

Petersham Junior Rugby Club

2015 Season Report





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President Report

by Adam Dunn

When it rains it pours.....

Well that's what it seemed like at times this year, PJR endured more closed grounds than a 'caravan of travellers'. Nonetheless, when we did get on to Camperdown it was an impressive sight. I get such great satisfaction seeing over 160 Junior Shammies, over 46 coaches, support coaches & managers and a host of friends and family fill Shammiesbrook on a Tuesday evening; and where else would you want to be? Less than 10 years ago, we were 1 team. Proud!!



Welcome Day was great with 200 of the extended Shammy family there to pick up their Shammy kit, a snag and drink & meet some new mates.

As always we played games on the Northern Beaches, in the Inner & Greater West and South of Sydney on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. However 2015 was a little bit special. It was a milestone year for Petersham Rugby - made so when u/11's Friday Superstars launched Friday night footy at Camperdown Oval; just brilliant!! For years as a club we've strived to achieve this, 2015 will be a year to remember for the first Shammy competition game under lights, and our juniors, the future of our great club had the honour.

We had wins and some losses, a few tears but way more smiles. One of the highlights for me was welcoming 7 girls who wanted to play rugby and have started their careers with PJR. For this we are blessed and we hope you girls all come back next year and bring some friends along!!

18 of our Shammy lads made the Sydney Uni Junior representative rugby teams. Not only did they hold their own, playing with real heart and spirit, I was proud and humbled by the reports I have received of how our little Maroon and Blue champions played and represented the club.

Without the support of our great partners Wests Ashfield, Platinum Direct Finance, McGrath Leichhardt & TRIFORCE Sports we would have to either have to rob banks or charge you like banks do, so we are eternally grateful and will continue to work to be better partners together.

We hope to see you all at our Petersham Rugby Welcome Day in March next year, it's a great day to meet new friends, catch up with old ones over a BBQ and drinks put on by our awesome sponsors.

To our Coaches & Managers: the effort is very much appreciated by parents and the Committee!! We are all volunteers, no-one is paid (apart from very snappy attire), yet we commit ourselves like Shammies 100%.

To the Committee: no-one really knows how much work goes into running the club. For me, it only stops when you step down so I'd like you to please accept my 'spirit of rugby filled' thanks!! I hope that you all find a way to be involved again next year – the schnitzels are on me!

To all the other Mum's, Dad's, Carers et al: We need help! If you have seen something you think you can help with, please don't hesitate to step forward, we need all the help we can get!

We'll do it all again next year so keep an eye on Petersham Shammies Facebook page for all the latest news, and summer tips to ensure you maintain contact with our proud club.

We are the Shammy Boys & Girls....

CTD. 1883. PJR.

Yours in Rugby.

Adam Dunn.

Proud President of Petersham Junior Rugby.

Treasurer Report

by Frank Hicks

In 2015, Petersham JRUFC was able to operate within budget and with funds in the bank for next season. There are three sources of income for our club, which each proved to be reliable throughout the season - registration fees, club merchandise and corporate sponsors.

We are most fortunate that players and families recognise the importance of registration fees to cover the essentials of club rugby - ground fees, footballs and player insurance. Thanks to everyone for ensuring that our registration fees were wholly subscribed - this is the bedrock finance for any junior sports club.

The Petersham JRUFC sponsors were tremendously generous. Wests Ashfield, Triforce, Platinum Finance and McGrath Real Estate were fantastic supporters of our club, and provided the means to supplement our registration fees and allowed the Club to cover the costs of our representative players, enter tournaments such as the Canberra 7's and take our players to Super 15 Waratahs matches for walk-ons and guards of honour.

The sale of Petersham Juniors rugby gear was the icing on the cake. The purchase of our merchandise has a direct benefit to the Club in terms of the money it brings in, but has a much greater intangible benefit in having our club out there on t-shirts, caps and hoodies (just to name a few items).

Many thanks to the Committee for the efforts throughout the year to work within our budget, with particular recognition for the energetic leadership of our President Adam Dunn in liaising with our sponsors.

A big thanks too goes to all our team coaches and managers for all pulling in the right direction - many hands make light work!

With continued support from our players and families, and by consolidating further our relationships with sponsors, the financial future of Petersham JRUFC looks good indeed.



Secretary Report

by Alison Main

2015 was my inaugural year at Petersham Junior Rugby. My Petersham pedigree started 10 years ago when I joined the Petersham Rugby Netballers and met my husband a Petersham rugby player. With that it was always known our son would also join the Petersham rugby ranks.

I came along to registration day and put my hand up to help out and was delighted to be asked to be the club Secretary.

Once I mastered age groups/grades and moving locations it was a great learning experience to see how a rugby club is run. We have an amazing group of volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes to get team out each week and I personally thank you all.

Petersham Junior Rugby has a great set of values that we pass along to the children and I am looking forward to the 2016 season.



From the sidelines...

by the players and parents

"We were surprised and pleased by the lovely sense of community that the club has. The other parents are lovely people and have made us feel so welcome - the support given to the kids regardless of their skill level is really great. It seemed to engender confidence in them - at least it did in Alex - that they can have a good go without being worried about the consequences of making a mistake."

Jenny Cropley (Alex Travlos' mum U6)

"As a new member of the Shammies club we didn't know what to expect but WOW what a year! We were made to feel very welcome by the whole team from our excellent manager and coach to the parents and kids it's been a fantastic year."

Ian Pynt (Aston and Callum's dad U9 and U7)

"Great coaches with a great commitment and attitude. We moved from Drummoyne Club and have been very impressed with the Petersham Club. Well done - we will be back next year!!"

Suzanne Tucker (Aedan Thompson's mum, U11)

"Our son is absolutely LOVING his rugby. He loves the team, the training sessions, the games and the coaches of course. He would be very happy if it just kept going all year. He feels like he is getting better and getting more ball in the games and that is really motivating. I am so glad we found PJR, it has been a great success. Huge thank you to you and the Club."

Alison Holland (Max Harris' mum U11)

"My favourite thing was the running with the ball. And scoring tries. And the dodging."

Declan Cohen (U6 player)

"I love playing rugby so much. I got to play with a new team and I loved helping the some new team mates play rugby for the first time."

Tom Lennox (U6 player)

"Our boys have loved the season. They loved making new friends, learning how to play, going to training, and especially the time their team coaches spent with them. They have really grown in confidence on the field, and in their team. I love that the boys are now running in the right direction with the ball. I have enjoyed getting to know other parents, spending time at training and at games. You get a sense of community from the club which is wonderful."

Lara Sabbadin (Lui and Archie's mum U6)

"My first year at PJR... loved the passion of the under-11s... especially the coaches... you've given me the passion to play rugby every day."

Louis Ruelle (U11 player)

"As a collective...the Adams family have had an excellent time getting involved with the Shammies juniors this season. Ruby was apprehensive at first as were we. But she's loved every minute of training and the match day experience and cannot wait to get started again next season!!"

Matt Adams (Ruby's dad, U6)

"I have been genuinely impressed this season with an all-round improvement in skill levels and team work. The kids have all found their roles within the team and have stood up and performed (Wallabies take note please). Big thanks to the coach the helpers and the manager. The Dirty Reds Black team were damn lucky to avoid the mighty blue and maroons. Looking forward to next season."

Lee Oddy (Maddox and Declan's dad, U9 & U11)

"The best thing about playing rugby this season was kicking, passing, and scoring tries."

Leo (U6 player)

"I liked training, playing with my team, running the ball, and scoring tries."

