



Harlequins

THE QUARTERS POST

2017/18
SEASON



APRIL
ISSUE 4

HISTORY MADE AT LADIES FESTIVAL OF SPORT

Harlequins Ladies made history in March, hosting the biggest ever crowd at a women's club match in this country, when they took on their local adversaries Richmond FC at The Twickenham Stoop.

Taking place just two days after International Women's Day, The Stoop welcomed a record crowd of 4,542 to a tight encounter, which saw Harlequins Ladies squeeze past their local rivals 14-12.

Supporting the 2018 'Press for Progress' theme, the day celebrated and empowered women and girls by taking a stand for equality in the world of sport.

UK Sport Chair Dame Katherine Grainger said: ***"This was a great initiative by Harlequins and we are excited to be involved in promoting women in sport at this match. Rugby Sevens was a massive success in Rio with the women's team narrowly missing out on Bronze."***

"As part of our DiscoverYourGold campaign, we have used the day to identify young people with sporting talent, with an aim to help them fulfil their potential and maybe join some of today's players on the plane to the Olympics."

As part of the celebration of women's sport, The Stoop also welcomed some of the UK's most inspirational and talented sports women including Olympic champion Christine Ohuruogu and Olympic silver medallist Sharron Davies, alongside several members of Team GB's Rio 2016 Olympic gold medal winning hockey team.

Before the game, over 300 girls between the ages of 11-18 participated in a community club tournament, coaching clinics and Switch sessions held by the Harlequins Foundation. Switch was launched in 2016 to encourage more girls to get involved in rugby.

To read more about the programme visit: www.harlequins.foundation/participation/

Girls pre-match community club tournament



In front of record crowd, Harlequins Ladies defeat local rivals Richmond



COMMUNITY KIDS TAKE OVER THE STOOP

Last month over 700 local kids took over The Stoop, with many assisting the Club's photographer, Kit Man, stewards and operations team, as part of the annual Harlequins Foundation and Community Day.

with a large number of affiliate clubs and schools, and this day marks an opportunity to say thank-you for their hard work, loyalty and commitment to Harlequins. Along with the Harlequins v Newcastle game day support, the Harlequins community team ran two coaching clinics on Craneford Way, along with 30 clubs attending a tag tournament at Kneller Hall.



Kids take over The Stoop



EASTER CAMPS PROVIDING MORE THAN CHOCOLATE

By the end of the Easter holidays over 450 boys and girls will have joined Harlequins Community Camps across six Harlequins affiliate clubs and at the Twickenham Stoop, for fun-filled days of core skill development.

The Stoop's Easter camp was the largest, with over 75 boys and girls joining qualified community coaches, to learn first-hand how to 'Play the Quins Way'.

This Thursday 19th April, Harlequins is holding its first ever Harlequins International Masterclass. The masterclass, which is already FULL, will be held at Harlequins' training ground in Guildford and will give 100 players between the ages of 11 to 16, the opportunity to learn and develop their skills

Harlequins community camp fun



with the help of Harlequins international stars, Danny Care, Demetri Catrakilis, Marcus Smith and Renaldo Bothma.

This immersive coaching experience is open to boys of all rugby-playing abilities and will

provide the youngsters with exposure to more advanced skills, whilst maintaining a safe and enjoyable learning environment.

For more information, visit: www.rugbycamps.co.uk/harlequins.

DEVELOPING A LONG-TERM VISION FOR THE STOOP

Harlequins has committed to creating a new state-of-the-art stadium at the heart of a fantastic new destination on our current site.

As a leading London rugby club for over 150 years, Harlequins has always been proud to innovate, both on and off the field – bringing the belief in the power of sport to change lives.

We have always aspired to be something bigger than a rugby club. So we are now embarking on one of the most exciting and important projects in the Club's history to

secure a sustainable future for Harlequins at The Stoop.

This is a hugely ambitious and pioneering development opportunity for the Club and one we need to get right, working closely with our neighbours, Richmond Council, and our partners to deliver.

In the coming months we will be consulting the community on our plans, ensuring all our neighbours, fans and interested parties have their say. As part of this, we have now launched our project website which will host new information about the development when available, as well as details of how you

can stay up-to-date as part of our ongoing consultation.

We have an opportunity to create something truly special for our community, our fans and our affiliate clubs, while making a significant and positive social, cultural and economic impact on the local area.

