

CARDIFF RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT SEASON 2000/2001

A season which can be described as a roller-coaster ride of highs and lows. The highs being superb back to back victories against Saracens and at home to Ulster in the European Cup, victory at Bridgend and Newport in the Welsh/Scottish League and a resounding win at Llanelli in the Principality Cup. The lows being a disappointing European Cup exit at Gloucester and back to back League defeats against Bridgend and Ebbw Vale which ended our hopes of retaining the League title.

The season began with us revealing our new recruits, Paul Jones, Pieter Muller, Richard Newton and Matthew Griffin in the Jewson Challenge against a full strength Leicester which we won. Other players to join during the season included Kenneth Fourie, Wayne Fyvie and Peter Rogers as we continued to strengthen our squad. Five consecutive wins and a point defeat in Glasgow started us on the way to defending our League title and taking us into Europe.

A European Cup draw, which saw us, pitted against two previous winners, Ulster and Toulouse and many people's pre-season favourites, Saracens, was always going to be a difficult task. A nervous defeat in Ulster and victory at home to Toulouse took us to Vicarage Road, Watford for what was to be a crunch game for the squad. The excellent victory and superb support, which followed the team that day, was one of the high points of the season. Home victories over Saracens and Ulster assured a quarter-final place and a visit to France would decide our destiny. Defeat left us with a short trip across Offa's Dyke to Gloucester. Our exit was one of the lows of the season and left us with a hangover in our next two League matches in which we were also defeated.

Our journey in the Principality Cup began at Bedwas with a victory and a true cup atmosphere. Llanelli was our next port of call and another high of the season in an overwhelming victory against the Cup Kings. Reward was a trip to Swansea and this saw an end to our Cup sortie.

Returning to League action saw a number of victories before defeat at Llanelli, which resulted in us surrendering our League title. This brought us to our last game of the season against Caerphilly and one worthy of a mention. Whilst some experienced players embarked on their farewell games, many younger players began to get their careers off the ground. Many U.21 and Youth players appeared that night and the future of the Club is in safe hands with these young men.

The U.21s was a new venture this season and whilst the benefits of coaching and development was successful, the disjointed fixtures made it difficult for the fluency of the side. The coaches, Mike Rayer and Colin Hillman worked tirelessly with the players and continued their development.

The Youth XV have continued in an excellent vein this year under the Chairmanship of Jim O'Donnell. The hard work of the Committee and the excellent

coaching of Howard Stone and Gerry Roberts has assured the squad have played to the highest standards. The Youth Report appears later.

The achievements of our players at International level continues and pride of place goes to our four Lions, Club Captain, David Young, Robert Howley, Neil Jenkins and Martyn Williams, who are rewarded for their hard work during the season. Congratulations also go to others who have achieved International recognition at various levels.

The Team Manager, Robert Norster, Coach, Lynn Howells, Assistant Coach, Geraint John, Fitness Coach, Huw Wiltshire, Analyst, Alun Carter, Physiotherapists, Mrs. Jane James and Hywel Griffiths, Masseur, Wayne Mortimer, Doctors, Roger Evans, Prof. John Williams, Mr. John Fairclough, Mr. Mike Fardy, Dr. Richard Evans, Dr. Jim Naysmith, Dr. Malcolm Snow, Mr. Geoff Graham and Optician, Frank Mahoney, Dentist, Geoff Price, are all responsible for the effective running of the team and we thank them all. Special mention to Lynn Howells, who departs after two valuable years' service in which he gave his all and we wish him well for the future.

The Rugby Committee continues with its duties at all levels and my thanks go to all of them for the advice and support they have given to me. A special thanks to Brian Bennett, our hard working Hon. Secretary. Also to Vicky McCracken and Jackie Flynn for the valuable work which they undertake. The Management Committee, under the Chairmanship of Mervyn Warfield, continues with its support of the Rugby Section.