Max Kelso (U8 player)



"Our four children's rugby skills and confidence have been accelerated by their involvement with Petersham Junior Rugby. They have had very positive influences from excellent role models and they have forged great friendships with their team mates. The dedication of the coaches in all the age groups and their support staff is second to none. This is a fantastic program that you have here go the Shammies."

Khaled and Raja Zoud (mum and dad of Noah U6 / Jemima U7 / Isaac U10 / Zach U11)

"We really enjoyed our first-time experience at the club this year and are looking already forward to next year. Both coach, Ben and manager, Dave should be congratulated for their patience and enthusiasm in taking a bunch of 5-year olds at the start of the year and showing us all that cats can indeed be herded. Aiden enjoyed this season because he got to score tries and make tags even though he really wanted to make tackles and do rucks too. He also got the opportunity to play and learn about rugby with some great kids and really enjoyed the team environment."

Shane Lee (Aiden's dad, U6)

"It was fantastic watching the kids grow, develop and enjoy playing rugby."

Peter Lloyd-Jones (Owen's dad, U6)

"Our family loved the spirit of club, team and parents... which has made driving all over Sydney very pleasant on a Sunday morning..."

Julia Ruelle (Louis' mum, U11)

"It was amazing to see the kids' development over the season. In their first game they could barely stand in a straight line.... in the last game they were retreating back 5m, defending in a line and throwing dummy passes. Can't wait until the u7s!"

John Kilkenny (Javier's dad, U6)

"The team have really gelled this year. All members have improved both with individual skills as well as working together as a team. They have a genuine competitive edge, and their only real disappointment was not being able to take it up to Drummoyne Black. Congratulations team and coach!"

Ruth Lyons (Andrew's mum, U9)

"The first match of the under 6s was the funniest thing I've ever seen. You could package that up and make a TV show about it. Kids running everywhere, tries scored all over the place, parents in stitches. Brilliant. Laughs every week after that. Great bunch of kids and parents."

Margot and Lindsay Cohen (Declan's parents, U6)

"I don't think there's anything as entertaining as U6's rugby until you get to the professionals. Tries on sidelines, half way lines and I even saw an own goal once (if that's even possible). I think, at least I hope, that this year we managed to achieve what I think is the primary objective of under 6's - helping them to have enough fun playing rugby to want to come back next year. Big ups all involved!"

Mark Longhurst (Jasper's dad, U6)

"I loved the very first game because I won the medal and I loved the very last game because we met the Tah Man! And I loved scoring tries!"

Javier Kilkenny (U6 player)

"It has been wonderful to see how far all the boys have progressed this year! They are really starting to play as a team."

Danielle Griffin (James McGregor's mum, U11)

After a match this season my son Cooper turned to me & said "HEY DAD THAT WAS AWESOME, CAN I PLAY FIRST GRADE NEXT SEASON.."

David Scelzi (Dylan's dad, U10)

"I loved the experience of being taught how to tackle, meeting my fabulous team mates and playing front row in the scrum."

Aston Pynt (U9 player)

"This was the first year that our boys played and it was so great seeing them have fun and improve their skills throughout the season, and we really enjoyed being involved with such a lovely group of parents and kids."

Dave and Kristin Kelso (parents of Ollie and Max, U6 and U8)



The 100 Game Club

The 100 Game Club is for players and coaches that have represented Shammies for at least 6 seasons. New members to this special group are noted below. Shammies warmly acknowledges the contribution made by them. Their enthusiasm, loyalty and dedication is the bedrock of the Club and is appreciated by all.

Bertie Alcock

Debut: 2009



What is the main thing you remember about your first season?

I remember being tiny.

Your most memorable moment on the rugby field?

Scoring my first try, I'll never forget!

Any pre-match rituals that you follow?

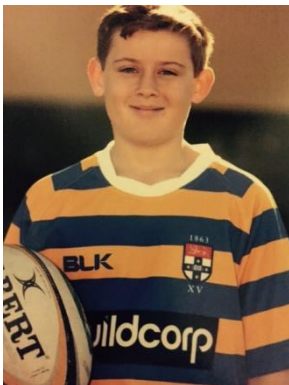
Not really, I always just go out and try my best.

What message do you have for kids that have just started rugby?

Just have as much fun as you can and never give up!

Will Burraston

Debut: 2009



First coach?

Peter Gasson, he was loud and full of passion.

What was your highlight of Season 2015?

Kicking 9/10 attempts versus Wahroonga. Final Score 70-5.

What do you think of when you run on the field?

Thinking what I am doing today is for my team.

What message do you have for others just starting rugby?

Get involved as soon as you start. It's great fun when you play and remember practice makes perfect. The good thing about rugby is that it's not an individual sport but a team one.

Jimbo Crawford

Debut: 2008



What is the main thing you remember about your first season?

Making new friends and eating sausage sandwiches after the games.

What do you think about when you run on the field?

Having fun.

Highlight of Season 2015?

Winning the grand final with my team, it was awesome and I will always remember it.

What message do you have for kids that have just started rugby?

Enjoy yourself and have lots of fun.



Thomas Maclean

Debut: 2010



What do you remember about your first season

Having fun and scoring lots of tries.

What was your highlight of Season 2015?

Scoring 2 tries in the plate final.

What is your secret game-day breakfast

Sultana Bran - or if it's a Friday Night game Nachos.

What message do you have for others just starting rugby?

It doesn't matter if you win or lose, just make sure you have lots of fun!!

Harry Russell

Debut: 2009



First coach

Michael Crawford, he was great and he made rugby lots of fun.

What do you remember about your first year?

I had a lot of my friends play that year, rugby wasn't as important as it is now.

What was your highlight of Season 2015?

How the forwards got up towards the end. I was happy with my performance which has boosted my self esteem.

What message do you have for others just starting rugby?

Persist with it, tackling started in U8's and is a much more satisfying game.

Tommy Treharne

Debut: 2010



What do you remember about your first season?

Being excited to be playing rugby after having watched it on TV with Dad. Also being nervous when we formed a guard of honour at Concord Oval for a Shammies V West Harbour 1sts game and thinking that he had to actually play the big boys.

What do you like most about Shammies Rugby?

I've made some really good mates, I love playing and training with them.

What is your secret 'game day' breakfast?

"Spaceman Eggs" – mum's famous French Toast.

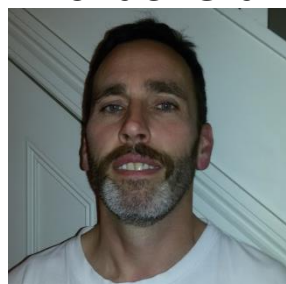
Favourite rugby player in the world?

Izzy Folau – I'm reading his books.

Nik Treharne (Coach)



Michael Crawford (Coach)



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As a licensed estate agent and auctioneer, Shad's experience and expertise has led him to become McGrath's top performing agent with the highest number of sales for the 2005, 2007, 2008 and 2009 financial years. He has consistently been ranked among the top 10 agents company-wide since 2001, and has recently been recognised as the country's number 27 agent in the Real Estate Business Magazine's Nation's Top 100 Agents 2015. With over 18 years of experience behind him, he is always leading by example and has an established track record that would be respected by any agent.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Petersham
Rugby was
formed in 1883

Australia's 2nd
longest running
rugby club

Juniors was
founded in 2008

200%+ growth in
player numbers
within 5 years

From 1 team to
13 teams in less
than 10 years

160+ players in
2015





U6



U6 Age Group Report

by Jason Lenord

This year must have been a record for registrations for the Under 6s for Petersham, with about 30 kids starting the year, and another 6 or 7 joining us through the season. The boys (and Ruby) were keen to play, every one of them knowing of course how to play, knowing the rules of rugby, and with attention spans as far as the eye could see...

