

Gate Post

Harrogate Rugby Union Football Club
Founded 1871



Gate Post No. 145 April 2023

This newsletter is sent to all the supporters, current and past members of Harrogate Rugby Club for whom we have an email address. Please forward the newsletter to anyone else who may be interested. If you would like to be added to our database for future copies please send your email address to brianforshaw4@virginmedia.com. Your contributions would be most welcome along with your feedback. If you would like copies of previous editions please contact Brian Forshaw.

HARROGATE JUNIOR FESTIVAL 2023

SATURDAY 29 APRIL 2023, Open 09:00 - SUNDAY 30 APRIL 2023, Close 16:00



Over the years, this annual event has developed a reputation for friendly, quality rugby with teams from over thirty clubs attending from all over the UK.

Across two days, children between the ages seven and fifteen come along to The Apollo Capital Stadium on Rudding Lane to compete in our two-day tournament. Our past on-site attendance has been well over 2000, with over 50,000 views across web and social media.

The principle aim of the festival is to have fun.

The festival organisers work to ensure that the event is player focused and that means being child focused. BBQ's, bars, picnic-chairs, inflatable slides, stalls and ice cream vans create the complete festival environment.

If you would like your team to join the fun, please enquire with our junior fixtures secretary at Junior.Fixtures@harrogaterugby.com

Sponsorship forms a key part of our fund-raising activities, and we are very thankful to a number of companies each year who provide generous sponsorship. Without this, the festival could not go ahead. Local businesses' contributions ensure that the event remains community-based and this is supported by widespread local press coverage.

If you are interested in supporting the event, please enquire with the Junior Fixtures Chair, Matt Grant.

Our festival strives to improve its visitor experience every year, to provide a safe enjoyable atmosphere, where both children and rugby are the focus. With a team of dedicated volunteers, we are confident that once again, the 2023 festival will be another day to remember.

Finals Day

Three Harrogate Juniors teams made it to the tournament finals over the weekend on Sunday 26th March 2023.

Under 14's - Yorkshire Cup Final @ Beverley RUFC. KO - 11:00

Under 15's - Yorks. Cup Final @ Hull Ionians RUFC. KO - 11:00

Under 16's-Asia Group Final @ Roundhegians RUFC. KO 13:00

Under 15's started the day off with an amazing 24-10 win over Sandal! The Under 14's very quickly joined them in celebrations, beating Hull Ionians 17-7. Not to be outdone, the Under 16's brought home the third title of the day 24-10 winners against Roundhegians.

A fantastic day for all involved. Well done to all players, coaches and amazing volunteers. Lots of silverware to retain next year!

Junior Festival 29th/30th April 2023

This year's Junior Festival is being organised by our Community Rugby Development Officer, Aled Jones. This is a tremendous event on our rugby calendar over the weekend of 29th/30th April 2023. We also need sponsors, the event is an ideal opportunity for sponsorship and publicity for a wide audience. Volunteers are needed to help man the barbecues, assist with parking supervision, and a whole host of other jobs across the weekend's activities.

If you know of companies who would like to advertise at the event or sponsor the event or, if you would like to volunteer your help over the weekend please contact aled.jones@Harrogaterugby.com

BINGO AND CURRY NIGHT FRIDAY 28 APRIL 2023. 7:00

Harrogate Under 16's are hosting a Bingo and Curry Night at The Clubhouse on Friday 28th April!

Forget a boring Friday night in, join us at Harrogate for an evening of games, fun and curry! Open to all, get a group together or come solo and make some friends, join us at 7 p.m. to enjoy a genuine Bradford curry from Aziz Catering.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Gabby on 07498729264 or gabbyglasby@gmail.com

Yorkshire Cup Winners 30/4/2015



The photograph above shows the match winning squad for final of the Yorkshire Cup Competition played on 30/4/2015 at West Park Leeds RUFC. Harrogate defeated Wharfedale 16 - 12.

Left to right standing: Danny Cooke, Luke Edwards, Nino Cutino, Kyle Dench, ? , Rob Johnson (behind), Ben Reaveley, Graham Siswick, Chris Wilson, ? , Steve Parsons, Harry Parish, Kerry Wood.

Kneeling, left to right: Jonny Coser, ? , Willem Enslin, Noel Minikin, Luke Edwards, Aarin Yorke, Danny Matthews, Sam Bottomley, Callum Irvine, James Audsley-Beck. (If you can provide the missing names please contact: brianforshaw4@virginmedia.com.)

