



2014 YEARBOOK

THIRD GRADE PREMIERSHIP EDITION

LIFE MEMBERS

BRIAN BAIRD

BRIAN LEO

WAYNE BOARDMAN

BARRY McVICAR

RICHARD BOYLE

SHANE McVICAR

BRUCE CARR

DON MUIR

TONY CHEETHAM

JIM PETTIT

GRAEME COLLINSON-SMITH

LEW POGSON [dec]

PAUL DARBY

CYRIL SAUNDERS [dec]

CRAIG FRANKLIN

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

According to Rugby World Cup winning South African master coach Jake White, "Rugby is a simple game".

Rugby is also a tough game both on & off the field. Anyone who doubts this should pull on a boot, or have a coffee with Rick (400 games) Boyle & Rob Kelly...and end up President.

So how does a rugby novice President live up to the standards set by club legends & life members who have spent much of their lives playing and working for Tech Waratahs?

You can't! All you can do is try your hardest & hope the team around you covers for your lack of knowledge & ability!! (Hmmm. This does sound like rugby). And so it has proved in 2014. I have sat at the head of the table, never quite sure what needs to be done next, or how to do it (and this is not a particularly pleasant feeling for a retired anaesthetist) while the Committee, Coaches, Managers and club helpers have steered us through another tough, yet I believe, ultimately successful year for our club.

Reading previous Year Books & Strategic Plans it seems the problems facing our club are unchanged, How to build and sustain the Juniors, how to get more sponsorship, how to improve the club's facilities when these are controlled by Wollongong TAFE, how to get Colts. But above all, how to get competitive senior teams on the field that can have fun while playing good rugby.

Let me make it very clear – this year's Committee have done an amazing job and worked tirelessly – they've had to cover for me (I'm sure the breakaways know how this feels) – so a big THANK YOU to you all.

So what have we achieved?

- Juniors – Tony Gorgijovski has done an unbelievable job to hold this program together. Finding seniors is a "piece of cake" compared to "the unleavened bread" of finding juniors in Wollongong and keeping them playing. Without Tony's efforts over the last few years, would we even have juniors?
- Sponsorship – we have held our own here thanks largely to the efforts of Barry McVicar.
- Facilities – Major progress - a new & bigger storage shed, a new shipping container, a new Ladies Toilet, new cupboards in the canteen & upgraded lights on the main field. A BIG thank you to Josh Davey, Tony G, Shane McVicar & Daniel Tully, not to mention Rick B & Tony Cheetham – these 2

could have built the pyramids! They are always full of ideas, historical anecdotes & sound counsel.

- Colts – we came close without being able to form a team. Our honesty about our Colts & our preference for 3rd Grade meant that we remained the ‘bad boys’ in the eyes of the IDRU, yet at a special IDRU Planning Meeting for 2015, our position was supported by all the other ‘big’ clubs.

Getting senior teams on the field – our Registrar, Wayne Ireland (aka the Professor, aka the Mailman) is truly amazing. He is by far the best club Registrar in the district and always ready to meet the IDRU’s next administrative demand. He has seen & done it all, from Super coach, to referee, to administrator, and knows every rugby process inside & out – and he is never wrong (well except for the calorie count of XXXX?) The amount of work Wayne does behind the scenes to keep this club running smoothly is incredible and did I mention he knows virtually everything??

The other side of getting teams on the field and keeping the club running smoothly was handled again by Rob Kelly, who NEVER stops working for this club. I’m sure Revlon will have to employ two workers to replace Rob if he ever retires, just incredible.

Ground maintenance by master groundsman, Shane McVicar & his apprentice Barry plus match day setup by Josh Davey & Steve Tresidder has not gone unnoticed.

The ‘lubrication’ & fuel for the club machine has been provided by Tommy Bevan. The club simply could not function without an efficient canteen. Tommy is a hard man but always fast on the computer with replies full of ideas & facts.

No business can run without solid financial management and we are indeed fortunate to have Craig Franklin supervising our money. I love the way he knows which accounts to sit on & which to pay promptly (and still find time to coach 2nd grade & play 1st grade!)

Rick Boyle yet again took on the most difficult & unpleasant of duties – that of collecting player fees, as well as building, planning & managing 1st grade. Thanks Rick, where would the club be without you?

My son James has worked tirelessly as Secretary, documenting meeting agendas & minutes, Ideas man, Merchandise Man, Canterbury liaison officer, touch judge, water runner & general helper, organiser & submission writer.

Finally, thank you to Tara Condon for again organising our ‘Ladies Day’ & Presentation night. & thank you to Evelyn & Tracey for helping run the canteen at home games.

Other achievements this year:

- A Trivia Night that raised \$10,000 to help Mick & Jesse Bruton. Thank you to Kristian Evans & co.

