

5TH SCOTTISH GOLDEN OLDIES RUGBY FESTIVAL

£2.50

Highland RFC, Canal Park, Inverness | Saturday 1st June, 2013

Welcome to the Highland Capital and the 5th Scottish Golden Oldies Rugby Festival

Fàilte gu Prìomh-bhaile na Gàidhealtachd agus 5^{mh} Fèis Rugbaidh Seann Ghaisgich na h-Alba



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> ABOUT US

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It is a great pleasure to welcome everyone to the 5th Scottish Golden Oldies Rugby Festival being held at Highland Rugby Club at Canal Park, Inverness on Saturday 1st June 2013. The Golden Oldies Rugby movement, and its Scottish Festival, are now well established and provide enjoyment for the participants and an exciting spectacle for the spectators.

This is the first occasion on which the Scottish Golden Oldies Festival has visited the City of Inverness, and we are all looking forward very much, to some fiercely enjoyable rugby. We all look forward to welcoming visiting players to the City, perhaps including a few rugby "legends" taking part in the Festival.

I am sure Inverness will prove to be a first-class venue, and that the Festival in our city will fulfil the "Golden Oldies" ethos of "Fun, Friendship and Fraternity". We look forward to an enjoyable and successful event and hope that the Festival participants will find Inverness meets all their expectations of an excellent venue and warm Highland hospitality.



Provost Alex Graham
Provost of Highland
Council



The Highland Council

Festival Launch



Pictured at the Festival Launch on St Andrew's Day, last year, is the Highland Council Provost, Cllr Alex Graham (front left) along with Colin Baillie MBE (front right) Highland RFC President. SGO Secretary, Katie Barnett (second right) and Dave McDonald Golden Oldies President (third right), are along with other Local Organising Committee Members, for the signing of the Festival Agreement.

A Welcome from the Local Organising Committee

It is with great pleasure that I welcome all players, supporters and officials to the 2013 Golden Oldies Rugby Festival at Highland Rugby Club and this will be our first ever hosting of the Festival in the Highlands. As a former Physical Education Teacher, I am aware of the need to compete at all stages of life and it is great to see that many rugby players want to take part in later years which gives them the opportunity to feel the adrenaline flowing through, before, during and especially after in the bar and the chance to exchange stories with other players.



Scottish Golden Oldies President, Dave McDonald has created a much needed event which hopefully will be carried on the Highlands through future games which already have started to take place, and today will be a great opportunity for future development.

Highland Rugby Club are grateful to all our Sponsors, Referees and Volunteers from the Club who have assisted with this Festival and the G.O. Committee. We also welcome the Inverness City Provost, Councillor Alex Graham, who launched our Festival in November and through the Highland Council has helped us with Sponsorship. Also a big welcome to our Festival Ambassador, Ernie Michie, who finished his playing career with Highland after winning 14 caps for Scotland and the Lions Tour. Ernie was an inspiring lock and although a real warrior on the pitch he was a complete gentleman and a perfect role model for the young players.

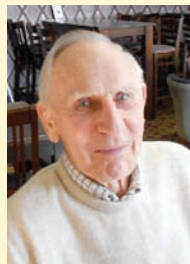
I hope that all taking part today will enjoy themselves to the full and make full use of our Highland hospitality both outside and in our Clubhouse during and after the Festival.

Colin Baillie MBE

President Highland Rugby Club.

Our Festival Ambassador – Ernie Michie Esq

Scottish Golden Oldies Rugby are delighted that Former Scottish Internationalist and British Lion – Ernie Michie – has kindly agreed to be the Festival Ambassador at Highland RFC on 1st June, when the 5th Scottish Golden Oldies Rugby Festival is staged. Congratulations go to the Festival Local Organising Committee for making the arrangements with Ernie, who now lives in Inverness.



Ernest "Ernie" James Stewart Michie (born 7 November 1933) was a Scottish International Rugby Union Player, who played for Scotland and the Lions. He played at second row (lock), and his nickname was "Fourteen" buy him a Beer at the Bar, and he may tell you why..... He also played for Aberdeen Grammar School, Langholm RFC, and Aberdeen University. His other clubs were London Scottish FC, RE, the Army, and Barbarian F.C.. He was on the 1955 British Lions tour to South Africa, where regaled in full Scottish Dress, he even Piped the Players onto the Field ! By an amazing coincidence, one of Ernie's Teammates in South Africa, was the late, great – Jeff Butterfield, who went on to become the first President of European Golden Oldies Rugby....a position held for the past 11 years by the Scottish Golden Oldies President – Dave McDonald.

Ernie shall officially ' Kick Off ' the Festival and hopefully turn out for some of the participant Teams. However, Ernie is by no means the Oldest Player at the Festival.... that honour, as far as we are aware, goes to great Golden Oldies Rugby Festival stalwart – Alastair Urquhart who is a nimble 85 year old !! (in Golden Oldies, age is shown by the colour of shorts being worn...and over 60's cannot be tackled.)

A Welcome from the President of the Scottish Rugby Union Alan Lawson Esq

I would like to congratulate the Scottish Golden Oldies for organising this 5th Rugby Festival in Inverness. Following the success of last year's Festival in St Andrews it's good to hear that so many Teams are turning up to participate in this year's event. A credit to Dave and everyone involved at the Highland Club.

