



29th January 2024



# In Touch

Some things are special and doing the double over Hereford is one of them. Seeing loads of mini and junior players clad in replica kit cheer off their heroes is another. So, Family Day at The Linney was a resounding success, certainly one the youngsters will retain in their minds for a very long time as they formed a guard of honour and played tag games in front of a big crowd at half time.



Photos courtesy of Trevor Patchett

Ludlow played very much as a team, both in attack and defense. Understandably rusty at first after playing very little rugby for a long time, they butchered a few chances but were on the board first with a penalty from Jack Lines and followed it with some energetic charge down from captain Matt Davies which eventually led to a try. Hereford matched things with a penalty of their own and then a well taken try from winger Levi Hughes running onto a long pass. So, it was 10-10 at the turnaround. The second half saw Ludlow well on top and holding Hereford in their own half for long periods. Some crafty substitution of their prop every time



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Hereford were in trouble and Ludlow opted for a scrum looked to have foiled the home side. But eventually a power play from Ben Black at number eight saw him over the line and victory in Ludlow's grasp. On a personal note, I think that substitute rule is one that needs revising.



Ludlow v  
Hereford

Photos  
courtesy of  
Trevor  
Patchett

Ludlow Seconds 53-15 result at Newcastle sounds like a drubbing but I am told Ludlow had a try disallowed because the ref couldn't see the grounding. To put things in context, if we hadn't been docked 15 points at the start of the season through not being able to field teams, we would actually be out of the relegation zone instead of registering one point at the foot of the table. For the record Ludlow's points came from Dan Austin and Rhys Evans.

So to Saturday - it's the start of Six Nations and we will be showing all matches taking place on our match days. It's also the postponed Ladies' Day, which I am told is once again a sell-out, so we can expect a big crowd for the second week on the trot for the game against Worcester. The Seconds are at home too to Leek seconds. Kick offs 2.15pm.

I met a really nice guy at the match on Saturday called Fred Skyrme. Fred was the guy on the touch line in a fluorescent yellow tabard and if it wasn't for him our game couldn't have gone ahead. Fred is a volunteer first aider. He's not a rugby fan but last year we appealed for first aiders in order to meet the RFU's insistence that we have a qualified first aider in addition to the physio present at every game. Fred needs the certificate for his work. We paid for his training and he's paying us back by being on duty at a couple of games each season. Believe it or not he told me he really enjoyed the match and might even come and watch a few when not on duty. Result all round I say.

If you know anyone who requires a first aid certificate but perhaps can't afford the training but would be willing to commit to volunteering at matches then please get in touch. Talking of volunteering I am delighted to welcome aboard Ben Jackson as the club's new treasurer. The post has been vacant for the last year and Ben, who is a former player and has been coaching the mini players, heard of the vacancy and put his name forward. I look forward to working with him.

A quick thank you to also to player Tom Millward who has used his tree surgeon skills to good effect to pollard the trees on our new piece of land freeing up some extra parking. He roped in his mate Jack, from Projack tree felling services, with his digger and chipper. The huge pile of wood chip will eventually be used to form a safe pedestrian route out to the road.

See you soon,  
*Andy Wright*  
President Ludlow Rugby Club