

What's happening at the Rugby Club ?

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1. 1st XV Fixtures

Our League season finishes with just two games in April :

- 06 April v. West Leeds [H]
- 13 April v. York [A]

You can see fixtures for all our teams, both senior and junior, on the website :

- senior fixtures at www.driffieldruffc.com/1st-xv-fixtures-results/
- mini and junior fixtures at www.driffieldruffc.com/whats-going-on-at-the-club/

2. England Rugby Draw outcome

The final amount raised was £5,383, and we retain almost £4,600 of it to use towards improvements at the Club. This is more than last year, and not far short of the first year we ran it. Thanks are due to everyone who took part making it a great success, either by selling or buying tickets.

The Draw itself is not held until 10 April, so we do not know the outcome but last year Rich Dee, our Senior Vice President, won a rugby ball signed by the British and Irish Lions after the third Test in New Zealand. The prize is even more remarkable as Rich was actually there for that match ! As far as he knows, he was the only club member at that game.

3. Under 14s Yorkshire Plate Final on Sunday, 7 April

Our Under 14s side recently beat Pontefract 14-12 to win themselves a place in the final against Beverley. The game will take place at Sandal RUFC. We all wish them the best of luck for a great game of rugby, and a win.

4. Mini Festival on Sunday, 14 April

At this annual event, we expect to host games involving teams at all age groups from Under 7 to Under 12. Last year, over 800 players attended the event, raising over £4,500 towards club funds.

Dominic Thompson is still looking for volunteers to fulfil roles like marshalling the car parking from 8:30 to 11:00 in the morning. It would be very helpful if you can make a note of the date in your diary, and keep some time free to help. If you are able to help, please speak with or email [Dominic Thompson](mailto:dominic.thompson@driffieldruffc.com)

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).

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Broach Hill Garage is supporting the event this year, promoting both their MG and Ssang Yong ranges of vehicles.

5. Annual Dinner on Thursday, 18 April

As is the tradition, this will take place at the clubhouse on the Thursday before Easter. The evening will include the usual dinner, and the award of the following :

- 1st XV Player of the year
- 2nd XV Player of the year
- 3rd XV Player of the year
- 4th XV Player of the year
- Most improved player of the year
- Young player of the year
- Colts / U18s XV Player of the year
- John Harrison award
- President's Award

Tickets are £15 each and must be reserved in advance. Captains will be organising their own tables, and anyone else who would like to go should contact either Andrew Chapman, or Veronica in the office.

6. Annual Golf Day on Friday, 17 May

This regular club fund-raising event will take place at Driffield Golf Club. The day costs £200 for a team of four players, and includes green fees, a two-course meal and prizes. If anyone is interested please contact Ben Medhurst on 07710 344603 or email ben.medhurst@pph-commercial.co.uk

7. Charity Match on Sunday, 26 May

We are holding this event again this year during the Bank Holiday weekend, between two teams of Driffield players. As well as an outside bar, there will be music, food and lots of fun for all ages. We will develop the details, and post them when available.

In the meantime, why not make a note in your diary - we hope to see you at the Club ?

8. NatWest Rugby Force Weekend on Saturday, 22 June

The club has once again signed up to this annual event. The weekend brings members to rugby clubs to make improvements ahead of the new season. Clubs that register for NatWest RugbyForce 2019 can look forward to receiving a host of exciting rewards and benefits, including £3,000 grants (six available), £500 grants (425 available) and online toolkits, to marketing and communications advice as well as access to special offers.

Further details about what / where / when our event will take place will be in a future Club News, but in the meantime why not pencil in the weekend. We hope to get people from all sections of the Club there : players of all ages, all types of rugby, and non-players too.

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9. World Cup fixtures

We have added the fixtures to the Club Diary on our website at :

www.driffieldruffc.com/whats-going-on-at-the-club/

They are all taking place early in the day, and we will be exploring whether there is likely to be any demand for opening the clubhouse for members to watch the games.

10. Dogs on the pitches

Concerns have been made expressed about dog dirt occasionally found on the pitches, and the potential risks particularly to our younger players.

We would like to continue our policy of allowing visitors to the club to bring dogs on Saturdays so long as they are controlled, preferably on a lead, and rigorously cleaned-up after. We hope that all dog owners will do everything they can to supervise their own pets, but also help other visitors to remember their responsibilities.

Dog faeces can transmit diseases like salmonella, campylobacter, roundworms and hookworms. This is a greater risk to children, who are much less likely to wash their hands after playing in the grass. The eggs of roundworms, for example, pass in the faeces of dogs and can survive in the soil for many years - regardless of weather extremes.

If the eggs are accidentally ingested, the worms can cause serious neurological, pulmonary and vision problems in the body. Ocular toxocariasis, although rare, most often affects young children and can cause serious ophthalmologic disease, including blindness.