We look forward to working closely with you all to realise that ambition and would like to know how you would like to participate in this process. To let us know your thoughts and to be kept up-to-date, please contact vision@quins.co.uk or visit www.QuinsVision.co.uk.

HITZ HIGH ACHIEVERS LEAD THE WAY

West Londoners, Kya and Natalie, are shining examples of the rapid progress young people can make with the right support and the right attitude.

Both young women joined the HITZ Learning Academy – an educational programme run by the Harlequins Foundation for 16-18-year olds who are no longer in mainstream education – in 2017 and have made huge progress since.

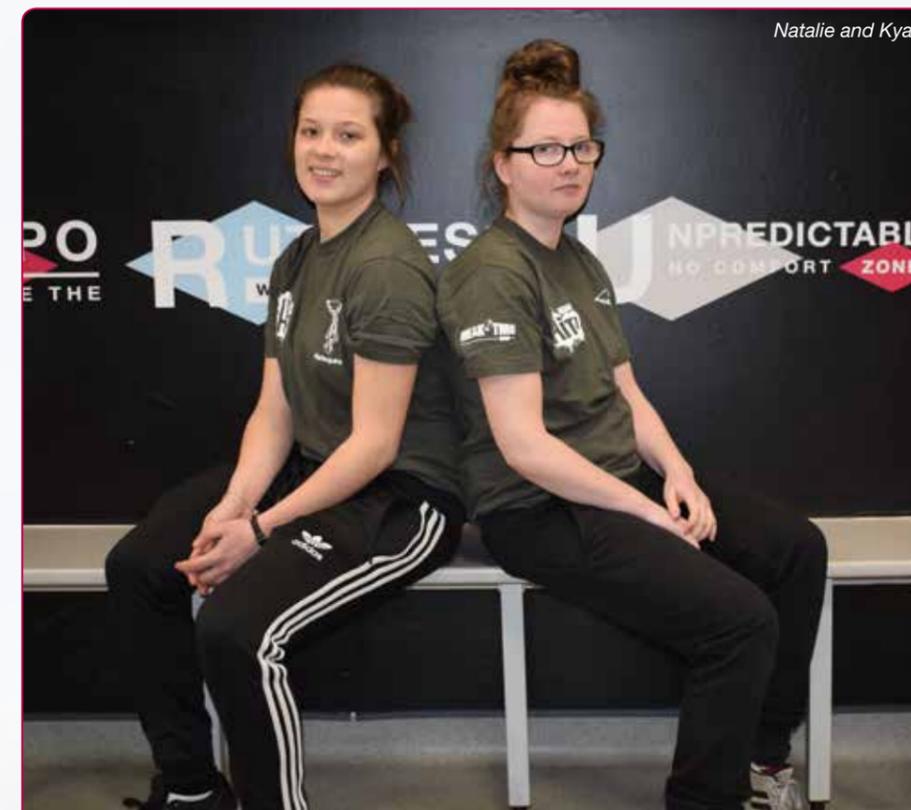
HITZ allows young people to gain much-needed qualifications, while also improving health and wellbeing through rugby's core values and sporting opportunities.

Struggling in mainstream schooling due to her autism, Kya has gone from strength to strength since she joined HITZ in September. While her main reason for joining was to complete her maths and English study with one-to-one support that wasn't available at school, she has also found success in the HITZ sporting challenges. Taking great pride in beating all her classmates, Kya has decided she wants to go into sports coaching and disability sport. She will continue to work with HITZ until June this year, and we cannot wait to continue to watch her develop long after she finishes the course.

After a referral from a youth worker in Hounslow, Natalie joined HITZ in late October, missing the first month of the programme. Although some late starters can have issues with workload, Natalie tackled the challenge head on and is now leading the pack from the front in all coursework deadlines. Alongside her academic focus, Natalie has been helping co-deliver other Harlequins outreach projects as part of her work experience, where she has displayed a natural ability to use her own life experience to help others who may be suffering with similar challenges and circumstances. Outside of HITZ, the drive and confidence built through her time at HITZ have led to a job in childcare.

For more information on HITZ and our other Foundation programmes visit: www.harlequins.foundation.

Natalie and Kya



The Twickenham Stoop



MEMBERSHIP

Harlequins is excited to announce that 2018/19 membership is now on sale starting at just £210 for renewing Members and £280 for new Members.

