

# Community Update

The quarterly newsletter of  
Tranmere Rovers In The Community

Spring 2010



## Hello!



Welcome to the Spring 2010 issue of the Tranmere Rovers In The Community Trust newsletter, which provides you with all the latest information on our current programmes, forthcoming activities, and updates on the work of TRFC in the Community.

We are always looking to create partnerships to develop and deliver a wide range of programs, based around the four core themes of:

- **Community Inclusion & Social Cohesion.**
- **Health.**
- **Education.**
- **Sports Participation:**

*Supporting and developing the grass-roots game throughout Wirral.*

*The provision of opportunities for girls, women and disabled persons to become players or coaches.*

As a charity we rely on investment and partners to deliver and develop our activities and we are always looking for funding to develop and deliver new initiatives.

For further information on how you can become involved in sponsoring one of our branded programmes, or simply to find out more about our activities, call us today on **0151-608 2354** or e-mail **trfcommunity@hotmail.co.uk**.

We look forward to hearing from you!

**Steve Williams**

*Community Manager, Tranmere Rovers In The Community*



## Rovers First in the League!

Tranmere Rovers Chief Executive Mick Horton and Tranmere Rovers In The Community Manager Steve Williams were presented with the Kick It Out Equality Standard during half time at the home game against Southampton.

The Club was awarded the Preliminary level of The Equality Standard for Professional Football Clubs in recognition of their efforts to combat discrimination - the first Football League club to achieve the standard. It was presented to them by Piara Power from Kick It Out with Sue Bencheikh from the Sam Bencheikh Memorial Fund also in attendance.

The Equality Standard is a framework which encourages and supports the development of equality practices and policies at professional clubs, across England and Wales and highlights six key areas of diversity; race, religion, age, gender, disability and sexual orientation.



The Club has been working alongside Kick It Out to deliver evidence against a series of objectives that ensure action in all areas of our operation; from the complaints reporting policy to the training of staff and employee personal development.

The Standard looks at how the Football Club delivers activities and projects to under-represented groups in the community, for which the Community Trust has been pivotal.

## New Tricks...

Tranmere Rovers In The Community have organised weekly classes for anyone aged 55 or over who are keen to learn new computer skills.

The classes take place on Tuesdays between 1.00pm and 2.30pm, and have proved to be hugely popular, with many 'computer novices' receiving a great introduction to the online world, and learning a range of new skills.

Another extremely popular innovation has been the introduction of a series of Yoga classes for the over-55s, which are being held each Monday from 11 am - 12.30pm at Tranmere Rovers' Prenton Park ground.



## Welcome to new staff for the Community Team

Tranmere Rovers In The Community welcomes two new members of staff as part of a new initiative run by the Government and the Football League Trust the Future Jobs Fund.

Around 80 vacancies were created at community departments across the Football League, with

Tranmere pleased to be the first club to announce their new appointments.

Joining us are **Emma Bennett**, community admin assistant, and **Stephen Connor**, a football / sports coach.

# Fit & Healthy!

Tranmere's Adult Disability team visited Prenton Park in March for free health checks as part of a partnership between Tranmere Rovers in the Community and the Health Action Area Team.



Eleven players took part in an interactive health and fitness quiz with Learning Centre manager Andy Heywood before receiving their individual health checks from local NHS health trainers Katy Wallis and Vicky Doughty which included measurements of blood pressure, height, weight and body mass index.

They then finished the day by taking part in a training session before playing a five-a-side match on the indoor pitch at the Club's Learning Centre.

# Rovers Going For Gold!

Tranmere Rovers In The Community are going for gold twelve months after winning the Football League Trust Silver Award.

Having successfully met the criteria needed to achieve the Bronze and Silver awards since they were introduced by the Football League Trust, Tranmere Rovers In The Community are hard at work making sure they meet the targets required for Gold.

As part of winning the Silver Award, the Club's community department, which is a registered charity, received £48,000 to invest into Community activities as part of the Trust's £1.72m pledge to Community schemes across the country.

Football League Trust General Manager **Dave Edmundson** said: "There are over 40 clubs in the Football league who have now achieved this award, and we would like to heartily congratulate them all.