Golden Oldies Rugby is a feature of our Game throughout the Rugby World and it is only right and fitting that Scotland holds its own Festival. Senior sport is a feature of many sports and it is a credit to everyone who wants to keep playing that they prepare and turn up " fit to play ". As Norman Mair of the Scotsman used to quip " you're a long time deed " meaning that you should play for as long as you can physically rise to the challenge.

Inverness is a terrific place to celebrate the Rugby Game and I'm sure the Highland Club and the townsfolk will enter in to the spirit of the occasion and come and support the Festival. Fun and Friendship are at the heart of Golden Oldies Rugby and the Rugby Family is very welcoming.

I hope everyone thoroughly enjoys the occasion and if you see any old codgers hobbling about or suffering from having overdone the playing part, just remind them of whose fault it is and at their age they should know better - and then move smartly off.

Have a great time and I hope on Monday morning you have a smile on your face having had such a great weekend

My very best wishes

Alan Lawson

SRU President

www.scottishrugby.org



Scottish Golden Oldies Team for Argentina ??

Golden Oldies Rugby stalwart – Sean Cameron (Forrester Rubies) is looking to raise a Scottish Team to participate in the 2014 World Festival.

All shall be welcome....Individuals and Groups of Players.....if interested, contact Sean on - scammie@hotmail.co.uk

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Richard "Taff" Davies, long suffering scrum half with Stornoway RFC, co owner of Wild West and supporter of Golden odlies rugby wishes you all the very best for the festival. Our high protein jerky is now being made in Forres, Moray, so at last we can claim to be a local snack! Enjoy the rugby and the beer! I may even turn up with my boots.

Contact

Richard A C Davies Wild West Foods & The Jerky Group, Units 2 & 3
Eireastadh, Crowlista, Scotland HS2 9JG, Off:+44(0)1851 672700,
Mob:+44(0)7793370420 email: r.davies@thejerkygroup.com

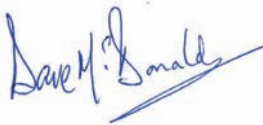
A Welcome from the President of Scottish Golden Oldies Rugby Dave McDonald Esq

On behalf of the Scottish Golden Oldies Rugby Committee, I'm delighted to welcome all our Players, their Families and Friends to our 5th Scottish Golden Oldies Rugby Festival, here in the Highland capital – Inverness – at Highland R.F.C. I'm delighted that the Scottish Golden Oldies Rugby Festival has now become a permanent Fixture in the Scottish Rugby Calendar.

As always, it is gratifying to welcome newly formed Golden Oldies Teams to our Festival, along with Teams participating for the first time. I'm sure they shall all have a great time and hopefully, everyone will return Home having had a most enjoyable time and continue to spread Golden Oldies Rugby.

Thanks go to the Club Members and Volunteers from our Host Club, along with the Medics, Physios, Ball Boys, Chefs etc for their involvement..... including all those who have been busy behind the scenes. Love them or Hate them... ..we cannot have a Game without them, so I greatly appreciate the work done by Ray Ellis Esq, for co – ordinating our Referees for today.....and for getting a Referees' Team again, to participate in our Festival !! I also wish to extend my appreciation to my SGOR Committee.

Special Thanks go to Provost Graham and the Highland Council..... Global Highland, Highland Spring, the Corriegarth Hotel, The Famous Grouse and all our Sponsors - please give them your ongoing support – after our Festival. Thanks again go to Colin and his Local Organising Committee and all at Highland RFC who have assisted with what I am sure, shall be a great Festival.....and of course, special Thanks go to all the participating Teams.....



President Scottish Golden Oldies Rugby



Dave McDonald
President
Scottish Golden
Oldies Rugby
President

Golden Oldies ...Enjoy your Festival, in Fun, Friendship and Fraternity!

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What is Golden Oldies Rugby ??

The Air New Zealand Golden Oldies sporting movement began in the late 1970's when Tom Johnson - one of New Zealand's foremost Rugby loose forwards of the 60's prevailed on Air New Zealand to support his idea. At the outset it was resolved that Rugby would benefit from Golden Oldies Festivals, and the relationship with local organising groups provides them with opportunities to gain funds for the development of the Game and other needs such as Mini and Youth Rugby, Injured Players, Refereeing and School Rugby support. These Festivals have grown over the years, alternating between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.....and like a number of other "Old Crocks" Games, (Hockey, Cricket, Netball etc.....) Golden Oldies Rugby is available for the over 35+ who wish to play - and enjoy - the Game they have loved for years ... and in many cases, years and.....years. Get back and Play....and Enjoy !!

Generally, the normal Laws or Rules of the Game apply, with some minor alterations... Unlimited Substitution, Shorter Playing Times, over vigorous Play is discouraged and at all times, the emphasis for all Players is always on - "Fun, Friendship, Fraternity and Family! For further information on the 2014 World Festival, log on to <http://www.goldenoldiessports.com> and follow the Links. If you wish to enter a Team, a few Players...or as an Individual, contact mcgoldiego@hotmail.com and find out how to enter, by joining up with another Team.

