age group is the positive community of parents and players helping in whatever way they can. From the kind word at the right moment, the encouragement to each and every player through to keeping an eye out for a player's welfare. To each of you I would like to say a "Big Thank you"

To the fantastic helpers who have been instrumental in raising football funds through refreshments at games; raffles and organising several great events in 2019 and the early part of 2020. Thank you, these activities have developed a community, created some fantastic memories and many friendships –long may it continue!





UNDER 9 LIONS, TIGERS & PANTHERS



Sadly, recent global events have stopped some of the blockbuster ideas that were in the pipeline, such as the "World-Famous" Tractor Run, end of season camping trip and other ad-hoc events that were planned to take place. I can assure you that the enthusiasm and commitment hasn't waned and once we can organise events again, we will.

Football is important but it has to be fun and it's important to me that we bring everyone together and give our players something to look forward to in 2021.

Coach Kev





UNDER 10 WASPS



It's been a fascinating season for the Wasps, they have developed into a solid determined team (W 11, D2, L4). Most of their games have come down to a single goal, which has led to many nail-biting conclusions to games throughout the season.

There is a great team spirit, which combined with an enthusiasm to learn has translated to improved skill levels and understanding of the game. The aim was to enter them in several competitions this year rather than entering the summer league, which I'm sure they would have led to further success without the Covid outbreak.

I'm looking forward to them playing in the 9-a side games next season, as this will be a real test on the position discipline they have learnt this year when we move to a bigger pitch. It's going to be an exciting challenge for the team and coaches next season.

Now to the players:

Harry B – Harry has played for both the Wasps and the Bees this year, at his best a skilful player who is keen to run with the ball and he has a great cross. His last-minute winner from a free kick in the first round of the cup will live long in the memory.

Joe H – Joe has played up front for us this season, we've lacked a forward and Joe has worked tirelessly to fill this role. He scored our goal of the season, a Beckhamesq shot from the halfway line, lobbing the keeper which was followed by wild celebrations.

Andreas – Andreas started playing for the Wasps after Christmas, his confidence has improved week on week and has become more competitive on the pitch. I'm looking forward to seeing Andreas develop next season.

Rohan C – Rohan is the engine of the team, his passing and reading of the game have been exceptional and his sneaky corner routines have generated most of the goals we scored this season and the team's top goal scorer with 8 Goals.

William – William is tireless in his performances for the Wasps, he does not stop running and defensively has saved the team on many occasions. He is one of the main reasons the team have become so defensively strong.

Bailey – Positionally Bailey has really improved this year and has often put his body on the line to block shots both of which will be useful when we move to the 9-a-side game next year.

Toby – As the season has gone on Toby has put in some great performances on the right wing. His discipline and positional play have improved significantly and when he gets it on target, he has a great shot.





UNDER 10 WASPS



Players Names: Bailey, Oliver, Rohan, Toby, Joe, William, Andreas, Danny, Max, Rudie, Jack

Danny – Danny played in all positions this year but has found a role for himself in defence alongside William. His reading of the game has improved throughout the season and he's taken on lots of skills we have worked on in training.

Rudie – It's been great to have Rudie back in the team, as Keeper Rudie comes into his own and there have been several noteworthy performances throughout the season. As a makeshift striker he has really helped the team, he holds up the ball well giving an opportunity for the rest of the team to break.

Oliver – Positionally Oliver has really excelled over the season, providing width to the team and defensively when tracking back. As the season has progressed this has enabled him to score several important goals.

Max – Max has split his time between the Wasps and the Bees this year, for the Wasps his performances were always exciting and energetic, and he was great addition to the team.

Jack – Jack joined us at the end of the Season and is still learning the team game, he has a great shot on him, who knows he may develop into the Goal scorer the Wasps has been looking for:

Finally, thanks to all the parents for their support this year and especially to Pete, Vikram and Chris for the help with training and on match day, and a big thanks to Joe Norris for his help training.

Tom Spencer



UNDER 10 BEES



I Played 20 , won 10 , lost 7 , drew 3

The Bees had a great year in this curtailed season , playing 7 aside for the final time we started to play in a consistent formation with the players beginning to play regularly in one or two positions and finding consistency from this way of playing.

