

Royal School of Mines report to
Clubs and Societies Board
A note by Henry Debens, RSM President

Finance

All clubs are financially healthy. Exec, DLB and Hockey have all been successful in securing sponsorships, with Rugby also on the brink of sealing a deal for new kits. The only red marks are Football, who have been in debt for a long long time but are slowly but surely making their way back into the black, Rugby, another club who have been in debt for a long time but are now only £16.29 down, and Exec, who due to unpaid sponsorship (BP; £6,000) are down £5,618.22. We plan on invoicing BP for this ASAP in the New Year.

Constitution Changes

There have been no constitution changes to any clubs.

De La Beche

The DLB has come a long way since last year with regards to its finances and are no longer in debt after invoicing all owed sponsorship. They organised a talk earlier this term by Dr. Phil Bland on meteorite collection in Australia followed by heavy drinks and nibbles within the RSM. Another talk to be given by Prof. Jan Cilliers has been arranged for next term and also there is a strong possibility of two more talks that term: one from Dr. Matt Genge and another from Dr. John Harrison. The Isle of Wight Winter Tour was a huge success and no loss was incurred, with all the new students being thoroughly integrated into RSM & DLB ways. They are currently in the process of organising a trip to Cornwall at the end of January with sponsorship being provided by Shell, although not yet contracted. Some constitution changes are going to be considered after the AGM, with the possibility of terminating the roles of 'Publicity Officer' and 'Catering Officer'. The DLB held a successful paintballing event in conjunction with MatSoc earlier in the term and the much anticipated 'DLB vs. MatSoc Pub Golf' has also been arranged for the evening of Thursday 17th December. Other events with MatSoc are also being planned, including a pub quiz, bar night and sports day (in Summer Term). The annual symposium is also set to go ahead in the Summer Term, with sponsorship of £1,000 being offered courtesy of RSM favourites Rio Tinto.

Real Ale

Real Ale, as ever, seem to have acquired a large number of members (23/20) and have been very active in this first term, achieving success with one bar night, one pub crawl, two pub socials and a trip to the Great British Beer Festival. They have decided to branch out this year by becoming affiliated with CAMRA (CAMpaign for Real Ale), securing a reduced rate

for members. They plan to tap into their grant next term, organising a trip for their members to the Fullers Brewery in Chiswick.

Hockey

RSM Hockey is growing into an extremely active club, and financially is flourishing having secured a £1,200 sponsorship from Schlumberger to provide subsidised kits for 2010. They're currently preparing a contingency claim for the next committee meeting to try and claim for a minibus that was hired on 15/11/2009, only for the opposition to have to cancel mid-transit due to a flooded pitch. They have achieved good membership (26/32), however they feel that as a relatively small club with only 1 men's and 1 women's team, who combine to make 1 mixed team, this is a slightly high membership target, as 1 full squad is unlikely to ever be 16 as many hockey players choose to play IC. They also felt this matter wasn't helped by being placed in the corner of the UDH for Fresher's Fair, where it was nigh on impossible to catch any "passers by". They are lining up a Harlington trust application for a new goalkeeper kit in the not-too-distant-future, and after the success of last year's Blackpool Tour are beginning to plan for another Easter Tour to Imnotsurewhere. The chair has completed his finance training, yet Hockey's account is still frozen, which could prove to be an issue next week when they hold their Christmas Dinner, which is slightly subsidised by their SGI. They have been holding training sessions every Thursday without fail, and matches on both Wednesdays and Sundays.

Football

Football have a rollercoaster start to the year, with new captain Matthew Wilks Esq. leading the charge to the heady heights of fourth in their league. Although financially they are not in the best condition due to long-standing debt (£725.34 down), they have really cut expenditure in the last few years and this year is no exception. They have however just been landed with a message from the FA, informing them that they have not affiliated for the last few years, which at £80 a year could prove to be costly, but they are currently in contact with the FA trying to sort this out. Training sessions, since moving from Harlington to Hyde Park, have declined in number, but regular games (one or two a week) are still taking place. Membership is currently OK (12/20), but there are a few key players yet to pay. There will be a big push from the captain to get 100% in the next few weeks though.

