

CLUB

HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB 香港足球會 MARCH 2011



Get ready for
Rugby Week

2011 GFI HKFC Tens

Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th March

- BBQ Dinner Buffets

- Quesadillas and more!

INTERACTIVE SPORTS DINNER

— Saturday 5th March, 2011 —



ROCKY ELSOM

Rocky Elsom is the Captain of the Australian rugby union team and is one of Australia's most decorated Rugby players. Having won Herald Super 14 player of the year in 2007, Wallaby of the year in 2008, European Player of the Year in 2009 and inducted into the European Cup Hall of Fame in 2010, the powerful Australian has gained a reputation for performing in big occasions.



GEOFF MILLER

Geoffrey Miller is a former English cricketer who played in 34 Tests and 25 ODIs from 1976 to 1984. He played for Derbyshire from 1973 to 1986, captaining the side from 1978 to 1981. Miller was elected as National Selector by the England and Wales Cricket Board in January 2008. He leads a panel, which contains Ashley Giles, Peter Moores and James Whitaker.



DAMIAN HOPLEY

Damian Hopley is a former rugby union player for London Wasps and England and was a member of the England sevens team that won the Melrose Cup in the inaugural IRB 1993 Rugby World Cup Sevens at Murrayfield. He is the founder and chief executive of the Professional Rugby Players' Association, which is the representative body of professional rugby union players in England.

DATE: Saturday 5th March

TIME: 7:30pm

VENUE: Sports Hall

**PRICE: \$888 Member,
\$1,088 non-Member**

Damian Hopley, Geoffrey Miller and Rocky Elsom will head up teams comprising of Sports Section members in an interactive sports quiz in which teams will go head to head in competition to gain the title of Sports Roads brightest sporting minds.

There will be an MC for the evening and a Q&A session with each of the three sporting celebrities. Each table will participate against each other and against the sporting greats on the stage!

NB – This event is open to HKFC Members, who can bring Guests up to a maximum of 11 Guests.

Pre-registration is essential. Booking forms can be found at Reception or online at www.hkfc.com.hk or at www.laxtonmarketing.com

All completed booking forms must be handed in at Reception, faxed to 28660887 or emailed to nicola@laxtonmarketing.com. Please submit the forms no later than **Friday 25th February, 2011**.



March 2011

HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB

MISSION STATEMENT

Vision: To be recognised as the leading Sports Club in the Territory.

Mission: To deliver quality services on the principles of accountability, consistency and transparency.
To develop an organizational culture that recognises the importance of staff contribution and commitment.
To facilitate the development and participation of recognised sporting activities.

Values: Being accountable – to communicate, consult and provide information.

Living within our means – to plan ahead within available resources.
Developing a culture of service – to encourage commitment, integrity, courtesy and responsiveness.

Managing for performance – to set the direction and develop the necessary skills.

Aims: To provide the services the Membership needs.

To improve the quality of Club life.

To up-hold the Constitution and Bye-laws.

To encourage Members to play their part in the Club.



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New Mission for the F&B Department



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Mini/Youth Hockey cleans up Singapore

General Committee

President	: Dermot Agnew
Vice President	: Nick Hunsworth
Vice President	: James Collins-Taylor
Vice President	: Bobby Lawson
Vice President	: Iain Valentine
Chairman	: Fook Aun Chew
Hon. Secretary	: John Shanahan
Hon. Treasurer	: David Howell
Sports & Recreation	: Lynn Edwards
Development	: Mark Clift
Discipline	: Mike Wood
Constitutional Affairs	: Desmond Ko
Membership	: Maurice O'Brien
Hockey Officer	: Fergus McCoig
Lawn Bowls Officer	: Roger Nissim
Rugby Officer	: John Molloy
Soccer Officer	: Martyn Russell
Squash Officer	: David Reeves

Management

General Manager	: Mark Pawley
Director of Operations	: Tony Sealy
Director of Finance	: S.K. Li
Director of Food & Beverage	: Dominique Artigolle
Executive Chef	: Ki Liu
Facilities Manager	: Evan Tao
Membership Services Manager	: Kerry Ogle
Human Resources Manager	: Angela Chan
Executive Housekeeper	: Lily Huynh
Front Office Manager	: Shirley Lo

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Club Magazine

Monthly journal of the Hong Kong Football Club. Arranged by Karen Chan-Mulvenna. For information and requests for placement of advertisements in "Club" please call 2830 9503. The opinions expressed in the articles are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Hong Kong Football Club or the General Committee. The Club reserves the right to edit and clarify all content. The copyright of all materials is held by the Hong Kong Football Club.

Hong Kong Football Club • 3 Sports Road, Happy Valley,
Hong Kong • Tel 2830 9500 • Fax 2882 5040 •
Website: www.hkfc.com.hk



The Thoughts of the Chairman

We had a great **125th Anniversary Cocktail Party** on 12th February 2011 which is the actual date of the founding of the Club 125 years ago! The Police Band gave a great Beating Retreat performance with the salute taken by **Dermot Agnew** our President. Then we were suitably entertained by the Celtic Tenors who gave 3 encores! This was followed by the **125th Anniversary Cup** race at Happy Valley on 16th February 2011, another great event enjoyed by all those invited!

As ever, March is one of the busiest months of the year and certainly Rugby Week is the Club's busiest week of the year. Last year over a 5 day spread of the Tens and Sevens, the Club produced more than 12,000 food covers, let alone how many beers etc. were drunk during the same period.

However, March is mainly associated with sports and, more particularly sports tournaments, although to start with we have the **125th Anniversary Sports dinner** on the **5th March**, for those who are interested, please register by getting your registration form from Reception or online at www.laxtonmarketing.com. We have 3 superb speakers in the form of **Rocky Elsom**, the current Australian 15's rugby union captain, **Damien Hopley** and **Geoff Miller**! The first of the tournaments as always will be the **14th Tiger Bowls World Invitation** over the weekend of the **12th** and **13th March**. Although not a 125th Anniversary event, it is still an important part of the sporting month of March, and the tournament has attracted some 150 players from over 20 different countries.

Later in the month, we have the **HKFC GFI Tens Tournament** held at the Club on the **23rd** and **24th March**. As ever, some very strong international Ten's teams will be at the Club to play at the biggest and best Tens tournament in the world. The day after the Tens, we play host to the **Worldwide Hong Kong Women's Rugby Sevens Tournament** and, of course this also marks the first day of the **Rugby Sevens**.

As always during Rugby Week security at the Club will be tightened up and, in particular, Guests who try to access the Club without a Member will generally be stopped by the guards at the Club's front door. Please therefore make arrangements to meet Guests at the Club's Main Entrance and then escort them onto the Club Premises.

See you at the Club!

FOOK AUN CHEW
Chairman



From the Desk of Mark Pawley

As mentioned by the Chairman, March is a busy month for the Club, in particular, **Rugby Week**, when we have many returning Absent Members (usually over 300!), Reciprocal members (usually around 200), and many visitors (around 150, or so) to the Club from overseas. At the same time we host a number of large scale functions during Rugby Week involving renowned international rugby speakers. This is a time when the Club really comes into its own both from a sporting as well as a food and beverage perspective. As to the latter please turn to page 4 of the magazine where we have noted opening/closing hours as well as the various buffet promotions we will be putting on during Rugby Week in the Coffee Shop and Sportsman's Bar.

Now we're onto food and beverage please also note that we have a fantastic Guest Chef, **Judyta Slupnicki**, over from Australia during the period **Tuesday 15th March** through to **Saturday 20th March**. There are a number of dinner events organised for you over this period where Judyta has put together menus incorporating contemporary cuisine and where specially selected wines have been paired with each of the four dinner menus.

On page 9 of the magazine you will note that we have partnered with a company called **Homegrown Foods**. They will shortly not only be supplying some locally grown organic vegetables to the Club, but at the same time are also offering an exclusive deal to Members which I hope you will take advantage of.

A quick reminder to parents with young children that items such as scooters, rollerblades or other types of recreational equipment on wheels are not allowed to be used anywhere on the Club Premises, and that if they are brought into the Club after, say, being used in the Valley, please leave these items at Reception for collection, when you leave the premises, at a later stage.

Finally, a big thank you from all the Staff to those Members who recently contributed to the Staff Fund. For information, the total amount received is equally distributed amongst all Staff members.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Club!

MARK PAWLEY
General Manager

125th Anniversary Cocktails on 12th February 2011



REAL HISTORY REVISITS THE HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB

On Friday, 21 January 2011, the Club's President, Dermot Agnew, and Historian / Author, Denis Way, hosted two visitors from Canada for lunch in the Restaurant. It was a special occasion – connected to, although somewhat accidentally, the HKFC's 125th Anniversary Celebrations.



The visitors were Anne Sidorchuk, the granddaughter of John (Jock) McCubbin, and her daughter, Katherine Kelly. Jock McCubbin, as readers of along the sports road will

learn, came to Hong Kong from Greenock, Scotland in 1906 and worked for 22 years for the Taikoo Sugar Refinery, during which he served the HKFC as a defender in the first XI, Club Captain, Chairman and Vice-President.

Denis's article titled 'The McCubbin Mystery' appeared in the August 2009 issue of CLUB Magazine. It was reproduced in 'Swire News' and discovered on the 'Net' fifteen months later by one of Jock's descendants in Canada. Katherine contacted the HKFC by email, and decided to pay a visit to Hong Kong with her mother.

The photograph shows Dermot handing Anne a copy of the Club's 125th Anniversary Book – the first of 100 special limited-edition numbered copies to be presented by the HKFC. The numbered copy selected was 028. In 1928 Jock McCubbin left Hong Kong, having that year chaired a meeting as HKFC Vice-President at which he announced to Members that approval had been given for the building of the first permanent Clubhouse. It was opened in October 1928, a few weeks after he sailed out.

RUGBY MONTH IN THE SPORTSMAN'S BAR

QUESADILLAS MONTH

throughout the month of March

This Mexican dish is a corn or wheat tortilla filled with cheese, and occasionally with other ingredients such as chicken, beef, tomatoes, peppers and onions for added flavour. Come and try different fillings to see which is your favourite!



Throughout the month of March, rugby mania will take over the Sportsman's Bar.

On the screens, the **Guinness Premiership**, **Magners League** and the **Super 15s Championships** are in full swing, and we have the **Six Nations** matches all "Live" on the screens as well!

What better place to unwind than at the Sportsman's Bar during Rugby Week, with the **GFI HKFC Tens** on the **23rd** and **24th March**, followed by the **Rugby Sevens** from **25th** to **27th March**.

Also, do not forget to mark your diary for **Sunday 13th March**, as the **Mini Rugby Festival** will be held at the Club.



