

Boost for Ells club

ELLINGHAM & Ringwood Rugby Club have secured a major new sponsorship deal.

It means their HQ at Parsonage Barn Lane will be renamed the 'Raymond Brown Memorial Ground'.

New sponsors Raymond Brown Group have been operating in Ringwood as an independent family business for more than 50 years.

It was established by Raymond Brown, a successful local businessman who, shortly before his death in 2008, made a generous personal contribution towards the cost of the club's new ground.

The sponsorship deal involves the Raymond Brown Group paying the club £5,000 a year for three years.

Ellingham & Ringwood chairman Steve Benson said: "They are a well respected local company and we believe that the deal will bring real benefits to both the club and the Raymond Brown Group".

Pictured are Raymond's daughter Sue Brown, Ron Isaacs and Kelvin White from the Group, with Steve Benson and Jason Lewis from the Ellingham & Ringwood Rugby Club.



FIXTURES

National 3 London & SE: Amptill v Tring, Civil Service v Barnes, Dorking v Gravesend, Havant v Basingstoke, Hertford v Bishop's Stortford, North Walsham v Diss, Staines v Bracknell.

London 1 South: Chichester v Portsmouth, Dover v Thanet Wanderers, Hove v Haywards Heath, London Irish Amateur v Chobham, Sutton & Epsom v Beckenham, Tunbridge Wells v Tonbridge Juddian, Wimbledon v Cobham.

London 2 South-West: Effingham & Leatherhead v Guildford, Gosport and Fareham v Bognor, Guernsey v Old Reigate, KCS Old Boys v London Cornish, Tottonians v Trojans, Twickenham v Weybridge Vandals.

London 3 South-West: Fordingbridge v Ellingham & Ringwood, Old Alleynians v Old Wimbledonians, Old Wellingtonians v London South Africa, Petersfield v Sandown & Shanklin, Teddington v Camberley, Winchester v Alton.

Hampshire 1: Andover v Eastleigh, Fareham Heathens v US Portsmouth, Isle of Wight v Ventnor, New Milton & District v Millbrook, Southampton v Romsey.

TEAMS

WINCHESTER: Todd Duncan, Simon Farrington, Adam Grant, Steve Healey, Richard Knight, James Logan, Callum McGregor, Jake McGregor, Kerry O'Reilly, Jack Parsons, Rob Payne, Tom Pervin, Rob Prestidge, Ian Rice, Tom Self, Ricky Timson, Danny Waite, Matt Woods.

GOSPORT & FAREHAM: Foster, Wes Dugan, Ben Madigan, Richard Daly, Tim Snowden (capt), Mark Pollard, Trevor Westerman, Dai Whitehead, Kent Mansbridge, Ash Burton. Rep: Paul Maxwell, Simon Pickett, Richard Lloyd.

JOSH WHITEHEAD, Alex Heron, Wayne Dugan, Liam Moggeridge, Pat Mulholland, Sam ROMSEY: Alex Hill, Ben Hewitt, Gerry Francis, Andy Hancock, Gareth Roberts, Mark Sergison, Ed Forbes, Ben Savage, Ed Pawsey, Mike Peace, Graham Lusty, Mark Stent, Lozz Scott, Adam Knibbs, Alex Lee, Tom Windbank, Dougal Trenham, Joe O'Connor.

EASTLEIGH (First XV): D Achilles, Z Wai Chung, G King, A Kidd, M Delaney, T Fudrio, R O'Donnell, P Fudrio, S Hayes, T Liston, L Bennett, P Noonan, S Hicks, S Jerram, M Kirby. Rep: A Payne, J Weatherall, W Rawlins.

EASTLEIGH (Second XV v Tottonians): P Taylor, S Shears, N Adcock, J Hickson Board, R Sutherland, D Lowe, A King, A Gilmour, A Blythe, P Kelly, G Lawrence, J Curtis, L Atree, J King, Joe Riggs. Rep: D Hoyos, Jack Riggs, D Johnson.