Geophys Soc

Geophys have really excelled themselves at pulling in members (24/20), and have already laid on a successful social event to Covent Garden last Friday. Being a relatively new club, they wish to create another club officer position under the title of 'Events Officer' in the near future and is looking into this. They have managed to secure an SEG Honorary Lecture Tour 2010 slot, where a talk will be given in the RSM on 25th January. They produced an excellent stand at Fresher's Fair, which saw them obtain many signatures.

Social Golf

Golf have achieved an overwhelmingly slow start to the year, despite accumulating large volumes of signatures at Fresher's Fair. They have had a small recent social, which I hear was a success, and are heading over to Chiswick driving range later on this week. I am on the rather lazy captain's case to get him to step it up a gear, especially in time for the Bottle Match, and I'm sure he will.

MatSoc

All clear on the finance front. Two educational visits have been arranged for next term, the first being a tour of Rolls Royce (to be held in along with the Aeronautical Engineering department) and the second being a trip to the Corus steel processing plant. MatSoc held a successful paintballing event in conjunction with the DLB earlier in the term and a spot of pub golf has been arranged for Thursday 17th December (again, to be held in conjunction with the DLB). Other events currently being organised include New Year's curry night, Sports day and a MatSoc vs. DLB bar night. The friendly/unhealthy rivalry between MatSoc and the DLB has continued to thrive this term, and is culminating in what will hopefully become a tradition in that a certain past president of the RSM has even been kind enough to donate a 'special' cup in honour of this. The cringe worthy 'Daniel Hill Cup' shall henceforth be competed for over this and all forthcoming years.

Rugby

Rugby's finances appear to be their biggest issue, with their accounts being frozen despite all officers completing their obligations. They feel that their £131 budget allocated last year seems to be too low (especially in comparison to C&G rugby who receive £640 and RCS rugby who receive £350, both of whom play less games and train less). Currently seeking affiliation with the RFU – future budgets may need to include this. Training sessions have been held every Friday (12-2pm), with a regular attendance of around 18 people. Winter term has also seen the team travel for 2 fixtures, both romping wins. Currently doing OK for membership (12/20), but with a strong aim to get 100% by the end of term. A weekend tour to Cambridge is planned for the spring term, comprising of a series of competitive matches arranged against Sidney Sussex College. Christmas Dinner and Annual Dinner will be arranged with cost incurred by club members as there is no SGI due to debts from previous years.

Exec

Freshers' Dinner

The Freshers' Dinner 2009 turned out to be a huge success, despite taking the tiny risk of moving from the more traditional venue of the now deceased MDH to the UDH. This made little difference to the outcome of the event, with over 120 students attending, tickets selling out in 2 days and festivities had by all. With no sponsorship being secured in time for the event, the RSMA stepped in with a generous £500 donation. Dr. Matthew Genge

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provided a fitting speech and everyone enjoyed their union 3-course meal (I think). Financially the event made a tidy £130 profit, which goes a small way towards covering losses of previous years.

Christmas Ball

The Christmas Ball this year is set to go down this Friday at the Kensington Close Hotel, with 110 students, alumni and lecturers attending. We managed to not only get a good package deal from the hotel, but also secured £2,000 sponsorship from BP, which is contracted but will be invoiced in the New Year, along with the 2009 Bottle Match, when the 2010 BP Pots opens. All this meant that tickets sold out in 2 days flat (again), with the night set to be a riot.

Bottle Match

This year the Bottle Match is being held away, at Camborne, and as such preparations are well underway. The Vice-President is on the hunt for sponsorship, and our Sports Officer is checking out coach and hostel prices. The date has been set for the weekend of the 27th of February 2010.

Bar Nights/Miscellaneous

We have already held 2 bar nights, both proving to be huge successes with the new arrivals, along with a pub crawl. We are currently looking at the prospect of an old varsity being re-instated with Dutch University DELFT, with backing from the ESE department; however this is still only at the outset of planning, with the Bottle Match taking priority. Regalia has been selling fast and strong, with a new order for hoodies just being placed, however we have been having some issues sorting out online sales for RSM regalia, with there seeming to be no designated area RSM can do it.... Finally, we are mulling over plans for a RAG-orientated event, as well as many, many more bar nights.