



# Black & Amber Alliance

## Issue 5

[www.fonr.co.uk](http://www.fonr.co.uk)  
<mailto:kevin.jarvis@newportrugbytrust.co.uk>

**Welcome** to a special edition of the Black & Amber Alliance. Due to the news relating to the redevelopment of Rodney Parade, and the subsequent speculation regarding this, FoNR and the Supporters Club met with the C E O of Rodney Parade Ltd to obtain further information relating to this matter. FoNR felt that it had a responsibility to publish details of that meeting in the form of this newsletter. As speed of giving information to our members, and the supporters as a whole, was of paramount importance we needed to publish without delay, Hopefully the next issue will include the normal input from the Supporters Club and the Former Players Association.

### Ground Redevelopment

Martyn Hazell announced plans to build a £40m state-of-the-art stadium on the existing Rodney Parade site at a press conference on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September. The 15,000 capacity new stadium, which will house the Newport Gwent Dragons and Newport RFC will have new training facilities and clubhouse, it should be up and running in 2010 in time for the Ryder Cup. Work will start in 2009 and is expected to take 18 months, and it is fully supported by the WRU and Newport Council.

Martyn Hazell said "This is the most exciting news since Lord Tredegar gave the ground to Newport in 1873, it will keep rugby in south-east Wales for the next 100 years. There will be a state-of-the-art training facility used by the rugby, but it will also be open to members of the public - it's also for the community and can be booked and used. It's fantastic news for the Newport Gwent Dragons, Newport RFC and for all rugby fans in Gwent. The famous Rodney Parade ground is going to be transformed into a state-of-the-art stadium with top class facilities for the players, fans and the greater community. At the outset we can thank the council for their support on this project and for ensuring that rugby at the highest level remains in Newport and builds on the strong and viable structures already in place within the organisation. I would also like to thank the Welsh Rugby Union for their backing of this project. This development and management, alongside continued strong financial procedures, will allow us to attract top class players and more importantly give the academy players somewhere to aspire to play and be proud to be a part of."

The new venture will possibly incorporate retail outlets, a hotel, conference and hospitality provisions and better facilities for spectators and sponsors so that revenue streams can be expanded. The new training barn will occupy almost an acre in size with all the necessary training facilities. A new clubhouse will be incorporated in the stadium, with hospitality boxes as well and student accommodation built into the new stands.



Roger Lewis, chief executive of the WRU, said "This new home for rugby in the heart of the city will drive the game forward with the vigour which has helped Rodney Parade become a world famous citadel for sporting success. The All Blacks, the Wallabies and South Africa have all been welcomed to Wales and have tasted defeat at Rodney Parade. The new stadium will boast excellent facilities and that will ensure rugby continues to attract a large and loyal following on and off the field in south-east Wales."

**Following a meeting with between Rodney Parade CEO Gethin Jenkins, FoNR & the Supporters Club we are able to add some further details.**

There is great confidence that the project will come to fruition as it has the full support of Newport City Council. A thorough job will be done of putting together a package of improvements that will be forwarded for planning permission. A six-month period of planning consultation starts now with the application pencilled in for submission in March 2008. It is anticipated that work will start in January 2009 with completion in time for the start of the season in September 2010.

All existing structures including the Burnett Suite will be demolished and the pitch will move towards the existing clubhouse to allow developments at either end of the ground. The stadium will house new changing rooms, function rooms, various bars, hospitality facilities, committee room etc. etc. Provision will be made for the various items of memorabilia currently housed at Rodney Parade to be displayed and it is hoped to make them more accessible to the general public.

The finished stadium will remain 100% owned by NRFC.

The Memorial Gates will be retained but are likely to be moved. The most likely location will be to act as the main entrance from the River Usk footbridge to the ground or maybe as a secondary entrance from Corporation Road..

Ideas are being formulated with the help of consultancy companies with a proven track record of success in the development of sports stadiums.

The schematic artist impressions that have been published give an indication of the type of results that can be achieved but all final designs will be subject to approval.

Alternative playing venues may be needed for up to 18 months for both teams but at present no firm plans are in place for any likely alternatives.

All details of the above are expected to be put before the shareholders of Newport RFC at the next AGM.

