

## CHALLENGING SPIRIT

Club	Nominated Volunteers
Chobham RFC	Julian (Jools) Goringe, Nick Atkins, Paul Evans, Mark Mantell, Fabrizio Maffi
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
<p>This group of coaches, manager and referee have worked tirelessly with the U16 age group since they were minis. They recruited actively from all sorts of schools, including non rugby playing schools and built a squad that worked together to achieve amazing results. As well as coordinating matches they worked with the boys on all aspect of game strategy for example using video analysis. Through covid they ran zoom sessions and then touch tournaments. Matches were scheduled every week so the whole squad could play (sometimes 3 teams, and always 2). The values they promoted included humility, kindness and gamesmanship alongside competitiveness.</p>	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
<p>The result is that this was the largest age group in the club and the most successful one the club has ever had. The Vikings team were unbeaten in the four years of the waterfall and Quins cup. Many of the boys are now in different schools and colleges and remain in touch. The boys are ambassadors for the values of Chobham in club academies, county set ups and one of the team has been selected for the Welsh national u18 squad.</p>	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
<p>My son misses his time in the juniors. His ambition is to meet a group of coaches who inspire, motivate and empower him as much as this group did. The values and skills he has learned are setting him up for success in all aspects of his life</p>	
Club	Nominated Volunteers
Chobham RFC	Charles Gregory
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
<p>Chas has led the development of the Girls section of Chobham Rugby. We have had a good girls section for many years, and now have a Senior Women's team playing in the RFU leagues. We have girls teams in all four age groups. Often clubs struggle to put out a full girls side from their limited membership, particularly now the age groups for girls sides have changed. Chas has been proactive in linking Chobham with other local clubs to put out joint girls sides where the need has arisen.</p>	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
<p>To mitigate for this lack of players, for the past few years (before and after Covid) Chas has been particularly involved with supporting the development of rugby in local secondary schools, mostly non traditional state secondary schools. Chas has sourced money to buy kit and has organised community coaches to go into local schools and introduce after school rugby activities. He is looking to extend this to curriculum-time activities.</p>	
Club	Nominated Volunteers
Chobham RFC	Mark Fisher
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
<p>Mark took over as Chair in 2019, he worked tirelessly to drive and support the management committee to ensure that CHObham RFC survived the pandemic. Since then he has implemented numerous initiatives to get the club back on it's feet and players back playing.</p>	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
<p>Chobham regularly puts out 3 senior men's teams on a Saturday, has a full compliment of mini and junior age groups (including girls at all age groups) and a senior women's team. In addition CHObham has a Mixed Ability team and provides Walking and Touch Rugby. All of which is personally supported by Mark, both on the touchline and in the work he does behind the scenes to ensure the financial stability of the club. All areas of the club know that they can come to him and be guaranteed advice and support.</p>	
Club	Nominated Volunteers
Croydon RFC	Jean-Charles De Schino

<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
<p>JC has been a key volunteer at the club in all aspects of rugby activity on and off the pitch. He has brought great enthusiasm and passion to the committee and ensures rugby values and philosophy is at the heart of everything being delivered.</p> <p>He is an integral part of the senior set up at the club and also leads on the rugby United project in outreaching to the local community schools, colleges and community centres to bring rugby to the area.</p> <p>He has been working alongside Surrey in ensuring under-represented groups are given the opportunity to play rugby formats and introduce the club to them.</p>	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
<p>Making rugby happen</p> <p>Recruiting players</p> <p>Helping deliver games</p> <p>Supporting the Matt Ratana charity in the local area.</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Dorking RFC	Laurence Kikfeather
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
<p>Laurence has been a true adversary for the RFU values TREDs in his philosophy and ethos in running his age group team.</p> <p>He has successfully managed to not stream right through youth rugby whilst retaining and recruiting players.</p> <p>He is a fantastic hard-working and dedicated team coach.</p>	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
<p>Delivering RFU Values</p> <p>Retaining players</p> <p>Recruiting new players</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Esher RFC	Paul Osment
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
<p>Paul has been very committed into recruiting new youth players across all age groups by going into local primary and secondary schools and delivering training sessions as well as inviting schools to the club to play in festivals.</p> <p>He has also funded recruitment videos and flyers to showcase the club.</p> <p>Paul has taken on coaching across 2 age groups and leads by example with the coaching team.</p>	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
<p>Recruitment of players</p> <p>Retention of players</p> <p>Higher skilled coaches</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Esher RFC	<p>Cameron Barlow</p> <p>Jeremy Best</p> <p>Paul Hempenstall</p>
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
<p>These 3 members have totally embraced the RFU core values and aims in delivering game across all levels of the game and especially vets rugby.</p> <p>They have clustered up with other clubs to ensure rugby activity is delivered. Transformed a depleted vets side by driving recruitment from the minis and junior parents and recruiting within the community.</p>	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
<p>More players playing rugby. More vets players staying in the game. Delivering game on initiatives</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>

Esher RFC	Tommy Burkett, Trevor Dolan, Joy Dolan, Sarah Hall
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
This group of parents and coaches have driven the teams recruitment and retainment plan across local schools. They have gone into schools and delivered training sessions and ensuring players from non rugby playing schools get to play the game. They have also arranged rugby festivals and welcomes schools activity at the club.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Increase of players. Retainment of Esher members. Parent engagement. A better playing experience.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Haslemere Community Rugby Club	Tom Sheridan, Darrell King, Dan Brockenhurst
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
These group of coaches have been relentless in growing rugby at Haslemere rugby club and ensuring there is a pathway in place for Transitioning of youth into senior rugby. You will see all 3 there on both days of the weekend delivering rugby activity. They have set up the under 22 team which is a pathway format for retaining and recruiting players.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Making rugby happen. Growing the club playing membership. Keeping players in the game. Making the club more accessible to all players. Recruiting and retaining youth players. Delivering a fantastic rugby playing experience	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Johnnians RFC	Laurence Down
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Laurence has been a dedicated and loyal servant of Old Johnnians in driving the club forward through his role as fixture secretary and under 22 manager. He is a key member of the club in actively recruiting players and seeking fixtures. He ensures the 1st team match cards are all completed and steers the committee to improve the club.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Strong governance across the club. More fixtures being played. Recruiting players.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Oundelians RFC	Sam Cone
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Sam is the reason that old Oundelians still exist and ensures the old boys are kept up to date with key information and helps bring us all together to play rugby. He tries to recruit new players from the school and local connections.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Sam has ensured that rugby is still played at Old Oundelians. He also drives social and touch activity for players throughout the summer.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Suttonians RFC	Paul Lumsden
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Paul is hardworking and dedicated member of the club and is forever coming up with new ways and innovative ideas to recruit and retain players and ensure the playing offer is delivered. He liaises with the CB on regulations and administrative duties.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	

Recruitment of players across the area and school. Retainment of current players. More matches being completed.	
Andrew has been a real leader at the club over the last year in ensuring that everything is in place and functioning effectively at OW. He has been driving player recruitment and chasing for fixtures and player availability to fulfill matches. He also ensures pitches and referees are in place for matches.	It has contributed to more players being available to play matches and better training given. He also helps out on match days and training evenings. Good communicator with Cb and league secretaries
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Whitgiftian RFC	Amy Atkinson, Kris Atkinson
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Kris and Amy have been phenomenal this year in driving the youth rugby activity at old Whits growing the junior sections and creating a new girls team at the club. They have been innovative and flexible in the offerings at the club in merging with other local teams to ensure rugby is delivered to the children. They both ensure rugby values and ethos is at the heart of the club activities	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
More players. More rugby activity. Increased membership engagement. Better links with local school and community	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Streatham-Croydon RFC	Verne Sylvester
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Verne has been the clubs lead on the new rugby United project and has worked with Surrey to create a plan to attract new players from under represented backgrounds in the local area. Tasks include: Rugby sessions in school, After school clubs, Holiday camps, Rugby festivals, Attendance at local youth clubs and faith centres	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Taking the club out into the community and making it more appealing to under represented groups of players. Attracting new players to rugby Leading club activities to improve the offer	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Streatham-Croydon RFC	Elizabeth Fennemore, Duncan Gallon, Gareth Peoples, Martin Wright, Steve Gaukrodger
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Tirelessly working with the youth section of our club., initiatives to grow numbers, get more games and enter tournaments and the like more and more as well as delivering the basics to our youth section. Constantly liaising with other clubs to organise friendlies and the like to give the kids some game time and reffing themselves if the need arises.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Our fledgling youth section growing and winning games against bigger clubs	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Working tirelessly every weekend during the season and volunteering for other initiatives to grow numbers and grow the game	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Warlingham RFC	Scott Toomey, Adam Rowe, Matt Tallboys, Peter Mattison, Nick Waterton

**Challenging Spirit**

**How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging & retaining players and ensuring games can be played?**

Scott and his team have worked tirelessly trying to ensure, 2/3s rugby and vets rugby games have been played so far this season. In time of adversity and struggles following COVID and a loss of players and interest they have continued to offer the option to play. With BBQ offerings and touch rugby evenings to get people into or back into rugby

**Challenging Spirit**

**What achievements has this contributed to?**

We have managed to get games played even if having to play 10a side in some instances

**Club**

Warlingham RFC

**Nominated Volunteers**

Nick Kewell

**Challenging Spirit**

**How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging & retaining players and ensuring games can be played?**

Helping to organise a barbarian side to make all players able to play.

**Challenging Spirit**

**What achievements has this contributed to?**

Having 27 u16 boys play games on a regular basis.

## GAME FOR ALL

<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Bec Old Boys RFC	Stefan Skrzynski
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Stefan is the driving force of Bec Old boys and continues to ensure the club is run effectively. He is chairman, fixture secretary, Referee official and leads on communications internal and external of the club. He has continued to grow the senior rugby section and we have managed to get 3 adult makw teams out each week as well as an occasional beta and women's team.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Club running efficiently and effectively. Players engaged. More players playing more rugby	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Camberley RFC	Jay Wilcox
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Jay started at the club as a dad coach as his daughter is rugby mad - but at the age of 12 unable to play with the boys any longer Jay started the under 16's girls team to stop CRFC loosing our talent pool of young girls to other local clubs who have already established girls rugby at this age. Its been a hard slog - he has worked hard to promote the team to the local community and is slowly increasing his numbers. He is trying things like creating a Barbars team with other clubs to ensure that the girls get as much game time as possible....he has engaged with coaches, refs and generally everyone he needs to, to make this a success. Its slowly growing momentum and the girls are loving being part of this group.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Its helping to further promote girls rugby within the local community - its encouraging the individuals to become part of this journey. Its helping to increase membership with new girls joining all the time and its helping build inter-club relations through the barbar activity. Jay uses social media to boost the number of people reached and has fliers around and about - and is reaching out to local schools too.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Alongside his activity with the girls team, he is also the mini chair for the entire club, puts all of his time and effort into making the club a better place. He dedicated significant time in his role both as a coach/team manager & mini chair....he's approachable, always fun and helps put a smile on everyones faces	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Jane Cross
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Jane has been part of the small group running Touch Rugby at Chobham for the last decade. The touch rugby initiative has been hugely successful, with a regular turnout of 40+ players, an over-40 Legends touch session once a month and now a Saturday morning walking rugby group.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Our Touch rugby operation runs 50 weeks a year for 14 year olds and above the oldest have reached 80	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
As if this wasn't enough Jane has organised our hugely successful and awesome annual Ladies' lunches for a number of years, raising money for a different charity each time and always ensuring a memorable day for Chobham women and their friends.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Nigel Rowland
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Nigel is our Senior Rugby Chairman for our 1s, 2s, 3s and Vets sides. This year it has grown to a full-time volunteer position. He deserves an award for the cheerful and enthusiastic way he copes with every drawback and ensures as much rugby as possible continues to be played.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	



Part of his role is finding new, often last-minute fixtures to replace ones he made in the pre-season that are later cancelled. Nearly every week, sometimes late on, a club withdraws as they cannot field a team so Nigel spends hours finding replacement opponents, as well as chasing up our own players who can be equally flaky about availability.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
He also copes with all the concomitant admin of selection, registration match cards etc. Like others - he takes 'Game On' as a serious pursuit	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Cobham Rugby Football Club Limited	Steve Herd
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Steve has brought real energy and dedication into making rugby happen at cobham rfc. He's a dedicated and loyal chairman and member of the club and is the unseen hero behind the scenes. He's pivotal in driving key operations and ensuring the club is operating effectively and efficiently.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Keeping the club legal and compliant. Driving efficiency and effectiveness of off field business. Supporting key rugby members	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Esher RFC	John Masters, Pete Burrows, Adrian Doran
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
These volunteers have been instrumental in the growth of walking rugby across Esher rugby and the local community. Delivering rugby and fitness skills for all ages and skill levels. Fantastic for welfare and mental health.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Bringing non contact form of rugby to the local community promoting wellbeing and keeping people involved in the game.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Esher RFC	Nigel Sanderson
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Nigel has done a fantastic job in recruiting Esher Minis players and obsessing the set up of the Esher Cubs. Nigel works with the age group coaches and attended local schools to recruit players and deliver rugby into non traditional rugby playing schools.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Increase in players. Engagement of players and parents. Delivering rugby to players who have not played before	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Esher RFC	Graeme Turnbull, Kevin Canavan, Ian Powell, Andy Bellis, John Hyde
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
These group of coaches have been very innovative and flexible in their offerings to fully reach out to the non playing rugby schools and colleges and deliver rugby activities on and off site. They have also been fantastic servants to the club through coaching and managing the teams.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Recruitment of players. Detainment of players. Delivering rugby core values. Creating a fun and safe environment for all. Fundraising to provide rugby kit and yours to players.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Guildford RFC	Robert Newnes-Smith, Jeremy Reed
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Leading the way in organising a State Schools festival at the club and then reffing and putting energy into running the day. Has resulted in many state school new joiners joining GRFC u12s.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Has resulted in many state school new joiners joint Guildford u12s	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Guildford RFC	Robert Newnes-Smith, Jeremy Reed