2011/2012

Club Officials 2011/2012

President: Mike Cowling, Chairman: Paul Barnard, Secretary, Fixtures Secretary, Press Officer: Bill Barrack, Treasurer: David Wheat, Chair of Rugby: Graham Siswick, Chair of Junior Rugby: Des Cullen, Commercial Chair: David Belward, Co-opted members: James Smithies, Neil Summersall, Membership Secretary: Clive Wright, Yorkshire Representative: Trevor Kent-Jones, Ground Chair: Frank Carter, Security: Stuart Young, Members Representatives: Brian Croft and Kevin Ellis, Programmes and Archivist: Brian Forshaw, Admissions: Phil Castle, Webmaster: Peter Kitching, Groundsman: Keith Johnson, Administrator: Sandra Tinker, Club Doctor: Dr.Jim Woods, 4th officials: Bill Lowe, David Spackman, David Swainston, Brian Forshaw, Head Coach: Mike Aspinall, 1st XV Captain: Ed Smithies.

Harrogate 1st XV 2011/2012



This team photograph was taken before the Huddersfield game 24/3/2012. Back row left to right: Nick Beaumont, Sam Brady, Jake Brady, Tom Harvey, Tim Heaton and Jack Latus. Middle row left to right: Arnie Ellison, Sam Bottomley, Mike Cowling (President), Andy Rock (Backs coach), Aarin Yorke, Andy Fraser, Jimmy Browne, Dickie Davies, Steve Maycock, Bill Barrack (Secretary) and Sophie Smith-Moore (physio). Front row left to right: James Tyson, Jack Bergmanas, Chris Gemmell, Kyle Dench, Ed Smithies (Captain), Callum Irvine, Phil Wickham, Graham Siswick (Team Manager) and Ryan Peacey (forwards player-coach).

Georgians Successful Season

Under skipper Ben Hardy the Georgians finished the 2011/2012 season a comfortable second place in the Yorkshire Premier 2nd team league. The leading try scorer was James Audsley-Beck with 25 tries from only 18 appearances. Unfortunately Becky missed the last few weeks of the season with a nasty injury.

Yorkshire 2nd XV Premier League 2011/2012

	P	W	D	L	For	Aga	pts
1. Wharfedale Foresters	18	16	0	2	646	251	76
2. Harrogate Georgians	18	11	1	6	613	397	60
3. Bradford & Bingley	17	11	0	6	395	333	55
4. Drifffield 2nd XV	18	10	0	8	408	381	49
5. Huddersfield 2nd XV	18	11	0	7	329	371	49
6. Scunthorpe Stags	17	10	0	7	337	472	46
7. Hull Ionians Hawks	19	8	0	11	437	398	43
8. Sheffield Tigers 2nd XV	18	7	0	11	294	286	39
9. Old Brodleians	17	7	0	10	362	434	38
10. Otley	16	5	0	11	296	379	32
11. Sandal Cougars	17	4	1	12	372	406	22
12. Hull 2nd XV	14	4	0	10	263	453	22

Pythons Ladies 44-0 Richmondshire Ravens 30/10/2011 (Report by Laura Symmonds)

The time had finally come. After a year of training and after much deliberation, the Richmond Ravens arrived with six members of their team on a warm October afternoon. A team meeting then took place to see, who, out of the brave few wanted to play against the mighty Harrogate Pythons Ladies. In the end it was Sandy, Clare, Cindy, Charly and Spud who agreed to play for the opposition.

So the game got under way with the Pythons Ladies making the most of all the possession and within five minutes were on the scoreboard when winger Sarah outpaced the defence and strolled in by the corner flag 5-0. The conversion was missed. Play resumed and three minutes later scrum half/fly half Gemma Webster picked up the ball and started to sprint towards the line. The defending scrum half decided it was a good idea to try and go high..... maybe not a great idea.... SMASH!!! Gemma came off a little better after smashing through the tackle and scoring near the posts, but in the process splitting her lip open and giving her opposite number a concussion!! 10-0, conversion missed. In the next assault of the line, an unfortunate accident occurred and poor Katie McHaffie went down after tearing a ligament in her knee. Off she went and Gemma, still bleeding profusely, came back on.....

Onwards and upwards!! Once again Harrogate were in possession with loose head prop Chloe charging towards the line, barging every member of the opposition out of her way!!! 15-0, conversion missed (I see a pattern beginning to form!!) After more assaults of the Richmond try line the half time score was 25-0.

Kick off, the game resumes.....After the ball was knocked on by the Richmond winger (Charly on loan from us), the ball was gathered up by winger Jenny.