- The Crimmins Cup lost to Kiama but raised money for Breast Cancer/injured Bowral player Joey Johnson/Injured Kiama player. Well done Robert Potts, Luke Mayberry & 3rd grade.
- Sportsman Lunch at Wiseman Park Bowling Club that raised \$3,500 for our club. Thank you Barry McVicar
- 2 new Life Members in Shane McVicar & Craig Franklin. Congratulations gentlemen.

So what did I do? Try to help where I could, attend IDRU meetings & write a few (mostly Engadine related) letters. And watch the rugby.

I will leave discussion of the on-field activities to those who know much more about the player & team performances than I do, e.g. Club legend, 1st grade coach & 2014 IDRU Player of the Year runner-up, Self! (Timmy O), but I congratulate & thank every player who ran onto the field for Tech-Tahs this year.

3rd grade, triumphed once again in a hard fought but ultimately convincing win in the Grand Final.

2nd grade, although they only won their last game of the season and finished with the wooden spoon, from where I sat they were competitive in most games. Although often well beaten on the scoreboard they never gave up & finished many games on top of their opponents.

Likewise 1st grade, were almost always “in it” and a point or two in a few close games could have seen them make the semis.

Losing might be character building but let’s face it – winning is more fun.

Jake White told his squad that if they wanted to win the 2011 World Cup, each player needed to get bigger & stronger. That’s good advice for our club. Let’s all work hard to make Tech Waratahs bigger & stronger in 2015.

Cheers

Graham Letham

JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT'S **REPORT**

2014 was a season of change and improvement in player numbers. As with the past few seasons a lack of junior players in the Wollongong area led to a joint venture for this season with Vikings Rugby Club.

This joint venture was hugely successful for the U12's, who had 22 registered players, equal numbers from both clubs. All the other teams gained some extra players. The U12's would not have been viable without the collaboration of the 2 clubs. Thanks to all those who supported it and made it work, coaches, parents and players.

U7's

The U7's were coached by the biggest kid at Tech Waratahs, Paul Jeremijenko and his team of mums. Paul and his team were first prepared and last to pack up.

The numbers in this team grew throughout the year and with the numbers and confidence so did this team improve.

The U7's improved play led to some of them playing up in the U8's and showing that they will more than hold their own next year and into the future. Another wonderful, fun season had by all.

A Big thank you goes to all the supporters and helpers on training nights and on game day.

U8's

In season 2014 probably our best performed team in terms of results.

This team of some experience and no experience came together under the guidance of the 2 Daniel's, Daniel Tully and Daniel "The Bull" Read.

In watching this team improve every week, great go forward and work in the clean out gave them ample opportunities to let their speedsters fly, several long range tries scored regularly.

It will be with great interest to follow this team as coach Daniel Tully has got the U8's playing a structured game, halfback and five-eighth involved in nearly every play. This structured play is exciting to watch in such a young team, a team to keep an eye on into the future.

U9's

Struggle Street, our unfortunate team only had 5 registered players in this age group. This team was ably supported by the U8's stepping up each week to help out with numbers, a couple of the 8's were permanent members of this team which allowed them to train and develop their teamwork.

This team was coached by members of our joint venture Hugh Sullivan and Dave Clancy, big thanks to these guys under tough circumstances.

For this team to move up to the U10's they will need more players, all help to recruit more players would be greatly appreciated.

U10's

A team that came so close to tasting great success this year, but fell just a couple of players short. The U10's were extremely competitive when all the numbers were on the field but struggled when hit by injury or absence.

The U10's were coached by Cameron McCrea, who has a great passion for the game, in its purest form.

It brings a tear to the eye seeing a forward pack win scrum after scrum when they got the chance to contest. This all came from work and learning technique, which was also evident at the breakdown. The driving maul later in the season was wonderful to watch.

Several of this team trialled for Illawarra selection with one member of the team, Oliver McCrea, being selected and playing representative rugby.

Well done to all involved in the U10's, looking forward to another season of improvement.

U12's

The U12's were the joint venture's success story in terms of numbers. Similarly to the 10's the 12's were extremely competitive with a full squad but struggled when injuries and absences occurred.

At full strength the team played some great rugby and competed well in tight amongst the forwards.

This strong showing resulted in 2 Tech Waratahs being selected in the U13's Illawarra team that will tour New Zealand in 2015, these players Tumoana Poata and Max Cesare are to be congratulated.

The backs showed some wonderful flowing passages of play, more time working on the combinations will see this team be a force.

Well done to the coach, Michael Merrick and his team, too many to mention who all worked so well together. A special mention to forwards coach and manager Evan Poata-Smith, thanks for all your efforts.

It has been a wonderful experience to be in the role of Junior President for the past 3 years, but due to work commitment, I am no longer able to perform the required duties. I will be around and look forward to assisting those who put their hand up to help out. Many hands make light work in a growing organisation.

I look forward to many years of involvement in this great rugby club, and to its continued success.

