



In Touch

The annual Cow Cup, in celebration of a man both Ludlow and Clee Hill revere, the late Phil Moo Cow Edwards, went to Ludlow with a 39-5 victory and proved a good workout for both teams.

For Ludlow it represented continued improvement from the Builth game the previous weekend and both coaches should be pleased, particularly as there were several old and some new faces having good shows in the squad.

I was delighted to see Louis Frankland, the prop we lost to boxing a few seasons ago, back in Ludlow colours. He picked up a shoulder injury but looked strong. In the centre, Mike Jones, back for another season and throwing some decent passes. Looking exceptionally strong after a longish break down under was Ben Black who celebrated with a try under the posts after cutting a fine line from out to in, bowling several opposition players over as he went.

Making his first appearance in Ludlow colours was Matt Joseph from the Church Stretton area. He marked his debut on the wing with a fine try. Also making his first senior start in Ludlow colours was Edwin Carter and he certainly didn't look out of place. It's always brilliant to see lads who went through the mini and junior ranks graduating to the first team.

Captain Charlie Doyle paid tribute to the bench saying the standard didn't drop at all when subs came on demonstrating what training and familiarity with the system can do. That's code for "turn up for training if you want to play regularly".



Photos courtesy of Trevor Patchett

For the record Jack Lines scored a hat trick and got Ludlow Brewery Man of the match. Ben Black, Tom Millward and Matt Joseph provided the rest of the tries.

Clee Hill scored a well-deserved try largely through the presence of mind of scrum half Tom George who took a quick penalty in Ludlow's 22. The resulting ruck on the try line provided the opportunity. I thought Clee Hill played well and

26th August 2025



deserved to have got a bit more out of the game than they did. They brought a decent crowd with them and we wish them all the best for the season and completion of their new clubhouse.

In the Builth game, which we lost by five points, scores came from Jack Lines and Jack Small. It was literally a game of two halves with Ludlow very much on the back foot in the first half and much more co-ordinated and attacking in the second half. Final score 19-14. Builth looked a very good young side and we wish them well for their season.



So pre-season is over and the new season beckons. That we had a pre-season at all is largely thanks to Ludlow Racecourse and head groundsman Tom Moreland who was kind enough to apply several thousand gallons of water to our bone hard pitch.

He almost certainly saved some nasty injuries even though the pitch was still pretty tough on the knees and ankles I'm told. So next time Ludlow Races is on make sure you go and support them. Better still buy Tom a pint when you see him.

Another bloke who I know will accept a pint, grateful thanks and hopefully a few orders is Steve Bufton who has been exceedingly generous in supplying two Honda robot mowers and installing their sunken guidelines around our pitches.

Working in tandem the two mowers should shoulder a lot of the burden that Pete Chidley has laboured under for more years than I can remember, freeing him to do more of the things that help to keep our Linney ground looking good. If the drought continues sprinklers might well be on Pete's shopping list. I noted that every time I went past Lucs ground this summer the sprinklers seemed to be on. Ironic isn't it when we spend a large part of the year praying that the rain will keep off so that the ground doesn't flood. Anyway, a massive thank you to Morris Bufton's and please, please go there for your farming and gardening equipment as well as trailers.

Hopefully most of you have now paid yours subs for the year. If not, please do so via our website: [Membership - Ludlow Rugby Club](#).

Most of you should also have been told of the dates for pre-match meals and the new system of booking via email at events@ludlowrfc.co.uk. The first meal at The Linney is before the Luctonians game on Sept 20 and will cost £25 per head. Doors opening from 12 noon. Please note that Sponsors and VP Members will receive a separate communication about how to book for their Sponsor/VP meal and all lunch dates will be published in the forthcoming matchday programme.

Our next game will be a home game against Moseley Oak on Sept 6. Let's make it a big start to the season with a huge crowd to urge the lads on. Our seconds team are also playing on Sept 6 away at Moseley Oak.

See you soon,
Andy Wright
President Ludlow Rugby Club