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Harrogate RUFC 1st Team and Georgians Squads 24th September 2022



Back row left to right: ? , Sam Fenn, Andy Musveburu, ? , Rory Worzel, Louis Neal, ? , Jack kennell, Jack Hall, Sammy Been, ? , ? , ? , ? .

Middle row left to right: Aled Jones, ? (physio), Marcus Mercer, William Hill, Gregory Jones, Mark Dodds, Rupert Scrace, Seif Elsayed, Kurtis Booth, ? , ? , Thomas Spencer-Jones, Daniel Group, Peter Olley, Tom Baxter, Mark Garrett(Chairman).

Front Row left to right: Martyn Wood (Director of Rugby), Gary Mercer (Defence Coach), Richard Wade (Forwards Coach), Sam Fox (Head Coach), Rory MacNab, Oliver Pearson, Sam Brady(Captain), Will Yates, Jacob Percival, ? , ? , ? .

HARROGATE 20TH ANNUAL GOLF DAY, WEDNESDAY 31ST AUGUST 2022

Another great day at Pannal Golf Club for the 20th Harrogate RUFC Annual Golf Day, superbly organised by Martin Boyle, was held at Pannal Golf Club in excellent golfing conditions.

18 teams took part in the Stableford competition, with the best 2 scores on each hole counting to the team score. Serendipity, the team from Thompson Accountants, ran out winners. Second place was taken by the Chiefs following a count-back on the last nine, with the team from Feather Smailes and Scales in third place. Steve Walmsley from Mooredge Gardens Ltd was nearest the pin on the 10th, and David Smith from the Chiefs was nearest the pin on the 18th in 2 shots.



Following the golf, players and their guests congregated in the clubhouse for an evening of food, drink and bonhomie, expertly MC'd by renowned local compere Kevin Lynch.



The evening started with Mike Cowling paying tribute to HRUFC Club President Bill Barrack, who sadly passed away two days earlier, followed by a round of applause for Bill. This was followed by Brian Forshaw saying grace, and Lindsay McKenzie, the Pannal Captain, welcoming all to the Club. Everyone then enjoyed their meal: Duck Liver Parfait, followed by Beef Bourguignon and a Cheese Board. A raffle was then held, before Simon Croft auctioned International Rugby tickets and rounds of golf at Wetherby and Pannal. Prizes were then presented with David Thompson replying on behalf of the winning team, and Feather Smailes and Scales winning the sweepstake by drawing the winning team. The evening then finished with all charging their glasses and raising a toast to Bill Barrack.

Harrogate RUFC once again sends their grateful thanks to Pannal Golf Club, their Captain and staff for hosting a fantastic day. Some significant funds were raised to continue the development of rugby at Rudding Lane.

Results:

1st: Serendipity (Pictured) - 90 points
 2nd: Chiefs - 88 points (47 on the back nine)
 3rd: Feather Smailes & Scales - 88 points (45 on the back nine)
 Nearest the pin on the 10th: Steve Walmsley - 2.9 metres
 Nearest the pin on the 18th in 2: David Smith - 39 centimetres
 Report by Tim Thorley (Tournament Director)

Fifty Years Ago 1972/1973

Club Officials 1972/1973: President: G.B.Frank, Chairman: Ken Butler-Smith, Secretary: Hector McPhee, Treasurer: John.A.Hudson, Fixtures and Team Secretary: C.T.Wood, Colts Secretaries: D.Simpson and P.D.Cunningham, Bantams Secretary: R.D.Horne, 1st XV Captain: Brian R. Forshaw, Georgians Captain: Keith F. Gascoyne, 'A' XV Captain: D.C.S. Grant, Panthers Captain: H.G. Mannall, Pythons Captain: A.B.Stevenson, Groundsman: Herbert Bradley.

Miscellaneous 1972/1973: Peter Glover (RAF and England), Peter Squires (Yorkshire, England), Steve A. Turk (Scotland) and Army prop Noel Slater joined Harrogate this season. Peter Squires played his first game for England on Saturday 24th February 1973 against France. His second match was against Scotland on Saturday 17th March 1973.

At the committee meeting on Tuesday 14th November 1972 Derek Horne reported that a tackling bag had been presented to the club and he would like it to be available to all teams.

The club's newly formed junior section was developing well and the journalist Vivian Jenkins reported in his Sunday newspaper column the progress that Harrogate was making to provide coaching and playing for juniors.

