

2003

Annual Report
& audited financial statements

GPS RUGBY



The Gallopers

*The GPS Club exists to promote and foster excellence and enjoyment in the
"running game" of Rugby football*

*And, in so doing, assist the progress of members
along the broader pathway of life.*

*In pursuit of the mission, we will actively promote the following values:
developing the whole person, respecting individual and group responsibilities,
upholding the standards of a responsible community organisation and catering
for the needs of players at all levels.*

GPS Mission Statement

Honour Board

GPS Club Presidents

Sir Kenneth Fraser
 A. Falk
 C. McCarthy
 W. Scott
 R.A. Nicol 1950-57
 H. Edwards
 W. Boyd 1964-70
 A. Flynn 1970-72
 D. Lacy-Jones 1973-78
 W. Bligh 1979-81
 R.S. Roberts 1982-83
 L.G. Jones 1984-86
 A.R. Taylor 1987-89
 R.J. Thomson 1990-98
 P.J. McGahan 1999-2002
 P.L. Reid 2003-

**Australian
 Representatives**

L.S. Lewis 1931/34/36
 J.B.T. Doneley 1934
 W.P.J. Ide 1938
 B.D. Oxlade 1938
 W.J. McLean 1939/46-48
 J.R. McLean 1946
 E.G. Broad 1947-49
 K.C. Winning 1947-48/51
 A. Ware 1949
 D.I. McMillan 1950
 P.D. Thompson 1950
 C.J. Primmer 1951
 G.G. Jones 1952-56
 G.R. Horsley 1953-54
 B.A. Wright 1955
 A.F.M. Boyd 1958
 O. F. Edwards 1961
 P.D. Perrin 1962
 D.S. Rathie 1971-72
 C.M. Carberry 1973-76/81-82
 D.W. Hillhouse 1975-76/83
 G. G. Shambrook 1976
 D. Codey 1984-86
 A.G. Herbert 1987/89-93
 R. Constable 1993-94
 D. Herbert 1994-2002
 B. Tune 1996-2002
 M.J. Cockbain 1997-2003
 D. Heenan 2003

**Queensland
 Representatives**

1930-1949
 J.O. East 1931/33/34
 F.M. Nicholson
 1931/33/35/36
 L.S. Lewis 1932-37
 J. Williams 1932
 R. Gregory 1932
 J.B. Doneley 1932-34
 L.J. East 1933
 J. Callaghan 1933
 M.D. Cullen 1933
 C.H. Smith 1933
 M. Muller 1934
 P.L. Dixon 1934-36
 W.N. Douglas 1937
 R.H. Bently 1937
 C.R. Hockings 1937

W.J. Ide 1938/39
 G. Denman 1938
 W.M. McLean 1939/46/47
 A. Ware 1945-47
 R. Fay 1945
 A.K. Winning 1945-47/50
 J. Kirk 1946-47
 J. McLean 1946-47
 R. Proctor 1946
 E.G. Broad 1947-49
 J. Irwin 1947
 P. Thompson 1948-50
 I. McMillan 1949-50

1950-69

I. Nichol 1950
 R. Colbert 1950-51
 P. Robinson 1950-51/55
 G.G. Jones 1951
 J. Raff 1951
 G. Marles 1951-52
 B. Menkens 1952
 B.R. Mills 1952-53
 G.R. Horsley 1952-55
 R. Freudenberg 1953
 J. Greene 1953
 B. Wright 1954-56/59-61
 G. Newton 1955
 F. Thompson 1955-56
 R.M. Shaw 1956-57
 K. Brasch 1956-57
 J. Paskins 1956-57
 J. R. Harris 1957
 R. Swann 1957-58
 J. Gilbert 1957
 A. Boyd 1958-60
 B.W. Boyd 1959
 D. Rylance 1960
 T. Carew 1960-64/66
 J. Carson 1961
 O. Edwards 1961-63/67
 D.B. Clark 1961-64/66-69/71
 P. Perrin 1962
 B. Egan 1962
 W. Gunn 1963-64
 J.A. Dalgleish 1960/63/65
 J. Duff 1963
 G. Golding 1963-64
 D. Latter 1964-65
 D. Whittle 1964
 D. Taylor 1964
 W. Reilly 1964
 B.J. Munro 1964
 E.A. Kann 1966-68
 L.M. Nutt 1967
 A. White 1969

1970-90

P. McBaron 1970
 L.J. Graham 1970-74
 I.D. Clark 1971-73/80
 D. Rathie 1971-2/77
 D. Withers 1971-73
 M. Jack 1972-73
 C.K. Smith 1972
 P. Bissett 1973
 G. Shambrook 1974-77
 D. Hillhouse 1975-78/83
 G. Brand 1975-80

J. Johanssen 1975
 D. Regeling 1975-78
 R. Hayes 1977
 A. Austin 1981
 C. Carberry 1981
 M. Arnold 1982
 T. Coker 1983-84
 M. Phillips 1983-85
 A. Dick 1984
 D. Codey 1984-86
 A. Herbert 1986-94
 D. Phillips 1986-87
 D. Reidy 1987
 I. Siganiyavi 1989-90

1990-2003

D. Herbert 1993-2003
 M. Murray 1993-2000
 M. Ware 1994
 R. Constable 1994-96
 J. Reilly 1994-95
 B. Tune 1995-2003
 C. Knapp 1995-98
 M. Cockbain 1995-2003
 M. Flanagan 1996
 A. Coombe 1996
 B. Cockbain 1996-98
 T. McVerry 2000-3
 D. Heenan 2000, 03
 A. Mathison 2001-3
 P. Warwick 2001-2
 B. Wakely 2002-3
 M. Tabrett 2002-3
 A. Farley 2002
 T. Atkinson 2003

ACT Brumbies

T. Atkinson 2002

**Women's
 Queensland**

W. Coe 2000

500 Club Games

R.J. Thomson (723)

200 First Grade Games

D.B. Clark 1966
 E.A. Kann 1970
 I.D. Clark 1975
 R.J. Thomson 1975
 R. Nerichow 1977

200 Club Games

I.R. Colquhoun
 D.J. Park
 R. Mortimer
 T. Jesser
 D. Stevenson
 J. Garde
 L.G. Jones
 R.S. Roberts
 L.J. Graham
 M. Arnold
 K. Bolton

100 First Grade Games

T. Carew 1964
 O.F. Edwards 1966
 J.A. Dalgleish 1967

D. Latter 1969
 P. McBaron 1973
 G. Brand 1979
 A. Austin 1982
 K. Bolton 1985
 D. Phillips 1989
 L. Tuqiri 1989
 J. Taylor 1992
 M. Jensen 1993
 A. Herbert 1994
 J. Reilly 1996
 J. Moss 2001

GPS Club Captains

J. Duff 1964
 G.G. Whittle 1965-66
 D.B. Clark 1967-69
 E. Kann 1970-73
 L.J. Graham 1974-75
 R.J. Thomson 1976
 G. Shambrook 1977
 D. Burrows 1978
 R. Nerichow 1979-80
 B. Barnhill 1981
 M. Oberhardt 1982
 R.J. Thomson 1983
 M. Phillips 1984
 K. Bolton 1985-86
 D. Phillips 1987
 M. Frisby 1988
 L. DiClemente 1989
 A. Herbert 1990-92
 G. Harris 1993-94
 J. Reilly 1995-96
 M. Murray 1997-98
 T. Forno 1999
 J. Steel 2000
 P. Farmer 2001
 A. Smith 2002
 J. Moss 2003

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2003 OFFICE BEARERS

Patron:	Ron Park
President:	Paul Reid
Honorary Treasurer:	Rob King-Scott
Honorary Secretary:	Chris Stewart
Management Committee:	President, Treasurer, Secretary, Geraldine Barlow, Paul McGahan, Ron Cervetto, John Peterson, Kevin Hoare, John Sexton, Scott Lavaring, Rod Torkington
General Manager:	Rod Torkington
Development Officer:	Peter Farden / Chris Lane
Club Coaches:	Premier Grade: Paul Green / Michael Heenan / Marcus Riley 1st Grade: Peter Garbett / Matt Lines 2nd Grade: Paul Garner 3 rd Grade: Scott Lavaring Colts I: Alex Pope / Steve Calder / Chris Lane / Justin Barlow Colts II: Ray Moore Colts III: Luke Barden / Terry Donovan
Club Selectors:	George Bickerstaff, Paul Green
Club Captain:	Al Smith
Life Members:	C.J. Kaus, R.A. Nicol, K. Percy, M.R. Williams, G.C. Jones, G.R. Horsley, I.R. Colquhoun, A. Flynn, R.J. Park, R.S. Roberts, D.J.A. Clark, R.J. Thomson, B. Loel, N.A. Burrows, W. Bligh, G. Bickerstaff, R. Torkington, A. Taylor
Ground Life Members:	G. Walker, I.H. Fraser, R.A. Duus, D. Rylance, R.J. Thomson, A. Edwards, B. Loel, A.R. Roberts, R.W. Bligh, K.G. Aaron, R. Farquhar, L.G. Jones, I. Robertson, Dr K. Woodhead, B. Coombes, N.A. Burrows, D. O'Reilly, D. Stevenson, B.G.S. Schooley, R.A. Anderson, P.J. Short, R.S. Roberts, J. Madden, Judge B.M. McLoughlin, G.G. Shambrook, D. Withers, D.J. Boucher, G. Rylance, R.A. Bernays, Dr C.J. Osborne R. Mortimer, E.A. Kann, D. Squires, J.B. Young, A. Carew, G. Ferguson, B. Sakzewski, O. Maynes, I.D. Clark, C. Carberry, L.J. Graham, D. Dick, M. Arnold
QRU Office Bearers:	QRU Board: R. Thomson QRU Vice President: P. McGahan Delegates: W. Bligh, P. Reid QRU Judiciary: W Bligh QRU Judicial Appeals Committee: A R Taylor
Auditor:	J. Amos

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Financial Members, Players, Supporters, Friends.

As ever, there are many souls who contribute to the smooth working of a club such as ours. Sadly, the "many" are slowly becoming the "few", while the number of tasks grows and expectations increase. Enthusiastic and committed coaches and managers are harder than ever to find, while volunteers willing to devote their time and energy to helping keeping the club alive are similarly rare. We all lead busier and more complex lives and "the club" has to compete with the need to work longer hours to make a living and take its place among other competing demands.

Our general manager **Rod Torkington** has a lengthy and varied job description and our Development Officer **Chris Lane** has similarly broad expectations accompanying his modest stipend. Neither has "turf-laying" on his list of duties, but that is how they spent several uncomplaining days during the season and again in the brief interregnum before the cricket season when a job had to be done for the right (Jeeps) price and there were insufficient volunteers to do it. We are fortunate indeed to have such men working for us.

In a perfect world a Jeeps General Manager and Development Officer would be managing and developing rather than slaving in the sun to get hundreds of metres of turf laid on the main oval and it could be legitimately argued that this is not the best use of their time. But needs must when the Devil drives, and perhaps when our players are running on a level, well drained and well grassed surface next year rather than baked expanses of dust and pot holes they'll thank those (including some of those self-same players, I hasten to add) who got the job done when it needed to be done, rather than just shrugging shoulders and putting it off to next year.

