

Newsletter



Welcome to the September 2026 Edition of the Bridgend Athletic RFC Newsletter

Welcome to the latest edition of the Bridgend Athletic RFC Newsletter.

As a new season gets underway, this edition provides an opportunity to look back on another memorable year at the Ath, while also looking forward to what promises to be an exciting 2026/27 season.

Across the club, there has been plenty to celebrate. Our senior teams enjoyed another successful campaign, our youth and mini & junior sections continued to grow and develop, and Ogwr Hawks continued to provide fantastic opportunities for girls to enjoy and progress in rugby.

The newsletter also highlights some of the many things happening away from the pitch – from developments at the clubhouse and A48 playing fields, to our community initiatives, club lottery, membership and sponsorship opportunities.

Most importantly, this newsletter is a celebration of the people behind the club. The players who pull on the green and gold, the coaches and volunteers who give their time, the parents and families who provide incredible support, and the sponsors, committee members and supporters who help keep the club moving forward.

The achievements featured throughout these pages are a reflection of that collective effort. From cup successes and individual milestones to player development, tours, community initiatives and the countless moments that happen away from the spotlight, there is a great deal to be proud of.

So, whether you are a long-standing member of the Ath family, a player or parent, a supporter, a sponsor, or simply someone who enjoys being part of our wider community, we hope you enjoy this edition and everything it has to offer.

Here's to another season of rugby, friendship, community and plenty more memories at the Ath.

C'mon the Ath! ●●

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Chairmans Letter 2025-2026

Dear Members, Players, Supporters and Friends,

As Chairman, I have been asked to provide a review of last season and, as always, the statistics give us a good indication of the type of season we have had.

Following the remarkable 2024/25 season, it would be fair to say that our Senior Teams enjoyed another very good season.

Once again, we enjoyed brilliant cup runs, with the 1XV reaching the Principality Stadium Final for the second consecutive season and, unfortunately, just missing out on another piece of silverware.

There were some excellent victories along the way, particularly against Treorchy and Newcastle Emlyn. Both games were played in difficult conditions and both produced thoroughly deserved, hard-fought victories.

For me, however, one of the biggest disappointments came after the cup final. With a number of league games still to play through to 16 May, the unavailability of numerous players, for a variety of reasons including injuries, undoubtedly affected the team and our ability to finish the league campaign as strongly as we would have liked.

The loss of Adam Evans will be a big one for us going into the coming season, and we will need other players to step up and fill that gap. Losing Harrison Morgan during the cup game at Bargoed was another significant blow, particularly at such an important stage of the season.

On the positive side, it has been fantastic to see some of our younger players take such significant steps forward.

Hakeem Mumine and McKenzie Grey have both shown tremendous commitment, attitude and willingness to learn. McKenzie, in particular, simply doesn't know how to give up. For an 18-year-old going into his first full senior season, the contribution he made was exceptional and he should be incredibly proud of what he achieved.

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Chairmans Letter 2025-2026

At the same time, we have to recognise that losing several experienced players to retirement at the end of the season will be a significant blow. You simply cannot replace the experience of players such as Ben Cording, Tom Morgan and Matthew Norman overnight. Their knowledge, leadership and understanding of the game have been invaluable to the club.

All we can hope is that their experience continues to be passed on to the younger players coming through, both on and off the field. That is an important part of what makes a club like ours successful.

We are also used to seeing players move on to higher levels, whether into the Premiership or SRC clubs. That is part of the game, and we simply get on with it. We should be proud whenever our players earn the opportunity to progress, while always hoping that they will return to the Ath at some point in their careers.

The Generals also performed well in the league. They were unfortunate to have a number of potential victories taken away from them by teams withdrawing from the competition, alongside suffering some narrow defeats where, on another day, luck may have gone our way.

Their cup run, however, was tremendous.

Notable victories included Cardiff Met, who play a league higher, and Bala, where the team produced an excellent performance. The Bala victory was helped by a hat-trick from our resident all-rounder, Owen Thomas, who continues to claim that he is the King of Pontycymmer.

Long live the King!

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Chairmans Letter 2025-2026

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who played their part in making last season such a successful one. To our players, coaches, parents, supporters and committee members, your commitment, time, effort and continued support are what make this club what it is, and none of it goes unnoticed. There are countless hours of work that happen behind the scenes, often without recognition, and I am incredibly grateful to everyone who contributed throughout the season.

As we now look ahead to the new season, I wish all our players, coaches and teams every success. There will undoubtedly be challenges along the way, but if we continue to show the same commitment, togetherness and pride in the club, I have every confidence that we can enjoy another memorable season. Most importantly, let's continue to enjoy our rugby, support one another and make the most of another year at the Ath.

Good luck to everyone for the season ahead – and, as always, C'mon the Ath!

Yours in rugby,

Paul Hearne
Chairman



Matthew Norman is presented with a collection of photos as a retirement gift by club chairman Paul Hearne

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Stats 2025–2026

1XV – End of Season Statistics

The Ath finished the league season in 6th place with 65 points, recording 12 wins, 1 draw and 11 defeats.

Across the league campaign, we scored 615 points for and conceded 559, with 85 tries scored and 70 conceded.

Our cup campaign was another excellent one. We played five matches, winning four, scoring 123 points and conceding 71, with 15 tries for and 7 against.

Overall, across all competitions, the First XV played 31 matches, recording:

- 16 wins
- 1 draw
- 14 defeats
- 780 points scored
- 693 points conceded
- 106 tries scored
- 86 tries conceded

Leading Try Scorers

McKenzie Grey led the way with an outstanding 17 tries, followed by Jonny Phillips with 13 and Jake Williams with 11.

- McKenzie Grey – 17
- Jonny Phillips – 13
- Jake Williams – 11
- Joe Patterson – 10
- Gabe Brown – 8
- Rhys Ward Jones – 6
- Kalafi Molitika – 5
- Ollie Olds – 4
- Lee Murphy – 3
- Dan O'Sullivan / Iestyn Merriman / Hakeem Mumine / Jake Thomas / Ben Cording / Tom Jenkins / Charlie Ashpole / Harvey Tooze – 2

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Stats 2025–2026

Leading Points Scorers

Evan D'Adamo had a remarkable season with 209 points, followed by McKenzie Grey with 85 and Jonathan Phillips with 65.

- Evan D'Adamo – 209
- McKenzie Grey – 85
- Jonathan Phillips – 65
- Jake Williams – 50
- Joe Patterson – 50
- Gabe Brown – 40
- Rhys Williams – 32
- Rhys Ward Jones – 30
- Ollie Olds – 29



Achievements

There were some excellent individual achievements during the season.

McKenzie Grey scored three hat-tricks, including one in the Cup Final, while Jake Williams also scored a hat-trick.

Evan D'Adamo became the first Ath player since Steve Lewis in 2012/13 to score more than 200 points in a season, finishing with an impressive 209 points. The club record for points scored in a season remains Stuart Morris with 393 points.

Milestones

There were also a number of significant appearance and points milestones achieved during the season.

150+ appearances

- Ben Cording – 159

100+ appearances

- Ben Owen – 125

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Stats 2025–2026

50+ appearances

- Iestyn Merriman – 66
- Gabe Brown – 63
- Evan D'Adamo – 63
- Rhys Ward Jones – 63
- Joe Patterson – 59
- Ollie Olds – 55

250+ points

- Jonathan Phillips – 270

200+ points

- McKenzie Grey – 246

100+ points

- Lee Murphy – 115
- Joe Patterson – 110
- Jake Williams – 100
- Tom Morgan – 100



Generals – End of Season Statistics

Leading Appearances

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Harvey Tooze – 17 | • Lewis Jones – 12 |
| • Luke Griffiths – 17 | • Brandyn Fooks – 12 |
| • Ethan Bevan – 17 | • Archie Brent – 12 |
| • Keegan Thomas – 16 | • Josh Carey – 11 |
| • Rhys Hockings – 14 | • Rhys Heard – 10 |
| • Wayne Fooks – 14 | • Josh Llewellyn – 10 |
| • Cam Hicks – 14 | • Jack Obbard – 10 |
| • Dan Osarigie – 13 | • Nathan Cox – 9 |
| • Charlie Ashpole – 13 | • George Tellem – 9 |
| • Owen Thomas – 13 | |
| • Aled Thomas – 13 | |
| • Harry Griffiths – 13 | |
| • Lucas Kenny – 13 | |

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Stats 2025–2026

Leading Try Scorers

- Owen Thomas – 10
- Harry Griffiths – 5
- Harvey Tooze – 5
- Rhys Hockings – 4
- Ethan Bevan / Dan Osarigie / Michael Gillette / Charlie Ashpole / George Tellem / Cam Hicks – 3
- Wayne Fooks / Rhys Hyde / McKenzie Grey / Rhys Heard / Nathan Cox / Joe Symons / Tom Morgan – 2

Leading Points Scorers

- Owen Thomas – 50
- Aled Thomas – 32
- Harry Griffiths – 27
- Harvey Tooze – 25
- Scott Govan – 22
- Rhys Hockings – 20



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Stats 2025–2026

Generals – Achievements

Owen Thomas scored a memorable hat-trick against Bala during the cup run.

