



## In Touch

It could easily have been a training exercise, coaches and players working alongside each other in total harmony filling small buckets with water from the river, relaying it at top speed to a big bucket, then using the big bucket to distribute water where it was needed. In fact it was far from a training exercise but a response to a true emergency as we accidentally set fire to a tree at pitchside during the club's groundforce work day. In the end players coaches and volunteers all combined to get the fire out and, more importantly, to tick off a lot of work that needed doing in the clubhouse and around the grounds. It didn't all get completed but some of the jobs will be finished over the coming weeks.



So what did we do? Large amounts of hedge trimmings, brash from around the grounds was collected and disposed of either via Adrian Wilkes' chipper or the aforementioned fire, a new stile was designed and constructed, compost bins removed from Maddie's Meadow car park as well as a bit more coppicing of willow trees to increase room for parking; weeds sprayed throughout the grounds; in the clubhouse the foyer area got a new coat of paint and a new rubbish bin compound is on the way to being constructed. The Jackson boys destoned two big areas of Maddie's Meadow ready for application of grass seed, large amounts of litter were removed from the grounds and all the signage round the pitches carefully cleaned and reattached; the youngsters sorted out loads of old kit most of which will find its way to helping aspiring teams in Africa.

But best of all there was a really good turnout, everyone enjoyed themselves and were well fed by Bruce Acton with his barbecue.

And so we move on to the rugby season with our opening match away at Malvern on 7<sup>th</sup> September. Just to add some spice to the opening clash, former Ludlow player, Marc Gaubert, has been appointed director of rugby at Malvern. Ludlow coach Tom Tench will have his selection limited by clashes with the wedding and farming calendars so expect a close game.

6<sup>th</sup> September 2024



Just a reminder that this Sunday (8<sup>th</sup> September) is family day from 12pm straight after our Minis and Juniors training. Free entry for club members and our Minis and Juniors families, just £2 a person for everyone else. Tell your friends and family members and we hope to see lots of you there.

#### Lunches 2024-25

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September – Sponsor’s Lunch  
Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Volunteer’s Lunch  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November – Chairman’s Lunch  
**Sunday** 24<sup>th</sup> November – Sunday Lunch Internationals Game  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Sponsor’s Lunch  
Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Christmas Lunch  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January – VPs & Sponsor’s Lunch  
Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February – Sponsor’s Lunch  
Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March – Ladies’ Day  
Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April – President’s Lunch

Lunch dates for the 2024-25 season are published above – in response to feedback from our members, the VP lunch is later in the season this year and there are a few different options for sponsors lunches so that our sponsors have a choice of dates to choose from. We are also trialling a Sunday lunch to coincide with the England vs. Japan international game on 24<sup>th</sup> November.

I have now purchased tickets for England’s Six Nation’s games at the Aviva Stadium Twickenham. If you are a paid-up sponsor or member please let me know what tickets you would like to be included in the draw for. We have a very limited number for the first two games but I can get plenty of tickets for Italy, price yet to be specified.

England v France, Feb 8, 4.45 KO  
England v Scotland Feb 22 4.45pm KO  
And England v Italy, March 9 3pm KO

If you are successful tickets for the France and Scotland games will be £149 and I will be asking those successful in the draw to pay soon after being notified.

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