My thanks also to the **GPS Management Committee**. There were no "alickadoos" among them (a term popularised in the amateur days to describe blazer wearing officials who swanned around while players were treated like cattle). These people volunteered to help with no expectation of reward or thanks. Those expectations were generally met. That they were probably not better known to the playing fraternity is not a criticism of them but a reflection of their preference for working diligently behind the scenes to get the job done while also having to make a living on the side. Nevertheless we need to ensure that they are more visible in 2004.

At the start of the year we began a Strategic Planning process with the assistance of a great friend of Jeeps, **Neil Hatherly**. This was to map out a five year plan for the club and to reorganise our management committee into a more relevant portfolio structure. This process took some time but the results were worth waiting for. Portfolio responsibilities were allocated as follows for 2003, with the idea being that "ministers" would take charge of these areas but not be expected to do all the work:

Treasurer (Rob King-Scott):

accounting, long term funding, budgets (review and consolidation), expenditure review ("leader of razor gang")

Secretary/Admin (Chris Stewart):

Operations - conduct correspondence, organise team photos, update honour board, organise trophies, record proceeds of meetings - Registrar - maintain database (players, sponsors, members, old boys etc), player statistics, initiate & oversee player and member registrations & fee payments, deputise for Secretary

Marketing/Promotion (Kevin Hoare/Paul Reid):

- develop "value proposition" for sponsorship/membership drives - promotion to local and mainstream media, promotion of functions, special events, sponsor & "old boy" liaison

Communication/Admin (Paul Reid/Kevin Hoare):

Newsletter preparation, community relations, preparation of annual report, promotion of merchandising, player, old boy and referee liaison, match day PA, organise ballboys, meet and greet

GPS Rugby (Paul McGahan/John Sexton/John Peterson):

- Recruitment, retention and development of individual coaches, grades & colts players, medical & support staff - promotion of club culture & past traditions, foster mentoring program - develop & monitor performance against "running rugby" objectives. - recruitment and retention of past players, motivating them to become active in club activities.

Rugby Development (Ron Cervetto/Ryan Webster):

- development of the game in our catchment: Ashgrove-GPS, Albany Creek-GPS and schools, including schools/colts, colts/seniors transition - Coaching clinics, junior curtain raisers for premier games, "big brother" links between premier players and junior teams

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Club Development (John Sexton/Paul McGahan/Rob King-Scott):

- Pursue objectives laid out in the club strategic plan (Vision 2008) notably the sections covering "Sustainable Financial Development" & "Club Development", in co-operation with other portfolio leaders

Social Events/Merchandise (Geraldine Barlow/Ryan Webster):

- Develop social program for season, including pre-season launch, jersey presentations, Jeeps breakfasts, Golf day, Rugby Fest, any grand final celebrations, Annual Dinner, pre-Test dinner, sponsors days. - Operation of bar/canteen/catering. - Commission and sell merchandise

Grounds & Property (Scott Lavaring/Chris Stewart):

- "The grass & anything on it" - maintenance, irrigation, usage - scheduling, liaison with VDCC/Ashgrove-GPS, equipment (post pads, corner posts), match day set up & pull down, preparing expenditure budget. - Lighting - development plan, liaison with BCC & community, maintenance & budget. - Facilities - Club rooms (including dressing sheds maintenance & cleaning) storage facilities, change rooms, liaison with VDCC & Ashgrove-GPS, budget.

The portfolio allocations probably came a little too late during the season to work as effectively as they should, but there were some successes and this should be persevered with in 2004.

Sadly, several members of the current committee have served notice of their intention to stand aside at the end of their current terms after many years of service. The ever cheerful and pragmatic **Chris Stewart** has served the junior and senior clubs over a number of seasons, but we hope he will still be available to serve the occasional beer at the "Glue Factory". **Geraldine Barlow** has been my Rock of Gibraltar this year and is another who will still be "around" to help, albeit not on the committee. **Rob King-Scott** stiffened the sinews and stepped in when a Treasurer was required and stuck to his last despite the conflicting demands on his professional and personal time. **John Peterson** was another who was always willing to help, while **Ryan Webster**, who heads off overseas, was a link man with the players. Our other player representative, **Scott Lavaring** was another who was always ready to help behind the scenes, whether it was drumming up support for functions, organising the collection and installation of the large umbrellas installed on the forecourt during the year, or keeping the cold room operating.

John Sexton joined the team this year and was a hard working and committed contributor to the cause. John's great attribute is that he has an excess of common sense, a rare commodity in this age of management-speak. We had many long conversations during the year on various issues and I always valued his counsel and commitment to what he believed was in the best interest of the club. Every president should be lucky enough to have a John Sexton around to help cut through the fog when the hard decisions have to be made. The club is fortunate that he has offered himself for election again in 2004.

Similarly **Paul McGahan** contributed his considerable experience as a rugby administrator in his counsel to this ingénue president when difficult issues arose, and I thank him sincerely for it. He also is willing to go around again, as are (praise be) **Ron Cervetto** and **Kevin Hoare**.

The club this year held two major fund raising luncheons, a pre-Test function which had sports poet and author Peter Fenton as our guest speaker and a pre-Rugby World Cup "roast" for Dan Herbert prior to his departure for France. Both raised valuable revenue for the club and would not have been possible without the planning and guest recruitment efforts of **Robin Thomson** and **Will Colwell**, and the lunch day contributions of MC **Anthony Herbert** and auctioneer **Wren Bligh**. As ever, Torko was the fulcrum for these events and as ever worked tirelessly to make them happen.

The Rugby World Cup provided us with an additional opportunity to raise funds when we drew the final in a ballot to host a big screen in the Telstra Front Row promotion. We combined with Valleys District Cricket Club to stage this event, with both clubs sharing the workload. The two clubs agreed to also share the proceeds by feeding them towards a special fund to upgrade the club kitchen, for reasons that are explained later. Geraldine Barlow, Torko and DO Chris Lane worked behind the scenes with the Valleys volunteers to make this one which, despite the early rain, proved an enjoyable showcase for the Rugby product. Hopefully the success of RWC 2003 will draw more converts to Rugby in 2004 and we will attract our share of them. However we can't expect this to happen automatically and we will need to work harder to make our club more spectator friendly. The umbrellas on the forecourt and the new seating has helped in this regard and the upgrading of the PA system in time for Final night will also stand us in good stead for 2004 and beyond.

Sponsorship

Kevin Hoare was instrumental in Jeeps' retaining **Nundah Mitsubishi** as our Principal Sponsor in 2003, supplementing that with a contribution from his own company **Fastway Couriers**. I am pleased to announce that Nundah and Fastway will be aboard again in 2004, thanks to Kevin and those Jeeps

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supporters who came to the party and bought cars from Paul Norris's group during the course of the year. We ask that all Jeeps members support those who support your club.

The Gap Tavern was a key sponsor again in 2003 under new stewardship in Fosters' ALH. We trust the industry changes now in train will allow this partnership to continue.

Queensland Rugby sponsors **Bank of Queensland, XXXX, Bartercard** and **Triple M**, were enthusiastic supporters of grassroots rugby as well as the glamorous end of town and we thank them for that commitment.

Jeeps also benefited hugely from contributions from **Bowser & Lever, Naturform, Brisbane Ice Sales, Ashgrove Air, Divine Flowers, Ferguson Betts, Hendra Hardware, Rapid Copy, Southcorp Wines, Stocks Appliances, Ultimate Buildings, Willman Concreting Service** and **World Rugby Specialists (KooGa)**. We thank them and urge you to favour them with your custom if you have the opportunity.

On the Field

The season promised much but delivered only frustration for the GPS open grades, but the colts' performances and developments off the field gives cause for renewed optimism.

Jeeps started 2003 with healthy stocks in the tight five and at least one more halfback than was considered good for us by the QRU. But after starting the Welsby Cup with four straight wins, Premier Grade's fortunes spiralled downwards as the injury toll mounted and they finished the season with eight wins, eight losses and a draw. Our Premier Grade coach **Paul Green** spent countless hours down at the club each week going through match videos, planning tactics for upcoming games and mulling over possible answers to a weekly injury list that never seemed to get shorter. But the Herculean efforts of he and fellow coaches **Mick Heenan** and **Marcus Riley** always seemed to be frustrated by yet another untimely injury or setback.

We could have done without the intervention of the QRU coaching staff in persuading Ben Wakely to move to University for the Premier season on the basis that his chances of contract renewal would be impaired by staying at Jeeps, because he could not be assured of getting a proper run in his preferred position. As events transpired he missed the contract anyway and all the agony and distraction was ultimately for nought. We wished Ben all the best when he moved and we continue to hope that his talents are rewarded.

The upside of our injury toll was that several players who might not otherwise have had the chance to shine rose to the challenge magnificently, while others who were forced to switch positions also surprised both themselves and their coaches. Out of adversity comes hope.

Hope also from the performance of the GPS U19s, under Colts Director **Alex Pope**. After a couple of indifferent years for the GPS Colts, Alex, **Steve Calder** and their many helpers arrived on the scene and put considerable energy into recruiting and retaining a new breed of young Gallopers. Colts I and II reached the preliminary final before being eliminated by stronger and more experienced sides, but this fine group of young men wants to finish the job next year and has already started a self-financed, off-season training program.

Off the field, GPS signed an agreement with the Murrumba Rugby Club, the Caboolture and Redcliffe juniors and our Albany Creek-GPS affiliate to work together to develop rugby in the northern region.

The **GPS-Murrumba Alliance** will be a work in progress for 2004, but will involve Jeeps playing at least one Premier Grade match in the alliance region as a rugby promotion.

Albany Creek-GPS could field 200 players in 2004, while our junior affiliate Ashgrove-GPS remains a living testament to the fecundity of rugby loving couples in the northwestern suburbs.

Sadly we farewelled one of our favourite sons, **Daniel Herbert**, who has played at Ashgrove since age seven. We're also sad to lose **Matt Cockbain** who, like Daniel, will ply his trade overseas in 2004.

We congratulate **Daniel Heenan** on making his Wallaby debut in 2003, and our other state representatives **Ben Tune, Tom McVerry, Tim Atkinson, Ben Wakely, Michael Tabrett and Anthony Mathison**. **Geoff Ingram** was deservedly called into the Queensland 22 for the match against Samoa but didn't get to run on. Two of our colts, **Martin Perkins** and **Pat O'Connor** were selected in the Queensland Under 19 side and are also destined for greater things. **Donovan Slade, Ross Larsson, Peter McIntosh** and **Shane Arnold** played for Queensland A. **Paul Biddulph** was again a member of the Australian deaf rugby squad.