There were several boys backing up from last year, eager to make a name for themselves on the honour boards for the PJRU U6s. Experience certainly counted in the mental disintegration of the coaching staff. There were a few newcomers keen to stamp their authority in this newly discovered area of rugby.

With our many able dads, we had a conference and decided the only way forward was to divide and conquer. So we split them into three teams – Petersham White Coached by Dan Waterworth, Mark Longhurst and Peter Lloyd Jones, Petersham Maroon coached by Ben di Qual and Dave, with John Kilkenny, Rob Nicoletti and myself trying to herd together the mighty Petersham Blues.

Training started at 5:30pm sharp every Tuesday at Camperdown Oval with the one lap warm-up, followed by some drills, and of course, a drinks break to cool down those weary bodies from the massive effort expended in the first 20 minutes or so. In fact, the enthusiasm for drinks breaks never seemed to have waned. This was followed by a few games of Crows and Cranes (their favourite), “Sharks and Octopuses” and a practice game at the end.

Surely they were well prepared for the game?

There is one thing I know about Under 6 rugby, and that is that behaviour is predictable and repeatable. The swarm of young bodies chasing a ball, making the tag and then crowding around the ball carrier (no matter which team has the ball) seems to hold its own law of physics as if the ball were a magnet and the players swarm around it, repeatable year after year, with different players at different venues and different times.

Fortunately these laws of physics apply at least equally to the opposing teams.

There were some bursting runs – forwards, sideways, backwards and many tries scored, some even making it over the try line, and many questions asked who gets to tap the ball off or kick the ball for the next play. We learnt that many of the Under 6s were keen orange eaters, and even keener when chocolate was substituted for oranges during a well-planned scientific trial of half time energy boosts. More trials are needed in this area. The performance boosters in the form of blood oranges and peptides were deemed a failure by management, likely due to poor palatability, and a fear of failing drug tests.

A few washed out weeks mid-season threw a spanner in the works in our progress, and the children were becoming restless. Marrickville Council were eager to protect the newly refinished grounds by declaring them closed at even the slightest hint of overcast weather. Training was substituted for weights sessions and swim sessions at the beach, which failed to attract any players to attend.

As the season progressed, the defensive line tightened its grip, the running became harder, the concentration span lengthened to two minutes, and opposing teams became more nervous when they fronted up to the Shammies. It was great to see how far the kids had progressed through the year and were still enjoying themselves at the end.

2016 promises to be a great year as we move into the under 7s age group. There will be several backing up in the under 6s next year who will hopefully show some of the younger kids a thing or two, and also some things about rugby. I'm looking forward to watching the team progress through the years.

A big thank you goes out to Kristin Kelso who has masterfully sent out emails each week organising training, game times and team sheets. We couldn't have done it without you!

Also thanks to the many Dads and Mums who stepped in to help during the season, washing jerseys and bringing oranges for half time, and also stepping in to referee games. It has been a great effort from everyone and one of the main reasons why Petersham Juniors remains such a strong club.

2015 Awards – spread across the three teams

The bullet train award	Leo Riley-Smith
The missile (awarded to the boy who sacrifices his body for the good of the team)	Aiden Lee
Best Air Guitar on field	Lawson Gill
Missing in Action Award	James Gormly – season ending injury when he broke his elbow early in the season
Three Amigos award	Javier, Giovanni and Rhys teaming up in 3s in defence for the Blue team
It wasn't me, it was him Award	Lui and Archie. (I still can't tell them apart!)
Mark Taylor award for Most Chewed Mouthguard	Declan Cohen (just pipping Aiden)

Best in Rugby
Jason Lenord, U6 Coach



U6 Maroon Report

By Ben Di Qual

The Petersham Maroons had a masterful season with a mixture of old heads (Declan, Ruby and Tom), youthful enthusiasm (Sam, Aiden, Alex and Otis) and deep thinkers (William and Nate) complimenting each other in their games.

With great managerial work by Dave the team were left to focus on their rugby....and, most importantly, their post-game lolly binges.

It was great to see players improve and grow throughout the year and it was a real honour to be able to coach them and work with their respective parents; especially when at times the coach accidentally trampled their child (sorry Tom). *[Editor's note: it probably did him the world of good Ben!]*





Player Profiles

William Di Qual

William, my son, didn't lack in enthusiasm and kept telling me how much he liked playing and training for rugby (and winding up Coach Jason at training). That said at times he was more interested in the sky, his boots, the grass or mid-field discussions with Nate about the toy du jour at school. With that said I was extremely happy to see him start to get involved in some runs, supporting his team mates with the ball and making the odd tag or two.

Tom Lennox

Tom was in his second year in the U6's and was not shy to give his opinion on the game and his ability, and without doubt he finished at the top off the try tally for the team. The main area we worked on with Tommy this year was going beyond just scoring individually, but helping to create opportunities for his team mates; a critical skill as he makes the move to the U7's next year. It was with a lot of pride that I saw him do this more as the season progressed, and even volunteer to help the opposition when they were short of numbers. Great to see such good sportsmanship!



Declan Cohen

Declan was always happy to do whatever it was asked of him around the field in defence, attack or even ensuring that the more inexperienced players got a turn with the ball. Declan's enthusiasm was always evident and sometimes worked against him with the odd tackle, instead of a touch, and breaking shoulders playing violent sports, like soccer with his brother. I think he'll only improve next year going into the u7s.

Nate Travis

Nate was always going to be faster than his father, not too hard really. William and Nate always seemed to have many good mid-field conversations about the state of the grass and the toys they had played with recently. With that he still loved playing and training and definitely tried his best. It turns out the trick was to find out what motivated him; which turns to be his mum promising him a toy if he played well. He then went on to win the medal that day with multiple runs and touches.

Aiden Lee

Aiden started off slowly but a sudden burst of confidence (and pace) saw him suddenly turn into the best defensive player on the ground. Always chasing and working hard not many players ever managed to get past him. He also did this in attack and was one of the few players who quite often straightened the line, rather than looping around the back to eventually go forward.



Sam Cameron

Sam was one of the most enthusiastic kids on the field and was always one of the first to support his team mate when they got touched. He just had to work on being behind the player, rather than in front as his enthusiasm got the better of him.

Sam built on this and by the end of the season was not only getting his hands on the ball for some great runs but was far better in tune about where he was in relation to his team mates and the sidelines.

I really look forward to getting him back next season and seeing further improvements.

Ruby Adams

Having played rugby with Ruby's dad in the past it is great to see that someone with the surname of Adams can actually play good quality football. Ruby helped keep the boys in place and was always listening and attentive.

Ruby scored some great tries this season and made a habit of scoring in the corners. As well as this she always worked hard and did her job in defence.

I was always really happy about how she showed greater sportsmanship and was always happy to help the other team (unless it was Balmain and her dad didn't let her).

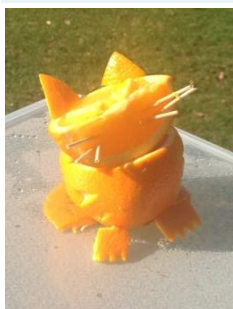
Otis Simington

Otis varied from game to game, at times happy to be involved in a chat with William and Nate and at others showing his acceleration and agility to beat multiple opposition players.

The last game stuck out where he beat five players, I'm pretty sure one of them twice, to score a try; timing it perfectly and waiting until his mum had got back from getting a coffee.

Alex Travlos

Alex's parents set the bar for oranges this year while Alex was constantly showing a clean pair of heels while flirting with the sideline on his way to score.