GFI HKFC RUGBY 10'S AND SEVENS WEEKEND (23rd - 27th March)

In the Coffee Shop

23rd – 24th March Wed and Thur	25th March Friday	26th March Saturday	27th March Sunday
Opening Hours (8:00am to 11:00pm)	Opening Hours (8:00am to 11:00pm)	Opening Hours (8:00am to 11:00pm)	Opening Hours (8:00am to 11:00pm)
8:30am – 11:00am Breakfast Buffet	8:30am – 11:00am Breakfast Buffet	8:00am – 11:00am Breakfast Buffet	8:00am – 11:00am Breakfast Buffet
12:00nn – 2:30pm Lunch Buffet	12:00nn – 2:30pm Lunch Buffet	12:00nn – 2:30pm Lunch Buffet	12:00nn – 2:30pm Lunch Buffet
6:30pm – 9:30pm BBQ Dinner Buffet	6:30pm – 9:30pm BBQ Dinner Buffet With Roast Spit Lamb	6:30pm – 9:30pm BBQ Dinner Buffet With Roast Spit Lamb	6:30pm – 9:30pm BBQ Dinner Buffet

In the Sportsman's Bar

23rd – 24th March Wed and Thur	25th March Friday	26th March Saturday	27th March Sunday
Opening Hours (10:00am to 12:00 midnight)	Opening Hours (12:00 noon to 12:00 midnight)	Opening Hours (9:00am to 1:00am)	Opening Hours (12:00 noon to 12:00 midnight)
11:30am – 3:00pm Curry Buffet	12:00 noon A la Carte - Lunch	12:00 noon A la Carte - Lunch	12:00 noon A la Carte - Lunch
6:30pm – 9:30pm International Buffet Carving on Wednesday BBQ Station on Thursday (Reduced A la Carte menu)	7:00pm – 9:30pm International Buffet with Pizza Station (Reduced A la Carte menu)	7:00pm – 9:30pm International Buffet with BBQ Station (Reduced A la Carte menu)	7:00pm – 9:30pm International Buffet with Roast Spit Lamb (Reduced A la Carte menu)

2011 GFI HKFC TENS

23-24 MARCH 2011

Described as the best Tens Tournament in the world



2011  **GFI
HKFC
TENS**



Wednesday March 23
FREE ENTRY

Thursday March 24
HK\$100

Ground Open: 10am to 11pm both days

Title Sponsor:



Gold Sponsor:



Official Sponsors:



Event Organiser:



www.hongkongtens.com +852 3579 8088



Guest Chef JUDYTA SLUPNICKI at the Club

from Tuesday 15th March until
Saturday 19th March



Guest Chef Judyta Slupnicki

Judyta Slupnicki is recognized as one of Australia's upcoming young chefs. Her award-winning restaurant, *Phore Seasons* has been open now for 5 years in the popular beachside Adelaide seaside, suburb of Semaphore. She has received numerous awards and accolades and has now built up a career in the culinary media whereby Judyta is a regular speaker on three radio programmes in Australia.

Tuesday 15th March 2011

**GUEST CHEF JUDYTA SLUPNICKI'S 4 COURSE DINNER
in the Restaurant's Private Dining Room**

Venue: The Restaurant's Private Room

Date: Tuesday 15th March

Time: 7.30pm Arrival and welcome drink, 8.00pm Dinner

Price: \$598 per person

RSVP: 30 Seats available only

Sit at our communal table and enjoy a menu of contemporary cuisine, where the evolution of gastronomy is celebrated and demonstrated through some of Chef Judyta Slupnicki's dishes.

Four specially selected wines from four wineries will be served to accompany this 4-course menu.

Welcome Drink

Thorn Clarke, Terra Barossa, Pinot Chardonnay, NV, Barossa, South Australia

Cream of Asparagus 'shooter'

Crème fraiche, sambucca

Thorn Clarke, Terra Barossa, Pinot Chardonnay, NV, Barossa, South Australia

Kingfish Carpaccio

Baby capers, lemon zest, blood orange oil, basil, pomegranate kernels

Sixfootsix, Pinot Gris, 2010, Geelong, Victoria

Wagyu Beef Fillet

Shallot and bacon 'pancake', wholegrain mustard and thyme jus, roasted swiss brown mushrooms

Ferngrove, Shiraz, 2008, Frankland River, Western Australia

Chocolate Amaretto Truffle 'Sandwich'

Butter shortbread, dark and white truffles, frangelico cream, chocolate soil

Belgravia, Fortified Shiraz, 2009, Orange, New South Wales

Coffee or Tea

Petits Fours

Last day for cancellation: Thursday 10th March

***** Cancellations made after this date will be charged in full to the Member's account, unless there are exceptional circumstances.***

Wednesday 16th March 2011**CLASSIC & CONTEMPORARY DEGUSTATION DINNER
in the Restaurant's "Private Dining Room"****Venue: The Restaurant's Private Room****Date: Wednesday 16th March****Time: 7.30pm Arrival and welcome drink, 8.00pm Dinner****Price: \$688 per person****RSVP: 30 Seats available only**

Experience classic and contemporary cuisine through 6 different courses, using the best seasonal produce. Wines from four wineries from different regions were selected by Chef Judyta in an attempt to do justice to the wine, winemakers and the food.

Welcome Drink

*Thorn Clarke, Terra Barossa, Pinot Chardonnay, NV,
Barossa, South Australia*

Tomato and Basil Soup, Chilli croutons

*Belgravia, Sauvignon Blanc 2008, Orange,
New South Wales*

Tuna Tartar

Young coconut and passionfruit juice, radish, rye toast,
caviar, avocado oil

*Ferngrove, Chardonnay 2006, Frankland River,
Western Australia*

Smoked Chicken Breast

'waldorf salad', walnut oil, Roquefort

*Ferngrove, Estate Merlot 2007, Frankland River,
Western Australia*

Blue-eyed Cod

Eggplant ratatouille, shaved fennel, garlic chips, lemon

Austin's Wine, Pinot Noir 2008, Geelong, Victoria

Angus Striploin

Crushed borlotti beans with coriander, chives, braised cheek
meat ragu, celery heart salad, sweet onion jus

*Thorn Clarke, Terra Barossa, Cabernet Sauvignon
2007, Barossa, South Australia*

Raspberry Soufflé with lime and coconut ice cream

*Ferngrove, Off-Dry Riesling 2010, Frankland River,
Western Australia*

Coffee or Tea, Petits Fours

Last day for cancellation: Friday 11th March**Friday 18th March 2011****12 COURSE MARATHON DINNER
in the Restaurant's "Private Dining Room"****Venue: The Restaurant's Private Room****Date: Friday 18th March****Time: 7.30pm Arrival and welcome drink
8.00pm Dinner****Price: \$988 per person****RSVP: 24 Seats available only**

A 12- course marathon dinner where no main ingredients and sauces are the same. Specially selected Australian Magnum wines from 4 wineries that are not available in Hong Kong will be served with this unique dinner.

Welcome Drink

*Thorn Clarke, Terra Barossa, Pinot Chardonnay, NV,
Barossa, South Australia*

12 course Marathon dinner – 20 guests

Goat's cheese crostini, balsamic cherry tomato, basil

Porcini truffle arancini

Ocean trout tartar, cucumber, beetroot and horseradish

*Belgravia, Semillon 2010, Magnum, Orange,
New South Wales*

Iberian ham, poached egg, artichoke

Smoked eel salad, pepitos, slaw, chardonnay vinegar

Soft polenta, broad bean, pea, asparagus spears,
mint, feta, crème fraiche

*Austin's Wine, Pinot Noir 2003, Magnum,
Geelong, Victoria*

Tamarind crispy skin duck breast, exotic mushrooms,
shiitake consommé shots, vegemite toasts

Moreton bay bug bisque, saffron, risoni, tomato, dill

*Belgravia, Merlot Shiraz 2009, Magnum, Orange,
New South Wales*

Lamb, pistachio and mint pesto, sweet potato and sumac
puree, sugar snap peas, veal jus

*Ferngrove, Majestic Cabernet Sauvignon 2008,
Magnum, Frankland River, Western Australia*

Confit of pork belly, apple wafers, wombok,
endive, cranberries

Cheese selection

*Thorn Clarke, William Randell Shiraz 2008, Magnum,
Barossa, Western Australia*

Pink Moscato and raspberry jellies with vanilla cream

*Ferngrove, Off-Dry Riesling 2010, Frankland River,
Western Australia*

Coffee or Tea, Petits Fours

Last day for cancellation: Friday 11th March



Saturday, 19th March 2011

**GUEST CHEF JUDYTA SLUPNICKI'S
5 SIGNATURE DISHES, PAIRED WITH HIGHLY
RATED AUSTRALIAN WINES**

in the Restaurant

**Venue: The Restaurant
Date: Saturday 19th March
Time: 7.30pm Arrival and welcome drink
8.00pm Dinner
Price: \$888 per person
RSVP: 75 Seats available only**

5 signature dishes paired with highly rated Australian wines. The wines for the evening are rated over 90 points by Robert Parker or James Halliday.

Last day for cancellation: Friday 11th March

***** Cancellations made after this date will be charged in full to the Member's account, unless there are exceptional circumstances.***

Welcome Drink
Thorn Clarke, Terra Barossa, Pinot Chardonnay, NV, Barossa, South Australia
 Pumpkin and White Castello Aperitif
 Amaretto, nutmeg, sour cream
Belgravia, Riesling 2009, Orange, New South Wales (JH 94 points)
 Duck and Abalone Roulade
 Enokii, daikon, fried leek
Austin's Wines, Chardonnay 2009, Geelong, Victoria (JH 94 points)
 Scallops – Gratinated
 Cauliflower and hazelnut purée, salsa verde, slow roasted tomato, crostini
Belgravia, "The Apex", Chardonnay 2009, Orange, New South Wales (JH 90 points)
 Roasted Pork Belly
 Baby fuji apples with grana padana, apple puree, kipfler potato, red cabbage slaw
Ferngrove, The Stirlings (Red Blend) 2007, Frankland River, Western Australia (RP 93 points)
 and
Thorn Clarke William Randell Shiraz 2006, Barossa, Western Australia (RP 91 points)
 Mini Duck Egg Crêpes
 Quark filling, sour-pitted cherry and rhubarb compote
Belgravia, Fortified Shiraz, Orange, 2009, New South Wales
 Coffee or Tea
 Petits Fours

WINE SALES COUNTER

Food, Wine and Beer Fair
 Friday 4th March to Sunday 20th March

- There will be a large selection of wines and a wide price range
- There will be something for every wine enthusiast
- Selection of sausages, cheeses and dips available
- Food and Wine tasting.

OPENING HOURS
 Ground Floor Lobby
 Monday to Friday from 12 noon to 9pm
 Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays from 10.30am to 9pm





A NEW “MISSION” FOR THE FOOD AND BEVERAGE DEPARTMENT

Bringing locally grown organic vegetables and fruits, directly from the farm, to the Club

The Hong Kong Football Club will soon be partnering with **Homegrown Foods**.

Homegrown Foods will shortly be supplying locally grown organic vegetables, directly from the farm, to us every week.

Committed to reducing the harmful effects that conventionally farmed vegetables have on the environment and our bodies, **Homegrown Foods** avoids the use of toxic and synthetic pesticides, insecticides and herbicides, and all the soil, used on the farm, is free from chemicals and exposure to harmful toxins.

Based on the belief that the less time and distance, food takes to travel from the farm to the table, the more nutritious and delicious it is, **Homegrown Foods** picks all the vegetables at their optimum harvest period, and delivers them to customers within 24 hours, when they taste their absolute best.

The Hong Kong Football Club is proud to soon be featuring some new dishes on its Buffets and A la Carte menus created using **Homegrown Foods’** organic ingredients. These new menu items will be identified by a special icon. Practicing the way our ancestors ate, all dishes change according to the season and are available only when the produce is ripe, ready and available.

HIGH TEA SET

in the Lounge and Chairman’s Bar every day from 3pm to 5.30pm

The High Tea begins with savoury finger sandwiches. Crusts are removed from freshly baked white and brown breads and the delicate slices are filled with an assortment of smoked salmon, egg, chicken, cream cheese and cucumber.

Warm scones arrive next, made from a secret recipe that our Pastry Chef has used for more than 20 years. They are served with glistening homemade jam and Devonshire clotted cream.

The final course is the pièce de resistance, the platter of cakes and tartlets, served with tea or coffee.



FROM FARM TO FORK

the Only Way to Eat!

NEW!

Exclusive Membership Discount

Football Club Members can now enjoy an exclusive membership discount when ordering from Homegrown Foods

Order your Homegrown Foods basket online and enter “HKFC” followed by your membership number digits to redeem your special discount.

