

Report on the club's 150 years celebrations

Club chairman Jeff Davies recognised the need to plan for the club's 150 years celebrations in 2024/25 and chaired a small group of members to come up with ideas as to how this could best be done. They met in early August 2023 and in the months that followed, came up with the events which are described below.

As part of these celebrations, a book was published to link the last 50 years to the previous 100 years celebrated in the 1975/75 season.

The book's cover and the foreword to the book, written by Jeff Davies, are shown below.



The book was written by club historian Percy Jones, assisted by editor Hugh Griffiths and compiled for publication by Nigel Bowen of Castell Howell Foods. The 250 copies costing £10.00 each were sold out with all the proceeds going to Prostate Cancer Wales.

Mr John Daniels, Trustee and member of the Pembrokeshire Friends of Prostate Cymru, invited some of the individuals involved in the production of the book to a photo-shoot at the club and to show his appreciation that all donations from the sale would be going to Prostate Cymru.



Official launch of the '150 Years of the Quins'

L-R John Daniels,
Prostate Cancer Wales

Percy Jones,
Historian/Author

Jeff Davies,
Club Chairman

Hugh Griffiths,
Editor

Mr Brian Jones
Club President

OFFICIAL 150 YEARS CELEBRATION MATCHES

Haydn Pugh Select XV

As part of the club's celebrations, several pre-season matches had been arranged. The first match held on Saturday 10th August 2024 was a well-deserved testimonial game for Haydn Pugh, who had played 285 games during his fourteen seasons for the 1st XV. Haydn had also captained the team for four seasons and made three appearances for the Barbarians. Haydn's star-studded select XV included Welsh Internationals Rob Evans, Rob McCusker and Shane Williams along with a number of ex-players who had also served the club with distinction.

The younger Quins squad could not compete with the more experienced Invitation XV but gave a good account of themselves showing what could be a promising season ahead in the newly formed Super Cymru Rygbi.

[We should enter a brief report here on the outcome of the match](#)

CARMARTHEN QUINS XV v HAYDN PUGH SELECT' XV



Back Row: DYLAN RICHARDS, LEWIS MORGAN, JOSH HELPS, LEE TAYLOR, RYAN BEAN, IESTYN WOOD, HARRISON GRIFFITHS,
IESTYN RICHARDS, LOUIE REES.

Middle Row: ELIS THOMAS, RYAN DAVIES, IFAN JAMES, SION JONES, CONNOR ALLEN, JAMES NWENIAN, RHYS FAWCETT, IESTYN GWILLIAM,
RYAN CONBEER, GRUFF WILLIAMS.

Left Row Standing: STEFF THOMAS (Director of Rugby), Dr SCOTT STEVENS (Club Doctor), WYN THOMAS (Kit Manager), TOM CURRY

Right Row Standing: OSIAN CHARLES, RICHARD HARDY (S&C Coach), OLLIE KITCHEN (Physiotherapist), HAYDN MOLE (Masseuse)

Seated: ELIS PAYNE, TOM JONES, JOSH JACKSON, TOM PHILLIPS (Season Captain), GETHIN DAVIES (Match Captain), LEWYS MILLIN, OLLIE
HAWKE, OWAIN THOMAS, DYLAN ROWE, RHODRI DAVIES.

HAYDN PUGH 'SELECT' XV v CARMARTHEN QUINS XV



Back Row: **WILL HURLEY**, **SIENCYN METCALF**, **JASON HARRIES**, **CARWYN ELLIS**, **IAN JONES**, **ROB EVANS** (Welsh International), **OLLIE EVANS**, **NICKY DOWNS**, **GARETH GRAVELL**, **RICHARD WILKES**, **LAWRENCE REYNOLDS**.

(Middle Row in Playing Kit: **PAT HORGAN**(Coach), **ANDREW THOMAS**, **JAC WILSON**, **KEVIN JONES**, **NIC CUDD**, **NEIL CLAPHAM**, **MORGAN GRIFFITHS**, **RHYS WILLIAMS**, **STEFF MARSHALL**, **RICKY GUEST**, **DAFYDD HUMPHRIES**, **RHYS JONES**).