Alex surprised himself at times with how he improved week to week in his first season playing the game. With what he showed in terms of awareness on the field and speed, he will be one of the better players in the side as he gains more experience. I attribute this to his ability to listen and analyse what was said when the team came in for a talk.



U6 White Report

by Peter Lloyd-Jones

Shammies under 6 White Team had a great year. It has been a privilege for the team of assistant coaches to be involved with the weekend matches and watch them grow as both individuals and a team. We have seen them develop real skills and really enjoy the experience on the way. The penultimate game of the season summed up how they had come along. It was a crowning glory in many ways. With several tries that a first grade team would be proud of, the team capped it off with a phase that involved no fewer than four passes which culminated in a great try.





Player Profiles

Aaron Xistouris

A flying winger or a fledgling fullback? Aaron is comfortable when he hits his stride and sees open ground ahead. He has developed an excellent step and is always keen to get involved in all aspects of the game.

Archie Sabbadin-Wells

With twins in the team it was always going to be a challenge for the coaches. Archie rose to the occasion and stepped up to become an excellent defender. He works well with his team mates to hunt his opponents and has also found his way through to score a couple of tries as well.

Flynn Sill

Flynn is the quiet achiever. He would come out of nowhere to take up the chase and run down a would-be try scorer. Then he would arrive on the scene in support to take the ball forward and make ground for the team. With height and pace he is a contender for a future second rower.

Jasper Longhurst

With a running style like Campo and a step to match, Jasper tore up many an opponent's defensive line. His pace and willingness to get involved were only matched by his sportsmanship and he would gladly step up and play for an opposition side that were short of players.



Leo Riley-Smith

Leo quickly showed his pace and natural inclination for the game. He is comfortable in the centre of the action and his instinct on the field shows that he has a bright future ahead. With the determination of the Honey Badger, once he gets the ball and sees the line he is hard to stop. So its little surprise he took the mantle as leading try scorer.

Owen Lloyd-Jones

Owen quickly saw the benefit of the rush up defence and has closed down many players before they even got moving. He has shown a natural tendency to pick up on loose ball. He stole a few tries retrieving the ball from the base of the ruck and driving forward (a future flanker?). In the last few games of the season Owen experimented with passing the ball in general play and the trend caught on.

Lui Sabbadin-Wells

Louis was my wingman and from early on he worked off my shoulder to follow instructions, get involved and hold firm on the defensive line. With his distinctive hairstyle and build he was reminiscent of Percy Montgomery and he would also suit fly half, centre or fullback.

Liam Waterworth

Liam made a lot of ground this year and showed a level of pace that belied his age as one of the youngest team members. A future scrum half to be sure, Liam showed that he is another Gregan or Nick Farr-Jones in waiting. He is a little fella with a big heart and would bamboozle his opponents with hypnotic runs.

Ollie Kelso

With the pace of a road runner and the step of Drew Mitchell Ollie was a centre piece of the team. An opponent would regret underestimating this pocket rocket as he slipped through them like a whirlwind.

Zac Wagner

Zac the smiling assassin. Take him lightly and you will rue the day. Zac will be one of those hard players that crunches the opposition number while grinning the whole time. He was willing and able to get involved and when he wound up Zac was hard to stop and worked equally hard in defence.



U6 Blue Report

by Rob Nicoletti

As a starting point for some and a second season for others, Under 6 rugby provides a bundle of enthusiasm and a vast array of abilities. Even a disjointed start to the season through weather didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the mighty Under 6 Blues!

The returning players from the previous season settled in early leading the charge, with new players amicably following suit. Coach Jason Lenord's inspired drill sets at training with the assistance of Rob and JK gave the boys skills, which were showcased every Saturday.

Focus and attention span is part of the learning process in this age group. These boys not only learnt fast but possessed a hunger for tries and a desperation in defence that left other teams, at times, bewildered.

Many thanks to the parents who filled in at various stages throughout the season whether it was at training, at games, washing jerseys or providing the much sought after oranges.

Congratulations to all of the boys for the enthusiasm shown and spirit in which they displayed all season particularly on game day. Watching the boys grow as rugby players has been fantastic to be a part of. The memories created and skill sets developed will put them in good stead for their rugby years to come.





Player Profiles

Billy Nicoletti

His willingness to keep going and run forward make Billy an asset to the Shammies. Billy showed the way forward with the ball to the new players and continued to listen to instruction throughout the year.

Tom Nicoletti

His enthusiasm to play alongside his big brother and his ability to make his mates laugh made Tom a valued team member. A surge in listening skills late in the season show that Tom will be a force to be reckoned with in years to come.



Rhys Lenord

With enthusiasm and ability to match, Reece displayed great offence and defence capabilities throughout the year. His vision particularly in defence and knowledge of field coverage at this stage is outstanding.

Joel Salter

Mr Consistency would not stop running throughout the season. A demon in defence with either a left or right foot step in attack had Joel scoring at times with ease. Most importantly he followed instruction all season and is a valued member of the team.



Giovanni Briguglio

Versatility all over the park, Giovanni would score tries from anywhere and showed vision in attack whilst always looking to run forward. His enthusiasm and positivity every game is a credit to him.

Lawson Gill

Our smallest player, with the biggest smile. Lawson showed glimpses of future brilliance particularly with aggression in defence. His excitement at running the ball always entertained.

Rupert Beresford

With a bubbly personality and enthusiasm to be part of the team, Rupert always put in his best effort. Often defending at fullback, Rupert offered a second line of defence throughout the game.

Noah Zoud

An excellent season for Noah, who always supported his team mates in attack, scored at will and defended in the middle. Noah has ability galore and shows obvious enjoyment at being a part of the Shammies.

Noa Stanley

A welcome late addition to the team, Noa picked up on the necessary rugby skills very quickly. Noa was always looking to get involved and followed instructions perfectly. Noa will be hard to stop in seasons to come.

Javier Kilkenny

Javier is a rugby powerhouse all over the park. Speed to burn and vision for gaps, made Javier our most prolific try scorer. Equally in defence no one could get away from this speedster.

Adam Wilkins

In his first year of rugby, Adam displayed a hunger for meat pies (tries) like no other. He was skilled with the ball always searching for gaps and avoiding defenders with passion. His listening and team involvement was outstanding.

James Gormly

James had a cracking start to the season with his first game full of tries and brilliance. Unfortunately the season was cut short due to injury. We missed your talent James.





U7

U7 Report

by Ryan Swerdlow and Simon Teong

In 2015, we started the season with only 8 players and could only run one team. This grew however during the season to a total of 15 representing the Petersham U7 in the IWMC Rugby Competition.

Simon, myself and all the boys and girls had a great season, the players and coaches developed in the skills of the game and were introduced to the joys of scrums and lineouts.

Petersham U7's took on Drummoyne, Wests and Balmain, who all ran more than one side. However towards the end of the season when we had enough for two teams we quite often lent players to the opposition which worked out well. This meant all players got a decent amount of on field time throughout the season.

The enthusiasm for rugby was wonderful from all players. The development during the season was very evident towards the end of the season. Our objectives at the start of the season was the simplicity of the players moving off their line in defence to make a two handed tag and then return to the coach back inside in one line. Whilst in attack we wanted the players not to overcrowd each other on the field and run forwards. We then moved to trying to educate the players about field position or zones on the field, passing and tackling in preparation for next season. Both Simon and I felt all players picked up some of this during the season.

To all the parents, who were tremendous support and diligent with the roster, in particular with the supply of Jelly Snakes and half time oranges, we hope that you are as proud of the team and each of the players as we are. Thank you for all your assistance and words of support throughout the season.

We hope that you will all be back next year - tackle!!