Yours in Rugby,

Tony Gorgijovski

“GO YOU TECH TAHS”

TREASURER'S REPORT

I wish to start by thanking our major sponsor Wiseman Park Wollongong City Bowling Club. Once again they have offered strong financial support, and providing a fantastic venue for all associated with our club to enjoy.

We would also like to recognise our other sponsors and thank them for their ongoing support this year:

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The Canteen has been managed very well once again by Tom, and is a critical aspect to supporting the club financially and providing a great service to those attending training and game days. A big thank you goes to Tom, Rob, Evelyn, Lucy and all those who gave their time in the canteen this season. The juniors have also been fantastic in their running of the canteen and overall contribution to the finances of club.

A task that proved much bigger than it should have been was the collection of player fees. Congratulations to Rick for his tireless efforts collecting on behalf of the club. Fees have been reduced next season and will be required to be paid prior to taking the field to make this task easier in the season to come.

The club outlaid money this season on improving the facilities. It is clearly evident that a fantastic job has been done on the gear shed, ladies bathroom and new lighting. Special recognition goes to Rick, Cheeto, Josh, Shane, Tony G, Tully, and all those who gave their time and energy to these projects.

Fundraising was down a bit this year and is something that the committee aims to build on in the coming season with the help for everyone. Hopefully, all those in the club understand that we can all play our part in supporting the club in regards to this aspect.

I would like to recognise and thank the following people for doing a superb job organising fundraising events this year:

Kristian Evans - Trivia Night
Barry McVicar - Sports Lunch
Wayne Ireland - Old Boys Day
Tara Condon - Ladies Day & Presentation night
Potsy & Bobbis - Crimmins Cup

On a personal note, I have really enjoyed the year supporting Sean coaching second grade, and wish to thank all the players for their support during the year. Thank you to Zlatko and Wayne for their assistance as Team Manager throughout the season also. I have had an enjoyable year finishing my playing career, with reaching 300 games with Tim and the fellas in first grade.

Finally, I would also like to commend the committee for their efforts this year, and wish to express my absolute gratitude and honour in being recognised as a life member of the club.

Yours Sincerely,

Craig Franklin
Treasurer

RUGBY MANAGERS REPORT

Firstly, I would like to congratulate all our players for your support of our club. Every Saturday, you all turned up and gave it a real red hot go, so thank you.

First Grade:

Tim, I thank you for all your support to all players during your first senior coaching job. The team gave it their best every game and you came so close in games to clubs that finished in the top four. As usual Tim, you never gave up, leading the players superbly. Your enthusiasm is a credit to you and the club. I enjoyed the year working with you and would also like to congratulate you on running second in the IDRU Player of the Year.

Second Grade:

Firstly thanks to Sean and Craig.

A big effort gentleman. Thank you to all the players who played second grade this year, no one ever gave up. Under immense pressure, you came close on a number of occasions, playing an attractive brand of rugby, which was pleasurable to watch. Well done and thank you.

Third Grade:

To coach, Robert [Potsy] Potts, well, where do we start. First game against Avondale I'm thinking "Do we have Grand Final hangover?" But no, this brilliant team just clicked into gear, playing attractive fast open rugby. It is a credit to you, Potsy, how you turned this team out every Saturday and to achieve the wonderful result of back to back premierships. Would three in a row be on the cards?

Thank you to all the third grade players. I won't single out any player, as you were all a pleasure to watch every Saturday.

To Luke Mayberry, thank you mate for enthusiasm towards this team and your total support of Tech Waratahs Rugby Club. I really enjoyed working with you.

To all the team managers, thank you, without you it does not happen.

To the 2014 committee, thank you. I enjoyed the many challenges throughout the year:

To Wayneo, thank you for your organising skills with Old Boys day.

To Shane McVicar, thank you mate for all your work in preparing the grounds.

To Evelyn, thank you for all your support with the most demanding of positions. To Lucy, a huge thanks.

I would just like to finish off by saying a very BIG thank you to Tony Cheetham and Rick Boyle, for all their hard work and the hours they put in with building the ladies

toilet. A lack of ladies facilities has been a huge issue for the rugby club and the two wise men took on the challenge. To the following, I offer my sincere thanks for your contribution in the construction process:

- Alex Matulik
- Michael Merrick
- Byrn Edwards

My thanks also, to Tommy 'Beaver' Bevan, for all your hard work in buying the alcohol, always at the right price. Mate, you always make a profit for the canteen, thank you.

To Craig Franklin and Shane McVicar, congratulations on becoming Life members of this wonderful club, well deserved.