Geoff Gamble was busy this season collecting Green Shield stamps. Those of a certain age will remember this shopping incentive from the 1970's and Geoff was using the stamps to acquire raffle prizes for the club.

Catering: It was agreed at a committee meeting on Tuesday 8th August 1972 that the standard meal to be provided for visiting teams would be hamburger, beans and chips.

New Members: At a meeting on Tuesday 13th June the committee approved the memberships for Peter Squires, Captain Noel T. Slater, Peter Glover and Mrs. P. Glover.

Melrose 16 - 25 Harrogate - 23rd September 1972

This was the club's first game against Melrose and was one of those fixtures which stay in the memory of the players for ever. The quality of the rugby and the tremendous hospitality were memorable. Peter Squires moved from his England position on the right wing to play an outstanding game at stand off and Scottish International Steve Turk played at full back. The Harrogate team excelled for this game and the victory was celebrated over a long and enjoyable weekend.

Sad Farewell to Vic Melling

In the programme dated 18th November 1972 it was announced that Vic Melling had died. Over many years Vic had taken on various duties for the club and was highly regarded as an ambassador for Harrogate Rugby Club.

Harrogate 1st XV 1972/1973 (below)



Back row left to right: Sid Bradley (Club Historian), Simon Frank, Gordon Frank (President), Nick Brookes, John Jacobs, Alan Everson, Frank Booth, Tony Hill, David Raw, Gordon Meadows, Mark Lindley, Ralph Frankland, John Plowright. Bert Bradley (Groundsman).

Front row left to right, David Upson, Mike Newport, Brian Forshaw (Captain), Glyn M.T. Williams, John M. Ashman.

Other players not included on the team photograph: Peter B. Glover, Bernard A. Henry, R.K. Mold, Brian Swales, Jeff Salt, Noel Slater, Anthony J. Pitchers, Harry Nicholson, Chris P.A. Jacks, Keith H.D. Jones, David Wong, Bryn Metcalfe, Malcolm Newell, Peter J. Clegg, David Thomas, Robert Bruce, Peter Squires, Paul Cunningham, A. Steve Turk, Phil Warder, M. Cuss.

Heriots 48 - 18 Harrogate 2/9/1972(Photo left).



Left to right: Andy Irvine(with ball), Keith Jones, Gordon Meadows (tackling), unknown, Brian Forshaw, Bernard Henry.

Harrogate v Coventry 24th March 1973

Club Fixtures Secretary, Tony Wood had built up a magnificent fixture list for the club over several years. Amongst many outstanding fixtures during this season was the game against Coventry on 24th March 1973. At the time Coventry were regarded as one of, if not the finest club in the country and with a home crowd of 1000 spectators Harrogate produced a formidable display against such a strong side with a creditable 4-21 scoreline. John Plowright was making his First XV debut in this game. Prop Paul Roberts was playing against one of the best props in the country and despite needing eight stitches in a head wound produced an outstanding performance.

Yorkshire Schoolboys Select Swales

Brian Swales was selected to play for Yorkshire Schoolboys against Durham on Saturday 30th December 1972.

Harrogate defeat strong Headingley side 17/2/1973

There was always a great rivalry between Harrogate and Headingley and this season recorded an outstanding victory over a Headingley team littered with International and county players including John Spencer, Ian McGeechan, Bill Reichwald, and Terry Donovan. Harrogate 24 - 10 Headingley.

Formidable Fixture List

The fixture list for the 1972/73 season looked formidable with 42 fixtures against some of the country's leading clubs and an away trip to Heriots as the first game of the season.

The Wilmslow programme notes for the fixture on the 9th September 1972 reads; 'In recent years Harrogate have won the Sunday Telegraph Pennant once, and come close to winning it on at least one other occasion, and undoubtedly have become, over the last five or six years, one of the top echelon of Northern Clubs.'

Harrogate v R.A.F. Maintenance Command 18/11/72

Harrogate has had strong links with all the armed services for many years including the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, the Royal Navy, The Army College in Harrogate, Catterick Garrison and on Saturday 18th November 1972 Harrogate hosted the R.A.F. Maintenance Command. Playing in the centre that day for the R.A.F. was a young Eddie Kernaghan who later became a member of Harrogate Rugby Club and a stalwart of the Pythons section of the club in the 1990's and 2000's.

