



23rd October 2023



In Touch

Another week, another win for the Firsts. Their fixture which should have been the backdrop to Ladies' Day at The Linney was switched at the last minute because of the flooding in Ludlow. Despite not playing brilliantly they managed to scrape a 19-21 win. As Mikey Jones says: "from the high of a win over Hereford came a poor performance but we won. This shows what a good squad we have this season. We scored some good tries with Kieran Pinches getting the winner."



Photos courtesy of Trevor Patchett

Leek is always a difficult place to travel to and The Seconds found this occasion no different, losing 39-17. I'm told that once again the score belies the way Ludlow played with Raife Hughes getting Ludlow Brewery man of the match and travelling supporters singling out some great performances from Mark Williams, Tom and Rhys Evans and Arthur Nias.

This week the Seconds are the only team in action making the short trip over the hill to Cleobury Mortimer for a 3pm kick off. Please make an effort to go and support them at Cleobury's Love Lane ground.

The intention had been to continue with Ladies' Day without the match, but Storm Babet had other ideas. Once the Corve had broken its banks and made approach to the clubhouse impossible, Chairman Lynn Davies switched to plan B. The cakes etc. which had been delivered were swiftly redistributed to four Ludlow care



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homes. There are plans for Ladies' Day to be rescheduled (see 'In Touch Xtra Time' below for a special message from Lynn this week).

I've long thought that we don't do enough to publicise how much the club does in the community. This week for instance we handed over a cheque for £380 raised at a recent draw for Ludlow Community First Responders. We continue to raise money for Ludlow Community Larder and Men in Sheds at Ludlow, both branches of Hands Together Ludlow and both vital to the wellbeing of our community in these hard times. If you haven't yet found them, please check them out either via their website or call in at their Lower Galdeford headquarters, opposite the Queen's pub and slightly further down the hill. We raise the money to support the community via draws at our home matches so please give generously.

Of course, the clubhouse having to be closed meant we lost out on what would have been a good night at the bar with England's amazing semifinal scrap with South Africa being shown. Notre malchance or our bad luck as they say sur le continent. I hope you are impressed with my off-the-cuff remarks in French. I spent nine months studying on Duo Lingo before I went to Marseilles for the World Cup quarter finals and enjoyed doing the best part of an hour a day practicing – something I hated as a schoolboy. No doubt someone will now write and tell me that I've used the wrong phrase.

I'm not sure who to support in the World Cup final now that all our teams have gone out but one thing's for sure after England's performance last Saturday - I will be continuing to make the pilgrimage to Twickenham.

See you soon,

Andy Wright

President Ludlow Rugby Club

In Touch Xtra Time

Storm Babet disrupted the weekend for Club plans – what was a home game for the 1sts became an away game at Worcester, the Juniors games were also cancelled on Sunday. Our second Ladies Day became a casualty of the weather and I wanted to give an update on this. As with all event planning there is lots of work, time and coordinating that is put in, so a huge thank you to Lucy, Suzi, Jan and Stu with input from Paul and Charlie too.

A presentation to Ludlow First Responders was planned for the Day from the money raised The Shuttle Bus at the Food Festival Parking. Following a conversation with Jenny & Rob Richardson we planned to do a raffle to contribute to their fundraising raising money for Prima and her family that they have supported and known for over 20 years in India. Prima's story is one of unimaginable hardship and now she and her family face being homeless by the end of 2023 without the raising of £6,500 which is what Jenny & Robs fundraising is for.



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We made the decision to donate some of the afternoon tea food (scones with clotted cream and cakes) prepared by Café V to nursing homes in Ludlow – Churchill House, Four Rivers, Hagley Place and Alexandra House. Nicky Evans, Laura Preece (Café V) and myself tootled around town visiting the nursing homes donating the goodies. At Hagley place one of their residents had a birthday so they were going to use our donation in a planned birthday afternoon tea. At Alexandra House, one of the residents was keen to talk with us about how we thought the England V South Africa game would go and was an enthusiastic England fan.



We wanted to ensure as much as possible that the food was put to good use and not wasted. Steph, Landlady at The Bridge, kindly agreed that we could use her pub and The Bridge became “Ludlow Rugby Club House” for the players returning from away matches, club regulars as well as planned attendees of Ladies’ Day. Ludlow Football Club also use The Bridge for post-match refreshments so they too benefited.

Ladies Day will be rearranged and everyone who had been attending will be contacted (everyone paid in advance) once the new date is finalised. First Responders presentation will be rescheduled for a future home game, a Christmas wreath-making evening is already being planned by Lucy and then we fundraise with the raffle for Jenny and Rob before the end of 2023.

Although the Club did not benefit financially on the day, I really think the day was priceless in other ways and shows how we are a community-focused club.

Cheers all for now,

Lynn Davies

Club Chairman