Club Manager

Tech Waratahs Rugby Club

Rob Kelly

CLUB CAPTAINS REPORT

I have really enjoyed my rugby this year on the field and off. I would like to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to be your club captain, it means a lot. The club is in a rebuilding stage at the moment, with lots of exciting new faces around the club and some of the old boys moving into coaching roles, so I can't wait for the rugby to kick off again next year

Third grade did more than live up to last year's expectations with a fantastic year and getting the chocolates at the end to go back to back. Great work Pottsy and Bobbis for all your efforts this year. The team was very exciting to watch every week with so many new and talented guys coming into the club, but were kept balanced by some blokes with loads of big game experience. I hope you all come back for a run next year and spread the love through the rest of the club

Seconds had a tough year only getting the one win but the improvement in the team through the year was awesome to see. To go from struggling at the start of the year to being within one or two tries by the end is great to see and shows great commitment. If u can get the same team back next year and get to training you will be a real force next year. It was also a tough year on Shaun and Craigo with so many injuries decimating your cattle whilst juggling between you're playing duties, good work boys, both great club man

First grade also had a tough year but was an improvement on last year. I think we bonded tighter and tighter as the year went on which is great for next year because nothing is better for a team then playing for and with your mates.

Timmy O took on the coaching role for the first official time and as always led by example, with inspirational talk and big plays in big moments.

On a social side, the club was better than previous years with us filling every bus trip, with all being pretty full on. We all need to get down to Wiso's every week and also hang around for Joker Poker on Thursday nights. A rugby club that socialises together will always win more games than one that doesn't.

Thanks again for the chance to be your club captain this year; it has helped me learn a lot like not swearing in speeches.

Jake Davey

Club Captain.

1ST GRADE COACH'S REPORT

It was an honour and a privilege to be club coach for this historic great club in 2014. It was a season where I was learning as I went and I'd like to thank a few people for not only their encouragement and support but belief in me for which I say thank you. Big thanks to Rick Boyle, Sean Filan, Craig Franklin, Robert Potts, Rob Kelly and Steve Tresidder for your help at training in any capacity, but most of all to my partner, Casey Moane for the countless selections and tactics conversations that didn't always end well. Everybody say thank you to Casey, for keeping me together.

Being a player coach was always going to be tough but tied in with being your first year as a senior coach and learning on the job it was a big taxing task thank you to all the players for their efforts and support. I think personally and as a team we had a fair year but didn't achieve what we set out to at the start of the year, with not being able to find a way to win the tight games costing us a position higher up the table.

Preseason started slowly although there were some stand outs Tom Deane, Brynn Edwards, Josh Davey, Josh Tresidder, Jason Slade and new league recruit Tristan Hart, so it was no surprise come round one these guys hit the ground running and continued to develop all season. Yet again, this year we had some big losses due to work commitments or injury in senior first graders in Aaron Kelly, Sam Buckthought, George Buckthought, Dave McConnell, Josh Darby, Wise and up and comer in Lewis Etheridge.

With so much turnover of players second and third grade struggled to field teams thanks to Sean and Craig for your support. Many guys were given the opportunity and debuted this year and all will be better for the experience. Standouts in their debut seasons were Brynn Edwards, James Needham, Twig Hart, Trea Mongta and Nick Guise, but our best all year who lead by example were Alex Matulick and Mitch Bevan. Recruitment is something we need to work hard at as a club moving forward in the future if we want to taste the sweet nectar of success again.

Congrats to Pottsy and the third graders on their premiership, let's hope you lads come back next year and rise up through the grades. Big thanks to the guys who played out of position and answered often late calls on Friday night to play first grade after a pull out Wayne Bruton, Mick Bruton, Trent James, Freddy Purcell and Craig Franklin, the club legend.

In signing off, I challenge **YOU** to get involved and be part of **YOUR CLUB**, however big or small it needs you. The comp and the club is in a critical transition phase, **OUR** future depends on what we do about it **NOW!**

Club Coach 2014

Tim Olsen.

1ST GRADE MANAGER'S REPORT

This season was different than previous seasons with the club committee making a decision to offer the coaching position to Tim Olsen and have a captain / club coach in charge of the 1st grade team. The season got under-way with Tim in charge unfortunately a significant number of experienced 1st grade players from previous years had retired from the playing group or had indicated they were only available for the lower grades.

Tim had arranged for two previous senior players to assist him with the 1st grade team as assistants but due to circumstances this didn't happen, this placed a great deal of extra pressure on Tim to cover all the requirements of a coach whilst still being the captain and playing to his own high standards.

Our season started by playing last year's premiers which was a bummer as our first game of the season. With a lot of newly selected players in the top grade the team struggled to get any continuity and this was the theme for the first four games with losses being posted. Then we had a couple of wins and things looked promising. But, a number of season ending injuries to players in key positions really made it difficult to keep the team momentum improving and consolidating into a settled team, which would allow the players to get game time gaining the necessary understanding of their own and fellow player's strengths and weaknesses.

On a number of occasions the team were in a position throughout the season to win games but unfortunately allowed the opposition to come back into the game and win. I believe this was a combination of a number of reasons e.g. due to lack of experience, poor decision making under pressure and not appreciating or understanding basic rugby laws.