At the back we saw the emergence of a great defensive partnership with Tom and Joshie , they combined perfectly, always covering each other and talking constantly , with Cian doing a great job in goal for almost every first half of a game and sometimes all game.

The midfield was where we had to constantly swop and change in the early part of the season to find the best shape and positions for each player, we looked settled after a few games with our dominant midfield dynamo and goal scoring superstar Alf , usually commanding the centre, with our fast wingers Seth and Jake battling back or attacking down the flanks when required , with Joseph and Harry B able to swop in at any time to keep the team solid. And later on in the season we welcomed Max into the team and he proved another solid battling defender/ midfield player the team needed.





UNDER 10 BEES



Harry L seems to have found a position up front where he showed how effective he could be and has proved able to score some vital goals when needed.

The team seemed to gel really well this year and mature in their ability to understand formations and control games by keeping shape right to the end. It's been a joy to coach the boys in this shortened season and I cannot wait to experience the new East Berks league playing with 9 players !!!

Thanks

Ian and Scott



UNDER 11 WASPS



The Wasps have all made big steps forward this year; the players have all slotted into their preferred positions and are understanding their strengths, and the areas they need to work on. The group has really become a team this year and they are also beginning to understand the strengths of those around them on the pitch.

It has been a difficult season in terms of the number of fixtures we were able to play. One of the wettest winters on record combined with our BYDL location next to the River Thames resulted in more pictures of flooded goalposts on our "WaspsApp" group than matches played.

We started the season in great form scoring 9 goals in our first 2 games including a hat-trick for Olly.

We progressed to the 3rd round of the Cup including a fightback from 2-0 down to win 3-2 in a game that was a perfect demonstration of the impact that belief and momentum can have – thank goodness that we had more belief on the pitch than amongst the parents!!

As the rain continued to fall in the early part of 2020 we won 4 of the 5 league games we managed to play, including 3 clean sheets. The season was then sadly cut short due to the Covid-19 lockdown.

We have all missed our football, but one of my favourite memories of the past season is the lockdown zoom quiz where the boys showed amazing camaraderie, fun and team spirit reminding me that this group is about so much more than football.





UNDER 11 WASPS



Back Row: Bruno Penabad Ramos, Dylan Mole, Matthew Boden, Oilly Offwood, Raephe Jameson. *Front Row:* Sean De Guzman, Jacob Spiers, Ashton Hunt, Barney Broadhurst, Jack Dixon, Lucas Haines

A big thank you to all the parents, grandparents and all our other supporters throughout the season. It has been a great pleasure to coach all the boys this year.

We hope to be able to start the new season in September if it is safe to do so, and given the performances in the quiz maybe we should form a choir!!!!

Pete and Mark



UNDER 11 HORNETS



The 2019/2020 season started in a new league for the Hornets. After a difficult time in the red league the previous year we felt it was time to drop down a level in search of some more evenly matched games in the white league. We thought a different league would enable the boys to build their confidence and hone their skills. It was certainly a decision that paid off.

The season started with a bang and we never looked back... A 7-2 victory over Woodley Wanderers got us underway, with hat tricks for Joseph and Will. We continued our great run with another 5 wins on the bounce with our closest game against Wokingham, the only other undefeated team in the league. This one had the nerves jangling but we somehow managed to pull off a 3-2 victory. Some unbelievable defending by Ollie, Ozzie and Stan and brave goalkeeping from both Ethan's finally got us over the line. Not to mention the winning penalty coolly scored by 'ice-cold' Will. Another memorable match included a 5-2 win. against Maidenhead, watched by some but not all whilst England were securing a historic victory over the All Blacks in the Rugby World Cup. Parents trying hard not to find out the score until they got home whilst Josh was busy scoring his first hat trick of the season.

20 + goals followed, healthy competition between our strikers, defenders and goalkeepers solid at the back and our midfield dominant in most games. Ernie and Joe the enforcers with Joseph, Kieran, Henry and Bailey making the runs down the wings.

Lots of goals, lots of smiles, it was nice to get back to winning ways. However, our short time in this league was over after being promoted back up to the red league at Christmas.

2019/2020 also saw us enjoy a long overdue cup run. Starting with a thumping 7-1 victory in the first round which culminated in us going all the way to reach the final that never was.