<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Both Jeremy and Rob have lead with commitment for many years in mini's and now youths, providing a core and trusted support structure for the kids, (boys and girls), the parents and coaches. This has bought fun and discipline but enjoyment of the game to all.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
The age groups have grown in strength for the club as a direct result of their contribution. In their spare time they have also arranged state school tournaments to introduce the game to all and making it more accessible.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
There efforts throughout the year has provided great opportunity for all to take part. both are approachable and have great respect from all parents and those linked to the club.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Guildfordians RFC	Mark Grubb, Susan Russell, Ian Mckie, Tony Weimer
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
All the following have been the mainstay of Guildfordians Walking Rugby and would have been seen at various festivals. But I have not only recommended these 4 because of the work they have put in behind the scenes to help unify the rules with other clubs such as Esher & Kingswood, but also in giving there time to help other clubs to set up and develop walking Rugby. They have also been instrumental in setting up & running the Guildfordian festivals and the Mutts and mongrel festival in welcoming other clubs. So bringing those back into Rugby, enhancing their movemant and mental agility	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
The walking Rugby fraternity is continuing to develop with Guildfordians going from 8 to more than 40 now also by lending their expertise at other clubs	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Also they have taken on roles within Guildfordians RFC. Mark Grubb – as well as Walking Rugby Chairman, heis current coach of the U9, but has previously taken another age group right the way through. These 3 especially as they have no children in the club. Sue Russell - Admin for walking Rugby, and has coached with Micro and is helping with U6. Ian Mckie – very instrumental in the reffing and communication on the walking Rugby, and has been doing work on developing Junior Touch for next season. Tony Weimer – again one of the mainstay and not only coaches Micros, but has taken on the role of Mini Chair at Guidfordians	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Lightwater RFC	Chris Northwood
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Chris is the all singing all dancing chairman at the club that is at the heart of everything we strive to achieve. He arranges fixtures, league admin, player membership, tours and social activity.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Recruitment of players. Social interaction with club members. Games being played	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Amplefordians RFC	Will Shepherd
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Will has been the clubs captain, a fixture secretary and match administrator ensuring all match day activities are completed and the club is compliant. He also ensured team selection is completed alongside player registration and player recruitment.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Ensuring rugby administration is delivered at the club. Ensuring player availability Driving player recruitment	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Cranleigh RFC	Simon Lawes
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	



<p>He started the OC minis section approx 7 years ago. It's started small and with Ina. Few years we regularly had over a hundred kids each Sunday from 5-15 years old. We now regularly have 400 kids on sudnays with many fathers and older club players volunteering to coach. He has transformed the rugby club into a social hub for the local community. Simon stood down a sheaf of minis last year.</p>	
<p><b>Game For All</b>  <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b></p>	
<p>At present 400 boys and girls every Sunday. And the parents who have been attracted to the social side of the club.</p>	
<p><b>Game For All</b>  <b>Anything else you would like to add</b></p>	
<p>Simon still plays for the vets and a grand age (wouldn't like to guess) and organises rugby tour every years for the club.</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Reigatian RFC	Carl Hassan
<p><b>Game For All</b>  <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b></p>	
<p>This man needs to be recognised not only the last year but for the last 5/6 years for all the work he has done with the girls section from u12s-u18s. The structure of the girls side of the club is around 150 players and also a u23s team emerging and a partnership built and established with Brunel university and Ealing Trailfinders. The club is in a very strong position with the foundations built but also helps maintain and grow girl's participation in rugby at the club for the coming years. Not only this but Carl has grown the O2 touch section of the club with one of the largest memberships in the country. Every Monday he has developed the games played and established a routine for around 100 players. There has been selection to under 15 and under 18 England squads in the last year for both girls and boys and the group has a good social aspect. Carl is a supporter of referees and you will often see him on the pitch on a Sunday.  Finally he has joined the players committee and bringing the clubs processes and policies up to the required standards we expect for 2023.</p>	
<p><b>Game For All</b>  <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b></p>	
<p>As above.</p>	
<p><b>Game For All</b>  <b>Anything else you would like to add</b></p>	
<p>Everyone at Reigatians know of this man, such a positive character with we can attitude and the club is a better place for the work and commitment he brings week by week.</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Reigatian RFC	David McGuigan, Iain Woodhams, Fhamid Malik, Mike Smith, Jason Perfitt
<p><b>Game For All</b>  <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b></p>	
<p>Old Reigatians Rugby Club Girls section started with 6 girls in 2013, and culminated last year in an incredibly successful season. Our passion is growing rugby for girls, the focus on everyone feeling included, supported and having fun. We follow a non-ability streaming approach to coaching and team selection (other than for National matches). By the end of 2022 we had over 125 players, 23 coaches and the U16s won multiple local tournaments, the Surrey Cup and the National Cup. We have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30+ per age group (Unlike other clubs, numbers increased over covid due to the amazing online training, then rule compliant Touch Rugby offered)</li> <li>• 12 play for Surrey</li> <li>• 8 selected for the England Touch rugby squad – 3 winning silver and gold at international level.</li> <li>• 7 won Brunel University rugby scholarships</li> </ul> <p>We have a continuous recruitment drive, including a new school liaison officer, working with a number of fee and non-fee-paying schools covering girls from various social economic backgrounds. And have even run free coaching programmes at schools interested.  We fund new clothing if necessary and have second hand kit available. Plus provide free starter coaching for all.  We bring big players to the club to inspire the girls eg England's Rosie Galligan  We actively encourage our girls to develop coaching and refereeing skills – where females are massively under-represented.  We support other clubs with lower numbers, offering joint training sessions and match experience.  We focus on well-being with girls feeling comfortable to be themselves eg sexual orientation and background wise.</p>	
<p><b>Game For All</b>  <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b></p>	

<p>We have one of the most well represented girls sections in the country. Our success has put girls rugby on the map locally with regular features in the paper to inspire and educate others. The girl's teams were initially rather an after-thought club wise, however, last year we firmly featured on the first team pitch.</p> <p>We have healthy numbers – 125 players from many schools covering a wide area. We are particularly proud of our efforts over Covid, which actually increased numbers. One Covid recruit, Daisy, received our usual 121 coaching attention for new players and amazingly captained our u16's team the next season, won a Surrey team place and is now applying for a rugby educational scholarship. Our obvious successes are winning the Surrey Cup and Nationals Cup at U16 level last year. Of particular significance is the fact every single player on our extensive U16 side got the chance to play in the Surrey round matches. We won the award for Surrey Rugby Age Grade rugby team of the year and are short listed for the Reigate and Banstead Borough Council team of the year. Hearing so many people say last year that they didn't realise girls played such high-quality full-on rugby was fantastic. We are truly educating people about the female game. A number of our girls are now edging towards making rugby their career with Surrey team places and university rugby scholarships. The thought of representing England is firmly within their mindset</p>	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
We have nominated the person that has led girls rugby at the club since 2013 (David) and the current head coaches for the 4 age groups. Many others coaches have been involved.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Rutlishians RFC	Mike Stallard, Paul Cecil, James Oakes
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
<p>This group of volunteers have gone above and beyond in embedding the game on philosophy across the club and live and breathe the values of the game.</p> <p>They are huge advocates of the importance of transitioning youth players into senior rugby. They embrace what grassroots rugby is all about.</p>	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Recruitment of players. Retainment of players. Transition of youth players into senior rugby. Embedding RFU values. Embracing Game on	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
They are fully deserving of this award and without volunteers like this the grass roots game simply wouldn't exist. They lead by example and inspire players to continue playing.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Wimbledonians RFC	Catherine Edser
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
<p>Launching a girls rugby section at Old Wimbledonians Warriors to promote involvement in rugby of girls from u5 to u18. Warriors have struggled to maintain girls in rugby over the age of 9 and by setting up the new section we hope to promote girls involvement in the game by raising awareness in the local community of the availability of rugby as a participation sport. Catherine organised an afternoon rugby festival at our club to engage local schools. We had over 100 girls attend this event from many local schools who had not played rugby before. Catherine has helped to collaborate with other local clubs to arrange cross club girls training sessions to enable "Barbarian" girls teams to be formed. These teams have competed at local festivals keeping girls from falling out of the sport. On a weekly basis Catherine is involved in promoting the girls game at Warriors.</p>	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
<p>The promotion of the girls game has led to a much higher profile of girls participation at Old Wimbledonians Warriors as well as in the local community. As mentioned above we attracted over 100 girls from local schools. We will be running this event again this year to continue to raise the profile of the game.</p> <p>The local Barbarian teams have enabled the girls to enjoy playing the game as a girls team. The smiles on their faces at the local tournaments demonstrated this. At the festival we organised the girls were also given exposure to one professional player/coach which we hope will inspire them.</p>	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Catherine is not finished, and she sees the promotion of the girls game at Warriors (And the wider community) as a long term project. She is determined to bolster the numbers of girls involved in rugby at grass root level.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Pacific Islanders Rugby Club	Bruce Tizzard, Solo Bula

<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Bruce and solo continue to ensure Pacific Islanders are growing and delivering rugby throughout the season. They run the club between them and do all the recruitment of players, Arranging fixtures, Referees, Fundraising, Entering tournaments, Compliance	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
The club wouldn't run without them	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Purley John Fisher RFC	Chris Doyle
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Chris has driven the senior side of the club in ensuring the rugby section grows swim strength to strength He is actively involved in fixtures and match confirmation and ensuring administration is compliant.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Resulted in the growth of the second team and more players being available to play rugby. Communicated well with the club and engages the board and players.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Racal Decca RFC	Robert Holmes, Harri Lowther
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
These two individuals have been instrumental in driving operations at Racal Decca. They have been leading on player recruitment and retainment on current players. Advertising on social media and firming close links with local businesses and universities for players to play. They do all tasks needed to run a rugby club successfully.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Making Rugby Happen. Delivering a positive player experience	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Streatham-Croydon RFC	Verne Sylvester
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Working to bridge the gap between school boy and club rugby constantly. Spent the last 12 years trying to get more rugby played in non traditional schools, engaging children of non traditional rugby backgrounds to get involved. Coaching at Colts and Mini's level. Contacting and liaising with the places of worship and hubs in the local community to engage and involve more young people of diverse backgrounds in the club and rugby as a whole. Leading on the Rugby United initiative and linking with schools to get children of all diverse backgrounds involved in rugby esp children of black and asian heritage.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Over the years many youngsters of black, asian and working class white backgrounds getting involved and staying in rugby. responsible for membership so I can see when people of diverse backgrounds join and take the next step through to adult rugby	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Working tirelessly to spread the game in schools and in the community	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Surrey Rugby (CB)	Jools Goringe, Pandy Patel, Fabs Maffi, Ian Sibley, Ben McElliott
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
These three have been instrumental in delivering youth rugby across the county. They have managed the communications with club chairs, age grade managers and coaches. Providing playing opportunities in a competitive and fun way. Arranging finals days. Running the 7s, 10s and cup festivals. They also arrange referees for the tournaments and liaise with the Local Academy.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
More players playing more rugby. Providing Referees. Transition from youth to senior rugby. Providing a competitive playing experience	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Critical roles for delivering rugby activities across the county	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>

Surrey Rugby (CB)	Marc Bertrand, Richard Brayne -Nicholas, Nick Ter Averst, Les Todd, Paul Tanner
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
These three have been instrumental in delivering senior rugby across the county. They have managed the communications with club chairs, managers, coaches and players. Providing playing opportunities in a competitive and fun way. Arranging finals days. Facilitating Rfu leagues and surrey merit leagues	
Running the 7s, 10s and cup festivals. They also arrange referees for the tournaments and liaise with the Local referee society and ROC.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contrib</b>	
More players playing more rugby. Providing Referees. Ensuring RFU values are delivered. Providing a competitive playing experience	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Critical roles for delivering rugby activities across the county	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Surrey Rugby (CB)	Barry Myland, Chris Cloughly, Rod Jermy, John Simmonds, Gary Stennett
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
This group of head coaches have coached the county set up for a number of years and put in many dedicated hours pitch side in driving the CB representative teams.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contrib</b>	
Delivering the representative pathway programme	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Sutton & Epsom RFC	Nick Harris
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Nick is a fantastic dedicated coach and leader at the club who spends hours volunteering to ensure the women's game gets continuously driven. He helps with coaching, holiday camps, schools activity, festivals and competitions. He also volunteers as head coach of Surrey Women's team.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contrib</b>	
Ensuring women's game is at forefront of what the club is trying to achieve.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Wandsworthians RFC	Richard Pennington
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Richard has been a stalwart of wandsworthians ensuring fixtures are arranged and played. He is also pivotal to player recruitment and retainment of current players. Richard is a club and society referee.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contrib</b>	
Fixture arranging. Recruitment of players. Refereeing of matches	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Weybridge Vandals RFC	Kevin Kearney
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Kevin has championed the mini/youth and particularly the female section of Weybridge Vandals for many years. He gives his life to better the experience of all at the club. He passionately loves Vandals and the club is so much better for his dedication.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contrib</b>	
Support, mentoring and just being available when someone is needed. Nothing is too much for him.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
He is a true rugby man, lives the values and lives his club. The strides Vandals have made in recent years are fully attributed to his energy and dedication	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Weybridge Vandals RFC	Kate Phillimore
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	

Kate has led the development of a new ladies section within the club. Without her energy and drive to succeed, there would be a whole group of people that would never have played the game
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contributed to?</b>
A rapidly growing number of girls and ladies that are want to be part of the game and who otherwise may never have considered playing. Please see comments made by others from the club in the attachment
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>
Total passion, commitment and devotion.