Order your delicious nutritious vegetables now on

www.homegrownfoods.com.hk

for further enquiries, please call 2671-2771

◆ COFFEE SHOP ◆

BBQ DINNER BUFFET

in the Coffee Shop

Fridays and Saturdays

from 6.30pm to 9.30pm

throughout the month of March

Enjoy our popular weekend Dinner Buffet every Friday and Saturday at the Coffee Shop.

The Buffet will feature a variety of Asian and Western BBQ dishes, guaranteed to make you come back for more.

Please call the Coffee Shop at 2830 9569 for more details.



Photo for reference only

◆ RESTAURANT ◆

TASMANIAN “SEA AND LAND” DINNER BUFFET

in the Restaurant

every Sunday evening

from 6.30pm to 9.30pm

From now until 27th March, indulge in our Sunday Dinner Buffet featuring a selection of succulent Tasmanian dishes from Australia.

Tasmania is a gourmet’s paradise, where there is a natural flow from the paddock to the plate.

From traditional pub fare to modern-day cuisine, from a humble meat pie to a fiery Tasmanian salmon curry, Australian food has developed its own

unique style. You’ll find something for meat-lovers, seafood-lovers and vegetarians.

\$225 per Adult

\$128 per Child

Please contact the Restaurant at 2830 9562 for reservation or email: restaurant@hkfc.com



Photo for reference only

SUNDAY BRUNCH WITH LIVE JAZZ

in the Restaurant and Chairman’s Bar

every Sunday from 11am to 2.30pm

throughout the month of March

Our Popular Sunday Brunch continues in January with a themed musical performance to set the mood. A Jazz duo performance will get your feet tapping while you enjoy your brunch.

Enjoy your Brunch while being entertained by our performers.

\$238 per Adult (with sparkling wine)

\$128 per Child (with soft drinks and chilled juice)

Dress Code: Club Casual – No Collarless T-shirts, no Flip Flops, no short Casual Shorts (Knee length – no beach wear). Ladies are required to dress to a comparable standard.

Please contact the Restaurant at 2830 9562 for reservation or email: restaurant@hkfc.com



CHAIRMAN’S BAR

OYSTERS WITH SPARKLING WINE IN THE EVENING

in the Chairman’s Bar

every day from 6.30pm to 10.30pm

The Chairman’s Bar is offering a happy-hour special.

- *Get two jet-fresh oysters and a glass of Angove Sparkling for just \$98 or*

- *6 oysters and a glass of Angove Sparkling for \$100 or*

- *12 oysters and a glass of Sparkling for \$190*



Photo for reference only

“WINE-DERFUL” WINE CAROUSEL

in the Chairman’s Bar

every day from 6pm to 10pm

throughout the month of March

From 6pm until 10pm daily, you can enjoy 2 hours of free-flowing wines specially selected to match this winter season at a set price of **\$130 per person**. Alternatively you can select any two wines for only **\$68**.

All these wines can be purchased from our takeaway list. Forms are available on our website or at Reception.



Photo for reference only

LET'S DO LUNCH AT THE CLUB

The Restaurant

Monday to Friday
Noon to 2.30pm
Set Lunch with Starter Buffet
2 Courses: \$150
3 Courses: \$170

The Coffee Shop

Asian and Western Buffet
Monday to Sunday
Noon to 2.30pm
\$120 (Adult)
\$70 (Child)

The Chairman's Bar

Express Set Lunch
Monday to Friday
Noon to 2.30pm
4 Courses: \$98



BRITISH BOARDING SCHOOLS

Identifying and getting offers from
UK schools suitable for your child



Saturday 19th March

Happy Valley Suites 1, 2, 3 (2nd Floor)

10.30am to Midday

Member/Guest: Complimentary

This interactive seminar is aimed at any parent who is considering a UK education for their child. Often, being outside the UK, we can lose track of changes in the school system and need to rely on hearsay to make important decisions.

Topics will include:

- Understanding the UK School System (including IGCSE and the IB debate)
- Identifying suitable schools for your children
- What questions to ask when visiting schools
- Learning about schools that are not promoted in Hong Kong
- Preparing for interviews and entrance exams (including Winchester College preparation)

The Speaker

Jessica Ogilvy-Stuart, M.Ed founded the Brandon Learning Centre (www.brandoncentre.com) in 2006 to train students in communication skills and prepare them for entry to UK schools. Since then, Brandon has sent students to a wide range of schools from Abingdon to Winchester. One of Brandon Learning Centre is to help parents navigate the UK school system and prepare students for life in a British Boarding School.

Jessica is a current PhD candidate at Durham University and is researching the role of Hong Kong students in UK schools.





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RBS 6 Nations



Super Rugby



Tri-Nations



Magners League

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A MAGNIFICENT VIEWPOINT Across the River and Beyond



KEW BRIDGE LONDON

- * Kew Bridge - West London's ultimate riverside address
- * St George PLC are renowned for creating vibrant new residential and mixed-use developments across the capital
- * Exquisite specification including comfort cooling to all 1, 2 & 3 bedroom apartments and penthouses
- * Close to Gunnersbury Station for excellent connections to the west End and the City
- * 1 minute* walk to Kew Bridge Station with direct links to Clapham Junction and Waterloo
- * Five Star residents' facilities including 24 hour concierge service, underground car parking and residents gym
- * European style public piazza including bars, restaurants and retail
- * Within walking distance of world renowned Kew Gardens
- * Full letting and management service available to all property owners

Prices from £549 / sqft*

www.kew-bridge.co.uk

Date: Wednesday 9th March 2011
Time: 2:30pm – 9pm
Location: Jones Lang LaSalle office,
6th Floor, 3 Pacific Place,
1 Queens Road East, Hong Kong
Details: London market presentation by Ian Dobie,
Managing Director of St George West
London Ltd at 7.30pm

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LEFT: An aerial view in 1931, looking south over Happy Valley, showing the HKFC grounds as they were when chosen as the venue for Hong Kong's first Rugby Sevens tournament in March the following year. In the foreground can be seen the start of building on the Causeway Bay end of the new Praya East Reclamation. The photo was taken from an aircraft off the carrier HMS *Hermes* (below), one of the Royal Navy's first improvised 'flat-tops.' The *Hermes* also provided one of the thirteen sides that competed in the 1932 sevens tournament.



Hong Kong: Outbreak of the Rugby Sevens 'Disease'

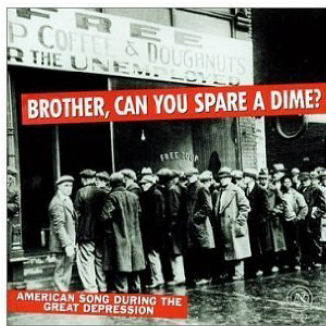
March 1932 –

WHEN THE BORDERS MOVED EAST

On Wednesday, 9 March 1932, the 'World of Sport' column in the *South China Morning Post* read:

The curtain will be rung up at 5 p.m. today for the first Seven-a-Side rugby Tournament to be staged in the history of the Colony. The Seven-a-Side game is a product of the Scottish Borders, where this adaption of the parent game has long enjoyed great popularity. In post-war years other parts of the British Isles have taken it up, and seven-a-side tournaments at Twickenham and elsewhere are now annual events of great popularity. The 'Disease' has now spread to Hongkong, and this year we are to have our first Tournament played under these conditions.

Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?



In March 1932, an actual disease called joblessness was strangling the planet. The Great Depression was affecting every family, nearly every individual. In Britain, an army of the masses was being motivated to stage a Hunger March on London. In the USA, where a quarter of the working population was idle, the most popular song was Bing Crosby's *Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?*

Charity was in overwhelming demand. In Hong Kong, in precisely that cause, the British Military came up with the concept of a Rugby Sevens tournament on the HKFC pitch. Thirteen teams, eight being services VIIs, contested it. 'Each match will be seven

minutes each way,' informed the *Post*, 'except in the case of the final where ten minutes each way will be played. In the event of a draw, extra time will be played.' The first round of five matches on the Wednesday evening was followed by the finals the next Saturday, 12 March 1932.

The starting sides which made up the baker's dozen were: HMS *Cumberland*, HMS *Tamar* & Small Ships 'A', 'B' & 'C', a VII from the aircraft carrier HMS *Hermes*, and 4th Submarine Flotilla 'A' & 'B', all from the Royal Navy; the South Wales Borderers, representing the Army; plus five civilian sides: HSBC, Kowloon RFC 'A' & 'B', and Club 'A' and 'B'. The preponderance of RN teams was due to the China Squadron being on alert and on hand as a consequence of Japan's recent bloody invasion of the Chapei district of Shanghai. Britain had dispatched two cruisers, one being HMS *Cumberland*, and an extra infantry battalion to help protect the perimeter of Shanghai's neutral International Settlement.



FAR LEFT:
The 1933 Club VII, winners of the second Rugby Sevens tournament. Six of the players, including the Captain, Jake Selby, were members of the successful combination at the first sevens competition in 1932. The others are, standing left to right – A.F. Jenkins, R.H. Griffiths, W.E. Peers and G.P. Lammert – and, seated at far right, J.H. McElney (Captain of the 1932 VII). Seated, far left, is Dave McLellan, who in 1933 replaced G.C. Humphreys.

Shock of the first round

The HKFC's 'A' side, captained by Dr J.H. (Jack) McElney, featured fellow medic J.A.R. (Jake) Selby – a Scottish ex-international scrum-half born in Port William on the Irish Sea, who had played in two winning tests against Wales and Ireland at Inverleith in February 1920 at the age of 19 – and the flashy stockbroker G.P. Lammert. All three were, at one time or other, the Club Rugby Captain. Their sevens team-mates were R.H. Griffiths, G.C. Humphreys, A.F. Jenkins and W.E. Peers. Jake Selby, employing his signature 'bewildering' reverse pass, would be the star of the tournament.

The shock of the first round came when the Bank VII – including future HSBC chief manager and HKFC President 1953-1959, M.W. (Mike) Turner, and another Club Captain of the 1930s in L.G. Robertson – were knocked out 6-3 by 4th Submarine Flotilla 'B'. The Club 'A' VII, meanwhile, lived up to its favouritism by eliminating lowly HMS *Tamar* & Small Ships 'C' 26-0 in a convincing display of 'bright rugby.'

Deep pockets

The finals kicked off on the Club pitch at 2:30 p.m. on the Saturday, with the Governor among the crowd of spectators as the tournament's patron. With him were 'many prominent members' of the Legislative Council, complete with deep pockets to dig into in support of the nominated charities. 'From start to finish,' reported the *Post*, 'there was scarcely a dull moment and several of the matches provided real thrills.' Three teams, thanks to their bye in the first round, gained direct access to the quarter-finals. HMS *Cumberland* saw off HMS *Tamar* & Small Ships 'A' 9-3, 4th Submarine Flotilla 'A' eliminated *Hermes* 6-0, Submariners 'B' did likewise to Kowloon RFC 'A' 6-5, and Club 'A' survived a last-minute minor scare from the South Wales Borderers to proceed to the semi-finals 6-5. Lammert had scored a try; Griffiths failed to convert it and then scored himself 'from a three-quarter movement initiated by Selby's reverse pass.' After that the Club players, read the press, 'seemed to be content to rest on their oars and save themselves... for their next match,' letting the opposition in for a try that was converted as the whistle blew.