"This is a wonderful indication of the new levels of impact and engagement that schemes are bringing to the communities they serve. More importantly, this demonstrates the impressive range of projects and initiatives delivered by league clubs in all four themes, and the partnerships being established in both the public and private sectors. Overall standards are high, and there is no doubt that the Trust, along with the support of all the clubs, intend to maintain this rising trend of improvement."

To achieve Silver status, the clubs had to fulfil a range of criteria set out by the Trust. These included:

- An approved level of governance, including representation of at least one senior club executive and at least two strategically chosen external trustees on the scheme's board.
- At least one themed officer working on projects relating to one of The Football League Trust's four core themes (social inclusion/ community cohesion, health, education and sports participation).



- A minimum of a three-year business plan showing sustainable programmes being delivered across all four of The Football League Trust's core themes.
- Evidence of how funding provided by The Football League Trust is being utilised and how it will be used to attract additional funding into the schemes.
- Evidence of how schemes are linked into local decision making groups, for example Local Strategic Partnerships.
- Evidence on how the schemes works with the Football Club on issues relating to youth development.
- A strong player appearance policy.
- Charitable status in place.

All clubs must also have met The Football League Trust Minimum Charter standard.

Community Manager **Steve Williams** commented: "While we were delighted to win the Silver Award last year, we naturally want to go one step further and win the Gold Award this year.

"We are very proud of the work we do throughout the community. Winning these awards brings extra funding which further helps develop our projects in Wirral and beyond."

# We Need YOU!

Rovers fans are invited to attend and support a special charity match taking place at Prenton Park between teachers from Wirral Grammar School for Boys and Calday Grammar School in aid of the Sam Bencheikh Memorial Fund.

It is the second year the clash of the schools match has taken place, with last year's honours going to Calday.

All funds raised for the Sam Bencheikh Memorial Fund will go towards the disability arm of Tranmere Rovers in the Community, with the present target being the purchase of kits for the Adult, under-16 and under-12 disability teams.

The match takes place on Fri day, 7 May at 6.30pm with admission £3. All welcome.

The Sam Bencheikh Memorial Fund will also be raising funds at the **Wirral Coastal Walk** which takes place on Sunday 23rd May. Anyone wishing to take part alongside community staff should call 0151608 2354.



# TRFC a Smoke-Free Zone!

Wirral NHS Stop Smoking Service and Tranmere Rovers Football Club have been working in partnership to improve the health and fitness of the local population.

Since the beginning of 2009 the Wirral NHS Stop Smoking Service has held weekly drop in sessions at Prenton Park to provide the people of Wirral with extra help and support to stop smoking. The Football Club provided the Learning Centre as the venue in an attempt to engage the people of the area by uniting stopping smoking and football.

The Wirral NHS Stop Smoking Service currently advertises numerous drop in sessions across the region and the timing and location of these services are varied to promote patient choice.

The drop in sessions at Tranmere Rovers has been hugely successful and already a number of clients have managed to quit smoking for a period of time. Advice is also given on numerous health subjects including healthy eating and fitness.



# Tranmere receives £60,000 from New Football Pools



Tranmere Rovers In The Community has received a cheque for £60,000 from The New Football Pools as part of the Club's involvement in an exciting new scheme that will grow disability football provision across the region.



Every Player Counts, a leading project of The Football League Trust and supported by The New Football Pools, will see Tranmere Rovers In The Community deliver a three-year, PAN-Disability scheme that will develop football opportunities for people with all types of disability in the area.

Working in partnership with Cheshire County FA, this is a project which will feature the creation of full time disability officer for the region who will work to improve provision of disability football in the area. The project will deliver training sessions to

increase awareness and interest of disability football, create a Network Forum to encourage positive action and offer volunteering opportunities and establish new teams to take part in county leagues, increase participation, improve health and fitness of disabled people.

Tranmere Rovers In The Community is one of 36 Football League Community Schemes to deliver Every Player Counts, the first National PAN-Disability programme, this season.

Community Manager Steve Williams commented: "This is a really exciting project and we are pleased to be one of the first clubs involved."

"We are very proud of our work in disability football and this donation from The New Football Pools will allow us to further strengthen our community activities in this field."