UNDER 11 HORNETS



Players' names (left to right): Kieran; Henry; Bailey; Stan; Josh; Ernie; Will (bottle in face); Ethan C; Joe; Ethan P; Joseph; Ollie; and Ozzy (front)

Along the way there were some tense moments, none less so than our quarter final win on penalties against Wokingham. 4-1 down with minutes to go, goals from Will, Josh and Ernie got us to 4-4. The boys were on a high and with clinical finishing from our strikers the result was never in doubt. Wokingham missed their 4th kick, Joe stepped up and smashed in the winner. Wild celebrations ensued amongst the boys and the parents, shock and relief from the coaches.

Sadly, due to some atrocious weather, many games were called off due to waterlogged pitches. We never really got started in the red league with a couple of early defeats, but we managed to go out on a high with a 5-3 victory against the old adversary Caversham Trent's. This turned out to be the last game of the season before the lockdown started.

Thanks to all of the parents for your support throughout the year and here's to another great season.

Alex, Ed and Tony



UNDER 12 RAPTORS



We think we can all agree that we had another incredibly enjoyable and successful campaign despite the situation with Covid. The great relationship between the boys, parents and coaches is a real strength and has helped us significantly over the years, so thank you!

At the point the season was cancelled, we sat top of the table with 2 games in hand having won 8 games and only losing 2. There is no doubt we would have won the league. However, we should not let that deter from what we achieved as a group. Some of the football we played was outstanding.

We also had a good cup run, beating 2 teams in the league above us, but ultimately losing out in a very determined display to the run away leaders of Division 1.

From a playing perspective, every boy in the team has improved their skill levels and tactical awareness. Some of the passing and movement was outstanding. The boys have also really developed their discipline in holding their positions and in many cases across multiple roles in the team.





UNDER 12 RAPTORS



Players' names (left to right): Elliot, Rory, Drummond, Fletcher, George, Jude, Devon, Josh, Dan, Charlie, Jimbo, Matthew.

The one area we need to focus on for next year is keeping possession and not giving the ball away too easily. When we do, we need to be fitter and more determined to win it back.

As coaches we are so happy to have started up training again and keep our fingers crossed for the new season starting, and targeting the league victory the boys very much deserve.

Thank you

The Coaches



UNDER 12 RAIDERS

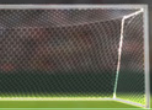


The move to the EBDA league presented a few challenges for the Raiders this season. The home and away nature of the games meant that a few parents had to step up to manage the team on match days. Ogi did a great job leading on tactics and subs, while Claire, Lucy and Wendy dealt with admin and moral support!

The boys had a difficult run up to December with several near misses and some great performances that went unrewarded. They showed tremendous resilience and strength of character to stay positive and keep motivated. The difficult decision was made to drop a division in January, but this proved to be a good move as the team put in a string of excellent performances against the top teams in this division.

They remain unbeaten since the start of the year. Heads were back up and confidence high, only for our winning streak to be brought to a premature halt, firstly by the weather and then COVID 19. Thanks to all the boys and their parents for their sterling efforts this year and to the coaches for all their hard work. Bring on next season, the Raiders are raring to go!







UNDER 13 SCOPIONS



The success of the 2018-19 season was always going to be hard to beat. Cup winners in our first season in the East Berks and a 100% record was a phenomenal achievement by any standards.

And so it proved, as we struggled for any real consistency for the first month or so of the new season. The move up to Section A and 11-a-side football turned out to be a steep learning curve for us all, players and coaches alike. We were dominating games but making uncharacteristic mistakes, which had cost us in terms of results.

After the first couple of months we were starting to show signs of improvement but luck was still against us. We were extremely unlucky to lose by one goal against Twyford, Ascot and Marlow, all strong teams, and as Christmas neared, we were still looking for the first league win of the season. Our bad luck was compounded by a couple of really unfortunate injuries, with Freddie and Ed both suffering bad breaks. It was a frustrating period but we certainly deserved more.

With performances gradually improving, we met a lowly Sandhurst at the beginning of December. The confidence came flooding back, and we ran out 9-2 winners. Our class finally showed, and in emphatic style! We managed to avoid the drop when teams were streamed at the break, a decision which was to be fully justified.

