

WE WISH YOU ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Action from a muddy Malvern

# WELCOME TO STOW ON THE WOLD

**It is with great pleasure we welcome the players, supporters and committee persons of Stow on the Wold RFC for what is their first ever 1st XV game away at Kenilworth. This is the first of the return fixtures.**

The club was founded in 1879, when the railway was extended to Stow-on-the-Wold. It could possibly have been formed by the railway engineers who were based at Stow. They were a founder member of the Gloucester Rugby Union and moved to their present site (with breathtaking views of the Cotswolds) in 1967. It was in 1984 that a new Clubhouse was built and this was later extended and renovated in 1996 to provide the extensive facilities enjoyed by the Club today and seen by us in September.

For many many years Stow were based in the South West division and were level transferred this season. Last season they finished 6th in Regional 2 SW. This season they are going well and in their eleven games to date they have won 9 and lost only 2 (Luctonians II & Moseley Oak) and are sitting in 2nd spot in the league, 12 points behind Moseley Oak. Our game at Stow in Sept ended in a (disappointing for us) 33-20 win for Stow with our try scorers being Bobby Thompson, Charlie Wollaston and Rhys Jones. Last week they defeated Hereford at home, 19-7. Their Head (Player) Coach is James Gibbs who was their "player of the season" last season. Scrum half Jamie formerly played for Richmond prior to joining Stow in 2021.

## PRESIDENTS PERSPECTIVE

President RB is into the third week of his Himalayan adventure. He says 'namaste' to all and tells me that they will get to as high as 5000m so it'll be as lung bursting as a Bob McLeavy Abbey Fields session from the 80's. RB's modesty would preclude him blowing his own trumpet so I will take the opportunity to (there is, unfortunately, no avoiding a double entendre) blow it for him and talk a little about his impact on women's rugby in this year of the Red Roses becoming World Champions.

Our Women's 1st XV played Lichfield (no 't') a couple of weeks ago and were narrowly defeated 10-5, showing how competitive they are at championship level. The Lichfield story is an interesting one and RB was at the heart of it; many of you will know that he coached at Lichfield when they were in the Premiership but how many know that he played a central role in the development of such Red Rose luminaries as Emily Scarratt, Sarah Hunter, Natasha Hunt and Amy Cokayne, amongst others? Lichfield were amongst the best teams in the country from 2013 - 2017 and then the RFU (God bless 'em) decided that Lichfield didn't have a strong enough application to remain in the elite tier.

RB remained with them for a while but the pull of his beloved Kens was too great and he was instrumental in the rise of our own women's team who now more than hold their own in the second tier of the RFU pyramid (though of course promotion is currently denied the champions). His successors Becci Lewis and Jordan Young, ably assisted by a strong support team, are continuing the development apace - we have a second team who currently top the table in Women's NC 2 Midlands, playing against other clubs' first XV's, we're developing strong links with the University of Warwick who have a good number of players regularly training and playing in both the 1st and 2nd XV's and to add to the mix we have a very promising under 18s team; would you believe that 3 of the 18's squad have been on England age group development camps and another 4 have impressed at senior 2nd XV level?

So as the club develops in all sorts of ways, make sure you keep an eye on the Women's section. If you haven't yet watched them, make sure you do so soon. I think you'll be impressed.

It only remains for me to pass on best wishes from RB to all players, volunteers, supporters, parents, visitors and anybody associated with our club and this great game of rugby. Have a wonderful Christmas season and a splendid 2026.

- Glyn Owen



## WELCOME FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RUGBY

Good afternoon everyone, and a very warm welcome to Glasshouse Lane.

A warm welcome to our visitors today, Stow-on-the-Wold RFC – Stow sit comfortably 2nd in the league after an impressive start to the 2025/26 league campaign. They have won 9 of their opening 11 games. A hard fought 19-7 win against Hereford last week at home another decent result. They are firmly in the new end of season play offs which will be interesting to see when it comes to the business end of the season.

We have had a couple of tough results over the last couple of weeks but our performance at times deserves better and other times it doesn't. We faced a decent Malvern side who played the horrendous conditions at the foot of the hills better than we did. We kicked well and squeezed them into mistakes however we also gifted a couple of tries which felt like we were always chasing the game. We know when it get it right, we will match any side in this league. As I've said before, the opposition are trying to do the exact same thing to us.

I hope today brings a full bodied game that stands out as one to remember for the right reasons.

