

# Gate Post

Harrogate Rugby Union Football Club  
Founded 1871



## Gate Post No. 146 May 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](mailto: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 RUFC 1st Team Squad 22/4/2023



Back row left to right: Harrison Walker, Charles Buckley, Martin Dodds, Seif Elsayed, Greg Jones, Sam Fenn, Tom Baxter, Rupert Scrase, Harry Yates, Steve Maycock.

Middle row left to right: Martyn Wood(Director of Men's Rugby), Sam Fox (Head Coach), Connor Miller, Aled Jones(Georgians/Transition Coach), Ali Daggett(Physio), Diego McDonald-Rodriguez, Peter Olley, Richard Wade(Forwards Coach), Gary Mercer(Defence Coach), Tim Thorley(4th Official).

Front row left to right: Olly Toomey, William Hill, Tom Steene, Chris Jackson, Jacob Percival, Sam Brady (Captain), Thomas Spencer-Jones, Will Rawlinson, Ben Raubitschek, Will Yates, Tom (Physio).

### 1st Team Statistics for 2022/2023 Season

1st Team Players 51. Played 26, Won 5, Lost 21, Drawn 0. Points for, 418. Points against, 816.

### Total Appearances to 30/4/2023

Martin Dodds 97

Sam Brady 216

Sam Fox 88

Steve Maycock 220

Tom Baxter 50

## Harrogate RUFC 1st Team Fixtures and Results 2022/2023

HARROGATE RUFC 1ST XV FIXTURES 2022/23				
3/09/22	Rotherham	A	Lost	15 - 87
10/9/22	Wharfedale	H	Lost	7 - 24
17/9/22	Fylde	A	Lost	5 - 75
24/9/22	Sedgley Park	H	Lost	10 - 41
1/10/22	Huddersfield	A	Won	29 - 15
15/10/22	Sheffield	H	Lost	22 - 47
22/10/22	Sheffield Tigers	A	Lost	10 - 16
29/10/22	Otley	H	Lost	10 - 16
5/11/22	Chester	A	Lost	19 - 45
12/11/22	Preston G'hoppers	H	Won	23 - 17
26/11/22	Tynedale	A	Lost	8 - 15
3/12/22	Hull Ionians	A	Lost	17 - 24
10/12/22	Blaydon	H	Postp to 4/2/23	
17/12/22	Wharfedale	A	Postponed	
7/1/23	Fylde	H	Lost	0 - 52
14/1/23	Sedgley Park	A	Lost	39 - 7
21/1/23	Huddersfield	H	Postponed	
28/1/23	Sheffield	A	Lost	21 - 10
4/2/23	Blaydon	H	Won	43 - 0
11/2/23	Wharfedale	A	Lost	21 - 11
18/2/23	Sheffield Tigers	H	Won	18 - 7
25/2/23	Otley	A	Lost	31 - 13
4/3/23	Chester	H	Won	21 - 17
11/3/23	Preston G'hoppers	A	Lost	17 - 34
18/3/23	Huddersfield	H	Lost	12 - 21
25/3/23	Tynedale	H	Lost	12 - 24
1/4/23	Hull Ionians	H	Lost	40 - 72
15/4/23	Blaydon	A	Lost	31 - 22
22/4/23	Rotherham	H		

22/4/2023 Harrogate 17 - 45 Rotherham

### Chairman's Message to the Members

2022/2023 has been an incredible season, and I am personally grateful for your unwavering support throughout the year. Your dedication to this club and the sport of rugby has been nothing short of inspiring, and I cannot thank you enough for it.

The Rotherham game on Saturday 22nd April marked the end of our season. It has been a season of ups and downs, ultimately ending in a down! But we have fought hard and given it our all in every game. I am proud of our achievements, and I know that they would not have been possible without the support of you all.

As I look forward to the future, I am excited about the possibilities that lie ahead. We have learned valuable lessons this season, and I am confident that we will be stronger and better prepared for the challenges that await us in the coming months.

We are already looking forward to the start of the next season, and I hope that you will continue to support us as we strive for success on and off the field.

Once again, thank you for your support throughout the season.

Mark Garrett (Chairman Harrogate RUFC)



## SUMMER HOLIDAY SPORTS CAMP

**MONDAY 17 JULY 2023, 09:00 to FRIDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2023, 15:00**

Back for 2023! Harrogate Rugby's Summer Sports Camp.