1979 Auckland, New Zealand	1981 Long Beach, U. S. A.	1983 Sydney, Australia
1985 London, England	1987 Auckland, New Zealand	1989 Toronto, Canada
1991 Perth, Australia	1993 Dublin, Ireland	1995 Christchurch, New Zealand
1997 Vancouver, Canada	1998 Cape Town, South Africa	1999 Adelaide, Australia
2001 Toulouse, France	2003 Brisbane, Australia	2005 San Diego, U. S. A.
2006 Wellington, New Zealand	2008 Edinburgh, Scotland	2010 Sydney, Australia
2012 Fukuoka, Japan	2014 Mar del Plata, Argentina	2016 ??????

The Ten Commandments of Golden Oldies Rugby

1. I will play the Game of Rugby for the Game's sake.
2. I will not remember the score at the end of the Game.
3. If I "made it" during my Playing days, I will not use that to embarrass others.
4. If I didn't "make it" during my Playing days, I will not use Golden Oldies to do so.
5. I will at all times during the Game respect the older and more decrepit Members of the other team.
6. I will follow the Golden Oldies Philosophy of Fun, Irreverence and Self Indulgence.
7. I will be an Ambassador for Golden Oldies Rugby and spread the good word.
8. I will never lose sight of the Rule to make friends and renew acquaintances.
9. I will always remember that I'm at far greater risk at what I may do to myself, or have done to me socially, than anything which may happen to me on the Field!
10. I will always remember that it's the game of RUGBY which is important, not me!

European Festivals

The late, great Jeff Butterfield (England and British Lions) was the driving force in Europe and Organised the memorable London Festival in 1985. The first European Golden Oldies Festival was staged in Holland in 1992 and has progressed every two years since then in many varied Venues throughout the European Mainland and in 2000, on the beautiful Island of Madeira.

As with the World Festivals, the normal Laws or Rules of the Game apply, with some minor alterations... as listed above. Age is shown by the colour of Shorts being worn – and over 60's cannot be tackled !

Formally set up in 2001, Saturday 6th December, 2003 was a very important day in the History of the European Golden Oldies Rugby Movement, with the acceptance of mutual Terms of Agreement, when President- Dave McDonald was invited to the Annual Conference of F.I.R.A. / A.E.R. being held in Paris. The Agreement means that the European Golden Oldies Rugby Organisation is recognised as a key partner of F.I.R.A. / A.E.R. and the Official Organisation for Golden Oldies Rugby in Europe and we have a Link on their Website, to EGOR. www.fira-aer-rugby.com

Since then, our Membership has grown from strength to strength and at present, Golden Oldies Rugby is played all over Europe, with dozens of Countries involved. The Golden Oldies Rugby Committee, all Volunteers, represent seven Countries.....Switzerland, Italy, Czech Republic, France, Israel, Germany.....and Scotland !

1992	Denbosch	Holland
1994	Heidelberg	Germany
1996	Verona	Italy
1998	Aberdeen	Scotland
2000	Moscow	Russia
2002	Split	Croatia
2004	Benidorm	Spain
2006	Zurich	Switzerland
2008	Funchal	Madeira
2010	Caernarfon	Wales
2012	Trieste	Italy
2013*	Prague	Czech Republic
2015	San Sebastian	Spain

* The change in year, from even to odd, is to have the Festival included in Old Boys Prague 25th Anniversary Celebrations



European Golden Oldies Rugby

It is interesting at various Festivals Worldwide, the number of the Teams who are unaware of the significance of our Logo..... whether in square, or linear form –

Firstly, we show the symbol for - Europe or European

Next, Au, the Chemical symbol for - Gold

Thirdly, the European symbol for the Elderly

Fourth being a Rugby Ball, the symbol for Rugby

Put them altogether and we have – European Golden Oldies Rugby !!



2nd Welsh Golden Oldies Rugby Festival

Following the Inaugural Welsh G O Festival which took place in Caernarfon, hosted by Y Gogs, the 2nd Welsh Festival - the Tenby Golden Oldies Rugby & Family Festival is being held at Tenby RFC, on June 8th at Heywood Lane, Tenby.

A venue for the 3rd Welsh Festival, is being sought.



2nd English Golden Oldies Rugby Festival

Having staged a successful Festival last year, the Cancer Crusaders RFC are hosting the 2nd Festival at St Albans RFC, on Sunday 8th September 2013. This is all done to support Orchid, the

Fighting Male Cancer Charity, an excellent cause which St Albans RFC are proud to be associated with. For more information on the event, contact - mark@crusadersrugby.org

Scottish Festivals

The first European Festival took place in Denbosch, in Holland in 1992 and is also played every two years. However, there was no structure to Golden Oldies Rugby in Scotland. Since 1985 - Aberdeen Strollers - had been the only Team from Scotland taking part in World and European Golden Oldies Festivals (apart from Dunfermline in 2004, in Benidorm and Forrester Rubies at the World Festival in Sydney, in 2010) but in September 2008, 16 Scottish Teams took to the field to enjoy the 17th Air New Zealand World Golden Oldies Rugby Festival and the associated - Fun, Friendship and Fraternity. Following this very successful Event held in Edinburgh where over 3000 persons from 18 Countries participated, a Meeting was held at Murrayfield to discuss the future of Golden Oldies Rugby in Scotland, organised by the President of the European Golden Oldies Rugby Committee / Member of the Edinburgh Local Organising Committee, Dave McDonald. The Meeting was Chaired by the then, SRU President Jim Stevenson who played in the Festival in a conglomerate Team made up of the Swiss Gnomes from Zurich and Chiba Ken from Nagasaki.....which won Jim over to the Golden Oldies set up. It was agreed that Area Representatives would contact all the Golden Oldies Teams in their region and generate Games and following further discussion, it was agreed that the 1st Scottish Golden Oldies Rugby Festival would take place in April, 2009 and the venue selected, was Perthshire RFC's ground at the Inches. It has been a great legacy of the World Festival in 2008, that each year, the Scottish Festival has had a newly created Golden Oldies Team participating and in 2013, there are at least two new Golden Oldies Teams enjoying the Event ! Where are new Teams going to come from for our next Festivals.....? If you wish to participate in the 2014 Festival, register your interest....NOW !

