

22nd December 2025



In Touch



*Luctonian II V Ludlow
Photos courtesy of Trevor Patchett*

Coach Tom Tench must have given the boys some half time talk.

With three well taken tries and a penalty Luctonians were 24-0 up at the break and looked for all the world as if they would cruise the second half. Their flyhalf was bossing the game, kicking beautifully and fizzing passes out to the wings.

Ludlow appeared to have little or no energy and the one person who normally provides it, the Duracell Bunny Raife Hughes, had gone off with a serious knee injury just before the break.

And then came the talk and Ludlow appeared a different team. They scored three unanswered tries and completely bossed the second half. In fact no one would have been surprised if they had managed to score again and force a draw at least but it finished 24-19.

Sub Louis Frankland and Owen Jones added some energy in the front and second rows and there were some big carries from Ben Black. Bailey Bache took the reins at fly half and mixed things up a bit, providing some great breaks both through his jinking runs and kicking while Captain Charlie Doyle led by example with some huge turnovers. It must have been close for Ludlow Brewery man of the match but Ben Black got it by a whisker.

Centres Sam Brooks and Jack Lines found room for some decent breaks while wing Toby Morgan narrowly missed scoring twice through his pacey and determined following of kicks from Rhys Perkins at scrum half and AJ Rocke at full back. For the record the tries came from Ben Chamberlain, Josh Jukes and Jack Lines. AJ provided two conversions.

If only we'd started the first half in the same way! But let's celebrate that so many people were at Mortimer Park watching three cracking games of rugby. Luctonians also winning their First team game 35-7 against Syston, and their thirds losing against Langton 45-12. It seemed like half of Ludlow had turned out to watch our game and well done to Luctonians for relaxing their gate charge rules for Ludlow supporters. I suspect they will have taken far more over the bar as a result.

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So we go into Xmas break fifth in the league, four points behind but a game in hand. The Firsts play next away at Stratford upon Avon on Jan 17 but the Seconds are due to be in action on January 10 against Five Ways Old Edwardians.

Best wishes for a happy Xmas

Andy Wright, President Ludlow Rugby Club

Minis and Juniors Corner

Ludlow Rugby Club Minis & Juniors Christmas Party – Sunday 21st December 2025

What a fantastic morning it was for our Minis & Juniors, enjoyed by players, parents, coaches, and helpers alike 🌲 🍊

The day kicked off with training for our U9s, U11s, U12s, U13s and U14s, resulting in plenty of muddy faces and bodies! Meanwhile, our U6s, U7s and U8s arrived later in full Christmas party gear, all looking absolutely amazing.

After a quick shower for some of the older age groups (and a bit of energetic running around the clubhouse!), the Christmas party got into full swing. One of the highlights was the incredible festive photo stand featuring Santa, an elf and a reindeer, beautifully made by one of our very talented parents – it was a huge hit with everyone.

Parents clearly enjoyed the morning too, and the festive atmosphere was topped off by our very own Vice Chairman, **Mikey Jones**, stepping in as Santa. He did a brilliant job, helped along by his trusty elf, **James Yeomans**. All Minis and Juniors received a selection box, which went down a treat.

At 1:30pm, our U13 and U14 players gathered for their own Christmas get-together. Thanks to the parents, a delicious Domino's feast was laid on, and it was fantastic to see the boys sitting together, chatting rugby and enjoying being a team. A rugby-themed quiz, brilliantly run by **Ben Jackson**, got both players and parents involved (despite a bit of parent "cheating" – which still didn't win them the quiz!). The fun finished with a boat race using orange squash and water, which the boys thoroughly enjoyed.

We would like to say a huge **thank you** to:

- All parents for taking the time to bring the children down
- Our coaches for giving up their valuable time
- All the helpers behind the scenes who don't always get the recognition they deserve

Thank you all for making it such a memorable day.

Merry Christmas to everyone, and we wish you a happy and healthy New Year with plenty more rugby to come in 2026.

Training resumes on Sunday 4th January 2026