Weeks packed full of sporting fun at Ridding Lane for children aged 8-12.



Level 2 Qualified coaches have designed a programme of sports activities to keep everyone active and having fun this summer. From tag-rugby to our awesome Friday Water Fights, there's no better way to spend a week this summer. Don't miss out, weekly spaces are limited! To book your spot, visit <https://harrogate-rugby-club-26643330.hubspotpagebuilder.eu/harrogate-summer-sports-camp>

Days run from 9am - 3pm (With early drop-off and late pick up available). Lunches are not included.

## HRUFC Annual Dinner - Thursday 27th April 2023 - Old Swan Hotel, Harrogate



With over three hundred guests, the annual dinner at the Old Swan Hotel, organised by Mike Cowling, was a huge success. Guest speaker, Wayne Barnes kept the crowd entertained with his humorous stories from the man with the whistle. Kevin Lynch was the master of ceremonies and our President, Jo Finnegan, welcomed the honoured guests, Sir Ian McGeechan, Peter Squires, Roger Shackleton, and Alan Old.



Details of former annual club dinners (below) reads like a Who's Who of the rugby world.

Date	Venue	The Queen	The RFU Proposer	The RFU Response	The Guests Proposer	The Guests Response
16/01/1874	Alexandra Hotel		E.Pullan Proposed HFC	T. Fawcett Responded for HFC	T.Holroyd	J.W.Ackrill
28/10/1958	Majestic Hotel		Commandant Army Apprentices School	President RFU	Colonel Croft DSO Mayor Harrogate	President YRFU
13/10/1959	Majestic Hotel	A.V.Milton J.P. President HRUFC	J.E.Ramsden M.P.	J.Warrington President YRFU	L.Elliott	J.M.Kilburn
23/02/67	Cairn Hotel					
01/02/68	Majestic Hotel					
06/02/69	Majestic Hotel			John Currie England		
04/02/1970	Cairn Hotel					
0/1971, 00:00	Cairn Hotel Centenary Dinner	Ken Butler-Smith Chairman HRUFC	R.M.A. Kingswell Vice President RFU	K.H. Chapman Treasurer RFU	S.V.H. Melling HRUFC	P.G.D. Robbins The Financial Times
16/11/1972	Majestic Hotel	G.B.Frank President HRUFC	M.R.Steele-Bodger Vice President RFU	G.B.Frank President HRUFC	K.Butler-Smith Chairman HRUFC	B.G.Montgomery Pres. Northern RFC
08/11/1973	Majestic Hotel	R.D.Horne Chairman HRUFC	Dr.D.W.C.Smith British Lions Manager	R.Endall President YRFU	G.B.Frank President HRUFC	P.G.Yarranton England
1974						
1975						
12/2/1976	Cairn Hotel	K.Butler-Smith President HRUFC	D.H.T. Fox President YRFU	A.G.Roche Yorks Colts Coach	John Crosby Chairman HRUFC	J.Johnson Pres. Melrose RFC
3/2/1977	HRUFC Clubhouse	John Crosby Chairman HRUFC	Barry de Zwaan Pres. Gosforth RFC	W.R.Beaumont JP Harrogate Mayor	K.Butler-Smith President HRUFC	Frank Sugden Bradford RFC
23 Feb 1978	Majestic Hotel			Sir Anthony Wharton President RFU		
2/1979, 00:00	Majestic Hotel	J.V.Milton President HRUFC	M.A.C.Slemen England	Peter Squires England	J.V.Milton President HRUFC	R.Cotterill Referee
1980						
10/02/1981	Majestic Hotel	J.V.Milton M.B.E. President HRUFC	Eric Evans England	W.B.Beaumont England	Bertie McKay Chairman HRUFC	Philip Thody Entertainer
25/02/1982	Majestic Hotel	J.V. Milton M.B.E. President HRUFC	Philip Horrocks-Taylor England & British Lions	D.P.(Budge) Rogers OBE England & Lions	Bertie McKay Chairman HRUFC	Roy Manock Secretary Yorkshire RFU
1983						
1984						
1985						
26/02/1986	Majestic Hotel	Norman Hesp President HRUFC				
1987						
1988						
23/02/1989 00	Majestic Hotel	John A.Englefield President HRUFC	Ted Wood Durham University	Geoff Cooke England Manager	Sandy Boal HRUFC	Fred Dawson Old Rishworthians