Scottish Golden Oldies were delighted when they were accepted as Associate Members of the SRU, in 2012.

Anyone wishing further information about our Festivals, or wanting to get involved with a Golden Oldies Team, or thinking of creating a new one.....whether in Scotland, the UK, Europe or Worldwide, can call - 07866 910 865 or by E-mail - mcgoldiego@hotmail.com for details.

Teams are now playing Golden Oldies Rugby the length and breadth of Scotland and a number of new Clubs have been formed in the past four years....and some Clubs have been revamped. Long may it continue !! If any Club, or group of Clubs feel they can organise a future Festival, or you wish to find your nearest Golden Oldies Team.....or even set up a new one.....please contact - scottishgoldenoldiesrugby@hotmail.com

Fun, Friendship and Fraternity!

<http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/scottishgoldenoldiesrugby>

2009 Perthshire RFC Perth

2010 Perthshire RFC Perth

2011 Perthshire RFC Perth

2012 Madras RFC St Andrews

2013 Highland RFC Inverness

2014 Hillfoots RFC Tillicoultry

2015 ??????



The Cast Ups Golden Oldies Team are delighted to have been chosen to Host the 6th Scottish Golden Oldies Rugby Festival - Saturday 16th August, 2014. Places are limited...so if interested, please Register your interest on - GO2014@hillfootsrfc.com.

It would be greatly appreciated, if nobody organised a Golden Oldies Festival on the two prior weekends.

SGO Executive Committee

MEET OUR TEAMS

All participating Teams were requested to supply a Team Photo and short History...
this is what we received.....more or less !!

Aberdeen Strollers - 'Old Crocks' and 'Golden Oldies Rugby

had been organised in the 1960's by a group of fairly enthusiastic Senile Rugby Fanatics, playing local Village Teams and whoever else they could find and cajole to provide opposition! This group of sporty stalwarts developed into - 'Aberdeen Strollers' who for many years, were the only Scottish Team attending the World and European Rugby Festivals. The Strollers first World Festival, was in 1985 in London, when they were most ably captained by former Scottish Internationalist Scrum Half - Ian McCrae, who although now having "hung up his boots" made History, as the first replacement in the 5 Nations Championship (as it was then !) The Festival opened with the 5,500 participants parading Olympic Style around Twickenham, with the Strollers being led by one of the Queen Mother's Pipers! 1989, saw the first overseas venture to the Festival in Toronto, with pre Festival Matches in Ottawa and in Montreal where the Match finished in almost total darkness! 1993 saw the Strollers in Dublin, with the World's biggest Beer Tent!! - and in 1995, they attended the Festival in New Zealand, in the beautiful South Island City of Christchurch, after playing en route in Hong Kong. Other World and European Festivals followed, but, for various reasons, the Strollers have been a bit dormant since playing in the World Festival in Edinburgh, in 2008.



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Good to see them taking to the Field again. Well done, Pete Young

Brechin - Brechin BRUCE (Brechin Rugby Union Capable Elders) were formed 2010, and have settled quickly into their Golden Oldies Games. They currently have about 25 Playing Members.....and quite a few Non Playing !! BRUCE have had Festival warm up Matches with recent outings to the Zingari at Kirkcaldy and the Thebans at Edinburgh Caledonian, with a loss and a win respectively. ***But who cares what the scores were.....!!!***



European Golden Oldies Rugby

**13th EGOR Festival San Sebastian, Spain
June 11th- 14th 2015**



**If you are not entering a Team....but
would wish to participate in a Scottish
Touring Team, as Individuals or Groups,
please contact -**

info@europeangoldenoldiesrugby.com



Caithness - One of the newer Golden Oldies Teams to be joining us at the Festival...the Caithness Crocks are taking part in their first Scottish Festival. They have a mature Team and are looking forward to an enjoyable outing in Inverness. Any Golden Oldie in the Caithness area, is welcome to go along and help with the Development of the Caithness Crocks. This from Club President – Iain Grant Esq.....



Caithness Rugby Club RFC (Right Fat Chiels) decided to join the ranks of the Golden Oldies as part of the celebrations to mark our 50th anniversary. As the most northerly club on the British mainland, we have a pretty heavy commitment in terms of out travelling schedule. Our nearest sides are Ross Sutherland – a 160 mile round trip -- or Orkney, a hop over the Pentland Firth. The worst season was three years ago when we were in National Division 2 when just two of our eleven opponents were further of the central belt and included mammoth treks to Newton Stewart, Berwick and Stewartry. The time on the road goes with the territory and it is something our players get used to, from mini sides upwards. Apart from the celebrations to mark our 50th birthday, this is an exciting time for the club. We are starting to reap the benefits from creating a DO post two years ago with our youth section – which had been run down – on a real high. We have sides from micros to under-18 and it has been very encouraging to see the number of ex-players who have got involved in coaching. We are also on the cusp of achieving our long-held dream of having our own clubhouse with the funding package all but firmed up and building work due to start later this year.

