



## History

The Club was formed in 1880 and is one of the oldest rugby clubs in Ireland. Rugby has only ever been put on hold due to both World Wars with many of its members going off to serve their country.

Our Motto is "Be Just and Fear Not"

## Grounds

The grounds are known as Pollock Park, named after Mr Trevor Pollock, the Club's first Patron who was one of those involved in the re-formation of the Club after both WW1 and WW2

The grounds consist of 15 acres of land with a Club house, 3 rugby pitches, a training pitch and a cricket ground with real and artificial wickets.

## Club Status

The Club has Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) status.

We are registered with HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) and benefit from a range of tax reliefs, including Gift Aid, where they meet the qualifying conditions

## Club Officials

Patron	Mr Jackie Leatham	
President	Mr Chris Stevenson	
Chairman	Mr Bill Boyd	
Honorary Secretary	Mr Albert Dunlop	
Treasurer	Mrs Nichola Richardson	
Head of Finance	Mr Sam Rusk, MBE	
PRO & Head of Events & Senior Recruitment	Mr Raymond Acheson	07565 096275
Rugby Chairman	Mr Mark Prentice	
Rugby Youth Convenor	Mr David Wellwood	
Head Coach	Mr Bruce Cornelius	
Club House Convenor and Events	Mr Dale Richardson	
Ulster Branch Representative	Mr Clarke Cousins	
Grounds Convenor	Mr Kyle Geddis <b>(NO NEK)</b>	
U20's coach	Mr Jacob Stockdale	

## Teams (Senior Rugby)

Senior rugby currently has two teams in the Ulster leagues.

Our 1<sup>st</sup> XV play in Qualifying 3. They won qualifying 3 and have been promoted to qualifying 2 for next season 2018 - 2019. What is so encouraging about this is that the 1<sup>st</sup> XV is a very young side, the majority of whom came through our Tigers coaching system.

They also won the Gordon West Cup for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time this season (the first club to win it 3 times) at the Kingspan Stadium.



They also won the Wolf Hound Cup defeating Civil Service 50 points to 7.

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> XV are sitting in the top third of their league.

Due to the increase in senior player numbers we are intending to reform a 3<sup>rd</sup> XV. A number of friendly fixtures have been arranged this season with a view to registering them in the league next year.



## Teams (Senior Rugby)



Jacob Stockdale & Stephen Nolan celebrate the 3<sup>rd</sup> Gordon West Cup.

Stephen is the only player to have played in 3 winning teams



## Teams (Senior Rugby) – Under 20's



Jacob Stockdale is one of the under 20's coach in the Club. He will be doing his level 3 coaching badge in August as a Lurgan Coach.



Jacob Stockdale Tigers Ambassadors with the p6's prior to them going on tour to Preston, England



## Youth Section

The Youth Section is known as the 'Lurgan Tigers'.



Tigers, Coaches and their Ambassador, Jacob Stockdale (Ulster & Ireland) at a recent mini blitz.

## Our Mascot – Turbo the Tiger



## Senior Coaching

Our senior coaching staff is headed up by Bruce Cornelius who is from New Zealand. Bruce has brought a wealth of experience to the Club coaching set-up. Having played rugby to senior provincial level in New Zealand, where he also coached with his local Club in Christchurch, the big Kiwi then moved to Northern Ireland where he joined Instonians as a player and coach.

During the period 2001 to 2005 he brought Inst from 14th in AIL 3 to two AIL Play Offs in the four seasons he was involved there. He then moved in 2005 to Northumbria University in Newcastle upon Tyne where, as Head of Rugby, he brought the University team through to win the BUCS Northern Premier Division in the season 2006/7. After returning to Northern Ireland, Bruce coached Belfast Harlequins in 2008/9 and then Lisburn Rugby Club before joining Lurgan RFC as head coach. Currently Bruce's Lurgan teams have won two cups. The focus this year is very much on the league.

His assistant is Jason Wallace who has played for Lurgan firsts for many years and has also played for Banbridge RFC in the All Ireland Leagues (AIL).

## Recent Club Achievements

### Senior Rugby

The 1<sup>st</sup> XV won the Gordon West Cup in 2016.

### P7's win Rugby Tournament in Wales

This was significant in that the tournament was played against strong opposition. Despite this, and being away from home, the team went through the whole tournament undefeated. Even more remarkable was the fact they did so without conceding a single try.



## Recent Club Achievements

### P7s given Civic Reception for winning Tournament in Wales

This achievement was recently acknowledged by a Civic Reception by the Lord Mayor at the Palace Stables, Armagh.





## Lurgan Lions (TAG Rugby)

Lurgan Rugby's TAG team made up of males and females won the first division championship in Ulster and qualified for the All Ireland finals in Dublin where they acquitted themselves with distinction.