Thanks in abundance to our coaches and managers. **Peter Garbett** and **Matt Lines** had a harsh introduction to the thankless realities and frustrations of coaching the 1st grade team, when the top level injury toll flowed through to them. **Paul Garner** was another to be thrust into the fray as 2nd Grade coach when work commitments took **Al Smith** interstate. He took on the challenge, overcame the setbacks

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and worked hard to help his players improve and enjoy their rugby. **Scotty Lavaring** and **Tony Mahoney** helped out the club by bringing their 2002 Premiership winning 4th grade up a division to play in 3rd grade. The going was tougher but they remained determined to enjoy themselves.

In Colts, **Justin Barlow** was a valued specialist forwards coach for Colts I and will team with **Chris Lane** to take greater responsibility for Colts I in 2004, under the guiding hands of Alex and Steve.

Ray Moore is a true Jeeps Rugby man; he loves his rugby and loves imparting his knowledge and enthusiasm to new generations of players. He worked wonders with Colts II to mould them as a team while also functioning as part of a broader squad with Colts I. The result was that both teams progressed to the finals and will do even better next year.

Luke Barden took responsibility for Colts III who unfortunately were required to play in a separate division to the other Under 19s. This led to a measure of dislocation from the rest of the club but **Luke** and **Terry Donovan** worked hard to overcome that and to make the team feel part of the wider club.

Our club selector **George Bickerstaff** again amazed with his ability to quickly learn the names and playing strengths of every new recruit to the grades and the teams could not have functioned without the tireless efforts of team managers **Simon Mammino**, **Tim Conroy**, **Graham Rylance**, **Fred Dixon**, **Tony Mahoney**, **Tim Ferguson**, **Al Smith** (until the inconsiderate bugger up and moved interstate), **Daniel Tasker** and **John Strofield**.

And so, to 2004.

After being actively involved with Jeeps teams as a selector and as a coach for the past six years - his second lengthy spell at the club - Paul Green has told us he'd like a break from the demands of Premier Rugby next year. I would like to personally thank him for his efforts and acknowledge the painstaking effort he put into the role of Head Coach, despite the frustrations he had to contend with. The coach's lot is not an easy one. It's my hope that after a break he can be persuaded to apply his immense talent and experience to some other role within the club. While we can't afford to burn people out, we can't afford to lose talent either.

Thankfully we are fortunate that Mick Heenan has agreed to assume the role of GPS Head Coach, after many years' preparation for the responsibility that this position entails. Your committee is confident that he will prove a successful and popular appointment with the players. We are equally fortunate that Marcus Riley will be there as assistant. These appointments mark a generational change in the coaching staff and are a tribute to the talent identification and coaching development efforts of Paul Green, Steve Meehan and other coaching and administration people within the club.

Club Development

As I have mentioned Jeeps this year signed a partnership agreement with clubs in the fast growing Murrumba region, a huge area which stretches from the Pine River across to Redcliffe, north to the Sunshine Coast and northwest to Kilcoy. Under the agreement, Jeeps will link with three clubs - senior and junior - in the Caboolture and Redcliffe shires, and our own Albany Creek-GPS affiliate to form the GPS-Murrumba Alliance.

Talented players from the area who might otherwise drift away from the game will be able to stay within the alliance by having the opportunity to try out with Jeeps at Premier Rugby level while the newer clubs are still growing. The clubs will also work together to advance rugby in the region, but will retain their individual identities and administration.

We will continue to compete just as keenly on the field when our teams meet, but we want everyone in the region to adopt and support Jeeps as their Premier Rugby club.

A key factor in hatching this plan was the rapid growth of Albany Creek-GPS, which was formed as a Jeeps initiative in only 1996 but which has grown rapidly in recent years under the capable stewardship of Steve Taylor. The Brumbies want to develop players to senior level and we're keen to encourage that. It's a fast growing area with a young population and we're keen to have our brand on it.

The GPS-Murrumba Alliance is all about securing the long term survival of Jeeps Rugby. Clubs in the alliance region - which includes our own associated Ashgrove-GPS - will field over 1,000 juniors next season, making us by far the largest rugby nursery in Brisbane.

Rugby's planners are mulling over all sorts of ideas for a national club competition. What they decide is out of our control. But what we can do is demonstrate that we have a plan to grow stronger and become more competitive so that our future claims can't be ignored.

There were a number of physical improvements around the club complex this year but more are needed. Through the intelligent use of sponsorship dollars from Bartercard and contributions from fellow tenants Ashgrove-GPS and Valleys District Cricket Club we were able to improve access to the complex

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by laying down a tarmac entryway to clean up the dusty and unsightly drive. Also thanks to Bartercard and Ashgrove-GPS, a large area of No 1 oval that had been stripped bare by heavy winter traffic was top dressed and returfed and the entire field laser-levelled to improve drainage.

One of the unforeseen consequences of the co-location of the Ashgrove-GPS juniors in the main clubhouse was the resulting increased focus on Number One oval. The seating is there, the canteen is there, so most of the games are played there. This made the oval renovations vital and merely phase one of what should be an ongoing program of rejuvenation and maintenance.

We thank Ashgrove-GPS President Steve Burton for his active support of such projects and his willingness to be a partner in further improvement of the complex we all share. Shared use of the canteen continues to throw up operational difficulties and book-keeping problems in dividing the proceeds but we will persist in working our way through them.

Valleys obtained grant funding to increase the capacity of power supply to the fields, which was a necessary prerequisite to upgrading all the field lighting. The floodlighting in general is in urgent need of an upgrade: lux levels are well short of what is required for playing night games and barely adequate for training; the equipment is old and expensive to repair and the total coverage is inadequate for the huge numbers of juniors that use the complex these days. Grants for improvements are being sought but this can be a lottery and major projects are not fully grant funded, requiring a dollar-for-dollar contribution from the recipients.

I have already mentioned the upgraded PA system and the improved club forecourt, but more needs to be done to make the club exterior more attractive and spectator-friendly.

We christened "The Glue Factory" during 2003: a new promotional name for the traditional gathering place for former Jeeps players on the cricket nets side of the field. Paul Green deserves credit for suggesting the name for a place "where all Old Gallopers end up". In season 2004 we hope to leverage on this idea with new promotions and also explore the possibility of creating a slightly more formal "Gallopers Club", providing low level Rugby hospitality opportunities for small businesses who've yet to graduate to the Ballymore experience.

One very promising opportunity for future revenue is via an upgrade of the clubhouse kitchen to commercial standard, which would permit the facility to be used by professional function caterers. We are regularly told by those in the trade that such an improvement would more than pay its way as there is a shortage of proper facilities that can be hired out to caterers without sufficient space of their own.

A partnership in an off-site, licensed gaming outlet would also be a handy revenue earner if such a partnership could be organised in the right location. Our new alliance partners in Murrumba have been very successful in developing the Caboolture Sports Club, which has given them the expertise, capital backing and enthusiasm to explore other suitable opportunities. This is a possibility that warrants further discussion, particularly where Albany Creek-GPS is concerned.

Vale Ron Park

Sadly, 2003 saw the passing of our beloved patron, Ron Park, at the age of 92. Ron devoted more than half of his life to the club after moving to Brisbane from Sydney after the Second World War. Ron was a Club Selector from 1955-1960 and again from 1965-1970, and was the Honorary Registrar from 1967-1974 and again in 1992.

Ron was a Life Member of GPS and of the QRU, and had been a unanimous nomination as GPS Club Patron every year since 1987. He will be missed.

Conclusion

It's sometimes a cliché to end reports such as these by thanking your long-suffering wife for tolerating your neglect of domestic duties when club duty called, but in my case I am fortunate to be blessed with one who is as enthusiastic about the club as I am and who in recent years was much more actively involved than I - to the extent that a number of players thought my name was "Pat Reid" (usually pronounced with a northern English accent).

Her involvement continued this year - as de facto registrar, onion cutter, face painter and sundry other unsung tasks - and I am deeply grateful for it.

Fellow members, while the future of Brisbane club rugby generally is under something of a cloud, I believe we are as well placed as most to survive and prosper and I encourage you to do what you can to contribute your ideas, energy, expertise, time and support to the Gallopers' cause in 2004 and beyond.

Paul Reid

GPS President

Farewell Dan Herbert

This year the club farewelled Dan Herbert, who decided to head off to play club rugby in France. It's worth noting some of his achievements wearing the green and blue:

Ashgrove-GPS Juniors from Under 7s
GPS top try scorer 1991 (Colts I)
Played 61 A Grade games for GPS 1992-2003
(59 between 92 and 97, 1 in 2000, 1 in 2003)
A Grade Premiership 1996

Thanks for the memories Daniel, and all the best.



TEAM REPORTS

Premier Grade 2003

Round 1 GPS 18 Souths 17

Jeeps got off to the start they wanted for 2003 with an "ugly" 18-17 victory over the Magpies in round one of the Welsby Cup competition.

The Gallopers were behind for most of the match despite generally having the best of the territory, but managed to snatch the result in the dying minutes of the game when Donovan Slade crossed next to the posts after latching on to a pass that rebounded off another Jeeps player. The Gallopers had been hammering the Souths line without success for 10 minutes, twice being held up over the line, but eventually the impressive Souths defence parted far enough allow Slade to dart through and celebrate his return from a spell in rugby league. Shane Arnold converted the try to give Jeeps a one point lead a minute from fulltime, after Souths had scored three tries to two and at one stage had led 17-6.

Souths had turned for halftime 12-6 in front after a try to former Jeeps winger Wasi Batibasaga and an intercept try to centre Eddie Aila, who'd latched on to a floated pass from Jeeps' debutant centre Anthony Fenton-Wells. Jeeps' points came from two early penalties to Shane Arnold.

Jeeps stuck to their last despite going another try behind early in the second half, and were finally rewarded when fullback Sam Thies crossed for a five pointer to bring them back into striking distance. The grafting work by the forwards finally paid dividends when Slade crossed for the game breaker. Coaching Director Paul Green conceded Jeeps had "won ugly" but was happy to take the result.

Jeeps welcomed back No 8 Luke Donald after a year off with a knee injury and halfback Anthony "Jaco" Jacob from a couple of years overseas. South African Fenton-Wells had a strong debut game in the midfield despite his misfortune and Simon Brabin stepped up for his Premier Rugby debut in the front row. Seamus Gay was subbed on for Geoff Ingram late in the second half to make his Premier Rugby debut after graduating from Colts this season.

Round 2 Brothers 24 GPS 31

Jeeps allowed Brothers a head start of 15 points but came home with a wet sail to win 31-24, five tries to two in their Welsby Cup match at Crosby Park.

With a backline reshuffle forced by the withdrawal due to representative selection of "Queensland A" flyhalf Shane Arnold, last week's fullback Sam Thies slipped into jersey 10 and Adam Warwick came into the side at fullback, with John Moss moving from wing to halfback when Anthony Jacob withdrew injured. The effect of the changes showed in the first half with the backline failing to click and Brothers capitalised on the confusion to run in two tries. The Jeeps cause was not helped by Thies being yellow carded for stomping at the back of a ruck.

