

## Match Programme:

### Saturday 22 December 2012 : Stirling County v Ayr (RBS Premiership)

#### President's Message



Good afternoon and a festive welcome to one and all.

Today we are back to the RBS Premiership after our latest exploits in the British & Irish Cup.

Last Saturday's win over Welsh Premiership leaders Bedwas in the valleys certainly lifted the spirits, with our boys sticking to their task in the mud bath at Bridge Field to comeback from 11 points down, and deservedly avenge the previous week's defeat at frost-free Dunbar. We can now look forward to securing a highly credible runner-up position in Pool 2 in the New Year.

I bid a warm welcome to our friends who have travelled up from the west coast, the Ayr President Billy McHarg, his committee, coaches, players and supporters. I also welcome our match officials. I hope you all enjoy your day at Bridgehaugh.

Ayr, under the guidance of Head Coach Kenny Murray, are enjoying an outstanding season, and have been in pole-position in the Premiership for most of the campaign. In their last league outing they beat their nearest challengers Gala to regain top spot.

It's been four weeks since our last league match, with the freezing weather at the start of the month putting paid to our fixture at Raeburn Place. We will be looking to build on last week's performance, and make amends for our early season defeat at Millbrae. I am sure this afternoon's match will see another hard and keenly contested cracker, with the welcome delivery of an early Christmas present to Bridgehaugh in the form of much needed league points.

Our Seconds, who have had a recent string of good results interrupted by the weather, are also entertaining their counterparts from Ayr (kick-off 2pm).

With all of us already immersed in the merriment of the festive season, I'd like to remind you of the highlight of the Christmas social calendar, the Stirling County **Red Black & White Christmas Ball** which will be held next Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> December in the Bridgehaugh 'Marquee'. Tables are being snapped up, so if you don't want to miss out, please book your place as soon as possible, it's an important fund raiser for the Club.

As we bring the curtain down on 2012, I would like to thank our many volunteers who continue to give our great Club so much of their time and efforts on and off the field. I hope you all have an enjoyable and restful festive break, and come back reinvigorated in the New Year.

I also thank our main sponsor Ondeo Industrial Solutions and all others who have assisted County, your generosity is very much appreciated; and to today's table hospitality sponsors and all who are attending our pre-match **Christmas Lunch**, compliments of the season to you all.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support over the past year, and wish everyone connected with Stirling County a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year when the bells chime.

Enjoy your rugby this afternoon and stay on and enjoy some festive cheer.

Kevin Robertson  
President