

# BRO NEWS ISSUE 9



## SOCIAL NEWS

Games Night 30<sup>th</sup> July

Ladies Day 15<sup>th</sup> Aug

## NEWSFLASH!

Social Memberships are available for supporters of Brothers. See details in the Committee update.

## Social Update

- July 18<sup>th</sup> Back to Brothers Day



Back to Brothers day was great fun and it was great to see young and old get together at the ground and enjoy a lovely sunny day. Oh and the rugby was good too.

- **Games Night**

Next Thursday night (30<sup>th</sup> July) is Games Night.

Due to there being no game on the Saturday, come down to the club for an evening of fun and frivolity and enjoy some inter-house competitiveness. The winning team will score 40 free schooners at the Orchard after the last game of the season.

As part of the evening activities House Captains must nominate 2 contestants to compete for the Iron Man Challenge. There will be trophies, so bring your best.

- **Ladies Day 15<sup>th</sup> August**

Time to reward the Ladies in your lives by bringing them along to the rugby for Ladies Day. The last home game of the season will be just for the ladies with treats a plenty and free wine and food.

There will be a visit from Body Shop Australia so the ladies can try out some of the latest lotions and potions the Body Shop has to offer. Ladies will be able to purchase Body Shop products by placing an order on the day with the Body Shop Consultant. These will then be delivered to your lovely lady through you at training.

Ladies will also have the opportunity to have a Head and Neck Massage courtesy of Massage World and the discounted rate noted below, so bring your cash to treat her:

15mins: Cash - \$16.00, EFTPOS - \$17.50

30mins: Cash - \$32.00, EFTPOS - \$35.00

A schedule will be sent around next week to book in a time slot between 1pm and 5pm

- **Poker Night TBC** – Watch this space for details of a Poker Night at the Orchard to raise funds for the end of season tour.

- **End Of Season Ball – 19<sup>th</sup> September**

The End of Season Ball will be on the 19<sup>th</sup> September. The black tie affair is always a good night so make sure you get your tickets as soon as there they are on sale. Details will be available soon.

- **TOUR** - September we have the end of season tour. See Paul Gibbs or Scott James urgently if you are interested in going.

## Committee Update

### ➤ **Social Memberships**

Social memberships to Brothers rugby are available for fans and family.

Membership Only - \$30

Membership + Polo Shirt - \$60

Membership + Fleece - \$70

Membership + Polo Shirt and Fleece \$100

Direct Credit:

Account Name: Christian Brothers Old Boys Rugby Club

BSB: 062 295

Account Number: 1027 6686

Please add your name as a reference.

### ➤ **Team Photos**

Team Photos will be taking place at the last home game of the Season on the 15<sup>th</sup> August. Please arrive half an hour earlier than you usually would for the grades that you wish to be in the photos of.

### ➤ **Website – link to gallery pics**

Mr Brannan has been kind enough to take many photos every week. These are loaded to the website each week. To see these photos, click on the below link

<http://www.brothersrugby.com.au/gallery/>

### ➤ **Subs**

We are still chasing some of you to pay your subs. The club does not run itself and we have bills to pay. For the players that have not paid their subs, you will be harassed.

### ➤ **Look Smart**

We have designed a few extra items that you may be interested in buying. They are from Tsunami sport and the sizes are the same as the gear that you have been handed out this year. These are great for the wives / girlfriends to wear to the games on Saturdays.

Top one is the hoodie made from fleece material - \$45

Middle is the Fleece - \$45

Bottom is the wet weather training top. This has a hat in the collar - \$60



Also available for the summer are the Brothers Boardies. These will be designed as the shown above but with Yellow instead of Red and with **brothersrugby.com.au** across the arse! These will be approx \$35. Contact Matt McIntyre to put in your order before they run out at [m.mcintyre@cmcmarkets.com](mailto:m.mcintyre@cmcmarkets.com)

➤ **Up Coming Games**

27<sup>th</sup> July Vs Hunters Hill Away

1st August Wet Weather Week

8<sup>th</sup> Aug Vs Epping Away

15<sup>th</sup> Aug Vs Hawkesbury Valley Home (Ladies Day)

22<sup>nd</sup> Aug Vs Hills Away

➤ **Coaches**

Please ensure you are in contact with your coach about training and availability for games:

**First Grade** – Tom Burns - 0404468040

**Second Grade** – John Andrews – 0434047827

**Third Grade** – Ian Mears - 0419479773

**Fourth Grade** – Dave Taylor - 0411172505, Roy Anderson - 0414 706 195,

**David Bullard** – 0414262638

**Match Reports**

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Balmain

Another wet Sydney week saw fifteen of Brother's twilight-troops head over to the goat-track known as Wakehurst to take on Balmain.