## **FoNR Statement**

**Friends of Newport Rugby welcome the announcement that the new stadium will be developed at Rodney Parade. We believe that Rodney Parade is the best location for rugby in Newport, because of it's long history and it's city centre location.**

**We are also pleased to see that the stadium will remain in the ownership of Newport RFC, and that there is a business plan which will produce income in future years to maintain the facility and keep rugby in Newport for the foreseeable future.**

**While recognising that the initial plans will change, we would ask that the proposal to incorporate standing terraces in the stadium is not discarded.**

20/09/07

## Hedley Rowland 1919-2007



"The Poacher"

Hedley Rowland, the former Newport rugby star died at the age of 88 on 30th August this year. He played 138 times for Newport between 1944 and 1952, captaining the side in season 1948-49 and scored a hat-trick of tries for Monmouthshire in their victory over the New Zealand Army team in 1945. He also played for Newport against the same tourists and for Newport against Australia in 1947.

Hedley later served on the club committee for many years, some as chairman, he also acted as announcer for a number of years.

He was born at Risca, went to Loughborough College and became a teacher at Brynglas Secondary and Bassaleg Grammar Schools.

He had a distinguished record in the war. He was an acting major in the First Parachute Regiment and was in the first airborne division to go into France, also serving in Italy and Holland.

Hedley fought at Arnhem and was awarded the Crois-de-Guerre medal for bravery by the French government.



Newport RFC observe one minutes silence

## Steve "Junna" Jones 1952-2007



The Club was shocked and saddened by the sudden death of past Newport player and coach Steve "Junna" Jones and send their condolences to his family.

Steve was the current Newbridge coach, widely known and a hugely popular and charismatic figure.

Rod Snow, who spent ten years at Rodney Parade with Newport RFC and Newport Gwent Dragons paid this tribute

*"Steve was probably the most influential person in my rugby career and in whatever success I've had. I spent a lot of time with him and had a lot of respect for him. He was an abrasive character, but had a great heart. Nobody opened his heart or home to me more than he did. He had some great antics and we were very close. I'll miss him, I loved the guy"*

Steve played 400 games for Pontypool in 1960's & 70's and 55 for Newport (1976/7-1977/8). Played in losing Cup Final 9-13 (vs Swansea in 1978) for Newport and later in winning Cup Final for Pontypool. Scored a hat-trick against Resolven in Cup 1976/7. Played for Wales XV against Canada (no cap awarded) in 1980.

Newport's first full time coach in 1997/8. Martin Webber Award 1997/8 as coach.

Later coached Pontypool RFC and Newbridge RFC (2007/8)

*Newport playing record ; 1976/7-1977/8 : 55 apps / 5tries*

Junna's son Leighton has also played for Newport RFC, and is the current captain of Pontypool RFC

**The thoughts and prayers of all at Newport Rugby are with their families and friends**

# Newport RFC - The Season so far.

## Pre Season Friendlies

### Moseley 25 - Newport RFC 33



Newport RFC came out on top in this tough encounter, refereed by international Ref Chris White, two tries from Craig Hill and one each for Mike Poole, Matt Burke and Nick Wakley. Dan Griffiths slotted three of these between the posts while James Dixon converted another.

Two try hero  
Craig Hill



### Newport RFC 9 - London Welsh 16



Luke Hathaway

A difficult match, Newport RFC led 6-3 at halftime, but we were finally beaten when the referee awarded a somewhat dubious try. Newport Full Back Luke Hathaway clearly touched the ball down ahead of his opposing number. The officials however contrived to award this game winning "try" to the visitors.

### Welsh Fire Service 5 - Newport RFC 73



WKN goes for the line

11 tries saw Newport triumph in this one sided training match. Wakley, Poole, Dale, Griffiths, Ford, & Young all scored one each, while WKN & Organ joined in with two each. Griffiths converted six and Dixon three.



Who said it was a friendly?

### Newport HSOB 0 - Newport RFC 70



James Dixon

This fixture gave Newport the opportunity to go through the routines. 10 tries and 10 conversions too numerous to detail. Not a bad afternoons entertainment!



The lineout works well!

## Principality Premiership

### Newport RFC 3 - Llandovery 6



Newport Penalty

No comment required, a dreadful start against cynical opposition. Things can only get better!



Tribute to Hedley Rowland  
Not a comment on the game!