However the Jeeps forwards slowly took control and a series of determined pick-and-drive charges resulted in hooker Ben Stewart bullocking over under the posts. Donovan Slade beat the goalkeeper with his conversion attempt but it failed to rise above head height. He was on course soon after when prop Ryan McDonald snapped up a deflection in a Jeeps attack and crashed over under the posts to bring the score back to 18-12 at halftime.

Brothers added another penalty goal to extend their lead but Jeeps picked up the pace in the second half and Slade began making inroads with his darting determined runs from outside centre. He was

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rewarded for his enterprise when a quick lineout found Jeeps with space out wide and an inside ball from Warwick gave Slade a clear run to the line. He converted his own try to bring the Gallopers to within three points.

The Gallopers took the lead soon after when Thies scored after some slick passing by forwards Ben Stewart and Simon Brabin in the backline. The try was converted by Slade to make it 26-21, but Brothers inched closer when they took a penalty kick in the Jeeps' 22 rather than go for the try.

The match was sealed for Jeeps when, with the forwards hammering the line, Moss switched the point of attack to find an unmarked Boogers looming out wide, to post the final score of 31-24.

Round 3 GPS 22 Easts 13

It was far from pretty, and a frustrating experience for players and spectators alike, but Jeeps muscled their way to a sometimes ill-tempered 22-13 win over Easts in their Welsby Cup encounter at Ashgrove.

Jeeps scored three tries to one, but had two others disallowed because the referee was not in position to rule with any confidence that the ball had been fairly grounded. Both sides also had players sin-binned for infringements at the breakdown in a penalty blighted match, increasing the frustration levels.

Jeeps also lost centre Donovan Slade to the bin for two head-high tackles, but could have been considered fortunate not to have had him red carded for the first high shot, which put Easts fullback, goal-kicker and attacking spark Ben Spearritt out of the match.

Jeeps posted the first points inside two minutes when try scoring machine Joel Boogers crossed in the corner, but Easts struck back soon after with a try to Curtis Franks, which Spearritt converted to give the Tigers a 7-5 lead. A lengthy spate of penalties against the Gallopers gave Easts a mountain of ball and Spearritt penalties took them to 13-5 before the Tigers suddenly lost favour with the referee and suffered a spate of penalties the other way.

That was the end of Easts scoring as Slade potted one penalty to peg them back and then tries to Geoff Ingram (converted by Slade) and Luke Donald (converted by Brad Jarro while Slade was in the bin) put the result in the Gallopers' keeping.

The Jeeps forwards dominated their opposing eight but solid midfield defence by the Easts backs kept them in the game and kept Jeeps' centres Slade and Anthony Fenton-Wells under control. One monster tackle by Junior Pelesasa on Slade had the crowd wincing, but Slade bounced back up seemingly unaffected.

Round 4 GPS 22 Gold Coast 10

Jeeps celebrated "McVerry Day" by winning all four grades and all three colts in their first clean sweep for some time.

"McVerry Day" was declared in honour of Tom McVerry racking up 50 Premier Grade games with the club, and his fellow A graders celebrated in style by scoring three tries to one in a 22-10 victory over undefeated rival the Gold Coast.

Chris Wright marked his return from injury to Premier Grade with two tries, scored through his determined running and backing up. Sam Thies scored the other five pointer after a clever switch of attack left the Breakers without enough defenders, however Jeeps bombed at least two and possible four more tries when their handling let them down. Donovan Slade made up the extras with two conversions and a penalty.

Daniel Heenan, back from duties with the Reds, proved a handful for the Coast, who invariably had to throw in three defenders to bring him down. Jeeps also welcomed the return of damaging flanker McVerry, who led the team on ahead of skipper Tim Heenan, to the delight of the Tom McVerry Appreciation Society reclining near the try line on their blow up lounge.

Round 5 Norths-QUT 24 GPS 22

Jeeps scored four tries to three but relinquished their unbeaten status in succumbing 24-22 on the bell to an enthusiastic and resurgent Norths-QUT at ShawSportz.

Jeeps had a dominant scrum and enough ball and territory to win the match, and should have done so easily, but turned over possession at crucial times under pressure from a Norths side that never gave an inch in defence.

Jeeps were behind 5-7 at halftime after an unconverted Sam Thies try was their only reward for 40 minutes of endeavour, but two intercept tries in two minutes by Peter Loli quickly took Norths out to a 21-5 lead and things were looking distinctly uncomfortable for the competition leaders.

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Jeeps, who had been clearly superior up front, decided to play to their strengths and posted tries to No 8 Luke Donald and prop Ryan McDonald as they clawed their way back to 21-17, a switch of kickers from Donovan Slade to returning Reds halfback Ben Wakeley resulting in the third try being converted.

With less than five minutes to fulltime some smart backline work by Anthony Fenton-Wells and Slade led to replacement winger Byron Vivian getting the ball five metres out and breaking through for what could have been the match-winning try in the corner, even though Wakely missed the conversion.

But Norths were not done yet, and from the kickoff they regained possession to drive play to the Jeeps' 22, where the Gallopers conceded a penalty and the match.

Despite the loss Jeeps remained on top of the competition table after taking two bonus points from the match.

For Jeeps, Daniel De Wet made his Premier Grade debut and Seamus Gay made his run-on debut in Premier Grade.

Round 6 University 23 GPS 23

Jeeps scored three tries to two but allowed University off the hook with a 23-23 draw in their top of the table Welsby Cup match at St Lucia, allowing the students to remain the competition front runners and the Gold Coast to join them at the top of the table.

The Jeeps forwards showed their dominance early on and kept the Gallopers camped in the University half for the first 10 minutes of the match, but every thrust was repelled by a solid Uni defence that wore down the Jeeps attackers and left them scoreless. To rub salt in, the students scored a try as soon as they'd fought back into Jeeps territory, when their pacy backrow exploited a midfield defensive weakness. The try under the posts was converted to put the students 7-0 ahead.

There was worse to come for the Gallopers when a fumble on their tryline gifted Uni another seven pointer to stretch the lead to 14-0. Shane Arnold marked his return from injury with a strong and intelligent kicking game that kept the ball in front of the Gallopers forwards and carved off valuable metres. His kicking boot also contributed six points from two penalties that enabled the Gallopers to go to half time trailing by just 14-6.

A penalty to University early in the second half extended their lead but the Gallopers forwards were giving the students all sorts of problems in the scrum, and the pressure paid off with a penalty try awarded to Jeeps from a scrum infringement by Uni as the Jeeps eight were driving for the line. Arnold converted and the Gallopers were back within striking distance at 17-13.

A John Moss try in the corner after a clever chip kick put Jeeps into the lead by a point, but the conversion failed and Uni struck back with a penalty to lead 20-18.

The Gallopers should have taken command when some smart work by halfback Ben Wakely delivered the ball to Moss on the blind when the Uni defence was flooding the open side, but again the conversion attempt was wide and the door was left open for Uni to draw the match with a penalty in the dying minutes of the game.

Round 7 Sunnybank 20 GPS 17

A try on the bell to Sunnybank left Jeeps winless for the third successive game as the Gallopers succumbed 20-17 in an error-ridden match at the Bank, dominated by the referee's yellow card.

The Jeeps scrum was generally stronger throughout, but some erratic lineout ball, some casual Jeeps defence close to the rucks, wayward passing in the backs, and a procession of four players to the bin allowed Sunnybank to stay in the game and eventually snatch a win.

Some sharp work by Donovan Slade to get outside his man led to Jeeps' first try after nine minutes, after Slade had driven through four defenders on the line to seal the try. The Gallopers had a number of other chances during the first half but mistakes let them down. Sunnybank are masters at counter-punching from an opposition error, but good scrambling defence kept them scoreless at halftime, despite Jeeps losing Slade to the sinbin for a spear tackle.

The sheer pace of Slade opened up the defence again four minutes into the second half and Chris Wright was on hand to take a well timed and delivered inside pass to mark his 50th premier grade appearance with a try. Glen Kuhn kicked the extras and Jeeps was out to 12-0.

The Bank struck back with a try five minutes later after a series of penalties against the Gallopers, and with Jeeps' Anthony Fenton-Wells sinbinned for handling on the ground they scored a second try to come within two points. Jeeps No 8 Luke Donald was binned for coming into a ruck from the side and the Gallopers looked to be up against it with 13 men against 15. However they rallied behind skipper Tim Heenan and took the game up to the Bank, with the pressure resulting in a spilt pass that was

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snapped up by hooker Ben Stewart, who showed exceptional pace to race 30m to the line, before offloading to a trailing Ben Sexton who scored the five pointer.

But no sooner had Fenton-Wells and Donald returned from the bin than Sexton was in it for a misdemeanour at the ruck - making a total of four Jeeps players and two Sunnybank players yellow carded during the game - and the tiring Jeeps' defence was unable to contain the determined and speedy Sunnybank back row and outside backs, who manufactured two more unconverted tries in the last 10 minutes to snatch the game.

Lock Sean Haines made his premier grade debut in the match, but was forced to the blood bin and then to retire in the second half with a cut under the eye. A shortage of locks due to injury and representative duties meant prop Ben Wilkes replaced Haines for the majority of the match, reducing lineout options.

The Jeeps team was:

1. Ryan McDonald
2. Ben Stewart
3. Simon Brabin
4. Tim Heenan
5. Sean Haines (Premier debut) - injured 30 min - sub Luke Wilkes
6. Seamus Gay
7. Brendan Sexton
8. Luke Donald
9. John Moss
10. Sam Thies
11. Chris Wright (50th Premier Grade appearance)
12. Anthony Fenton-Wells
13. Donovan Slade
14. Brad Jarro
15. Glen Kuhn

Round 8 GPS 29 Wests 30

A "winger's try" by dashing hooker Ben Stewart was one of five sparkling ensemble tries scored by the Gallopers in their last minute 30-29 loss to Wests in the annual Hammond-Taylor trophy contest at Ashgrove.

Taking the field minus a host of injured and representative players, Jeeps could have been expected to put up no more than token resistance against a Bulldogs side that - on paper at least - was far superior. However no-one told the players that, and they flung themselves into the fray and took the game to Wests right from the kickoff, matching the Bulldogs up front and generally being considered unlucky to lose the game at the death (yet again!) by conceding a needless penalty in front of the posts when they were leading 29-27.

What looked to be the match-winning try started when Joel Boogers fielded a kick in the Jeeps' 22, beat a couple of defenders and passed to Donovan Slade, who made it to the halfway before being collared by the Wests fullback. But galloping up in support was Ben Stewart (left), who outpaced the defence to score under the posts. "No-one got anywhere near him," said Jeeps coach Paul Green. "It was one of the best hooker's tries I've ever seen a Jeeps player score."

Other five pointers for Jeeps were scored by winger Ben Silec, making his premier grade debut, John Moss, Chris Wright and Glen Kuhn. However Kuhn only managed to convert two of the five tries.

Round 9 Souths 31 GPS 22

An injury plagued Jeeps got off to a bad start in the new Premier Rugby competition when they lost to Souths 31-22 at Chipsy Wood in their Saturday night game.