Left Row Standing: **NEIL EVANS**(Kit Manager), **GARETH JAMES**(S&C Coach), **RICHARD KELLY**(Head/Forwards Coach), **RICHARD HIBBARD** (Social Secretary)

Right Row Standing: **LEON RANDALL**(Defence Coach/Team Manager), **RHYS EVANS**(Mascot), **CRAIG DYSON**(Team Doctor), **LLOYD THOMAS**. (Mascot)

Seated: **JUSTIN JAMES**, **GARETH REES**, **GARETH GEORGE**, **AARON HEMMINGS**, **HAYDN PUGH**(Captain), **RHYS LAWRENCE**, **CRAIG EVANS**, **ROB Mc CUSKER**(Welsh International), **ELLIS LLOYD**, **SHANE WILLIAMS** (Wales/B&I Lions)

Quins v Scarlets

The Scarlets brought along a strong squad of regular and up-and-coming players to Carmarthen Park on Saturday 31st August 2024. The Quins also had a good number of youthful talent in the starting XV with former Scarlets player Tom Phillips taking on the captaincy.

The Carmarthen Quins team:

15 Eilir George, 14 Dylan Richards, 13 Iestyn Gwilliam, 12 Ryan Davies, 11 Louis Rees, 10 Ifan Davies, 9 Rhodri Davies, 1 James Newnham, 2 Lewis Morgan, 3 Connor Allen, 4 Lee Taylor, 5 Josh Helps, 6 Tom Phillips (c), 7 Tom Curry, 8 Lewys Millin.

Substitutes;

Ellis Thomas, Harrison Griffiths, Lucca Setaro, Osian Jones, Rhys Fawcett, Will Caron- Lewis, Sion Jones, Iestyn Richards, Iestyn Wood, Gethin Davies, Ryan Bean

We should enter a brief report here on the outcome of the match

*Scarlets team photo here as well as names etc

*Quins team photo here as well as names etc

*Joint team photograph to go in here as well as names etc.

Quins v Cornish Pirates

With the first Saturday of the season clear of any league fixtures, club officials were delighted to welcome previous British and Irish cup opponents Cornish Pirates back to the Park on Saturday 7th September 2024. Like the Quins, the Pirates can trace their early history back to 1876.

This match was an opportunity for the new-look coaching team of Lyndon Lewis, Peter Edwards and Tom Phillips to see the Quins side in action ahead of their first fixture the following Saturday in the new Super Rygbi Cymru league against Swansea at the Park. The Quins were captained against the Pirates by flanker Gethin Davies, who was making his 100th appearance for the club.

Davies, 24, made his Quins debut against Newport in April 2018. He was joined in the backrow by newcomer Iestyn Richards on the blindside and seasoned Quins player Lewys Millin at number 8.

Former Scarlets prop Rhys Fawcett and hooker Sion Jones lined up with tighthead prop Connor Allen in the front row. Ryan Bean and Josh Helps were the second rows.

The halfback pairing of fly half Osian Jones (23) and Lucca Setaro (20) got their first start of the season.

18-year-old Elis Thomas joined the experienced Ryan Davies in centre field with winger Callum Woolley (18), Louis Rees (23) and Eilir George (22) making up the back three.

The Carmarthen Quins team that took on the Cornish Pirates;

15 Eilir George; 14 Louis Rees; 13 Ryan Davies; 12 Elis Thomas; 11 Callum Woolley; 10 Osian Jones; 9 Lucca Setaro; 1 Rhys Fawcett; 2 Sion Jones; 3 Connor Allen; 4 Ryan Bean; 5 Josh Helps; 6 Iestyn Richards; 7 Gethin Davies © (100th game); 8 Lewys Millin.

Replacements; Will C Lewis, Isaac Young, Ifan James, Lee Taylor, Iestyn Wood, Tom Curry, Rhods Davies, Ifan Davies, Harrison Griffiths, Iestyn Gwilliam, Dylan Richards

We should enter a brief report here on the outcome of the match

*Cornish Pirates team photo here as well as names of all players etc

*Quins team photo here as well as names of all players etc

Quins v Crawshays Wales

We should enter a brief report here on the outcome of the match

*Crawshays Wales team photo here as well as names of players etc.

