



SSA NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2017

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Or just grab one of us on a match day or at an event.

Forthcoming Events

April

22nd 12 William Searsons

22nd Bridge 1859 after the match

29th Welcome Bristol Rugby first visit to AzP

May

6th Wasps Away and Saracens RFC

It's April so it's Europe

So it's Dublin Saturday 22nd April kick off time 3:15pm against the might of European Royalty Munster at the Aviva Stadium. With a capacity of 51,700 we can expect nearly 50,000 Munster fans with a couple of thousand of the Sarries faithful. Planes, boats, trains and automobiles are booked so what have we got planned:

Part 1

If you are at a loose end on Friday in Dublin you might like to consider a visit to The River Bar, 1 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2. This is the home base of the Munster Rugby Supporters Club Dublin branch (yes they have a Dublin branch and a London one). We've been in contact and have been promised a warm welcome though I would expect done banter 😊

Part 2

Our choice of meeting place for before the match is the famous William Searson 42-44 Upper Baggot Street, Dublin. A famous but traditional Irish pub with an astounding range of whiskey to settle the pre match nerves it's about 10 minutes walk from the Stadium. Often used as a meeting place for Leinster fans it was the base for Wasps last weekend.

Whilst it's unlikely to be as busy as last weekend we've been advised by the manager Jayne to get there between 12 and 12:30 so we will be there at 12 and would love as many of you as can to join us



Sarries RFC

As last year at Worcester the wonderful Saracens RFC are on tour for the Wasps match bring the last match of the season. If you haven't seen the joy this brings the kids you need to.

The itinerary for the Sarries RFC tour on the day of the Wasps match will include the key training session as follows:

11:30 – Arrive at King Henry VIII School (CV3 6AQ)

12:00 – Session Starts

1:15 – Lunch

2:15 – Lunch ends and clear up

2:30 – Leave King Edward VIII School for Ricoh Arena

The ground is just across from the station - according to Trainline it's one stop to Coventry Arena, a 7 minute journey, costs £2.30 and there is a train at every hour - 14.42 would be the one after the lunch session. If driving and as you can there is a car park by the station nice and close.

Alan Day are providing a picnic lunch for the boys but Tom and the guys would really welcome any support for the session and if anyone wants to bring their own picnic and join the lunch festivities they would love that

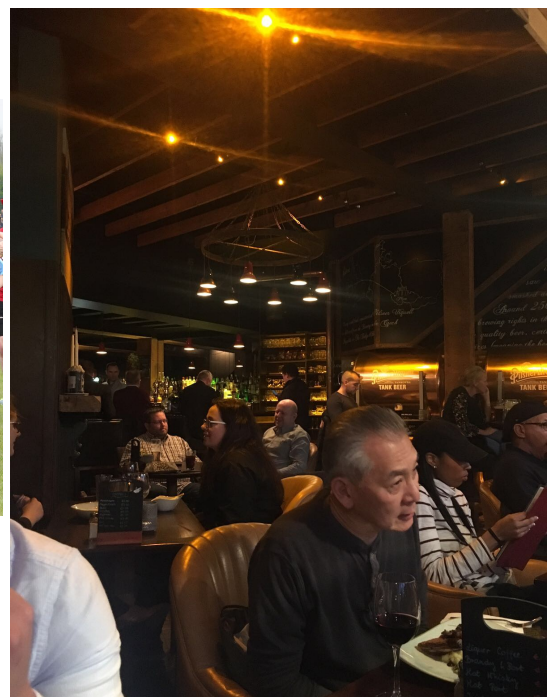
Part 3

After the match we have had a very nice offer from Bridge 1859, 13 Ballsbridge Terrace, Dublin 4. This pub is a couple of minutes from the Aviva and owned by Rob & Dave Kearney, Jamie Heaslip and Sean O'Brien. They have offered to reserve us an area in their upstairs bar after the match and are even throwing in a free finger buffet.

We were fortunate that 2 young SSA members were in Dublin this week so they visited 1859 for dinner and highly recommended the venue (they aren't the fez wearer in the pic lol).

The pub will be offering their Match Day menu which is primarily burgers, wings and fries.