## The Women's Rugby World Cup visits Pollock Park





## Recent Club Achievements

### Lurgan Ladies Cricket

Lurgan Ladies won the League and Cup double



Our Ladies team completed a league and cup double winning the NCU Women's Premier League undefeated and beating North Down in an exciting final to win the Challenge Cup



Ladies captain and Player of the Match Hannah Grieve is presented with the Challenge Cup by NCU President Peter McMorran



## Recent Club Achievements

### New artificial cricket wickets installed



Players and officials pictured at the opening of the new international standard artificial wickets at Pollock Park



Carla Lockhart MLA who officiated at the opening of the new artificial wickets pictured with Billy Boyd and Denis Johnston



## Recent Club Achievements

### Ross McCollum



Ross played Rugby and Cricket for Lurgan 1<sup>st</sup> XV and 1stXI and is currently on the Club's Management Committee.

Ross played Cricket for Ireland and has been on their board since 2010. He is now Chairman of Cricket Ireland which involves significant work and overseas travel throughout the World.

He was instrumental in overseeing Ireland become a first-tier cricket nation as confirmed in June 2017

Chairman of Cricket Ireland





## Community Outreach & School Recruitment Programmes

There are 2,300 youths playing Gaelic Football in the Lurgan Area at present (9 clubs). These two contact sports have a great synergy and transferable skills.

The club are actively engaged with a number of these Clubs to encourage player participation in both sports. This is helped by the playing seasons of both sports being virtually conflict free.



A Game of Two Halves (Rugby & Gaelic Football) – Club Officials with St Peters GAC Officials and Ulster Rugby and Armagh GAA players. Both governing bodies are supporting the Clubs Community Outreach programme. 400 youth players and coaches took part in this event.

**Ulster Players interview extracts – Click on video links below.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISBG2LpJHfc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O3ol3RrcvY&feature=youtu.be>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dPV5FOoHcQ4&feature=youtu.be>

**Jacob Stockdale – Ulster Players mention**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pv\\_DTRJq8aQ&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pv_DTRJq8aQ&feature=youtu.be)

**Armagh Players & Ulster Players**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QkTkAXTsIkU&feature=youtu.be>

**Tigers v St Peters**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21R4xbd6KI8&t=29s>



## TV Coverage for our Community Outreach Initiative – A Game of Two Halves



Pamela Ballentine has David Wellwood (Lurgan Tigers Youth Convenor) and representatives from Ulster Rugby and Ulster GAA on the UTV Life couch.

It was great to see Pamela sporting the Lurgan colours at the end of the interview.

See video link of interview below.

<http://www.itv.com/utvprogrammes/utv-life>

Interview starts at circa 12 minutes.







## Club Ambassadors (Presentation of Club Blazer and Ties still outstanding)

The Club has recognised that in the professional era many of the past, and indeed current, players no longer feel they have a “real” Club as they move or are moved to a number of different Clubs throughout their playing career.

The profile, knowledge and experience these past players bring to a Club is significant and very under stated. The club have currently has the following Ambassadors.

Jacob Stockdale (Ulster & Ireland)

Jeremy Davidson (Ulster, Ireland, Lions and now Bordeaux Begles forwards coach)

David Corkery (Munster, Ireland)

Eric Millar (Ulster, Leinster, Ireland, Lions)





## Jacob Stockdale (Ulster & Ireland) – Lurgan Tigers Ambassador

Jacob was Ireland's record breaking try scorer (7 tries) in this years 6 Nations (2018).

Jacob and his parents live within 300 metres of Pollock Park and Jacob has accepted the role of Tigers Ambassador. He has agreed to help promote rugby and recruit new Tigers on his days off from his Ulster Rugby commitments.

Jess Gardener, Jacob's long-standing girl friend is also a keen rugby fan. "His" Tigers have now become "their" Tigers. This has been amazing for the Club and has really lifted our profile.

The Club have 28 primary schools within its catchment area which equates to 6,500 potential rugby players. There are also 8 high schools and colleges within the catchment area equating to another 6,000 potential rugby players.

Marketing information is currently being printed with Jacob's images to assist in a flyer, poster, bill board and signage campaign to significantly grow the Clubs player numbers both at Youth and Senior level.

**LURGAN RUGBY  
FOOTBALL CLUB**  
1880

**JACOB  
NEEDS  
YOU**

THOMPSON  
SEATING

COME PLAY AT  
**LURGAN  
RUGBY  
CLUB**

CONTACT: RAYMOND ACHESON - 07565 096275  
MARK PRENTICE - 07895 373061

[www.LurganRugbyClub.com](http://www.LurganRugbyClub.com) **f** /pollockparksport

One of the images that Jacob Stockdale has permitted the club to use in its media campaign to attract new members.

## Jeremy Davidson – Club Ambassador

Jeremy has previously captained Ulster, London Irish and Castres Olympique and won 32 caps for Ireland.

Perhaps it is appropriate in a Lions year to leave the best to last. Jeremy was voted players' player of the victorious 1997 Lions tour to South Africa. He played in all 3 tests.

