



*A tribute to Fred Hallows
The Birth of a Club - A Grasshopper Tale*



*Years ago some chaps got together, one of whom was Fred
All young and fit, raring to go, Rugby mad it must be said.
They started a Club, Grasshoppers by name, but nowhere yet to play
But so determined, that no matter what, Grasshoppers were here to stay.*

*First at Greenford, just one team, then onto Richmond Park
The Judo Boys came, the Kiwis too, they thought it a bit of a lark.
But much achieved, four teams no less, a Colts side second to none.
A burning desire to get better still, ambition far from done.*

*Moving on to the Conquest Club, young Colts now making their name
The Baton passed on, much new blood, all Grasshoppers just the same
With this new blood, goals set higher, so the bar raised yet again
Forward and upward, moving on, this time to McFarlane Lane.*

*Such happy years, though ethos changed, Leagues now much a theme
People paid, new mindset required, gone, the pure Corinthian dream
Clubs fell away, but Grasshoppers prevailed, more than holding its own Ambition bright,
desire still there, with talent all home grown.*

*And so to the present, no, not journeys end, but so far along the way
A magnificent Club, so well disposed, exceeding the goals set yesterday
So how have we managed to get thus far, along this bumpy road
Well, many have worked so very hard, sharing the heavy load.*

*But there has been one consistent thing, a truly indispensable thread
A man with energy, vision and warmth, a very special man called Fred
He started the Club, stayed the course, now seventy years since that time
Been with us forever, with a smile and a quip, a personality so sublime,*

*His help & advice will n'er be forgotten, his presence we will surely miss
Irreplaceable this little chap, the man who started all of this.
So cheerio for now old friend, your Legacy so true, so intact
You were the very best of the best, truly, in every sense, a quality act.*

*Glyndwr Williams - Grasshopper Tribute to an old and dear Friend - Fred Hallows
February 2020*

'Fortis in Animo'