

The Viking's Horn

First edition 2017



Point of view from Bjorn Raider...

It's hard to know what to make of 2017. After a gripping grand final win and arguably the club's most successful year on record we farewelled a number of inspirational leaders from their positions of office last year. Nevertheless it was felt that the club might enter a new era of prosperity and ease due to the on-field success.

However, as our new president Simon Bryars will tell you, when your change rooms at Bridgewater get flooded three times and you have to refill all these vacant positions while applying for government grants to get two building projects running smoothly, your days of rest are numbered.

So 2017 has become a year of attrition where once again the club needs its members to stand up and be counted as we face another transition period. The Green Shed is gone and a new facility is already being constructed. We are currently negotiating grants for new change rooms at Bridgewater. Volunteer heroes have stepped up to refurbish and renovate the change rooms at Callington and all our home games will be played at Callington this year.

Our two communities are continually growing closer and that "up for the fight" attitude we have always shared even before the merger is definitely coming to the fore.

Rob Prime left us as a premiership winning coach and therefore his legacy at the club is assured, so no one will feel aggrieved if we commend our new A-Grade Coach Rian Nelson for his outstanding work during pre-season and the past weeks. That man breathes football and is forming a formidable partnership with B-Grade Coach Keith "Manos" Isgar whose popular return to the coach's box certainly boosted morale.

We have been treated to many excellent performances by our players over the past two years. Let's keep supporting the teams, take no games for granted and provide an atmosphere where further success is possible.

Quickie from The Pres

I hope everyone had a good Easter break and is refreshed for some footy today. This week we have Round 3 to be played against Macclesfield at Callington oval. The first game is the mini colts at 9.55am followed by the senior colts (junior colts have a bye). Good luck to all teams today.

As Bjorn Raider has suggested above, the year has presented us with some difficulties but there are many, many more positives to the year so far; these include some new committee members who have really immersed themselves in the work to be done, a fun bowls night and enjoyable season launch night, new reversible jumpers, new A and B grade coaches, the formation of our first women's team, some new sponsors, amazing renovations of the change rooms at Callington, and the HFL awarding us the right to host the Interleague game on June 10 at Callington. So a HUGE thanks to everyone who has helped out in some way this year. Your efforts are appreciated by everyone at the Raiders and they do not go unnoticed.

Rian's Ramble

Hello fellow Raiders and thanks for getting along to support the various sides in today's clashes against Macclesfield. As this is my first coaches report as the A Grade coach of the club I would like to thank everyone for making me and my family welcome, and what has been enjoyable is getting to know not only the players but the numerous characters that make the club what it is.

A logical place to start in my first report would be at our preseason, which the core group embraced with the mixture of Running, Skill Sessions, Game Simulation, Beach Sessions and Game Plan Development. Our preseason included two trials which were both solid hit outs and set us up ready for round one.

Round One is often difficult as it takes so long to come around and it showed in the way we played, and to Ironbank's credit we took awhile to settle and with some re-jigging at half time we were able to string together some good passages of play in the third quarter. What was pleasing was that every player in the side contributed to the result and that's vital if we are to be a good side - every player must contribute.

Over the two weeks off since round one, we played an internal trial with a handful of the senior colts mixing in with us, which developed a real "One Club" feel and then we trained one night with the newly developed ladies team and the under 13's, further developing our "One Club".

To today's challenge, we face Macclesfield, with them coming off a good win over Meadows. As a team we will need to bring our best if we are to get the result we desire. Today we also pay our respect to the Anzac's, who I don't think we can thank enough for what they did to enable for us to live as we do today. On Tuesday Morning our players will be attending the Dawn Service at Aldgate. Lest we Forget.

News from the Raidettes

Denny Steer and Jessica King have been appointed co-captains of the Women's Team for 2017. Congratulations to them and I am very excited about a number of initiatives they have already brought to the team or raised in communication with other players. We've got a Raidettes table at the Quiz night, our own Facebook group (great idea Taylor) and this Sunday our Green Raiders vs White Raiders modified trial games will start. This is a great team and the training sessions are a lot of fun, so let's get some more Raidettes out there and keep building on a very solid foundation (Armin Mayer, women's' team coach).

Social Stuff

This week we have the after meal presentations and meals at the Callington club rooms. Meal this week is BBQ and Salad. Please support our club after the match, especially our senior players. All supporters are welcome. Don't forget that the Quiz Night is on 29th April. If you want to book a table contact Dan McAteer, mcateer@internode.on.net. It's always a fun night and is the footy club's major fundraiser for the year.

Sponsors are our Lifeblood

We are very lucky and thankful to have a large number of club sponsors, without which the Club would not survive. On the next 2 pages our sponsors are listed. Please support them and when you do use them mention that you come from The Raiders.

Raider Babies everywhere!

It's been a busy off season and start to Season 2017.

Congratulations to the following Raiders and their families who welcomed new additions:

Jack Bevelander & Lia - Milly Paige (23/2), Angus Frazer & Mahena - Ava Jane (18/8), Haydn Smith & Bianca - Lincoln James (19/3), Michael Lancaster & Abby - Alice Rose (19/4).

Welcome to The Raider family. We look forward to watching you all grow.

GO RAIDERS !!!