This is our first foray into the senior ranks and we are starting very much from a blank piece of paper. Most of our 50-somethings have not touched a ball for the best part of two decades and their once svelte, ripped bodies have taken a bit of a turn for the worse over the years. While their conditioning, fitness levels and strength index are barely measurable, they are keen and up for the fray – until at least they take their first hit or run for more than a few strides. We have a few ‘ringers’ in the 37-42 age group who will be expected to do 95% of the work while the pensioners break themselves in to the rigours of the game. While I expect little in the way of performance on the pitch, I would hope we can at least retain our long, unbeaten run in post-match boat-races. I can report that while playing the game is a distant memory for most of us, we have retained a decent core of beer-swiggers. All we can reasonably expect is that we get through the Festival without having to make any trips to Raigmore Hospital. Looking forward to meeting other players and those involved in organising the Festival.



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Highland and Highland Over 50's

Highland are perhaps not the rugby force they once were, but their heritage means they have a very large pool of oldies to call upon and those making up the two squads are just the tip of a very old iceberg. Highland was once a very keen touring club and those participating this weekend



will be getting a taste of what they used to get up to once again. A large squad will be travelling to La Baule in France, the twin city of Inverness, in two weeks which underlines the point.

The Highland Eagles will be built around a core of Over-35's players still turning out to play for the club's 2nd XV and will be made up of such skilful players as stand-off Ali Davidson and handy prop Andy Russell. This squad will be quite a handful for most of the teams at the Festival and able to handle any surprises sprung by our visitors today – that's the theory.

Highland Bald Eagles are the older squad made up from a fine blend of grizzled veterans. Skill abounds in this squad and they play rugby as well. In their ranks are the likes of SRU Development Officer Brian Bell – a former district player, retired councillor David Henderson who still has a turn of speed at age sixty plus and good hands, Neil Rennie who has turned out for the Scottish Seeds Merchants although his hooking genius might not get fully utilised and the rugby brain of the ever-green John Carson – our Head of Junior Rugby.

A fine day's rugby is ahead of these guys and they are also past masters of the après-rugby.

Highland RFC are delighted to be Hosting this prestigious Festival and we extend a warm, Highland Welcome, to all involved.

Hillfoots - Hillfoots Cast Tups have a long established history of Golden Oldies.....and with the fantastic strength of the Club's Youth Teams....there shall be Golden Oldies at Tillycoultry for many years ! Older limbs and aching backs are lubricated by a dash of pitchside Port (or Nurse McReedy's Surgical Bruise Lotion – tangy on the tastebuds!). This bunch of old bu**ers are still capable of a quick dash around the field & the odd scrum or two provided they aren't too worse for wear following their weekly catch up in The Woolpack Inn (proud Sponsors to the Team), the previous



evening. Generally uncoachable as far as rugby is concerned, they remain an enigma to all but their wives & partners who let them off the leash for a good leg stretch on match days.

There has been a lot of work going on at Hillfoots.....on and off the Field....and the Cast Tups are looking forward to Hosting next year's Scottish Festival.

Kirkcaldy - The birth of – Kirkcaldy Zingari – goes back in the 1970's, when Alex Mitchell played for the Newcastle Northern Gypsies, an over 35's Team of former 1st XV 'Characters'. On his return to Kirkcaldy in 1980, he saw



a gap in the market for over 35's Rugby and following some discussions over Beers, the inaugural Zingari match took place on 20th April, 1982, on the Murrayfield Back Pitches against the then – Edinburgh Wanderers. The game was played in true Barbarian style, with panache and élan and resulted in a 22 – 10 win for the Kirkcaldy Team. The Team has gone from

strength to strength and as forged links with many European Golden Oldies Teams, including Perpignon, and as many of today's Team have just returned from a Tour in France, Jet Lag may be claimed for any lapses in concentration.....

Forrester - Forrester Rubies are a good social side, who derived their name from their strenuous warm up routine of drinking Ruby Port before any Game. In one of the "more serious" Games, they finished off 11 warm up drinks before the Game and are rumored to have completed four consecutive passes in the Match! Rubies teams have played in many Golden Oldie Festivals but when numbers dwindle many of the players have become Ambassadors of Social Rugby, playing for any team that will let them drink with them. They also allow any player who will drink with them before their Games, to run out with them (ringers preferred).



Rubies at the World Festival in Sydney... with 'ringer' Scott Hastings Esq

Garioch - Another new Team 'Gariochatrics' at the Golden Oldies Festivals, Gariochrhymes With 'Cheery' have had a couple of warm up Games ahead of our Event. A number of Golden Oldies Teams are developing in the Caledonia Region and it augurs well for the future... ..and Special Thanks need to go to SRU Regional Development Managers - Peter Young, George Whitecross and Brian Bell.



JOKE CORNER



Only Joking ...