The first semi-final saw Submariners 'A' defeat *Cumberland* 8-0, after which Club 'A' took care of Submariners 'B' 13-0 – with Griffiths and Lammert running in tries, both converted by Selby who had 'brought off one brilliant reverse pass movement... which left his opponents guessing,' and Humphreys scoring a third just before full time. The final, read the *Post*, had a 'spectacular

beginning' with Club torpedoing the Submariners in the first few seconds. *Ryder kicked off for the Submarine Flotilla and his kick, which was almost straight down the field, went into the hands of Lammert who ran well to round the opposition and score between the posts for Selby to convert.* The score was 5-0 at half-time. Griffiths then produced a try that was too 'well out' to be converted, and Club won 8-0. 'They were the best side in the competition,' acknowledged the *Post* scribe, 'and their knowledge of the (sevens) game reaped its reward.' *The first Seven-a-Side Tournament ever staged in the history of the Colony*, the commentary concluded, *must surely have been voted a big success by all who were privileged to witness Saturday's matches.*

Full circle

As the 1930s progressed, the local papers reported the world's slide from disaster to the edge of apocalypse. In blissfully peaceful Hong Kong, seven-a-side Rugby, under the patronage of the HKFC as from 1933, embedded itself as an end-of-season fixture with the Blarney Stone Shield added as the prize. The tournament resumed post-war, in 1947. In 1973, centenary year of the Scottish Rugby Union, the sevens story came full circle. Willie Mactaggart, the president of Hawick RFC (whose centenary it also was) and retired head of knitwear producer Pringle of Scotland, issued an invitation to Tokkie Smith, his Hong Kong agent and good mate, for the HKRFU to fly over a national squad at Easter to contest the annual Borders sevens tournaments (Smith was Union chairman). The seed for an international sevens in Hong Kong was planted. It blossomed three years later, in March 1976, as the inaugural Hong Kong Rugby Sevens – staged on the pitch at the HKFC, the venue for that first experimental charity sevens tournament 44 years earlier. ■

LEFT:
In 1934, the first year the Blarney Stone Shield was awarded, winners were the HSBC VII. To general surprise, the Bank VII had been knocked out in the 1st round of the 1932 sevens. (Courtesy of HSBC Asia-Pacific Archives.)

When a replacement Shield was provided in 1947, the original having gone missing during the war, plaques were affixed to it identifying all 'Blarney Stone Sevens' winners back to 1932. The Shield is on display outside the HKFC's Sportsman's Bar.

Note: More about the evolution of the Blarney Stone Sevens into the international Hong Kong Rugby Sevens can be found on pages 74 / 76, 162-166 and 174-180 of [along the sports road](#).

By Denis Way

Rugby News

Club seems to be racing off with the 1st division title as I write this. Leading from the front, our modest captain, **Stephen "The Horse" Nolan** with **Junior** and **Kirkey** closely watching on. Club recorded their first win of 2011 with a romp over HKCC over at Kings Park, I still don't know why it was played there instead of Aberdeen. CWB then failed to produce a front row, Junior being the kind man that he is allowed them to postpone to a later date. Drags opened their 2011 account by fielding probably their season best team and with that, well and truly had their pants pulled down with a 49-17 drumming by DEA – captain **Ant Phillips** was less than impressed, by ck'. The following week, they took a trip to Aberdeen where the sight of a Welsh International / British Lion in the centres (**Dafydd James**) did nothing to phase the lads as they put several tries on the home team and finished the 1st half well in front. I think the water must have something in it on the other side of the tunnel as the second half was very different, very different. Cricket Club came back to be leading approaching the final whistle before **Hugh Baggie** saved the day with a winning penalty kick, final score 39-38. Club and Drags once again gave the inter-club fixture a miss, allowing Club the win, then hung the boots up again for the Chinese New Years proceedings. **Rob Jones**, our resident ginger Welshman, not to be confused with **Christian Kimberley**, took on the role as Club and Drags manager as he is taking time away from the pitch due to knee surgery last year. Rob has done a sterling job so far in his role trying to manage the admin of the two teams, along with other unsung heroes **Sean Purdie**, **Dave Nazer**, **Chris Harker**, **James Manders** etc. Buy these guys a beer when you are next in the Sportsmans, they do a lot behind the scenes, which they are not always commended for.

Shane Wallis's Scorps started strong with a 27-18 win over the Exciles in Div 2 followed by a draw against CWB Sharks. Unfortunately they couldn't manage to recreate the magic earlier in the season

PETE BARRETT'S CHRISTMAS TRIP COMMENTARY

I worked as a volunteer English teacher at Dong Sawang Wittana School for three weeks in December. It is in the countryside south east of Ubon Ratchathani. The school can be identified on Google Earth if you do a search for "Dong Sawang School". Yes, it is very remote; and there is not even a village there. The Football Club kindly gave me some rugby balls to take to see if I could interest the students in the game, Touch Rugby. Students usually play football and volleyball in the evenings. The first session covered the basics such as only passing backwards. Considering the students had never met a rugby ball before, they picked up some skills very quickly. Roll balls (to restart play) became a cameo for American Football. When in possession,



(continues next page...)

MAY BALL 2011

After last year's failed attempt, we are happy to inform all that the infamous May Ball is back with vengeance this year, keep Saturday 28th May free, the final touches are being put together by **Dave "Monkey" Nazer** and the crew. Theme will be the usual black tie/Club blazers for the gents and fancy dresses for the girls.

against the Nomads and recorded a 38-5 loss, Scorps lie mid table in 4th. As we cast an eye on Division 3 we come across Select,,,,,,oh the mighty Select. A 25-14 win over Comvita City, 15-0 over CWB Pirates but fell just short of the triple with a 10-7 loss to University and now firmly sitting in 6th spot. Sequins, in the same league have managed to steer the ship on a far straighter course post New Years with a 20-6 win over CWB, a thumping 47-7 over DEA III's and last but by no means least, a 20-12 win over HKCC III's eradicating their wobbley close to the 2010 campaign. 2nd spot in the league as we approach the Grannies.

Called a development side but The Bulls have shown more than just development in the 4th Division. A "W" over CWB 14-5 and then showing HKCC Force who the real powerhouse is with an emphatic 25-3 win for the 2011 score sheet. Keep going at this rate and we might have three teams in the 3rd Division next year, I can see the Unions red tape being prepared as I write.

For the ICE Ladies, a 19-3 loss to DEA didn't get them off to the best start, however, they managed to blow up a big score against Abaloon, 34-8, which has to be the strangest name of any team in HK.

(continued)

the ball carrier simply did not want to be “touched” so the ball was kept “alive” for remarkably long periods; and the idea of scoring tries quickly caught on. Thai schoolchildren are naturally competitive.

The three week stay at Dong Sawang Wittana School was organized by the English Crazy Club which can be found at <http://englishcrazyclub.wordpress.com> and www.learn2give.blogspot.com

The school had not had a native English speaker before, and cannot afford to employ one. Other organizations I can recommend for volunteering in Asia are WLS (www.gapyearinasia.com) and www.voluntaryprojectsoverseas.org These organizations charge for the privilege, but their programmes are well organized. I found English Crazy Club from their link on www.helpx.net which contains many worldwide links.



125th anniversary: time for pride, ‘One Club’ and a bigger, better Rugby Section

Q&A with Damian Babis, Rugby Section Chairman

“ All players - whether mini, junior or senior – are now all wearing the same playing jerseys which is an important symbolic change from the past where each team had differing jersey designs. ”



With 2011 firmly underway and the 125th anniversary of the Club being celebrated, what is the philosophy you are encouraging for the Rugby Section?

We are the best rugby club in Hong Kong, providing an opportunity at all levels for players to enjoy rugby – at a competitive level and socially. We cater for players who want to be most competitive through to those who want a more social emphasis. There’s something for anybody who likes playing rugby, from pursuing selection for the Hong Kong Sevens or 15s National squads, to regular season rugby, or joining tours and tournaments around the Asia Pacific region. The range of our teams is just amazing, from our fantastic ladies’ team to our various men’s teams, Club, Dragons, Scorpions, Select, Sequins, developmental squad the Bulls, to the evergreen Contemptibles (over 35s). Colts Rugby has 225 players, U18s, U16s and U14s have at least three teams in each. Our Mini Rugby is enormous, providing an opportunity for some 437 children to enjoy the sport through the U6s to U12s.

We are working towards all areas of the Rugby Section having a greater feeling of ‘one club’. All players - whether mini, junior or senior – are now all wearing the same playing jerseys which is an important symbolic change from the past where each team had differing jersey designs. All teams retain their own identity, but whether you are 6 or 46, there is no

mistaking you are playing for HKFC.

Players from senior teams are coming down to help coach at Mini Rugby which inspires the kids. Coaches and parents are being provided with many more formal Coaching courses than ever before. Mini Rugby players are coming to Club and Dragons games, running onto the pitch as mascots with the senior players and then staying to support from the stands. Players at the senior level support teams by making themselves available for games with sides which need players at various times – so players are having opportunities to play up or down and at the same time widen their social network.

We aim to increasingly provide opportunities for rugby players no matter what stage they are at in their development. When 16 year olds move up to the U18s they should be able to see that there’s a place in the Club in future for them to play and contribute at adult level. A parent who has played many years of rugby with the Club can then introduce their son or daughter to Mini Rugby and know that there is a future of playing, fun and friendship for them for the next 30 or 40 years.

What is planned for this year, particularly with the Club’s anniversary year?

We are busy as a Section celebrating the 125th anniversary with our own special events and also by supporting all those of the HKFC. We have commemorative jerseys which are a return to traditional cotton, with the big bold hoops of old. We thank our sponsors for waiving their advertising for the 125th Jerseys.

The big Rugby Section event is the **Taipan’s Game on Saturday 9th April**. The 125th anniversary is a great opportunity to resurrect the Taipan’s game, which was an annual fixture from the late 1940s to the early 1990s, in which the Taipan, a senior HK business figure, selected a XV to play an HKFC XV. This year we will add matches for all age groups. It promises to be a full day of rugby for players at all levels with the highlight being Club President **Dermot Agnew** selecting his HKFC XV to play the Taipan’s XV.

We are launching a University 10s tournament in September which will attract teams from universities around the world to Hong Kong rugby and the opportunity for players and potential employers in Hong

RUGBY

Kong to get to know each other. This will also benefit the Club's development by bringing a pool of younger, talented players to Hong Kong. It will also introduce our Colts teams to the universities of the world.

How is the Section doing so far this year?

The first team is doing well, but we can't take that for granted. The rest of the teams are playing at a level above the one they played last year. This is helping the development of the rest of HK rugby, but means everybody at HKFC is working harder on the pitch and we are seeing a big increase in injuries and recovery times. Everybody has gone up a level and there's a strong sense of spirit around the Section. We are focusing more on developing the ladies' team at both youth and adult level. Our development squad the Bulls continues to produce good players into the Club and we need to do more with the Ladies' and Bulls teams to get more local Hong Kong people involved with rugby.

Refereeing is a big issue. Some people have a lot to say about HK's referees, and too often in a counter productive way. HKFC is under-represented amongst the refereeing ranks and we are grateful to the relatively few members who have taken to the pitch as refs over the years. Our arm chair experts can help us all by picking up the whistle and joining the referees.

What does the 125th anniversary mean to you?

I've been in Hong Kong since mid-1998 and had my first game with the Contemptibles soon after arriving. I now play every

weekend with a range of teams in the front row. Hong Kong is one of the best places in the world to be playing rugby, it's a really good place to enjoy rugby on and off the pitch. It's the community here, the level of competitiveness and the social side too. Rugby people are great people wherever they get together but there's something really special here in the HKFC.

The 125th anniversary is a celebration of that. It's a time for pride, a time to remember, to take a step back and look at the HKFC which has been so big and so successful for so long. It's also a time for us to be getting bigger and better, particularly the Rugby Section.

Above all, its 125 years of Rugby at the HKFC. ■

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Zen and the Art of the Oval Ball

"We are the World"



I am always in awe of the fact that you can find ruggers from most civilised (or otherwise) corners of the world represented in the Rugby Section and each of the tribes thriving. IRB should be proud of us, if I may say so in all modesty befitting my own provenance.

In this anniversary year, it may be apposite to go through the inventory of this menagerie of ours. Apologies in advance for any omissions by mistake or through my own ignorance (note to self: I should drink at the Sportsman's more often).