Such issues really cost the team five or six games they should have won, which in the end meant missing a place in the semi-finals.

I appreciate this reads as fairly negative but with all this said, personally I consider overall the season was positive with all players doing their best, that's all that can be asked of them. We had some very positive outcomes in bleeding a number of players into 1st grade, hopefully they all return to our club next season and build on what they have learned and experienced this year.

I would like to say a big thank you to all the players, who played 1st grade for the club this season, including those who played in the other two grades and agreed to sit on the bench for 1st grade.

To our captain / coach Tim Olsen, it wasn't easy and I'm sure he also learned a few new management skills and the sheer frustrations, not to mention the off-field heartaches in this role, which I'm sure he will use to his advantage in the years ahead.

I enjoyed assisting Tim with the administration duties of the team and on occasions offered my comments and opinions on what I believed may assist him with the on-field aspects of the team.

It's no secret that we were lacking some experienced 1st grade players but the only way to improve the situation is provide game time so that experience and skills can be improved and developed.

As a club we are going through a rebuilding and replacement process following a long and fantastic period of success. The strength of our club is to continue to improve and use this season as a stepping stone on our way back to the top of the IDR competition in all grades.

The club committee has to be thanked for its commitment and strong support not only to first grade but all senior and junior teams throughout the season.

The club purchased all new training equipment, continued with an arrangement of a Strapper/Physio at each senior game, purchased a new storage container to house the rugby equipment and also improved and enlarged the Gear Shed. Improvements were also finished within the rugby clubrooms with a ladies toilet being constructed for our female members and visitors.

I sincerely hope that all players will feel there is some unfinished business they would like to be part-of and return for the 2015 season.

Congratulations to the Coach, Manager and Player's involved with our club's 3rd grade squad on winning their Grand-Final and their 2014 Premiership.

Last but by no means least is a thank you to the wives, partners, girlfriends and the kids that add such a great atmosphere to our club, allowing each of us to be involved with mates in something, we love doing as our sport of choice.

Enjoy the off-season and I hope to see you all next season.

Rick Boyle

1st Grade Manager - 2014

2ND GRADE COACH'S REPORT

The year started with a tough game against Avondale. A pattern that followed the rest of the year emerged. This was competing in every game but a few lapses seemed to cost us wins. The year did finish with an enjoyable 30 point victory over Bowral.

2nd grade supported first grade well this year with many of our players going on to be permanent first graders by the end of the year. Some of these players were Pat Logan, Mitch Bevan, Trea Mongta, Craig Franklin, Michael Bruton and James Needham, with many others making a number of appearances.

Our pack was generally stable this year with Steve Fergus, James Lethem, Steve Mitchell and Reidy in the front row. This combination pressured even the best scums we came up against. The second row consisted of two good young players that added passion and go forward to our pack. Harrison Thorpe and Nick Guise really impressed in attack and defence well done. Our back row usually consisted of Jenko, Tommy Dean, Rhyce Tubaro, Pat Heffernan these players always played well where ever they were asked to play.

Our back line struggled to attain continuity. With a high injury toll in first grade seemed to ravage our ranks on a weekly basis, leading to a lot of reshuffles on game day. Player would step in to a new roll that they hadn't trained for and do their best. This did lead to lapses but we always competed strongly. Sam competed strongly this year his defence always impressed me even when targeted would just keep pulling players down. Mitchell Crotty returned to add direction and passion to our back line it was great to have him back but had to accept a job working away. Jack, pat, Cody and Aaron all had a go at 5/8 this year as well thanks for all your efforts. Our centres also had a number of players Ben, Jack and Murray seemed to be a more settled combination by the end of the season. Our wingers as always seemed to be our most loved players with Trea causing havoc with ball in hand. Mooey and Andy Stark both played well and seemed to be always reserved the biggest cheers. Finally Cody and Aaron shared the fullback duties always providing passion and options.

Thank you to all players that played and stood by to support the team.

Thank you to our managers Zlat and Wayne you were great to work with.

Thank you to committee and all other volunteers without you the club would not run.

Sean Filan and Craig Franklin

3RD GRADE COACH'S REPORT

It is with great pleasure on behalf of myself and Luke Mayberry that I am able to give the annual report for 2014.

I would first like to thank Mr Graham Letham and the rest of the Tech Waratahs Committee for their assistance throughout the year. Club Registrar, Wayne Ireland and special mention to a man that really does more than he should, Mr Rob KELLY. Also I would like to acknowledge our first grade coach, Tim Olsen, 2nd Grade Coaches Craig and Sean for their advice and help during the season.

I next would like to thank "BOBBIS". This man put a huge effort in this year after learning the ropes last year from RED and what a job he did, often in difficult situations as I left him directions to follow he had the sometimes difficult task of making replacements as required and he did not miss a beat all season. Bobbis learned from the best (Red), and it showed, I knew I had a person I could trust and a man who would make the right choice when required. Thank you Bobbis for not only being a great manager, but here it is, "Back to Back"! You are now what I would call a very close friend, well done and thank you.