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Welcome to the Highland Capital and the 5th Scottish Golden Oldies Rugby Festival

Fàilte gu Prìomh-bhaile na Gàidhealtachd agus
5^{mh} Fèis Rugbaidh Seann Ghaishich na h-Alba

PARTICIPATING TEAMS

TEAM	TEAM NAME	TEAM KIT COLOURS
Aberdeen Strollers	Strollers	Gold
Brechin	BRUCE	Red / Black Hoops
Brechin Rugby Union Capable Elders		
Caithness	Caithness Crocks	Red
Forresters	Rubies	Green
Garioch	Gariochatrics	Gold / Blue
Highland	Eagles	Green / Red
Highland 50's	Bald Eagles	Green
Hillfoots	Hillfoots Cast Tups	Blue / Maroon
Kirkcaldy	Zingari	Black / Red
Mackie	Mackie MAMMOTHS	Red / Gold
Middle Aged Men mainly Over The Hill		
Moray	Maulers	Blue / White
Penicuik	Stags	Blue / Red Stripe
Referees	Whistlers	Red, Yellow or Green
Skye & Lochalsh	Skye & Lochalsh - beens	Bottle Green

Please assist us to be – GREEN – use Litter Bins etc provided *Many Thanks*

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

5th SCOTTISH GOLDEN OLDIES RUGBY FESTIVAL

Friday Evening	Pre Festival Party at the Corriegarth Hotel
Saturday	5th Festival Registration from 9.15am Festival Ambassador – Ernie Michie Esq (1955 Lions Player) to Kick Off at 10.00am Festival Award Presentation AGM Entertainment in Highland Rugby Clubhouse
Sunday	Nessie Watching..... Chill Out at Highland RFC Clubhouse Safe Journey Home

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Love them.....or not.....we couldn't have our Games without them.....our Referees !!

Gavin Douglas



Gavin gave up playing rugby when he was fifty in order to concentrate on refereeing which should have been a smooth transition if he hadn't almost lost his leg! When you get severe pins and needles which last all day and are told it could be a trapped nerve you see a physiotherapist. When you see a surgeon and he says "I think I can save your leg" it kind of focuses the mind. Since the incident almost two years ago Gavin goes to each game knowing it is a bonus and he tries to ensure that not only does he enjoy the match but that both teams enjoy it too.

With a wife who supports him and both his sons playing since they were 5, one now with GHA seconds and the other with East Kilbride U16, Gavin has decided to give up coaching but will support his lads

as much as possible but now he intends to focus more on his own time which is why he pleased to be participating in this year's Scottish Golden Oldies Festival

Robert Hood Gillan



Despite the pressure from on high....Rob took up refereeing at the behest of Bob Easton, in the days when he had a full head of hair and mine was not so grey. It was the 'natural progression from coaching mini and midi rugby' when my teenage sons found women and drink, according to Bob. I still get a run out every Saturday in the National Leagues, travelling the length of the country to clubs "I missed" in my formative years, or at least don't recall having visited.

Refereed on the International pitch at Murrayfield during the IRB 7's a few years ago, totally mind blowing experience, U18 Brewin Dolphin Cup final and No.5 at the National Cup Final this year, Camie Rudkin just got in front of me, something about originally being from Ayr ! (But I got a medal). Anyway as I still don't do biographies, I just enjoy my time on the pitch, the time I have left that is, hopefully keeping

everyone on the right side of the law and enjoying the crack. Life's too short and the world is a small place.

Scott Livingstone



Scott is a member of the West Referee Society. He is a past player, coach, team manager, secretary, and president of Garnock. Still an active committee member. He started refereeing after turning up as selector for a third XV match with no ref. Stepped into the breach and got caught by a refs coach watching the 1st XV on the next park. Was told to get a licence or risk the wrath of referee administrators everywhere. As a law abiding citizen who completely respects the man with the whistle, he decided instead of offering advice from the sidelines that he should give it a go on the park. Five years later he's still in the middle and enjoying every minute. "I don't seem to hear any comments from the sideline nowadays, well none that I take any

notice of. When the details of this year's Golden Oldies event came out I put my name down with enthusiasm for both playing & refereeing. Then I remembered it's 20 years since I last played. I was a relieved man when Ray Mellis sent through details that I was 'selected' to ref. I am looking forward to catching up with friends old and new and trust you will give support to the teams involved, have a great weekend.

Rolly McGinn



Rowland "Rolly" McGinn was born in Peebles and has been involved with rugby for over fifty years. He has been a player, a coach, a referee and is currently an active member of the Midlands Society. He participated in the 2008 World Golden Oldies Festival in Edinburgh. Rolly spent 30 years in Canada and continued his active engagement with rugby whilst there. He remains a member of Clansman RFC, Edmonton, Alberta and is seen here proudly wearing his Clansman shirt.

Rolly would like to extend an invitation to any Canadians playing today to buy him a drink! – well he did pay taxes in Canada for thirty years!

Jonathan Mackinnon



My name is Jonathon Mackinnon and my rugby career started at Plockton High School where I played 1st XV Rugby, and I was selected to play under 17 and 18 for North of Scotland! After School I went on to Aberdeen to study where I played for Aberdeen Grammar 2nd XV and the odd 1st XV Game! After completing a Foundation Refereeing Course in School I started off my Refereeing career by officiating at University Rugby! I took to refing fairly well. I enjoy it and had a great rapport with players as I still played regularly! After finishing studies in Aberdeen, I returned to the west coast where Rugby is not too widely played!! I'm currently working as a plumbing and heating engineer and Ref most weeks during the season! This is my first golden Oldies Festival, but I'm looking forward to the challenge but also the fun! I have fond memories of Refereeing a Strollers Game at

Rubislaw, which included the great Gavin Hastings in the Team !!