Deeply thrown by the sudden death of their musical friend, companion and long-time supporter 'MJ', the Feisty Ones did their best to play "as Michael would have wanted us to play". In deference to their hero, fifteen of Brother's finest moon-walked onto the field...there wasn't a dry eye in the house. Iain Tuipupu – who's taking it worse than expected - apparently due to his 'shared heritage' with MJ - wore a lovely bedazzled glove which he and the family had spent all night getting 'just right'. Wonderful stuff...and such attention to detail. Unfortunately for the ghost of MJ, and those with wet feet on the sideline, our Feisty Heroes never really hit their straps and scraped away with a **7 - 7** draw.

Thanks to Tom, Dizzy, Pat, Lenny, The Riddler, Slutty, Jerry, Smythy, Hans, Buzz, Coops, Davo, Jaquesy and Pickle. That sees us holding onto 3<sup>rd</sup> spot on the ladder, Petersham snapping at our heels, and with a few tasty games in the coming weeks. After consulting with our actuarial department, it seems that we're in no-way a shoe-in for a finals berth, and need a few more good wins to cement us in the top four. Time to lift boys! Murmurs on the sideline last week had one common theme.... The Feisty 4ths aren't playing the same footy as we were early in the season. We could go on and on about what that means, but in a nutshell...when our forwards drive it tight up the guts and get the opposition on the back-foot, thereby giving our devastating back-line some room, we win games. When we don't hit the breakdowns hard, have half the forwards (those who aren't walking) waiting in the backline like fighter-pilots, and start kicking the ball to younger, faster and fitter players - we lose.

Time to get back to our roots this week fellas... it's Merrylands at home. And for anyone who didn't have that wonderful day with them earlier in the season, if we don't play old-skool, it'll prove to be a very hard day at the office. The headline for the day must be "Wherever possible, don't let them have the ball!" Come on boys! After multiple reports of 'ye-olde multiple-captains-syndrome' – often brought on by grief – young Roy will be leading the charge until further notice. As said, we're at home this week – a week which has also been decreed 'Back to Brothers', whereby a heap of ex-players will be coming down for a bevvy or two, and the kids will have bouncy castles and the like.

Merrylands

Another week - another match report - but a very different Feisty 4th's took the field this week against competition-leaders Merrylands.

And after a few weeks 'Living The Lull' we're back!

To be honest, lately the crusty-ones have found themselves playing the oppositions' games... classic 4th Grade: stop-start, messy, slop... but today we hit the field with a twinkle in our geriatric glaucoma-filled eyes.

By the end of the first half we led 14-0 having played the 'let's have a crack at the silverware' way of old... up

the guts, committed supportive rugby which unleashes our back-line and most importantly doesn't give the opposition any pill. And by doing this we learnt an important lesson... when things don't go their way those boys from Merrylands get flustered and make mistakes.

The only time they looked any good was when we had a Nana-nap on a kick-off and they pressured our line for a few minutes.

The second half saw a focussed and determined Merrylands hit the paddock. Not used to losing, they came out (stacked and) firing. Unfortunately we had a ten minute regression and stopped playing to our proven game-plan, and Merrylands ran in three tries putting us behind 17-14. Confucius Say: A middle-aged man should never kick a ball to a fast young bloke and expect to gain any advantage... no matter how far they can kick... hopefully that's sunk in now. Encouragingly though... and to the absolute delight of everyone on the sideline... with just under ten to go our boys went back to plan 'A' and put pressure on Merryland's right to the end.

Final score **17-14** to Merrylands.... a friggin' top game of footy and a testament to the fact that we've got the goods to go all the way in '09! Woo hoo! Thanks to Jaquesy (opening try scorer!), Pickle, Coops, Iain Tuipupu, Buzz, Gav, Willy, Slutty, Greg, The Zippered Riddler, Enda, Dlzz, Seanny B, Jerry and Tommy B. The bonus point sees us hold onto 3rd spot on the ladder.

