

15th September 2024



In Touch



Jonny Hill with some of our Minis and Juniors

Photo courtesy of Trevor Patchett

Let's start with all the plusses. The sun shone, the pitch at Bromfield Road was first class and the crowd was large and well entertained. We also scored two very good tries. Sadly, we still lost to an Old Halesonians side who, if they maintain current form, will be one of the teams at the top of our league this season, so no shame there. In fact, we were ahead a couple of times in the first half and, had we been more accurate, accumulated less penalties and managed to keep 15 men on the field for the entire game we might well have managed a win or at least a losing bonus point.

Ludlow were first on the scoreboard with a drop goal from long distance from Will Hodnett, I've mentioned that because I guarantee that he will many times before the end of the season. Have you ever seen a jaw drop collectively along an entire touch line of spectators? Me, neither until Saturday. A drop goal is a bit like seeing a nightingale, a rare sight in Ludlow certainly. Will followed that by executing a perfect inside jink past his man to score close to the posts. A perfect start, and the Luctonians returnee looked impressive until he made a high tackle and spent ten minutes (actually more like 15 in the bin) In fact, he got a bollocking from the ref because he came onto the pitch to remind the ref at an appropriate moment that he was languishing on the sidelines. As if that wasn't bad enough he ruptured his Achilles tendon a few minutes later attempting to burst through a tackle so it may be a while longer before we see another drop goal from Will though it will continue to be re-enacted long into the future I'm sure.

Matt Ashley scored Ludlow's second from a perfect inside pass after a lovely backs move. Jack Lines added the extras to give a final score of 18-32 and a memo from the boss about a few little tweaks which will make all the difference to our game. Prop, Stu Lewis was the Ludlow Brewery Man of the Match.

While the team were labouring on the pitch our volunteers were busy refilling the coffers via the usual campers and parkers for the food festival. Thanks to Jan Doyle's organisation and a team of volunteers from across the club we stand to have made a very good windfall.

15th September 2024



The lads seemed to be enjoying the evening entertainment in the clubhouse, or at least making a good pretence of it. I'm afraid my wife and I were in the camp that elected to stay outside in the cold. My wife thinks I am deaf but the singer proved beyond all doubt that I am not and that my taste remains with music that's shall we say more tuneful!



Apologies for no service after the Malvern game last week but I was at Goodwood with my classic car and didn't manage to find anyone who had been to the game. For the record I'm told the lads played very well, the lineout functioned well and we made a lot of good decisions! The result was 9-37 in Ludlow's favour, so we are currently eighth in the table two places behind our opposition next Saturday, Stratford upon Avon. It's the first game of the season for the seconds. Kick off will be 3pm.



Also while I was away, England and Sale lock and local boy Jonny Hill was guest of honour at our family fun day. I'm told he was super and went out of his way to field a host of intelligent questions from the youngsters who had earlier braved horrible conditions to play an exhibition match in front of parents.

Huge thanks to all of the volunteers who helped plan, set-up and organise the day. Particular thanks to Suzie Lewis, Jan Doyle and Lynn Davies for their planning and organisation.

I said earlier the school pitch at Bromfield Road, which courtesy of Ludlow School, we will be using in the event of the Linney being too wet to play, was in super condition, beautifully marked out. Our groundsman, Pete Chidley labours every week and takes a real pride in ensuring we have beautiful straight white lines at The Linney and with his long stride gets it done at a pretty efficient pace but I'm told the school groundsmen don't even have to get out of their van to mark the pitch. They drive to four corners of the pitch, programme the GPS on their marker, mix the paint and let it go. They don't even have to fill it with Newcastle Brown as a thank you at the end!

See you soon,
Andy Wright
President Ludlow Rugby Club