* Quins team photo here as well as names etc.

*Joint team photo here as well as names etc.

Re-union of players who played for the 1st XV and United XV in the Centenary Season 1974/75

***Photograph to go in here with names etc.**

As part of the club's 150 years celebrations, it was decided to invite all past players who turned out for the club in our centenary season (1974/75) to a re-union at the club on Saturday 14th September 2024. Club historian Percy Jones searched through all the playing records for that season and came up with a total of 58 names. Sadly, fourteen of those who turned out that season are no longer with us. With assistance from club member Robert Thomas, we were able to find contact details for 34 players, with some living as far as New Zealand, and quite a few residing over the border in England. Of those we contacted, twenty-two made it on the day with

the club providing complimentary refreshments and entry into the Park to watch the Quins playing Swansea in the newly formed 'Super Rygbi Cymru.'

It was amusing to observe many on arrival looking a bit puzzled at others who were there as 50 years had taken its toll with bodily changes and facial recognition proving quite challenging. A great deal of reminiscing took place with everyone commenting on how glad they were to have made the effort to be there. As expected, a good contingent skipped the game at the Park due to tired limbs with a preference to focus on past memories and trips to the bar. No doubt, those playing today will face a similar challenge when the club celebrates its 200 years in 2174.

Other events to celebrate 150 years

The club welcomed Welsh rugby legends Jonathan Davies, Nigel Owens to the Clubhouse on Friday 14th March along with compere Phil Steele who kicked the night off with his usual batch of witty and humorous tales.



Jonathan entertained everyone reflecting initially on his early rugby years, then his move to senior rugby and some wonderful anecdotes of his experiences as an international player with Wales and also the British and Irish Lions. He shared his memories of the friends he made during his rugby career and how so many of those friendships have lasted until today. He also gave us an insight into his memorable experiences as a rugby league player.



Nigel followed Jiffy and explained how an injury early on in his youth led to him taking up the whistle. He recalled a number of local derby encounters when he needed all his wits about him. He described it as wonderful preparations for the many challenges he faced later on as one of the world's leading referees. He shared with everyone his experiences at many international matches and his pride as having refereed at the World Cup Rugby tournament. He entertained everyone with quotations from his one-to-one liners with some famous players which many in the audience could remember.

It turned out to be a great night's entertainment. Thank you Jiffy, Nigel and Phil.

Are we going to include this Mike Ruddock evening??



Join us at the Clubhouse on Friday, 21st March, for an evening of entertainment with Mike Ruddock OBE.

Celebrate the 20th anniversary of the historic 2005 Grand Slam, Wales' first since 1978.

The evening will consist of a Q&A with former Grand Slam winning Wales Head Coach Mike Ruddock and former Wales international lock forward Kevin Moseley, as well as entertainment by The Gowertones.

Tickets are priced at £25 and includes a meal. To purchase call 01267 234778 or 07880 601313.

All proceeds from the evening will be donated to Prostate Cymru.

St David's Day celebration Saturday 1st March 2024



A night of fun, songs and laughter took place at the clubhouse on Saturday 1st March. Carmarthen born TV star Cath Ayers was accompanied on the evening by opera sensation Mari Wyn Williams, multi-talented Catrin Jên Evans and Cheryl Ingrid Jones on the keys.

**Would Roger or anyone else there please add something on please*

An evening of entertainment with Owen Money & Katie Mittell.



A night of singing and laughter took place at the clubhouse on Saturday 3rd May with Owen Money regaling everyone with his usual banter and funny gags and his daughter Katie Mittell singing a variety of songs to suit everyone's taste.

Our first season in the Super Rygbi Cymru league

Achievements/Honours

Wales with three former Quins players

Three former Quins players – Props Gareth Thomas and Kemsley Mathias and Centre Eddie James had been named in Warren Gatland's 2025 Six Nations 34 man squad with Wales preparing to take on France in the opening round on Friday 31st January. Gareth Thomas was the only one to get selected on the day.