English: The original tribe. That old adage of Professor Higgins still holds true: "It is impossible for an Englishman to open his mouth without making some other Englishman hate or despise him." Insults being the terms of endearment in their tribal culture, there is too much ribbing and junior common room politics for them to stay in the mainstream within the Section in perpetuity, thereby inadvertently ensuring the "Open Church" spirit for the good of the Section as a whole.

Scottish: Each Scot feels he/she holds debentures in Hong Kong. Although this is literally thousands of miles away from their native land with scenery and climate that could not be more different, they enthusiastically proclaim their affinity to "Fragrant Harbour". They collectively and privately believe that the place should have been named "New New Caledonia". Spot the tears

welling up in their eyes as the Hong Kong Police Pipe Band march in their Mackintosh tartan.

Welsh: Rugby being the important part of their national identity, they take the game very seriously. Another expression of their national identity is male choir, and some of them seem to bridge the wide gaping gap between these two with amazing grace, like an unlikely mash-up between Justin Bieber and "Rudy". Some of them watch "Zulu" before the match day.

Irish: I wonder if I have spent too much time listening to James Riordan but the "Tradition" seems to play a big part in their rugby psyche. Despite their national side's recent glories, I still seem to hear a lot about Willie John McBride.

Australians: They would be the mainstream, if it were not for the inordinate amount of time and energy spent on their favourite pastime: the on-going rivalry against their English cousins, otherwise known as Pom-bashing, which is all too mysterious to the outsiders. Manly demeanor and athletic excellence being their religion, they all look and behave younger than they really are. Their national anthem actually commands this tribe to rejoice because "they are young and free", which they seem to have taken to their hearts and practice nightly.

New Zealanders: Rugby's chosen people, or so they believe, at least. And very much like their Biblical equivalent, they seem to suffer most for their belief. They must accept victory as part of the Divine Plan. In defeat, inconsolable.

South Africans: If rugby is religion for the Kiwis, it is part of the Rainbow Nation's founding legend. At pains to differentiate themselves from the Aussies and Kiwis, they seem not to notice that their distinctive accent does the job for them more than adequately.

French: The Hunchback of HK Rugby, they seem resigned to accept the role of the "unloved". Secretly excited about the burst of shocking colours amongst their national league sides' jerseys, but still cannot find the courage to wear them to training.

Italians: Back at home, their pet-hate is the French, but there are simply not enough of them around to practice it in HK. Too well-mannered to point out that it can no longer be called "spaghetti" if it is cooked by a HK chef after the English fashion.

Hong Kong Chinese: Mostly started playing rugby during their education overseas, they have decided to continue their education. True lovers of the sport because, truth be told, they wouldn't come to the Club for the food.

Overseas Chinese: Very similar to their HK cousins, except that they started to play the game to fight the stereotypes in their adopted home countries. Hence the passion and intensity.

Mainland Chinese: Western capitalism has never been so hedonistically orgiastic and fun... the kind of corruption we can all enjoy.

Americans: They joined the Club to play a quaint sport in a quaint colonial establishment but were surprised by its vivacity, amused by the shenanigans amongst its tribes and alarmed when they unite under the anti-American banner. Still they know how to play the ultimate diplomatic card: "...but I have all the episodes from the latest season in my TIVO..."

Korean: Minju. We all love him.

Japanese: Let's just say that we are the antidote to Hello Kitty. ■

By Yutaka Yazawa



The victorious HKFC Under 12s with the Tai Po Mini Rugby Cup (and souvenir sole inserts!) in hand.

First Mini Rugby Festival of 2011 and another great day for HKFC

It was a very cold day that greeted the thousands of Mini Rugby players at King's Park on Sunday January 16th for the Tai Po Mini Rugby Club's festival of mini rugby. Bringing a warm glow of pride to all of us though was the blue and white hoops of the 125th Anniversary shirts worn by the hundreds of Football Club players and coaches throughout the day and, once again, our young players did the Club proud throughout the age groups. Here are reports from the various Head Coaches:

Under 12s claim their second Cup win of the season, but only just

The Blues 1 side playing as FC1 needed to come back strongly after missing out at the last two festivals to DEA and Valley Fort, but with all our Aussie players still away on holidays, it looked like a tough challenge. That challenge was made even tougher when HKU Sandy Bay came fast out of the blocks to go one try up in the opening encounter and despite an equalizer from our lads a second try saw a well-deserved

victory go to Sandy Bay. At this point our second cup win of the season was looking distinctly unlikely. However, after fine battling victories over strong DEA and Valley Fort sides, we just needed to beat the whipping boys of the group, Flying Kukris to nick the silverware from HKU's grasp. With a thumping 6 nil victory the Tai Po Under 12 Cup was in our hands and we were back on top of the U12 leader board. A great performance from the team, many of whom were playing out of position, with special mentions going to **Ben Main** for some storming runs and tries, **Daniel Carolan** who was stepping back up from Blue 2 as was **Garth Reynolds** who

hooked brilliantly to secure ball at the scrum and **Max Rosgen** who scored a spectacular bulldozer forwards' try with Kukri players literally flying off him.

Blue 2 in the FC2 spot faced a daunting day against DB1, a combined Tai Hang Tung/Shatin Sha Pei side, normally featuring a giant Under 12 player but who thankfully was missing this time around, and strong second sides from DEA and Valley Fort. The team once again put in some solid performances, not quite doing enough to win the Plate but never in danger of relegation. An early loss to Valley Fort was followed by a thumping win over a THT/SSP side (who strangely insisted on playing only 9-a-side even though they had 11 players available) and then, arguably Blue 2's best performance of the season, a superb 3 nil win over DEA2. A final victory over DB1 could have won us the silverware but their first string side was too strong and Blue 2 finished equal on 6 points with DEA and Valley Fort. **Henry Hargreaves**, **Kurt Lamming**, **Oscar Coggins**, **Ryan Burlage** and **Joshua Ho**, stepping up from the Whites, all showed they could make the grade, with Joshua Ho ripping many opponents' defences apart with some mazy try-scoring runs. In the forwards **Sam Dodd** and **Ashton Prochaska**, playing his last match for HKFC U12s, were the unsung heroes with some strong work in the pack.

With many players leaving Hong Kong over the Christmas period, Whites were reduced to just one team playing as FC3 but once again were unlucky not to come away with the Bowl trophy. Fine wins over Flying Kukris 2 (1-0) and Tuen Wan Rhinos (a close 3-2 victory) plus a well-deserved 2-2 draw against HKU2 set us up for a possible trophy but a final 0-2 loss to DB2 left us in runners up spot...maybe next time. Special mentions should go to **Sean Kam** and the two girls still playing in the Under 12s, **Phoebe Macdonald** and **Sasha Faure**, for excellent fighting performances in a great all-round team effort.

With Blue 1 (FC1) winning again, Blue 2 (FC2) competing well with both second and first string sides, plus White 1 (FC3) regularly beating second teams from other clubs, it is a testimony to our players and coaches, that Football Club remains one of the strongest competitors in this age group. Two more festivals to go including

our own host event on Sunday 13th March to compete for the big one, the Richard Hawkes Trophy. Go Club!

Chris Plowman
Head Coach Under 12s

Under 11

An excellent festival for all four HKFC Under 11 teams that participated. Our two strongest sides played well against our main rivals, more than holding their own in the scrums and breakdowns, and the backs moving the ball sweetly along the line. The extreme narrowness of the pitches at King's Park often thwarting exciting back play. These two teams ended the day with only one defeat from six games succumbing to a late Discovery Bay try after pounding unsuccessfully the opponent's line. Teams 3 and 4 were also strong, one side also winning all three matches, the other losing one narrowly to a strong Sai Kung side after leading. Nonetheless, the ball was well carried and well passed throughout the group (although less tucking ball under arm and more two handed ball carrying needs to

be developed) and work is required upon appreciation of the offside rules after kicking from hand. Overall a pleasing show of development and many positives to take into the coaching in the second half of the season.

Russell Henderson
Head Coach Under 11s

Under 10

Vulcan played four games, won two and lost two. Everyone in the team played with great spirit and there were some excellent passages of play. Overall they scored 15 tries with memorable tries from **Lucas Gilbert** and **Josh Lim**. The passing, tackling and running skills are improving all the time and just as importantly the whole team are really enjoying their rugby

Hornet started slowly but finished strongly. A surprise loss to DBP2 was the first of the season but credit to the team, they responded well and finished with three victories, the highlight of which was a 3 to 1 victory over rivals Valley Fort.

Alastair Murray
Head Coach Under 10s

Under 9/Under 10 Girls

The Under 9/Under 10 girls team were playing only their second tournament at the Tai Po festival and due to some last minute cry-offs due to sickness were short of numbers. However, despite playing nine girls on the field for the first two games and 10 girls for the last game, the team did superbly well winning all three games.

Libby Moser and **Rosie Wilson** had some really good runs on the field. And **Lauren Young** scored a couple of amazing tries on the wing. Also, **Chloe Babis**, as the smallest player for the team, put in some incredible tackling with great skill going low on her opponent.

We started our girls only team just earlier this year and it is going really well but we are keen to encourage more girls to join in so why not contact me and join us for a run.

Diane Li
Head Coach Under 9/Under 10 Girls

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MINI RUGBY

Under 8

The Tai Po Festival marked a welcome return to tournament rugby for oft-crooked Under 8 co-head coach **David Cheung**. The latest in a very long list of mostly self-inflicted injuries has involved pioneering knee surgery. Essentially a combination of elephant and pig flesh has been grafted onto his previously mostly human leg in a procedure known as reverse-Darwinian reconstructoplasty.

With **Cheung** back at the co-helm and in charge of two Kuala Lumpur-bound touring sides, Tai Po Under 8 rugby was as experimental – but not quite as grotesque – as his surgery. **Louis Vallier, Joe Denmark** and **Max Dubow** combined well with **Doddy Tullis** and **Ronan Reynolds** for the KLA team while **Clement Beylier, Oliver Lam, Leighton Harris** and **Matthew McCombe** were outstanding for KLI.

A mixture of cold weather, extended Christmas holidays and a prolonged Ashes hangover - that deprived us of many suddenly shy Aussie parents - meant numbers were thinner than usual. But we still fielded six teams. Many of our children had to play multiple games as a result – often at very late notice – but they did so with admirable gusto. **Alex Teague, Max Phelps, Sophie Bater, Dylan Hughes** and **Connor Young** were all both ubiquitous and highly effective team players.

A big shout-out to Administrator-in-Chief **Ping Lam** for delivering order out of chaos through some of the world's most colourful and complex Excel spreadsheets ever. And even more thanks to Tai Po's organizing committee, volunteers and teams for their excellent hospitality and hugely enjoyable festival.

Tony Shale

Head Coach Under 8s

Under 7

A good turnout from the Under 7s with four competitive teams showing that much has been learnt as the season progresses. For the Typhoons, inspirational defence from **Sarah Roberts** and **Thalia Serjeant** was super to watch, with their committed effort allowing **Josh Fabiani** and **Jimmy O'Donoghue** to score some great individual tries. The Bulls played with lots of passion and a real determination to win. **Conner Bourk** and **Tomos Lewis** were the top try scorers with three a piece. **Marco Conti** put in a storming defensive effort making some big tackles. A few over zealous hits were penalised but ensured that the attacking team weren't so keen to run in his direction! **King Lau, Edric Wong** and **William Scherle** also had strong games around the field. **Oliver Nicholle's** strong running stood out for the Dragons, aided by **Dhruv Kapoor's** playmaking and the busy **Aidan Keough** and **Coco Nate**. The ever-reliable **William Broomhead** stood out for the Hurricanes, ably supported by **Zach Wong**, with the enthusiastic **Tanzin Sisterson** and **Dominic Sinclair**. **Jay Ferrier** and **Bryan Wong** linking well for one particularly memorable try.