Next week's against Hunter's Hills at Boronia Park.... fire up boys... they're tools of the highest order... and hugely beatable.

Before we go, an honourable mention...

### **The Feisty 4ths 'Trainer Of The Moment'**

This inaugural award goes to our reliable and much-loved 2nd Rower Coops. One of the few to make it up to a Thursday night training a few weeks ago he changed... limbered up... stretched... arm flapped ... and in a zen-like manner prepared mentally for the session ahead.

Minutes into warm-up laps... with the pulse beginning to lift and grunting well underway... he spotted something out of the corner of his eagle-like-eye....a pile of pizza cartons long left over from a Roseville Junior's team evening.

Upon closer examination said boxes were found to include odd crusts and pizza remnants. Training was immediately abandoned to partake in the incredible stroke-of-fortune that was a feast on offer.

The only difficulty in proceedings was that our Club Captain had also spotted the culinary opportunity and the two of them proceeded to munch-on in the club's kitchen area... squatting down below counter-height every time the squad passed by... marvellous.

Speaking of training... we're having a Thursday night run in the coming weeks where Pickle will conduct a pick'n'drive master-class.... at least all forwards are required... and any old pizza boxes will be removed to avoid the perils of temptation.

That's all for now. Let Roy-boy know if you're in (or not) as per normal.

### **3<sup>d</sup> Grade**

Brothers 20 - Balmain 27

Another game transferred to Wakehurst due to Roseville being closed due to wet weather.

We were fortunate in a way 1st grade were unable to play as quite a few 1st graders came along to give the lower grades a hand.

As the scores indicated game was close and we had a chance to claim a draw after Matt Gibbs scored a great team try with about 5 minutes to go.

At least we can gain some comfort from receiving a bonus point.

Game was an open affair with play from end to end.

At half time we decided to have some fun and through the ball around. Tom Burns had a fine game at 5/8 playing attacking football at every opportunity and received the 3 points.

Stuey Mangion topped off a fine game with a meat pie under the posts and earned 2 points.

1 point went to Issac Menton who is improving with every game since returning from injury and we will miss him whilst he is tackling the ski slopes in NZ.

Others to impress were Simon Goodwin who does not have a bad game and Duncan Frazer who is improving with every game.

Thanks to the 1st and 4th graders who filled in and all those who backed up for the twos.

Merrylands

A tough weekend for the club with injuries and unavailability's really playing havoc with our numbers.

Our makeshift team played with a great deal of commitment in the first half and were only down 5 nil at the

break. At half time we spoke about the opportunity to cause an upset however our defence and in some cases our fitness let us down. If you are unable to get to training make sure you get out and do some fitness work. For those that do come along one night is not enough. Sorry to see Duncan Fraser hurt his ribs. We wish him a speedy recovery. 3 points went to Oppie who after a full game in 4s had a great game. Simon Goodwin who tackled his heart out and Stuey Magnion received 2 and 1. Thanks to all those who backed up.

My thanks also to Tommy Burns and the Panda for putting their hand in their pocket and putting some money on the Bar at The Orchard to thank the 2nd and 3rd graders many for which had to play both grades. Players should know their efforts are not going unnoticed.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

Balmain

Seconds v Balmain 11/7/09 at Wakehurst (8-31)

The rain during the week saw some skilful negotiating to get 2s, 3s and 4s played at Wakehurst with the firsts to play on the following Wednesday. As this has been written the morning after that First Grade game, might I say as a spectator what an enjoyable game it was to watch-our first grade side did themselves proud. I will leave the details to Tom.

Seconds put in a much improved performance, with the scrum strengthened by the inclusion of Scotty James and other "guest appearances" from the higher grade, allowing us to go contested for the first time for a while. Beau Keller hit the line beautifully to score a good first half try, but we then went of the boil a little before rallying well in the second half, when really the only thing that changed was our attitude.

Thanks to Scotty, Billy Madgwick, Simmo and Beau for helping us out.

Once again, Gerry Shannon was strong in both attack and defence, putting on some good hits. Tommy Bromfield directed play well, keeping us most competitive in that second half. Justin Cook only had a game and a half this week, and showed good attitude when asked to give up a half so that everyone could have a run.