Generals – Milestones

500+ appearances

- Wayne Fooks – 561

100+ appearances

- Aled Pilliner

50+ appearances

- Brandyn Fooks – 69
- Owen Thomas – 62
- Luke Griffiths – 61
- Charlie Ashpole – 60
- George Tellem – 60

250+ points

- Aled Thomas – 266

200+ points

- Harry Griffiths – 205



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Senior Presentation Awards Night

Bridgend Athletic RFC held their 54th Annual Senior Presentation at its Ewenny Road Clubhouse on Saturday June 6th.

Club Director Gareth Davies again acted as MC reviewing the 1sts Season and announcing the Award Winners and Presenters. 2nds (Generals) Team Manager Liam Griffiths reviewed the 2nds Season.

Club Chairman Paul Hearne welcomed and thanked all sponsors of the club, represented by Simon Apsee (J H Apsee & Sons Removals & Storage), Gareth L Edwards (Estate Agents) & Club Director David Perry (Church Village Travel) - Club President Wayne Griffiths unable to attend due to family illness.

Paul also thanked the BARFC Committee, Coaches, Players, Volunteers, Bar & Catering Staff led by Stewardess Yvonne Blackburn.

Other speakers were Keir Ennis thanking Liam and Rhys on behalf of the Generals and gave them both gift vouchers. 1st team player Ollie Olds spoke about what the Ath meant to him and recognising fellow players qualities.

The prestigious Club Person of the Year was deservedly won by Gareth Davies for outstanding commitment, while the Senior Player of the Year was won by versatile back Ollie Olds who plays with the same level of skill at either half back position or centre.

Long term retiring Club Safeguarding Officer Angela Bennett became the 1st Female BARFC Life Member.

Thanks to Adrian Burt & Gareth Davies for organisation of the occasion and Club Photographer Paul Harwood for his excellent inscribed photos. Also, Russel Lewis for organising the raffle, and all prize donors - in particular Club Sponsor Mike Perry for a generous £100 CVT voucher.

Next Season's 55th Award Ceremony will be as club tradition, the 1st Saturday in June - June 5th 2027.

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Senior Presentation Awards Night

Award Type	Recipient	Presenter
1STS AWARDS		
Player of Year -Jeff Jenkins Memorial award.	Oliver Olds	Gareth L Edwards
Players Player of Year – Nathaniel Car Sales Award	McKenzie Grey	David Perry
1 st XV Runners Up Award – Terry Coles Memorial Award	Kalafi Molitika	Paul Coles / Simon Apsee
Daryl Dyke Memorial Award	Hakeem Mumine	Nathan Holman
1 st XV Captain – Posh Nosh Award	Jonathan Phillips	David Perry
Club Person of Year Award		
Club Person of Year – Peter Woods & Sons Award	Gareth Davies	Simon Apsee
2nd XV (Generals) Awards		
2nds POY – David Perry Award	Luke Griffiths	David Perry
2nds Players POY – Nathaniel Car Sales Award	Harvey Tooze	Gareth L Edwards
2nds Runners Up – Brian Lewis Memorial Award	Charlie Ashpole	Rhys Jones
2nds Captain (Tony Griffiths Award)	Charlie Ashpole	Liam Griffiths
Generals Players Gift Voucher Appreciation Award	Liam Griffiths / Rhys Jones	Keir Ennis
Life Membership Award		
Life Membership	Angela Bennett	Paul Hearne – Club Chairman
Nathaniel Car Sales Players of Month		
Nathaniel Car Sales	1sts - March Hakeem Mumine 1sts- May – Jakob Williams 2nds Feb – Dan Osarigie 2nds April – Cam Hicks	Nathan Holman – 2x1sts Liam Griffiths 2 x 2nds
Player Retirement Awards – Ath Career Photo Albums		
Retirement – Ath Career Photo Album – courtesy of John Canon	Tom Morgan	Tom not present – award at later date
Retirement – Ath Career Photo Album – courtesy of John Canon	Matthew Norman	Paul Hearne – Club Chairman
Stewardess Bouquet Award		
Stewardess - Bouquet	Yvonne Blackburn	Paul Hearne – Club Chairman
Player Representative Honours		
Malta Internationals	Rhodri Apsee, Mark Davey	
Welsh / British Fire Service	Matthew Norman, Matthew Greenman, Ben Cording, Geraint Roberts	
Welsh Police	Tom Jenkins	
Crawshays	Jakob Williams	
Welsh +35 Touch Rugby	Bridgend Knights – Geraint Robers, Paul Harwood, Sean Molino, Lloyd Thomas, Mark David	

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Senior Presentation Awards Night



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Rugby Update – Ogwr Hawks

As we prepare for another exciting season with Ogwr Hawks, we want to take a moment to celebrate everything our players, coaches, volunteers and families achieved last year. The previous season was full of growth, determination and memorable rugby moments, and we are incredibly proud of every girl who pulled on the shirt and represented the club with commitment and enthusiasm.

Previous Season Highlights

Last season was a fantastic year for Ogwr Hawks across all age groups, and this season has already begun with the same pride, energy and community spirit. Each team has shown progress, resilience and teamwork, with players developing their skills, confidence and love for the game. From our youngest age groups taking their first big steps in rugby to our older girls competing with pride and purpose, the whole club continues to move forward together.

International Collaboration: Saints Visit

We were thrilled to welcome the Canadian team Saints for the first time, in partnership with BARFC. This memorable milestone celebrated the progress of the club and strengthened our international links. The Saints were extremely complimentary and have invited Ogwr Hawks to join them in Canada for a future tour, creating an exciting opportunity for our players. A return turn is being planned.

Resilience, Teamwork and Ospreys Experiences

Despite unpredictable weather, our U12s, U14s and U16s have continued to show fantastic resilience, teamwork and passion for the game. Participation in Ospreys matches has been a real highlight, with girls enjoying special opportunities including team announcer roles on TV and mascot experiences.

Partnerships Supporting Girls' Rugby

Our collaboration with Islanders has helped ensure girls receive valuable game time and development opportunities, while our partnership with WUKA continues to support girls in grassroots communities across England, Scotland and Wales. These partnerships help create the encouragement, confidence and resources girls need to stay active and engaged in sport.

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Rugby Update – Ogwr Hawks

Recruitment and Community Spirit

The recruitment window is now open across all age groups, and we warmly welcome new U8 and U10 players to the Hawks family. Whether players are new to rugby or looking for a fresh challenge, there is a place for everyone at Ogwr Hawks. As the Hub enters its twelfth year, the commitment, strength and community spirit around the club remain stronger than ever.

International Women's Day at Tondy Titans

To support International Women's Day, our U16s played at Tondy Titans. We invited club members, supporters and families to come along, cheer on the team and be part of this special celebration which proved very successful. Moving forward we will be working with Tondy Titans to continue to build on our pathways into the Titans Senior Women's team.

Team Achievements

U8s and U10s

Our U8 and U10 players grew and developed brilliantly throughout the season. It was wonderful to see their confidence build week by week as they learned new skills, made friends and enjoyed playing rugby in a positive and supportive environment.

U12s

The U12s had an outstanding season and finished as runners-up in the Cup. This was a fantastic achievement and a reflection of the hard work, teamwork and determination shown by the whole squad.

U14s

Our U14s enjoyed a superb campaign and were crowned Plate winners. Their success was built on commitment, effort and togetherness, and everyone connected with Ogwr Hawks is extremely proud of what they achieved.

U16s

The U16s continued to grow as a team and went on to have a successful season. The progress made by the players was clear to see, and their dedication has created a strong platform for the season ahead.

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Rugby Update – Ogwr Hawks

Thank You to Barry RFC

We would like to give a sincere thank you to Barry RFC for their collaboration and support through the two-hub arrangement. Bringing the hubs together allowed more girls to play rugby and enjoy opportunities that may not otherwise have been available. The partnership showed what can be achieved when clubs work Together with the shared aim of supporting girls' rugby and creating welcoming opportunities for players to develop.

Hub Update for the New Season

The new season will see the clubs return to individual hubs for the U14 age group. The U16 and U18 girls will be transferring over to Ogwr Hawks, and we are excited to continue building on the progress made last season. Although the hubs will be returning to their individual structures, we will always continue to support each other whenever player permits are needed, ensuring girls have every possible opportunity to play rugby.

Registration and Subs

All players must complete their WRU player registration for the new season through MyWRU: <https://my.wru.wales/>

Due to the increase in winter venue training costs, we will not be increasing subs this season. Instead, we are asking families to pay subs in three instalments to help support the cost of winter training:

- £60 due by 1 September
- £30 due by 1 October
- £30 due by 1 November

We appreciate your support with these payments, which will help us provide suitable training facilities throughout the colder months.

Bank Details reminder.

- Sort Code – 30-90-99
- Account No – 29405368
- Act Name – Ogwr Hawks Rfc
- Ref – Players Name

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Rugby Update – Ogwr Hawks

Thank You

Finally, we would like to thank all parents and guardians for your continued support. Your encouragement, commitment and involvement make a huge difference to the girls and to the club as a whole. We are looking forward to an exciting new season full of opportunities, development and enjoyment for every player at Ogwr Hawks.