RUGBY SPOTLIGHT

Derby weekend promises some thrillers

Battle is on for bragging rights

IT'S minimum travelling and maximum excitement for many rugby clubs in Hampshire this weekend.

Sides at all levels will be facing their neighbouring rivals with a dominant league position in mind, even at this early stage of the season.

Senior sides Havant and Basingstoke face each other higher up the leagues and Portsmouth make a short trip across the county border to face Chichester.

But the real rivalry can be found much closer to home with Tottonians ready to welcome adversaries Trojans to Water Lane in London 2 South-West.

Competition will be just as

By Clive Downton

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stiff a few miles into the New Forest at South-West 3 level where Fordingbridge and Ellingham & Ringwood come face-to-face.

Relegated Winchester are up against newly-promoted Alton at the same level.

In Hampshire 1 Southampton are at home to regular opponents Romsey and Fareham Heathens clash with US Portsmouth.

Winchester last met Alton during the 2004-2005 season when Winch claimed the spoils home and away. The local derby will inevitably have an extra edge, both sides seeking their first win of the

NABBED: Romsey's Adam Knibbs, right, in action during last weekend's defeat of New Milton.



season. Winchester coach Andy Fields makes just one change for the game against Alton, Ricky Timson coming

in on the wing.

Eastleigh belatedly kick off their league programme tomorrow against Andover

but they are without their captain, Russ Smith, who is still not fit following injury last season.

MOTORSPORT SPOTLIGHT

After a single year in F2 racing Dean

By Adrian Kajumba

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LISTENING to rising racing star Dean Stoneman talk so casually ahead of the biggest weekend of his fledgling career, you'd have little idea of what he is on the verge of achieving.

The Southampton-based 20-year-old currently tops the F2 championship with a healthy 31-point lead over nearest rival Jolyon Palmer.

If he manages to hold off Palmer's challenge, Stoneman will lift the title on Sunday ... an achievement that would be all the more remarkable given this is his first year in F2 and one which could also propel him into the even more prestigious world of F1.

Considering what is at stake, you would forgive Stoneman if he was a little bit distant and pre-occupied ahead of the final two-race round of the F2 championship in Valencia.

But rehearsing races in his mind or getting stressed over the strengths and weaknesses of his opponents is not his style.

Instead, he appears a little non-plussed by it all.

"I don't really concentrate on that (what is riding on this weekend)," he confessed.

"I will just go there, turn up and do the best.

"I don't sit at home thinking about what I'm going to do on the first corner.

"And I'm not too bothered about the other drivers."

He added: "I approach things differently to a lot of drivers.

"A lot of drivers will be 100 per cent, every day doing everything for racing, but I do a lot of other stuff outside of racing.

Young Southampton race ace may have a winning formula



GREAT FUTURE: Dean Stoneman in action.

"I do things like off-roading and some watersports or go down to the beach on jet skis and the boats to enjoy myself.

"(This weekend) I will just get there, try and enjoy myself and do the best I can."

Stoneman's carefree attitude probably comes from the knowledge that he is blessed with such natural talent, something that has been apparent for some time.

Stoneman began racing in

motocross but his involvement was curtailed following the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease.

Scores of fields across the country were closed off to riders following the outbreak to try to prevent the spread of the disease, so Stoneman took up go-karting instead in 2000, assisted by his dad, Colin.

Initially it was just for fun.

But it soon turned serious and Stoneman even quit

school in year nine, with the amount of time he spent on the track as opposed to the classroom a major factor.

In 2006 he won the UK Super ICC Championships, unusually juggling competing at home with also racing in the French and Italian Championships.

"No one else was doing that," remembered Croydon-born Stoneman, who lives with his dad, a former World

Powerboat champion, in Bishop's Waltham.

"It was a bit of a challenge and I thought it would be a good one to try and win them all.

"But the French and Italian championships were too much to travel back and forth and we stopped that because it was costing us too much.

He added: "Winning the British Championships was a good achievement.

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