What can I say about my team of players, close to 2000 text messages to players, yes I know the name "Telstra" I've heard it and yes well done boys, but it was an open line of communication and one we needed to ensure we had the team focused and everyone knew their job. What can I say, thank god for the unlimited phone again!

Special mention to a few milestones in our team, Lee Martin with his 300th game and leading us to a victory in the Grand Final, well done Lee, special moment for you as you lead us out with your son Aidan. Special memory and I am sure one you will remember for life.

The "Ox" Stephen Rendell, 200 club games this year, another huge effort from the Ox. I have known this man for over 13 years and he continues to be a great club man. I remember Ox asking me to come to the club near 5 years ago, and glad I did to see my mate do some great achievements, 100th game and now 200th game. Well done mate, great effort.

To a few new players who come to the club this year and made a huge impact, the Danielson brothers and son, Eddie, Freddy and brother Trevor, Jordan, Jonah, Chris, Nathan, Andrew Duggan, Johnny Jackson, Steve Nisa, Richard, Sipili and the list goes on..... If I have left out anyone, sorry, but each and every one of you played a special part this year, well done. Let's hope you all continue with the Tech Waratah spirit and play in 2015.

To the old rugby heads who continue to give and give, players like Harry, Pistol Pete, Murph "Dog", Eliot, Lee, Brad Sharman and his brother Adam. The Sauce (Owen Brace), Seb Wilson, Chris Hendry, Sean Filan, Biccus (Mark Bye), Jason Sullivan (new this year – but old hard head from the past!!) and Mohamed Sawan.

As my wife said many times, "Is that bloody Rugby again" when my phone gets a message, yes frustrating for her, but hey Tina knows I love the game and it's all good!! I want to thank my gorgeous wife, her support was important and as per usual I love having her in my corner.

I took the role as Coach this year serious as I did last year, yet memories of what Gary Ella said to me last year still rang in my head; Gary Ella said to me;

"Forwards win games, backs decide by how much! However it's all the players together who win these games, and it's a team who win premierships"

How true is that again this year again with many times having an awesome pack, we just ran away with it and over the top of other forward packs? But on occasions with people stepping up and playing out of position, we managed. Yet in the finals we ended up with near 32 players qualified and it was a task each week to select the players who were the best for each position, they earned their spots, yet, do the right thing in giving many players a go, and ultimately having one objective: "TO WIN". Let's look at two of these players, Murph "Dog", now the Murph "Dog" last year was on the fringe bench for our Grand Final team, he did some soul searching, a few hard words of encouragement from the coach, some acknowledgement of what needed work and look at Murph "Dog" go, starting flanker and he was first pick each week. Big things expected from Murph "Dog" next year, second grade is your focus mate full season. Eddie, what an impact in his first game, I'm sure plenty of us remember that try against Uni; this guy is near one of the best players in the district by far. He is a first grade quality player, and I hope he, Chris Tietie, Jordan, Johan along with the Campbelltown connection all come back and focus on the higher grades next year.

Now our back line was often referred to as the veterans. Well what a line it was, yes older but knew how to play the game inside and out, and scored points at will. Many stepped up and played out of position, myself included, but it showed our versatility and when it counted we gave each game a real crack. I recall Andrew DUGGAN, running like a rampaging bull like he did in the Grand Final; breaking the line off the five eight with a short pass. What a sight, his knees lifting 5 feet into the air, pumping hard and fast, his arms carrying the ball with these massive tree stump arms, the fullback as he approached had his eyes popping and praying that Andrew would try and run around him!!! Against his old mates team Wollondilly it was no different in the first round, running off the fly half and tries were a plenty for big Andy, see you next year mate and another higher grade player let's hope.

This year success it was with the following statistics: 17 rounds, 13 bonus points, 623 points scored, 217 against 2nd place on the ladder. 406 + points scored differential, and next competitor was 314 + being Avondale. We finished with 67 competition points, an amazing result and one that will take some matching in the future, with it near being the best average in the IDRU. Another milestone in the club history for this team is the highest score ever by a Tech Waratahs team in a grade match, defeating Wollondilly 113 to nil. Feel proud boys!!

The challenge was this year, as it was last season show respect, dignity, virtue of a winner and be there for each other. Few of the older players "be leaders", not only of

the team, but leaders of tomorrow for yourself, the clubs future on and off the field. I believe we did it again, well done boys.

This respect started right from the start, with a simple request, “wear a club polo shirt, jeans and covered shoes to ALL games before the match. It set the tone, along with that come “FINES”. Perhaps this was put a bit on the back burner this year, comparative to last year, but for those with FINES, BOBBIS has his book available and cough it up!!!! The other thing was respect my decision, and that of the manager. This was a simple request but all followed this and it made my job easier.