From the Ogwr Hawks Committee

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Rugby Update – Mini and Junior Sections

Under 7s

The 2025/26 season marked an exciting milestone for Bridgend Athletic Under 7s as the team took to the field for their very first season of tag rugby. Across the year, the squad showed fantastic commitment and enthusiasm, playing a total of 21 games and finishing strongly with appearances at the Pontyclun and Pencoed tournaments.

One of the standout highlights of the season was an unforgettable tour to Tenby, where the team had the opportunity to play against Pembroke Dock and Neyland. It was a brilliant experience for players, coaches, and families alike, creating memories that will last a lifetime.

Most importantly, the season has been a joy to watch in terms of player development. From the first session to the final whistle, every child has grown in confidence, improved their skills, and embraced the values of teamwork and sportsmanship that are at the heart of rugby.

The season concluded with a special presentation evening at the club, where all 16 players were recognised for their efforts and commitment. Each player received a season trophy and a commemorative poster, a fitting way to celebrate a fantastic first year of tag rugby.

A huge well done to all players, coaches, and supporters for making it such a memorable and successful season.



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Rugby Update – Mini and Junior Sections

Under 8s

What a fantastic season it's been for our U8s!

The boys picked up where they left off in U7s, making a really strong start to the season and continuing the hard work they had already put in. As the months went on, it was brilliant to see them grow in confidence and start to play as a team, putting together some great passages of play with excellent passing and finishing off some superb tries.

Off the pitch, we enjoyed a brilliant Christmas party at the clubhouse. The highlight of the afternoon had to be our now-famous game of beer pong—although, for obvious reasons, the beer was replaced with plenty of chocolate! The boys also received their new Ath mugs and club jackets, kindly sponsored by former Ath player and now one of our coaching team, Chris John of CMJ Performance. We'd like to thank Chris for his continued support.

After Christmas, our focus shifted towards preparing for U9s by introducing tackling. Every single player embraced the challenge, showing great courage, enthusiasm and a real willingness to learn. It has been fantastic to watch their confidence grow week after week as they developed new skills, while still enjoying their final few months of tag rugby fixtures.

One of the biggest highlights of the season was our tour to Burnham-on-Sea. The boys played some excellent tag rugby against Yatton and Winscombe, representing Bridgend Athletic with great skill, teamwork and sportsmanship. Away from the rugby, the tour created memories that will last a lifetime, with the boys getting fully involved in our famous Kangaroo Court and everyone enjoying the parents versus kids relay races on the beach.

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Rugby Update – Mini and Junior Sections

We rounded off the season with our presentation evening. It was especially pleasing to see four new winners collect the special awards this year, a reflection of how much the whole squad has developed and how many players have stepped up throughout the season.

As coaches, we couldn't be prouder of this group. Their attitude, commitment and enjoyment have been outstanding from start to finish. Seeing every single one of them embrace the transition to tackling has been incredibly rewarding, and we're excited to see what they can achieve as they move into U9s rugby next season.

A huge thank you goes to all of our parents and supporters for their encouragement throughout the year. Your support on the sidelines, at training, on tour and at club events makes a massive difference. We can't wait to see what next season brings.

Up the Ath!



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Rugby Update – Mini and Junior Sections

Under 9s

It's been a busy and successful season for the u9s in their first season of mini rugby. The boys have really taken to the rough and tumble of tackling after 2 successful seasons of tag.

The season ended with a successful tour to Tenby which included a fixture at Pembroke Dock and our annual presentation night at the club.

The boys have worked really hard over the summer preparing to transition into rucking ready for U10's. We have started season 26/27 with a series of round robins and festivals at Rumney, Tonyrefail and Penarth and the boys are improving every week. We were recently able to welcome former Wales international Gavin Thomas to a training session where he helped give an expert insight into the contact area and competing for the ball on the floor. A big thank you to Gavin for his input.

We would like to give a big thanks to our sponsors for their continued support into the new season

- Watts & Morgan Estate Agents
- Screed Solutions South Wales liquid screed specialists
- Ventcon ventilation and air con specialists
- JPW Heating Services
- JH Apsee Removals & Storage
- Thomas & Thomas Solicitors



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Rugby Update – Mini and Junior Sections

Under 10s

Bridgend Athletic Under 10s season summary

This year was always going to be another important step in the boys' rugby journey. Moving into Under 10s brought new challenges, particularly with the introduction of rucking, and throughout the season we've seen a huge improvement in their understanding of the game.

At the beginning of the year, our main focus was on developing the boys as a team rather than simply relying on individual ability. We wanted them to understand the importance of supporting each other, competing at the breakdown, communicating and working together in both attack and defence. As the season progressed, you could really see those lessons starting to come together.

One of the biggest positives has been seeing the development of every individual player. Some boys have grown massively in confidence, others have developed their tackling, passing and decision making, while others have really started to understand their roles around the ruck and breakdown.

We've also welcomed new players into the squad, and it has been great to see how quickly they have settled in and become part of the team.

And finally, well done to every single player who has pulled on a Bridgend Athletic shirt this season. We are incredibly proud of how far they have come.



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Rugby Update – Mini and Junior Sections

Under 11s

The U11s have enjoyed another positive and enjoyable season, with the group continuing to develop both on and off the pitch.

At this age, the focus is very much on enjoyment, development and building a love of rugby, while helping the players develop their skills, confidence and understanding of the game. Throughout the season, the group have continued to show great enthusiasm at training and on match days, with plenty of progress being made along the way.

A huge amount of credit goes to the players themselves for the commitment they have shown throughout the season. Whether at training, playing matches or supporting their teammates, they have continued to demonstrate the values that we want to see from our young players – respect, teamwork, effort and enjoyment.

The season has also provided opportunities for the players to experience different challenges and play against a range of opposition, helping them to develop their understanding of the game and become more confident rugby players.

One particularly proud moment for the club has been seeing a number of our U11 players selected to represent Bridgend & District U11s and the Vale of Glamorgan respectively.

A huge congratulations to:

-  Dylan Kalicinski
-  Dylan Thomas
-  Edward McCartney
-  Jacob Roberts Gore
-  Lawson O'Driscoll
-  Reeve Davies
-  Rhys Sainsbury
-  Parker Davies
-  William Davies
-  Harri Jones
-  Ted Davies

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Rugby Update – Mini and Junior Sections

Under 11s

Being selected to represent a District side is a fantastic achievement and a great opportunity for the boys to experience rugby outside of their normal club environment. We are incredibly proud of them and hope they enjoy the experience and continue to develop their rugby.

However, representative selection is only one part of what makes a successful season. Every player in the U11 group deserves recognition for their contribution, whether that has been through their performances, their improvement, their commitment at training, supporting teammates or simply turning up each week ready to play and have fun.

The development of young players is a journey, and the progress made across the group this season should be celebrated. The friendships built, confidence gained and experiences shared will hopefully provide a strong foundation for the players as they continue through the Mini & Junior section and beyond.

A huge thank you also goes to the coaches, volunteers and parents who give their time and support throughout the season. Grassroots rugby simply would not happen without the people who give up their time to make these opportunities possible for young players.

Most importantly, well done to all of our U11 players. You should be proud of the season you have had, the progress you have made and the way you have represented Bridgend Athletic RFC.

From everyone at the club, thank you and well done! 🍀🍀

#OneClub #BARFC #BridgendAthletic #MiniAndJuniorRugby #U11s #YouthRugby

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Rugby Update – Mini and Junior Sections

Under 12s

The U12s have had a fantastic season, and one that the whole coaching team can look back on with enormous pride.

Making the step up to Junior rugby could easily have been a daunting prospect, but for this group it looked almost effortless. Moving onto a full-size pitch brought plenty of new challenges, but the boys embraced them from day one and have grown tremendously – not just as rugby players, but as teammates and friends.

We were also delighted to welcome four new players into the squad this season, including two boys who were completely new to rugby. It has been brilliant to see how quickly they settled into the group, developed their skills and became valued members of the team.

The foundations for the season were laid during our three-day pre-season residential camp. The boys worked hard, bonded as a group and set themselves goals for the season ahead. That togetherness has been clear to see throughout the year, both on and off the pitch.

As the season got underway and momentum began to build during our first season of cup competitions, we also made sure there was plenty of time for the boys to enjoy themselves away from rugby. Our Christmas party at Jump Jam was a great opportunity for everyone to spend time together, have some fun and strengthen those friendships away from the pitch.

One of the standout moments of the season was undoubtedly our memorable run to the Ospreys District Cup Final.

Throughout the competition, the boys showed incredible determination, resilience and teamwork, overcoming some very tough opposition along the way. Whatever the result, the performance, effort and spirit shown by the squad made everyone associated with the team incredibly proud.

We also took the team on tour to Burnham-on-Sea, where the boys put in a great performance against a local club. More importantly, the weekend was another opportunity to build the team ethos and create memories together. The boys certainly enjoyed themselves – and the parents appeared to enjoy the beer just as much.