Miscellaneous 1972/1973 season

Peter Squires played for Yorkshire against Staffordshire, Ulster, Cumberland, Northumberland, Durham, Cheshire and twice against Lancashire. Steve Turk played in the Scottish Trials and played for Yorkshire. Phil P.J. Warder played for Combined Services and for the RAF. Noel T. Slater played for the Army and for Cheshire. H.W. Price played for the RAF. Harry J. Nicholson played for the Civil Service. Peter Glover and Gerry Classey both played for the RAF.

Jeff Salt says farewell to Harrogate

Jeff Salt began playing for Harrogate in 1968 and played his last game for Harrogate at the end of December 1972 against Sale. Jeff was a regular member of the First XV at scrum half and played in many memorable victories with over 150 appearances.

Harrogate 1st XV 1972/1973



At the start of the 1972/73 season the First XV team on this photograph consisted of: Back row left to right: Peter Clegg, Chris Rump, Paul Roberts, Ralph Frankland, Tony Hill, Harry Nicholson, Gordon Meadows, Noel Slater, Bob Fall (Trainer), Front row left to right: Tony Pitchers, Brian Swales, David Wong, Brian Forshaw (Captain), Bernard Henry, John Thornhill, Jeff Salt.

The Harrogate Town Football Club History.

Two of Harrogate Town Football club's former players C.Leng and A.G. Oddy also played rugby for Harrogate. If anyone knows these two families and their descendants please get in touch as the club is researching as many former players and their families as possible.

Harrogate RFC 1st XV 1913/1914 (Below)



Rear left to right: T. Chapman, **C. Leng**, ? , Foskett. Back row: Mitchell, Henderson, Needham, ? , Hame, **A.G. Oddy**, Gregg. Middle row: Wood, Hamer, Spedding, J.Whittaker(Captain), E. Pinkney, ? , Salabank. Front on the ground: Alkinson, Atkinson.

Harrogate RFC 1913/1914 (Below)



Standing left to right: 1) Mitchell, 2) **C. Leng?**, 3) ? , 4) ? , 5) ? , 6) ? , 7) **A.G.Oddy**, 8) ? , 9) ? , 10) ? , 11) ? , 12) ? , 13) ? , 14) ? , 15) ? , 16) Salabank, 17) ? , 18) ? , 19) ? , 20) ? , 21) ? . Sitting: 1) ? , 2) J. Whittaker, Remainder unknown.

HRFC Officials 1913/1914: President: M. Rickinson, Chairman: **C. Leng**, Secretary: C.P. Barnwell, Treasurer: Phil Gray.

Harrogate's International Players

England

Glover, Peter, Bernard. (D.O.B. 25/9/1945) Wing. Peter played 3 times for England. On 7/1/1967 he won his first cap for England against Australia at Twickenham. His second game was against France at Twickenham 27/2/1971 and his final game against a President's XV on 17/4/1971. He played for Harrogate from 1972 to 1974.

King, Ian. (D.O.B. 5/5/1923) Full Back. Won his first England cap on 16/1/1954 against Wales at Twickenham. His second game was against New Zealand 30/1/1954 and his final game against Ireland at Twickenham 13/2/1954. He played for Harrogate from 1947 to 1957.

Larter, Peter, John. (D.O.B. 7/9/1944) 2nd row. Gained his first cap for England 7/1/1967 against Australia at Twickenham. He won the last of his 24 England caps in the game against Wales at Cardiff 20/1/1973. He also played for the British and Irish Lions in 1968. He played for Harrogate 1981/1982.

Pickering, Arthur, Stanley. (24/3/1885 - 17/2/1969) Centre. Won his only international cap against Ireland at Lansdowne Road 9/2/1907 when England lost 17 - 9. He played for Harrogate from 1905 to 1907.

Sanders, Donald, Louis, G. (Sandy). (D.O.B. 6/9/1924) Prop. Won his first cap playing against Wales at Twickenham 16/1/1954. The last of his 9 caps was against France at Colombes 14/4/1956. He did not play rugby for Harrogate but was a member, Chairman and President between 1963 and 1979.

Shackleton, Roger, Ian. (D.O.B. 17/6/1948) Stand Off. He played four times for England in 1969/1970. On 20/12/1969 he played against South Africa at Twickenham, 14/2/1970 against Ireland at Twickenham, 28/2/1970 against Wales at Twickenham and 21/3/1970 against Scotland at Murrayfield. The first two games were won and the second two lost. He played for Harrogate from 1967 to 1986 and currently helps with coaching.