31-year-old, Newcastle Emlyn born, Thomas played 47 games for the Quins between 2011 and 2014 before getting his big break at the Ospreys.

Haverfordwest born Mathias, 25, represented the Quins between 2017 and 2023 before becoming a mainstay in Scarlets' squad.

Centre James made 11 appearances in the 2021-22 season and has since gone on to make 24 appearances for the Scarlets.

Up and coming Quins youngsters

Wales Under 20s took on a select Welsh Academies XV on Friday 17th January 2025 in the final warm-up fixture ahead of the 2025 Six Nations U20 campaign.

Eight young Quins players were named in the squads, three featuring for Wales U20s and five representing the Welsh Academies.

Elis Price was at centre in the Wales U20s starting XV with hooker Isaac Young, scrum half Lucca Setaro and centres Gabe McDonald and Iestyn Gwilliam starting for the Academies.

Hooker Lewis Jones and winger Iori Badham were on the replacements bench for Wales U20 with scrum half Rhodri Lewis named on the Academies bench.

A match poster for the Wales U20s vs Welsh Academies XV fixture. The poster features a blue and white background with the Welsh flag. The title 'THIS IS OUR FUTURE' is at the top. The teams are listed as 'WALE'S U20s' and 'WELSH ACADEMIES XV'. The players are listed in two columns, numbered 1 to 15. The Wales U20s players are: Ioan EMANUEL, Harry THOMAS (C), Owain JAMES, Nick THOMAS, Kenzie JENKINS, Arthur MOORE, Ryan JONES, Evan MINTO, Carwyn EDWARDS, Harri FORD, Ieuan CORNELIUS, Elis PRICE, Osian ROBERTS, Aidan BOSHOF, and Lewis EDWARDS. The Welsh Academies XV players are: Freddie CHAPMAN, Isaac YOUNG, Joe COWELL (C), Ben ROBERTS, Iwan EVANS, Evan REES, Charlie PROBERT, Owen CONQUER, Lucca SETARO, Josh PHILLIPS, Macauley ROWLEY, Gabe McDONALD, Iestyn GWILLIAM, Jac DAVIES, and Sam POTTER. The match is scheduled for Church Bank, Llandovery on 17.01.25 at 19.30.

THIS IS OUR FUTURE	
WALE'S U20s	WELSH ACADEMIES XV
1 Ioan EMANUEL	1 Freddie CHAPMAN
2 Harry THOMAS (C)	2 Isaac YOUNG
3 Owain JAMES	3 Joe COWELL (C)
4 Nick THOMAS	4 Ben ROBERTS
5 Kenzie JENKINS	5 Iwan EVANS
6 Arthur MOORE	6 Evan REES
7 Ryan JONES	7 Charlie PROBERT
8 Evan MINTO	8 Owen CONQUER
9 Carwyn EDWARDS	9 Lucca SETARO
10 Harri FORD	10 Josh PHILLIPS
11 Ieuan CORNELIUS	11 Macauley ROWLEY
12 Elis PRICE	12 Gabe McDONALD
13 Osian ROBERTS	13 Iestyn GWILLIAM
14 Aidan BOSHOF	14 Jac DAVIES
15 Lewis EDWARDS	15 Sam POTTER

Under 18/19/20 & 23 International Caps



Left to right – Jake Bowen – Wales U19; Keanu Evans – Wales U19; Elis Price – Wales U20; Iestyn Gwilliam – Wales U23; Lewys Jones – Wales U19; Iori Badham – Wales U20; Isaac Young – Wales U23 ; Lucca Setaro – Wales U23; Harry Wigglesworth – Wales Rugby League U18; (Osian Williams - Wales U19; Gabe McDonald – Wales U23; Rhodri Wells – Wales U23; Carwyn Leggat-Jones – U18)

Season 2024/25:

Jeff – I planned to do a review here of games played/won/lost/drawn but there are no results on our web site for me to work on.

After that, I thought it would be a good idea to include Steff's report at the Player's Evening which gives a clearer picture of how the season worked out for the Quins and how the overall accomplishments on young player development should augur well for the coming seasons.

Would you or anyone else be prepared to do that or we can leave this section out which would be a pity.