## CHALLENGING SPIRIT

<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Julian (Jools) Goringe, Nick Atkins, Paul Evans, Mark Mantell, Fabrizio Maffi
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
This group of coaches, manager and referee have worked tirelessly with the U16 age group since they were minis. They recruited actively from all sorts of schools, including non rugby playing schools and built a squad that worked together to achieve amazing results. As well as coordinating matches they worked with the boys on all aspect of game strategy for example using video analysis. Through covid they ran zoom sessions and then touch tournaments. Matches were scheduled every week so the whole squad could play (sometimes 3 teams, and always 2). The values they promoted included humility, kindness and gamesmanship alongside competitiveness.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
The result is that this was the largest age group in the club and the most successful one the club has ever had. The Vikings team were unbeaten in the four years of the waterfall and Quins cup. Many of the boys are now in different schools and colleges and remain in touch. The boys are ambassadors for the values of Chobham in club academies, county set ups and one of the team has been selected for the Welsh national u18 squad.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
My son misses his time in the juniors. His ambition is to meet a group of coaches who inspire, motivate and empower him as much as this group did. The values and skills he has learned are setting him up for success in all aspects of his life	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Charles Gregory
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Chas has led the development of the Girls section of Chobham Rugby. We have had a good girls section for many years, and now have a Senior Women's team playing in the RFU leagues. We have girls teams in all four age groups. Often clubs struggle to put out a full girls side from their limited membership, particularly now the age groups for girls sides have changed. Chas has been proactive in linking Chobham with other local clubs to put out joint girls sides where the need has arisen.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
To mitigate for this lack of players, for the past few years (before and after Covid) Chas has been particularly involved with supporting the development of rugby in local secondary schools, mostly non traditional state secondary schools. Chas has sourced money to buy kit and has organised community coaches to go into local schools and introduce after school rugby activities. He is looking to extend this to curriculum-time activities.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Mark Fisher
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	



Mark took over as Chair in 2019, he worked tirelessly to drive and support the management committee to ensure that CHObham RFC survived the pandemic. Since then he has implemented numerous initiatives to get the club back on it's feet and players back playing.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Chobham regularly puts out 3 senior men's teams on a Saturday, has a full compliment of mini and junior age groups (including girls at all age groups) and a senior women's team. In addition CHObham has a Mixed Ability team and provides Walking and Touch Rugby. All of which is personally supported by Mark, both on the touchline and in the work he does behind the scenes to ensure the financial stability of the club. All areas of the club know that they can come to him and be guaranteed advice and support.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Croydon RFC	Jean-Charles De Schino
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
JC has been a key volunteer at the club in all aspects of rugby activity on and off the pitch. He has brought great enthusiasm and passion to the committee and ensures rugby values and philosophy is at the heart of everything being delivered. He is an integral part of the senior set up at the club and also leads on the rugby United project in outreaching to the local community schools, colleges and commuity centres to being rugby to the area. He has been working alongside surrey in ensuring under represented groups are given the opportunity to play rugby formats and introduce the club to them.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Making rugby happen Recruiting players Helping deliver games Supporting the Matt Ratana charity in the local area.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Dorking RFC	Laurence Kikfeather
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Laurence has been a true adversary for the RFU values TREDS in his philosophy and ethos in running his age group team. He has successfully manages to not stream right through youth rugby whilst retaining and recruiting players. He is a fantastic hard working and dedicated team coach.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Delivering RFU Values Retaining players Recruiting new players	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Esher RFC	Paul Osment
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Paul has been very committed into recruiting new youth players across all age groups by going into local primary and secondary schools and delivering training sessions as well as inviting schools to the club to play in festivals. He has also funded recruitment videos and flyers to showcase the club. Paul has taken on coaching across 2 age groups and leads by example with the coaching team.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Recruitment of players Retention of players Higher skilled coaches	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Esher RFC	Cameron Barlow Jeremy Best Paul Hempenstall



<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
These 3 members have totally embraced the Rfu core values and aims in delivering game across all levels of the game and especially vets rugby. They have clustered up with other clubs to ensure rugby activity is delivered. Transformed a depleted vets side by driving recruitment from the minis and junior parents and recruiting within the community.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
More players playing rugby. More vets players staying in the game. Delivering game on initiatives	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Esher RFC	Tommy Burkett, Trevor Dolan, Joy Dolan, Sarah Hall
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
This group of parents and coaches have driven the teams recruitment and retainment plan across local schools. They have gone into schools and delivered training sessions and ensuring players from non rugby playing schools get to play the game. They have also arranged rugby festivals and welcomes schools activity at the club.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Increase of players. Retainment of Esher members. Parent engagement. A better playing experience.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Haslemere Community Rugby Club	Tom Sheridan, Darrell King, Dan Brockenhurst
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
These group of coaches have been relentless in growing rugby at Haslemere rugby club and ensuring there is a pathway in place for Transitioning of youth into senior rugby. You will see all 3 there on both days of the weekend delivering rugby activity. They have set up the under 22 team which is a pathway format for retaining and recruiting players.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Making rugby happen. Growing the club playing membership. Keeping players in the game. Making the club more accessible to all players. Recruiting and retaining youth players. Delivering a fantastic rugby playing experience	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Johnians RFC	Laurence Down
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Laurence has been a dedicated and loyal servant of Old Johnians in driving the club forward through his role as fixture secretary and under 22 manager. He is a key member of the club in actively recruiting players and seeking fixtures. He ensures the 1st team match cards are all completed and steers the committee to improve the club.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Strong governance across the club. More fixtures being played. Recruiting players.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Oundelians RFC	Sam Cone
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Sam is the reason that old Oundelians still exist and ensures the old boys are kept up to date with key information and helps bring us all together to play rugby. He tries to recruit new players from the school and local connections.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Sam has ensured that rugby is still played at Old Oundelians. He also drives social and touch activity for players throughout the summer.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Suttonians RFC	Paul Lumsden

<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Paul is hardworking and dedicated member of the club and is forever coming up with new ways and innovative ideas to recruit and retain players and ensure the playing offer is delivered. He liaises with the CB on regulations and administrative duties.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Recruitment of players across the area and school. Retainment of current players. More matches being completed.	
Andrew has been a real leader at the club over the last year in ensuring that everything is in place and functioning effectively at OW. He has been driving player recruitment and chasing for fixtures and player availability to fulfill matches. He also ensures pitches and referees are in place for matches.	It has contributed to more players being available to play matches and better training given. He also helps out on match days and training evenings. Good communicator with Cb and league secretaries
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Whitgiftian RFC	Amy Atkinson, Kris Atkinson
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Kris and Amy have been phenomenal this year in driving the youth rugby activity at old Whits growing the junior sections and creating a new girls team at the club. They have been innovative and flexible in the offerings at the club in merging with other local teams to ensure rugby is delivered to the children. They both ensure rugby values and ethos is at the heart of the club activities	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
More players. More rugby activity. Increased membership engagement. Better links with local school and community	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Streatham-Croydon RFC	Verne Sylvestor
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Verne has been the clubs lead on the new rugby United project and has worked with Surrey to create a plan to attract new players from under represented backgrounds in the local area. Tasks include: Rugby sessions in school, After school clubs, Holiday camps, Rugby festivals, Attendance at local youth clubs and faith centres	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Taking the club out into the community and making it more appealing to under represented groups of players. Attracting new players to rugby. Leading club activities to improve the offer	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Streatham-Croydon RFC	Elizabeth Fennemore, Duncan Gallon, Gareth Peoples, Martin Wright, Steve Gaukrodger
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Tirelessly working with the youth section of our club., initiatives to grow numbers, get more games and enter tournaments and the like more and more as well as delivering the basics to our youth section. Constantly liaising with other clubs to organise friendlies and the like to give the kids some game time and reffing themselves if the need arises.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Our fledgling youth section growing and winning games against bigger clubs	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Working tirelessly every weekend during the season and volunteering for other initiatives to grow numbers and grow the game	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>

Warlingham RFC	Scott Toomey, Adam Rowe, Matt Tallboys, Peter Mattison, Nick Waterton
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Scott and his team have worked tirelessly trying to ensure, 2/3s rugby and vets rugby games have been played so far this season. In time of adversity and struggles following COVID and a loss of players and interest they have continued to offer the option to play. With BBQ offerings and touch rugby evenings to get people into or back into rugby	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
We have managed to get games played even if having to play 10a side in some instances	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Warlingham RFC	Nick Kewell
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers used their initiative to get the game back on; engaging &amp; retaining players and ensuring games can be played?</b>	
Helping to organise a barbarian side to make all players able to play.	
<b>Challenging Spirit</b> <b>What achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Having 27 u16 boys play games on a regular basis.	

## UNSUNG HERO

<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Barnes RFC	Angus Graham
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Angus is a vital chain of the vets set up and has been fantastic in bringing energy and commitment to making rugby happen. He is also the international ticket secretary and is responsible for running this thankless process to the membership.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Keeping players engaged Delivering more rugby Ensuring membership have access to international tickets and other benefits.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Battersea Ironsides RFC	Zoe Goodwin
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	

<p>Zoe has held an astonishing number of key roles though out 2022 as a volunteer and parent at Battersea Ironsides RFC.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Under 10 Age Group Manager -organised a large group of 130 under tens arranged as 13 teams with 35 coaches and 20 first aiders. Responsible for weekly admin and communications for new / existing players, the coaching team and players /parents.</li> <li>2. Mini Rugby Secretary -responsible for 900 players between u5s to u11s along with 250 rugby coaches and around 150 other volunteers.</li> <li>3. Organiser of other Junior Rugby club events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mini Rugby End of Season Funday with 1500 attendees including the Mayor, Brian Moore and other VIPS a</li> <li>-2022 Mini Rugby Bognor tour Zoe was a key and essential management team member responsible amongst other things for venue selection, designing and organising tour kit for 550 touring players and parents</li> <li>-Main organiser of the Mini Christmas and Easter parties</li> <li>-Organiser of the Annual coaches and managers meeting for the whole Club Junior Section and including planning of the induction process of new 2022 intake of u5s /u6s</li> <li>-Secretary of the Junior Management Committee</li> <li>-An integral driver of the Club Kit Committee</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Other club -wide roles 2022: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Key member of the Rugby Club Management Committee</li> <li>-Key member of the Rugby Operations Committee responsible for management of clubhouse, bar and club catering provision</li> <li>-Lead for our whole club sponsorship strategy</li> <li>-Lead for club Media and PR strategy and initial point of contact</li> <li>-A key part of a small team who project managed and participated in building works necessary post Covid to enable the Clubhouse to re-open January 2022 including with newly fitted commercial kitchen and upgraded services and decorations throughout.</li> <li>-key organiser of 2022 club socials including Quiz nights, Sunday BBQs , Drag Bingo.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>Zoe relates incredibly well to people and can encourage and motivate others in an exceptional way. This is a key skill in any volunteer led organisation. Zoe is a brilliant organiser who not only has the ideas but can put these into practice enthusing those around her and providing simple solutions whenever problems big or small arise. Zoe is frequently lead organiser at a major events such as the Jason Leonard event at the club but will also equally and without hesitation offer to wash up at the end of the evening if this or other such task needs to be done. Zoe will not willingly take applause or kind words for her efforts but will more happily spread credit to others whose contribution might have been relatively small by comparison.</p> <p>Zoe has had a huge impact motivating and encourage Junior players and ensuring all our welcome and included. She is excellent with parents -organised and informative. Her work with volunteers is outstanding ensuring adequate numbers and governance issues are in place such as training and record keeping and making sure they are encouraged mentored and thanked. Without a well organised, happy and valued volunteer base our club which has 1500 players simply could not function and it is largely due to Zoe that we are now in an excellent place with a solid and enthused volunteer base of around 400 volunteers.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>Anything else you would like to add</b></p>	
<p>We are very fortunate at Battersea Ironsides that we have benefited from having so many wonderful volunteers over the years who have helped us become the very large, successful and highly respected rugby club that we are today but every now and then an individual stands above all others and proves to be truly exceptional and outstanding in the contribution they have made to this community club. Zoe is such a person amongst literally thousands of volunteers at our club over the years. The contribution Zoe has made to the club and therefore to the young people of our Borough and the wider community of volunteers and parents has been truly outstanding throughout 2022 and elevates Zoe to one of the most remarkable volunteers we have ever had the privilege to work with in our club.</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Battersea Ironsides RFC	Angus Phillipson
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b></p>	

Angus since he started in the role has been super pro-active and passionate about supporting the development of coaches at Battersea Ironsides, one of, if not the biggest junior section of any club in Europe with over 1500 players. He is a great communicator who regularly seeks support on ideas / resources and best practice. He worked closely with myself the Coach Developer for South London & Surrey to put on 3 evenings of courses in September for coaches in the u6 up to the u11 age groups.

### Unsung Hero

#### What impact has this had on the club & members?

The impact of his drive to create more coach education opportunities in this moment specifically supported 112 coaches at the club, this has led to them integrating best practice in 'what to coach' and 'how to coach' with fun activities that are Active, Purposeful, Enjoyable and Safe, that help players learn and become more skillful. It has been great to hear from Angus the positive feedback he's getting from fellow coaches on the benefits to what they have learnt through his efforts to support them. The phrase 'they don't care until they see how much you care' rings true to his character and motivation to create the best environment for players and coaches at the club to flourish

### Unsung Hero

#### Anything else you would like to add

Club press release

'The first week of the new rugby season saw Battersea Ironsides Minis Section progress its preparations with Kids First Tag and Kids First Contact training sessions, for coaches from the u6 to u11 age groups. Working with the RFU, each age group received a coach training session focusing on delivering Active, Purposeful, Enjoyable and Safe (APES) coaching to players across the section.

The sessions were setup for each age group and training was provided by RFU Coach Educators, David Cheng, Sagan Daniels and Jack Bairstow led by Chris Spedding, the RFU Coach Developer for South London & Surrey.

The training took place on the 6th, 7th and 8th of September and was very well attended, with 112 Ironsides Coaches trained, across the three nights.

The RFU representatives said that as the Club's Mini Section is the largest in Europe, this was the largest coach training event the RFU have ever delivered, requiring additional planning and material for delivering coaching to the age groups. Chris Spedding provided some great feedback to the Club after the event, 'This is one of the largest courses planned and delivered in the country with a great team of Coach Developers to help the club to develop their coaching & refereeing skills, Angus & his team have done a superb job in helping organise and deliver a great learning experience for all involved, with the feedback from the coaches being outstanding. It was a real pleasure to work with highly engaged, energetic and passionate coaches who were hungry to learn'.

The Club's Coaching Coordinators would like to thank David Watson, Zoe Goodwin and Wendy Price for facilitating the training, by delivering improved lighting and hospitality in the clubhouse for the Coaches afterwards. Without the team work the event would certainly not have been such a great success!

### Club

Camberley RFC

### Nominated Volunteers

Matt Searle

### Unsung Hero

#### How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?

Matt is a super volunteer - he coaches his sons team, he is responsible for membership management & communications throughout the club. Matt is one of the most positive members of the club, nothing is ever too much trouble, he gets involved with whatever he can and is always around and about the club helping to organise events such as summer touch tournaments in order to raise much needed funds for the club. Matt moved to Camberley a few years ago, and the club provided him and his son a really safe and lovely environment to come to.

### Unsung Hero

#### What impact has this had on the club & members?

Matt manages the membership - makes suggestions as to how we can stagger / reduce payments for those who are financially stretched. He has a big full-time job, but manages to still throw himself wholeheartedly into the club activities. He also sits on the exec committee bringing ideas to the table around how we can increase membership - how we can increase sponsorship and has a massively positive outlook.