Enjoy the summer and thanks again to everyone for making the 2015 Petersham U7's a special team.

Best in Rugby
Ryan & Simon





Player Profiles

Mitchell Smit

Mitch joined us late in the season but picked up the basics of rugby quickly. Keen and enthusiastic in attack running straight and hard. Mitch also picked up the two handed tagging and often made tags in defence when his team mates didn't beat him to it.

Liam Lenord

Liam is a seasoned player, this being his third season. In attack this year he often found the try line and learned to swerve and change direction to avoid being tagged. In defence, Liam liked to hang back and was often our last line of defence whether it was a covering tackle or in mid field.

Sam De Alwis

Young Sam requested to play up a grade and I think this worked out well for all parties. Sam has great speed and acceleration he knows how to spot a gap in attack. He has already perfected a natural side step, whilst in defence he runs up off the line quickly and is eager to tag.



Willem Teong

At the beginning of the season Will would look for the outside in attack and he scored multiple times. By the end of the season he had worked hard on a unique side step that also lead to him scoring. Will is also a solid defender, knowing to make the tag if an attacking player comes in his direction.

Elijah Hassan

Eli does like to run backwards however he generally ends up making more forward ground or scoring a length of the field try in attack. He generally favours the wings but if anyone got close he knows how to tag and commits to getting his opponent.

Sam Gilligan

Starting his first season in rugby Sam picked it up quickly. Very enthusiastic in attack, a solid, straight, forward runner of the ball. He often caught the defence out close to the line and scored. In defence towards the end of the season Sam was one of our best defenders often beating his teammates to the tag.



Florence Ata

One of only two female players this season, Flo was a welcome addition to U7s. Very strong in attack and defence, Flo was always in the mix, always in the middle of the field, always hungry for the ball and often off the line quickly trying to beat her teammates to make the tag.

Oskar Swerdlow

Another great season from Oskar. Understands the game and always positions himself well in attack and defence. A regular try scorer, great runner with ball in hand and clever cover defender, his rugby future awaits him.

Callum Pynt

AKA – “Mr Halftime”. Callum could only play the first half most of the season due to other commitments. Sometimes easily distracted during training and a game, but when he was “on” he loved the ball in hand, loved to run and also chase the opposition when in defence.

Jasper Jones

Jasper’s skills and rugby knowledge grew immensely over the season. A natural leader, he was always pushing to make a tag, get the ball in hand for a run and assist his team mates with positioning etc. He also showed great team work on numerous occasions, passing the ball or giving another team mate a run with the ball.

Max Blombery

Max was one of our most enthusiastic this year. He loved training, the team environment and having a run on Saturdays. Would often surprise us with a great head down, low straight run in attack and then follow this up with great defence, with a shooting run out of the line and two hand tag.

Jonty Robinson

Another late starter this season and first time player, Jonty enjoyed the team aspect, training and learning the basics of the game. His skills and knowledge improved each week, saving his best for the last game of the season where he made some great runs with the ball.

Samuel Rudd

Sam was a great member of the team this year, always keen to participate and learn. Another great runner with ball in hand, he enjoyed crossing the line to score and always pushed himself in defence. The tallest in our team he looks to have the makings of a fine Lock/Second Rower one day.



Jemima Zoud

Following in her best friend Flo's footsteps, Jemima was a welcome addition to the u7's just after the start of the season. A fast learner and always enthusiastic, she had a great time at training and game day. Was one of our best straight runners with ball in hand, not afraid to get tagged and had a natural swerve that often found holes in the defence.

Miles Jenkinson

Another solid season from Miles, his third with Petersham. We saw some great progression from Miles this season when he was encouraged. Defensively he showed some great line speed and often completed great "in close" tags when the attack was slow to react. Enjoyed running the ball and always had a great time at training with his team mates.







U8

U8 Report

by Martin Davies, Rom de Alwis and Frank Hicks

In 2015, twenty four players represented Petersham in the Under 8's Inner West Minis Rugby Competition. The season was interrupted by rain many times (talk of building an Ark was heard from time to time), but the players remained keen at every opportunity in the first year of tackle rugby.

We were fortunate with our registrations that we could field two teams - Petersham Blues and Petersham Maroons. Although the teams for Saturday matches remained reasonably settled, with a view to building confidence and combinations, training was always as a group and the players were always representative of one club.

The Maroons started the season flying and picked up some good early results (weather permitting) and continued their good form throughout the season. We had some devastating tacklers, damaging runners and effective ball sneaks who all contributed to a strong team who were a real threat to their opposition all season.

The Blues started a bit slower, but finished even stronger than the Maroons with all players making great strides in their development along the way. It was great to see the passing game develop as the season played out, with some excellent passing resulting in some fluid rugby and well-earned tries.

Throughout the season it was wonderful to see the efforts of our newer recruits rewarded with several of the first season players among our strongest for the year. Both teams demonstrated their character and spirit along the way with great sportsmanship and fair play a real feature of every game.

Petersham U8's took on Drummoyne, Wests, Balmain, Briars and St Patrick's in our competition. All games were well contested every week, with the improvement of individuals and in teamwork simply astonishing over the course of the season.

The players entered the contest of more physical rugby with great effort and enthusiasm. Everyone was keen to get into the set pieces. The contest at the breakdown became ever fiercer as the season progressed. Indeed, perhaps the greatest sign that the players had come to rugby was the number of "McCaw" penalties that were being given away by season's end for failing to come through the gate - the referees recognised that our players were developed enough to be governed by the higher laws (not that McCaw ever actually gets penalised for those things, but anyway...)

We also played a number of invitation games, including against Balmain on Saturday mornings and night games with our seniors against Drummoyne and St Patrick's. The Friday night match against Drummoyne was a real highlight, with the Shammies taking the match against the Dirty Reds in a high scoring and impressive game of running rugby.

As is the way at Petersham since 1883, the principles of rugby were held highest - focus on the team, not the individual; give your best and support for your teammates; respect your opposition and the referee; enjoy the game and have fun. Our players met these standards every time they wore the claret and blue.

To all the parents, thanks for your wonderful contributions and support. The 2015 U8's has been a fantastic chapter of Petersham rugby. The spirit and style of a team depends on its families, and you have been exemplary all year.

Enjoy the summer, Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year, and thanks again to everyone for making the 2015 Petersham U8's a special team.

Best in Rugby

Martin Davies & Rom de Alwis (Coaches); Frank Hicks (Manager)



Player Profiles

Ewan Gleeson

A classic forward in the making, Ewan relished the breakdown and earned many a steal for the Maroons. A great support player, who knew when the offload was on and when to take it up the middle into contact. His transition to tackle was the most dramatic and impressive.

Xavier Schmidt

The softly spoken Xavier grew into a colossus on the field this year. Xavier never shirked the defence and was able to bring down many an opponent without fear. When on fire, nothing could stop him as he ripped and mauled to put his team into a fantastic position. With ball in hand he was the most unpredictable runner, relishing the contact and sometimes even seeking it out on the way to the try line.

Oscar Cummins

With his impressive speed, Oscar quickly showed his defending prowess on the wing, tackling well and then earning the turn over. In attack, Oscar's support play earned him tries throughout the season as he followed the play and used his skills to evade defenders.

Mannix Ung

The breakdown specialist, Mannix was a dynamo in the ruck, never giving up and working the ball to get it back for the Maroons. A never say die attitude and some great tackling were his trademarks. With a jinking run, he was fantastic with the ball in hand usually bamboozling defenders.



Jasper Cohen

An elusive runner with speed to burn, Jasper showed great pace to evade many a tackler. In the latter half of the season, he began to develop a solid defence and was able to snuff out any attack. Had a season to be proud of.