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Rugby Update – Mini and Junior Sections

Although we didn't quite get over the line in the season's cup competition, the boys showed exactly the character they have developed throughout the year by bouncing back and throwing themselves into MonFest.

This was a new experience for the group, as their first competitive festival. At this age, the emphasis is rightly on participation, enjoyment and development rather than playing for trophies — but the boys were fantastic. They played with energy, confidence and togetherness, winning all of their games and ultimately lifting the cup.

It was an excellent and thoroughly deserved way to finish the season.

The coaching team could not be prouder of what this group has achieved. The results and trophies are fantastic, but they are only part of the story. More importantly, the boys have developed as players, teammates and friends, while creating memories that will stay with them for years to come.

They have taken on every challenge put in front of them, supported each other and, most importantly, enjoyed playing rugby together.

A fantastic season for a fantastic group of boys. We can't wait to see what the future holds for this talented group.



Newsletter



Rugby Update – Mini and Junior Sections

Under 13s

Building the Foundations

The 2025/26 season began long before the first whistle, with a demanding pre-season programme focused on fitness, strength, conditioning, and gym work. Every player fully committed, laying the physical and mental foundations required to defend both the District Cup and Ospreys Cup titles.

The squad was strengthened by four new players — Eduard Majorant, Elliott Cotter, Lewi Power, Harvey Davies, and Kristen Brooke — who quickly integrated and added strength, energy, and enthusiasm to an already talented group.

Strong Start to the Season

A challenging opening run of fixtures against strong opposition tested the squad early. These matches helped build confidence, improve combinations, and reinforce high performance standards. Encouraging results showed that pre-season work was already paying off.

District Cup Campaign

The defence of the District Cup began on 9th November against Cwmafan. On Remembrance Sunday, Bridgend Athletic delivered a dominant performance, combining intensity, discipline, and control to secure a convincing win and progress towards another final.

Winter Challenges

As winter set in, poor weather forced training and fixtures across multiple venues. Despite disruption, the squad's commitment never wavered. A tough run of games during this period tested resilience and character, with every match providing valuable learning and development.

Semi-Final Success

In the District Cup semi-final, Bridgend Athletic faced familiar rivals Tondy in a hard-fought contest. Both sides battled strongly, but Athletic's physicality, composure, and determination proved decisive as they secured a place in the final.

Newsletter



Rugby Update – Mini and Junior Sections

International Tour to Málaga

Thanks to outstanding support from parents, sponsors, and the wider club community, the squad travelled to Málaga, Spain, for an unforgettable tour.

A highlight was the fixture against Marbella Rugby Club. Arriving only hours after landing, the boys went straight from the airport to the pitch and produced an excellent performance despite minimal preparation. The tour strengthened team bonds, created lasting memories, and further developed the squad on and off the field.

District Cup Final

Bridgend Athletic RFC vs Porthcawl RFC – Kenfig Hill RFC

In one of their finest performances of the season, Bridgend Athletic dominated from the outset. Their defensive structure was outstanding, while their attacking play was clinical and well-executed.

By half-time, Athletic led 24–0, reflecting their control and precision. The second half continued in the same manner, with sustained intensity and clinical finishing.

Final score: Bridgend Athletic 55–12 Porthcawl

Ospreys Cup Final

Following their District Cup success, Athletic faced Dunvant in the Ospreys Cup Final. Dunvant started strongly and took an early lead, but Bridgend Athletic responded with composure and control. Gradually, they took charge of the game, combining strong defence with effective attacking rugby to turn the match in their favour.

Final score: Bridgend Athletic 35–12 Dunvant

Credit must go to Dunvant for a competitive and well-contested final played in excellent spirit.

This victory completed a remarkable achievement:

District Cup Champions

Ospreys Cup Champions

For the second consecutive season — a historic Double Double

Newsletter



Rugby Update – Mini and Junior Sections

Season Summary

The 2025/26 season will be remembered as one of the most successful in the club's history. A strong pre-season, a demanding fixture list, and an unforgettable tour to Málaga all contributed to the development of a resilient, committed, and talented squad. Every challenge helped shape the team, culminating in the retention of both major trophies for a second consecutive year.

While silverware defines success on the field, the true achievement lies in the friendships formed, the experiences shared, and the dedication shown by every player, coach, volunteer, parent, sponsor, and supporter.



Newsletter



Rugby Update – Mini and Junior Sections

Under 14s

Our U14s had a mixed season after the highs of winning the District & Ospreys cups last season, it was always going to be a tough task to repeat especially with some key players missing throughout the season.

The U14s reached the final of the District Cup for a second year in a row but lost out to a strong Tondy side.

End of the season saw the U14s travel to Somerset on tour to compete in the Revel Rugby two day tournament in which they narrowly lost in the final.

Congratulations to Callum Brown, Riley Thomas & Oliver Thomas for being selected to represent Wales Touch U15s at the Junior European Championships.

Congratulations to Ethan Griffiths, Eden Wong & Callum Brown on their caps for representing West Wales Rugby League.

Congratulations to Callum Brown on winning Coaches Player of the Year & Players Player of the Year. Harrison O'Brien winning Forward Player of the Year & Harley Hemming on winning Most Improved Player of the Year.

Big thank you to our U14s sponsors:

- Williams Law
- SJ Fuller Autobodies LTD
- Affordable Quality Windows
- Wild Cod Fish & Chips
- Steve & Lucy Rees
- Ian & Nia O'Brien
- Alex & Julie Davies



Newsletter



Rugby Update – Mini and Junior Sections

Under 15s

Bridgend Athletic u15s are a fantastic group of lads and had an amazing 2025-26 season!

The team travelled all across South Wales playing against competitive matches ... and even flew to Ireland in October to play a game! Whilst in Dublin, they played against Ratoath RFC. They visited the Aviva Stadium, then watched Leinster v Munster play in Croke Park. A great experience!

The players trained hard all season and earned a place in the district cup final following victories against Maesteg Celtic RFC and Tonmawr RFC. This was a great achievement for the club as all 5 junior teams reached the cup final. In the U15 District D cup final Bridgend Athletic successfully beat Kenfig Hill. The U15 Ospreys Cup final the following weekend has a major highlight. The team successfully defended the cup by beating Ystalyfera RFC and the boys were excited to play their first competitive match in the Brewery Field.

The team finished the season on rugby tour in the South of France! They flew to Beziers, where they had a training session with some professional coaches and played a game in the impressive Stade Raoul-Barrière (capacity - 18,555). It was an amazing tour with the team experience the French culture on and off the pitch.

During the off season, there was further great news with 17 players selected for Bridgend District U16s who play in the Dewar Shield. We wish these players all the best in this famous competition.



Newsletter



Rugby Update – Mini and Junior Sections

Special mention to the players who won the Welsh Schools Cup and the Urdd Sevens Cup (Year 10) with Brynteg Comprehensive School and two players (Will Mordecai & Caden Templar) who got chosen to represent Wales Rugby league U16s in the Four Nations Championship.

All the coaches and parents are super proud of the players and we look forward to their last year of junior rugby!

Newsletter



Rugby Update – Mini and Junior Sections

Under 16s

International Tour to Málaga

Bridgend Athletic U16s season was a bit of a stop-start affair. We proudly had 17 players selected to represent Bridgend Schools U16s competing in the Dewar Shield. With availability and injuries this has left us short on match days. We then had 13 players selected for Ospreys East and 8 players selected for Ospreys U16s combined. We are all extremely proud of everyone's achievements.

The U16s made it a remarkable 5 District cup wins in a row when they defeated Tondy in the final 31-0 which was held at Tonmawr RFC. Winning the District Cup final meant the U16s were once again in the Ospreys Cup final 3rd year in a row and as the previous two seasons faced Mumbles. The final didn't go our way and Mumbles ran out deserved winners. End of season presentation saw all U16s players presented with M&J caps with the following players receiving their 10 year service caps, Mason Brown, Dylan Jones, Grayson Lewis Whelan & Reuben O'Brien.

We wish all the players the best of luck on their chosen educational and rugby journeys and look forward seeing them representing the Ath Youth.



Newsletter



Rugby Update – Youth

Season Review

Bridgend Athletic RFC Youth

Review of Season 2025–2026

After having no Youth team during the 2024–2025 season, the return of Youth rugby to Bridgend Athletic was a tremendous achievement. It took a great deal of work and commitment from Team Manager Dean Brown, Team Secretary Laura Hemming, and coaches Chris Davies, Mike Punter, Kyle Hemming and Rob Wilson, along with everyone else involved, to put together a competitive side, largely built around players from the U16 team of the 2024–2025 season.

Their efforts were rewarded with an encouraging and successful campaign, with the team competing strongly in both the Ospreys Shield and Division 1.

Ospreys Division 1

The move into Division 1 gave the players the opportunity to test themselves against some of the strongest Youth sides in the region.

One of the standout results of the league campaign was a comprehensive 34–7 victory over local rivals Bridgend Sports. It was an impressive display from Athletic and one that highlighted the ability and potential within the squad.

The Division 1 campaign provided valuable experience for a young team, with the players continuing to develop individually and collectively. The lessons learned from competing at this level should stand them in good stead for the seasons ahead.