<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
<p>Incredibly Matt does all of this whilst juggling his homelife = Matt's wife suffers from spinabifida and is wheelchair bound. Given the stress and pain that causes him, he still maintains his positive outlook and always lends an ear when needed. He is just a very awesome and humble person and if each rugby club was full of Matts" everyone would join!!!! He's also a keen member of our vets touch rugby crew....</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Nick Atkins, Mark Mantel, Paul Evans, Fabs Maffi, Pandy Patel
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
<p>all the volunteers i have nominated are involved in club and Surrey Rugby as coaches of all age groups to include U14s, U16s, colts both girls and boys for over 10 years.</p>	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
<p>Each volunteer has given their time to players outside of where their own child plays to ensure rugby has been available to all. Have taken rugby into to schools and developed relationships with schools to help provide a pathway for players. Also having taken players of all abilities into their club environment allowing these players to enjoy the benefit of this wonderful team sport and all that comes with being part of a team.</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Mark Mantell, Nick Atkins, Paul Evans, Fabio Maffi
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
<p>These 4 volunteers have coached an age group of rugby players from minis to colts, tirelessly giving up time and energy to pass their enthusiasm to a generation of rugby players. What is special about these volunteers is how they have achieved success, which is through making the players think for themselves, be self motivated and love the game. No shouting or screaming on the side lines.</p>	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
<p>The age group has been the most successful in the clubs history. Unbeaten in successive county cups and developed players that have progressed to representative rugby, including internationals. The age group grew on stature and numbers as the success grew, attracting more players to the club and creating a blue print for following years.</p>	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
<p>It is a special group of volunteers that can give up over 12 years of Sunday mornings, Friday evenings etc and deliver such a well balanced, rugby loving group of players.</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Nikki Samant-Jones
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
<p>Nikki has been great at welcoming new players and parents to the club, making sure that they know where they're going, introducing them to other parents and coaches and checking up on them during the season. Nikki does an amazing job of getting volunteers to help with club duties and ensure that there are enough coaches and first aiders at every session. She is the glue that holds our u10 age group together and living the values of Teamwork, Respect and Enjoyment. Nikki will bring hot chocolate and Marshmallows to the cold tournament games for the boys after the match as a cherry on top for playing.</p>	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
<p>Nikki is fantastic at welcoming new players and their parents, making them feel comfortable and welcome right from the beginning. She is always available for a chat and enjoys interacting with the parents and encourages parents to interact with the club, either by volunteering or supporting various club events when they happen. She is great at capturing and sharing moments (with permission) of players during training sessions to add to the enjoyment and pride they feel.</p>	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	



Nikki drives our age group interaction with two groups, the volunteers group and the u10s group. Her spirit and enthusiasm for the club and the u10s is contagious. She encouraged me to volunteer as a coach, which I am now proudly doing with the rest of the great volunteers in the u10s.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Nick Atkins, Mark Mantell, Fabrizio Malfi, Paul Evans
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
This group of coaches unselfishly give time, energy and motivation to not only Chobham Rugby Club but Surrey U17s county squad. Commitment, personal development of players and long term planning is all done in a low key and professional manner.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Chobham's age grade rugby won several leagues and cups with Surrey U17s developing and competing well in inter county matches.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Rebecca Berry
Rebecca has been providing Safeguarding for Chobham rugby for over 5 years . Rebecca has gone over and beyond in her efforts on behalf of the clubs members she has reviewed and rewritten our policies and procedures provided safe guarding workshops , highlighted and educated club members on issues such as mental and welfare challenges for both adults and children . Worked with the Hon sec and chairman on some sensitive cases and liased with the RFU safeguarding team when required	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Becca has used her experience to support, educate and resolve issues , her level headedness and approach has been of great comfort to all of those that have been lucky enough to have been involved with her volunteering. She is a great asset to any organisation. This is a truly 'unsung role'	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
We have over 150 volunteers that need DBS ticks	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Brian Robbins
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Brian is our 3rd team captain and has been running the side for many, many years. He always plays as well, despite two new hips and a new knee. His team is never the same from one week to the next but he copes with all the last-minute changes and reorganisation without a word of complaint.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
More than 60 players have turned out for the 3s this season. Often playing for both sides. Brian is a 'Game On' virtuoso.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
He is the epitome of a 21st century coarse rugby player– one of the few left.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Peter Ashworth
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Pete is our long-standing referee co-ordinator, a role he continues to do despite recent ill-health.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
His greatest achievement has been a long history of running an excellent Young Match Official training programme, ensuring a steady stream of new talent into the pool of referees.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Duncan Hewson
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	

Duncan has taken the age-group he coaches from tiny minis to the cusp of senior rugby. His age-group 'Hewson's Heroes' has been notable for the way they play: they are the living embodiment of the 'core values', with Respect and Enjoyment very much to the fore.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
For over a decade Duncan has provided outstandingly motivating training sessions, matches and tours. He has developed a mindset that has infected and pervaded ALL of Chobham age-groups and has given us a notable legacy of motivated players.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Brenda Marshall
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Brenda is a 'club gran' who has seen family members through the club. Brenda runs every aspect of the club shop: this means not only all the ordering and infrastructure, and knowing ahead of time which items are popular or will be needed, but being present to sell stock on Saturdays AND Sundays, and sometimes on Thursday evenings too.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
She just copes with everything a difficult job brings with a cheerful smile. It's worth noting Brenda doesn't live locally and drives some distance up the M3 and back for each session.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Jonny Beavis
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
There is only one title for Jonny's contribution and that is club stalwart. A first team centurion, a mini/junior coach, head coach and age-group manager, supporter, volunteer in every working party.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
For decades Jonny has been the sort of club member that keeps a community club going.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Neil Whittington
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Neil was the Junior Rugby Chair at Chobham for all the time his children were juniors, with all the admin, phone calls, committee meetings, management of groups and significant duties on the Management Committee. He was also an Age Group Manager all this time, with all the wrangling of kit, transport, coaches, fixtures etc. etc. (AND he was Asst. Treasurer as his wife was Hon. Treasurer.)	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
AND then after many years of service, when his children transferred to senior rugby he took over as the Club Communications manager. Producing a weekly newsletter and rewriting and updating the website to include all the news and details of three senior mens teams, and a vets side, a womens team, Chobham tots, Minis, a full set of Juniors and Girls teams as well as Touch rugby, Walking rugby and a Mixed Ability side. AND he was also Membership secretary and was the person charged with keeping a register of over 150 volunteers so we could celebrate their contribution.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
AND during all this time he was one of the few people in the county who actually understood and guided the evolution of GMS. He was a GMS star and he constantly gave feedback to the 'GMS people' at the RFU who recognised him as an informed and competent advisor (and he never got ratty with them!) A long list of achievements!	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Jonny Beavis
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Jonny has demonstrated huge commitment to the club over the past few years and this has become ever more apparent since emerging from the trials of the past three. From being a well respected first team player for many years, Jonny has since fulfilled the roles of coach and referee at junior level before stepping up to referee the adult teams, sometimes at very short notice.	

<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Jonny is now also a member of the club's recently established walking rugby section where he assists with coaching as well as refereeing at festivals and volunteering for any ad hoc jobs that need doing. On top of this he also helps to maintain the grounds to keep them in the best playing condition. In short Jonny is someone who puts his heart and soul into Chobham Rugby and is a perfect example of an unsung hero.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Tom Knox
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Tom has been a player and coach with the Surrey Chargers Mixed Ability team since their inception in 2016. Mixed Ability rugby sees players who may have a learning difficulty and/or physical disability play full contact Rugby alongside more experienced players and Tom has used his coaching ability, patience and constant good humour to develop many players not just into the playing side, but also the social life of a grassroots sports club, who would not otherwise have had the chance to do so.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
This has been continued, into his sixties, with his continuing appearances for Chobham's senior section, where he has long been a stalwart. Chobham Rugby Club and the Surrey Chargers are both very lucky to have Tom as their unsung hero!	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Cranleigh RFC	Gareth Stingemore
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Gareth is our club president but his involvement and contribution to the club goes far beyond this role. As well as his role as president he currently wears the hat of men's fixtures secretary, women's team manager, groundsman, clubhouse steward, chef and many many more essential roles across the club. No one person has given more to our club over the past few years and asked for nothing in return. Even going so far as to reach into his own pocket to help the club develop and through difficult financial times. He lives and breaths Cranleigh RFC and I'm amazed he gets anything else done in his life as he is ever present and always working on some element of the club to make it the best it can be. A true unsung hero.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Gareth's impact has been felt at all levels throughout the club. Whether it's assisting on a Sunday with the mini and youth section, coaching and managing the women's team on a Tuesday or jumping in the kitchen after training to ensure everyone gets a hot meal. The amount of work and dedication he puts in to the club on a weekly basis may go unnoticed by some but is appreciated by all. He is loved across the club, all ages, boys and girls, men and women alike. He is one of the primary reasons why our women's section continues to go from strength to strength and why our clubhouse continues to modernise and improve for the benefit of all our members.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Effingham & Leatherhead RFC	Steve Smith
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Despite Steve's advancing years and declining health, he has been an absolute godsend at our club for the last 12 months (and the previous 30+ years!) while we have had extreme difficulty finding staff to work in our kitchen Steve has stepped up, won't accept payment and despite his larger than life demeanour is well loved by all at our club. As well as working in the kitchen, he can be found on the roof fixing leaks, in changing rooms repairing the showers... He's everywhere.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Steve's impact is felt through all aspects of our club... From providing free hot dogs for the U6 to U11s, match teas for the Juniors and Seniors (including classics such as Shephards Bollognaise and Chicken Tikka Lasagna) usually at late notice when the fixtures secs have ballsed it up... to keeping the facilities at the club sort-of working, and never a complaint. Most people don't know what Steve does, but as Chairman I couldn't imagine running the club without him.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	

Steve has been at our club longer than any of us know. He's now in his seventies and has failing health. He still works full time as a woodwork teacher in a community college and as a part-time odd-job man, but his passion for ELRFC is unwavering.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Egham Hollowegians RFC	Matthew Griffin
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
I am honored to nominate Matthew Griffin for the Volunteer of the Year award. For over 20 years, he has been the heart and soul of the Egham Hollowegians Rugby Club, dedicating countless hours of his time and energy to ensure that the club runs smoothly and efficiently. Matthew has performed a variety of duties during his time as Chairman, from running the bar to organizing social events and even marking the lines on the field. His passion for the sport and unwavering dedication to the club have been instrumental in its success. In addition to his work with the club, Matthew founded the Egham Sevens tournament, a highly-anticipated event in the local rugby community. He has also organized rugby tours to various countries, including New Zealand, Canada, Bulgaria, and Belgium, giving members of the club the opportunity to travel and compete on an international level. Matthew's commitment to charitable causes is also impressive. He has helped raise over £5,000 for various charities, including the My Name's5 Doddie foundation, which supports research into motor neuron disease. Overall, Matthew Griffin's tireless efforts and unwavering commitment to the Egham Hollowegians Rugby Club and the wider community make him an outstanding candidate for this award. His positive and upbeat personality has been a driving force behind the club's success, and he is truly deserving of recognition for his hard work and dedication.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Matthew's dedication, commitment, and passion for rugby have had a tremendous positive impact on the club and its members over the years. Matthew has played a key role in facilitating playing opportunities for hundreds of members of the club. As a coach and mentor, he has worked tirelessly to develop the skills and abilities of the players, ensuring they reach their full potential on and off the pitch. Matthew has also championed the development of coaches within the club, sharing his knowledge and experience with others to help them grow and succeed. Matthew has also played a crucial role in developing player pathways for students of Royal Holloway. He has helped these young players transition from university to senior rugby, ensuring that they have the support and guidance they need to succeed at the highest level. Matthew's commitment to the club extends beyond the playing field. He has organised countless luncheons for former players and supporters of the club, bringing together generations of rugby enthusiasts to celebrate the sport they love. Matthew is always the first to get a round in at social events, making everyone feel welcome and included.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Matthew Griffin is an exceptional volunteer who has made an enormous contribution to the Egham Hollowegians Rugby Club and its members. His hard work, dedication, and passion for rugby have inspired and motivated countless players and coaches over the years, and his commitment to the club's values and traditions is a true testament to his character. I cannot think of anyone more deserving of a Volunteer Award, and I wholeheartedly endorse Matthew's nomination.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Esher RFC	Katrina Ham
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Katrina is leading on the YMO project for the club and Surrey and supporting 14-17 year old era through their course and mentoring them throughout the season She is also supporting female referees to transition from junior to senior matches.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
More referees. Games getting covered. Better quality refs	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Esher RFC	Sarah Hall
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	

<p>Sarah has excelled in her fundraising not only for the u12 rugby tour where she raised over £5000 from October 22 to the present date but has aided other ages groups such as the u11s and u10s. She is also heavily involved in planning future events at the club. She has helped to secure two new sponsors for other age groups as well.</p> <p>She organised one of the largest and most well attended Christmas lunch for the junior rugby section at Esher.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>The club committee and general manager have asked her to get more involved with the planning of future club events.</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Esher RFC	Paul Osment
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b></p>	
<p>As head of Junior rugby Paul has done an excellent job at managing all junior team requirements, plus coaching his U13's. He provides a balanced approach to giving all teams, players and parents equal opportunity to ensure no one is left out.</p> <p>Paul commits a considerable amount of his personal time towards organizing, recruiting and raising the quality of junior rugby at Esher. Simply put junior rugby at Esher functions very well because of his efforts.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>Esher rugby proudly supports all boys and now girls community rugby. Paul has been at the heart of establishing a girls rugby team with coaches and supporting functions.</p> <p>He is always constructive and pro active to support new joiners who financially struggle to fund club &amp; rugby kit costs. Whatever the circumstances he makes it work.</p> <p>Paul started with the U6's and has tirelessly contributed to the club as a coach and now head of Junior rugby. He is level 3 qualified and always strives to improve his knowledge and coaching skills. He brings professional acumen to the decision making. Balancing the needs of parents, players, coaches in-line with club values is never easy. Junior rugby at Esher would not be where it is without his efforts.</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Esher RFC	Tyrone Lawless
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b></p>	
<p>Tyrone lawless is simply Mr Esher off the pitch and could have been put forward for all 3 categories. He is selfless and dedicated in ensuring the club is running effectively and efficiently. He is responsible for all clubs. Risk assessments, policies and training. The club is also a vibrant hospitality business and Tyrone leads as a volunteer on HR, safeguarding, fire safety, H&amp;S and legal compliance. Tyrone also supports the rugby side with mentoring and guidance of coaches, referees and players of regulation and training.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>Anything else you would like to add</b></p>	
<p>Tyrone is a selfless and dedicated individual that drives grassroots rugby on and off the pitch. He also manages the clubs fireworks display, music festivals and rugby festivals that bring in over 6,000 people into the club and also delivers 100k of revenue into Esher RFC.</p> <p>Ensuring the club is fully legal and complaint and all policies and procedures are in place and visible/ accessible for all club members and visitors.</p> <p>He meets with the local authority licensing, trading standards, Fire police and environmental health teams as part of the clubs Safety Advisory group requirements.</p> <p>Tyrone also helps the community group with their school college and community activity ensuring the rugby is delivered to all levels and ages.</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Farnham RUFC	Gary Stennett
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b></p>	
<p>Gary is our DOR. He played for Farnham for many years &amp; now rather than wearing the blazer and watching his son, he coaches, deals with any issues that arise, every Thursday he gets the kit ready for all teams &amp; when that's done he cleans the balls! On a Saturday he coaches the Forwards for the 1's and can be seen watching the Mini's, Juniors &amp; Women on a Sunday! And because he doesn't do enough he also coaches Surrey Men's U20's. True Rugby Gent.</p>	