The cheque was presented to Steve Williams, Tranmere Rovers Chief Executive Mick Horton and Cheshire County FA County Development Manager Simon Gerrard by Peter Pentle from The New Football Pools ahead of the Club's recent home game against Southend United.

## Comic Relief benefits Rovers

Tranmere Rovers In The Community have received £88,187 from Comic Relief for a new three year project that started in January 2010.

'Sport for Change' sees the Club's community team working in conjunction with Wirral's Cultural Inclusion Officer and Learning Centre Manager Andy Heywood with local children. The project will provide multi sports and multi skills coaching along with sporting education. Included in its aims are to:

- Enhance their educational achievement and attendance.
- Enhance their fitness and general health.
- Enhance their life skills.
- Enhance their self esteem, self image and self confidence.



## Keep in touch!

Keep up to date with everything that's going on -

Telephone us on **0151 608 2354**.

Email us at [trfcommunity@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:trfcommunity@hotmail.co.uk).

Visit Tranmere Rovers' website at [www.tranmererovers.co.uk](http://www.tranmererovers.co.uk).

# Players out & about

Wirral Grammar School For Girls have received a special visit from Tranmere defender Ian Goodison.



The centre back presented the school with the trophy for winning the local stage of the Football League Under-13 Girls Cup, after they defeated their local rivals Hilbre High School in the final (run by Tranmere Rovers In The Community), which was staged at Weatherhead High School.

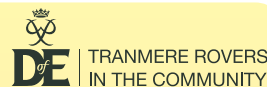
Ian Thomas-Moore and Chris Shuker made a special visit to St. Andrews Primary School in Bebington to present pupils with £200 worth of multiskills sports equipment.



Year one and two pupils at St Andrews have recently completed a six week block of multiskills coaching with Tranmere Rovers In The Community as part of the Wirral wide primary schools partnership project run in conjunction with Bebington High Sports College and the Football Foundation.

The three year project will see over 100 primary and special schools visited for six weeks of coaching, with each receiving free equipment for future use by teachers.

## Rovers' team gain first DofE Awards



Tranmere Rovers In The Community recently organised their first expedition as part of their involvement with the Duke of Edinburgh award.

In 2009 Tranmere were announced as one of 17 Football League clubs piloting the Duke of Edinburgh project through the Football League Trust and all of the Club's community staff are now fully trained to lead the award, with a good percentage of the four sections being completed through community activities, including the volunteering aspect of the award.



In a recent expedition in the Peak District over two days, ten members of Tranmere Ladies F.C. and Tranmere Rovers In The Community staff the group walked around 16 miles, starting at 11am and taking in Wetton, Butterton and Grindon. They also had to learn map skills, set up camp and carry out first aid.

Tranmere Rovers In The Community Officer Faye Jones said: "I thought it was physically hard and mentally challenging, but it was good to work as a team and get through the two days together. We are now looking forward to participating in our silver award this year."

Due to the success of TRFC In The Community's inaugural Duke of Edinburgh project, the Club's charity has been awarded funding for both the bronze and silver award to take place in 2010.



# Rovers Team Up with Miss Dorothy

**Tranmere are among the first clubs to team up with the Miss Dorothy Programme as part of their community activities .**

Tranmere Rovers are one of six Football League Clubs' Community Teams to have been awarded £10,000 to run the Miss Dorothy programme, which teaches children aged seven to ten how to manage everyday risks and lead safer lives. TRFC Community staff visit schools to educate youngsters about their well-being and the benefit of exercise through sport.

It is part of the Government's Kids Taskforce scheme, which is supported by the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), the Chief Fire Officers' Association (CFOA) and the Professional Footballers Association (PFA).

Football League Trust General Manager Dave Edmundson said: "We're delighted to support the Kids Taskforce. It provides such an enormous benefit to youngsters across the country. By using sport as a vehicle to teach children about safety we hope to engage as many seven to ten year olds as possible. We're aiming to roll out the Miss Dorothy programme to all 72 Football League clubs and use the power of football to really make a difference to people's lives."

PFA Director of Community, John Hudson added: "We believe that the Miss Dorothy programme is extremely effective in helping children deal with risk. The PFA are fully behind the scheme and are delighted to add our endorsement."

