



Community Football that is Safe and Fun!



RAMSBURY FOOTBALL CLUB NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024



Over 135 Years of Football in the Community



Facilities Management
0203 137 3434 or 01488 682806

Established 1887

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Dear Parents, Guardians and all involved with Ramsbury Football Club,

Our superb sense of community continues to be at the forefront of all we do and reflects the identity, ethos and the Club's sense of purpose in playing fair, win or lose. All our football teams are managed by unpaid volunteers who have taken the time and effort to meet FA DBS requirements and complete First Aid and Safeguarding Children courses to be qualified coaches and remain the very core of our ongoing success. They are all fantastic selfless volunteers and are the core of Ramsbury FC.

We are also blessed with amazing facilities, but, again, it takes significant effort and time to keep



our pitches, training equipment and clubhouse presentable and the envy of visiting teams. Geoff Pratt leads on our grounds and pitch maintenance and is supported by a number of committed coaches and committee members. Bea Curtis keeps our Clubhouse immaculate week in and week out and Fi Cresswell manages the rota for our superb Clubhouse Crew. All three are vital to maintaining our reputation and cannot be thanked enough for what they do.



We also continue to have an amazing club sponsor, Ergo FM, and Arthur and Karen Carrington have committed to another 2 years which is fantastic news. Ergo FM have been so supportive and you will see their logo emblazoned on all Ramsbury FC team blue and white shirts.



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Our Chair Andy Knowles heads our Committee that has recently added Vice Chair Oliver Bond and new committee member Ed Wilson who will help Katie Smith our Treasurer and look to support the management of our growing membership. Fi Cresswell continues to be brilliant with the management of our team strips, managing the Clubhouse Café rota and

is also Team Secretary of not one but two teams. And Chris and Laurie Roberts support the Committee and are Child Welfare Officers (CWOs) as well as managing our brilliant Under 7s team. Again, all are key to our continuing success.

Jon Symon – Club Secretary

Volunteering at Ramsbury FC Makes Such a Difference

Volunteering your time can often be a challenge and that is why we try and encourage all teams to have at least 3 x qualified coaches and a team Secretary to provide greater flexibility managing our teams and to ensure volunteer coaches get time off with their families to do non-football family activities as this is hugely important.

Being part of Ramsbury FC and seeing our volunteer coaches swell to over 46 is fantastic and everyone associated with Ramsbury FC should be immensely proud of our Football Club, the facilities we have, the wonderful volunteers we have and, importantly, the excellent reputation we deservedly have across our county and beyond. **Please do consider volunteering and encourage friends, family, young or old, to help where and when they can so we can keep Ramsbury FC the great grass roots youth football it is. Your Club definitely needs you!**



Ramsbury FC Success Continues

Ramsbury FC is not all about winning, but it is great when our teams achieve success. Our club is always competitive and win or lose every one of our teams always give their best. We are widely respected as Ramsbury FC teams are known to play fair and are tough to play against but are always welcoming to opposition when playing home matches at the Ramsbury Recreation Centre.

Last season all our teams continued to do their best with our U15s (now U16s) Div 2 Runners Up and promoted to Div 1. They are currently unbeaten and top of Div 1 in the Mid Wilts League having beaten teams like Corsham FC U16s, Bath Arsenal FC U16s and most recently Warminster FC U15s. They are managed by James Collister and Rob James with some players in the team since they were Ramsbury FC Under 6s!



Our U14s (now U15s) managed by Rich Gillard and Adam Blanchard won dramatically on the last day of the season to clinch the league title over fierce rivals Hungerford Town FC U14s. The picture left shows how proud all the team and their coaches were being awarded the North Wilts Youth League Div Champions Shield! Not only did our U15s and U14s teams do so well, but both our Under 8 teams won their Trophy Events at Foundation Park and our U9s got to their first final. We also had young Ramsbury FC players win players of the week at not one but two Swindon Town FC football camps.







Our men's team, who some of our coaches play with or have played for, had a superb season and were Div 1 Runners Up and were promoted to the Swindon and District Premier Division. Jas Walsh was also awarded top goal scorer in the league – another excellent result and shows the depth of quality Ramsbury FC has in both its youth and adult sections.

Under 7s Win Trophy Event at Foundation Park

Our youngest league team in the Club mirrored their predecessors, who are now our Under 8 Blues and Under 8 Whites, by winning their Trophy event at Foundation Park on Sunday 13th October 2024. The Under 7s did it in style by conceding only one goal and not losing a match!

Lead Coach Chris Roberts was delighted and so were both Assistant Coaches Rob Freeman and Georgian Radulescu. All Coaches, and the Team Secretary and Club Welfare Officer (CWO), Laurie Roberts, have put in a lot of time and effort through the Club Under 6 Development Programme and it is great to see the progress by the Under 7s and see them compete with much bigger clubs. I must not forget the parents who are hugely important in supporting Chris, George, Rob and the team in all that they do, win or lose, and have been key to all they have done.



STANDINGS					
Group A		P	W	D	L
	Ramsbury Youth	6	5	1	0
	Swindon Supermarine Youth	6	4	2	0
	Ferndale Rodbourne U7	6	3	1	2
	Wanborough Junior FC Yellow	6	3	0	3
	RWBT Yellow	6	1	1	4
	Blunsdon Youth FC	6	1	1	4
	Wanborough Junior FC Black	6	1	0	5

The Under 6s Development Programme Continues to Flourish

Ramsbury FC are one of a few clubs that offer a comprehensive Under 6s Development Programme that caters for children of all ability in both Class R and Class 1. The Under 6s training is overseen by Level 1 Coach Jon Symon, who is also the Club Secretary, CWO and FA Accreditation lead, and he is supported by parent volunteers who go on to complete mandated DBS requirements and then First Aid and Safeguarding Children courses. All are all fully funded by Ramsbury FC to become fully qualified FA Youth Coaches and/or Team Secretaries.