Newsletter



Rugby Update – Youth

Above all, the 2025–2026 campaign demonstrated the value of the hard work put in by the management and coaching team. From rebuilding the Youth section to reaching an Ospreys Shield final and competing in Division 1, it was a season of considerable progress.



Player of the Year Presentation

The season was brought to a fitting conclusion at the Player of the Year Presentation at the Athletic clubhouse, where a number of awards were presented in recognition of the players' contribution throughout the campaign.

Award	Recipient
Captain's Award	Romeo Berezai
Youth Player of the Year	Jack Mutlow
Youth Players' Player of the Year	Rhys Punter
Youth Runners-Up Award	Josh Gabrielson
Youth Daryl Dyke Memorial Award	Stan McEvoy
Youth Clubman of the Year	Oliver Williams

Newsletter



Rugby Update – Youth

Each of the award winners made an important contribution to the Youth section during the season. The presentation provided an opportunity to recognise not only playing performances, but also leadership, commitment, team spirit and contribution to the club.

Looking Ahead

With a strong 2025–2026 U16 team adding depth to the majority of last season's Youth players who remain available, there are high hopes for another successful campaign.

The same management and coaching set-up will continue into the new season, providing valuable continuity, with Rhys Punter taking on the role of Captain.

The new campaign has already got off to an excellent start, with Athletic recording a 54–0 opening victory against Nantfyllon in the Ospreys Group A competition.

That emphatic opening result provides a strong foundation on which to build, and there is every reason to look forward with optimism to another exciting season for Bridgend Athletic Youth.



Newsletter



Rugby Update – Bridgend Knights

Bridgend Knights Summer Season Review 2026 🏉✂️

What an unforgettable summer of touch rugby for the Bridgend Knights! Across all age groups, senior squads, and international stages, our club has showcased incredible skill, resilience, and true community spirit. Below is the complete wrap up of our phenomenal campaigns.

Bridgend Knights Senior Team & Club Success

Our senior section has set the ultimate benchmark this summer, capped off by being crowned 2026 South Wales FIT Touch Rugby League Champions! Going completely unbeaten through the entire league schedule, the squad put on a masterclass of skill and tactical execution. This historic milestone marks only the second time in club history that the Knights have lifted the league trophy.

Driven by an unbeatable club culture, the seniors continue to set the standard for excellence on the pitch while paving the way for the next generation of Knights.

Bridgend Knights Squires UI5s

The UI5s have enjoyed a stellar, trophy laden season, capped off by being crowned South Wales Cup Champions 2026! After a brilliant Group phase, they fought their way to a tense final against the Young Guns, clinching a brilliant 2-1 victory thanks to some fantastic attack and a rock solid defence. This magnificent win follows their triumph as the first ever UI5's Ospreys Touch Cup Champions earlier in the year and reaching the final of the Plate In the Adults South Wales FIT League.



Newsletter



Rugby Update – Bridgend Knights

Bridgend Knights Squires U12s

In their very first year playing touch rugby the U12s Squires put on an incredible showing to finish as *South Wales Cup Finalists 2026, After a fantastic run that included reaching the semi finals of the inaugural Ospreys Touch Cup, they battled through a tough round robin before facing a strong Mini Guns side in the final. Their rapid development and teamwork have been remarkable to watch.

Mini Maidens U12s Girls

As the only all girls team entered into the U12s South Wales Cup tournament, the Mini Maidens played with unbelievable courage, skill, and determination against tough all boys opposition. Their hard work and brilliant win against the South West of England's Saxons boys team propelled them all the way into the U12's Plate Final, where they finished as proud South Wales Cup Plate Finalists.

Shield Maidens Women's Team

The Shield Maidens have been a powerhouse of energy and fantastic touch all summer long! Driving the club's vibrant culture, they have put in brilliant shifts week in and week out. Their commitment, teamwork, and competitive flair have not only elevated women's touch rugby across the region but also heavily inspired the younger generation coming through the ranks, embodying the true "One Club, One Family" ethos.



Newsletter



Rugby Update – Bridgend Knights

International Representation: Wales Honours 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿

Bridgend's footprint reached the absolute highest levels of the sport this summer on the international stage:

Welsh Selection and European Youth Touch Championships:

We are immensely proud of our 11 young players who earned international selection to represent Wales displaying incredible talent against Europe's elite youth squads.

European Touch Championships (Vichy, France):

Flying the flag for the senior section, 4 Bridgend Knights seniors traveled to Vichy to represent Wales at the senior European Championships, showcasing the elite standard of touch fostered right here at our club.

A massive thank you to all the coaches, referees, parents, sponsors (Tenbee Property, Mowerman, Ward Jones self storage Bridgend Ltd, Boes Beauty, Huna, Royal Educate, Chepstow Kitchen and Bedroom and Forces Fitness), and supporters who made the 2026 summer season an absolute triumph. UPPA KNIGHTS! 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿



Newsletter



Bridgend Athletic RFC Ladies Darts

Bridgend Athletic RFC – last season's Bridgend & District League runners up – finished the season in June in 5th place – the first year in many seasons they were not in the top 3.

Captain Anne Jones and Estelle Ward brought home silverware for the team by winning the final of the Captains Cup. And will receive their trophy at the League Presentation evening Sept 11th at the British Legion in Pencoed.

New members welcome – any ability – to enjoy playing darts in a very sociable environment, when next season's league starts mid-September.

Contact Captain Anne Jones 07769291449.

Newsletter



Club News – Together for Ethan Touch Tournament

What began as a simple idea to organise a touch rugby tournament to raise funds and show support for Ethan and his family developed into a fantastic community event, with 40 teams taking part and a huge number of players, supporters and spectators attending throughout the day.

Held with the support of the team at Brewery Field, the event brought together people from across the local rugby community and beyond. The Brewery Field team were instrumental in helping to make the day such a success, providing the venue and supporting the organisers throughout.

A huge amount of work went on behind the scenes and the success of the event was a real reflection of the willingness of so many people to give their time. Volunteers, stewards, referees, scorers, players, stallholders and organisers all played their part in ensuring the tournament ran smoothly.



Particular thanks go to Lloyd Thomas, who managed the tournament throughout the day, including dealing with the challenges caused when the tournament app experienced problems. The refereeing team of Lloyd Thomas, Rhys Ward Jones, James Coupland, Oliver Holman and Sean Molino also deserve enormous credit for keeping the games moving in the warm conditions.

At just 13 years of age, Oliver Holman stepped up to referee during the tournament and did a fantastic job.

The scoring was expertly managed throughout the day by Dean Brown and Kyle Hemming, while Lee Stelmach was part of the stewarding team helping to ensure the event remained safe and well organised.

Newsletter



Club News – Together for Ethan Touch Tournament

There was also a fantastic contribution from members of Bridgend Athletic RFC, with club volunteers giving up their time to help with stewarding and other duties throughout the day. Paul Creed kept proceedings moving on the microphone while also helping wherever needed, and a dedicated team of volunteers worked on the gate and club shop.

Away from the rugby, there was plenty going on, with Phil James Music and Reg Dnb providing entertainment in the sports bar during the evening. Special recognition goes to Reggie, just 13 years old, for giving his time and supporting the event.



The event also benefited from the support of a number of local businesses and organisations, including Farmers Pantry, who provided food throughout the day, and the local fire service, who brought a fire engine along for everyone to enjoy.

One of the highlights of the day was seeing Ethan and his family attend the event, with Ethan presenting the awards to the winning teams.

Newsletter



Club News – Together for Ethan Touch Tournament

The tournament winners were:

- 🏆 Cup: Bridgend Athletic U15s
- 🥈 Plate: Can't Touch This – who kindly gifted their plate to Ethan
- 🥉 Shield: Bridgend Athletic Youth

It was particularly fitting that the Cup was won by the Bridgend Athletic U15s, many of whom are Ethan's teammates. The boys produced an excellent performance throughout the tournament and were deserved winners.

The day demonstrated once again what can be achieved when a community comes together for a common cause. The support shown by players, parents, coaches, volunteers, businesses, supporters and the wider rugby community was exceptional.

A huge thank you goes to everyone who contributed their time, energy and support, whether through playing, volunteering, providing services, donating, attending or simply helping to create such a positive atmosphere.

The event is already looking likely to become an annual fixture, so watch this space for details of next year's tournament.

There was also significant interest in the event T-shirts, designed by Ethan himself, with most sizes selling out on the day. Further stock is expected, with details of how to order online to be shared shortly.

A fantastic day for Ethan, his family, Bridgend Athletic RFC and the wider community – and a great example of what can be achieved when everyone pulls together.

Newsletter



Club News – Platinum Status



Bridgend Athletic RFC Achieves WRU Platinum Accreditation

We are incredibly proud to announce that Bridgend Athletic RFC has been awarded Platinum Accreditation through the Welsh Rugby Union's Club Accreditation Scheme.

Platinum is the highest level of accreditation available, recognising clubs that demonstrate excellence both on and off the field. It reflects the strength of our club, our commitment to providing opportunities for players of all ages and abilities, and our dedication to creating a safe, welcoming and sustainable environment for everyone who walks through our gates.