<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
With out Gary there would be no coach development and therefore players at all levels would be impacted	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Farnham RUFC	Magnus McEwan-King, Mark Scoular, Sam Foskett
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
<p>Post pandemic it was clear the game needed more Referees and, led by Magnus McEwen-King, Mark Scoular and Sam Foskett, Farnham RUFC have created a Young Match Official Programme to inspire 10 teenage girls and 6 teenage boys to fill the void.</p> <p>Timeline</p> <p>April - recently qualified Referee Magnus approached Junior Boys Chair Sam re setting up a YMO programme.</p> <p>May - Expression of interest in the programme, had 40+ positive responses across Farnham's U15-U18 Girls &amp; Boys Teams.</p> <p>Sept - 25 Farnham teenagers attended an England Rugby Introduction to Refereeing Course.</p> <p>Oct - 16 Farnham teenagers attended part 1 of the ERRA course in October half term. 8 adult referees were trained as volunteer Mentors. Sponsorship was found to pay for Referee match shirts and 2 way Referee communication systems.</p> <p>Nov - 16 teenagers began refereeing U11-U14 Club &amp; School matches, with Mentors in attendance.</p> <p>Dec - all 16 teenage YMO's are ahead of target to referee at least 4 games before completing part 2 of the ERRA course in May 2023.</p> <p>Dec 2022 - Mark provided a CPD session to feedback to all the YMO's on their learnings across the early games.</p> <p>All this has been achieved alongside Magnus, Mark &amp; Sam fulfilling other volunteer coaching, refereeing &amp; committee roles.</p> <p>To say the Farnham YMO Programme has been a success would be an understatement, which without the vision, dedication, diplomacy &amp; enthusiasm of Magnus, Mark &amp; Sam would never have happened.</p>	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
<p>The impact on the club and members has been huge with all our U11-U14 coaching teams, players &amp; parents fully supporting the programme and helping our YMO's flourish. As the programme grows and develops, the river of young people refereeing rugby at Farnham should become a flood.</p> <p>Quote from Tracy Parry, Farnham RUFC Junior Girls Chair "The YMO programme has given the junior section at Farnham a fabulous opportunity for the girls and boys involved to develop their understanding of the game at the same time as providing a valuable resource to the club and the individuals involved. The sponsorship has meant the programme has had great visibility and all the YMO have felt their contributions have been both valued and supported. Having seen the way other clubs have introduced YMO's the dedication, support and enthusiasm shown by the leaders have ensured its incredible success."</p> <p>Opposition teams are also big fans of the programme, World Cup winning coach Gary Street recently visited and commented "fantastic day at Farnham today with some brilliant work from female U16 players who are part of their YMO group. Tremendous refereeing and understanding of the game and a good day for all the players involved."</p>	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
I cannot stress that the three guys are true hero's, Sam Foskett is currently the Boys Junior Chair of Rugby and Head Coach of the Under 16 Girls, Mark Scoular referees on average 5 matches a week helps coach multiple teams whilst Magnus also coaches and referees. All this is in addition to finding the time to set up and push the YMO programme true Hero's at Farnham RUFC.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Guildford RFC	Duncan Heyes
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
<p>Duncan has given of his time unreserved for 20 yrs. Has steered the club as a board member, coach, referee, barman, chef and all around leader thru covid and financial crisis. The club wouldn't be in a safe and financially secure place without him.</p> <p>The club is a better place because of Duncan</p>	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	



Duncan has given of his time unreserved for 20 yrs. Has steered the club as a board member, coach, referee, barman, chef and all around leader thru covid and financial crisis. The club wouldn't be in a safe and financially secure place without him. The club is a better place because of Duncan	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Guildford RFC	Robert Newnes-Smith, Jeremy Reed
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
These two volunteers have gone above and beyond their coaching roles to contribute positively as unsung heroes for Guildford Rugby Football club. They have always put the children first by proactively encouraging and engaging with all of the children within the U12 age group – which they have followed up from the U7 age group through to now. Rob Newness-Smith has been a past chairman for the Minis taking on the job for a number of years when no one else would step up. Both he and Jeremy Reed devote their own personal time for refereeing other age groups as well. They have quietly gone about the business of administration and organising fixtures, coaching schedules which are very clearly explained and following up with additional volunteers re DBS checks, RFU trainings and first aid training. As well as reaching out to other external clubs to organise dual training sessions and visitations.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
The impact on the 40 odd children in the GRFC U12's is has been very positive in the sense that we have not lost any players to other clubs and have, in fact, gained players over the years. A tangible impact is the fact that the two teams that the GRFC have entered into the Waterfall Cup U12 age group remain undefeated thus far. I suppose the impact for the club is that it is recognised as a very welcoming club for new players and new members.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Guildford RFC	Rob Newnes-Smith
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Rob brings a lifetime of rugby experience at almost every level with unparalleled knowledge to formulate squad training plans for weeks in advance. Rob has great vision, passion and positivity providing each member of the U12 GRFC squad one-to-one sessions twice a season. Rob's calm and reassuring approach is demonstrated each week and his refereeing I value as practical tuition to develop myself and the other coaches all agree. Rob is a valuable asset to Guildford RFC and admired by all.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
I have known Rob for only a short time; his pedigree at Guildford is long-established having coached through the Minis, was Head of the Minis, is now coaching at Youth level, has developed the women's game and inspired so many, from children to adults, players, coaches and parents. Always smiling, Rob is keenly attentive and affords anyone time, should he be approached for a chat.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Rob is on another level; he keeps training fun whilst focused and is humble. Without question, he has improved my sons' game, my coaching and refereeing and has inspired so many others. Please consider Rob; he deserves, but does not seek, recognition. Rob is an unsung hero.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Guildfordians RFC	Carl Beddoe
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Carl is key to our development of Walking Rugby - both on the field & socially. He is one of our key players but, behind the scenes, is also a committee member, organised our first tour (enjoyed by all), organises our socials (Xmas party, BBQ, quiz nights), is part of the team that organised our festival & other playing events & can always be found in the kitchen providing great grub. He operates "under the radar" but we wouldn't be here without him.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Our entire Walking Rugby squad benefits from Carl's quiet contributions	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Guildfordians RFC	Simon Davies

<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
<p>What can be said about Simon. He has been a member of Guildfordians from prior to 2007 and not only is head coach of the current U15, but previously he took another age group through and got through to the National Vase Final. But probably more important he has been club secretary from the club for more than a decade going through numerous chairman, and ensuring the stability of club and its regime continues. His many roles alongside that ensuring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pitches are booked</li> <li>• AGM runs smoothly</li> <li>• Organising Coaches meetings</li> <li>• Liaising between Surrey and the club</li> <li>• Keeping on top of all CRB for coaches and making sure the Coaches are aware of courses</li> </ul> <p>This list is not total, and everywhere you look within the club you will see Simons help, without noticing what he has done</p>	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
<p>Simon has helped all if you thing the club has 400 members and that the role he has done means he will have helped thousands and within coaching by doing two age groups through (current one to U15) from U6 again these will be more than 100 players</p>	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
<p>length of time being in the role of club secetary of over 15 years</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
KCS Old Boys RFC	Paddy Ralston
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
<p>Paddy is just phenomenal on the grass routes game. He's everything and beyond what a club needs. You will see him, cooking and serving the players food, serving behind the bar. Marking out pitches and cleaning the changing rooms. He also does all The compliance work behind the scenes as chairman and recruiting players and seeking fixtures as DOR. Paddy also creates all fixtures as a volunteer for all surrey RFU and reserve team leagues.</p>	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
<p>Ensuring fixtures get played. Recruitment of players. Retention of players. Strong safeguarding and wellbeing practices throughout the club.</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Kingston RFC	Pete Codd
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
<p>Pete for over 40 years not only played for Kingston but has run the club through the club being burnt down and organising the rebuild</p>	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
<p>He has built a club for the community from the old school image of a male bastion rugby</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
London Irish Amateur RFC	Dee Wood, Alan Duggan, Liam Caplis, Neil Sapsed
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	

<p>Mini Rugby was founded at London Irish in 1979 and in April 1982, London Irish held its 1st Mini festival. The festival continued every year with the exception of 2020 and 2021 owing to the pandemic. On 23rd April 2023 London Irish Amateur RFC will host its 40th International Mini festival and Under 12s tournament. The festival comprises 30 clubs of 170 teams aged 7 to 11 and 10 clubs of 30 teams at Under 12. The total numbers of participating players amount to 1800. Participating clubs are from England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, France, Germany, Holland and Jersey. The Mini festival committee headed by Dee Wood has been preparing for the tournament for the past year and secured additional club volunteers to Liaise with RFU and Constituent body. Arrange pitches and control tents to organise and supervise games, mindful of safeguarding, health &amp; safety. Arrange parking on &amp; off site for approximately 800 cars &amp; 20 coaches. Arrange coaches to ferry players, siblings, &amp; parents from off site parking to London Irish playing fields. Liaise with Surrey Police Surrey Ambulance service &amp; arrange physio cover. Arrange 1800 medals for players. Arrange vendors to supply refreshments to participants and on-site catering for VIP guests and overseas clubs.. Arrange portable toilets and post-tournament rubbish collection. Prepare tournament programme of events and obtain advertising &amp; sponsorship. Manage &amp; administer finance and communicate with visiting clubs. Set up link on Amateur club website with tournament information for visiting clubs &amp; FAQs.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>The London Irish Mini festival is probably the largest mini festival tournament in the UK organised entirely by unpaid club volunteers. Not only does it have a huge positive impact on the club and enhance the club's reputation but year after year additional clubs apply to be considered for participation. One particular club from Ireland has been attending the festival every year for 35 years. ( with the exception of the Pandemic consequences in 2020 and 2021)</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b></p>	
<p>The London Irish mini festival is the highlight of the Amateur club season and wholly supported by youth teams, senior adult men and women's teams and club membership. The four nominees play an important role in pulling together and leading a sub-group of about additional 20 volunteers to ensure the tournament runs efficiently. They imbue others with their enthusiasm and commitment.</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Merton RFC	Andrew Thumwood, Michael Thumwood, Ian Lambert
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b></p>	
<p>All three proposed have kept Merton going over the past year, when we have experienced great difficulties in keeping the club afloat. Both Michael and Ian have pitched in and undertaken various duties, including making sure that we get players out onto the park and have a fit for purpose clubhouse for members and guests to enjoy. Andrew has held the financial reins for some years, a task that has become increasingly harder to sustain with the drop in playing numbers, as well as other obstacles.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>Each of the three volunteers proposed has supported the entire club membership and given up many hours to keep Merton up and running.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b></p>	
<p>It was Andrew that took the lead over a very difficult 5 year period when Merton council closed our clubhouse. Through painful negotiation he finally got the go ahead to begin works to refurbish the property and get the clubhouse back up and running. Ian was the main contact with the building contractors and undertook numerous duties himself to ensure that the clubhouse was how a rugby clubhouse should look. Michael has increased his club workload over the last year to include taking over bar management when the regular person was taken ill, and also putting in the hard yards each week to get a team out.</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Merton RFC	Jack Canniff
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b></p>	
<p>Jack goes way beyond his duties as a volunteer at Merton RFC. He single handedly runs the club and drives all aspects of the game on and off the pitch to deliver rugby at Merton. You will see him acting as manager, fixture secretary, referee secretary, CB communications, Driving the recruitment, Improving the facilities, Raising money, Managing discipline and safeguarding</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	

Jack has impacted the whole club in a positive way by defining the rugby club forward and providing rugby for the club and community.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Metropolitan Police RFC	Chris Padman
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b> Chris took on the role of ahead coach for the Met Police Women in 2021 and has continued to drive the development of the Women's section. He continues to run training sessions and 1-1 sessions for the Women even when only 4 players turn up. He encourages and supports the players to be better players and improve their game.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b> For me personally, he has been a rock for me when I was struggling with my mental health and was always there to support me and lighten my load. He has kept me involved in rugby including playing and has given me hope that things will get better.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Metropolitan Police RFC	Gavin Bolton
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b> Gavin has been so supportive from the very beginning of the Met Police Women's recent history in 2020 when I wanted to build a women's squad. Over the last season, Gavin has been so supportive of what have tried to build. He has stepped in as a referee when we couldn't get a referee for our fixtures, managed all the communication with our grounds team to ensure we have the facilities we need. He has continued to support me to grow our squad. He has done all of this whilst being a Chief Inspector and now Superintendent of the Met Police.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b> When I was at my worst with my mental health and had no hope, he would phone me daily to check in with me and offer me whatever I needed. Him maintaining that contact help me to feel that I wasn't alone. He is one of the reasons I am still here today.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Metropolitan Police RFC	Cormac Healy
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b> Cormac as Club Captain has continued to embrace the Women's section and will often come down and support the women in their fixtures and encourage the men's section to do the same. He has led the touch rugby sessions on a Monday night when his job allows and ensures that all players enjoy the session and get a good work out. He has assisted with the recruitment of new players and arranging for players from the Mens section to assist at recruitment drives. Again doing all of this whilst being a serving police officer.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b> He has made the club feel a special place to be a part of and place that members want to be a part of. He has helped the club feeling like family.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Mitcham & Carshalton RUFC	Conor Kane
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b> Our club has been falling to bits with players leaving, DOR leaving, head coach, physio you name it. We was very close to not having a team or facilities to keep us going but Conor stepped up from a player & became DOR not just for the men's team but for women's too! He organise games, pitches, facilities around the club, tidying and cleaning, working behind the bar even on a Sunday you'll catch him doing something, the hero we needed seen and unseen!	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b> This has had a massive impact, without this man we wouldn't have a coach, facilities or even food after a game, this man litterally keeps the club showers hot all from the greatness of his heart!	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b> This man deserves the unsung hero award! He has gone through some tremendous losses this year even losing his Mum and he still came to keep the club ticking over and running smoothly!	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>

Mitcham & Carshalton RUFC	Conor Kane
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
This man has gone above and beyond to make sure the team has been able to meet the teams needs. Before and after the game. Also to make sure all the training sessions are good even with the little amount of people that show up.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Massive impact	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Mitcham & Carshalton RUFC	Conor Kane
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
He's cool init	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Steped up to Mens and woman's DOR when the club was in a tough time and has taken us from strength to strength since. He has also made training a lot more enjoyable as well as helpful creating improvements with all ability of players.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Club hasn't had a win all season could really do with at least one of us getting something.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Mitcham & Carshalton RUFC	Conor Kane, Keir Waller, Keith Parker, Jay Saffer, Melissa McAra
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
We are a very small community Rugby club. Without the help of our unsung heroes my job as chairman would be impossible	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Emanuel RFC	Tom Little, Clive Bryden, Dave Cormack, Michael D'Urso
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Tom is our Minis & Youth Fixtures secretary. He coordinates fixtures & pitch allocations for the 15 age grade teams run by OE. Plus coordinating mid week training pitch allocations, frequently including senior playing terams. Dave, Russell, Michael & Clive have been instrumental in keeping our Colts section not only going, but thriving during Covid and into the current season, including during the summer move to a new ground.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Tom has helped facilitate the move for all our teams, from one ground to another. Even when we had no pitches marked out, he ensured that coaches, players & parents knew exactly where they were playing. He ensures that all our age grades have the appropriate pitch space, timings, changing rooms they need each week - no mean feet for 15 teams. He deals with multiple changes to fixture location, KO times & weather changes. He is known and loved across the club for his calm way of resolving fixture conflicts. "Tom is truly dedicated to keeping kids playing rugby. He goes above and beyond in finding solutions & helping age groups to play each week. The number of messages & emails he gets each week is astronomical!"	
Dave, Russell, Michael & Clive dedication over the past 8+ years to their age groups is outstanding. Their dedication to their players has resulted in 4 players play their fist game for our Senior Mens side already, with more confidently preparing to make the step up. Their dedication to coaching, Team management & player welfare has enabled us to consistently offer 2 x weekly training sessions, which are always well attended plus put our a Colts side for all scheduled fixtures. "Our coaches just want us to play our best rugby with a smile on our face. They love it when we manage to put a training move into a game, they are always proud of us & have come to watch us play senior rugby, even though they don't have to."	