Samuel Gimenez-McAlpine

The hard hitting Sam used his pace and power to bulldoze his way up the field. He showed great skill at the breakdown, turning ball over or marching the Shammies maul up field. A natural tight forward with a big engine and always happy to work for the team.

Jonathan Nolan

A fantastic team player, Jonny became a set piece master, scrummaging with the best of them and supporting well at the line out. A true all-rounder, who put everything into all facets of the game.

Max Kelso

The spinning top of the Maroons, Maxie bounced, palmed and smashed his way through defences this year. Never held in the tackle, an absolute live wire with ball in hand. At the breakdown, he showed his hunger for the ball often stripping opposition time and time again.



Lucas Kohen

The rock at the back. Never was an attacker able to get past Lucas with his excellent cover defence. A natural runner with excellent pace, Lucas could exploit the side lines and burnt many a defender with his clean heels. Steps like Fred Astaire.

Zeke de Alwis

With his text book tackling, Zeke was able to keep the Maroons try line clean for many games. His evasive running was a delight to watch as he carved up the best defences to make full length of the field tries look effortless. A never say die attitude kept the Maroons in the hunt all year.

Aston Lebler

A bullocking, hard running forward who caused havoc with the opposition this year smashing through defences. Towards the end of the season he began to show soft hands with some terrific offloads. Never shy of getting into the ruck, Aston also showed some great captaincy skills by organising his troops in attack and defence.



Rafferty Fitzgerald

Raff was terrier at the break down this year, hitting the ruck hard, getting in and supporting his fellow team members. He was never shy of getting involved in the set piece and put his all into the season. One of nature's breakaways.

Hugh Trafford-Jones

A devastating player, Hugh has speed, ball skills, vision and a strong tackle. Scored regularly and freely, and was the last line of defence on a number of occasions. Hugh is a passionate, skilful rugby player who loves the physical encounter.



Spencer Davies

Having had very good seasons in under 6's and 7's, Spencer had a quieter start to under 8's as he accustomed himself to the differences of the full contact game. Over the course of the season, his fearless defence, strong running and passing out of contact were crucial to the success of the team. Regularly took the ball to ground and laid back for his teammates to recycle from a strong ruck position.

Lucy Greville

Anyone who knows Lucy's pedigree knows the potential she has as an athlete. She is a beautifully balanced runner with a fluid style and deceptive speed who again scored in the final game of the season.

Ben Wilson

A bullocking forward, Ben regularly made strong runs and tackles, stole ball and (best of all for a forward) scored tries. Scored some great tries later in the season as he learned to use his size, strength and speed to full advantage. Ben is a natural leader on the field and demonstrated his maturity in some spiteful clashes towards the end of the season.

Oscar Dance

Oscar was a new recruit for Petersham this year, but very knowledgeable about rugby (and happy to share it!). He grew into himself as the season went on, gaining in confidence and skill. His body position in the tackle is beautiful, he ran strongly, stole ball and made passes. Was responsible for two of the moments of the match in the final two games of the season, a beautiful cover tackle to drive the opposition into touch and a perfectly weighted, looping pass into the hands of his support as he was about to go out.



Dominic Cheng

Dom didn't start with Petersham until the mid-season break. For a player with no previous experience, his improvement was meteoric, leading to a man of the match performance in his fourth game ever. He was the everywhere man, always popping up exactly where you want someone to be in both attack and defence. Scored a couple of great tries from his support and tackled tenaciously.

Tom Waterworth

Tom has grown in confidence and maturity to make some great runs and tackles and throw some excellent passes over the season. He has worked very hard to improve his game and is reaping the rewards for his work, contributing reliably to the team and communicating clearly to help organize his teammates.

Fletcher Laphorne

Fletcher has always seen the game very well and can see the play unfolding almost before it happens. His positional play is very strong and his defence very reliable. He has real elegance to his running with the ball and a beautiful pass. A capable and skilful player, Fletcher is also as happy and humble. A pleasure to be around on and off the field.



Rhys Bhatia

Some of our best tries this season have been to passes that Rhys has thrown out of contact. He gives away size to most of the opposition players he comes up against, but never shows fear and always commits to his best. His efforts at the tackle enable his teammates to get there to complete the tackle. Turns up in support regularly, and has shown a great pair of hands to bring in the passes that have come to him.

Edward Hicks

About halfway through the season Edward realized he was bigger than, and at least as strong as, most of the other kids in the competition. It was a revelation. His runs straightened up, he gained confidence to take the ball into contact and started to compete in contact more strongly for the opposition ball. A vastly improved player by the end of the season.

Cooper Scelzi

Cooper has all of the attributes of the modern halfback, but isn't afraid to mix it up in contact. He regularly stole opposition ball for his team, leading to strong field position and tries to his teammates as well as himself. As his technique improved, so did his confidence in defence and he finished the season as a strong and reliable tackler.

Noa James

Noa is a ferocious competitor who leaves nothing in the tank when he comes off the field. He loves nothing more than pitting his strength against any opposition in a very personal battle for the ball. He runs hard and tackles strongly and has surprised the opposition on a number of occasions by his ability to pilfer the ball in the tackle. His enthusiasm is contagious and his efforts inspire his teammates.







U9



U9 Report

By Ben Stephens

2015 was another great year for the Shammies U9's. For a lot of the players this was the 4th year of playing together and for some others it was the first, but it was amazing how all players played together like they had been doing so for years.

This was the 2nd year of tackle and it definitely showed in the skill level of the players, let alone the enthusiasm and commitment. It was also the last year of playing in the Inner West Minis Comp. at St.Lukes, Concord. Our opposition included Canterbury, Balmain, Wests and Drummoyne as well as a gala day including teams from the Hills District.

The skills that shone through in our second year of tackle were the ability to pass along a line which resulted in the kids being able to bust through or run around the opposition, the set back and clear out in the rucks and most importantly some amazing tackles on any opposition, big or small.

There were many highlights throughout the year but the most positive was the fact that all of the boys played as a team and there were no individuals. The passing, support and unselfish play by everyone culminated in the team scoring more than 100 tries for the season.

A big thank you for such a great group of parents who were always willing to help out in whatever way that was needed and for giving unwavering support each week from the sidelines. Dave, the 'man behind the scenes' as always is an invaluable part of the team with the entertaining communication and organisational skills - he is the gel that keeps the team together.

The job of coach is made so easy with a great group of kids to work with. Every single one of them has the ability to train hard (when in the mood!), listen and learn new skills, have a joke, and have fun with each other. Great kids come from great parents, so a thank you to all of them.

I can't wait for 2016 and to see all the kids return for another great season and the shift to the Sydney Junior Competition.

Best in Rugby

Ben Stephens - Coach, U9 Shammies





Player Profiles

Brendan "The Bull" Bennett

The front row forward with a hint of cheekiness, Brendan can take the ball from the back of the ruck and bust up the middle. He has a hunger for the ball and is keen to get in and fight for it at every opportunity.

Fletcher "The Fearsome" Gill

With Rugby in his blood, Fletcher has the animal inside him that comes out every Saturday morning. The first up in defence and the one in the middle of the action, although he concedes plenty of penalties for his offside antics, it shows his commitment to getting that ball every time.

Aston "The Powerful" Pynt

In his first year of rugby Aston has shown his willingness to learn the finer skills of the game and put these into practice on the field. Hit up's, tackles and sticking his head into a ruck is becoming more natural every day and is always done with a smile on his face.

Hugh "Hitman" Crakanthorp

A solid second rower knowing the finer details of rucks and mauls that is rare to find in a man of his age. Always committed in both training and during the game shows through with Hugh always being involved in every area of play.