Ray Mellis



Ray has been involved with rugby since the early 60's (1960's that is!). He played at tight head for over twenty seasons and has an inkling of what goes on in the front row and would be happy to work with the IRB for a modest fee to help resolve the current shambles with regard to scrums – a forlorn hope given the IRB's lack of joined up thinking when it come to the modern game – oh, for the good old days!!

Like many, Ray drifted from player to coach, to referee and in the last few years he has also turned his hand to referee coaching. Whilst critical of the governing bodies Ray is firmly of the view that rugby is probably the

best team game in the world and he would encourage players in particular to take up the 'whistle' – a feel for the game, a fair minded approach and a thick skin is all you need so why not give it a try! No pun in intended.

Ray recently stood down as President of Aberdeen & District Rugby Referees Society after three years at the helm. It was in his own words, time to hand over the reigns to the younger generation with fresh ideas and hopefully much more energy!

Jim Stevenson



As a Past President of the SRU for two terms between 2008 / 9, Jim has always been a great supporter of grass roots rugby and the values that rugby can bring to the development of children. He was delighted to play in the World Golden Oldies Rugby Festival in Edinburgh in 2008.....and has been a great supporter ever since, playing all over Scotland ! Jim now has a new role on the SRU Council as Council Member for the Glasgow north clubs stretching from Mull in the north to Cambuslang in the south..... 47 clubs in total. Jim believes the concept of Golden Oldies Rugby Festivals allow the more experienced rugby player to continue to enjoy the friendship and fellowship and fun of people they have met and continue to meet and enjoy each others company.

Poacher turned Gamekeeper, Jim recently took up refereeing to confirm what others already knew about him !!

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Mackie MAMMOTHS - This will be the fourth outing for Mackie Mammoths (Middle Aged Men Mainly Over The Hill) at the Scottish Golden Oldies Festival and the first venture up to Inverness. We're a social rugby team, formed back in 2010 due to a few too many in the pub at New Year and with the onset of 'training' in February, we had around 25 out of shape men who should have known better..... the Mammoths were well and truly established!



We play with our trademark port and stilton at the pitch side and along with our Mammoth Watering Hole we involve our families and friends as much as possible. We take the social side of the rugby very seriously, in the true spirit of GO Rugby, and in doing so have made good friends with like-minded teams across Scotland. We are, however, keen to play and meet other GO Teams and would welcome them to Stonehaven for a social game of rugby and some port, of course!

Moray Maulers - The Moray Maulers decided to get themselves together after watching Moray RFC play RAF Lossiemouth RFC in October 2012 and thought they could play better rugby. Who were they trying to kid ? The last Moray vets team played over 10 years ago, so it is great to finally have a team going in the area. Maulers played their first match on 2 February 2013 and have played 2



further matches in the run-up to the 1st June Festival. The Maulers record so far reads: Played 3, won 1, drawn 1, lost 1. The team is made up of mostly Ex Moray, RAF Lossiemouth and RAF Kinloss players who no longer have the pace, skills and drinking power of old.....apart from John Pymm, who is a machine, on and off the pitch..... so he tells me. With over 50 players on the books, only 18 have bothered to play and even less have trained for this so don't expect anything special, we are only here for the crack. We are also looking to expand the player numbers by getting Ex Moray College RFC and Elgin City RFC players in for next season, as well as planning a tour to Skye.

Our Motto is: watch more, train less, play if we have to !!

We look forward to renewing old acquaintances on and off the paddock and playing draughts, pieces of 8 & spoof in the bar.

Penicuik Stags - The Penicuik Stags have been on the go for some 3 years now, after we were asked to host a Golden Oldies Festival. We put together a team of players and from day one got the bug. We have continued to host our own Festival in August, which was well attended by some of the teams on show today. This year's event takes place on the 24th August 2013. Details can be found on our website penicuikrugby.org.



We are fully committed to the Scottish Golden Oldies idea of rugby promoting the values of Fun, Friendship and Fraternity. We look forward to meeting a lot of new faces and catching up with old ones we have previously met. Here's to drinking the bar dry.

The Whistlers - The Whistlers are taking part in only their second Scottish Golden Oldies Festival having enjoyed it so much at St. Andrews in 2012. As the name suggests the 'Whistlers' comprise referees, assistant referees, referee coaches and anyone else who can be described as having an association (however loose) with the refereeing fraternity.

The suggestion to establish a referee's team and participate in last year's Scottish Golden Oldies Festival was tabled at the beginning of season 2011-12 and was met with considerable enthusiasm. However as the date loomed closer a fair number of 'enthusiasts' pulled out citing work and family commitments, it was ever thus!

The Whistlers nevertheless are pleased to be taking part in today's festival irrespective of how many refs manage to attend. A few playing today played last year and it is probably fair to say the 'Whistlers' are one of the oldest teams in terms of average age of player with several now in their sixties – this only proves that sometimes members of the refereeing fraternity can be just as daft as any other group involved with rugby. The playing referees today have again agreed to a man, not to criticise their fellow referees who will be officiating but there was much debate about decisions last year, all well out of the earshot of the officiating referees – will anyone have the temerity to question anything this year? All the players today are 'active' referees and have at some time in their careers played the game, contrary to the view sometimes expressed by club coaches when the referees in question have been officiating. They comprise a mixed bag with mixed honours but in the spirit of Golden Oldies Rugby none will attempt to flout their individual talent and superior capabilities - well the reality is that none of them have any such qualities to flout!!! Best wishes to all.