Merrylands

Seconds v Merrylands (69-8) at Roseville 18/7/09

The mushy conditions slowed Merrylands down a little, and the performance put up by our three fresh players and twelve not so fresh players was commendable given the circumstances. An early penalty and a good try gave us some encouragement and the coach made some rash promises at half time. Ned Brown made a welcome return with a strong match, taking the ball up well and making some good tackles. Justin Cook had a strong game in the centres and Arron Neate showed some good touches. Given that virtually the whole backline was having a second game, the effort was once again very pleasing. John Nicholls came from another place and played his third game of the day for us in 2s. To all the boys who backed up, thanks fellas, you did yourselves and the Club proud.

## **1<sup>st</sup> Grade - OC Corner**

Balmain

Our first night game that I have knowledge of, saw the boys from Balmain visit. For once we had a full squad available and probably the best side on paper this season ran out to start the game. Thanks to Brucey who came down to give the cranky coach a helping hand.

We started off well with Daz crossing over for a great solo try in the corner, Balmain hit back and for the next 10 mins the game went from end to end. The last 20 mins of the first half saw Balmain dominate possession and territory with the Brothers first 15 scrambling well in defence. Half time saw the Boys down 28-12, Brucey had a few insightful comments which fixed our line out and we went out to start the second half full of confidence. What a turn around, we dominated from the start (well apart from when the Tank dropped the kick off) the forwards once again did us proud and with Daz providing the link to the backs we really played some great footy. 26-28 with 5 mins to go and only a turnover on the opposition 5m line stopped us from pinching a great victory. Credit where credit is due and the Balmain boys once again showed great determination on their goal line to deny us.

Coach cranky was very happy with the display and special note to Daz who then proceeded to go out till 3am because he could. I can attest to the fact that at work the next day he was not looking 100%. 3 points to our angry number 8 John Gibbs always plays well when the opposition steels his steak sandwich, 2 points to Beau who is playing some good footy and 1 point went to Daz for great kicking game and the fact that he was the only player out past 11pm.

## Merrylands

Well the visit of the comp leaders did not start to well with two of our first grade squad deciding that this was a great weekend to hold hands down in Berry rather than play footy. So special thanks to Paul Butlins Brown for once again going on holiday and Noodles for choosing the hardest game of the year to miss.

The rest of the squad knuckled down and got ready for the visit of Merrylands. Once again we started well and spent the majority of the first half camped in their 22, unfortunately we could only turn all our territory into 5 points while the opposition ran in three break away tries. The start of the second half saw the away team run away with the game and it looked like it could get ugly. Once again though our forward pack led by Matt stood up to the challenge and we fought back. The final score 40-19 did not do us justice. I had numerous people tell me how much they love watching our forward pack play the game, the opposition rated it the best pack they have played this year and I could not be prouder of the boys how they stand up every week.

3 points to Beau who had his best game of the season, 2 to Matt who also bribed the ref to get points ( the ref asked how the baby was before the game I suggest something is going on there) and 1 point to Tom brom who played his first game at half back due to our holidaying vice Capt.

It has been fairly quiet on the social front so nothing much to report and no stand out performances hopefully that will change in the next week or two.

OC

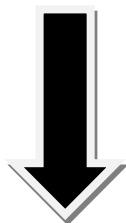
### Player Points V Balmain

4th Grade		3rd Grade		2nd Grade		1st Grade	
John Bezzina	1	Tom Burns	1	Keith Bromwich	1	Dan McIntyre	1
Clark Smirh	2	Isaac Menton	2	Beau Keller	2	Beau Keller	2
Hans Krenmayr	3	Stuart Mangion	3	Gerard Shannon	3	John Gibbs	3

### Player Points V Merrylands

4th Grade		3rd Grade		2nd Grade		1st Grade	
John Bezzina	1	Simon Goodman	1	Joe Vuli	1	Tom Broomfield	1
Stephen Jaques	2	Leon Filihia	2	Justin Cook	2	Matt McIntyre	2
Dan Ridley	3	Gavin Opie	3	Ned Brown	3	Beau Keller	3

## PLAYER PROFILE



Due to Editorial Issues there will be no Player Profile this week. If you have scrolled excitedly all the way down here to read it, my apologies but go back to the start and read the whole newsletter x