He has just been appointed on a new 3-year deal as forwards coach of Bordeaux. He is hotly tipped to coach at least provincial level in Ireland in the not too distant future. Jeremy and his wife have just had a baby on 6th June and she is living at home in Belfast (not France).

Jeremy is happy to take forward coaching sessions at the Club in conjunction with Bruce and Jason when he is home and to support Club events when available.



Jeremy Davidson with some of his new Lurgan RFC kit

Jeremy is also facilitating a tour to Bordeaux for the Senior Rugby section in August (16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>) 2018

Click on the link to Facebook for Bordeaux Tour information

[www.Facebook.com/LurganRFCTourtoBordeaux2018](https://www.facebook.com/LurganRFCTourtoBordeaux2018)



## David Corkery - Club Ambassador

David has previously played for Cork Constitution, Munster, Bristol and won 27 caps for Ireland at blind side wing forward.

His nickname "Shredder" was hard earned and he is still considered by many to be one of the most destructive 6s to ever play the game.

David is still playing for the Irish Legends and competes annually in the Bermuda Classics. He has access to almost all of the top over 35 year old players in world rugby and has recently been appointed as Classic Lions Captain.

David has also offered to come and take a few training sessions at the Club and will support our events going forward.

He has previously coached Cork Constitution and Young Munster to AIL 1A glory



David Corkery with ABC Lord Mayor Garath Keating.

## Recent Lurgan Rugby Gala Event

An Evening with Rory Best - 400 plate (sold out) event on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at the Seagoe Hotel



Graham Little / Rory Best interview on the link below

[https://www.facebook.com/eveningwithrory/?hc\\_ref=ARTPaPLiKsKfivUe85aMceDCIm73LrMMx5ixC78qpE7JGUkrIDLVk9BSejImrXCWq3M](https://www.facebook.com/eveningwithrory/?hc_ref=ARTPaPLiKsKfivUe85aMceDCIm73LrMMx5ixC78qpE7JGUkrIDLVk9BSejImrXCWq3M)

Events Page

[www.Facebook/AnEveningwithRory](http://www.Facebook/AnEveningwithRory)



## Recent Lurgan Rugby Gala Event continued...





**Recent Lurgan Rugby Gala Event continued...**





## Club Redevelopment

The Club are currently working on proposals for the extension and refurbishment of the existing Club house and associated infrastructure.

Images of what our redeveloped Club house will look like when completed:



Front Elevation (view from car park)



Rear Elevation (view from first's floodlight pitch)

## Web and Social Media

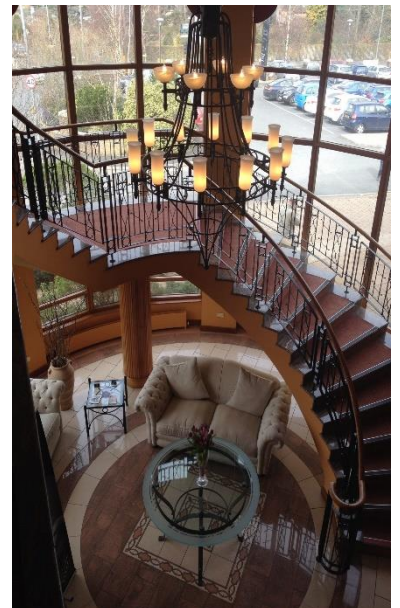
### Facebook

[www.Facebook.com/PollockParkSport](http://www.Facebook.com/PollockParkSport)

[www.Facebook.com/AnEveningwithWarrenGatland](http://www.Facebook.com/AnEveningwithWarrenGatland)

We have a new web site currently under construction [www.LurganRugbyClub.com](http://www.LurganRugbyClub.com) which will be launching in June 2018

### Seagoe Hotel



[www.Seagoe.com](http://www.Seagoe.com)



## Forthcoming Events

A promotional poster for an evening with Warren Gatland. The background features a large image of Warren Gatland, a man with grey hair, wearing a red and black jacket, waving his right hand. The text is overlaid on the image.

AN EVENING WITH  
**Warren Gatland**  
WALES | BRITISH & IRISH LIONS COACH

**25th MAY 2018** SEAGOE HOTEL,  
PORTADOWN

TO BOOK TABLE: **RAYMOND ACHESON 07565 096 275**

 **/aneveningwithwarrengatland**

  
**LURGAN RUGBY**  
FOOTBALL CLUB  
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[https://www.facebook.com/An-Evening-with-Warren-Gatland-139071610065778/?hc\\_ref=ARTNKIMCrmH\\_yPMnUHc3E2ugubSYrziKEWx0NqtdNPrfKN1JJp4d5GUOg4mvkVMWfb0&fref=nf](https://www.facebook.com/An-Evening-with-Warren-Gatland-139071610065778/?hc_ref=ARTNKIMCrmH_yPMnUHc3E2ugubSYrziKEWx0NqtdNPrfKN1JJp4d5GUOg4mvkVMWfb0&fref=nf)