Despite fielding a patchwork side with players in new positions and others only just returning from injury, Jeeps stunned Souths with a try in the first couple of minutes when stand-in hooker Simon Brabin forced his way over in the corner after a lineout win. Shane Arnold plugged the conversion to give the Gallopers an early 7-0 lead. Souths struck back with a penalty, but Jeeps went further ahead when Tom McVerry, playing at No 8, finished off a forward drive to make the score 12-3.

Despite having a player in the sinbin for a professional foul, Souths slowly pegged back the Jeeps lead with two penalty goals, until a loose pass led to a Souths intercept and converted try to give the Magpies a 16-12 lead.

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Tom McVerry powered over for another five pointer to snatch back the lead, and then Luke Donald finished off the try of the game after some finger tip passing along the left wing to take the Gallopers out to 22-16 at half time.

Unfortunately for the Gallopers that's where their scoring finished, as Souths tightened their midfield defence to repel the Jeeps raids and then turned them around with judicious kicking. By then Jeeps had lost Brabin (replaced by a still rusty Cameron Adams on the way back from injury), winger John Moss (hamstring) and halfback Tim Atkinson (easing his way back in from a lengthy ankle injury).

Souths proceeded to put on three unanswered tries, with the match clincher a try from a quick Souths throw in to a lineout that appeared to have come from a Souths kick into touch. Jeeps passed up a number of attempts at goal to lay siege to the Souths line, but their defence held solid and in the end Jeeps were obliged to take a kick for goal to try to secure a second bonus point for finishing within seven points. But that kick missed and the referee immediately blew fulltime.

The Jeeps team was:

1. Ryan McDonald
2. Simon Brabin
3. Anthony Mathison
4. Tim Heenan
5. Geoff Ingram
6. Luke Donald
7. Brendan Sexton
8. Tom McVerry
9. Tim Atkinson
10. Shane Arnold
11. Chris Wright
12. Glen Kuhn
13. Donovan Slade
14. John Moss
15. Brad Jarro

Round 10 GPS 18 Brothers 21

Jeeps black cat run continued with a 21-18 loss to Brothers at home in the first Sunday Premier Rugby game of the year, despite scoring three tries to two.

The Gallopers' shocking run with injuries also continued, losing fullback Brad Jarro in pre-match training with a hamstring and state rep Michael Tabrett during the match with a badly broken nose.

Jeeps got off to a slow start, posting only a lone penalty goal by Shane Arnold to Brothers' two penalties and a try in the first half, to lead 11-3. The Jeeps' momentum was also stalled by the sin-binning of flanker Brendan Sexton for a professional foul and Australian Under 21 hooker Nick Churven for an alleged shoulder charge, which was at worst borderline.

Things began to click for Jeeps in the second half, but Brothers always seemed to be able to keep their noses in front and disrupt the Jeeps rhythm. With a converted try early in the second half Brothers had extended their lead to 18-3, and it looked as though Jeeps' cause might be lost. However a mini rally with unconverted tries to Cameron Adams, in a cameo performance off the bench and a length of the field effort by Chris Wright after a Brothers kick landed in his arms near his goal-line, raised prospects for a comeback until a third Brothers penalty goal extended the lead to 21-13.

But Jeeps weren't finished yet, and in a gutsy display the Gallopers scored a third try through Luke Jacob to again come within striking distance at 18-21. But the conversion missed and the team passed up an opportunity to tie the game when a late penalty was rejected in favour of an attacking lineout that failed to convert pressure to points.

Round 11 Easts 17 GPS 24

Jeeps made a welcome return to the winners circle with a 24-17 Round 3 Premier Rugby victory over Easts at Bottomley, but gave their coaching staff and supporters a few nervous moments before clinching it.

The Gallopers had led Easts 24-7 midway through the second half and looked to have the game in their keeping and bonus points on their minds. But the Tigers had other ideas and kept up the pressure on Jeeps to gain the momentum in the run home, only being held out by tenacious Jeeps defence.

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The match had opened at a cracking pace with the Gallopers composing a try in the first 75 seconds, when Sam Thies and Chris Wright made good ground down the left wing before an inside pass found No 8 Luke Donald, who scored in the corner.

Fly half Shane Arnold was astray with that conversion, but otherwise kicked impeccably all night, slotting four penalties and a conversion of replacement Cameron Adams' second half try that looked to have sealed victory for the Gallopers.

But with referee Rod Brockett becoming more testy with the players as the night wore on, Arnold was yellow carded for backchat and Easts spirits were lifted by a Darren Gaffney try, when he leapt over a ruck grid-iron style to score when every other means of crossing the line had failed.

Further challenges were also repulsed, and with only minutes remaining the Tigers finally elected to take an easy penalty shot to get them within seven for a bonus point rather than continue to press for the try.

New Wallaby Daniel Heenan made a welcome return to the injury-hit side and proved a handful for Easts with his rhino charges and punishing defence. Steve Miller also made a comeback from injury with an encouraging second half off the bench, while Tim Heenan was again Mr Reliable in lineouts and the hard graft in tight. Jeeps lost young winger Ben Silec early in the match with possible knee ligament damage

Round 12 Gold Coast 19 GPS 22

Jeeps survived 80 minutes of trench warfare to beat the Gold Coast 22-19 in their must-win Premier Rugby clash on the Coast.

With Jeeps again having to patch together a side because of injuries, the Gold Coast decided to take on the Gallopers through the forwards with a grinding pick and drive game that won territory a few centimetres at a time and tried to wear down the smaller Jeeps pack.

But the Gallopers, again led from the front by courageous skipper Tim Heenan in a man of the match performance, generally repelled the Breakers attack - notably when it counted late in the game when they were hammering the Jeeps line in search of a last gasp win.

Daniel Herbert made a welcome return from injury to put in a solid 60 minutes before calling it a day when he risked catching cold waiting out in the backs for the ball to leave the forwards.

Fortune was with the Gallopers for a change, with all three of their tries coming from Gold Coast mistakes. The first came when No 8 Luke Donald snaffled a midfield intercept and set off for the line, only to be run down inside the 22. Brendan Sexton secured the vital ruck ball and skipper Tim Heenan backed up to take the pass and gallop over under the posts. Shane Arnold converted to give the Gallopers a 7-0 lead against the run of play.

Jeeps' second try came from a combination of an astute cross-field kick by Arnold found an alert Chris Wright charging down the left wing. The Breakers' defence seemed to have it covered but the ball bounced cruelly for them and Wright snaffled the possession to score. Arnold converted again to make it 14-0.

After passing up a number of opportunities at penalty goals in favour of continuing to hammer the Jeeps line with forward raids, the Coast's persistence was finally rewarded when a cross kick found an unmarked Nathan Williams, who scored under the posts to allow the Breakers to close the gap to 14-7 at halftime.

The coast maintained the grind in the second half and drew one try closer when one of their replacement forwards crashed over midway through the second half. However the conversion was wide and Jeeps scored what turned out to be the match winning points when Arnold slotted a penalty from in front.

Jeeps' looked to have put the match beyond doubt with their third try, scored when Arnold charged down a kick and was able to dot down the loose ball before it rolled into touch in goal.

But the Coast weren't finished and were rewarded with a try in the corner, converted with a sideline kick, before time ran out with the Breakers three points short.

The Jeeps' team:

Ryan McDonald
Nick Churven
Anthony Mathison
Tim Heenan (c)
Luke Wilkes
Steve Miller

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Brendan Sexton
Luke Donald
John Moss
Shane Arnold
Chris Wright
Anthony Fenton-Wells
Daniel Herbert
Donovan Slade
Sam Thies

Reserves:
Cameron Adams
Simon Brabin
Seamus Gay
Geoff Ingram
Glen Kuhn
Will Lamble
David Atkinson

Round 13 GPS 39 Norths-QUT 17

Cameron Adams stormed back to form with a two try haul against Norths-QUT in a scrappy Premier grade match at Ashgrove won 39-17 by Jeeps.

The win was soured by a knee injury suffered by Wallaby Daniel Heenan, who left the field after a head high tackle that resulted in North front rower Tony Vaileta being sent off, after earlier earning a yellow card after a dispute with Wallaby Matt Cockbain, who was making his return from a heel in jury.

Hooker Adams relished his return to a run-on spot with a brace of tries scored from forward drives through the Norths' pack, which had been disrupted by pre-match injuries. The attrition rate eventually led to the Eagles having to call for uncontested scrums in the second half, as the injury toll mounted. Jeeps also had their share of injuries, losing competitive prop Ryan "Buddha" McDonald to a knee problem as well as Heenan, who will need a scan before knowing the full extent of damage, and Anthony Fenton-Wells (shoulder) replaced by Glen Kuhn in the first half.

Jeeps were glad to put the match behind them after their upset 24-22 loss to the feisty Eagles earlier this year, that began a black period of five losses and a draw in the first round. While the unorthodox play of Norths-QUT frustrated the Gallopers, they carved out seven tries to two in the victory, whose margin would have been greater had Shane Arnold and replacement goalkicker Kuhn been on target.

Arnold, Brad Jarro and Donovan Slade scored tries, while Chris Wright showed his exceptional pace and skills with the try of the match in the first half, making good ground up the left wing before chipping and regathering to score. Kuhn added two conversions to flesh out the score, while Norths-QUT centre Peter Loli scored his now traditional intercept try against Jeeps.

The Jeeps team was:

Ryan McDonald
Cameron Adams
Anthony Mathison
Tim Heenan
Daniel Heenan
Steve Miller
Brendan Sexton
Matt Cockbain
John Moss
Shane Arnold
Chris Wright
Anthony Fenton-Wells
Donovan Slade
Brad Jarro
Sam Thies

Reserves:
Nick Churven
Simon Brabin (subbed for McDonald 1st half)

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Seamus Gay (subbed for D Heenan 2nd half)
Luke Donald (subbed for Cockbain 2nd half)
Glen Kuhn (subbed for Fenton-Wells 1st half)
Geoff Ingram
Will Lamble

Round 14 Canberra Vikings 80 GPS 6

With a final scoreline of 80-6 in favour of the Vikings, perhaps it's best to draw a veil over this game. Suffice to say we were in it for the first 10 minutes and then the wheels fell off. Observers said it was the best they'd ever seen the Vikings play, if that's any consolation.

Round 15 GPS 0 University 37

A point a minute blitzkrieg by University settled the outcome in the first quarter of the match as Jeeps slumped to a 37-0 defeat in their first Friday night Ballymore appearance of the season.

Jeeps paid the price for falling off tackles and spilling possession as Uni sprinted to a 22-0 lead in the first 21 minutes, and then 25-0, using their pace out wide to burn off the defence. Jeeps' woes increased when replacement back rower Luke Donald (on for Tom McVerry) was sinbinned for 10 minutes for consecutive infringements, but that mishap seemed to galvanise the shell-shocked Gallopers into stiffening the defence and halting the points avalanche.

They kept up the graft and slowed the scoring rate, but paid the price when inspirational skipper Tim Heenan was carried off with suspected ankle ligament damage, after soldiering on for 20 minutes longer than he should have.