Our Members' loyalty and passion are the heartbeat of the Club, energising everything we do. By renewing or joining us for the 2018/19 season, you will play a crucial role in our next chapter.

Stand with us as we look ahead to next season. Visit: www.quins.co.uk/membership to find out more.

HARLEQUINS FOUNDATION HOSTS INAUGURAL SEN RUGBY FESTIVAL



Chargers in action in Bath

The Harlequins Foundation is bringing rugby to new audiences across South London and rural Surrey by hosting the inaugural Special Educational Needs (SEN) Rugby Festival at The Stoop on 18th May.

Up to 200 pupils from 15 special secondary schools will join Harlequins Foundation & the RFU's community coaches for an entertaining morning of mixed ability coaching and an afternoon of round robin festival matches.

Rich Murr, Assistant Head of KS4, in charge of

rugby at St Philips Special School is looking forward to the first event of its kind in London, "Rugby is a sport that caters for all shapes, sizes and abilities. This is what makes it such a great sport for people with special educational needs. With the Harlequins Foundation, RFU and St Philips School working together we hope to share the wonders of the game with local special schools being invited to the inaugural SEN Rugby Festival. We hope this becomes an annual event that grows each year and eventually nationally"

Due to the Harlequins Foundation's involvement in 'Project Rugby' - a brand new joint initiative

between Premiership Rugby and England Rugby - participation in the sport from traditionally underrepresented community groups is growing.

The SEN Rugby Festival will be the first time Harlequins have opened The Stoop to young people with learning difficulties, and it's something that both the Foundation and the Club as a whole are excited about.

Foundation Coordinator Matthew Williams can't wait to get started: "We have had a great response from the schools, and also the RFU and Premiership Rugby, all of which have jumped at the chance to support such a promising day. Rugby is the perfect sport to bring people together, so it's amazing to be able to give these young people the chance to experience rugby at the home of Harlequins".

Mixed-ability rugby is on the rise across the globe as an alternative and fully-inclusive rugby format. This season, the Harlequins Foundation has been supporting Chobham Rugby Club to grow the South East's first ever mixed-ability rugby team the 'Surrey Chargers'.

On Monday 26th March, the Chargers played their first match of the season against their Bath Rugby Foundation counterparts, the 'Walcot Warriors', as a curtain raiser to the A-League match between Bath United & Harlequins 'A'. Both teams played out an emphatic 50-50 draw, a hugely entertaining game, which saw some playing their first ever rugby match.

If you would like to find out how you can take part in Project Rugby, please email Matthew Williams, Harlequins Foundation Coordinator, matthew.williams@quins.co.uk.



RIVAL RIDE

in support of the Harlequins Foundation



Over the weekend over 50 riders joined the Harlequins Foundation team and club legends Mel Deane, Olly Kohn, George Lowe, Mike Ross, Jordan Turner-Hall, Paul Volley and Jim Evans in the inaugural Harlequins Foundation Rival Ride.

The 50-strong team rode over 100 miles from The Twickenham Stoop to Kingsholm Stadium in Gloucester raising over £10,000 for the Harlequins Foundation.

Departing on Friday 13th April, the peloton

headed to the Cotswolds for an overnight stay, before cycling the remaining 25 miles to Kingsholm Stadium for the hotly-contested clash between Harlequins and Gloucester on Saturday 14th April.

Former Harlequin and Club Legend, Olly Kohn said, "This is all about raising money for a great cause and along the way you have the chance to have a great laugh with a truly fantastic group."

To learn more about the Harlequins Foundation and their upcoming events visit: www.harlequins.foundation.



Harlequins

LAST MATCH OF THE SEASON



V EXETER

Saturday 5th May, kick-off 16:00

Please note that there is also a match at Twickenham Stadium. For reasons of safety, some roads around Twickenham Stadium will need to be closed. The A316 will remain open throughout the match day. The RFU operate a Match Day Helpline for local residents to contact. Tel:07894 814180 Email: TwickenhamCommunity@RFU.com

LOCAL COMMUNITY DROP IN

REMINDER:

Harlequins are holding their next informal drop-in session on Wednesday 25th April between 18:00 - 19:00 at The Players Lounge in the DHL stand to discuss anything our local residents wish to have a chat about! Teas and coffees will be provided. For more information please email: operations@quins.co.uk