Arwel Lewis

Head Coach Under 7s

Under 6

The Mighty Under 6's competed well at the Flying Kukri's Festival with their usual gusto. We were down on numbers with the lead in to Christmas period and had a number of players who played in more than two teams totaling eight matches for the day! It was interesting to see how a lot of the kids performed well playing with new teammates from our other teams. One of the objectives this year has been to ensure all players enjoy playing mini rugby (as a key driver to ensuring they keep returning). It was very pleasing to see that most of our players are understanding the "Support Play" concept which ensures they get plenty of the ball, keep involved in the game and score lots of tries – which was evident in this festival. A special thanks to all the coaches and parents who braved the early chill to support our 'Mighty Champs' and they were rewarded with fine mini rugby and weather (as the day wore on)!

James Manders

Head Coach Under 6s

All in all another great day for HKFC Mini Rugby at the Tai Po Festival with parents, siblings, supporters and of course, the players representing the Club with pride and distinction. Well done to all! ■

Chris Plowman

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Milan	Ibis Milano Centro, Four Seasons Hotel Milano, and more	Shopping Tour at the McArthurGlen Serravalle Designer Outlet
Paris	All Seasons Paris Bercy, Mercure Paris Suffren Tour Eiffel, and more	Hop-on/Hop-off Bus Tour

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HKFC U12s take trophy



HKFC U14s take trophy

Teams were as follows:

U12 –

Finn Galloway, Maya Rao, Alexandra Barker, Ollie Otten, Toby Skinner, Harry Woodrow, Oscar McLean, Michael Sheperdson, Ellie Calderwood, Harriet Molloy, Yik Kei Leung

U14 –

Annabelle Barker, Alistair Murray-Tacon, Zac McCarroll, James Sheperdson, Megan Daly, Amy Hopkins, Lily Banks, Fiona Lancelotte, Rafaele Cotillon, Arthur Belime, Frans Otten

HKFC Mini/ Youth Hockey Cleans Up in Singapore

With a squad of 22 children aged 10 to 13 HKFC Mini/ Youth Hockey headed off to Singapore on 14 January for our first ever overseas tour. As far as we are aware this was also the first regional mini /youth hockey tournament there has been. The tournament was organised by Stingers Hockey Club in Singapore and hosted at the campus of United World College South East Asia (UWCSEA). Participating clubs included Stingers, UWC, Tanglin-Tigers, Hollandse and HKFC with competitions across the U12 and U14 age groups. This was a first for all clubs organised through the initiative of **Rob Barker** (HKFC) and **Stewart Bamrah** (Stingers) with the aim of introducing our mini and youth players to touring and international hockey.

Uncertain of the venue, the competition and with no touring experience for any of our players we were hoping to put on a good show and gain experience for the future. The end result passed all expectations:

Our U12 team won all their matches, their group and the overall U12 tournament, with **Ollie Otten** winning the MVP boy award of the U12 tournament. In achieving this they conceded only 1 goal in the whole tournament, despite not fielding a keeper.

Our U14 team also won all their matches, their group and the overall U14 tournament, with **James Sheperdson** (a U12 player) and **Annabelle Barker** winning the MVP boy and MVP girl awards of the U14 tournament.

The U14s conceded only 3 goals during the tournament also without a keeper.

In summary our HKFC mini/ youth hockey squad took a clean sweep of all the silverware and 3 of 4 MVP awards for individual players on their first ever tour.

One of the highlights of the U12 tournament came down to the pool game against the Stingers, where, despite being in the opposition half (indeed mostly in their D) for most of the game, we could not convert a goal. In the last minute of time, a long pass to **Finn Galloway**, positioned in fine goal hogging position in the D, allowed her a textbook stop and shoot to clinch the match and maintain the unbroken win record going into the Group 1-2 play off against the Dutch. This match was a fantastic test of grit and perseverance from the whole team. After then going on to beat the Dutch by not allowing them a chance to play the



Multi-talented Chappie



HKFC teams take pitch in style

ball, with a 3-0 win, we faced a rematch in the final. The Dutch came out fighting, after a 20 minute pep talk from their coach to try and regain the pride of Singapore hockey. An early break gave them a 1-0 lead over HKFC, conceding our only goal of the tournament and serving as a wake up call to the team. On the restart **Ollie Otten** scored a quick goal to level the match and from then on, although a fierce game, HKFC was not going to leave without the silverware. After Ollie's equaliser, **Michael Sheperdson** scored a second, in what was probably the goal of the tournament – a rocket that beat the keeper on his inside post from an unbelievably tight angle just of the line. A final goal sealed the 3-1 win and the trophy.

in their midfield, shelling the ball into the D looking for a deflection in. After what must have been THE inspirational half time talk from **Chappie** HKFC came out and played what all the coaches believe was the best half of HKFC U14 hockey we have seen. Five goals from HKFC in quick succession left the Stingers reeling and despite a late counter to take the final score to 5-2 they had nothing to answer. The final against Stingers was almost a repeat match although Stingers appeared to have loaded their team with their own All Stars line-up. Unfazed and having just seen the U12s take the silverware, the U14s had no intention of going home with anything less than the trophy. They stuck to their game plan, didn't let the opposition get a

“... our HKFC mini/ youth hockey squad took a clean sweep of all the silverware and 3 of 4 MVP awards for individual players on their first ever tour.”

Everyone dug into extra reserves and full credit to **Ollie Otten** for going back on after coming off close to exhaustion – this kind of commitment was what all the players were giving in the heat. Overall, there was very strong defence throughout the tournament from **Alexandra Barker** and **Harry Woodrow**, with **Michael Sheperdson** providing the link man in the middle to **Oscar McLean** (another prominent goals scorer), **Ollie** and **Ellie Calderwood** upfront.

The best of the U14 matches also came down to the pool game against Stingers. HKFC was 0-1 down at half time to the determined hosts, with a 'big hitter' sitting

good run of play and overall dominated possession. **James Sheperdson** was the goal machine of the day (multiple hatricks) and with parents stepping in to take the tour fines, **Shep Sr.** was looking in serious trouble for the post tournament celebrations. Fantastic reverse stick skills from **Frans Otten**, an impenetrable defence from **Annabelle Barker** (with 2 saves off the line in the final that are being analysed for our training video), and continued hassling for the ball from **Zac McCarroll** left all opposition in the HKFC wake. If there was any question of HKFC lacking spirit this was sent packing by **Raphaelle Cotillon** – having been laid low by a serious stomach bug at 6am

(continues next page)



Captain rallies his troupes for Final



U12 final, half time - heat is on



Frans tries to shoot



Toby tries to jink past



HKFC U12 squad



HKFC U14 squad

HOCKEY



The coaches and supporters anxiously wait the final whistle

Kong with a group of individuals and came back with two teams of players, all fired up about where they would be touring next year in the quest for more silverware. ■

and almost unconscious for the first hour of the tournament, sheer determination and major fluid intake saw her take the field and demonstrate her usual stick skills all around the opposition.

To quote the coaches “we asked and they delivered in spades”. We left Hong



HKFC Hockey 6s 2011

22nd and 23rd April at HKFC

Teams are already confirmed from Singapore and Switzerland.

Teams also from Japan, UK, China and Hong Kong.

More to be announced soon.

In addition, a major 125th Hockey Event will be held on the evening of Friday, 22nd April at the Club

Announcements on

www.hkfchockeysixes.com



LADIES B TEAM

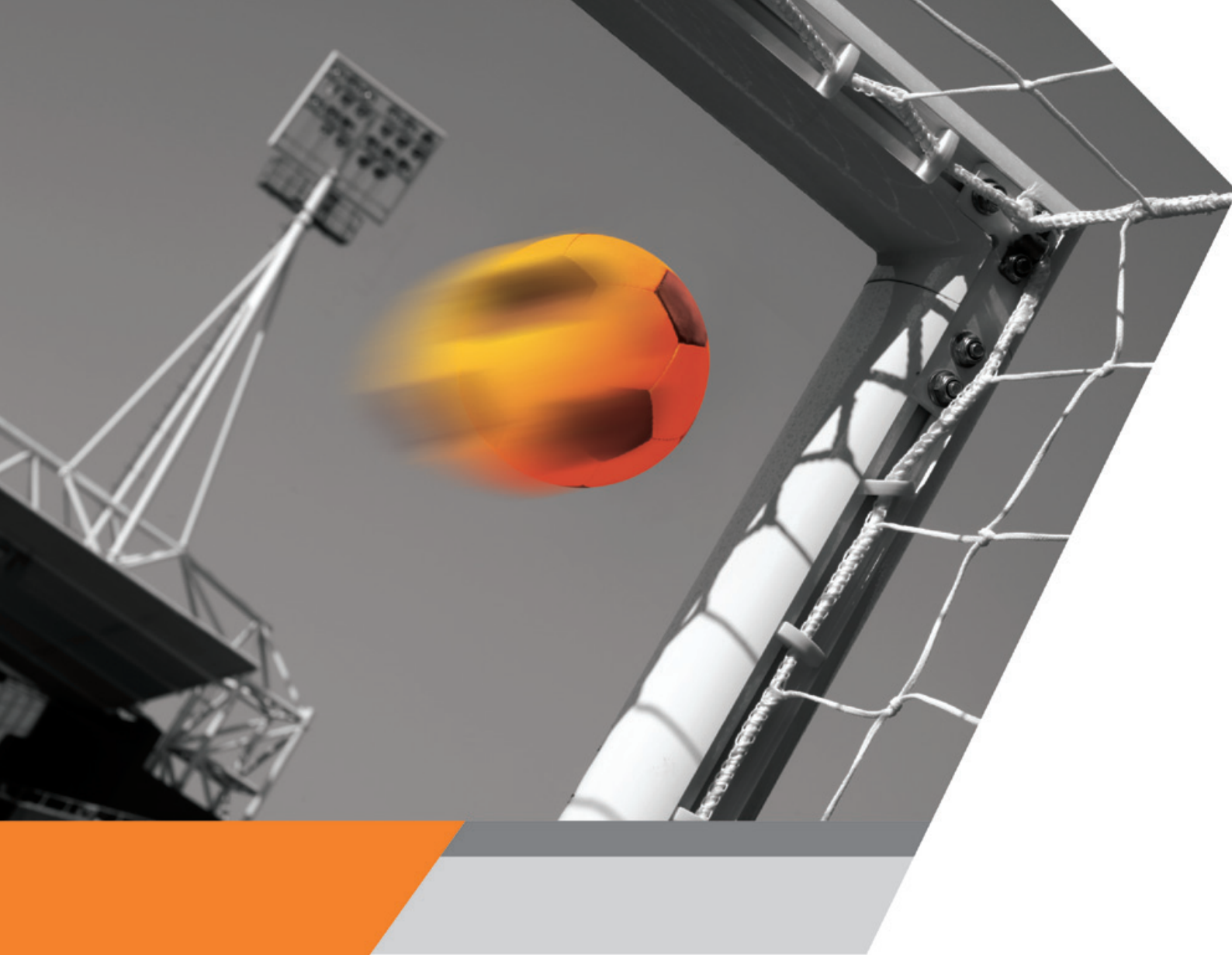
To say that the Ladies B Team started the first half of the season on a high note is an understatement – we have scored some great goals (upped our average from last year!) and we had some great wins.

The Ladies B Team has also managed to retain its spot in the Premier Division.

We have some new players join the team this season - **Chandy Graves, Karen King, Frances Reid, Rachel Graham, Charlotte Summer** and our very own ladies captain, **Nicky Russo** - all of whom have proven to be a great asset to the squad. We've also been lucky enough to have some new young legs join the team; **Becky Mould** and **Veronica Morlotti** who have played really well in the ladies league.