Off she goes...but the tackle was too good from the Richmond centre (Cindy on loan from us) and from the ruck came the move of the match which involved the whole front row..... Captain and tight head prop Laura Symmonds gathered the ball and started galloping towards the line. Throwing an outrageous dummy and passing the ball to loose head prop Chloe. Chloe then passed the ball out wide to hooker Carrie Dixon, who then after realising that she was over the try line and after hearing Laura roar "CARRIE PUT THE BALL DOWN!!!!!!!!!!!" She scored!!! Conversion kicked!!!!!!!! (SHOCK!!) 32-0! Flanker Jude Sarmento De Alencar receiving the ball and breaking through the defence and scoring a try, conversion kicked!!! 39-0

The last move of the game saw winger Sarah Kingsley pick up the ball and completely outpacing the entire defence and strolling in under the posts, conversion missed 44-0! TO THE BAR!

The Woman of the Match Award went to Gemma Webster for an outstanding performance and finally getting a conversion, haha!

Ed Smithies Reaches 300 Appearances



On Saturday 5th November 2011 for the game against Otley, which Harrogate won 20 - 11, full back Ed Smithies was playing his 300th league game for the club and celebrated with a thrilling try. After the match, team manager Graham Siswick presented Ed with a signed Harrogate rugby shirt bearing the signatures of players past and present. Jeremy Hopkinson of Hopkinsons Estate Agents sponsored the game and presented Ed with the traditional pint of beer.



Date	Opposition	Venue	Result
2nd Aug	Leicester Lions	A	4-5
9th Sept	Barnsley	H	13-28
16th Sept	Wetherby	A	10-29
17th Sept	Sheffield Tigers	H	14-15
24th Sept	Hull	A	22-33
1st Oct	Leeds	A	12-35
8th Oct	Newcastle	H	17-17
15th Oct	Proton G	A	10-31
22nd Oct	Stockport	H	24-18
29th Oct	Hull Kingston	A	18-24
5th Nov	Otley	H	20-10
12th Nov	Huddersfield	A	13-24
19th Nov	Loughborough	H	17-24
26th Nov	Coleby	A	21-22
3rd Dec	Kendal	H	22-13
10th Dec	Barnsley	A	15-41
17th Dec	Wetherby	H	10-40
24th Dec			
31st Dec			
2012			
7th Jan	Sheffield Tigers	A	7-20
14th Jan	Hull	H	14-19
21st Jan	Leeds	A	23-21
28th Jan	Newcastle	A	
4th Feb	Hull	H	
11th Feb	Proton G	H	
18th Feb	Stockport	A	13-14
25th Feb	Hull	H	24-8
3rd Mar	Hull Kingston	H	24-21
10th Mar	Clay	A	11-47
17th Mar	Huddersfield	H	17-17
24th Mar	Loughborough	A	16-17
31st Mar			
7th Apr			
14th Apr	Coleby	H	25-15
21st Apr	Kendal	A	21-15
28th Apr	Leicester Lions	H	25-41

HRUFC 1st XV Fixtures and results 2011/2012

Georgians Fixtures and Results 2011/2012

Date	Opposition	Venue	Result
3rd Sept	Old Leeds	A	33-22
10th Sept	Scarlboro	H	29-50
17th Sept	Sheffield Tigers	A	-
24th Sept	Hull	H	-
1st Oct	Barnsley	A	27-29
8th Oct	Wetherby	A	22-28
15th Oct	Sheffield	H	21-28
22nd Oct	Sheffield	H	-
29th Oct	Hull Kingston	A	22-14
5th Nov	Clay	A	33-51
12th Nov	Huddersfield	H	-
19th Nov	Sheffield	A	-
26th Nov	Sheffield	A	-
3rd Dec	Clay (F)	A	-
10th Dec			
17th Dec			
24th Dec			
31st Dec			
7th Jan	Sheffield Tigers	H	40-5
14th Jan	Hull	A	100-22
21st Jan	Scarlboro	A	18-12
28th Jan	Wetherby	H	19-32
4th Feb	Sheffield	A	-
11th Feb	Hull	A	71-10
18th Feb	Hull	A	20-24
25th Feb	Griffith	A	40-8
3rd Mar	Hull Kingston	A	50-24
10th Mar	Clay	H	29-29
17th Mar	Sunder	A	29-29
24th Mar	Leeds	A	35-13
31st Mar	Sheffield	A	-
7th Apr	Hull	A	18-7
14th Apr	Wetherby	A	48-3
21st Apr	Leeds	A	-
28th Apr	Wetherby (F)	H	-
	Sunder	A	-