Prop forward Simon Brabin was another who refused to lay down, and the forward pack as a whole was not disgraced in the second half. However the reshuffled and patchwork Jeeps backline failed to gel as slickly as the Uni flyers, who showed the benefit of confidence, cohesion, speed and the ability to perform at pace.

The damage toll mounted further in the second half, when centre Anthony Fenton-Wells was forced to run on as a forward replacement, at one stage losing his shorts in his keenness to get involved.

Round 16 GPS 50 Sunnybank 38

Jeeps galloped away to a 50-38 win over the 'Bank in their last home game appearance of the year, scoring eight tries to six in an exuberant performance that delighted their supporters and belied their position on the competition table.

The Gallopers broke the shackles of the previous two rounds to finally score some tries, and the drought turned to a flood as eight different players crossed for five pointers.

Injury had again forced a major reshuffle of the side, with Shane Arnold going to halfback and centre Anthony Fenton-Wells having a crack at fly half. The moves proved a coaching masterstroke, with Arnold having his best game of the season and keeping the Jeeps forwards on the front foot with intelligent kicking. Fenton-Wells made a good fist of the positional change and Michael Tabrett was dangerous at outside centre.

In the forwards Matt Cockbain played his farewell game at Yoku Road and was always dependable in the lineouts and a handful in the loose, while Paul Biddulph was taken out of cryogenic storage to come on as a replacement at prop in the second half.

The Bank struck first with a try in open play, but the Gallopers quickly responded when elusive winger Adam Warwick followed up a kick-through and danced down the sideline to set up Tabrett. Arnold got the second when he was in the clear and chipped and regathered over the fullback's head, while club captain John Moss, on as a blood bin replacement for Tabrett, scored the third when the Sunnybank fullback gambled on a favourable bounce and lost.

At one stage in the first half Jeeps were down to 13 when both Brendan Sexton and Tabrett were sinbinned, but the Gallopers managed to prevent the Dragons from scoring during that crucial period which kept them in the game despite a lapse of concentration that enabled the Bank to level at 19-all by halftime.

Jeeps ran away with it in the second half, with tries to Greg Holt, Sean Haines, Adam Warwick, supersub Cam "Storm" Adams and Sam Thies, while Arnold kicked three conversions and Donovan Slade two.

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The Jeeps team was:

Sean Haines
Nick Churven
Simon Brabin
Greg Holt
Geoff Ingram
Seamus Gay
Brendan Sexton
Matt Cockbain
Shane Arnold
Anthony Fenton-Wells
Adam Warwick
Donovan Slade
Michael Tabrett
Chris Wright
Brad Jarro

Reserves:

Paul Biddulph
Daniel De Wet
Nathan Canniffe
Glen Kuhn
John Moss
Sam Thies

Round 17 Wests 45 GPS 21

Jeeps went to Sylvan Road with no first grade due to player absences and a Premier Grade side well down on full strength, but battled gamely to finally succumb 45-21 to a semi-final bound Wests.

The 'Dogs had all the ball for the first 10 minutes due to a stream of penalties against the Gallopers, but it was Jeeps under skipper Chris Wright who drew first blood when centre Adam Warwick dragged down a floated Wests pass to dart away and score under the posts.

Shane Arnold converted to make it 7-0 but Wests struck back soon after when new World Cup Wallaby selection John Roe powered through the middle of a ruck to set up a try for halfback Damien Hoo. Roe and returning Reds flyhalf Julian Huxley had a powerful influence on the game, Roe difficult to handle with his rallying charges up the middle and Huxley controlling his backline expertly and gaining territory with well placed kicks.

Wests gained the lead with a second converted try and a third five pointer followed after Jeeps flanker Dan Heenan had been sinbinned for what appeared to be another player's offence.

Jeeps were first to score in the second half when Warwick finished off a slick backline move, converted by Arnold and dragging the Gallopers back to 19-14. But Wests regained the momentum with a succession of tries until replacement Jeeps forward Sean Haines scored from a Jeeps forward drive, converted by Arnold to finish the Jeeps scoring for the day.

Two Jeeps players - Roy Slade and Matt Davies - made their Premier debuts off the bench, while prop Paul Biddulph was again wheeled out from cryogenic storage but had failed to thaw out by fulltime.

Jeeps battled gamely despite the result, their efforts personified by prop Simon Brabin showing one of the Wests backs the sideline then running him down when he tried an in-and-away, and by reserve half Anthony Jacob who despite playing with a barely recovered hamstring strain, darted away down the sideline before neatly chipping ahead and chasing hard to pressure the defence into a hasty clearing kick.

Because of Jeeps' inability to field a first grade side (14 of the 15 players who played the previous week were unavailable for 1st grade duty), 2nd and 3rd grades were forced to forfeit points, even though their games went ahead.

Thus ended a disappointing season for Premier Grade

GPS OLD BOYS RUGBY UNION CLUB INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2003

Division 1 First Grade (Reserve Grade)

On behalf of the coaches and management I would like to thank each and every one of the 50 plus players that played for the GPS First Grade Team in 2003.

I guess the writing was on the wall from the very first minute of the first game, when Dave "Homer" Atkinson injured his shoulder and had to leave the field. Injuries certainly plagued the whole club and the flow-on effect within First Grade did not deter the players from giving their all every weekend, wearing the GPS jersey proudly.

Two games that epitomised the true spirit of the GPS Rugby Club were the away University game and the away Logan game. Against Uni we took it to the top side, almost causing the upset of the round. Then, within a few weeks of this game the side was decimated with injuries and we finished the game with 11 players against Logan's 15. I only hope this type of spirit can be displayed on a weekly basis in 2004.

One injury that we did benefit from was that to Tim Atkinson. During Tim's recovery he provided invaluable assistance on training night as well as game days. The players and coaching staff extend our appreciation to Tim.

Thanks to Nathan "Nugget" Canniffe for his Captaincy. He never lost faith in his players and their ability to compete. He carried an injury through most of the season and finished all games in considerable pain but would not give in.

The much underrated role of team manager was fulfilled by Steve and Graeme this season. Thanks to both for their commitment to every weekend.

**Peter Garbett
Coach**

Div 1 2nd Grade (Third Grade)

2003 was a difficult but enjoyable year as my first involvement with the GPS club. The departure of Al Smith left some big shoes; shorts, jersey etc to fill and I relished the opportunity. I was very warmly welcomed by the club, which I greatly appreciated and was soon trying to ensure that training was tough but enjoyable.

On the field the enormous number of players, initially 25-30, which dwindled due to injury and also lack of game time, restricted our performances. Over 10 players left, either through frustration at not being able to get a game with us or 4th grade, and did not return. This had an enormous impact on the players and led to the First Grade side forfeiting their final match versus Wests. This was a disgrace, as rugby is all about getting a game and we denied our players as well as the Wests players in this instance.

Despite this, the players always displayed guts and determination and although the same XV never took the field twice, a sense of "team" developed. Subsequently social meetings and BBQ's with the players have been a World Cup highlight with more to come!!

Players deserving of a mention are captain and former Southland and Canterbury Colts player Glen Merrilees, the big-hearted Gus Porteous and newcomer Ross Marshall. In a season that fluctuated from riches to rags we enjoyed the social interaction that Rugby has at its core on the field and off.

One game that stands out in this Rugby World Cup year was against Easts in the second round. Our team featured players from South Africa, the USA, Sweden, France, Samoa, New Zealand and a token Aussie or two. Although we lost this match it epitomises why people play and coach and want to be involved. Rugby is a game for everyone and the sooner those at the top of the ARU and QRU re-discover this, the better.

A big THANKYOU to all of those lucky few who played for the GPS 2nd XV in 2003.

**Paul Garner
Coach**

GPS OLD BOYS RUGBY UNION CLUB INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2003

Colts 2003

It was some apprehension that I began the 2003 season at Jeeps. The previous year was disastrous from a Colts perspective and we knew that we had to introduce a completely new philosophy and approach to the game to turn this around for both the new batch of players and the Club.

I am pleased to report that the year was extremely successful measured by the number of players, their enjoyment, the on-field results and the attitude and camaraderie of the players which developed as a result.

The boys were enthusiastic from the start and responded to the positive reinforcement offered from the management group. Numbers were generally not a problem (a change for the 3's) and the boys were encouraged by a clearer policy of selections and expectations from the management group.

Two teams reached the preliminary finals with the 2's a little unfortunate in not reaching the finals. The 1's were not up to the vigour and focus of the Easts team on the day.

3's finished just out of the four in what was the biggest upset of the year. The team showed promise in the earlier games but dropped off after complacency crept in following an earlier series of good wins.

Importantly, the majority of these 2003 talented players will be with us again in 2004 which augurs well for additional confidence and size to begin the new Rugby year.

We congratulate our two Queensland Under 19 players Patty O'Connor and Martin Perkins and the 6 or 7 other players who were nudging state selection in their first year. Remember that the selectors are now aware of who you are and we all look forward to your personal successes and development in 2004.

We thank our senior players, Captain Tim Sheppard, Luke Bolster, James Connolly, Dan Milne, Cameron Adams, Matty Graham, John Duke, Brendan Foster and the award-winning Billy Meehan and wish you all well in the senior grades at Jeeps.

The management group was a pleasure to work with and we are fortunate that the majority of this successful driving group will be behind the boys again in 2004, in one capacity or another.

Thank you for the opportunity to be part of this wonderful group of management, players and parents in 2003 and I eagerly anticipate playing my part in taking our players to a higher level of achievement and personal enjoyment in the new season – the process has just begun!

Alex Pope
Colts Director

GPS OLD BOYS RUGBY UNION CLUB INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2003

TROPHIES AND AWARDS 2003

TROPHY	AWARDED TO	DONATED BY
Top Try Scorer	Ryan Strelow	Peter McBaron
100 Points for Season	Ben Tennant	Bradley Butten
B & F Premier Grade	Tim Heenan	Wren Bligh
MVP Premier Grade	Ryan McDonald	George Bickerstaff
B & F First Grade	Anthony Jacob	Ken Aaron
Best Forward First Grade	Seamus Gay	Ken Bolton
B&F Second Grade	Glenn Merrilees	The Friends of Lorraine Moynihan
2nd Grade Most Improved	Ross Marshall	Cr Geraldine Knapp
B & F Third Grade	Gerrard Steel	Robin Thomson
B & F Colts One	Liam Ferguson	Alan Taylor
MVP Colts One	John Anderson	David Abernethy
B & F Colts Two	Matt Zaranski	Frank Jensen
Best Back Colts Two	Simon McKeiver	Lloyd Graham
B&F Colts Three	Ryan Strelow	Bob Armstrong
MVP Colts Three	Steve Dash	Tony Roberts
Best Junior Clubman David Burrows Memorial Trophy	Luke Bolster	
Best & Fairest Colt Robert Burrows Memorial Trophy	Liam Ferguson	
Best Club Man Walter Boyd Memorial Trophy	Angus Porteous	
Club Captain Humphrey Bere Memorial Trophy	John Moss	
John Harris Memorial Trophy Presented by his Friends	Tony Mahoney	
"Spirit of the Colts" Award - BB Loel Trophy	Matt Graham	

The "Spirit of the Colts" Award

This year the club inaugurated the "Spirit of the Colts" Award - the B.B. Loel Trophy - which is to be awarded to the player whose dedication, team spirit and willingness to subordinate his interests to those of the club exemplifies the spirit of GPS Colts Rugby.