22/2/1990	Majestic Hotel	John A.Englefield President HRUFC	Stephen Battersby	D.L.Sanders President HRUFC	R. Shackleton HRUFC	Trevor Bethel Pres. LedburyRUFC
21/2/1991	Majestic Hotel	John A.Englefield President HRUFC	W.D.F.Coverdale Coroner	Capt. M.A.Pearey President RFU	Glyn W.Smith HRUFC	John Lawrence Sedgely Park RUFC
1992						
1993	Majestic Hotel	John Englefield President HRUFC				Jackie Blanchflower
1994						
1995						
01/02/1996						
20/02/1997	Majestic Hotel	P.D.Cunningham President HRUFC	John Spencer England	John T.Richardson President RFU	W.A.Jones Chairman HRUFC	Bob Bevan Entertainer
26/02/1998	Majestic Hotel		Willie John McBride Scotland and Lions	Peter Brook President RFU		Fred Dawson Old Rishworthians RUFC
25/02/1999	Majestic Hotel	Rodney Spragg President HRUFC	Fran Cotton England & British Lions	Peter Trunkfield President RFU	W.A.Jones Chairman HRUFC	Jimmy Bright Comedian
24/02/2000	Majestic Hotel	Rodney Spragg President HRUFC	Martin Bayfield England & British Lions	President RFU	W.A.Jones Chairman HRUFC	Ken O'Keefe Comedian
22/02/2001	Majestic Hotel					
21/02/2002	Majestic Hotel					
2/2003, 00:00	Majestic Hotel	Roy Guy President HRUFC	Gareth Chilcott England	Derek Morgan President RFU	Roy Guy President HRUFC	Norman Prince Entertainer
26/02/2004	Majestic Hotel	Roy Guy President HRUFC	Ian Robertson BBC commentator	Robert Horner President RFU	Roy Guy President HRUFC	Brian Voyle-Morgan Entertainer
2/2005, 00:00	Majestic Hotel	Roy Guy President HRUFC	Ray French England Int.	Malcolm Phillips President RFU	Roy Guy President HRUFC	Stan Taylor Entertainer
23/02/2006	Majestic Hotel		Peter Wheeler England			
2/2007, 00:00	Majestic Hotel	Brian Forshaw President HRUFC	Scott Quinnett Wales	R.A.G.(Bob)Rogers President RFU	Brian Forshaw President HRUFC	Venn Tracey Entertainer
28/02/2008 00	Majestic Hotel	Brian Forshaw President HRUFC	Tony Spreadbury Referee	R.B. Bob Taylor President RFU	Brian Forshaw President HRUFC	Barry Roberts Entertainer
26/02/2009	Majestic Hotel	Allen Tattersfield President HRUFC	David Oxley M.B.E.	Brian Williams President RFU	Allen Tattersfield President HRUFC	Terry Crystal Former England Doctor
25/02/2010	Majestic Hotel	Allen Tattersfield President HRUFC	John Bentley England & British Lions	John Owen President RFU	Paul Barnard Chairman HRUFC	
17/02/2011	Majestic Hotel	Mike Cowling President HRUFC	Ben Kay England and British Lions	Richard Appleby President RFU	Paul Barnard Chairman HRUFC	John Spencer England & British Lions
23/02/2012	Majestic Hotel	Mike Cowling President HRUFC	Sean Fitzpatrick New Zealand All Blacks		Paul Barnard Chairman HRUFC	



### **HRUFC Annual Dinner 28th February 2013**

Shaun Edwards was the guest speaker for the club's annual dinner held at the Majestic Hotel on Thursday 28th February 2013.

### **Annual Dinner Thursday 27th February 2014**

Jacob Brady was presented with the award for Player of the Year by guest speaker Doddie Weir at the club's annual dinner.

Three hundred and eighty guests enjoyed a thoroughly entertaining evening which, once again, was held at the Majestic Hotel, Harrogate. Vice Chairman, Graham Siswick thanked the numerous sponsors who make the evening such a financial success and congratulated Clive Wright, Ann Mitchell and their team for organising a wonderful event. The guest speaker was Scottish International and British Lion, Doddie Weir who entertained the guests with amusing stories about his life and rugby experiences. He also presented the Player of the Year Award to 1st XV Captain Jake Brady and the Junior Volunteer of the year Award to Graeme Tasker.