If you are interested in becoming a Rugby Referee, contact Bob Eason - bob.easton@sr.org.uk

Skye & Lochalsh RFC - Boasting more than a couple of bus passes and winter heating allowances, Skye & Lochalsh-beens RFC are proudly entering their first Golden Oldies Festival. With ages eclipsing IQs in most cases, the Halsh-beens haven't allowed the ignominy of their playing days to get in the way of making a decision to participate in this year's Festival.

Our training regime has been both demanding and rigorous, with physical and mental preparation geared toward the significant challenges presented by getting the ball out of our own twenty-two. With pace not an option for our sparkling back-line, it's hoped the sheer size of our pack will create difficulties for any opponent unable to muster the requisite 8 foot arm span necessary to tackle one of our forwards.

The Halsh-beens hope to make friends, rekindle some old acquaintances, have fun and make inroads into an opposition half at least once during the day.



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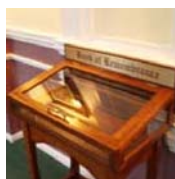
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Puns anyone....?

A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class, because it was a weapon of math disruption.

No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationary.

A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was fined for littering.

The midget fortune-teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.

The soldier who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.

In a democracy it's your vote that counts. In feudalism it's your count that votes.

I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.

When cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste for religion.

Atheism is a non-prophet organization.

A Golden Oldie's experience with drinking and driving.

As you well know, some of us have been lucky not to have had brushes with the authorities on our way home from various Rugby Social sessions over the years. A couple of nights ago, I was out for a few drinks with some friends and had a few too many beers and then topped it off with a Malt. Not a good idea.

Knowing full well I was at least slightly over the limit, I did something I've never done before: I took a taxi home. Sure enough I passed a police road block but because it was a taxi, they waved it past. I arrived home safely without incident, which was a real surprise.

I have never driven a taxi before and am not sure where I got it.

Why don't Rugby Players have mid-life crises?

They stay stuck in adolescence

An American Golden Oldie was having his annual Physical Examination....., his Doctor asked him about his daily activity level, which he described in this way:

"Well, yesterday afternoon, I waded along the edge of a lake, drank eight beers, escaped from wild dogs in the heavy brush, marched up and down several rocky hills, stood in a patch of

poison ivy, crawled out of quicksand, jumped away from an aggressive rattlesnake and took four "leaks" behind big trees."

Inspired by the story, the doctor said, "You must be one heck of an outdoors man!"

"No," he replied, "I'm just a terrible golfer."

Two Mexican detectives were investigating the murder of Juan Gonzalez.

'How was he killed?' asked one detective. 'With a golf gun,' the other detective replied.

'A golf gun! What is a golf gun?' 'I don't know..... But it sure made a hole in Juan.'

A Highland Golden Oldie, not in the best physical condition, was at the Gym the other day and he asked the

Trainer "I want to impress that beautiful girl over there. Which machine should I use?"

The Trainer replied, "Machine??.....Use the Bank ATM outside the Gym!"

A Golden Oldie went to his doctor and said: "I've just been playing Rugby and when I got back I found that when I touched my legs, my arms, my head, my tummy and everywhere else, it really hurt."

So the doctor said: "You've broken your finger."

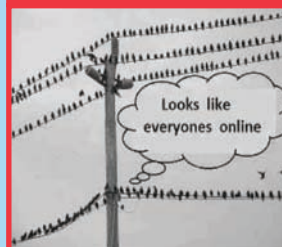
A Golden Oldie was with a Team Mate in a Bar.....

He pointed to two old Drunks sitting across the Bar from them and said.....

"That's us in 10 years"

His Pal replied – "That's a mirror, you idiot!"

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- To encourage and provide sporting opportunities for young people
- To create an educative centre which will include the Bill McLaren Archive

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Scottish Golden Oldies and the Festival Local Organising Committee wish to thank the following for their support for the 5th Scottish Golden Oldies Rugby Festival and we hope you will all support our much appreciated Sponsors and Advertisers.....

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Committee and all Helpers.....Pitchside &
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All Participating Teams
Ray Ellis Esq and our Referees
Provost Graham & Highland Council
Alan Lawson Esq SRU President
Jim Stevenson Esq SRU Former President
Donald MacLeod Esq SRU President Elect
Ernie Michie Esq Festival Ambassador
Highland RFC Junior section and all Volunteers
Peter Rudkin - Photographer
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Alan McPhee Esq

The Festival Medics - Doctors Macrae, Kelly,
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**FIRA Agreement Signing with
SGOR and EGOR President and
FIRA President,
Jean Claude Baque**



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Committee
NZ, Canada, Europe, USA, Oz**



**Pictured at the recent Caledonia Rugby Forum -
Front Left to Right:
(SRU President Elect) Donald MacLeod Esq,
(SGOR & EGOR President) Dave McDonald Esq,
(SRU President & SGO Hon VP) Alan Lawson Esq
Rear: (Past SRU President & SGO Hon VP) Jim
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