Our thanks to Life Member Brian Loel for his generosity in donating this perpetual trophy.

Player Representative Appearances 2003

Australia: Matt Cockbain, Daniel Heenan

Australia A: Matt Cockbain, Daniel Heenan, Michael Tabrett

Australian Sevens: Peter Hewat, Paul Warwick, Michael Tabrett, Tom McVerry

Australia Under 21: Nick Churven

Queensland: Daniel Herbert, Ben Tune, Matt Cockbain, Anthony Mathison, Michael Tabrett, Daniel Heenan, Tom McVerry, Ben Wakely, Tim Atkinson

Queensland A: Donovan Slade, Ross Larsson, Peter McIntosh, Shane Arnold

Queensland U19: Martin Perkins, Pat O'Connor

Australian Deaf Squad: Paul Biddulph

GPS OLD BOYS RUGBY UNION CLUB INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2003

GPS PLAYER STATISTICS 2003 (note: financial players only)

Grades

		Premier	1st	2nd	3rd	Club Total (Premier/All)	T	C	P	FG	Pts
Cameron	Adams	9	4			68/83	7				35
Robert	Anderson			10		0/10					
Scott	Armstrong				4	0/4					
Shane	Arnold	10				12/20	3	11	11		70
Timothy	Atkinson	2				70/70					
Benjamin	Barden				13	0/33	2				10
Trent	Benett				15	0/65					
Mark	Benedick	2	2			4/13					
Paul	Biddulph	2		2	1	16/155					
Anton	Blow		3	7		0/10	2				10
Simon	Brabin	15	3			15/31	1	1			7
Cameron	Brown		3	3		0/19					
Nathan	Canniffe	1	15			9/65	3	11	2		43
Nicholas	Churven	8				14/22					
Matthew	Cockbain	4				55/57					
Peter	Collins				10	0/10	1				5
John	Corlett			2	1	0/3					
Philip	Cosgrove				1	0/1					
Martin	Cuddihy		1	15		0/16	1				5
Austin	Curtin		1	6		0/7					
Matthew	Davies	1	3	12	1	1/22	2				10
Daniel	De Wet	5	10	1		5/16					
Luke	Donald	15				21/21	5				25
Bill	Donnelly		11	4		0/15	1				5
Xavier	Dorney		2	4		0/6		1			2
William	Farry			6		0/6					
Anthony	Fenton-Wells	13				13/13					
Jeremie	Feuillette			8		0/8					
Seamus	Gay	13	9			13/22	1				5
James	Graham		5	11		0/16					
Sean	Haines	4	7			4/11	2				10
Daniel	Heenan	4				10/11	1				5
Timothy	Heenan	15				71/73	1				5
John	Hefferan		5	3		0/8					
Daniel	Herbert	1				61/62					
Gregory	Holt	3	4			8/19	4				20
Geoffrey	Ingram	11	2			24/32					
James	Jackson			4	14	0/85	3				15
Anthony	Jacob	3	13			19/40	3				15
Nick	Jacobson				9	0/9	2				10
Brad	Jarro	14				18/42	1	1			7
Daniel	Johnston		8	1		0/9					
Brent	Jooste			11		0/11					
Glen	Kuhn	11	5			23/41	3	4			23
William	Lamble	4	8	1		4/13		5	1		13
Ross	Larsson	1	4			17/26					

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Bradley	Lee		8			0/8				
Benjamin	L'Estrange	1			8	21/42	1			5
Paul	Lowis				7	0/7				
Cameron	Lynch		8	7		0/15				
Ryan	Macleod		5	6		0/11				
Tony	Mahoney				10	0/28				
Ross	Marshall		2	12		0/14				
Anthony	Mathison	11				49/50				
Ryan	McDonald	13				14/27	2		1	13
Michael	McGahan				9	0/53				
Tom	McVerry	6				56/56	2			10
Glenn	Merrilees		3	16		0/19	4	8	8	60
Brent	Merrilees			14		0/14				
Steven	Miller	9				42/45				
Alan	Mills		7	1		0/8	2			10
John	Moss	15	1			126/168	4			20
Ross	Oakhill				10	0/29				
Luke	Patterson			1	1	20/54				
Angus	Porteous		1	17		0/55	5			25
Chad	Raines		14	1		0/22				
Rowan	Riggall		8	4		0/12	3	3	4	33
Rowan	Sedgwick		3	12		0/59				
Brendan	Sexton	14	1			28/32	2			10
Luke	Sexton		8	8		0/57	1			5
Benjamin	Silec	3	5			3/20	6			30
Stephen	Smith			3		0/3				
Adam	Stanfield		10	7		0/17				
Gerard	Steel				12	0/49	5	17	7	80
Justin	Steel		1		1	11/132				
Ben	Stewart	9	1	1		10/40	2			10
Clifford	Stirling				6	0/19				
Andrew	Strachan				3	0/16				
Michael	Tabrett	4				15/16	1			5
Sam	Thies	15	2			36/68	6			30
Byron	Vivian	1	6			1/21	4	1		22
Adam	Warwick	7				16/25	3			15
Ryan	Webster				9	0/46				
Simon	Willson		2	1		0/3				
Tim	Wolf			9	1	0/10	1			5
Christopher	Wright	12	3			60/76	7			35
Damien	Zeller				10	0/26	1			5

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		Colts I	Colts II	Colts III	T	C	P	Pts
Cameron	Adam	16	7	1				
Jon	Anderson	17			6			30
Anthony	Armstrong			10				
Charlie	Begg	4	7	1	3			15
Luke	Bolster	17						
Robson	Brunt		2	8	2			10
Luke	Campbell	15	1		5			25
Benjamin	Clarkson			10				
Patrick	Cochrane		1	1				
James	Connolly	16	1		3			15
Alistair	Cook	1	14	2	1			5
Kell	Cronin	5	10	3				
Stephen	Dash		5	10	1			5
Jonathan	Duke	1	10	6	3			15
Kristofer	Edwards		3	2	3			15
Nathan	Ernst			8	1			5
Liam	Ferguson	17			4			20
Iain	Funnell	2	13	1				
Mitchell	Geraghty	17	1		5	2	2	35
Matthew	Graham	11	3	2	4			20
Sean	Graham	18			1			5
Alexander	Hall			1				
Julian	Henao	1	9		2			10
Will	Hennessy		14	1	3			15
Julian	Jefferis	2	13					
Stuart	Kamp	9	6		2			10
Cameron	King	18			3			15
Samuel	Litster	1	10	2				
Alex	Manfield	2	12	1	5			25
Alex	Marwedel			6				
Simon	McKeiver	1	15	1	6			30
Shaun	Medland	5	8		3	2		19
William	Meehan		5	6	2			10
Daniel	Milne	4	11					
Andrew	Noble		1	1				
Patrick	O'Connor	13	1		1			5
Joshua	Owens	16	3		1			5
James	Park	1	14		3			15
Andrew	Peel			5	2			10
Sebastian	Pelly	11	8	3	2			10
Martin	Perkins	13			1			5
Alexander	Richards	1	5	7	2			10
Byron	Roberts	10			3		1	18
Timothy	Sheppard	18			6			30
Brendan	Stanley	11	2					
Peter	Stevenson	16	1		7	1		37
Ryan	Strelow			10	8	23	1	89
Michael	Taylor	1	15		2	14	1	41

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Benjamin	Tennant	16			8	26	8	116
Patrick	Trusselle			2	1			5
Aaron	Whiteman			8				
Iain	Wilkie	2	8		2			10
Christopher	Williams		7					
Matthew	Zaranski	1	12	1				

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GPS OLD BOYS RUGBY UNION CLUB INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2003

Treasurer's Report for the Financial Year 1 October 2002 to 30 September 2003

The Club's accounts for the last three financial years have now been audited. The accounts for 2002/2003 have been delivered to the auditor.

The Club's profit this year of \$26,366.94 is down on the preceding financial year's profit of \$98,254.93. Income from all sources dropped from \$314,024 last year to \$220,992 this year.

The Naked Lunch was not as profitable as last year's Great Debate, however, some of the takings from that event funded some of the expenses of the World Cup lunch held in the current financial year. In addition I am informed that the Telstra Large Screen Final Promotion was well attended and should be quite profitable.

Sponsorship remained steady though Bartercard's contribution was halved to \$14,500. The QRU grants remained the same.

Without the generosity of our sponsors the club would find it difficult to survive, particularly, the principal sponsor Nundah Mitsubishi in association with Fastway Couriers and major sponsors Bank of Queensland, Bartercard, The Gap Tavern, Brisbane Ice Sales, Kooga and Associated Sponsors. Nundah Mitsubishi in association with Fastway Couriers has kindly agreed to be principal sponsor again this year generously increasing their contribution.

The agreement for funding from the QRU, that the Club signs each year, effectively restrains the Club from obtaining sponsorship from any competitors of the QRU sponsors. In the past where there has been a conflict the QRU has waived compliance with this requirement but the day is coming when it will be enforced. As the Club is becoming increasingly dependent on such funding it will be difficult to challenge the QRU, with the result that lucrative sponsorship will be lost. Members should be aware of this potential conflict.

The Ashgrove-GPS Juniors contribution was the same though last year's contribution was inflated by \$30,000 being their once-only payment as consideration under the Agreement for security of tenure. The contribution per Junior family remained the same at \$30 a head, this will have to be reviewed this financial year in view of rising costs.

This year a "Gang of Four" was formed comprising Ron Cervetto and myself together with the Treasurer and a representative of the Junior Club. The Gang's mission was to iron out conflicts, existing and potential, between the Clubs. It had mixed success. A central issue was the operation of the canteen. It was hoped that the canteen could be run as a joint enterprise with a saving of costs and effort. Income from the enterprise was to be applied to improving the Club House and grounds. However, conflicting philosophies sank the plan.

The Gang had some success in that, the method of operation by the respective clubs have now been resolved. The issue of outstanding contributions by the Juniors from the preceding financial year (brought about by their application of capital contribution as part of their family contributions) has been resolved in principle and we expect payment shortly.

There has been a drop in home game income, principally because the number and attractiveness of home games has been reduced.

Expenses, generally, are down commensurate with the drop in income. Your Committee has kept a tight rein on expenditure. Again, players' insurance rose by 50%. Some of this expense is passed on to the players as part of their subscriptions. However, it remains an increasing expense for the Club.

