

14<sup>th</sup> August 2024



## In Touch

Rarely does great importance attach to pre-season games. But Saturday's match against Knighton at their picturesque Bryn-y-Castell ground was the exception, held in memory of former player, Joe Baker, as a charity match to raise money for Help for Heroes. Joe was just 20, when he died in a road traffic collision near Yeovil, where he was stationed with the Royal Navy, on November 27, 2023.

Both teams clapped for a minute and were presented to Joe's family before the game and then Ludlow, as the winning team were presented with a memorial cup afterwards while Joe's family chose Knighton centre Seb Barrett as deserved man of the match.



Knighton gave Ludlow a really good workout and the 10-33 final score perhaps belied how close the match really was. Knighton's defence was spot on and a credit to their coach while Ludlow, fielding a mixed first and second squad over four twenty minute quarters, showed much promise but a need to be more accurate in passing and jackalling.

Ludlow had some promising new signings on show and it will be interesting to see how they continue to gel as a team under new coach Tom Tench. Tom is also making a difference off the field with the new bin and brush standards. Knighton made special note that the changing room had been left spotless. Long may it continue both home and away! Top marks to Knighton for hosting a memorable, and hopefully money-making, occasion and good luck to them for their season

And so pre-season moves to Clee Hill on Saturday 17th August (3:00pm kick off) and a try out for a few more players before an evening game against Builtth at The Linney on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 7pm kick off).

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Thanks to those who have already signed up for membership for next season – Membership Secretary Peter Lines will be at the Builth game on 22<sup>nd</sup> to hand out membership cards. Details of VP Membership for this year and how to pay can be found on our new website: [Membership - Ludlow Rugby Club \(ludlow-rfc.co.uk\)](https://www.ludlow-rfc.co.uk)

Another forthcoming event to tell you about is our Family Day on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September. It will be a busy day down at The Linney as it's the first training session of the season for our Minis and Juniors at 10:30am and the training will be followed by Family Day activities starting from 12pm. Entrance to Family Day is free for members and Minis and Juniors families and just £2 per person for non-members. Activities will include a BBQ, games, inflatables, facepainting and more. England and Lions player Jonny Hill will also be making a guest appearance so please do come and join us for the afternoon and bring along family and friends.



For our Minis and Juniors we are looking for more young recruits in our groups of age 10 upwards (year 6 and above), so if you know of any youngsters between the ages of 10 and 15 who might be interested, get them to email [secretary@ludlowrfc.co.uk](mailto:secretary@ludlowrfc.co.uk) to register their interest. Anyone of any age is welcome to come along on 8<sup>th</sup> September for a taster session.

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