The Board of Directors and the administrative staff, headed by David Jenkins, continue the hard work of running a professional Rugby Club. The groundstaff, lead by Bryan Walker, continue to battle with the elements to provide us with a playing surface of quality. A change has appeared in the Clubhouse with the departure of Jeff and Darren Ellerman and the arrival of Karl Williams. We thank Jeff for the support he has shown to all Committee, Players and Supporters and wish him well for the future. The refurbished Clubhouse comes under the control of Karl and I request Members to make full use of the excellent facilities which are now available.

The Lottery provides valuable income to the development of rugby and special thanks to Kath and Ken Jones, Graham Kierle and Brian Bennett for their valuable contribution to this. Capital Rugby has now extended into the Vale of Glamorgan Schools, as well as Cardiff Schools and the coaching received from John Huw Williams, his staff and the players will, no doubt, produce players we will see perform on the "Park" for many years to come.

The Supporters Club continues to thrive under the new Chairmanship of Simon Down. We wish him and his Committee every success and thank the members for their tremendous support during the past season.

Alan Evans, our Press/Media Officer, has again produced an excellent range of literature for our programmes. We look forward to more of the same next season in what will be the 125th Anniversary of Cardiff Rugby Football Club.

There will be numerous events taking place during the season and I hope many of you will join in the celebrations. While the game of Rugby Football may have changed over the years, the fact that Cardiff remains a name in World Rugby hasn't. It is important that as Directors, Committeemen, Members, Players and Supporters, we strive to keep it there.

Many thanks for your loyal support during the past season and good luck for the next.

ROBERT LAKIN

WALES FULL INTERNATIONALS 2000 -2001

PLAYER	Samoa	U.S.A.	S. Africa	England	Scotland	France	Italy	TOTAL APPS.
Rhys Williams	15	15	15		15	15	15	6
Neil Jenkins	R	R	10	10	10	10	10	7
Robert Howley	9	9	9	9	9	9		6
Andrew Lewis	R	R	R			R		4
Spencer John	R		R	R	R			4
Gareth Thomas		R	14	14		14	14	5
Peter Rogers			1					1
David Young				3	3	3	3	4
Martyn Williams				7	7	7	7	4
Craig Quinnett					R	R	R	3

WALES "A" AND WALES XV 2000 -2001

PLAYER	NZ "A"	South Africa	U.S.A.	England "A"	Scotland "A"	France "A"	Italy "A"	Bar.	TOTAL APPS.
Jamie Robinson	13	13		13	13	R			5
Craig Morgan	11	11		11	11	11	11		6
Peter Rogers	1								1
Jon Humphreys	R	R		2	2				4
Martyn Williams	7	7						7	3
Emyr Lewis	8	8		8	8				4
Nick Walne		14		14					2
Craig Quinnett			4	4				4	3
Rhys Williams				15					1
Gareth Thomas					R			R	2
Andrew Lewis					R			R	2
Ryan Powell							R		1
Neil Jenkins								10	1
David Young									

CARDIFF 2000 - 2001 OTHER REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS

WALES UNDER-21

Ryan Powell Owain Ashman

WALES UNDER-21 'A'

Owain Ashman Matthew Griffin

WALES IRB WORLD SERIES SEVENS

Paul Jones Owain Ashman Robin Sowden-Taylor
Nick Walne Owain Williams

WALES DEVELOPMENT TOUR TO CANADA: June 2000

Jamie Robinson Paul Jones Ryan Powell

BARBARIANS

v South Africa: Neil Jenkins
v East Midlands: Steve Moore Gary Powell
at Melrose Sevens: Owain Williams

CANADA

Pacific Rim Matches 2000: Dan Baugh John Tait
IRB World Series Sevens Dan Baugh

POLAND

RWC Qualifiers: Gregori Kacala

OTHER HONOURS

David Young captained Wales against England, Scotland, France and Italy.
Ryan Powell captained Wales Under-21 against England, Scotland and France.
Craig Quinnell captained Wales Development XV against USA.
Owain Williams captained Wales in the RWC Heidelberg Sevens.