We had already added quality to the squad in the summer, and we were able to make another couple of signings at the turn of the year, which gave us some much needed strength in defensive areas. We had also been joined by Joe Hales, a welcome addition to the coaching team.

The adjustments to the squad seemed to be all that was needed to turn our fortunes around. The hard work on the training ground was also starting to pay off. Results in the newly streamed Division 1 were proof that we were real contenders, and by the time we played our last game in early March, before the season was abruptly halted, we were unbeaten and sitting pretty in runners up spot.





UNDER 13 SCOPIONS



Players' names Back Row: Kevin Taplin (Manager), Max Lambert, Finn Hawkes, Joe May, Ed Hanman-Killick, Lucas Taplin, Freddie Sayer, Lucas Clark, Oliver Matthews, Chris May (coach). Front Row: Max Taphouse, Jake Wilde, Lawrence Wilks, Henry Mellor, Jay Lambourne, Thomas Lotery, Jay Herbert, Ben Haines. Not in picture: Joe Hales (coach), Tom Wilkinson, Rhys Roberts

Credit goes to the whole squad for such a dramatic turnaround. The way the team have picked themselves up has made us all really proud. They have showed great determination and a never say die attitude to get to this point, and never gave up believing, however tough it seemed at times.

Thank you to Chris and Joe, who have provided such great contribution over the course of the season, and to you the parents for your fantastic support.

It has been great to see the boys back at training over the last few weeks, hopefully by the time September comes around, some kind of normality will have returned and we can see the boys playing competitively again. 2020-21 certainly bodes well if the last season is anything to go by.

Best Wishes and stay safe

Kevin



UNDER 13 SHARKS



Sharks have played in the BYDL U13 league division 2 this season. We began the year with an amalgamation of the Sharks and the Stingrays from the previous season. We focused on team work and using the ball more rather than charging at the opposition. As the season ended early we were finished in a fine 5th place. In our last season as the managers of the Sharks Darren and I are immensely proud of the progress the boys have made over the season.

Ash Phillips – Our keeper. Always alert and never afraid of a one on one with an opposing striker. Slightly mad which is perfect for a keeper!
Dom Brown – Centre back / right back. Always ready for any challenge and with a ferrous shot!
Kasper Green – Centre back / midfielder. Very fast and capable defender. Just needs to remember that defence is just as glamorous as midfield!
Gabrielle – Centre back / winger. Progressed hugely this season. Scored the winner in a great match against Centre Skills.
Archie Croft – Left back / winger. Archie is another player who has progressed and found his position on the pitch. Fast too!
James Harris – Right wing / midfielder. Great runs down the right wing usually followed by a good goal!

Ollie Ward – Midfield /centre back. Ollie is our rock in the middle of the pitch. He reads games really well and can also launch the ball goal wards.
Max Hartin – Midfield / centre back. Never stops running but to his dad's dismay appears to have a glass ankle!
Sam Archibald – Left wing / striker. Sam will admit he only has one foot. But it is great! Always ends up in the right place for a shot. If only half of them had not gone over he would have scored loads!!
Ben Anderson – winger / defence. Quick and 2 footed. Great crosser from either side. Just needs to listen to his dad some more.....
Matthew Dippenaar – Midfield / defender. Not the tallest of players but probably has the most commitment in one on ones. Great midfield dynamo.





UNDER 13 SHARKS



Henry Mahony – Midfield / goalkeeper. Henry is always the voice you here on the pitch. Full of banter and encouragement. Can play anywhere really. Also excellent in goal.

Kits – Defender / striker. When Kits is “in the zone” he is one of our best players. Great up front and as a make shift defender. Always keeps you guessing as to which Kits you will get!

Jacob Morley – Striker. Jacob can also play on the wing but he belongs up front. Scored the majority of our goals this season.

Reece Price. Centre back / full back. Reece is from the same mould as Matthew. Small in stature but huge in heart.

I hope that we can find a way for the boys to stay and play together next year. To those who are moving on it has been a huge pleasure to coach you all. Good luck with where ever you end up playing.

Paul and Darren.



