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1. Charity Rugby Match on Friday, 14 June

Rob and Charlotte Norman’s two year-old daughter, Harriet, was diagnosed with leukaemia earlier this year. Rob has been involved with Driffield RUFC, including as 3rd XV captain for ten years, and is still a close friend of many of his former team-mates.

Rob played in 259 games for the club and, while 3rd XV skipper, led his team to four East Yorkshire Merit Final victories in a row.

To raise funds for charity, there will be a game on Friday, 14 June : Driffield School XV vs Rest of World.

- Entry £7
- 17:30 Bar opens
- 18:30 Kick off
- Hog roast (donated by Andrew Corrigan of Boarcross Farms)
- Charity auction and raffle

The proceeds, including the full entry price, will go to Candlelighters - a charity providing extra support for families with children facing childhood cancer. They provide emotional, practical and financial support, and more importantly, hope, by investing in vital research to improve the outcomes and lives of children with cancer.

2. Charity Cycle Ride – ‘Gravel Ride’

The rugby match will be followed a few days later by a charity cycle ride of 400 km over three days - 20-22 June 2024 - from Driffield to Edinburgh by eight members / former members of Driffield RUFC who have all shared the pitch with Rob :

- Sam Parker
- Warren Keyes
- Oli Borman
- Sam Havler
- John Dervey
- Olly Cooper
- Chris Downham
- Rob Hamilton

What's happening at the Rugby Club ?

Proceeds from the cycle ride will be split between Candlelighters and Prostate Cancer UK. If you would like to donate to it, you can do so through the JustGiving page at www.justgiving.com/page/drufcgravelride

3. Annual General Meeting

A reminder that this will take place at 19:00 on Tuesday, 17 July and is open to all paid-up members.

4. Pre-Season Games

Details are still to be confirmed, but the following are in the course of being planned :

- Friday, 9 August : Jed-Forest (H)
- Friday, 16 August : Malton or Scarborough (H)
- Saturday, 31 August : Bridlington / Pocklington (A)

5. Next Season's Opponents

Our Ladies' 1st XV retain their place in Championship North 2 and will play :

- Sefton
- Kendal Wasps
- Manchester
- Harrogate
- Southport
- Birkenhead Park
- Blaydon
- Liverpool St. Helens

Our Men's 1st XV retain their place in Regional I North East and will play :

- Huddersfield
- Heath
- York
- Alnwick
- Blaydon
- Scunthorpe
- Sandal
- Ilkley
- Cleckheaton
- Percy Park
- Selby

Fixtures for both leagues are expected in the next two weeks.

6. Next Season's Captains

These have been confirmed as :

- 1st XV : Adam Brankley
- 2nd XV : Matthew Rowbottom
- 3rd XV : Will Megginson
- 4th XV : Gareth Culpan
- Ladies 1st XV : Laura Harris

Ideas for content for the Monthly Update are always welcome – just send the idea or 50-100 words to [Brad Webster](mailto:Brad.Webster@driffieldruffc.com).

7. Maintenance Shutdown

Please note that the clubhouse will be closed for two weeks for essential maintenance work, including redecoration, from Monday, 1 to Friday, 12 July.

8. Annual Awards

These were presented at the Annual Dinner on Friday, 24 May.

- Player of the Season – Ladies : Shannon Coupland
- Player of the Season – 1st XV : Will Hughes
- Player of the Season – 2nd XV : Jack Webster
- Player of the Season – 3rd XV : Mark Burdass
- Player of the Season – 4th XV : Joe Andrew
- Most Improved Player : Alex Rowbottom
- Young Player of the Season : Will Robson
- Colt of the Year : Freddie Naylor
- David Dinsdale Supporters' Player of the Season : Adam Brankley
- President's Award : Emily Dean
- John Harrison Award : Lisa Naylor and Cat Bristow
- 4th XV Kneeshaw-Meggison Trophy : Tony Collis and James Clark

9. See the Yorkshire County Teams at Twickenham

Both the Yorkshire RFU County Women's and Men's have made history – they both played Lancashire on 1st June 2024 at Hull Ionians, in front of over 800 supporters from across the County in their last Pool fixtures. They both won their respective games.

The Women ran out winners with a score of 30 - 19 after an action-packed game, and the Men finished the afternoon off with a 26 - 13 victory over the Red Rose County.

This makes a historic first for the County in that both the Women and Men go to their County Championship finals at Twickenham on the same day : Saturday, 15 June 2024.

In addition, the good news is that it is a FREE entry event all day at Twickenham. It should be a great day out for the county with these games

- The Men face Kent in the Bill Beaumont County Championship at 3pm
- The Women face Surrey in the Gill Burns County Championship Final at 5pm

More information on the day, entrance, parking, etc. can be found at englandrugby.com

10. And finally ... a Message from the President

Unfortunately, Rodney Hogg cannot be at the Annual General Meeting to present his parting address, so has asked for it to be in this newsletter.

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DRIFFIELD R.U.F.C.

Member of The Rugby Football Union and Yorkshire Rugby Football Union
www.driffieldruffc.com

Monthly Club News Update #60: June 2024

What's happening at the Rugby Club ?

What a remarkable year it has been as President of Driffield Rugby Club. I am overflowing with pride and appreciation for the incredible support and dedication of so many individuals who have made this year an outstanding success.

We have supported two charities this year : Hull and East Yorkshire Mind, and Prostate Cancer UK, and had a fantastic season both on and off the pitch.

I would like to congratulate our 1st XV on securing a remarkable victory in the Yorkshire Cup final, defeating Goole with a final score of 27-11. This victory marks yet another first for DRUFC, show-casing our team's exceptional talent and determination. Well done to everyone involved in this historic win.

Driffield Rugby Club is not just a club : it is a shining example of what a community can achieve together. We stand as a beacon of excellence, fielding four men's and a ladies' sides each week and nurturing rugby talent across all age groups.

Thank you all for your steadfast support, and for making this a truly fantastic club to be a part of.

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