1st XV 2000 – 2001 RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENTS	H/A	SCORE FOR					SCORE AGAINST				
			G	T	DG	PG	Pts	G	T	DG	PG	Pts
Aug. 12	LEICESTER	H Won	3	1	–	1	29	2	–	–	1	17
26 (L)	NEATH	H Won	2	–	1	6	35	1	1	1	5	30
Sept. 2 (L)	EDINBURGH REIVERS	H Won	9	1	1	3	80	1	–	–	3	16
9 (L)	PONTYPRIDD	A Won	1	–	1	6	28	–	–	–	2	6
16 (L)	NEWPORT	H Won	2	–	1	4	29	1	–	–	3	16
23 (L)	BRIDGEND	A Won	3	2	–	2	37	3	–	–	4	33
29 (L)	GLASGOW CALEDONIANS	A Lost	2	–	–	4	26	1	1	–	5	27
Oct. 6 (EC)	ULSTER	A Lost	2	–	–	3	23	2	–	1	5	32
14 (EC)	TOULOUSE	H Won	2	–	1	3	26	2	–	–	1	17
21 (EC)	SARACENS	A Won	3	1	–	2	32	2	–	–	3	23
27 (EC)	SARACENS	H Won	–	–	–	8	24	–	1	–	3	14
Nov. 4 (L)	SWANSEA	A Lost	2	1	–	1	22	2	–	1	4	29
Dec. 2 (L)	LLANELLI	H Won	1	–	–	5	22	–	–	–	3	9
5 (L)	NEATH	A Won	1	1	1	1	18	–	–	–	4	12
10 (L)	EDINBURGH REIVERS	A Lost	–	1	–	2	11	1	2	–	4	29
16 (L)	EBBW VALE	H Won	–	3	–	4	27	1	–	–	3	16
23 (L)	PONTYPRIDD	H Won	3	–	–	–	21	–	1	–	3	14
26 (L)	NEWPORT	A Won	2	–	1	2	23	1	–	2	1	16
Jan. 6 (C)	BEDWAS	A Won	7	1	–	1	57	1	–	–	1	10
12 (EC)	ULSTER	H Won	2	2	1	5	42	–	2	–	2	16
20 (EC)	TOULOUSE	A Lost	1	1	–	5	27	3	1	–	4	38
27 (EC)	GLOUCESTER	A Lost	1	1	–	1	15	–	–	–	7	21
Feb. 10 (L)	BRIDGEND	H Lost	1	–	–	4	19	3	–	1	–	24
24 (C)	LLANELLI	A Won	7	2	1	1	65	1	–	–	3	16
Mar. 7 (L)	EBBW VALE	A Lost	1	–	–	–	7	–	–	–	4	12
10 (L)	GLASGOW CALEDONIANS	H Won	4	–	–	1	31	–	1	–	2	11
24 (C)	SWANSEA	A Lost	1	1	–	3	21	2	1	–	3	28

				SCORE FOR					SCORE AGAINST				
DATE	OPPONENTS	H/A		G	T	DG	PG	Pts	G	T	DG	PG	Pts
Mar 28 (L)	CROSS KEYS	A	Won	2	2	—	3	33	2	—	—	3	23
31 (L)	SWANSEA	H	Won	1	1	—	3	21	—	1	—	3	14
Apr. 21 (L)	CAERPHILLY	A	Won	6	1	—	1	50	1	—	—	4	19
28 (L)	CROSS KEYS	H	Won	2	8	—	1	57	—	—	—	—	0
May 5 (L)	LLANELLI	A	Lost	2	1	1	1	25	2	1	—	5	34
10 (L)	CAERPHILLY	H	Won	4	3	—	—	43	2	—	—	2	20
Played 33	Won 23	Lost 10	Drew 0	80	35	10	87	1026	37	13	6	100	642

OTHER MATCH STATISTICS

	P	W	L	D	G	T	DG	PG	Pts	G	T	DG	PG	Pts
	Score For									Score Against				
WELSH SCOTTISH	22	16	6	0	51	25	7	54	665	22	8	5	67	410
EUROPE	7	4	3	0	11	5	2	27	189	9	4	1	25	161
CUP	3	2	1	0	15	4	1	5	143	4	1	—	7	54
FRIENDLY	1	1	0	0	3	1	—	1	29	2	—	—	1	17
Played 33	Won 23	Drawn 0	Lost 10	Points For 1026					Points Against 642					