<b>Unsung Hero</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Tom, Dave, Russell, Michael & Clive have all been dedicated volunteers for OE for over 8 years.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Emanuel RFC	Simon Parley
<b>Unsung Hero</b>	
<b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Simon (along with 3 others) has helped to locate, bid for & secure a new ground for OERFC. He has spearheaded the redevelopment of the clubhouse with an intense drive to make the environment welcoming, inclusive and sustainable both financially & ecologically.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Through the efforts of Simon we have moved 200+ minis youth players, run summer training, started the season, opened the clubhouse, hosted matches for both youth & seniors & got wifi/tv/ AV installed in time for us to screen the 6 Nations! He has got stuck in at every level, from scrubbing pigeon poop off the floor, installing rugby posts, to creating job descriptions, liaising with brewery's, naming beers, creating content for our social media channels, coaching both his son & stepping up for his daughter in the girls section! Every club member has been positively impacted by at least one of Simon's projects so far .. with yet more to be delivered over the coming months.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Emanuel RFC	Justin Latta, Mel Reilly, Matthew Hearsum
<b>Unsung Hero</b>	
<b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
It is absolutely no over exaggeration that these three individuals saved Old Emanuel Rugby Club from extinction. After years of deliberations, the rugby club had to vacate Emanuel School's Blagdens site after 95 years of tenure in March 2022. Between 2019 and 2022, the three of them visited over 30 local sites (ranging from green field to joint school participation schemes). They arranged Site Surveys, architectural designs and council discussions on multiple sites; all coming to no avail. When a new site at Raynes Park became available through Merton Council, they proactively worked with the Council and after help through the local MP, negotiated terms for a joint working relationship with the Wimbledon Club for both sports organisations' use of the facilities. They ran the bid process, and were instrumental in the Council presentations which ultimately led to successfully being offered a long term lease for the grounds (which had been partially derelict for 8 years). However, this was just the start. In 6 months, they have exclusively organised the renovation of the clubhouse, installed a new bar and social area, brought in new sub letters to support the 300% increase in rent, negotiated all new supplier relationships, converted the rugby club in to a sports charity and set up a new trading company. Mel also reorganised playing operations by bringing in a new pathway from our Colts to senior players as well as establishing a new U21s team for our university returnees.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Quite simply, the club would have folded if they didn't take the initiative to own the bidding process and the legal discussions. Of the 1,000 members we have, the younger kids would have joined other clubs and the older ex players would have drifted out of rugby given the bond that brought them together would have then been broken. As well as juggling days jobs, they were juggling 4 major projects (lease, renovation, charity conversion and new supplier/licensing and revenue generation) that most rugby club would entertain just one with in a season. All of this was while keeping a rugby club going that had no bar and facilities in flux. Throughout COVID, Mel kept things running, organising COVID compliant procedures and Return to Play so training could resume, organising the re-establishment of the kit shop and stock ordering, whilst still carrying out her 'normal' job at the club – safeguarding and liaison with the newly-formed women's team. Justin was able to raise funds from various sources to buy portable lights to allow evening training as well as sourcing new furniture to kit out the bar and social area. Matt has singlehandedly negotiated the new license, arranged the new club license for the bar and various suppliers. This is a once in a generation upheaval, these three individual took control and succeeded.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
They have decided to make the club a) a truly local community asset and b) a hub for small/ distressed rugby clubs. They have engaged the local Raynes Park community with an open day showing them the renovated facilities and offering local resident membership and use of the clubhouse. Also, they have worked with Law Society over using the facilities also and have also offered use of the premises to 2 other rugby clubs struggling to find a home.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Georgians RFC	Alex Willis



<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Alex has given many hours of dedicated volunteering to the club in his role of chair and fixture secretary. He helped overcome the difficulties of the season and the voluntary relegation due to a huge drop in playing numbers.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Recruitment of players, Retention of players, Delivering a quality playing experience, Helping with social media engagement.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Haileyburians RFC	Jerry Hyne
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Goes above and beyond in making funds available for the extra activities that make our club such an attractive place to play rugby. Always welcoming with new players, and accommodating when subs needs to be staggered for those new to London.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
This has certainly supported us as the rest of the committee who commit considerable time into the running of the club.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Haileyburians RFC	Ben Lawrence, Lawrence Ben De fig
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
They have worked together to drive the club forward through galvanizing the teams and driving recruitment of players. They also actively seek fixtures and volunteer on match days to help prepare the club facilities.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Recruitment of players. More matches being played. Improving club facilities	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Reigatian RFC	Kate Birinder-Ross
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Kate is the go to person for any queries. She is always there to help or point us in any direction we need. She goes above and beyond the role that she currently has at the club.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Everyone knows where they stand with Kate. She gets all information out to us managers and general members in all forms necessary so that no one misses out. It has helped us become more organised and have the members involved.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Wimbledonians RFC	Ashley Lipke
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Ashley is the clubs CRC and spends hours ensuring the referee members of the clubs are confident and competent in their roles. He ensures all matches are covered and also referees and coaches himself across the junior section. Ashley set up the under 22 side last year which allowed former players to have a playing offer whist away at university and play with their cohort.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Ensuring referee numbers have increased. Ensured referee skill level and confidence has improved. Better coaching. More games being played	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Wimbledonians RFC	Emily Turner
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	

<p>Emily has re-written the constitution of the Old Wimbledonians Warriors Rugby club. This has involved over 18 mths of work collaborating with all the people holding different roles at the club. Following consultation with all the interested parties she has managed to publish a structure acceptable to all. The new structure with detailed job titles and an elected executive is vitally important in moving this club forward from its infancy 16 years ago. Emily has shown patience, determination and drive in delivering this very difficult piece of work. The club now has structure and a formal governance framework which will protect all its members in the future, as well as allowing the club to grow in an efficient manner going forward.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>The club has many challenges regarding its facilities and the streamlining of the executive will allow decisions to be made more efficiently in the future. The sub committee has been enlarged to encompass more roles across its volunteer members to allow the workload to be spread around among more volunteers. The structure has also allowed new positions to be generated which were not there before. This means the responsibility of the running of the club will be clearer and allow specific areas at the club to be targeted and improved. The financial structure has been cemented and it is hoped that this will enable the club to grow positively in the future to benefit its members.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b></p>	
<p>This has been a huge project moving the club from a volunteer group to a club with a strong governance structure as well as an elected executive. This is vital in moving the club forward for years to come.</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Wimbledonians RFC	Nuala Dorans
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>Following a very tricky pandemic period, Nuala has performed miracles behind the scenes at Old Wimbledonians Warriors. She has been a constant support to all the club members and has been instrumental in ensuring that the club and clubhouse remained open over 2022 to serve its members. Nuala is the lifeblood of the club and is instrumental in orchestrating the many events that were held there in 2022 such as the new joiners events and the Christmas fayre. A constant every Sunday, she meets and greets people and makes sure that questions or requests are dealt with appropriately. Nuala has dealt with our Bursary applications very discreetly and ensures that all tricky conversations are carried out with humility.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>Nualas candor and commitment at the club have ensured that we are able to encourage inclusivity and ensure that the door is open to all. She upholds the values of the rugby family and is a shining light of the club whatever our members need. She always finds appropriate and correct solutions to any questions that come across her path. Always dependable and present Nuala helps with every aspect of running the club.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b></p>	
<p>Club Stalwart.</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Raynes Park RFC	Russel Price
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>Russ has worked fantastically hard all year in growing Raynes park back up to the numbers that were there pre covid. Last season we had to drop out of the leagues due to a significant decrease in playing numbers but Russ has driven recruitment. Helped retention and grown rugby. He does all the league admin and compliance needed to run the club. Without Russ RP wouldn't exist.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>Huge impact in player numbers and the ability to play at a fixed ground again. Plus ensuring we are compliant.</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Reeds Weybridge RFC	Pete Rowe
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	

<p>Pete is our 2nd XV manager and head facilitator on Tuesday and Thursday training nights. Over the last 6 years our 1st XV has enjoyed great success with the majority of the club support following. Pete week in week out is prepared to arrive early during the week and set up everything for the coaches to arrive and coach and then put everything away, washing the kit etc. On Saturdays he manages out successful 2nd XV but mainly away from the feel good atmosphere surrounding our 1st XV. Without Pete's selflessness the club wouldn't be where it is today, the healthy 2nd XV is crucial to our club's success and Pete is the heart of that.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>Our senior squad numbers are around 60 and behind scenes Pete, mainly unseen, touches all of them doing the unfashionable jobs uncomplaining</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Richmond FC	Christopher Mills
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>Chris joined Richmond in 1980 playing in the First XV and moving through to the Heavies whilst enthusiastically embracing and participating in the club's vibrant social life. He became President 5 years ago and retires at the end of this season - although the tenure is usually 3 years the demands of COVID and the subsequent reset of the club required an experienced and steady hand in the role which Chris has more than fulfilled. In addition Chris has acted as the club's auctioneer for over 30 years, a role which suits his natural ebullience and in which he is in his element raising substantial funds for the club in a variety of settings. The dedication needed to undertake the role of club President often goes unnoticed and appreciated and few realise the commitment involved; acting as the club figurehead and needing the highest of diplomatic skills whilst travelling all over the country and delivering speeches home and away – Chris is a superb raconteur and always raises a laugh. Indeed his empathy and humour are his great strengths making him a popular and respected member of the club, engaging with the committee, supporters, players and members at all levels - he can be found at both the Heavies cocktail party and also flipping burgers at the Minis Festival. He is totally committed to Richmond, a great role model and one of the games' Unsung Heroes who deserves recognition for his massive contribution to club rugby.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>See above</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Richmond FC	Steve Adams
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>Steve joined Richmond as a mini parent some 18 years ago and soon took on the role of age group manager leading to Mini Chair and subsequently Youth Chair as his son moved through junior rugby. Once his son had departed for university and being a staunch supporter of the wider club he then took over the club's 500 Club scheme which he has run successfully for the last 7 years, increasing the numbers signing up on an annual basis and raising significant funds towards the ever increasing costs of playing rugby especially junior rugby, the vital grass roots of the game. These funds have never been more necessary following the impact of COVID on the finances of the club and have formed an important element in the rebuilding strategy as we come to terms with the result of the virus. Steve's contribution has been invaluable, particularly over the last year or so – and all done with determination, good humour and a smile. Steve is now handing over the role and it therefore seems a very appropriate moment to nominate him for an Unsung Hero award, the ethos of which he epitomises and has done throughout his long volunteer life at Richmond.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>See above</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Richmond FC	Tim Forrester
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>Tim has been Richmond Rugby Club's Match Reporter for the last 15 years producing match reports which would be the envy of any national paper- and which have indeed been used by said papers on more than one occasion. He first came to Richmond with his father and is in fact able to boast a 100 year continuous family membership of the club. He himself played for Richmond 2nd XV between 1967 and 1969 but it is his commitment as a supporter that must be unique - despite living in the Cotswolds he travels thousands of miles each year and thinks nothing of an 11 hour round trip to record a game - and shows no sign of retiring although he is now in his 70s. He will not take a penny in expenses and is incredibly modest about his contribution and very reluctant to take any praise or thanks – a true Unsung Hero.</p>	

<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
See above	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Streatham-Croydon RFC	Richard Towers
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Working tirelessly every weekend washing all kit and all laundry need, running touch and supporting our ladies section tirelessly at all games even away games to the Isle of Guernsey. Former president but commitment to the club is without question	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Tremendous. Know we are supported, vocally and officially and all players know they always have clean kit to wear on the weekends.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Stalwart of the club	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Streatham-Croydon RFC	Martin Giraud
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Over the last 4 years under Martin's guidance as Ladies Head Coach the team has gone from strength to strength - on track for promotion this season and finishing in the top 3 for the last 3 seasons in a row. His tireless work ethic - including keeping training different and engaging week in, week out, contributes to both the success and development of the ladies and juniors set ups. He is supportive of the junior girls section, and has been help to grow this part of the club over the last 2 years. He is an advocate for the women's game, and the women's section at SCRFC probably would not exist without him. He is also eternally modest about his various personal sporting achievements.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
The ladies are having a storming season. As well as having promotion in their sights (at time of writing they have won all their matches) they are also able to field a full, independent development team - a first for the club. Despite lots of changes to this over recent years rugby in England still over represents white men. As Ladies Coach at SCRFC Martin has created a welcoming atmosphere that has meant many players of colour have joined and stayed at the team. Further, the club is located in a very diverse part of London. Martin actively supports the juniors, and particularly junior girls sections, to grow and introduce the sport to people from backgrounds not normally represented in rugby. The girls section is representative of Thornton Heath in Croydon, and that is partly down to being able to see themselves reflected in coaches and the women's team	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
it would just be great to be able to recognise all the thought, effort, and time that Martin has put into the women's section, especially this year when they have been performing so well.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Surrey Rugby (CB)	Jake Cottrell, Graham Shaw, Hannah Thompson
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Jake, Graham and Hannah have lead both the new Girls U16 ERDPP and the Surrey U18 Girls programme this season. They have been committed and innovative, ensuring that individual player enjoyment and development is at the heart of what they do. They have also supported and mentored the other coaches in the U16 ERDPP.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
I have spoken to parents and players in both programmes and they have been unanimous in their praise of the opportunity the girls have been given, with sessions planned and delivered professionally and despite the numbers involved, the fact that each player feels recognised as an individual	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Surrey Rugby (CB)	Barry Nolan
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Barry is currently the lead coach for the Surrey U18 Boys. He has been a volunteer coach for Surrey Rugby for a number of years. He is passionate about giving young players the opportunity to develop and play to their full potential.	