Regardless of the result this is a superb chance for us to gather together after the match and everyone is welcome. I'd like to give Dave at the pub an idea of numbers for the buffet so if you think you might be popping in please drop an email to travel@ssastories.co.uk Hope to see friends old and new there. There is nothing like a European trip for growing the Sarries family.



Mike, Vince & Harry

14 March 2017. An evening with Vincent Koch (who brilliantly stepped in at short notice for the injured Schalk Burger and we wish him well) Mike Rhodes and the inspirational mouth artist Henry Fraser, brother of Will. Entertainingly and skilfully compared by Roanne 'Roo' Crouse, this was a successful collaboration between Supporter Services and The SSA. Our best wishes are with Mike and his wife and their shortly due child (what is in the water at Sarries 😂). We are sure Vince will be playing enough soon to have his own song though we will have to be careful with the lyrics 😊

Thank you to all involved. We hope you all had a great time and enjoyed the food too. Don't miss the opportunity to own some of Henry's marvellous work by visiting



Photo Comp

Here is George Williams-Gunn, the deserving winner of the first interim prize. We enlarged, framed and got the margins of his photo signed by a group of Saracens international players.



We've seen lots of great photos from weekend send them to the photo address in contacts.

Max Malins

Continuing our series of interviews getting to know players:

Where did it all start? Max started playing Rugby in Saffron Walden RFC at the age of six before playing at the Bishop's Stortford club for the U9 team upwards and at Felsted Prep School in the same age group. His father, Paul Mallins is a keen Rugby player and has coached Hertfordshire Colts, Cheshunt RFC and Bishop's Stortford.

Selected by England U18 he debuted off the bench scoring a try against France at Doncaster in February 2015. Max completed a 'double' with another try when making his first appearance for England U20s against Italy in February last year played in the World Rugby U20 Championship last June and has played in 12 of England's last 14 games at that level.

His subjects at Felsted school were business studies, geography, philosophy and ethics. He is now studying business and finance at Hertfordshire University. However, the demands of international Rugby means that he has decided to study via the Open University.

He's a multi-positional rugby player happy at he's a fly half, centre and back and will be doing his final full-time year in September with Saracens Senior Academy and is also on a dual registration with Old Albanians.



Max has one year left at the Saracens Academy .One to watch

Sporting hero - Jonny Wilkinson (he has had a kicking session at Allianz Park with him).

His best moment in his rugby career was winning the 6 Nations and the Grand Slam Under 20s in Dublin this year.

His favourite ground to play is Sandy Park in Exeter as scored his highest score against the French team #memories made

If he wasn't a rugby player, he would have liked to be a tennis player.

His favourite football team is Arsenal

His best place to go on holiday is the south of France

If he had to invite three guests for a dinner, it would be Jonny Wilkinson,

Grassy Knoll

The SSA zone in the fans village on the grassy bank by Gate A or the Grassy Knoll as it became known was a rip roaring success. There was a constant through flow of supporters of both Texans and we drank the bar dry of Sarries Ale.

It was heartening after the match to see the interaction of supporters and it wasn't long before intermingled groups of Supporters were laying out in the sunshine together chatting away.

Since the match our social media has been full of thanks from Glasgow Supporters which has been heartening.

We hope we have a chance to repeat this event we all enjoyed it so much.

Special thanks to the group of SSA members pictured below who turned up early to help welcome our guests.



Kelvin

Meet Kelvin the XVI Warriors mascot kindly donated on Saturday night. We liked this so much we think we should have a similar camel mascot and will be having a competition to name her shortly



Meet the Warriors

Well Saturday night illustrated all that is good about the rugby family two sets of strangers game together with a common bond of a love for their club and our sport and by the end of the evening friendships were made there had been much laughter and a great time had been had by all. Over 100 people attended the evening with the XVI Warriors



having to run a ballot to reduce their numbers.

We both knew by the end of the first part of the evening that Munster would be our next opponents and that was followed by a delicious curry.

The quiz was such fun the whole room was in laughter and hats off to Steve for organising it. No wonder he needed a lay down! The highlight had to be the joker round which got very messy with 7 halves of Sarries Ale and 7 poppadoms. Despite the XVI Warriors



playing a medical joker Sarries ran out winners due to the prodigious capacity of Kelvin, hat off sir!