The second half of the season is set to be an exciting one. The team has really come together and we can only better our streak of outstanding hockey. We have an excellent contingent going on the Singapore tour in early March, and are looking forward to improving upon last season's end results.





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Captain's Corner

We're coming to the business end of the season and it's certainly a busy month for Lucky Mile. The boys have been training hard in their quest for survival in the HKFA Division 2 and **Graeme Lane's** men have four games this month. One of their games sees the visit of former giants Happy Valley to the Club on Saturday the 5th March at 8.15pm and it would be great to see a good crowd.

Talking of good crowds, it was fantastic to see so many in the ground for the South China game against the 1st team in January. The lads also played the following week and don't be fooled by the score in both games. It was real end-to-end stuff and they had South China worried for long periods. Full match reports from **Freek Schipper**. By the time you read this they will have played the cup game at the Hong Kong Stadium and if they win then March promises to be huge. A big thank you to all of the Section members that turned out to support the lads; they really do appreciate it.

In the Yau Yee League, both Albion and Wanderers have closed the gap on 816 and both are in the mix for the league title, whilst the Colts have weighed in with some great performances, most notably a 6-1 defeat of German All Stars who were in 3rd place at the time.

Finally for the player's profile this month, we have Wanderers skipper Terry Harris who in his earlier years sampled the big time. I can certainly vouch for Tony Agana having the hardest shot in the game. 3 years ago he played in the 7's for Sheffield FC and just about burst the net from 40 yards. I got a great view of the shot, having been marking him at the time...

Here's to a great month; see you down at the Club.

*Neil Jensen,
Soccer Section Captain*

Ups and Downs for 1st Team in January

LEAGUE CUP

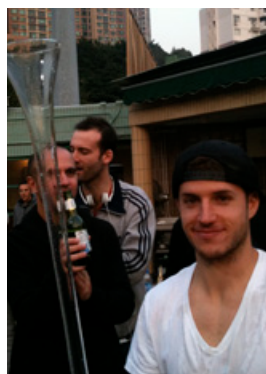
Club's first game of 2011 saw them take on Tai Po in the Quarter Final of the League Cup. It was already the 3rd meeting between both teams this season so Club knew what to expect. Club took the initiative straight from the kick-off and **Jaimes Mckee** broke the deadlock after 19 minutes after a great assist by **Allan Fraser**. Club kept pressing and it was only minutes later that **James Ha** doubled the lead after finishing off a **Freek Schipper** through ball. However, Tai Po managed to get one back before half-time and Club knew it was up for a real battle in the 2nd half. Club kept its defensive shape well and continued to look dangerous on the break. And with Tai Po failing to create real chances, Club sealed its first win of the season and booked a place in the Semi Final of the League Cup in which they will take on TSW Pegasus. This game will be played at HK Stadium in mid-February.

LEAGUE

After the win against Tai Po, it was back to the league for Club with South China visiting Sports Road on the 21st January. South China, still without new signings **Nicky Butt** and **Mateja Kezman**, are top of the table and looking to win the league once again. However, it was Club that was the better side in the opening stages and it was **Jaimes Mckee** who got the opener. However, South China were quick to equalize and even managed to be 1-2 up at the interval. Club continued to put on a fine display in the 2nd half and created some opportunities to level the score. Unfortunately, and not for the first time this season, Club tired in the last 15 minutes and the visitors scored 2 more goals, final score 1-4.

Next up for Club was another home game, this time against Senior Shield winners Citizen. Club dominated the opening stages in the term of possession but were unable to create any real opportunities in front of goal. Mid-way through the 1st half, Citizen started to go forward more and they got gifted the opening goal as the attempt of a Club defender to clear a cross ended up in the back of his own net. The visitors added another just after the hour-mark and looked comfortable. But Jaimes Mckee, 3rd goal in 3 games, pulled one back after 84 minutes and Club threw everyone forward in the search for a late equalizer. This allowed Citizen more and more space and resulted in Club conceding a goal on the break, final score 1-3.

Freek Schipper



BRATSANOS' PENALTY NIGHTMARE

It was 'Hat-trick Jug avoidance' of the highest order. Having already scored a goal, Andy Bratsanos missed 2 penalties in the same game against Antonhill and was punished accordingly by the lads.

Here is his 'punishment' from the Wanderers players. I was talked out of publishing the photos showing subsequent visits to the bathroom...

Player's Profile: Terry Harris

The Sheffield United match day programme from early February 1991, describes trialist Terry Harris as an unknown name who was on a 3-week trial with the Blades, arriving from Non-league Enfield, also highlighting that he had played 2nd XI cricket for Middlesex and Derbyshire. Also on trial at the club that week was Danish international Marc Rieper who was to go on to play for West Ham United and Glasgow Celtic.

The manager of Sheffield United at the time was Dave 'Harry' Basset and one of Terry's team-mates was hard man Vinnie Jones, later to make his name in Hollywood blockbusters. Terry described Vinnie and his other new colleagues as 'just ordinary people with the same problems and interests as anyone else'

So, what's his story?

TH: "I was playing amateur football for Enfield in North London and was spotted by a scout. Despite having attained a degree in computers in 1989, I was 24 and unemployed and if I'd been working, there's no way I could have committed to a trial for that length of time.

I signed and spent 18 months there but all my games were in the reserves. When they released me at the end of the 1991-92 season they said to me, "You've got something, but you may not make it."

I then went to nearby Huddersfield Town who were managed at the time by Neil Warnock (current QPR manager). I played 4 games, scoring 6 goals and they were really keen for me to sign. Unfortunately, by then I'd been offered a decent job and the terms Huddersfield were offering were inferior to those available working and playing non-league."

Terry went onto to play for Grantham, Kettering and Worksop, he played in the Malaysia league and is now the Wanderers skipper.

Best player played with?



Terry Harris

Tony Agana. He could hold off defenders and had a huge shot.

Best player played against?

Peter Beagrie (made me look silly) or Colin Hendry.

Best ground played at?

Everton's Goodison Park. They used to have a digital code to get into the changing rooms

And the worst?

Wimbledon's Plough Lane (now a housing estate). The smallest dressing rooms ever seen (smaller than ours??)

Most bizarre story from the pro days?

We played away at Nottingham Forest who at the time were managed by Brian Clough. I was stunned to see that Cloughie had left 24 bottles of brown ale in our dressing room BEFORE the game. We weren't laughing afterwards though, as the dressing rooms were burgled while we were playing and all our stuff got nicked.

SOCCER FIXTURES - MARCH 2011 *(Fixtures subject to change. Please visit www.yauyeeleague.com and www.hkfa.com)*

DATE	COMPETITION	TEAM	OPPONENT	VENUE	TIME
4th March	HKFA bma 1st Division	HKFC	NT Realty Wofoo Tai Po	HKFC	20:00
5th March	HKFA 2nd Division	Lucky Mile	Happy Valley	HKFC	20:15
6th March	YYL 1st Division	Wanderers	French Kiss	HKFC	15:00
6th March	YYL 1st Division	Albion	German All Stars	HKFC	16:30
6th March	YYL 1st Division	Colts	Spartans	HKFC	18:00
13th March	HKFA 2nd Division	Lucky Mile	Fukien	Sha Tin SG	13:30
13th March	HKFA bma 1st Division	HKFC	Tai Chung	Kowloon Bay Park	18:00
19th March	HKFA 2nd Division	Lucky Mile	Shatin	HKFC	20:15
20th March	YYL 1st Division	Wanderers	816	HKFC	15:00
20th March	YYL 1st Division	Albion	KCC Dragons	HKFC	16:30
20th March	YYL 1st Division	Colts	USRC	HKFC	18:00
27th March	HKFA 2nd Division	Lucky Mile	Sham Shui Po	Kln. Tsai Park No. 1	13:30

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MEN'S CAPTAIN'S REPORT

League update

As the league season reaches its climax it looks like we may have as many as 17 of our 20 men's teams represented in their respective division play-offs which run from late March to mid-April. Fantastic effort by all players and conveners!

- First confirmed silverware goes to HKFC M1 who completed their season before Christmas with a 100% winning record.
- Other teams leading their divisions at the

At the time of writing, Chinese New Year is behind us, and we are nearly at the end of the current season.....so not too much longer remains before the end of the above competition to identify the winning photograph of a Squash Section member wearing their Henley HKFC kit.

We have received a number of interesting entries to date, all of which have been posted on the main Squash Section Notice board between courts 6 and 7. The competition will close in May, in time for the End of Season party at which the winner will be presented with their award. So, delay no further, and send in your entries to lee.robinson@towerswatson.com

time of writing are 4A, 9, 13, and 14A - although only HKFC 9 can afford to relax as the others will be down to the wire.

- Six teams are in second place including painfully close battles for 5B and 10.
- In Masters 3, our A and B teams are fighting each other for the last play-off position – currently all square – could be an interesting final round!

Super 12

Super 12 is a series of monthly Friday night competitions for the best club players, designed to provide tough matches and great viewing. Chad Sunde emerged as the winner in January's quick fire "swiss draw" event. As players get used to this format and with the Club Champs approach, the matches are getting tougher and tougher. So far there have been four different event winners.

The **Grand Final Super 12 event will be held on Friday 18th March from 7:15pm** and will feature a Club night bar and sponsorship (for prizes not beer) from Blade. Don't miss it!

Malcolm Kerr
Men's Squash Captain

LADIES' CAPTAIN'S REPORT

League update

We are hoping that the year of the Rabbit brings us more luck with the ladies section and maybe even some silverware in the near future.

Our ladies 3B team are our favourites at the time of writing to bring home our first title, currently in 1st place by 3 points with only 3 rounds to play. It will be a battle right down to the last game but, with their super convener Carrie Poon in charge, there is no doubt in my mind that they will be giving it all for the last few weeks of the season. Carrie has her eyes strongly set on the title and keeping everyone in strict training!

A quick update on the other ladies' teams in the league:

Div 1 is doing their best but are unfortunately currently in 5th place and it's looking like we will actually have to train next year. The kids in Div 1 are making Ruchika look old and slow!

Div 2A is going OK and are in 3rd place, but without Cheryl (who has just had a baby) its going to be a tough finish to the season and the play-off finals.

Div 2B is struggling a little bit this year and are currently in 6th place, but watch out next year as they have plenty of unrewarded potential.

Div 3A is doing well and are in 6th place, only 8 points behind the 4th place team. Caitlin Lu and Gail McDermott have only dropped 2 matches and 1 match respectively all season, so there is still a chance of them making the play-offs yet!

A big congratulations to Cheryl Ward and Philippe Bonval for the birth of their healthy new baby boy Zachary on 3rd February 2011. Hopefully with Cheryl dropping an 8lb baby we can try and get her back on court come finals time!

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the teams good luck for the rest of the season including the play-offs, and hopefully we can collect a few more wins and bring home a few more trophies.


Emma Pike
Ladies' Squash Captain

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Lawn Bowls News

HKFC 125 MIXED FOURS TOURNAMENT



The 1st, 2nd and 3rd April marks a special time for the Lawn Bowls Section of the Club. As part of the Club's 125 years anniversary

the Section are holding an International Mixed Fours Competition culminating in a gala prize presentation and dinner.

To mark the occasion we have invited Kelvin Kerkow to head a "Chairman's Select" team to participate in the event.

Kelvin Kerkow is one of Australia's most successful and flamboyant bowlers. Among his many achievements he won the Singles Gold Medal at the Commonwealth Games in 2006, the World Indoor Pairs in 1996 and the Singles

Gold Medal at the 1995 Pacific Games. He is currently ranked 15th in the World Bowls Singles rankings.

Kelvin is an inspiration to anyone who has the odds stacked against them. He was crippled as a child with the life threatening, rare Guillain Barre syndrome which attacks the nervous system. This left Kelvin in a coma and paralysed. He spent years in a wheelchair and having to undergo surgery before he could walk again.