This achievement has been many years in the making and is a testament to every person who has played a part in the story of Bridgend Athletic RFC. Whether you've worn the Green and Gold jersey, coached a team, volunteered your time, served on the committee, supported from the touchline, sponsored the club or simply stepped forward whenever help was needed, you have all contributed to where we are today.

Platinum Accreditation isn't the achievement of one individual or one committee – it's the achievement of an entire club and the wider Athletic family.

Newsletter



Club News – Platinum Status



To our players, coaches, volunteers, committee members, team managers, medical team, bar staff, grounds team, sponsors, parents, supporters and everyone who has helped shape our club over the years – thank you.

Your dedication, hard work and unwavering passion are what make Bridgend Athletic RFC such a special place. We are incredibly grateful to everyone, past and present, who has helped build the club we are so proud to represent today.

While we're delighted to celebrate this milestone, we know the work doesn't stop here. Platinum Accreditation reflects where we are today, but we're even more excited about where we're going. Together, we'll continue to grow, develop and strengthen our club, ensuring Bridgend Athletic RFC remains a place where people can enjoy rugby, make lifelong friendships and be proud to wear the Green and Gold for generations to come.

[#OneClub](#)

Newsletter



Club News – Club House Development

BRIDGEND ATHLETIC RFC LTD
**DEVELOPING OUR CLUBHOUSE
INTO A COMMUNITY HUB**

The club is seeking National Lottery funding to refurbish and modernise our existing clubhouse and transform it into a welcoming, accessible and sustainable community hub.

OUR VISION IS QUITE SIMPLE

We want to take a facility that already exists within the community and make it work harder for the whole community.

WELCOMING ACCESSIBLE SUSTAINABLE

Please take part in our community consultation by clicking the link or scanning the QR code.

Link:

https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSIkWdsW0yxEjqjBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAAAAO___QKtrzVUNDRTRONSWlpQVVZZMkcwT09EVDkyUlPDRY4u&fbclid=IwY2xjawUiVCxleHRuA2FlbQlxMABwZG9mBWJyaWQRMGxsOEFLRXZVNEJwWjdqZmhzcRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjIwMzIxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEelbXrSaYO9kfjOakzteuectK4jKuyEhABMflvvhsDxdstnKs-oViJ3CciKEo_aem_PNklxJbEDjTVSAmC4jgalw



Newsletter



Other Club News...

A48 Pitch & BCBC Update

BARFC Newbridge Fields Sub Committee Adrian Burt, Gareth Davies and joined by new Ath Chairman Paul Hearne share their efforts to upgrade the very poor facilities at Newbridge Fields. After years of negotiating with BCBC we can update.

1. A48 Pitch

- Since Feb newsletter having secured the £45K (£25K BCBC CAT fund, £20K Be Active Sports Wales) necessary to regrade a very undulating A48 pitch, Shapewright Contractors with CEO Paul Davies were engaged.
- They completed a very professional job on May 28th with pitch – now full size 100m x 70m and 2x10m dead ball lines.
- Shape the pitch so that the pitch and immediate surrounds not next to wild meadow grass regraded an extra 10m all round.
- Unfortunately, mother nature has not been kind since the new pitch completed, with 2 weeks of incessant rain followed by the driest summer in 2 centuries.
- While the grass germinated the dry weather has stunted its growth as with all grass in the Bridgend Area.
- Shapewright are waiting for the right weather to over seed and again fertilise.
- The original date to start using was March 2027 – but unless we have perfect grass growing conditions before October may need revision.
- Figure 1 Shows Shapewright regrading pitch, Figure 2 Shows pitch mid-June after germination. Figure 3 shows pitch early Aug after prolonged hot dry spell.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

Newsletter



Other Club News...

A48 Pitch Update

- The club, via an £8.5K BCBC maintenance pitch grant, secured a suitable mower, aerator, pitch marker, strimmers etc to self-maintain the pitch via BGS Motors and Mowers, Aberkenfig. As the equipment won't be needed till 2027 BGS are kindly storing it until we acquire a suitable storage container.
- Negotiations are under way with Rhys Ward-Jones for his company to supply storage containers.
- A planning application has been made to store these containers on the A48 – as well as hardstanding from car park and around 3 sides of the pitch. We are also looking for funding for permanent pitch barriers along 2 lengths of the field and portable training floodlights.

2. South Users Newbridge Fields Consortium Partnership with BCBC

- In the February newsletter it was mentioned a consortium of South users initiated by BARFC were forming a partnership with BCBC to improve playing, changing and car parking facilities for all rugby, football and cricket users on the South side of Newbridge Fields. We can report that this is going very well.
- Under the leadership of new CEO Jake Morgan and BCBC Council leader Cllr John Spanswick there is a breath of fresh air regarding supporting Sport in the Borough – with BCBC Cabinet also on board.
- After a few meetings can now report a contractor has been engaged to make proposals to replace the New Pavillion with a fit for purpose building to accommodate the 3 sports as well as female sporting participants. The contractor will join all future meetings with the users able to have an input into designs and what is needed.
- The contractor is also looking at additional car parking.
- BCBC have also had a report done on all the South side sports pitches condition and what needs to bring them up to scratch.
- The partnership has also looked at dog fouling on Sports pitches and BCBC have confirmed that they are working, so no dogs allowed on marked pitches,
- BCBC have confirmed that this is not just a talking shop – but a genuine partnership to at long last provide modern fit for purpose facilities at Newbridge Fields.

Newsletter



Other Club News... Bridgend Male Voice Choir

Bridgend Male Choir, regular community users of the clubhouse are seen below holding a sectional rehearsal for their annual concert at Tabernacl Church, Derwen Road ,Bridgend on Friday 18th September.

If you are interested in joining the choir you can do so by attending Oldcastle School every Thursday evening at 7.30pm.



JUST TO INTRODUCE MYSELF...



HI EVERYONE,

My name is
James Coupland,
and I'm proud to be taking
over as the Safeguarding
Officer for Bridgend Athletic.



I'm here to help ensure a
safe, supportive,
and inclusive environment
for all players, coaches,
and members of the club.



If you have any concerns,
questions, or just want to
chat about safeguarding,
please feel free to reach out –
I'm always happy to help.



LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING YOU ALL!



EMAIL:
jamesc170580@sky.com



PHONE:
07798696435



SAFETY • RESPECT • INCLUSION • SUPPORT



SAFEGUARDING RESOURCES



IMPORTANT CLUB POLICIES & GUIDANCE



WRU SAFEGUARDING POLICY



Scan the QR code
or use the link below:



SCAN ME



WRU PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT



Scan the QR code
or use the link below:



SCAN ME



WRU COACHES CODE OF PRACTICE



Scan the QR code
or use the link below:



SCAN ME

BRIDGEND ATHLETIC R.F.C.



SAFETY



RESPECT



INCLUSION



SUPPORT



BRIDGEND ATHLETIC RFC SAFEGUARDING



Creating a safe, positive and enjoyable environment for everyone.

BARFC is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and adults at risk involved in rugby.

OUR COMMITMENT



We follow the WRU Safeguarding Policy and best practice to ensure rugby is safe, inclusive and fun for all.

- The welfare of the child is paramount
- Everyone has the right to be protected
- All concerns are taken seriously and responded to appropriately
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY



Coaches, volunteers, players, parents, carers, officials and spectators all have a role to play in keeping our club safe and welcoming.

**If you see something, say something.
Together we can protect each other.**

UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR



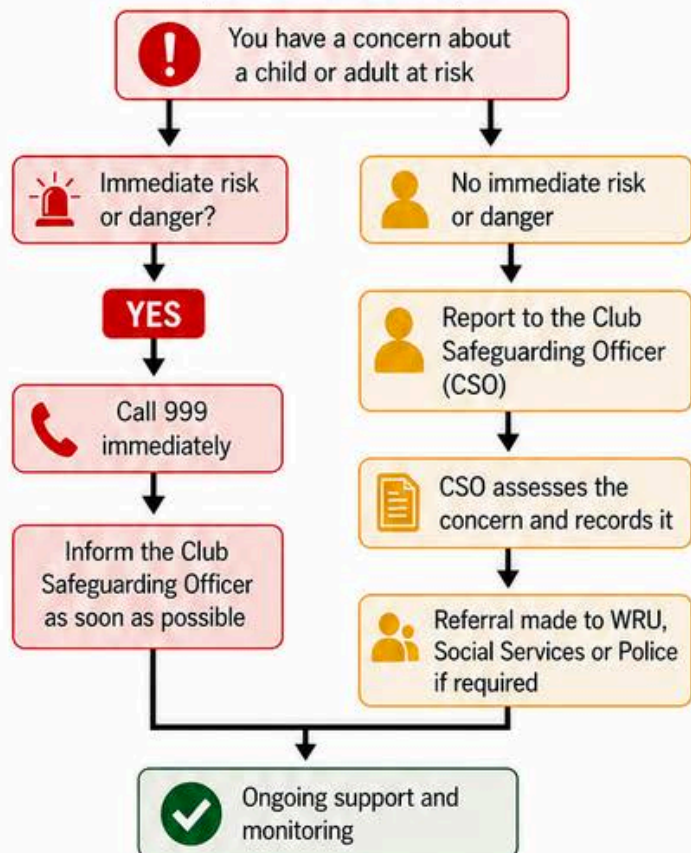
The following behaviour is strictly prohibited:

- ✗ Being alone with a child
- ✗ Inappropriate physical contact
- ✗ Humiliating or degrading behaviour
- ✗ Bullying or threatening behaviour
- ✗ Sexually explicit comments or material
- ✗ Providing alcohol or smoking in the presence of children

Breaches may result in disciplinary action and/or referral to the WRU.