There are many other players whom I could mention, especially players who did make last year’s grand final and now have gone “back to back” feel proud with your effort boys. Many stepped up and achieved. I hope you all hang around and go hard in 2015, and inspire to the top grades if you are young enough and the body is able.

Here it is boys, 2014 PREMIERS, be proud of what we have achieved as a team. On reflection I feel one special vent is clear, again. Our display of team spirit, generosity and it was this year that I decided to do something epic, given the issue that hits most families and the heart strings, we decided to do a fund raising event titled,

“Thirsty Thirds Go PINK”
“Crimmins Cup”

Again hosted at Kiama, special thank you to their club as well and their kind donation of \$250. The cup remained at Kiama this year after their aggregated win. Next year Tech Waratahs will host the event. On behalf of our team we have donated, funds to Chris Hendry and his family, Bowral rugby in their funds raising efforts and Breast Cancer. Tonight we donate \$1000 to this cause.

Finally I hope that all the players enjoyed the year as much as I did. I am very proud of the team, proud to be a Tech Waratah, proud to be a senior player, a coach, and mentor. On behalf of the player’s, thank you to all the wives, girlfriends and partners who helped support my boys throughout the season. “Happy home life means happy rugby life”

Like I did last year I will leave you with these final few words:

“Rugby players sometimes are not the most bright people and often forget, especially when it comes to mistakes on the field, but its lasting memories like last year, 2013, Premiers, and this year 2014, 1st division, 3rd grade “Premiers” that many will remember for life, special times, special memories”.

To those who are retiring I wish you all the best.

Yours in rugby.

POTTSY
1st Division (3rd Grade)
Captain/Coach



BACK ROW [L-R]: Nathan Talisi, Richard Talio, Freddy Purcell, Edward Matautia, John Jackson

2ND FROM REAR [L-R]: Stephen Rendell, Chris Hendry, Jordan Falanitama, Sebastian Wilson, Andrew Duggan, Luke Mayberry [Manager], Aita Mesafou, Jonah Kabele

2ND ROW: Jahmal Danielson, Lenga Danielson, Sean Flan, Jason Sullivan, Mark Bye, Christopher Tietle, Lee Martin, Peter Winston

FRONT ROW: Andrew Murphy, Trevor Purcell, Steven Nisa, Robert Potts [Captain/Coach], Brad Sharman, Harry Hawksworth, Elliot O'Donnell, Owen Brace, Adam Sharman, Suani Danielson

BALLBOYS: Noah Tully, Kane Sharman, Jack Tully

PLAYING STATISTICS

FIRST NAME	SURNAME	PREVIOUS SENIOR GAMES PLAYED	TOTAL 3RDS	TOTAL 2NDS	TOTAL 1STS	TOTAL SENIOR GAMES 2014	TOTAL SENIOR GAMES PLAYED
Paul	Baxter-Briton	0	1			1	1
Lincoln	Bendall-Moon	2	4	1		5	7
Mitchell	Bevan	99	3	2	12	17	116
Owen	Brace	41	16	10	1	27	68
Michael	Bruton	218		5	8	13	231
Wayne	Bruton	313		2	14	16	329
George	Buckthought	67		5	4	9	76
Mark	Bye	224	10	3		13	237
Murray	Copas	30	5	4		9	9
Mitchell	Crotty	25		3	1	4	29
Jahmal	Danielson	0	8	1		9	9
Lenga	Danielson	0	9	1		10	10
Suani	Danielson	0	5			5	5
Luke	Darby	158	1	1		2	160
Josh	Darby	186		1	2	3	189
Jake	Davey	78	1		15	16	94
Joshua	Davey	128	1		16	17	145
Thomas	Deane	12		6	6	12	24
Wayne	Denham	0	1			1	1
Andrew	Duggan	0	10	1	0	11	11
Mark	Easton	45	2	8	1	11	56
Bryn	Edwards	16			16	16	32
Lewis	Etheredge	24			6	6	30
Bill	Evans-Brooks	0		6		6	6
Jack	Evans-Brooks	15		9	4	13	28
Jordan	Falanitama	0	8	3		11	11
Sean	Filan	104	13	9		22	126
Steven	Fergus	0	1	10	8	19	19
Craig	Franklin	287		3	11	14	301
Gokhan	Girgin	0	1			1	1
Tony	Gorgijovski	222	1			1	223
Cody	Grayson	119	2	7	1	10	129
Nicholas	Guise	0	3	6	2	11	11
Tristan	Hart	0			15	15	15
Harry	Hawksworth	261	10	3	0	13	274
Patrick	Heffernan	10	4	12	3	19	19