Enjoy the rugby today,

Cheers, **Matt.**

### TODAY'S LUNCH

Our pre match lunch today is our popular Christmas Lunch and we welcome you all (particularly if you are new to the club) for our fine food (prepared by Nigel), beer and wine.



### REGIONAL 2 MIDLANDS WEST

Our previous visitors, Moseley Oak now have 11 straight bonus point wins after defeating Old Halesonians, 45-5, last week. They lead our visitors of today, Stow on the Wold, by 12 points with Luctonians 11's in 3rd spot. Old Halesonians remain at the foot, 8 points adrift of Stratford. We continue in 10th spot, 3 points ahead of Stratford and 2 behind Hereford.

### WARWICKSHIRE CUP

Our very long quest to win the Warwickshire Cup will continue on the 7th Feb when we will play a semi-final away at Sutton Coldfield. The other semi is between Nuneaton and Broadstreet. Sutton Coldfield are currently playing at the same level as us but in the North division where they currently lie in 4th spot with 6 wins from their eleven games to date.

For those new to the club the Warwickshire Cup is a bit of a holy grail for us old timers. We have participated in the final on eight occasions and failed to win it each time, sometimes by very narrow margins. In Nov 21 we played the higher ranked Nuneaton and lost 26-27 – we had a final conversion to win the cup but it was not to be. A year later it was a bit of a farce and we found ourselves in the final without playing a game. It was agreed that the league game at Glasshouse Lane in October (2022) against Broadstreet would double as the Warwickshire Cup final. Going into injury time we scored a converted try to lead 25-22 and we were getting very excited. However, the referee conjured up an incredible amount of injury time which concluded with the inevitable Broadstreet try and victory to them. One day it will happen and what a party there will be – maybe even matching our Twickenham win!



### LAST FEW WEEKS

Our game with Moseley Oak two weeks was good entertainment and (without ever threatening to win) we gave it our best shot, gaining a try bonus point in the 29-54 defeat. This was the first try bonus conceded by Oak this season and the highest points they have conceded. Our try scorers were Bobby Thompson, Sandeep Dhaliwal, Dan Ward and Archie Welsh. Our superb kicker Dan Ward was successful with three difficult conversions and a penalty but we will not see him for a while as he is off to do his National Service in Switzerland! The Napton Cider man of the match was young fly half Aled Balman. Last week at Malvern was a wee bit disappointing, going down 19-31. We were never really in the game but the ironic thing was we nearly snatched two bonus points at the end but just failed when a lineout went wrong. Our try scorers were Ted Bromwich, Fin Gibson and Hector Smith. Bad news was a serious injury suffered by Gaz Renowden trying to prevent a Malvern try.

Our Colts got back to winning ways 2 weeks ago by defeating Old Laurentian 27-0 under our lights with tries from Charles Rugg, Louis Smith, Harry Ramus, James Edsall and Oliver Addis. They still lie 2nd in their league, 4 points adrift of Barkers Butts. They are playing today away at Harbury.

Good news from the 2nd XV who had their second win of the season courtesy of Old Coventrians pulling out of the fixture.

Our Women's 1st XV lost, 17-29 at home to West Park Leeds and they now lie 7th (of 10) in their league after nine games. They are away at Novocastrians today, a team that lie below them. The Women 2nd XV lost their Junior Cup game away at Old Halesonians, 7-25. Last week they played Rugby Lionesses in the league winning 26-10 to maintain their position at the top of the league. The Women U18 squad are doing really well and have now won 5 of the 6 games they have played.

### NEXT FEW WEEKS

Our next fixture is the popular trip down the A46 to Stratford and it is hoped that a large number of supporters will make the trip for a really important game. A nice watering hole is the Ferry Inn in Alveston. Stratford continue to play at Loxley Rd, CV37 7DP. After the Christmas and New Year break, we are back at home on the 10th Jan with a game against Edwardians