2000-2001 Appearances including subs

* Jamie Robinson	30	(30+0)	Dan Baugh	19	(16+3)
Andrew Lewis	30	(21+9)	John Tait	17	(13+4)
* Gareth Thomas	29	(25+4)	Mike Rayer	15	(6+9)
* Nick Walne	28	(27+1)	Ryan Powell	14	(13+1)
* Neil Jenkins	27	(26+1)	Peter Rogers	14	(8+6)
Craig Morgan	26	(24+2)	Wayne Fyvie	14	(7+7)
Jonathan Humphreys	26	(21+5)	David Young	13	(10+3)
Martyn Williams	25	(23+2)	Gary Powell	12	(8+4)
* Mike Voyle	25	(22+3)	Kenneth Fourie	12	(6+6)
Spencer John	24	(23+1)	Paul Jones	11	(7+4)
Robert Howley	24	(20+4)	Lee Davies	8	(3+5)
Rhys Williams	23	(23+0)	Owain Ashman	6	(5+1)
Emyr Lewis	23	(22+1)	Kevin Ellis	6	(0+6)
* Peter Muller	23	(21+2)	Damien Geraghty	6	(2+4)
* Craig Quinnett	22	(18+4)	Matthew Griffin	2	(2+0)
Greg Kacala	22	(14+8)	Robin Sowden-Taylor	2	(0+2)
Owain Williams	20	(14+6)	Martin Morgan	2	(0+2)
Steve Moore	20	(13+7)	Ian Jones	2	(0+2)

2000-2001 Appearances including subs (continued)

Elgan Jones	1	(1+0)	Phil Wheeler	1	(0+1)
Dan McShane	1	(1+0)	Simon Grainger	1	(0+1)
Nick Robinson	1	(0+1)	Richard Newton	1	(0+1)
Greg Woods	1	(0+1)			

Points Scorers (1026)

Neil Jenkins	408 (6T, 79PG, 57C, 9DG)	Owain Williams	15
Craig Morgan	105	Emyr Lewis	15
Nick Walne	60	Paul Jones	10
Rhys Williams	50	Martyn Williams	10
Jamie Robinson	45	Spencer John	10
Gareth Thomas	45	Steve Moore	10
Mike Rayer	44 (1T, 2PG, 15C, 1DG)	Peter Muller	5
Lee Davies	37 (1T, 6PG, 7C,)	David Young	5
Owain Ashman	30	Peter Rogers	5
Craig Quinnett	25	Wayne Fyvie	5
Ryan Powell	20	Kenneth Fourie	5
Andrew Lewis	20	Damien Geraghty	5
Robert Howley	15	Robin Sowden-Taylor	5
Dan Baugh	15	Nick Robinson	2

Try Scorers (115)

Craig Morgan	21	Andrew Lewis	4	Mike Rayer	1
Nick Walne	12	Robert Howley	3	Lee Davies	1
Rhys Williams	10	Dan Baugh	3	Peter Muller	1
Jamie Robinson	9	Owain Williams	3	David Young	1
Gareth Thomas	9	Emyr Lewis	3	Peter Rogers	1
Neil Jenkins	6	Paul Jones	2	Wayne Fyvie	1
Owain Ashman	6	Martyn Williams	2	Kenneth Fourie	1
Craig Quinnett	5	Spencer John	2	Damien Geraghty	1
Ryan Powell	4	Steve Moore	2	Robin Sowden-Taylor	1

Penalty Goals (87)

Neil Jenkins	79
Lee Davies	6
Mike Rayer	2

Conversions (80)

Neil Jenkins	57
Mike Rayer	15
Lee Davies	7
Nick Robinson	1

Drop Goals (10)

Neil Jenkins	9
Mike Rayer	1