Statistical details subject to available information

Page 1 of 3

FIRST NAME	SURNAME	PREVIOUS SENIOR GAMES PLAYED	TOTAL 3RDS	TOTAL 2NDS	TOTAL 1STS	TOTAL SENIOR GAMES 2014	TOTAL SENIOR GAMES PLAYED
Christopher	Hendry	117	11	3	0	14	131
Joshua	Holman	36		4		4	40
Johnny	Jackson	0	15	3	0	18	18
Trent	James	26	1	2	12	15	41
Paul	Jeremijenko	54	1	14		15	69
Jonah	Katiele	0	8	3	0	11	11
Aaron	Kelly	137			4	4	141
Jordan	Knight	36	1	3	1	5	41
Justin	Lenane	45		4	5	9	54
James	Letham	157		12	7	19	176
Patrick	Logan	17		2	9	11	28
Lee	Martin	282	15	1	2	18	300
Kermit	Mataibeci	0	8	5	1	14	14
Khaled	Matar	233	1	1		2	235
Edward	Matautia	0	11	1	0	12	12
Alex	Matulick	160			13	13	173
Luke	Mayberry	256		2		2	258
Gregory	McAndrew	259		2		2	261
David	McConnell	155	4	3	3	10	165
Aita	Meafou	66	6	0	1	7	73
Aaron	Meizer	18		11		11	29
Stephen	Mitchell	12	3	11		14	26
Trea	Mongta	0	1	6	5	12	12
Andrew	Murphy	111	16	2	0	18	129
Trent	Naphali	95		1		1	96
Emanuel	Nayagodamu	137			2	2	139
James	Needham	21	1	2	11	14	35
Steven	Nisa	0	12	0	0	12	12
Eliot	O'Donnell	14	13	2	0	15	29
Josh	Olsen	3		1		1	4
Timothy	Olsen	276			16	16	292
Benjamin	Palavi	11	6	4		10	21
David	Palavi	7	4			4	11
Sam	Patrinos	113	1	10	1	12	125
Aidan	Potts	3	1			1	4
Robert	Potts	55	18	4		22	77
Nathan	Powell	0	1			1	1
Fred	Purcell	18	10	5	7	22	40

Statistical details subject to available information

Page 2 of 3

FIRST NAME	SURNAME	PREVIOUS SENIOR GAMES PLAYED	TOTAL 3RDS	TOTAL 2NDS	TOTAL 1STS	TOTAL SENIOR GAMES 2014	TOTAL SENIOR GAMES PLAYED
Trevor	Purcell	0	10			10	10
Daniel	Read	230		8		8	238
Joshua	Rendell	1	1			1	2
Stephen	Rendell	176	18	7		25	201
Muhamed	Sawan	4	10	7	0	17	21
Adam	Sharman	145	9			9	154
Bradley	Sharman	106	10	1	0	11	117
Benjamin	Shortus	117	4			4	121
Sipili	Sialeipata	0	4	1	0	5	5
Jeremy	Simpson	21		3	1	4	25
Mathew	Simpson	57	4	2	2	8	65
Jason	Slade	3			6	6	9
Andrew	Stark	0	5	9	3	17	17
Jason	Sullivan	1	4			4	5
Jamie	Taingahue	131	2			2	133
Richard	Taito	0	11	0	0	11	11
Nathan	Taliai	1	9	1	0	10	11
Greg	Thomas	106	1			1	107
Harrison	Thorpe	15		16	3	19	34
Christopher	Tietie	0	6	1	0	7	7
Richard	Tietie	0	1			1	1
Seth	Topia	3	2	1		3	3
Joshua	Tresidder	29	1	1	8	10	39
Rhyce	Tubaro	87		11	4	15	103
Wiliame	Tuivanuavou	0	1			1	1
Christopher	Wallace	64			7	7	71
Sebastian	Wilson	0	5	3	0	8	8
Peter	Winston	67	17	8	1	26	93
Anthony	Zaccagnini	0	2			2	2

Statistical details subject to available information

Page 3 of 3

AWARD RECIPIENTS 2014

3rd GRADE PLAYERS PLAYER.....

3RD GRADE MOST IMPROVED.....

3RD GRADE COACHES AWARD.....

3RD GRADE BEST & FAIREST.....

2ND GRADE PLAYERS PLAYER.....

2ND GRADE MOST IMPROVED.....

2ND GRADE COACHES AWARD.....

2ND GRADE BEST & FAIREST.....

1ST GRADE PLAYERS PLAYER.....

1ST GRADE BEST BACK.....

1ST GRADE BEST FORWARD.....

1ST GRADE PLAYER OF THE YEAR.....

CROOKY OF THE YEAR.....

STRIRRER OF THE YEAR.....

POINTSCORER OF THE YEAR.....

TRYSCORER OF THE YEAR.....

100 GAMES AWARDS.....

.....

200 GAMES AWARDS.....

300 GAMES AWARDS.....

BEST TRAINER.....

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER.....

MOST CONSISTANT PLAYER.....

MOST OUTSTANDING PROSPECT.....

RICK BOYLE TROPHY.....

CLUBPERSON OF THE YEAR.....