

Chairman's Letter from Ballymore

May 25, 2009

There has been plenty of comment on this QR Reds season just finished, which, let's face it, is part of the game.

I'm not going to go into great detail with my comments but rather make a few points that I feel are valid and worth making:

- Next year will be the first in a long time where we don't have major player turnover. We will be retaining the vast majority of this young and emerging squad who all feel there is significant "unfinished business"
- Our coach, Phil Mooney is staying right here and has the full support of the Board. Stability, consistency and transparency – these three words encapsulate the Board's policy.
- The evolution of players like Ben Daley, Will Genia, Andrew Shaw, Berrick Barnes, Charlie Fetoai, Ben Lucas and Scott Higginbotham augur well for our 2010 prospects.
- No one deserves some success more than Sean Hardman, our most capped Red. Let's hope after a well earned rest Sean decides to top off a wonderful career with one more season.

For me, the Reds have shown they can beat anyone on "their day".

With another year under their belts the Reds will become a real contender next season. Stick with the Reds. I'm confident, all things considered, we will impress next season.

Exciting news this week from Tony Machin, President of Redlands Rugby. Tony and his hard working Board have secured two significant grants to develop their home ground facilities –

one of \$ 170,000 from the State and \$ 120,000 from the local Council. Well done.

Redlands and Logan are two great Rugby success stories. Their growth and professionalism are an inspiration to us all.

Speaking of development, let me update you on the progress of the Ballymore project.

Despite a concerted and frankly dishonest misinformation campaign by a small group of local residents, we have managed to secure significantly more written support for the project than the protestors.

Our submission goes before full Council in a few weeks and we hope for a speedy approval.

In the interests of full disclosure and transparency, our mantra through this entire tortuous process, find attached three of the mail box drops done around the local Ballymore area.

You will note the dissenting author refuses to identify himself (although we know who he is) or meet with us to clarify and dispel issues he raises.

Enough politics – what a feast of Rugby now awaits: the club competition is in full swing; schools are now into their season proper and Subbies, Juniors and country offer the Rugby fan a fantastic range of entertainment and fun – every weekend. So get out there and get involved.

Till next time.

Peter Lewis, Chairman