This year greater effort was made to ensure subscriptions were paid and paid on time. Our efforts met with some success, subscription revenue increasing by \$7,000 from the previous year. There were still defaulters and the Committee has asked the General Manager to investigate a direct debit method of payment for next season. Perhaps that will overcome this perennial problem. The Colts management is to be congratulated on the prompt and efficient collection of subscriptions from their members.

Again this year Geraldine Barlow and her volunteers have put in a sterling effort in the canteen for game days and "at home" functions. The profit returned on game days from homemade items e.g. steak burgers is quite modest and disappointing weighed against the time and effort expended by Geraldine and her volunteers. Next season the Club should look at increasing prices and margins on these items or, perhaps, at selling more commercial lines.

GPS OLD BOYS RUGBY UNION CLUB INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2003

It was suggested last year, by outgoing Treasurer, Paul Innes, that the Club should employ a bookkeeper, to assist Rod Torkington in the day to day running of the Club's financial administration. That suggestion was taken up and Cathy Colwell agreed to undertake the task. She has done an admirable job for which I thank her.

My thanks also to Rod Torkington for his invaluable assistance. He probably had hoped to shed the role of de facto Treasurer but such was not to be the case.

Finally, I would like to thank President, Paul Reid and my fellow Committee members for their assistance and understanding. I wish you all well for the festive season.

Rob King-Scott
Hon Treasurer

Preparation of Audited Financial Statements

The GPS committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report as set out on the following pages:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of GPS Old Boys Rugby Union Club Inc. as at 30 September 2003 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that GPS Old Boys Rugby Union Club Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Paul Reid
President

Rob King-Scott
Hon Treasurer

GPS OLD BOYS RUGBY UNION CLUB INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2003

GPS Profit & Loss Account

	2003	2002
	\$	\$
RETAIL SALES		
Bar	31,911.28	53,800.19
Food	9,613.00	6,676.15
Merchandise	2,242.03	593.64
	43,766.31	61,069.98
 LESS: COST OF GOODS SOLD		
Opening Stock		
Merchandise	4,240.00	7,764.98
Purchases		
Bar	20,473.80	31,798.78
Merchandise	0.00	433.50
Food	7,772.27	11,751.24
Closing Stock		
Merchandise	(4,240.00)	(4,240.00)
TOTAL COST OF GOODS SOLD	28,246.07	47,508.50
 GROSS PROFIT FROM RETAIL SALES	\$ 15,520.24	\$ 13,561.48
 OTHER INCOME	\$	\$
Subscriptions		
Player	27,950.88	20,824.25
Member	3,366.91	1,078.64
Team Contributions		
Juniors	17,430.00	45,360.00
Functions & Fundraising		
Raffles & Doubles	(1,743.63)	2,198.90
Annual Dinner	(404.82)	2,723.64
Ball	455.68	1,031.15
Bar Opening	0.00	259.69
Jeff Miller Breakfast	0.00	390.91
Great Debate Lunch	700.00	0.00
Pre Test Function	12,363.84	23,542.10
Golf Day	0.00	599.50
Other Fundraisers	(445.45)	1,445.45
Season Launch	(312.73)	0.00
Donations & Sponsorships		
Donations		
- General	0.00	2,500.00
- Trophies	605.00	0.00
- Bar Builda	1,157.20	19,790.04
Sponsors		
- Major	29,881.91	20,400.00
- Associate	10,000.00	9,090.91
- Grades & Colts	0.00	4,880.00
- Other	12,015.36	9,705.00
Bartercard Sponsorship	14,550.00	28,000.00
Parking & Admission	5,160.75	8,188.64
QRU Grants	74,120.91	86,216.97
Miscellaneous Income	2,962.22	12,813.84
 TOTAL OTHER INCOME	209,814.03	301,039.63
 TOTAL INCOME	\$ 225,334.27	\$ 314,601.11

GPS OLD BOYS RUGBY UNION CLUB INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2003

	2003	2002
EXPENDITURE	\$	\$
Audit & Accounting Fees	(1,296.50)	1,353.30
Advertising	1,105.73	0.00
Bookkeeping	630.00	0.00
Printing, Postage & Stationery	1,925.95	3,134.55
Office Expenses	3,088.15	1,197.80
Fuel & Oil	478.87	71.57
Merchant Fees	0.00	697.09
Computer Expenses	(74.57)	0.00
Affiliations	0.00	2,725.00
Bank Charges	2,506.88	2,208.76
Bartercard Fees	1,803.28	2,206.54
Clothing - Jerseys	11,092.59	10,640.71
Fees & Permits	752.60	1,224.10
Albany Creek Expenses	0.00	1,000.00
Penalties	0.00	235.04
Maintenance		
Grounds	6,247.28	12,402.42
Building	1,530.94	5,369.42
Ashgrove Ground & Building Expenses		
Electricity - No. 1	4,651.13	2,677.04
Cleaning & Waste Disposal	2,749.25	1,178.52
Other Ground Expenses	1,592.73	0.00
Football Expenses	37,802.61	48,193.31
Trophy Expenses	1,331.00	0.00
Hire of Plant & Equipment	435.99	458.54
Insurance		
General	4,638.25	4,942.73
Player	15,742.76	9,959.04
Interest paid	1,999.41	1,996.51
Internet Expenses	742.07	691.84
Loss on Sale of Portable Office	3,095.00	0.00
Leasing Charges	1,515.75	(1,405.70)
Cross Charge Valleys	0.00	464.17
Marquee Hire	903.51	642.11
Rates	3,909.44	6,905.11
Signage	0.00	1,504.50
General Costs	2,497.84	3,371.43
Motor Vehicle Expenses	8,184.98	6,783.40
Match Day Expenses	1,914.29	6,871.00
Photo Costs	832.22	0.00
Security	200.25	257.60
Stamp Duty	0.00	43.19
Superannuation	4,336.88	3,653.48
Telephone - Office	7,238.54	5,920.17
Development Officer's Costs	20,303.49	21,190.35
Employment Expenses		
Wages		
- Executives	37,938.60	41,948.61
- Bar	3,728.82	2,676.94
- Food	612.60	0.00
Workers Compensation	309.72	624.99
TOTAL EXPENSES	198,998.33	216,015.18
NET PROFIT	\$ 26,335.94	\$ 98,585.93

GPS OLD BOYS RUGBY UNION CLUB INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2003

GPS Balance Sheet

ASSETS	2003	2002
Current Assets	\$	\$
Cash at Bank		
Bank of Qld Ladies Committee	254.36	254.36
Bank of Qld Albany Creek	(4,772.28)	782.60
D Burrows Memorial Fund	1,034.69	1,034.69
Total Cash at Bank	(3,483.23)	2,071.65
Bank of Qld General Account	(90.84)	488.06
Bartercard	18,226.19	18,164.46
Total Current Assets	<u>14,652.12</u>	<u>20,724.17</u>
 Debtors		
Ashgrove Junior Debtor	(6,462.62)	(6,462.62)
Valleys Cricket Club Debtor	1,914.66	1,803.35
Total Debtors	<u>(4,547.96)</u>	<u>(4,659.27)</u>
 Savings Funds		
Trade Debtors	6.28	0.00
Work in Progress		
Bar Builda	22,529.15	22,529.15
Weights Room	63,499.03	52,651.70
Rates Credit Account	3,815.94	0.00
Stock on Hand		
Merchandise	4,240.00	4,240.00
Total Savings Funds	<u>94,090.40</u>	<u>79,420.85</u>
 Other Assets		
Deposits Paid	910.00	910.00
Ballymore Life Membership	0.00	300.00
Total Other Assets	<u>910.00</u>	<u>1,210.00</u>
 Property & Equipment		
Clubhouse		
Office Unit (Portable)	0.00	6,595.00
Main Clubhouse (1/2 Share)	51,473.19	51,473.19
Small Clubhouse Facilities	56,596.30	56,596.30
Field No. 3 Development	1,799.00	1,799.00
Improvements Albany Creek	14,325.00	14,325.00
Total Clubhouse	<u>124,193.49</u>	<u>130,788.49</u>
Equipment		
Computer Equipment	3,605.00	3,605.00
Plant & Equipment	31,042.80	30,393.71
Field Lights No. 1 Oval	12,175.00	12,175.00
Field Lights No. 2 Oval	12,841.76	12,841.76
Laptops	9,798.19	8,625.46
Photocopier	1,900.00	1,900.00
Weights Apparatus	8,838.00	8,126.00
Irrigation Oval No. 1	6,479.50	6,479.50
Irrigation Oval No. 2	2,823.50	2,823.50
Field Light No. 3 & Car Park	1,692.62	1,692.62
Total Equipment	<u>91,196.37</u>	<u>88,662.55</u>
Total Property & Equipment	<u>215,389.86</u>	<u>219,451.04</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>320,494.42</u>	<u>316,146.79</u>

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	2003	2002
	\$	\$
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Trade Creditors	4,764.97	23,022.00
ATO Creditor	2,269.00	0.00
GST Liabilities		
GST Collected	0.00	0.00
GST Paid	1,398.18	(1,474.52)
Total Current Liabilities	8,432.15	21,547.48
Non-Current Liabilities		
Bank of QLD 81-396215	15,966.41	21,778.49
Loan - Albany Creek Grounds	9,350.00	12,650.00
Total Non-Current Liabilities	25,316.41	34,428.49
TOTAL LIABILITIES	33,748.56	55,975.97
NET ASSETS	\$ 286,745.86	\$ 260,170.82
MEMBERS FUNDS		
Members Equity		
A C Dibdin Trophy	300.00	300.00
J R Harris Perpetual Trophy	300.00	300.00
Retained Members Funds	259,809.92	162,598.61
Current Year Surplus/(Deficit)	26,335.94	98,585.93
TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS	\$ 286,745.86	\$ 261,784.54

NOTE 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act Queensland. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act Queensland and the following Australian Accounting Standards:

- AAS 3 Accounting for Income Tax
- AAS 5 Materiality
- AAS 8 Events Occurring After Reporting Date
- AAS 17 Accounting for Leases

No other applicable Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The financial report is prepared, on a cash basis whereby items are brought into account as money is paid or received, from the records of the association.

The following material accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

(a) Fixed Assets

Leasehold improvements and office equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets are depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

Scope

We have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of GPS Old Boys Rugby Union Club Inc. for the year ended 30 September 2003. The committee is responsible for the financial

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report and has determined that the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act Queensland and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We have conducted an independent audit of this financial report in order to express and opinion on it to the members of GPS Old Boys Rugby Union Club Inc. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act Queensland. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the Association's financial position, and performance as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows. These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly subject to the following qualification in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the financial position of GPS Old Boys Rugby Union Club Inc. as at 30 September 2003 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.

Due to the nature of the income of GPS Old Boys Rugby Union Club Inc. and the limited resources available to the association to implement adequate internal controls over areas such as cash income it is impracticable to verify that all funds due to the Association were received however we have no reason to believe that all monies of the Association were not received and banked.

ERIC C. BUTLER & CO.

JOHN L. AMOS
Chartered Accountant

23rd February 2004

4/55 McDougall Street
Milton Qld 4064