Despite all this, Kelvin became the youngest bowler to represent Queensland and at 25 years old the youngest to be selected in the Australian team.

We are really looking forward to seeing him weave his magic on our Indoor and Outdoor greens.



LADIES CLUB SINGLES COMPETITION

This competition is played annually to decide which of our lady players will become the Ladies Club Singles Champion. The winner of this competition also goes forward to represent the Club in the HKLBA Champion of Champions competition.

The competition extends over a couple of months. It is a knock out competition so right from the start the competition is keenly fought.

The final of this year's competition took place on 30th January between last year's champion, **Tammy Tham** and **Winnie Au**.

It was a relatively warm and sunny day and both players took confidently to the green. Tammy got off to a very good start but during the middle of the competition Winnie got her eye in and clawed back some points. Tammy then rallied and played out the game to become once more the Ladies Club Champion.

Congratulations to Tammy on becoming the Club Ladies Singles Champion for the last three years in a row.

LAWN BOWLS SECTION HIKE

Just to show it was not a "one off" the Lawn Bowls Section organized our second hike over CNY. This one took place on Sunday 6th February.

It was a beautiful day for walking and twenty three persons set off from the Club to start the hike.

It started at Wanchai Gap and the first part took us over Black's Link and down to the road adjacent to HKCC. While doing this section several of the ladies noticed a sign that pointed to a massage point. There were obvious visions of lying down in the sun to be pampered and massaged but sadly the notice only referred to a stony trail laid down for hikers to walk along in bare feet. Our walkers declined the opportunity and walked on.

Number 1 Repulse Bay Road had many photographers loitering at its gate. We were sure they were there to photograph us as we passed but they seemed more interested in trying to catch a glimpse of the owner of the house than us.

At the Wong Nai Chung Reservoir Park our party divided into two groups: the "adventurous" group went up and over Violet Hill while the "Sunday Strollers" took the Tsz Lo Lan Shan Path that contours the hill. Anyone who has taken this path will know just how spectacular it is. One word of warning though, don't do it if you suffer from

ROOSTER FAT CHOY CUP

It has become a tradition of the Section to meet on the third day of the Chinese New Year and celebrate by playing a friendly Rooster Fat Choy Cup Competition. This year of course we were celebrating the year of the Rabbit.

Forty-six players joined the game. The players were drawn into two sides (Red and Blue) and skips were nominated for each side. Each side then formed six teams to play in a round robin format.

The games started at 10.15 and went through to around 5.30pm with a break for a buffet lunch and afternoon tea.

At the end of play both sides were equal on points so the winners had to be decided by shot difference.

The Red side ended up as winners and all their players received a "red packet". So



everyone felt good at the end of the day the Blue team also received "red packets".

The day was a colourful and happy occasion. The majority of participants donned something in red or gold and everyone enjoyed the day.

Thanks to Rita for organizing the event.

vertigo as there are parts of it that make you feel as if you are a bird sitting in a nest a thousand feet up!

The two groups met up again at Tsin Shui Wan Au and then walked alongside Tai Tam Intermediate Reservoir and Tai Tam Tuk Reservoir until we hit the road close to the American International School.

Here we went by bus directly to the CSD Club at Stanley for a late lunch. It was an incredibly welcome meal after a four-hour walk and everyone agreed we had earned it.

Many thanks to **Roger** for leading the walk and **Johnny** for the lunch arrangements. ■

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Netball News

Comments from the Chair



Karin Looram,
Netball DSA
Chairperson

The season has been going well so far, and as we only have 2 months left, it is very important that we all keep focused, committed and positive on the road to the semis and the finals. There have been no wet weather games to make up so far, so we are on track to play semis and finals by mid April, then you can all relax and eat all the Easter eggs that your heart desires.

As it is nearly the Hong Kong Rugby 7's, it seems like a good time to let you know that you will be seeing some of the players from the HKFC on the big screen this year! Look out for them doing their thing while wearing their Kukri uniforms up on the big screen during the intervals.

The HKFC players, in association with Kukri, are part of a video montage involving various teams from various sports from around Hong Kong. We all had such a blast making the video and believe it or not we only had to do about 6 takes!

Who knows, there may be some talent scouts in the stands looking for the next big star.

Only 4 months until the World Netball Championships in Singapore! Get your tickets if you haven't already because it is a unique opportunity and so accessible for us here in Hong Kong.

A few housekeeping issues are still haunting us late in the season. Please collect all uniform from the lockers as soon as possible, if you haven't already. Remember that if you are not in correct registered kit, we can be fined or have points deducted.

Attendance, has been OK, but of course, it can be better. Firstly, it is not acceptable to miss a training session or game, without informing either your coach or captain. Secondly, make sure that you are aware of the requirements of the DSA, if you are injured etc. It is your responsibility to educate yourself and lastly, you need to be proactive in informing either your coach or captain if there are circumstances that may effect your attendance so the committee can plan accordingly.

MATCH REPORTS

Monday 10th January 2011

HKFC Tornadoes 18 vs Valley Leopards 25

In our first match back after the Christmas break, we were up against the current league leaders, Valley Leopards. With holidays and injuries we were a shooter down with no extra players to sub in. Despite this we managed a good performance, making a solid start to the match with the score after the first quarter at four all.

Our defenders **Michelle Robinson** and **Kayleigh Leonard** worked hard for interceptions and rebounds in the circle against a strong attack. **Marie Farry** fed the ball accurately through centre court. **Hayleigh Davies** stepped into the GS position and demonstrated a previously undiscovered talent for shooting. She was supported by **Michelle Cairns** at GA, who played consistently well throughout the match despite some challenging play from her opponent, and **Abbi Dixon** who fed well into the circle.

The Leopards finished strongly pulling away in the fourth quarter and ending up 7 ahead. Despite the loss it was a promising start to the second half of the season. Well played Tornadoes!

Monday 24th January 2011

HKFC Hurricanes 24 vs Valley Jaguars 18

We only had 7 players for last night's match due to various

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injuries, absences and pregnancies. That's alright - we thought. We beat this team convincingly last time!

BUT in fact we were tested much more than expected and were only a few goals up at half time. With **Amanda** and **Emma Lovell** shouting constructive tips from the sideline we finally managed to get into our stride in the second half. Gaps seemed to open up in the middle of the court which **Kas** and **Dayna** exploited superbly to our advantage and there was some great defence work from **Lucy** and **Yvonne** (who played fantastically in GD). With convincing shooting from **Debbie** and **Wilma** we solidified our lead and took the game 24-18. Well done everyone!

Monday 24th January 2011

HKFC Whirlies 43 vs Sapphires 35 HKFC

We started really well and there was some good flowing play in all parts of the court, and we finished the first quarter ahead by 14 to 7. Great feeding into the circle from **Janie** which led to some accurate shooting. Second quarter we appeared to take our foot off the gas and increased the lead slightly by just 3 more goals. Despite some great defending from **Nadia**, **Heather** and **Lynette**, by the third and fourth quarters, we became somewhat complacent and allowed Sapphires to come right back,

drawing the third quarter and actually losing the fourth quarter! Fortunately our strong start enabled us to win the game with a final score of 43-35.

Monday 24th January 2011

HKFC Tornadoes 27 vs Shimmer 23

Off to a great start, Tornadoes settled into the first quarter well. Great defending from **Marie Farry**, **Kayleigh Leonard** And **Dawn Cheng**, saw Tornadoes utilize every turnover and at the first bell the scoreline was 8:3.

Shimmer fought back in the next two quarters with new found energy and fast passing. However, consistent shooting from **Michelle Cairns** and **Penelope Hamilton**, saw us up by four goals going into the last quarter, 20-16.

Determined to win, Tornadoes played well in the last quarter. With great centre court play from **Rachael Corthorn** and **Dawn Cheng**, Tornadoes maintained their lead and won a hard-fought game against Shimmer. Go Tornadoes! ■

Div. 4 HKNA League (Round 2)

League standings after first half of the season...

	NAB Aussie Geckos	NAB Aussie GW Sharks	NAB Aussie Magpies	HKCC Fielders	HKFC Hurricanes	HKFC Tornadoes	KRFC Kowloon Ruby's	Shimmer	Valley Jaguars	Valley Leopards	Goals for	Goals Against	Goal av.	Points	Place
NAB Aussie Geckos		4 32-13	3 18-18								251	208	10.9	35	4
NAB Aussie GW Sharks	1 13-32									1 6-43	83	317		15	9
NAB Aussie Magpies	3 18-18								4 25-20		227	192	10.7	35	5
HKCC Fielders								2 8-10	2 15-28		130	211		22	8
HKFC Hurricanes							4 22-13	4 23-19			253	176		37	3
HKFC Tornadoes							4 33-14			2 18-25	278	193		38	2
KRFC Kowloon Ruby's					2 13-22	1 14-33					212	224	8.6	32	7
Shimmer				4 10-8	2 19-23						239	232	9.3	32	6
Valley Jaguars			2 20-25	4 28-15							110	230		13	10
Valley Leopards		4 43-6				4 25-18					335	135		44	1

Tennis News

Aussie, Aussie, Aussie!



To celebrate the first Grand Slam event of the season, the Australian Open, **Kris Godridge** and her team at ATA organized an Aussie Open fun tournament on January 22nd. The format of men's, ladies' and mixed doubles for twenty minute sessions produced plenty of fun, exciting tennis.

We were especially pleased to welcome a large contingent of players from the Squash Section for the first time and we hope they'll become regular participants in Tennis Society events.

Several players even went the extra mile by dressing up as their favourite tennis stars. Top prize went to the 'Williams' family of Venus, Serena and their mum aka **Jenny Chapman, Emma Pike** and **Michelle Robinson**.

To add some variety and encourage more drinking, Kris' team came up with a series of fun challenges, including serving through hoops and trying to smash cuddly outback creatures off the court!

The overall men's champion with the most points was **Winston Leung**, while the ladies champion was **Yoke Ming Ong** and **Jenny Chapman**. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to Kris and her team for arranging another excellent afternoon of tennis.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Make a note for your diaries – more details will be available on the 3/F noticeboard and the website:

HKFC 125th Anniversary Tennis Society Ball – Saturday, 12th March

Charity Cup – Saturday 9th April

Club Championships, May

French Open Social – Saturday 28th May

Wimbledon Social – Saturday 25th June



HKFC 125th Anniversary Tennis Society Ball Saturday 12th March

It is a pleasure to announce that **John Fitzgerald**, an ex-professional Australian tennis player, will be attending our Tennis Event 'Casino Royale - A Night Out With The Stars' and will act as one of the MC's for the evening. John will also conduct a coaching clinic during the day as well as participate in an exhibition match in the afternoon.



John Fitzgerald is a former professional tennis player from Australia who played from 1980 to 1997. During his career he won 6 top-level singles titles and 30 tour doubles titles, including 7 Grand Slam doubles titles, and a career men's doubles Grand Slam (winning all four titles – the Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon and the US Open). He reached the World No. 1 doubles ranking in 1991. His career-high singles ranking was World Number 25 in 1988. He was a member of the Australian team which won the Davis Cup in 1986. He was also formerly the captain of the Australian Davis Cup Team from 2001 to 2010.

Be sure to check out the NEWLY REVAMPED Tennis Society website which is updated regularly with lots more photos from all of the recent events. http://www.hkfc.com.hk/sports_sub.asp?cat=tennis

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions for the Tennis Society, please email the following address: tennisociety@gmail.com

Sunday Social Tennis

A reminder that Sunday Social Tennis takes place every Sunday morning from 9am -12 noon. This social event is open to all Tennis Society members. Just come along with your racquet and you are set to go.

Singles Ladders

If you are interested in competing in the men's or ladies singles ladders, information is on the 3/F noticeboard and on the website. For those presently on the ladder, it's time to get in there and make some challenges!!



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