## UP AND COMING EVENTS AT KRFC

<b>14th Dec</b>	U14's v Silhillians, 11am
<b>20th Dec</b>	2nd XV v Old Coventrians, 2.15pm
<b>24th Dec</b>	Xmas Eve at the club
<b>10th Jan</b>	1st XV v Edwardians, 2.15pm
<b>10th Jan</b>	Colts v Keresley, 2.15pm
<b>11th Jan</b>	Women 1 v Bury St Edmonds, 2pm
<b>17th Jan</b>	2nd XV v Barkers Butts, 2.15pm
<b>24th Jan</b>	2nd XV v Earlsdon, 2.15pm
<b>24th Jan</b>	Women 1 v Barnsley, 2pm
<b>31st Jan</b>	1st XV v Shipston, 2.15pm
<b>31st Jan</b>	Pirates Lunch
<b>7th Feb</b>	1st XV v Sutton Coldfield, War Cup semi final
<b>28th Feb</b>	Ladies Day
<b>24-26th April</b>	Kenilworth Sevens – see web site

## TONIGHT'S LOTTERY NOS

- 4** We were the first team in the league to score four tries against Moseley Oak.
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- 7** Our semi final in the Warwickshire Cup will be at Sutton Coldfield on 7th Feb.
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- 9** Our bonus points are keeping us alive in this league, but we also need wins!
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- 29** Points scored against the leaders Moseley Oak – highest they have conceded all season
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- 30** Our top kicker Dan Ward is off to join the Swiss Army – bring us back a knife!
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- 58** Top scorer in club is Emma Dootson – 29 cons and 4 tries for Women 2nd XV

## FOOD AT KENILWORTH RUGBY CLUB

Match Day food is available in the form of filled rolls, pies, soup & roll or a more substantial meal, as served to the players. Ask behind the bar.

During the week, it is Burger Wednesday or Thank God it's Friday.

DATE	OPPOSITION	RESULT	POS
6/09/25	Luctonians II's (h)	20-33	9 <sup>th</sup>
13/09/25	Stow on the Wold (a)	20-33	10 <sup>th</sup>
20/09/25	Stratford (h)	17-20	11 <sup>th</sup>
27/09/25	Old Coventrians (h)	HWO	WAR CUP
4/10/25	Edwardians (a)	22-26	11 <sup>th</sup>
11/10/25	Hereford (h)	26-24	10 <sup>th</sup>
18/10/25	Shipston (a)	26-26	11 <sup>th</sup>
25/10/25	Silhillians (h)	29-27	9 <sup>th</sup>
1/11/25			
8/11/25	Old Halesonians (h)	24-32	9 <sup>th</sup>
15/11/25			
22/11/25	Ludlow (a)	19-26	10 <sup>th</sup>
29/11/25	Moseley Oak (h)	29-54	10 <sup>th</sup>
6/12/25	Malvern (a)	19-31	10 <sup>th</sup>
13/12/25	Stow on the Wold (h)		
20/12/25	Stratford (a)		
27/12/25			
30/12/26			
10/01/26	Edwardians (h)		
17/01/26	Hereford (a)		
24/01/26			
31/01/26	Shipston (h)		
7/02/26			
14/02/26	Silhillians (a)		
21/02/26			
28/02/26	Old Halesonians (a)		
7/03/26	Ludlow (h)		
14/03/26			
21/03/26	MoseleyOak (a)		
28/03/26	Malvern (h)		
4/04/26			
11/04/26	Luctonians II's (a)		

**P11 W2, L8, D1, 251 pts for, 332 pts agst**

## KENILWORTH V STOW ON THE WOLD

SAT 13TH DECEMBER 2025

**KENILWORTH: LLLLWD**

**STOW: WWWLW**

### KENILWORTH TEAM

1	Charlie Morris
2	Archie Walsh
3	Ross Lowthian
4	Tom Davenport
5	Morgan Fox
6	Max Brain
7	Fin Gibson
8	Bobby Thompson
9	Robbie Holden
10	Mark O'Connor
11	Rhys Jones
12	Tommy Hunter
13	Sandeep Dhaliwal
14	Hector Smith
15	Sam Fountaine
16	Finn Nicholas
17	Max Stanton
18	Isaac Fountaine
REFEREE	Jeremy Nesbitt

### SEASON STATS TO DATE

Team	Top Kicker	Top Try Scorer	Top Pts Scorer
1st XV	Dan Ward 30 (12c, 2p)	B. Thompson & T. Bromwich (6)	Dan Ward 35
Colts	Ollie Addis 41 (19c, 1p)	Charles Rugg (7)	Ollie Addis 71
Womens 1's	Jorge Jones 50, (22c, 2p)	Tamzin Pinches (10)	Tamzin Pinches 50
Womens 2's	Emma Dootson 58 (29c)	Emma Welsford (5)	Emma Dootson 78