Jack "The Ripper" Lennox

He can rip, he can ruck, and he can fight for the ball. Jack uses his strength to his advantage and often breaks a tackle or two with a break up the middle of the field to gain precious metres. With each game his confidence grows making him a great asset to the team.

Andrew "The Animal" Lyons

Andrew can tackle like a man possessed and has the determination that many wish they had. Bustling runs from centre field, Andrew always wants to succeed, loves being part of the team and drives to better himself all the time.

"Hurricane" Harry Stephens

Harry is determined to be involved in everything, never gives up and is always there in support right to the end. Always wanting to be in the thick of it he often snatches the ball from the opposition before they realise it's gone.

Maddox "Mad Dog" Oddy

A tackler that any first grade player would be glad to have on their team and a rugby mind to match any of his age. Maddox has all round ability that gets him involved in every part of play around the paddock. His skills in attack and defence are an asset to the team.



Owen "Buster" Lenord

Owen can and does bust up any defence that is in his way. Not only speed and determination are on his side, his power and drive to reach the try line are always there. Not only is he an asset in attack, but his tackling is second to none.

Ellen "The Flyer" Murphy

Ellen has the speed to run around any back line and leave them for dead. The most polite person you will ever meet, you would never guess it when she gets that white line in her sights. A great team player that every other player respects.

Koen "Light Foot" Griffen

Koen has the speed and ability to baffle the opposition when running at full pace. In both attack and defence he stands up to any opponent without fear. Knowing his position he can cover the field with ease and is everywhere.



Jules “The Shark” Holland

Jules has really hit his straps in the back half of the year getting involved in the breakdown and making some great runs up the middle of the field. With a hidden swerve that has only recently been let out of its cage, there is more to come from this man.

Josh “The Enforcer” Chen

Josh has taken the rugby world by storm in his debut year. He has the natural ability to use his assets of speed and strength to bamboozle the opposition every time. Tackling like an animal, running through the opposition, supporting his team, all done with a smile on his face.





U10



U10 Report

by Tim Greville

Well, the U10's have had a really good appreciation of the step up required post minis. After some pretty close games early on we played some really close knit and inspirational teams. Then the rain came down and down and down. Five of the boys were selected in the Sydney Uni representative team and made Petersham proud after 3 victories out of 4 games in the NSW Plate. We then had some close games and had a very strong win against Ryde (40+ points to Nil). Overall we all had a load of fun this year and our rugby really improved. Looking forward to getting together again next season.

Best in Rugby
Tim Greville





Player Profiles

Lipina Ata

Strong runner and a defence powerhouse.

Rowan Bhatia

After an early season injury, Rowan came back with enthusiasm and it was great to have him back on board.

Oscar Brown

Great ripper, always gives 110%,



Eric Carney

Great solid all-rounder. An essential part of the team always on the front foot.

Joshua Cartwright

Physically strong, good utility player.

Thomas Chanter

New to us this year and fitted in really well with a positive and enthusiastic attacking game.

Mitchell Cope

Always committed strong runner, focused and thoughtful

Frankie Davies

Great tackler, good all-rounder.

Oscar Greville

Good tackling and great laying the ball back.

Finnley Harding

Inspirational team spirit, quick handed halfback

Adam Hassen

New to the team this year. Adam is a great runner with a fantastic attitude and team spirit.

Kaiden Hassen

Plays thinking man's rugby, good utility player.

Siaosi Mahe

Deceptive runner, Committed to the game

Ryan Palmer

Strong runner, plays with passion



Maran Petkovich

Maran is a fearless player who always gives 100%. Sad to lose him to injury and look forward to having him back on the team next year.

Lucas Pollard

Good team player and always positive, doesn't shy away from the tough stuff



Dylan Scelzi

Physically strong and ran hard

Cooper Thompson

Passionate and committed, good technical mauler

Tommy Treharne

Tommy is always enthusiastic with a genuine love of the game. He is always looking for the holes in the opposition defence.

Jasper Vance

Great runner, always chooses good lines when he gets the ball

Dean Xistouris

Dean is a solid part of the team and great in defence. A team player

Isaac Zoud

Deceptively powerful and strong, with good rugby insight.





U11



U11 Report

By Stu Russell

It can be summed up a solid year for the U11 Shammies with real developmental results. In typical style the “Villagers of Petersham and Thereabouts” took some time settling down, and in Dunny (Adam Dunn – Lead Coach) style committed us to both Friday night and Sunday competitions allowing the boys a fair go. I could go on about Dunny, his commitment to the team/club and passion to drive the boys was admirable and exhausting. We wish his family some well-deserved down time over summer!

Picking up the hard yards was Jenny (Xistouris), stepped up when Mark (Maclean) decided to challenge oncoming traffic with his motorbike and lost (a pretty drastic way to get out of managing!). Jenny’s contribution, like all managers, is the foundation of a good team and her efforts were readily seen through great communication and constant negotiation.

The team is now so fancy we had co-coaches, with Cooky (Simon Cook) and myself (Stuart Russell), a few extra keen dads taking hits (Alister, Granny and Co.) and parents washing, transporting (long country drives), orange peeling, lines personing (if that is such a word) and orange dicing. The injection of A graders coming down and working with the boys shows commitment across the greater Shammies community.

What was interesting was the shake-up of positions, at times frustrating for all but you can see that the experimentation started to pay off with boys mixing it up in the forwards. The scrum shape in the last few games was admirable and proved itself in contests against larger packs. As for the backs, wow, the maturity in game play, completion of full backline passes, with occasional 20m plus floating torpedo’s dispatched and caught stunned more than one opposition sideline ref and parent alike.

We introduced a points system this year to recognize the talented and will single out a few. What I will emphasise is these individuals could not have done it without their fellow team members. James McGregor, a natural who reads the game so well, his development this year to organise the team and outclass oppositions, with support from Conor Dunn and Harry Russell (sorry, dad’s bias) to lead the teams in their respective field roles. The tough guy goes to Thomas Maclean, along with Conor, Ollie Clark and Sam Roediger.

So how did we do? Both teams made the plate finals (best in group of 4, eg positions 1-4 and 5-8 etc.) and won the Friday night plate 10-0 against Coogee Black who had beaten us only 2 weeks before. What a game, sheer grit from the boys who dug themselves out of their own try line at least 5 times. Sunday games were just as tough, a few less players to pick from and they drew 12 v 12. There’s more! Seven of the boys made the squad for Sydney Uni U11’s, you could tell we were strong by our numbers. To top it off Hugh registered us for a Gala day in Canberra, the first junior Petersham 7’s team. Very solid display, boys and parents were all knackered by the end of day. Kyle had a cracker of a day, but, all boys were strong.

Parents, remember, if you need the lad to clean his room, just yell “pressure & tackle”.....

Best in Rugby
Stuart Russell



Player Profiles

Harry Russell

Cleanout kid, ripping a ball, lifting the forwards.

Oliver Clark

Hooker extraordinaire, great distributor, great ticker.

Sam Roediger

Solid tough and can read the game.

Tom Kilburn

Strong in the scrum and the ruck.

Reuben Palmer

A tower of strength.

Thomas Maclean

One tough dude, with one speed, full pelt.



Aedan Thompson

The niggler, making opportunities through disruption.

Michael Hassen

Loves the game, ploughs thru the opposition.

Ryan Gleeson

Hungry, great ticker, a quick forward.

Quillan Ung

Warms up to a battle, digs in and has a crack.

Ben Brown

Boofs it up, holds the scrum.

Jaime Creswell

Stepped up as hooker, a cracking tackler, reads the game.