The club received many very kind emails, texts and calls including a thank you from Doddie Weir, our speaker, who thoroughly enjoyed the evening. We would like to thank Doddie for not only making us all laugh so much but mixing with the guests before and after the dinner. HRUFC would like to thank the following people for their help and support:- Doddie Weir (speaker) Simon Croft (our MC) Graham Siswick, our Vice Chairman, for his welcome speech. Mike Aspinall, our Director of Rugby, for his encouraging speech on the progress of our teams at HRUFC. Anne Mitchell, our Bar and Clubhouse Steward, for her and her staff's sterling work and who continue to deliver great food and drinks and service for our many members and guests. Paul Berriff for donating the signed photos he took of Mick Jagger and Roger Moore in the 1960's. Stuart Lancaster for donating the framed shirt of the current 6 Nations squad. Bernard Henry for donating the large LED TV for the raffle. Vicky Clayton, the events manager, and her staff at the Majestic for providing us with a quality meal and venue. Ric Lawson for providing an excellent fully functional PA system. Dariel Pitt, Mike Cowling and Graham Siswick for helping to bring the event to fruition. Our corporate sponsors who sponsored the dinner, Bluestone, Molson Coors, Marshall Zoing, Nuffield Health, Richard Austin Alloys, Nationwide Structures, Barclays Bank, Crest Nicholson, Redrow Homes and our other regular sponsors Emsley's Crane Hire, Hopkinson's Estate Agents, Clarity Copiers and many more..... Thanks to Marmax for the high quality picnic table in the club colours. Thank you to Peter Jesper for subsidising the black and red chairs for the new club house. Thanks to the guests who paid a generous amount for the auction prizes which will help fund the new ground. The dinner will have raised in the region of £20,000 to help fund the relocation.

### **Neil Back Guest Speaker - Annual Dinner 2015**

Former England flanker, Neil Back was the guest speaker for the club's annual dinner held at the Majestic Hotel on Thursday 26th February 2015. Neil Back won 66 England caps and 5 British Lions caps.



### **2016 Annual Dinner**

The 2016 Annual Dinner was held at the Majestic Hotel, Harrogate on Thursday 25th February. The guest speaker was Dean Richards, former Leicester and England player.



### **Annual Dinner 2019 The Old Swan Hotel**

The guest speaker for the club's annual dinner at the Old Swan Hotel was Maggie Alphonsi M.B.E. former England player from 2003 to 2014 with 74 appearances.



### **Annual Dinner 5th March 2020**



The club's annual dinner was held at The Old Swan Hotel, Harrogate on Thursday 5th March 2020. Former Ireland fly half, Mick Quinn was the guest speaker and well received with his brand of cheeky Irish humour. The photo shows Mick Quinn with left to right: Tim Heaton (player), David Doherty (Director of Rugby), Roger Shackleton, Dom Busby(MC), Mick Quinn, Terry Crystal (Former Harrogate player), Peter Squires, Brian Forshaw (former President and Captain of HRUFC) During the evening a new award was presented to the club groundsman, Xeynu, who was voted 'Rising Star of the Season' for his outstanding work for the club keeping the grounds in

good order. He regularly cycles to the ground and he was presented with a new bike sponsored by Stratstone.

### **150th Anniversary Ball and Gala Dinner 18/12/2021**



To celebrate Harrogate Rugby Club's 150th anniversary, a Gala Dinner and Ball was held at the Pavilions of Harrogate on Saturday 18th December 2021.

### **HRUFC Annual Dinner 28/4/2022**

#### **Guest Speaker - Brian Moore**



The club's annual dinner was held at The Old Swan Hotel, Harrogate on Thursday 28th April 2022

The main speaker was Brian Moore who is a former Old Crossleyans and England player with 64 Caps, 3 Grand Slam wins, 2 Lions tours, 3 World Cup tournaments, TV Commentator and Analyst and qualified referee.

The Master of Ceremonies for the evening was Kevin Lynch, renowned speaker and former Football League referee. The main sponsor for the evening was Emsley Crane Hire.