### Bridgend 15 - Newport RFC 27



Drop goal king  
James Dixon

A much changed team brought a positive result. Matt Thomas brought organisation and drive to the side. Tries for Nathan Williams and Richard Fussell, while James Dixon chipped in with two drop goals

Matt Thomas brought  
Organisation and drive





# Black & Amber Bullion



## BLACK & AMBER BULLION

is a monthly jackpot draw with major cash prizes on offer. Monthly payments are automatically collected from your bank via standing order.

More members will create a larger cash prize pool, giving bigger and more numerous cash prizes. So play your part and join today for only £5 per entry per month! 50% of the income will be returned in prizes, the other 50% will support the aims of the Friends of Newport Rugby Trust.

**Become part of the excitement!**  
**Hit the Bullion Trail!**



**Jackpot Draw**  
*Backing the future of rugby in Newport*

<u>FONR Bullion Draw Application Form</u>	
Title: (Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms)	
Christian Name/s:	
Surname:	
Address:	
Postcode:	
Date of Birth:	
Telephone Number/s:	
Email address:	
I wish to enter the BLACK AND AMBER BULLION Jackpot Draw. I am aged 18 years or over and agree to abide by the full terms and conditions of the Draw, a copy of which is available at <a href="http://www.bulliondraw.co.uk">www.bulliondraw.co.uk</a> , or from FONR Committee members.	
<u>Data Protection Disclosure</u> : On occasions we may contact entrants with information regarding products + services provided by Friends of Newport Rugby Trust. Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive this information. <input type="checkbox"/>	
Signature:	Date:
× .....	
<u>STANDING ORDER MANDATE</u>	
To the Manager (name and full postal address of your bank);	
Please accept this instruction to credit Friends of Newport Rugby Trust; Sort Code: 08-92-99, Bank Account No. 65144341 at the Cooperative Bank, quoting reference number: _____ (office)	
The sum of: _____	(in multiples of £5) MONTHLY
Your Account Name;	
Your Bank Sort Code:	
Your Bank Account Number:	
First Payment Due:	/ /
Last Payment Due:	/ / or until further notice (tick): ?
Signature:	Date:
Please return this form, fully completed to: Friends of Newport Rugby Trust, c/o Newport Rugby Football Club., Rodney Road, Newport, NP19 0UU	

# HELP US TO HELP NEWPORT RUGBY!



## Join the Trust

You can join the Trust as a full member for as little as £10 per year. There is a concessionary rate for senior citizens and full time students. All adults (over 16 years) can join the Trust as full members. Full membership entitles the member to vote at the Trust's AGM, as well as other Trust meetings such as EGMs and Trust member ballots. Junior members are not entitled to vote.

Membership Type	Annual Fee	Please indicate
Full Rate	£10	
Concessionary Rate (Full-time students over 16 years and senior citizens)	£5	
Junior Rate (under 16 years/no voting rights)	£5	
Family Rate 1 (One adult/One under 16 years)	£12	
Family Rate 2 (Two adults/Two under 16 years)	£24	
Life Membership	£200	
Senior Life Membership	£100	
Name/s and Address of Applicant: ----- ----- -----		
Telephone: _____		
Email: _____		

Please return this form and a cheque (payable to FONR) to:  
**Friends of Newport Rugby, c/o Newport R.F.C., Rodney Road, Newport. NP19 0UU.**  
 Alternatively, come and see us at our table in the clubhouse on a match day!

.....



**Utility Warehouse** We have recently become affiliated with the **Utility Warehouse**. This is a company that supplies a range of utilities including **Gas, Electric, Mobile Phones, Telephone Landlines and Broadband Connections, all at incredibly low prices.**

These services are available for **Business and Residential** use.

Visit us at the FoNR table for further details

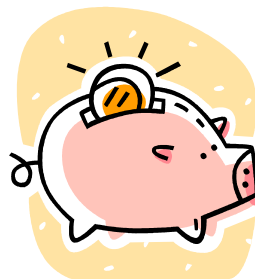
***Ask about the Business Opportunities which are available.***

.....

## Financial Services

For no obligation advice on **Investment Planning, Estate Preservation, Mortgages,**  
**And all Insurance needs,** contact

**Dugdale Taylor & Co**  
 7, Oak Tree Court.  
 Cardiff Gate Business Park,  
 Cardiff, CF23 8RS  
 Tel 02920 547067  
 Email [davidtingey@dugdaletaylorandco.com](mailto:davidtingey@dugdaletaylorandco.com)



**Quote FoNR and we receive a payment.**

**Proud Sponsors of Scott Williams**