<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Barry has coached numerous players over a number of years, his current role sees him preparing players for the LSE Divisional programme, ensuring that it is not about winning but giving each player the best opportunity of recognition and selection to play at a higher level.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Sutton & Epsom RFC	John Potts, Colin Caddy
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
John Potts, Chair of Minis and Juniors, is hugely committed to the extensive M&J section. He is inspirational, indefatigable, and leads by example, putting the interests of M&J boys and girls and their parents at the forefront of the Club. He ensures that teamwork, respect, sportsmanship, discipline and above all enjoyment are at the heart of the M&J experience. That requires infrastructure and facilities. Colin Caddy has extensive experience in planning and delivering major building and engineering projects. He is one of, and central to, the House and Grounds volunteer team who have worked tirelessly and skilfully to make the physical environment safe and attractive for all Club members. Colin and his fellow volunteers epitomise the vital behind the scenes commitment week in week out without which a voluntary association simply cannot function or thrive.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
The Club's playing numbers at M&J have surpassed even the pre-Covid levels and lay the foundations for the future. John has delivered safe, enjoyable tournaments at home, and has ensured that, only when safe to do so, several-hundred Mini players and parents have been able to share the fun of a whole-section weekend tour, establishing and maintaining the camaraderie rugby is uniquely placed to develop. Colin's focus has been to help the entire membership benefit from improvements across the Club's infrastructure, ranging from much needed improved physical access pitch-side to help spectators with mobility needs and the enhancement of changing and toilet facilities to help the Club meet its aims for inclusivity to improvements to the catering facilities inside and outside the Clubhouse. His contribution means that inclusiveness can, practically, be hard-wired into the Club's delivery for members and visitors alike.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
John's children play for the Club in the M&J section. Colin's son is a distinguished current First XV player. They embody the values of a community Club by seeking only to provide opportunity and improvements for others.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Warlingham RFC	Mark Stevenson
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
He is always putting absolutely 100% always doing his best to keep himself and those around him motivated as well as constantly learning. A credit to both himself and his team where the club continues to shine and grow with his behind the scenes guidance and drive. He is always there always happy to help and always doing his best with all the effort he has. His humour makes any task or game that much more fun	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
The club is happier all round, bringing the jovial joking nature to a serious game. Always bringing up those around him making sure no one is left out everyone gets their chance and shot. His club is constantly growing under his eye	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Warlingham RFC	Adam Rowe
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	



<p>Adam is the Junior and Mini's Chair of our club, we have one of the biggest junior and mini sections in the whole of the South London and beyond. His level of commitment to young people, parents and coaches is second to none. He always has a positive attitude and is committed to providing a safe, engaging and welcoming space for young people to enjoy their rugby and to grow as young people in our communities. He is the father of four children which are all are or were active members of the club and it is Adam's actions that ensure that both his and other children are engaged through all aspects of what Rugby means. It is without doubt that participation and inclusion is at the heart of his ethos and one that is infectious with all those around him whether they are parents, coaches or players. Adam is heavily involved in ensuring that the next generation of players go through the junior and minis section into senior rugby and had even taken upon himself in addition to his Chair role to start to build girl's rugby within the club. I have had the pleasure of coaching with Adam numerous times and it is without fail that his positive attitude rubs off on the players, the coaches and parents. He is without doubt a very worth contender for this award and he is nominated appropriately.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>Club Chairman, Peter Mattison "well organised, always helping out and has great ambition in developing youth and mini rugby"</p> <p>Head Coach Age Group, Nick Waterton: "Adam is a great coach but goes beyond that with his tireless efforts as minis and junior chair. He has 3 children at the club playing in different age groups and manages to manage this around his volunteer work. He also takes time to coach and promote the girls and ladies section. A real club man who is work tirelessly to make it a better place for all around him whether coaches, players or other volunteers!"</p> <p>Parent, Nick Donovan: "Adam sets the standards for coaches in our Juniors and Minis group. He epitomises rugby values and keeps us all in line, with his constant focus on the safety, enjoyment and positive development of all our young players."</p> <p>Under 12 Coach and Parent: Mike Kennedy: "I've had the pleasure of coaching with Adam. He is excellent at keeping the children engaged, and ensuring sessions have a positive impact on them. He makes sure his sessions are always inclusive for children of all abilities."</p> <p>Coaching Coordinator: Scott Toomey: "Adam is by far the most important part of Warringham RFC. A club that works only due to the dedication of people like Adam. His tireless efforts to include everyone equally is outstanding. It is more of a vocation for him, always ready to speak to everyone with a smile &amp; enthusiasm that is infectious. He is a fundamental part of our club that we would be lost without. We are lucky to have him"</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>Anything else you would like to add</b></p>	
<p>He oversees a club which has the most prominent mini and juniors section within the area. It is a well respected club and regularly receives exceptionally positive remarks and comments from visiting coaches and parents. This is absolutely down to work of Adam over the last few years and it is to his complete credit.</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Weybridge Vandals RFC	Paul Bravery
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b></p>	
<p>A coach of the U12's whos is hugely valued by everyone around him. Paul has been absolutely committed for over 7 years at the club, putting the kid's rugby experience as vandals ahead of his own personal time. He works long hours helping coaches, parents and kids and is always available 'to chat'. Basically, he is a top bloke, a vandal and a mate.</p>	
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b></p>	
<p>He has really taken the u12 game tactics and training to another level. Outstanding contribution to the U12s, dedicated and fantastic communication and engagement with parents. Makes it a really positive experience to be part of Vandals and something to be proud of. Despite supporting Wales and having no idea how rugby works he works tirelessly both behind the scenes in admin, but also on the pitch at every training session helping both U12s and U13s run smoothly. More than 2/3 of kids at dads/lads lunch come from his age groups as indication of his focus and drive...</p>	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Weybridge Vandals RFC	Kirsty Povey
<p><b>Unsung Hero</b>  <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b></p>	

A massively dedicated coach of the U11's. Kirsty is fabulous as lead coach for the U11s. She is hugely organised, motivating & caring towards our boys. We are so grateful for all her time given on and off the pitch.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Kirsty has been an absolutely amazing lead coach to the now U11s since they were micros. She always delivers outstanding training session and has the highest level of professionalism I could imagine. She inspires the children, and is an amazing role model for them. She knows every member of the team and know the perfect thing to say to each and every one of them to inspire them to improve or pick them up when they need a bit of extra support. This year, as well as coaching she has organised the tour for the minis, with pretty limited support from the rest of us! She does all of this with a smile on her face and thorough, thoughtful and personal communication. I can imagine this much has taken a huge amount of time and effort and I can not think that there could be anyone more deserving of the title of 'volunteer of the year' this year.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Weybridge Vandals RFC	Michael o' Connor
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Michael's title is U10s coach. In reality he does a huge amount of work around the club that most people wouldnt know about. Coach, player, Safeguarding officer, committee member. Simply a hard worker that deserves everyones gratitude	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Always sees the bigger picture for the benefit of the club. Brilliant coach, motivator and role model for U10s. Always welcoming to players and parents alike. Great advocate for spirit and ethos of Vandals club. Never stops putting in for the U10s. There, without fail, each Tuesday and Sunday and then backing up for the Owls most Fridays. Heart and soul of the Vandals. Tremendous dedication, inspiration and commitment to under 10s. A rugby nut who is a great role model to all. Very hard working with the under 10's both on a Sunday and Tuesday. Very supportive of the young Valkyries in the under 10s. not to mention all his hard work around wellbeing and safeguarding at the club.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Wimbledon RFC	Sophie Castle, Kate Singleton, Richard Castle
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Sophie has been our safeguarding officer for several years. She has been supported by Kate for much of that time. Both have manged their roles with tact but also with a no nonsense approach which leaves club members feeling supported but under no illusion that our club has anything but the very bests interest of children at heart. Both have indicated some timer ago that, after so many years they would like to step down. Filling their shoes has proved difficult so they've stayed on rather than let us or the children down. Richard is Sophie's husband and not only supports her well in this role but is a past Minis chair we he espoused the need for rigorous safeguarding procures and practices and ensured the culture of pour club reflected this. Although he has stepped down as chair he remains the fixture secretary and gives a lot of his time and attention to making sure the club runs smoothly.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
We have over 650 girls and boys playing at our club, supported by a large number of coaches. The coaches know what is expected of them in terms of their behaviour but equally know if they have any concerns there is someone they can talk to will be diplomatic and considerate to their and the clubs wider needs but will not allow this to leave any children at risk.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
If I was abetter administrator I could tell you the total number of years these three have served, but I have to leave it as significant. Richards impact is both in his offical role and unofficially behind the scenes. Sophie and Kate are visible and approachable volunteers holding down a onerous post and have manged several tricky situations with delicacy and tact but also with children's safety always paramount.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Woking RFC	Rhys Parker
<b>Unsung Hero</b> <b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	

Rhys is the only reason Woking RFC hasn't folded. Since the passing of our dear and late chairman, Richard Grady, it became extremely apparent how much Richard did without anyone realising. Rhys not only stepped up to fill Richard's unfillable boots but he took on more. I cannot overstate how much he does for our club.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
As above	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Woking RFC	Jason Williams
<b>Unsung Hero</b>	
<b>How has this individual or group of volunteers gone above and beyond to contribute positively to the development of the club?</b>	
Jason has been an unsung hero for Woking rugby club over the past 7 years and more. This season he has ensured the club is in a strong place with recruitment of players. Whilst actively seeking fixtures and ensuring the club has strong governance procedures in place.	
<b>Unsung Hero</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club &amp; members?</b>	
Recruitment of players, more matches being played, embracing game on, strong RFU values embedded	

## GAME FOR ALL

<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Bec Old Boys RFC	Stefan Skrzynski
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Stefan is the driving force of Bec Old boys and continues to ensure the club is run effectively. He is chairman, fixture secretary, Referee official and leads on communications internal and external of the club. He has continued to grow the senior rugby section and we have managed to get 3 adult makw teams out each week as well as an occasional beta and women's team.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Club running efficiently and effectively. Players engaged. More players playing more rugby	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Camberley RFC	Jay Wilcox
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Jay started at the club as a dad coach as his daughter is rugby mad - but at the age of 12 unable to play with the boys any longer Jay started the under 16's girls team to stop CRFC loosing our talent pool of young girls to other local clubs who have already established girls rugby at this age. Its been a hard slog - he has worked hard to promote the team to the local community and is slowly increasing his numbers. He is trying things like creating a Barbarians team with other clubs to ensure that the girls get as much game time as possible....he has engaged with coaches, refs and generally everyone he needs to, to make this a success. Its slowly growing momentum and the girls are loving being part of this group.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Its helping to further promote girls rugby within the local community - its encouraging the individuals to become part of this journey. Its helping to increase membership with new girls joining all the time and its helping build inter-club relations through the barbar activity. Jay uses social media to boost the number of people reached and has fliers around and about - and is reaching out to local schools too.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Alongside his activity with the girls team, he is also the mini chair for the entire club, puts all of his time and effort into making the club a better place. He dedicated significant time in his role both as a coach/team manager & mini chair....he's approachable, always fun and helps put a smile on everyones faces	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Jane Cross
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Jane has been part of the small group running Touch Rugby at Chobham for the last decade. The touch rugby initiative has been hugely successful, with a regular turnout of 40+ players, an over-40 Legends touch session once a month and now a Saturday morning walking rugby group.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Our Touch rugby operation runs 50 weeks a year for 14 year olds and above the oldest have reached 80	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
As if this wasn't enough Jane has organised our hugely successful and awesome annual Ladies' lunches for a number of years, raising money for a different charity each time and always ensuring a memorable day for Chobham women and their friends.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Chobham RFC	Nigel Rowland
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Nigel is our Senior Rugby Chairman for our 1s, 2s, 3s and Vets sides. This year it has grown to a full-time volunteer position. He deserves an award for the cheerful and enthusiastic way he copes with every drawback and ensures as much rugby as possible continues to be played.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	

Part of his role is finding new, often last-minute fixtures to replace ones he made in the pre-season that are later cancelled. Nearly every week, sometimes late on, a club withdraws as they cannot field a team so Nigel spends hours finding replacement opponents, as well as chasing up our own players who can be equally flaky about availability.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
He also copes with all the concomitant admin of selection, registration match cards etc. Like others - he takes 'Game On' as a serious pursuit	
<b>Club</b> Cobham Rugby Football Club Limited	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b> Steve Herd
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Steve has brought real energy and dedication into making rugby happen at cobham rfc. He's a dedicated and loyal chairman and member of the club and is the unseen hero behind the scenes. He's pivotal in driving key operations and ensuring the club is operating effectively and efficiently.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Keeping the club legal and compliant. Driving efficiency and effectiveness of off field business. Supporting key rugby members	
<b>Club</b> Esher RFC	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b> John Masters, Pete Burrows, Adrian Doran
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
These volunteers have been instrumental in the growth of walking rugby across Esher rugby and the local community. Delivering rugby and fitness skills for all ages and skill levels. Fantastic for welfare and mental health.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Bringing non contact form of rugby to the local community promoting wellbeing and keeping people involved in the game.	
<b>Club</b> Esher RFC	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b> Nigel Sanderson
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Nigel has done a fantastic job in recruiting Esher Minis players and obsessing the set up of the Esher Cubs. Nigel works with the age group coaches and attended local schools to recruit players and deliver rugby into non traditional rugby playing schools.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Increase in players. Engagement of players and parents. Delivering rugby to players who have not played before	
<b>Club</b> Esher RFC	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b> Graeme Turnbull, Kevin Canavan, Ian Powell, Andy Bellis, John Bye
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
These group of coaches have been very innovative and flexible in their offerings to fully reach out to the non playing rugby schools and colleges and deliver rugby activities on and off site. They have also been fantastic servants to the club through coaching and managing the teams.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Recruitment of players. Detainment of players. Delivering rugby core values. Creating a fun and safe environment for all. Fundraising to provide rugby kit and yours to players.	
<b>Club</b> Guildford RFC	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b> Robert Newnes-Smith, Jeremy Reed
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Leading the way in organising a State Schools festival at the club and then reffing and putting energy into running the day. Has resulted in many state school new joiners joining GRFC u12s.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Has resulted in many state school new joiners joint Guildford u12s	