UNDER 14 BEES



The Bees added Thomas Redfern, Jack Richardson and Ben Barter from Whitchurch to the squad but also Finn Schafer, now free from injury. However, it's safe to say that this season has been a challenge....we knew a full season in Division 1 of the EBFA would be hard but didn't think it would be that hard!!

At the start, against the likes of Reading City, the loss was only by the odd goal (and interesting refereeing) and even against the league leaders we only went down 2-0.

But heavy losses to Eversley and to Windsor Eagles were tough and although the boys tried their best, it was hard for them to take. November gave us our first win which was in the cup and away v Whitegrove from Division 2, goals from Joseph Norris, Ashley Field and Thomas Redfern. This really showed what league we should be in as it was a good competitive match giving us a 3-1 victory. December gave us our first league win, 5-2 home v Windsor Jaguars with goals from Ollie McDonnell (3), Charlie Rolstone and Felix Hampton.

With only 5 matches played and no points picked up during 2020, the season then ended and with that, hope that we can all enjoy our football again, but in the correct division.

A special mention to Charlie Partlow for stepping up to take GK from January and also to Bailey Le Bagge for moving from A special mention to Charlie Partlow for stepping up to take GK from January and also to Bailey Le Bagge for moving from striker to centre back so well!

We are always encouraged to see the boys trying to play football the right way, passing and moving and being brave with the ball front to back. We see this not changing.





UNDER 14 BEES



Next season, we are sure, we will see the boys back to competing on a more level playing field but what this season has taught us is that win/lose/draw, the boys just enjoy being with their mates playing football.

We would like to thank all parents for their support during the season and especially those who helped out with preparing the pitch for match action on a Saturday morning at Bishopswood - this is always very much appreciated. Also those who did linesman duty, and those who generally helped with the running of the squad. In terms of 'helping' a special mention to Tony Bowley who advised the boys that warming up is the most important pre-match routine; endeavouring to show relevant exercises, he strained his Achilles within 2 minutes, much to the amusement of the boys and the coaches.

Best wishes
from Rob, Adam and Simon



UNDER 14 WASPS



We were lucky enough to secure a new sponsorship deal with local Honey producer Rowse at the start of the season, a perfect match for our yellow and black kit. With a fresh new kit and training tops Wasps were all set for the new season.

This was the Wasps first season in the East Berks league and, along with Spencers Wood, Wokingham & Embrook and Woodley who also made the switch from BYDL, this made for an epic battle for supremacy which had many twists and turns along the way.

Wasps first game of the season was against Ascot on a sweltering hot day at Bishopswood's Theatre of Dreams. We had no idea at that time that they were many people's tip for the title. What Ascot hadn't appreciated was that Wasps were 100% match fit and up for this inaugural match having worked tirelessly during pre-season. Wasps had the better of the game, which ended 2-2 much to the frustration of the opposition manager. The return fixture away on 4th January was the most satisfying of the season. Ascot were unbeaten at the time and looking good for the title. Wasps went there and gave them a real lesson in possession football and rolled them over 3-1 putting us equal top with rivals Spencers Wood. We could've had 7 that day with a bit more luck on our side.

The away matches this season added a bit of excitement for the players and the fans. We were lucky enough to be loaned a minibus by Peppard School, which was fantastic, but sadly we decided to park the minibus idea after knocking a wing mirror off on one journey and smashing a skylight on a parking barrier another week. It was a bit of a liability, but some good memories of the journeys, particularly when we won.

The end of match '3 cheers for...!' ritual took some getting used to and Wasps never really threw themselves into it even as we approached the end of the season, much to the amusement of the Wasps fans! Each week, Captain Harry Roberts would begin the chant and then turn around to his team-mates and ask 'who did we just play?' before the boys finished the lack lustre chant. But there was nothing lack-lustre about Wasps performance on the pitch this season.





UNDER 14 WASPS



Players' names Back Row: Leo Gierczyk, Luke Ridley, Jackson Potter, Harrison Blumfield, Louis Dempster, Janos Zverko, Piers De Jode, Thomas Ordish, Spike Wilson, Joseph Hammond, Noah Howe. Front Row: Will Grant, Alex Wakefield, Harry Saker, Alex Smith, Alfie Cruickshank, Kallum McWilliams, Reggie Lambert, Sam Godwin, Daniel Beech
Not present: Olly Renwick, Harry Roberts

We had a fantastic cup run again, reaching the quarter finals, only narrowly missing out 2-1 away to a team two divisions above us in dreadful playing conditions reminiscent of a pitch from the 70s.