REPORT A CONCERN

If you are worried about the welfare of a child or adult at risk, please follow these steps:



IMPORTANT GUIDANCE

- ✓ Do not investigate
- ✓ Do not promise confidentiality
- ✓ Record facts, not opinions
- ✓ Act promptly



CLUB SAFEGUARDING OFFICER
James Coupland
Mobile: 077986 96435
Email: jamesc170580@sky.com

BARFC MINI & JUNIOR CHAIRPERSON
Matthew Tellem
Contact details available on request

USEFUL CONTACTS

CHILDREN'S SOCIAL SERVICES

01656 642320

Out of hours:
01443 743665

NSPCC HELPLINE

0808 800 5000

help@nspcc.org.uk
nspcc.org.uk

ADULT SAFEGUARDING

01656 642477

Out of hours:
01443 743665

POLICE

101 (Non-emergency)

999 (Emergency)



RESPECT • CARE • TEAMWORK • INTEGRITY

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Let's keep our club a safe place for all.





MATCH DAY PROTOCOLS



SAFE & POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTS

- The Whole Club Joined up Responsibility and Accountability (Good Governance)
- Qualified and DBS Vetted Coaching Staff - Coaching Youth and Age Grade sides
- Qualified Senior Coaching Staff and Team Management
- Qualified First Aiders or Medical Staff
- Knowledge and Understanding of Codes of Conduct - Players, Coaches and Club Officials
- Coaches Code of Practice
- Values and Behaviours of the Game Live and Breathe them (Protect the Reputation and Integrity of YOUR club)



GOOD COACHING KEY PRINCIPLES

- Rights Respect and champion the rights of every individual to participate in Welsh rugby.
- Relationships Develop relationships with players and others based on transparency, honesty, mutual trust and respect.
- Personal Standards You are in a position of considerable influence and power, set and demonstrate high moral and ethical standards throughout your coaching practice, on a personal level.
- Professional Standards You should have a growth mindset to develop your skills and abilities as a coach. Your key role is to develop players, improve performance and demonstrate appropriate behaviour and conduct at all times, as a positive role model.

KEY MESSAGES

- Promote Good Coaching Practice
- Respect Match Officials
- Know your Responsibilities as a Club Official, Coach or Player
- Spectator behaviour reflects upon YOUR Club, Good or Bad
- Training and Match Day - Create the Right Environment
- Don't be a BYSTANDER, be a LEADER!



MATCH DAY GOOD PRACTICE

- Spectators They are YOUR responsibility
- Referee Liaison Officer
- Respect for Match Officials
- Match Day Marshalls (Home and Away)
- Touchline Behaviour Technical Zone
- Managing Replacements and Warm Ups
- After Match



THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENT

- Coaches and Management Expected Standards of Behaviour
- Role Models Responsibility and Accountability
- Coaches Code of Practice
- Coaches Codes of Conduct
- WRU Safeguarding Policy and Procedures
- WRU Discipline and Misconduct Regulations

WRU INTEGRITY LINE

TELEPHONE: 02920 822 200
EMAIL: INTEGRITY@WRUWALES



PROTOCOLAU DIWRNOD Y GÊM



AMGYLCHEDDAU DIOGEL A PHOSITIF

- Cyfrifoldeb ac Atalwrwyd Cydlynus y Club Cyfan (Llywodraethu Da)
- Staff Hyfforddi Cymrysedig gyda Gwriad DBS - Hyfforddi cwrddau ieuencid a Gwriadau Oedran
- Uwch Staff Hyfforddi a Rheolwyr Tîm Cymrysedig
- Cynorthwyr a Staff Meddygol Cymrysedig
- Gwybodaeth a Dealltwriaeth o Godelu Ymarfer - Chwaraewyr, Hyfforddwr a Swyddogion y Club
- Cod Ymarfer yr Hyfforddwr
- Gwerthedd ac Ymddygiad y Gêm Fyw a'u Hanadu (Amddiffyn Enw Da ac Unigedd eich club CHI)



HYFFORDDI DA EGWYDDORION ALLWEDDOL

- Hawliau Parha a hyrwyddo hawliau pob unigolyn i gymryd rhan newn rygbi Cymru.
- Cysylltiadau Datblygu cysylltiadau â chwaraewyr ac awdl ac aml tryloywedd, gwasgwyrdd, parhau ac aml gwydd ac ymddiriedolaeth yn eich gwydd.
- Safonau Personol Rydych chi mewn safon a ddyllwedd o grym yfyllwedd, dylch aed ac arddangos safonau masnach a masnach uchel drwy gydd eich aml hyfforddi, ac i'ch hysbenn.
- Safonau Proffesiynol Dylwch fel a meddyllydd twf i datblygu, agwdd aml gwydd fel hyfforddwr. Eidd aml amlweddol yw datblygu chwaraewyr, gwella perfformiad ac arddangos ymddygiad peidiol trwy'r amlwedd, fel atampd dda hysbenn.

ARFER DA AR DDIWRNOD GÊM

- Gwylwyr Eich cyfrifoldeb CHI ydych nhw
- Swyddog Cyswllt Dyfarnwyr
- Parchu Swyddogion y Gêm
- Marsialiaid Diwrnod y Gêm (Gartref ac I Ffwrdd)
- Ardal Dechnegol Ymddygiad y Llinell Ystlys
- Rheoli Elyddion ac Ymarferion Cynhesu
- Ar Ôl y Gêm



YR AMGYLCHEDD IAWN

- Safonau Ymddygiad Disgwyliedig gan Hyfforddwr a Rheolwyr
- Esiamplau Da, Cyfrifoldeb ac Atalwrwyd
- Cod Ymarfer Hyfforddwr
- Cod Ymddygiad Hyfforddwr
- Polisi a Gweithdrefnau Diogelu URC
- Rheoliadau Disgwyliu a Chamymddwyn URC

NEGESEUON ALLWEDDOL

- Hyrwyddo Arfer Hyfforddi Da
- Parchu Swyddogion y Gêm
- Gwybod eich Cyfrifoldebau fel Swyddog y Club, Hyfforddwr neu Chwaraewr
- Mae ymddygiad gwylwyr yn adlewyrchu ar eich Clwb CHI, yn Dda neu'n Ddrwg
- Diwrnod Hyfforddi a Gêm - Creu'r Amgylchedd Iawn
- Peidiwch â sefyll nôl, byddwch yn ARWEINYDD!



LLINELL UNIONDEB URC

FFÔN: 02920 822 200
E-POST: INTEGRITY@WRUWALES

Newsletter



Club Lottery

Join the Bridgend Athletic RFC lottery and help us make a real difference in our community. We're committed to inspiring and empowering people of all backgrounds through sport. By taking part, you're not just backing grassroots rugby - you're investing in the future of our players and the wider community

Join via the QR Code below:



**BARFC WEEKLY
LOTTERY**

Subscribe to our joint
BARFC-Ogwr Hawks lottery
using the QR Code



Newsletter



Membership Communication

Once a Green & Gold, Always a Green & Gold

Our on-going success as a club has been fuelled by the dedication of current players, coaches, volunteers, and social members.

But with success comes fresh challenges:

- ⚡ Higher standards on the field
- 💷 Increased running costs
- 👏 A greater need for support from our wider club family

That's why we're reaching out and inviting you to become a Member of Bridgend Athletic RFC. You can select a membership category that suits your circumstances.

Your membership will:

- Directly support the running and development of the club
- Help both senior and junior teams compete at the next level
- Reconnect you with old teammates and the club community
- Give you access to match day hospitality, exclusive events, and club news

It's a small gesture – but one that will have a lasting impact.

Join as a Member today by completing the attached form and returning it by email, post, or in person at the clubhouse. Alternatively, use the link on the PDF to set up your Direct Debit or go to the website by clicking on this link:

<https://bridgendathletic.rfc.wales/club-memberships/>

Let's continue this journey together.

We look forward to welcoming you back to the club soon – whether at a match, an event, or simply for a drink and a catch-up.