Squires, Peter, John. (D.O.B. 4/8/1951) Wing. Won his first cap 24/2/1973 against France at Twickenham and the last of his 29 caps on 17/3/1979 against Wales at Cardiff. He also played for the British and Irish Lions in 1977. He played for Harrogate from 1972 to 1985.

Troop, Carlton, Lang. (10/6/1910 - 2/6/1992) No.8. Played for Hampshire and The Army. Played twice for England in their 17 - 6 victory 11/2/1933 against Ireland at Twickenham and 0 - 3 defeat against Scotland at Murrayfield 18/3/1933. Played for Harrogate in the 1930s.

Wood, Martyn, Benjamin. Scrum half. (Born April 25th, 1977, Harrogate.) In the 1994/1995 season Martyn played for England Schools and in 1995/1996 he played for Yorkshire Colts. In 1995 he played for the North of England. He was part of the England set up in 1999 but his first international match was against Canada on 9th June 2001 when he came on as substitute for Kyran Bracken. He was awarded a second cap against the United States of America in San Francisco 16th June, 2001. He also played 44 games for Bath, England 'A' and 84 games for London Wasps. He played for Harrogate in the 1995/1996 season.

Woodruff, Peter. First appears on a Harrogate 1st XV photograph for the 1939/1940 season. Peter Woodruff played on the wing for England 20/1/1951 against Wales at Swansea.

Callard, Jonathon, Edward, Brooks. Full back. Jon did not play rugby for Harrogate but was elected Honorary Vice President of HRUFC in 2009, following his move to live in Harrogate. In the autumn of 1993 he made his international debut for England against the All Blacks winning 15 - 9 and went on to win 5 caps. His final appearance was against South Africa at Twickenham 18/11/1995 losing 14 - 24. In 2002 he became assistant coach to Phil Davies at Leeds Tykes and later that year was also appointed as head coach of the England U21s. He joined the RFU's National Academy in summer 2005. Jon was appointed "Kicking Coach" to the senior England rugby team for the Rugby World Cup 2007.

Scotland

Grant, Thomas, Oliver. (D.O.B. 5/9/1932 in Hawick) Lock. Gained his first cap for Scotland on 27/2/1960 playing against Ireland at Lansdowne Road and the last of his 6 caps was against Wales at Cardiff 1/2/1964. He played for Harrogate from 1964 to 1966.

Turk, Arthur, Steven. (Born January 9, 1948, died August 2005). Centre. He played one match for Scotland at Twickenham 20/3/1971 when he was a reserve. He played for Harrogate 1972/1973.

Wright, H.B. Forward. Played one game for Scotland in 1894 against Wales at Newport 3/2/1894 and this fact was reported by the Tatler magazine in 1952. Wales won 7 - 0.

Ireland

Easterby, Simon, Henry. (Born July 21st, 1975, Harrogate) Back row. He played 2 games for the British and Irish Lions and 65 games for Ireland. He made his debut for Ireland 19/2/2000 in the game against Scotland at Lansdowne Road and captained Ireland 12/11/2005 and 19/11/2005 against Australia and New Zealand. His last game for Ireland was 15/3/2008 against England at Twickenham. In 2009 he became the coach of Llanelli Scarlets. He played for Harrogate from 1994 to 1997.

Easterby, Walter, Guy. (Born March 21st, 1971, Tadcaster.) Scrum Half. He played for the Barbarians, London Scottish (24 games in 1998/1999), Rotherham Titans (9 games in 2003/2004) and Ireland. He made his debut for Ireland against the United States of America at Manchester 10/6/2000 and played his last game for Ireland against Scotland at Murrayfield 12/2/2005. He started 7 international matches with Ireland and was replacement for 21 games. At the end of his professional career he joined Otley then Leinster. He played for Harrogate from 1989 to 1995.

Wales

Young, Jeffrey. (Born September 16th, 1942, Blaengarw. Died October 5th, 2005, Harrogate.) Hooker. Played one test match for the British and Irish Lions and won 23 caps playing for Wales. He made his debut at Cardiff, 3/2/1968, against Scotland and played his last game for Wales against France at Parc des Princes 24/3/1973. He played for Harrogate from 1964 to 1972 and was elected Captain).

Switzerland

Feurer, Lee. Wing. Lee played for Yorkshire and played international rugby for Switzerland in the World Cup qualifying game against Israel in Tel Aviv on Saturday 28th March 1998. Lee's father was Swiss. He played for Harrogate from 1996 to 1999.