By Christmas we were sitting pretty in the league with an eye on the title. We didn't want the Christmas break to come, but a highlight had to be the yearly Families v The Lads match on New Years Eve. Teams were crazy uneven at about 9 v 18 in the Lads' favour. Some unsporting behaviour and overt cheating was therefore required to prevent the Lads from running away with it. Eventually in the last minute of the match the Lads snatched victory 17-16 (or thereabouts).

It wasn't all about the football though. Wasps volunteered their time to clear shrubs and hedges onto bonfires at Bishopswood under the supervision of groundsman Trevor. A few trees were also felled which the boys enjoyed. We had to call it a day before they tackled the entire woods!



UNDER 14 WASPS



We were stopped in our tracks by lockdown in March just before our title decider with Spencers Wood. Admittedly with their games in hand Spencers Wood could've taken the title, but if we could've got the win that day the pressure would've been on them. So we finished the season as runners up. A fantastic achievement in our first season in the East Berks league.

The season may have come to an abrupt end, but the boys have stayed together throughout lockdown with Zoom calls, quizzes and videos posted to showcase their skills and tricks for the week. Sadly, we had to cancel our tour of Holland, which we were all looking forward to following the huge success of last year's tour to Bulgaria. But it's just on hold, we'll be back next year on Tour!

Finally, we'd like to thank a number of people:

Thank you to Petia's Pantry for keeping the refreshments going all season.

Thank you to Pauline for supplying half-time oranges once again.

Thank you to James for collecting subs, providing first aid and logging all fixtures and results with the league.

Thank you to Teresa who keeps the finances in check, an absolutely vital role.

Thank you to Pam for organising the Tour that never was.

Thank you to the parents who have run the line for us!

And thank you to our amazing fans, The Wasps Family. Once again voted (by us) Best Supporters in the League. Come rain or shine you are always there; mums, dads, brothers, sisters, grandparents and dogs! Remember that wet, miserable Saturday in October away to Woodley. The supporters put up a gazebo to keep the players' kit dry and everyone was huddled under.

Without you all we couldn't make this squad GREAT.

Matt, Ian P, Ian S, & Darryl





WALKING FOOTBALLERS



Players' names

Back Row: Roger Prismall, Jim Bedding, Mike Bowker, Ashley Ford

Front Row: Graham Hards, Dave Robinson, Mike Foxton

The club continues to grow and develop, operating two sessions a week and arranging friendlies and tournaments throughout the year. The highlight of the year was undoubtedly not only running our first WF tournament but also winning the Joshua Smith Memorial Trophy. The tournament featured two Rotherfield teams as well as teams from Chalfont, Tilehurst and Rivermead with all games played in a competitive but friendly spirit. Rivermead hosted a repeat of our tournament in November and we ran out winners again.

We also played a series of games against Abingdon in February in which we were not quite as successful but they gave us a nice lunch.

We had planned to host a tournament at Bishopswood in April 2020 but Covid 19 put paid to that but we are hoping arrange something in September or as soon as it is safe to do so.

The members of the WF club have formed a strong supportive bond with each other which is in evidence weekly, and especially during a few difficult times. Its not just about the football.

Ian Massey



UNDER 16 COLTS



As the boys entered year 11 we were pretty certain this would be our final season together as a squad, so the plan was to have fun and enjoy our football. To celebrate we welcomed back former team mates Will Beville and Lachie McGowan.

The season did not get off to a great start with a 3-1 loss at Curley Park Rangers. Then followed an unprecedented winning run of 8 consecutive matches, taking us right through to end of November. This included a tightly fought 3-2 victory over local rivals Caversham AFC.

December brought a lot of rain and a top of the table clash away to Hurst. The pitch was all but unplayable and had to be reduced in size due to the rivers of water running down either side. The conditions and the match situation led to a very tense affair; it was obvious early on that one goal would win it.

Unfortunately, this went to Hurst, who scored mid-way through the second half to give them the victory.