[missdorothy.com](http://missdorothy.com)

# TRFC Ladies

Pictured below are (top) the victorious Tranmere Rovers Ladies Under-16 team following their triumph in the Cheshire County Cup Final, when they trounced TMS 12-0 to take the trophy, and (bottom) Rovers' Under-14 Girls, who just fell short of lifting their own trophy, going down 0-4 in the final to Mersey Girls.



# Adult Disability Team take to the pitch

**Tranmere Rovers Football Club is pleased to support the National Association of Disabled Supporters (NADS) 2010 level Playing Field (IPF) Weeks of Action.**

This disability awareness initiative promotes the need for an inclusive and equal experience for all fans, and brings together all clubs belonging to the professional leagues. Over a period of two weeks, these clubs had the opportunity to show what they have achieved for disabled supporters.



Around 30,000 disabled fans attend league matches each season and with more than 10 million disabled people in the UK, NADS wants to see that figure grow. The challenges faced by disabled people are numerous and often unexpected and NADS works alongside the football family and government lobbying for continued improvements and sharing good practice where it exists.

Many people will imagine someone in a wheelchair when thinking of disability and around 1% of the population uses a wheelchair. However there are many types of disability, some more hidden, and each with specific access needs. This year's campaign is focusing on ambulant disabled supporters. The term 'ambulant disabled' refers to people with a wide range of disabilities who are not regular wheelchair users. This

could include, for example, people who have diabetes, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis or cancer. The facilities they require would vary depending on the specific effects of the illness or disability.

As part of the week of events, Tranmere's Adult Disability team took part in a football festival against AFC West Cheshire Dynamos who had been specially invited to Prenton Park. The Ellesmere Port based side competed in a four team event in the Club's Learning Centre before meeting Tranmere again the following day in the Ability Courts League.

For more information about NADS, or to join them, you can go online to [www.nads.org.uk](http://www.nads.org.uk), or email [info@nads.org.uk](mailto:info@nads.org.uk), or call them on **0845 230 6237**.

The League Tables below show that both the First Team and Reserves are having mid-table seasons. However, in their own Liverpool County F.A. Leagues, our Under-16s are top with 9 wins out of 9 (GD +34), the Under-14s lie third having dropped just 7 points all year (GD +17), the Under-12s lie second having won 11 of 12 games played (GD +44), and Rovers' Under-10s lie second having won 9 out of 11 (GD +31) - which all promises well for the future.

## F.A Women's Football League Division 1 North

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
Rochdale	19	16	2	1	+52	50
Middlesbrough	16	11	1	4	+37	34
South Durham Royals	14	11	1	2	+18	34
Bradford City	18	7	4	7	+5	25
Liverpool Feds	14	7	2	5	+23	23
Stockport County	14	6	5	3	+3	23
Salford	13	5	2	6	+17	17
<b>Tranmere Rovers</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>+3</b>	<b>17</b>
Scunthorpe United	18	4	2	12	-26	14
Wakefield	15	2	4	9	-12	10
Blackpool Wren Rovers	13	2	3	8	-29	9
Darlington R.A.	15	1	0	14	-91	3

## Liverpool County F.A Women's League Reserves

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
Mossley Hill Ladies	10	8	1	1	+30	25
Birkdale Ladies	12	7	3	2	+19	24
Dingle Ladies	13	6	1	6	+13	19
<b>Tranmere Ladies Res</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>+13</b>	<b>19</b>
Liverpool Feds County	12	6	1	5	+8	19
Town Green F.C.	10	2	2	6	-7	8
Corinthian Girls	10	1	0	9	-54	3
Liverpool Sport Club	7	0	1	6	-22	1

League tables standings correct for 7th April 2010

# Birkenhead Prep School on the road to Wembley!

**Birkenhead Prep School will represent Tranmere Rovers at the regional stage of the Football League Community Cup after winning the local stage of the competition.**

The Oxton-based school beat 55 other Wirral and Ellesmere Port schools to the trophy, defeating Our Lady's Roman Catholic Primary School 1-0 in the final of the 6-a-side competition for Primary Schools.

They now go on to represent Tranmere Rovers at Huddersfield Town in April, with the winners of that stage going on to compete at Wembley Stadium before the League One Play Off final in May.