<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Guildford RFC	Robert Newnes-Smith, Jeremy Reed
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Both Jeremy and Rob have lead with commitment for many years in mini's and now youths, providing a core and trusted support structure for the kids, (boys and girls), the parents and coaches. This has bought fun and discipline but enjoyment of the game to all.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
The age groups have grown in strength for the club as a direct result of their contribution. In their spare time they have also arranged state school tournaments to introduce the game to all and making it more accessible.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
There efforts throughout the year has provided great opportunity for all to take part. both are approachable and have great respect from all parents and those linked to the club.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Guildfordians RFC	Mark Grubb, Susan Russell, Ian Mckie, Tony Weimer
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
All the following have been the mainstay of Guildfordians Walking Rugby and would have been seen at various festivals. But I have not only recommended these 4 because of the work they have put in behind the scenes to help unify the rules with other clubs such as Esher & Kingswood, but also in giving there time to help other clubs to set up and develop walking Rugby. They have also been instrumental in setting up & running the Guildfordian festivals and the Mutts and mongrel festival in welcoming other clubs. So bringing those back into Rugby, enhancing their movemant and mental agility	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
The walking Rugby fraternity is continuing to develop with Guildfordians going from 8 to more than 40 now also by lending their expertise at other clubs	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Also they have taken on roles within Guildfordians RFC. Mark Grubb – as well as Walking Rugby Chairman, heis current coach of the U9, but has previously taken another age group right the way through. These 3 especially as they have no children in the club. Sue Russell - Admin for walking Rugby, and has coached with Micro and is helping with U6. Ian Mckie – very instrumental in the reffing and communication on the walking Rugby, and has been doing work on developing Junior Touch for next season. Tony Weimer – again one of the mainstay and not only coaches Micros, but has taken on the role of Mini Chair at Guidfordians	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Lightwater RFC	Chris Northwood
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Chris is the all singing all dancing chairman at the club that is at the heart of everything we strive to achieve. He arranges fixtures, league admin, player membership, tours and social activity.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Recruitment of players. Social interaction with club members. Games being played	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Amplefordians RFC	Will Shepherd
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Will has been the clubs captain, a fixture secretary and match administrator ensuring all match day activities are completed and the club is compliant. He also ensured team selection is completed alongside player registration and player recruitment.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Ensuring rugby administration is delivered at the club. Ensuring player availability Driving player recruitment	

<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Cranleigh RFC	Simon Lawes
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
He started the OC minis section approx 7 years ago. It's started small and with Ina. Few years we regularly had over a hundred kids each Sunday from 5-15 years old. We now regularly have 400 kids on sudnays with many fathers and older club players volunteering to coach. He has transformed the rugby club into a social hub for the local community. Simon stood down a sheaf of minis last year.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
At present 400 boys and girls every Sunday. And the parents who have been attracted to the social side of the club.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Simon still plays for the vets and a grand age (wouldn't like to guess) and organises rugby tour every years for the club.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Reigatian RFC	Carl Hassan
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
This man needs to be recognised not only the last year but for the last 5/6 years for all the work he has done with the girls section from u12s-u18s. The structure of the girls side of the club is around 150 players and also a u23s team emerging and a partnership built and established with Brunel university and Ealing Trailfinders. The club is in a very strong position with the foundations built but also helps maintain and grow girl's participation in rugby at the club for the coming years. Not only this but Carl has grown the O2 touch section of the club with one of the largest memberships in the country. Every Monday he has developed the games played and established a routine for around 100 players. There has been selection to under 15 and under 18 England squads in the last year for both girls and boys and the group has a good social aspect. Carl is a supporter of referees and you will often see him on the pitch on a Sunday. Finally he has joined the players committee and bringing the clubs processes and policies up to the required standards we expect for 2023.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
As above.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Everyone at Reigatians know of this man, such a positive character with we can attitude and the club is a better place for the work and commitment he brings week by week.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Old Reigatian RFC	David McGuigan, Iain Woodhams, Fhamid Malik, Mike Smith, Jason Perfitt
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	

Old Reigatians Rugby Club Girls section started with 6 girls in 2013, and culminated last year in an incredibly successful season. Our passion is growing rugby for girls, the focus on everyone feeling included, supported and having fun. We follow a non-ability streaming approach to coaching and team selection (other than for National matches). By the end of 2022 we had over 125 players, 23 coaches and the U16s won multiple local tournaments, the Surrey Cup and the National Cup. We have:

- 30+ per age group (Unlike other clubs, numbers increased over covid due to the amazing online training, then rule compliant Touch Rugby offered)
- 12 play for Surrey
- 8 selected for the England Touch rugby squad – 3 winning silver and gold at international level.
- 7 won Brunel University rugby scholarships

We have a continuous recruitment drive, including a new school liaison officer, working with a number of fee and non-fee-paying schools covering girls from various social economic backgrounds. And have even run free coaching programmes at schools interested.

We fund new clothing if necessary and have second hand kit available. Plus provide free starter coaching for all.

We bring big players to the club to inspire the girls eg England's Rosie Galligan

We actively encourage our girls to develop coaching and refereeing skills – where females are massively under-represented.

We support other clubs with lower numbers, offering joint training sessions and match experience.

We focus on well-being with girls feeling comfortable to be themselves eg sexual orientation and background wise.

#### **Game For All**

##### **What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals & what achievements has this contributed to?**

We have one of the most well represented girls sections in the country. Our success has put girls rugby on the map locally with regular features in the paper to inspire and educate others. The girl's teams were initially rather an after-thought club wise, however, last year we firmly featured on the first team pitch.

We have healthy numbers – 125 players from many schools covering a wide area. We are particularly proud of our efforts over Covid, which actually increased numbers. One Covid recruit, Daisy, received our usual 121 coaching attention for new players and amazingly captained our u16's team the next season, won a Surrey team place and is now applying for a rugby educational scholarship. Our obvious successes are winning the Surrey Cup and Nationals Cup at U16 level last year. Of particular significance is the fact every single player on our extensive U16 side got the chance to play in the Surrey round matches. We won the award for Surrey Rugby Age Grade rugby team of the year and are short listed for the Reigate and Banstead Borough Council team of the year. Hearing so many people say last year that they didn't realise girls played such high-quality full-on rugby was fantastic. We are truly educating people about the female game. A number of our girls are now edging towards making rugby their career with Surrey team places and university rugby scholarships. The thought of representing England is firmly within their mindset

#### **Game For All**

##### **Anything else you would like to add**

We have nominated the person that has led girls rugby at the club since 2013 (David) and the current head coaches for the 4 age groups. Many others coaches have been involved.

#### **Club**

Old Rutlishians RFC

#### **Nominated Volunteers**

Mike Stallard, Paul Cecil, James Oakes

#### **Game For All**

##### **Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-represented groups**

This group of volunteers have gone above and beyond in embedding the game on philosophy across the club and live and breathe the values of the game.

They are huge advocates of the importance of transitioning youth players into senior rugby. They embrace what grassroots rugby is all about.

#### **Game For All**

##### **What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals & what achievements has this contributed to?**

Recruitment of players. Retainment of players. Transition of youth players into senior rugby. Embedding RFU values. Embracing Game on

#### **Game For All**

##### **Anything else you would like to add**

They are fully deserving of this award and without volunteers like this the grass roots game simply wouldn't exist. They lead by example and inspire players to continue playing.

#### **Club**

Old Wimbledonians RFC

#### **Nominated Volunteers**

Catherine Edser

<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Launching a girls rugby section at Old Wimbledonians Warriors to promote involvement in rugby of girls from u5 to u18. Warriors have struggled to maintain girls in rugby over the age of 9 and by setting up the new section we hope to promote girls involvement in the game by raising awareness in the local community of the availability of rugby as a participation sport. Catherine organised an afternoon rugby festival at our club to engage local schools. We had over 100 girls attend this event from many local schools who had not played rugby before. Catherine has helped to collaborate with other local clubs to arrange cross club girls training sessions to enable "Barbarian" girls teams to be formed. These teams have competed at local festivals keeping girls from falling out of the sport. On a weekly basis Catherine is involved in promoting the girls game at Warriors.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
The promotion of the girls game has led to a much higher profile of girls participation at Old Wimbledonians Warriors as well as in the local community. As mentioned above we attracted over 100 girls from local schools. We will be running this event again this year to continue to raise the profile of the game. The local Barbarian teams have enabled the girls to enjoy playing the game as a girls team. The smiles on their faces at the local tournaments demonstrated this. At the festival we organised the girls were also given exposure to one professional player/coach which we hope will inspire them.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Catherine is not finished, and she sees the promotion of the girls game at Warriors (And the wider community) as a long term project. She is determined to bolster the numbers of girls involved in rugby at grass root level.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Pacific Islanders Rugby Club	Bruce Tizzard, Solo Bula
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Bruce and solo continue to ensure Pacific Islanders are growing and delivering rugby throughout the season. They run the club between them and do all the recruitment of players, Arranging fixtures, Referees, Fundraising, Entering tournaments, Compliance	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
The club wouldn't run without them	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Purley John Fisher RFC	Chris Doyle
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
Chris has driven the senior side of the club in ensuring the rugby section grows swim strength to strength He is actively involved in fixtures and match confirmation and ensuring administration is compliant.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Resulted in the growth of the second team and more players being available to play rugby. Communicated well with the club and engages the board and players.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Racal Decca RFC	Robert Holmes, Harri Lowther
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	
These two individuals have been instrumental in driving operations at Racal Decca. They have been leading on player recruitment and retainment on current players. Advertising on social media and firming close links with local businesses and universities for players to play. They do all tasks needed to run a rugby club successfully.	
<b>Game For All</b> <b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contri</b>	
Making Rugby Happen. Delivering a positive player experience	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Streatham-Croydon RFC	Verne Sylvester
<b>Game For All</b> <b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-repres</b>	

Working to bridge the gap between school boy and club rugby constantly. Spent the last 12 years trying to get more rugby played in non traditional schools, engaging children of non traditional rugby backgrounds to get involved. Coaching at Colts and Mini's level. Contacting and liaising with the places of worship and hubs in the local community to engage and involve more young people of diverse backgrounds in the club and rugby as a whole. Leading on the Rugby United initiative and linking with schools to get children of all diverse backgrounds involved in rugby esp children of black and asian heritage.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Over the years many youngsters of black, asian and working class white backgrounds getting involved and staying in rugby. responsible for membership so I can see when people of diverse backgrounds join and take the next step through to adult rugby	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Working tirelessly to spread the game in schools and in the community	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Surrey Rugby (CB)	Jools Goringe, Pandy Patel, Fabs Maffi, Ian Sibley, Ben McElliott
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-represented groups</b>	
These three have been instrumental in delivering youth rugby across the county. They have managed the communications with club chairs, age grade managers and coaches. Providing playing opportunities in a competitive and fun way. Arranging finals days. Running the 7s, 10s and cup festivals. They also arrange referees for the tournaments and liaise with the Local Academy.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
More players playing more rugby. Providing Referees. Transition from youth to senior rugby. Providing a competitive playing experience	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Critical roles for delivering rugby activities across the county	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Surrey Rugby (CB)	Marc Bertrand, Richard Brayne -Nicholas, Nick Ter Averst, Les Todd, Paul Tanner
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-represented groups</b>	
These three have been instrumental in delivering senior rugby across the county. They have managed the communications with club chairs, managers, coaches and players. Providing playing opportunities in a competitive and fun way. Arranging finals days. Facilitating Rfu leagues and surrey merit leagues	
Running the 7s, 10s and cup festivals. They also arrange referees for the tournaments and liaise with the Local referee society and ROC.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
More players playing more rugby. Providing Referees. Ensuring RFU values are delivered. Providing a competitive playing experience	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Critical roles for delivering rugby activities across the county	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Surrey Rugby (CB)	Barry Myland, Chris Cloughly, Rod Jermy, John Simmonds, Gary Stennett
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-represented groups</b>	
This group of head coaches have coached the county set up for a number of years and put in many dedicated hours pitch side in driving the CB representative teams.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Delivering the representative pathway programme	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Sutton & Epsom RFC	Nick Harris
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-represented groups</b>	



Nick is a fantastic dedicated coach and leader at the club who spends hours volunteering to ensure the women's game gets continuously driven. He helps with coaching, holiday camps, schools activity, festivals and competitions. He also volunteers as head coach of Surrey Women's team.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Ensuring women's game is at forefront of what the club is trying to achieve.	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Wandsworthians RFC	Richard Pennington
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-represented groups?</b>	
Richard has been a stalwart of wandsworthians ensuring fixtures are arranged and played. He is also pivotal to player recruitment and retainment of current players. Richard is a club and society referee.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Fixture arranging. Recruitment of players. Refereeing of matches	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Weybridge Vandals RFC	Kevin Kearney
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-represented groups?</b>	
Kevin has championed the mini/youth and particularly the female section of Weybridge Vandals for many years. He gives his life to better the experience of all at the club. He passionately loves Vandals and the club is so much better for his dedication.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
Support, mentoring and just being available when someone is needed. Nothing is too much for him.	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
He is a true rugby man, lives the values and lives his club. The strides Vandals have made in recent years are fully attributed to his energy and dedication	
<b>Club</b>	<b>Nominated Volunteers</b>
Weybridge Vandals RFC	Kate Phillimore
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Explain how this volunteer or group of volunteers has engaged individuals from under-represented groups?</b>	
Kate has led the development of a new ladies section within the club. Without her energy and drive to succeed, there would be a whole group of people that would never have played the game	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>What impact has this had on the club and/or individuals &amp; what achievements has this contributed to?</b>	
A rapidly growing number of girls and ladies that are want to be part of the game and who otherwise may never have considered playing. Please see comments made by others from the club in the attachment	
<b>Game For All</b>	
<b>Anything else you would like to add</b>	
Total passion, commitment and devotion.	