The second half of the season saw Colts continue their winning ways with 5 more victories. They finished the season with 13 wins, only 3 defeats and one draw, winning every home match at the fortress Bishopswood!

When lockdown brought an abrupt end to the season Colts were top of their division, 9 points clear of closest rivals, Hurst. It is such a shame they were denied their chance of their first ever title in their last ever season.





UNDER 16 COLTS



Goal Keeper: Tom Branch
Defenders: William Piggott, Isa Hussain, Max Forster, Henry Kayll, Lachie McGowan, Connor Mackenzie, Matti Hartrup.
Midfielders: Dean Summers, Will Beville, Owen Bowbrick, Alex Wormald, Jack Morgan, Will Sheard Forwards: George Piggott, Charlie Handcock

All that remains is to thank everyone for all their fantastic support over the years. Special thanks to manager Tim who the boys used to look up to, but now he looks up to all of them! We finished as U16s with 10 of our original U5 squad, a fantastic achievement and a great testament to all the coaches over the years and how well these boys get on together as a group and their love of football.

I wish them all the best for the future and hope they keep in touch.

Alison



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ABOUT US

The Reading Hip & Knee Unit is a team of local health care professionals whose NHS practice is based at the Royal Berkshire Hospital. We are working together to ensure the best possible outcomes and experiences for all our patients. Between us we have many years experience dealing with the whole spectrum of knee and hip problems.

Between the six local consultant orthopaedic surgeons who make up the unit, we have presence in all three of Reading's private facilities; CircleReading, Spire Dunedin Hospital and Berkshire Independent Hospital.

We have close links to associated professionals – anaesthetists, physiotherapists, sports physicians and orthotists - with whom we have long and trustworthy working relationships.

The team at The Reading Hip & Knee Unit can offer you a convenient appointment in one of our state of the art facilities. They will organise any investigations or therapies promptly with local recommended experts.

The Reading Hip & Knee Unit has a presence at CircleReading, Spire Dunedin Hospital and Berkshire Independent Hospital:

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100 Drake Way
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Spire Dunedin Hospital
16 Bath Road
Reading
RG1 6NS

Berkshire Independent
Hospital
Coley Park
Swallows Croft
Wensley Road
Reading, RG1 6UZ



General Enquiries
0845 388 6102



Reading Children's Orthopaedic Unit is led by consultant surgeons Nev Davies and Richard Dodds, consultant orthotist Nick Gallogly and Sports and Exercise Medicine Consultant, Kate Hutchings. We are working together to ensure the best possible outcomes and experiences for our young patients. Between us we have many years experience dealing with the whole spectrum of children's orthopaedic and trauma conditions. Talk to us about sports injury prevention and knee injury prevention here in the UK.

The team at Reading Orthopaedic Unit can offer your child a convenient appointment in one of our state of the art facilities. We will organise any investigations or therapies promptly with local recommended experts.

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ROTHERFIELD UNITED FC



Rotherfield United Football Club was founded in 1973 and played for many years opposite Manor Farm near Peppard Common. The club achieved FA Charter Standard Development Club status in the summer of 2010 and has continued to maintain that status every season since.

The club trains 24 teams, both boys and girls from under 5, though to adult, and also walking football.

OUR VISION

Our strategic vision is to:

- be a thriving and self sustaining community football club
- ensure that players of all ages and abilities have the opportunity to play football in a safe, positive and friendly environment
- ensure that our young players have the opportunity to develop their skills and interest in foot-ball as far as possible
- strive to play at the highest possible levels
- maintain FA Community Club Charter Standard status
- provide the best training & playing facilities possible
- be an integral part of our local community

Our five year plan is to:

- acquire new home ground – completed!
- achieve FA charter community standard – completed!
- gain approval for club house plans – completed!
- construct new clubhouse
- build all weather training pitch
- maximise fundraising efforts
- higher qualifications for coachesprogressing
- continue to promote and comply with the FA RESPECT program

Information for Parents:

- Please ensure that you are familiar with the club's codes of conduct. In order to maintain a pleasant and enjoyable environment and preserve our charter standard status it is vital that everyone complies with the code
- If you have any concerns regarding child safety or welfare please do not hesitate to contact a member of the committee.



ROTHERFIELD UNITED FC



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