Dexter Simington

A backward forward? Quick, wiry and willing.

Nils Bacic

Most improved this year, becoming a tough customer.

Declan Oddy

Solid hitter, digs in and has a go.



Riley Jackson

New to the forwards, quick and willing to learn.

Conor Dunn

A tough mite, reads the game, great distributor

James McGregor

A leader, a great reader of the game, and a golden boot.

Jonas Cook

Quick and tough, wilful in attack and defence.

Kyle Ritchie

The Teflon kid, hard to catch and can put up a chase with a fire in the belly.



Louis Ruelle

Not quite the beast (not as much facial hair).

Zach Zoud

Winds up and goes.

Enzo Farren Price

Covers the wing well, can get up and go.

Samuel Hassan

A quicky and catches Jimmy's 20m floaters.

Zane Xistouris

A quicky, gets the legs up and goes.

James Crawford

The littlest bloke in the forwards, but not the slightest of heart. Will come into his own when we add 2 to the side of the scrum in the 12's



Max Harris

His first year in rugby and what a great start. Fearless tackler and strong leg drive, this young bloke has quite a career ahead of him in the outside backs.

Kye Martin

Moved to the centres this year and found his position. Good runner and strong in the tackle, he'll keep getting more ball and breaking tackles.

Sebastian Natoli

Broken arm, but not spirit. A tough little competitor with a spiral pass any #10 would love to receive.



U12



U12 Report

by Michael Finlayson

Following on from our successful 2014 season where the PJR U11s made the qualifying final, it was hoped that the boys could do one better in 2015 playing full field and 15 a side rugby for the first time. We welcomed back 14 boys from 2014 and they were joined by 4 new players to the club, Sebastian Bezzina, Alex Hicks, Ryan McCarthy and Jordan Peck. They immediately fitted in well with their new Shammies brothers.

The early season coincided with Sydney's rainmageddon and this made for a disjointed start with limited opportunity for training for our foray into the Friday night comp. We quickly discovered that the size and calibre of our Friday night opponents would diminish the enjoyment and development of the boys' rugby and switched to the more suitable Sunday comp. Despite some one-sided scores in the Friday night games, the boys played extremely well against the much bigger and more experienced sides of Coogee, Balmain, Sth Coogee and Canterbury. They showed plenty of ticker.

The return to the Sunday comp saw the boys undefeated for 5 games on the trot and Coach Pauric Cussen (ably assisted on game days by Dave Murphy and Andrew Watson) developed some excellent combinations and positional play which led to over 40 tries being scored by the Shammies from all parts of the paddock.

Despite the latter part of the season being hampered by illness and injury, the Shammies qualified for the finals for the second year running. Maybe one step further in 2016.

I would like to congratulate all of the boys for the spirit in which they played all season. Congratulations also Bertie Alcock, Will Burraston and Hugo Hobbs for their selection in the Sydney Uni representative side for the June carnival.

Thanks to all for your help over the season with special thanks to Pauric for taking on the weekly grind of training and cat herding, Dave Murphy for his role as trainer and game day tactician, Andrew Watson and Eddy Alcock as assistant referees, Bill Smith and others for donning the Ground Marshall high visibility vests and all of you for helping ground set ups and getting the boys to and from training and games.

It's been a pleasure being involved with such a great bunch of boys and they did the club and all of us proud in the way they approached the game with the right combination of competitiveness, sportsmanship and enjoyment. They now have a bond forged in rugby that won't be broken.

Best in Rugby
Michael Finlayson



Player Profiles

Bertie Alcock

AKA “Mr Perpetual Motion”. Equally comfortable in the front row and back row, Bertie put his heart and soul into every game with busting defence, turnovers and countless break out runs. Sydney Uni rep and 12 tries (including a hat trick).

Sebastian Bezzina

A dual code centre with class written all over him and a welcome addition to the Shammies. Shut the gates when Seb finds open space and equally good in cover and line defence. Set up plenty of tries and scored several himself.

Zac Burkitt

“The Enforcer” found his home in the 2nd row or blindside flank. Never one to shirk the hard work needed over the ball and up the middle. Always good for a big hit or handy offload.



Will Burraston

AKA "Superboot". A composed fullback who caused plenty of problems for his opponents in attack and defence. Nearly 50 points off the boot including a 9 from 10 effort v Wahroonga. Sydney Uni rep capped off a great season.

Luke Cussen

A crafty player happy anywhere in the backline and happiest when darting through holes in the defence especially down the short side. Always looking to get in the mix in defence.

Hugh Finlayson

The smallest bloke on the paddock but always willing to take on the biggest of opponents. Developed his passing game at half-back and delivered plenty of front foot ball to his outside backs. Barked at his forwards all day.

Oliver Garner

One of the best and most consistent players in the team. A lineout specialist and true No 8 in the Keiran Read mould. Fantastic work rate with big tackles, pick n drives and charges up the middle leading to 5 tries for the season including 2 doubles.



Tom Harris

A versatile outside back/winger with pace to burn and a good set of hands. Linked well in with his backline and always ready to put his body on the line. Made some great breaks in open play and backed up in cover.

Alex Hicks

New to rugby in 2015, Alex didn't take long to acquaint himself with the dark art of forward play. A quick learner and keen to get amongst it in attack and defence. A couple of big front-on tackles a highlight.



Hugo Hobbs

Only has one gear – forward. A week-in-week-out solid performer and anchor-man of the Shammies pack. The Sydney Uni rep combined well with his fellow big men in tight and took every opportunity to cart the ball up the middle. Rewarded with a couple of 5 pointers for his efforts.

Riley Kichenside-Quinn

Notable for his bright orange headgear but his running in open space made him shine brighter. Picked up a text book winger's try in the corner v Wahroonga. Committed to defence and his cover tackles shut down plenty of attacking raids.

Ryan McCarthy

A ready-made dual code forward who joined us in 2015. Used his skills acquired in the 13 man game, learned quickly and loved playing with his mates. Ryan's season stalled with a broken hand from street footy but finished the season strongly.

Sam Murphy

Sam capped off a great season with a nice try in the qualifying final. Just reward for his hard work splitting his time at half back and in the outside backs. Plenty of good metres made out wide and some nice offloads.

Jordan Peck

Also new to PJR in 2015, Jordan settled into the mid-field really well displaying some staunch defence, pace off the mark and an excellent passing game. His lanky build and deceptively quick pace made him very difficult to bring down.

James Smith

Another excellent season for James who moved from fullback to flanker. Loves being in everything and it doesn't really matter what number is on his back. A master of the clean break with several length of field runs that helped him bag 6 tries for season. Superb in defence and a scrapper in the loose. Knocked over a few conversions too.



William Smith

Joined his brother in the forwards to make a dynamic duo on the sides of the scrum. Always there to clean out, tackle low, execute turnovers and run with the ball at every opportunity. Set up plenty of tries and scored 4 of his own including one in Easts' colours! Another great season.

Diogo Viegas

One of the most improved players in 2015. Diogo picked up his first try for the Shammies which was just reward for the hard work he did up front. Diogo led from the front and came up with many blockbusting "Raging Bull" charges up the middle.

Josh Watson

All class at flyhalf. A beautiful runner of the ball and knows how to straighten the attack. His judicious passing got the backline going and always knew when to show and go. He scored 6 tries including 2 doubles. His 2 tries against Manly were standouts with both from about 60m out.



We can't wait to do it all again **NEXT YEAR!**

To all players and families

Enjoy a safe, fit and healthy off-season

You are welcome to bring your brothers, sisters, cousins, friends,
and neighbours to rugby training – you know they will love it..

SEE YOU IN 2016!