Our current Under 6s cohort numbers 32 with 18 in Class R and 14 in Class 1 and we have 4 x superb volunteer coaches: Rupert McSheehy, Monty Halliday, Chloe Martin and Paddy Lowe.

Ramsbury FC Supports Duke of Edinburgh Silver and Bronze Award Volunteering

Ramsbury FC has a history of working with the Duke of Edinburgh scheme and young players like George Blanchard (pictured left) and Max Gillard have earned their Bronze Volunteering Award with the Club.

The Under 6 coaches are currently supported by 3 x Under 14 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze volunteers who complete 3 months of volunteering every Saturday for 90 minutes or more and help set up and clear away and are

brilliant examples to our young Under 6 players. They are all local and have played for Ramsbury FC and are a real credit to their parents: Ben Foley, Euan Holdsworth and Myles DeGouve. We are very lucky to have them and 2 more volunteers are scheduled to start in November!

Ramsbury FC Clubhouse Café Continues to be the Place to be!

Ramsbury FC has a clubhouse to be proud of and which continues to be the envy of other clubs. There are still things to do and improve and this year the club replaced the rotten home changing room windows. Next we will look to replace all the other aging windows and doors and refresh the club

mural on the wall close to the car park. The first task however is to replace the old front door.

The Clubhouse Café continues to be a huge success and a great revenue stream. It will, however, only continue to be so with more volunteers. We currently have a small but very social 'Clubhouse Café Crew' that volunteer their time on a Saturday or Sunday morning selling sweets, making teas and coffees and making our very popular bacon butties. **Please do come and join them!**

If you can spare a Saturday or Sunday morning once a month then please contact Jon Symon or Fi Cresswell to volunteer for the Clubhouse Crew Rota. We will show you the ropes and then you will get to meet lots of other parents and children within your community as well as all our visitors. You are rewarded with a mug of tea or coffee and a bacon butty and being part of a great team!

CONTACT the following to help out in the Ramsbury FC Cafe:

Fi Cresswell @ FionaMorley@sky.com or Jon Symon @ jonathansymon@hotmail.com

Come and join the Clubhouse Crew and help your Club and your youth football team! Also, a big shout out to Bee Curtis who keeps our club so clean and tidy and who does such an amazing job!

2023-2024 Ramsbury FC End of Season Awards and Oli Kimber Cup Winner



Ramsbury FC continue to hold end of season awards with a festival of football in June after the season has ended in early May and this year was no different. Teams were blessed with pretty good weather, a superb BBQ and bar and, of course, lots of medals, cups and small-sided football matches. It was a great day that, again, was very well attended and a huge thank you goes to all those who helped make it such a special occasion.



The Oli Kimber Cup and Player of the Year went to Archie Morris in the U14s and the U14s team (now U15s) coached by Rich Gillard won the Carrington Shield for Team of the Year.



Oli Bond and Rich Englefield won coaches of the year for the U18s team and the U7s (now U8s) teams and coaches Dan Creed and Hamish Gray won the Clive New Cup for the spirit of Ramsbury FC. All were deserved recipients with special mention to the U9s (now U10s) and U15s (now U16s) for their success.



Some of our Brilliant Volunteer Coaches and Team Secretaries!



Ramsbury FC currently has 46 x coaches and 7 x Team Secretaries. All coaches are fully qualified and unpaid volunteers. The coaches along with our growing number of team secretaries are the backbone of Ramsbury FC and without them we could not be the success we are. Our current youth team secretaries are:

- **U7s – Laurie Roberts**
- **U8s – Sarah Wilson**
- **U9s – Georgie Littlewood**
- **U10s – Fi Morley**
- **U11s – Fi Morley**
- **U12 Whites – Jo Reade (replaced Glen Aylett)**
- **U12 Blues - Mark Bevan**
- **U13s – Bryony Beck**



Respect, Fair Play and Playing Safe

Ramsbury FC continues to support the FA Play safe initiative with its primary focus on child welfare and child safeguarding. We are delighted that Laurie Roberts is our newest Child Welfare Officer (CWO) and joins Chris Roberts and Jon Symon as Ramsbury FC CWOs.

Ramsbury FC Chair Andy Kowles and the Club Committee have been keen to put out our Respect signs and ensure all coaches place respect cones or barriers out for all matches.

Positive support is strongly encouraged at all times and the Ramsbury Recreation Centre continues to **NOT** permit smoking of vaping on site or allow dogs on grassed areas

Ramsbury FC Permission to use Aldbourne and Chilton Foliat Pitches



Ramsbury FC have been using the Farmers Field pitch for a few years now with kind permission of Aldbourne Parish Council. This is an excellent additional training facility for our older teams in addition to our newly refurbished Multi Use Games Area (MUGA). We now also have use of the pitch at Chilton Foliat Primary Scholl with kind permission of Chilton Foliat Parish Council that is being used by our junior teams to train on. It is a fantastic addition and the goals pictured left will soon see a new net added to make them perfect for our training sessions.

Ramsbury Teams Best Dressed in Wiltshire: Ramsbury FC Online Shop

All Ramsbury FC players and coaches continue to look fabulous in their distinctive Ramsbury FC / Ergo FM branded strips, tracksuit tops, beanies and hoodies. There is so much more now on offer in our online shop so go and have a browse. **There are great ideas for Christmas!**

The Ramsbury FC online shop is accessed via the Ramsbury FC web site www.ramsburyfc.co.uk or via our partners Pendle Sportswear:

[Products for Ramsbury FC \(pendlesportswear.co.uk\)](http://pendlesportswear.co.uk)