Yours in rugby,
Bridgend Athletic RFC

Bridgend Athletic RFC Ltd - Membership Application

Form 2026/2027 Season



Type of Membership

Type	Amount	Payment Type			PaymentLink
Gold Membership	£250	Cash	Cheque	DD	https://buy.stripe.com/cNifZjarga9X3eWew8gA80r
Silver Membership	£125	Cash	Cheque	DD	https://buy.stripe.com/6oU9AVgPE81Pg1IbhWgA80t
Bronze Membership	£96	Cash	Cheque	DD	https://buy.stripe.com/6oU3cx56W95T7vcbhWgA80s
Full membership (Couple)	£96	Cash	Cheque	BACS	https://buy.stripe.com/9B628teHwci52aS3PugA80u
Full membership (Single)	£72	Cash	Cheque	BACS	https://buy.stripe.com/28EbJ3czo3LzaHo85KgA80v
Senior Player membership	£24	Cash	Cheque	BACS	https://buy.stripe.com/bJecN7fLaA9X4j0dq4gA80w
Youth Player membership	£10	Cash	Cheque	BACS	https://buy.stripe.com/aFa8wR1UKfuh8zgadSgA80p
Full OAP membership (Couple)	£48	Cash	Cheque	BACS	https://buy.stripe.com/fZu9AVdDsdm97vcadSgA80x
Full OAP membership (Single)	£36	Cash	Cheque	BACS	https://buy.stripe.com/4gMbJ30QGfuh7vc0DigA80y
M&Js Member	For Membership card and contact purposes only – this is supplementary to the M&J membership process				

Direct Debit and BACS payments made to: Account No 00975475 - Sort Code 30-91-18

Member Details

Applying Member or Parent Name

If Parent add children names

Address Line 1:

Address Line 2 Postcode:

Mobile Phone Number: Email

Date of Birth

CASC Participation – how do you assist or contribute to BARFC.

Gold Membership

Guaranteed pair of tickets for every home international match to be purchased at face value.
 Free entry for two people to all BARFC home matches
 You and your company name in every home match programme
 You and your company name with link on BARFC website
 Invitation to two match sponsorship buffets during the season

Silver Membership

Guaranteed single ticket for every home international match to be purchased at face value.
 Free single entry to all BARFC home matches
 Your name in every home match programme
 Invitation to a match sponsorship buffets during the season.

Bronze Membership

Free single entry to all BARFC home matches

All Membership Levels

Access to homeandawayinternationalticketallocationdraw - Discountedaccessstoclubhouseconferenceandeventfacilities - MembershipCard

Please Return completed details to: Membership Secretary, Bridgend Athletic RFC LTD, 12 Ewenny Road, Bridgend, CF31 3HP
 or Email: barfcinfo@gmail.com

Data Protection Statement for Bridgend Athletic Rugby Football Club Membership Form
 This statement can be amended and used by The Club on their membership form. It will show members what the club will do with the data that it holds about each member and will allow members to consent to this use.

In completing and submitting this membership form I understand that Bridgend Athletic Rugby Football Club will use my personal data for the purposes of my involvement in club activities.
 That I am consenting to receiving information about The Club, including my BARFC membership details and requirements by; post, email, MMS, online or phone unless stated otherwise by myself.
 That my data will not be shared with any third party and the principles of the Data Protection Act 1988 will be adhered to.

Newsletter



Senior Mens Player Sponsorship...

Want to support local rugby and gain exposure for your business?

We're looking for player sponsors for the upcoming season at Bridgend Athletic RFC – a proud club with strong community roots and a history of developing top talent.

As a sponsor, you'll receive:

- Business promotion across our social media
- Logo featured in matchday programmes & website
- Opportunity to connect with our growing supporter base
- Association with grassroots sport in the heart of Bridgend

Whether you're a local business or just a passionate supporter, backing a player is a great way to show your support!

To sponsor a player or find out more, see the information on the next two pages or message or ring Rhys Jones on 07920 724323 or rljonsey@googlemail.com.



BRIDGEND ATHLETIC RFC SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES SEASON 2026-2027



Select an individual option or one of four packages, all prices are subject to VAT and can be paid using BACS monthly instalments, Applepay, Paypal or credit/Debit card.

Package matrix.

Package Matrix.			Whats Included											
Cost + VAT			Annual Club Membership	Two International tickets	One International ticket	Full Page advert in programme	Half Page advert in programme	Logo in Programme	Jersey Sleeve 1st XV**	Jersey Sleeve Generals/Youth XV**	Players Sponsorship	Match Sponsorship Brewery Field	Match Sponsorship Newbridge Fields	Match Ball Sponsorship
Sponsorship Offerings	Platinum Package	£ 1,250	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
	Premium Package	£ 900	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	
	Package 1	£ 450	✓			✓		✓	✓		✓			
	Package 2	£ 350	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓			
	Package 3	£ 300	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓			
	Match Sponsorship Brewery Field**	£ 500										✓		
	Match Sponsorship Newbridge Fields**	£ 250											✓	
	Match Ball Sponsorship	£ 150												✓
	Club Player sponsorship	£ 125	✓					✓			✓			
	Gold vice president	£ 250	✓	✓										
Silver vice president	£ 125	✓		✓										

** Limited availability

Individual sponsor offers.

Main Match Sponsorship - Brewery Field £500 - Newbridge Fields £250

- ☐ Private use of Jeff Jenkins/Clive Easterbrook lounge before and after match.
- ☐ Exclusive use of flat screen television.
- ☐ Buffet for up to 10 people
- ☐ Your company logo/name as Match sponsor in match programme.
- ☐ Your company logo/name as Match sponsor on website with link to your company home page.
- ☐ Complimentary match tickets.

Match Ball Sponsorship - £150

- ☐ Private use of sponsor's lounge before and after match.
- ☐ Exclusive use of flat screen television.
- ☐ Your company logo/name as Match Ball sponsor in match programme.
- ☐ Your company logo/name as Match Ball sponsor on website with link to your company home page.
- ☐ Complimentary match tickets.

Club Player Sponsorship - £125+VAT

- ☐ Your name/company name and logo next to players picture in every match day programme
- ☐ Pays for players annual membership.
- ☐ Contributes to seasons warm up kit.
- ☐ Logo next to player on all team sheet announcements on our Instagram, twitter, and Facebook platforms.
- ☐ Jersey presentation after two consecutive seasons of sponsorship (framing subject to supplier costs)

Programme Advertising - Full Page £150 - Half Page £75

Your Advertisement will appear in every Bridgend Athletic RFC programme with name/company name.

- ☐ Your company name/company name and logo on our website with link to your company's home page.

Advertising boards on clubhouse - £1000

Advertising Boards are available on Clubhouse Walls for year starting in September.

** Price on request for replacement/new board**

Shirt/Training Kit Sponsorship

1st XV

- ☐ Main Shirt/Kit Sponsor – Price on Request
- ☐ Sleeve Sponsors - £250
- ☐ Back Sponsors - £500
- ☐ Shorts Sponsor - £250
- ☐ Warm up Suit Sponsor - £1000
- ☐ Post Match ¼ Zips - £800

Generals and Youth XVs

- ☐ Main Shirt/Kit Sponsor - £1500
- ☐ Sleeve Sponsors - £200
- ☐ Back Sponsors - £300
- ☐ Shorts Sponsor - £250
- ☐ Warm up Suit Sponsor - £800
- ☐ Post Match ¼ Zips - £600

Gold Vice Presidents £250

The Bridgend Athletic RFC Gold Vice Presidents Club is an exclusive club for members.

- ☐ Vice Presidents will be guaranteed a PAIR of tickets for every Home International match to be purchased at face value.
- ☐ Free entry for TWO people to all BARFC matches.
- ☐ Your name or company name in every programme.
- ☐ Your name or company name with link on website.
- ☐ Invitation to TWO Match Sponsorship Buffets during season.

Silver Vice Presidents - £125

The Bridgend Athletic RFC Silver Vice President is an exclusive club for members.

- ☐ Vice Presidents will be guaranteed 'ONE' ticket for every Home International match to be purchased at face value.
- ☐ Free entry to all BARFC matches.
- ☐ Your name in Club programme.
- ☐ Invitation to a Match Sponsorship Buffet during season.

Contact us on....

Rhys Jones - Email barfcinfo@gmail.com Tel 07920724323

Newsletter



Thank You to Our Sponsors for Supporting us during the the 2025 / 2026 Season

AI Transport Group | Admiral | Bridgend Male Voice Choir |
Bridgend Pro Tiling Services | C.F.Hills | CMJ Performance |
CVT Holiday Inspirations | Dyffryn Landscapes | Energy
Assessors | EWS Wholesale | Falcon | Forces Fitness | FP
Hurley | Gareth L Edwards | Greyfield Property Services |
Helly Hanson | Heronstone Hotel & Spa | High Society | Hog
Father Event Caterers | Homely Decorators | Honey Field
Property Services | IG Nicolas Butchers | International
Aircraft Associates | J.H Apsee & Sons | Kitchens by Sean
Williams | KK Solutions | Leyshons of Pencoed | LG
Maintenance Ltd | LMBF Limited | Limitless Electrical |
Mowerman Garden Services | Nathaniels | Oakdale
Technical Services | Peter Wood & Sons | Pitch Roofer |
Porters | RT Plumbing & Gas | Sidoli's | Spring Design | Steve
Richmond | Tela technologies | The Parachute Regimental
Association | Tim Wood Photo Gallery | Travis Perkins | TSC
Subsea | U-Test Diagnostics | Walkers Only | Ward Jones
Groundworks | Ward Jones Self Storage