



NEWSLETTER

Simon Smith Charity Shield Game



“Sport gives everyone a chance in life. It brings people together, it puts a smile on faces, raises spirits and makes people feel good”

After last year’s tremendous success which was supported by over 750 spectators and sponsors, we were able to raise £5000.00 for the two charities.

This year will see a Simon Smith XV selected from former team mates and current players across Yorkshire captained by Greg Bone who will play a Hullensians XV bolstered with a few high profile guest names, details to be confirmed later. It is hoped to make the day a feast of rugby with stars of rugby union and rugby league committing to the cause.

To Sponsor the event or donate to one of the charities please go to our website
www.Hullensians.org

There will be a curtain raiser game scheduled at 12.00 noon to get the day to a good start, followed by the main game at 2.30 and then on into the bar where we all hope to enjoy a couple of beers or two. From all the people involved in making this a day to enjoy and remember, we all look forward to seeing you here to support simon and the charities...

“Sports do not build character. They reveal it.”



Visit us at www.hullensians.org

Seal of Approval & Sports England Clubmark Scheme

The Mini and Youth Seal of Approval and the Sport England [Clubmark](#) accreditation scheme are based upon a 3 year rolling award system in which a club will be assessed on its continuing ability to provide a safe, effective, child-friendly club environment. The accreditation will also show all those with an interest in rugby and sports development that your club is providing its young people with a safe, well-organised and enjoyable environment in which to learn and play rugby.

A club will qualify in the first year by the completion of the assessment file and the writing of a 3 Year Development Plan. By implementing the development plan, with an annual review, a club will continue to be accredited and ensure continuous improvement in provision for the young players at the club

We are in the process of applying to join the RFU Seal of approval scheme which will mean that there will be a number of new roles been introduced inside the development of the club mainly inside the the mini rugby and youth sections. These will hopefully allow the club to grow both in the junior and senior sections. If there is anyone either already involved in the club on a small scale or anyone not active in a club role who would like to volunteer to take up one of the roles. Please contact either Dave, Jon or Pete to talk about the activities they would like to help with.

Club News

We would like to formally introduce and welcome Andrew Vernon who is now joining the committee to help with the setting up of the Seal of Approval accreditation process.

Club Events – Pre Match Meal

Following the success of the last ex-players meal which we had at the start of the season we have scheduled a mixed pre-match meal for the 18th April before the 1st XV play West Park Leeds. We look forward to seeing you here on the day to enjoy a meal cooked by our very own celebrity chef Tony Smith and hopefully watch our team take another step closer to securing promotion to Yorkshire 2 next season. If you would like to come and have not yet confirmed a place on a table please ring either Phil Russell on 07970 764395 or Tony Smith on 01482 505656

For more contact details of Club members please go to www.hullensians.org and click on the contacts page.

Up-Coming Club Events –

- Charity Shield Match – 12th April
- Hullensians AGM – 16th April
- Pre-Match Meal – 18th April
- Hullensians Tour – 24 April
- Club Presentation Day – 30th May

Rugby News – Hawks

Hullensians Hawks took another step closer to securing Play off rugby at the end of the season with a good win against Scarborough Vikings at the weekend and possibly another Merit table final place.

This is mainly due to the hard work from skipper Steve Ballie and player coach Phil Russell.

“We've lost seven of our last eight matches. Only team that we've beaten was Western Samoa. Good job we didn't play the whole of Samoa.”



Visit us at www.hullensians.org

Club News - Events

Over the last few months the club as held a number of good club functions including the kids Christmas party, which saw over 50 kids see and receive a present from our very own Father Christmas.



Colts Rugby

The good old days are back again with the next generation of players coming through the ranks thanks to the growing in strength youth set-up we now have at the club, thanks mainly to Andrew Vernon and Terry Garnett who are coaching some very talented young players.

Forthcoming fixtures:

1st April - **Scarborough vs Hullensians (A)**

8st April - **Hullensians vs Scarborough (A)**

Club News - Sponsorship

The club is always looking for new sponsors, if you feel that you would like to help by helping either sponsoring the club yourself or know of anyone who is looking to sponsor, we would be most pleased if you would think of Hullensians RUFC. We are currently adding sponsorship boards around the 1st team pitch, for more information on this please contact either Paul Camm or Dave Bates.

Coach's Report

The build-up to the Semi-Final last week was a very exciting time for all involved with the club, from the players, whose efforts and attitudes were exemplary, to the tireless work of people behind the scenes. I would like to give special thanks to Dave Bates and Mark Stutely for their unwavering support of the squad this year, to John Krebs for his logistics and camera work and, of course, to Mike Agustus for his reports and the publicity that he generates. I would also like to thank, on behalf of the players, all our supporters throughout the season, and especially those who came down on the coach and by the carload on the day. To come out to the magnificent flag-waving greeting gave the lads a massive lift and was a fitting tribute to them; they're still talking about it now. We should all feel very proud of our Cup run together and I believe we will be stronger as a club for our collective disappointment. Our challenge now is to lift ourselves up, starting this week against Wath, to maintain the required focus and desire to lift the league title.

I, for one, believe we will!! *Chef*

Club News - Pitch Improvements

Due to the usage the pitches are now getting, we are looking towards having some work done on the main front pitch this summer to hopefully help with the problems of drainage, we will also looking at finishing the area behind the clubhouse in the spring of this year hopefully.

“My favourite sport at school was rugby. All sports are teamwork, but rugby particularly is about teamwork and I think teamwork is the essence of this..”



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IT'S IN MY BLOOD; CONTEMPLATING RETIREMENT

by Terry Garnett

So, as a young man, you think you will play rugby forever. You can't envisage getting old, and certainly ever coming to a former player's lunch. It is only after you stop playing that you begin to appreciate what you took for granted for so many years. When you quit, for whatever reason, and you venture into the changing room to see your former teammates, you quickly realise that there is an unspoken barrier that wasn't there before. Yes, you are back with men you love in a way no woman could ever understand, with mates that you would accept injury and pain for, just to earn their respect, and for the team. Men you would spend so much time with, you become like brothers, and they even understand you better than your wife or girlfriend. People who have never played our game could never begin to understand what it feels like to be part of a rugby union team and wouldn't have a clue about the invisible bond, the glue that holds us all together. A camaraderie that few people are ever privileged enough to enjoy. However the instant you retire something seems to have gone. You will never again be part of the in dressing room humour, the in-joke, the snide remark, the look. You are out of the loop and you will never be in it again. You don't feel the pain at first, but you all too quickly become like an addict deprived of his fix, an alcoholic who wants desperately to drink, but can't risk even one. You really miss the buzz you get from playing. This feeling affects men in different ways. Some can't face watching a match for years, or even going to the Rugby Club, but won't admit it. Others can't bear the smell of liniment, or hear the sound of boots on concrete as players emerge on to the pitch, without a desperate longing to be playing again overwhelming them. Some take

up coaching, but have to leave the changing room as they find the atmosphere before kick off more than they can bear. Wives and girlfriends just don't understand this sense of bereavement.

These conflicting emotions never leave you, this sense of total frustration. In many ways it gets worse the older you get. Even aged and crippled with arthritis, you still dream at night of being summoned from the crowd to play, and managing to be the hero of the hour to seize a victory from the jaws of defeat. Rugby is an addiction. That's why you are here today. You will relive the past glories, catastrophes and incidents on and off the field. Memories of matches, won and lost, which bind you together in the largest freemasonry in the world. Put your arms around your brothers and feel the trust, passion and excitement, do what you can for the people who can do no more. Enjoy your day and let today be the day you reminisce. WIN..... ©

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