

MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN KOJI TSURUOKA



Ambassador Tsuruoka & Reg Clark

I would like to express my deep appreciation to all of you for taking part in the 14th Oku Memorial Trophy rugby match. This event is held in memory of Ambassador Katsuhiko Oku who, while serving as Director of the Japan Information and Cultural Centre (JICC) at our Embassy in London, was tragically killed in the line of duty in 2003 during a reconstruction mission in Iraq. "Katsu", as he was called by his friends, was driven not only by his work for the international community as a diplomat but also by his enthusiasm for deepening Japan's partnerships with other countries through sport. His particular passion was rugby.

Following the Rugby World Cup in England two years ago, the next tournament will be held in Japan in 2019. Katsu would have been very excited at the prospect of Japan hosting the World Cup for the first time in history! With this thought in mind, I hope the spectacle we are to witness today will be a precious opportunity to celebrate and commemorate his life. Let me thank the organisers of this Oku Trophy, the participating teams and all those who have come from far and wide to be present on this special occasion. I trust everyone will enjoy the day.

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Koji Tsuruoka
Ambassador Tsuruoka

MESSAGE FROM REG CLARK

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all players and spectators to the 14th staging of the Oku Memorial Trophy rugby event. The founders of the event, Kew Occasionals and London Japanese who contested the trophy last year are joined this year in a three way tournament by a Past & Present XV from Katsu Oku's alma mater - Hertford College, Oxford - we are delighted to have them involved once more. I would like to thank Ambassador Tsuruoka for his message of support as above and we are delighted to welcome today Minister Okada who heads up the usual strong contingent at this event from the Embassy of Japan in the UK. The Rugby World Cup in Japan in 2019 is now less than 2 years away, and rather than memories of our great friend and colleague Ambassador Oku fading, each preparatory event reminds us of the pivotal role he played in guiding Japanese rugby to this pinnacle. My thanks as ever go to the players and officials of Kew Occasionals and London Japanese for the support they continue to give this event, and to John Collis for re-engaging Hertford College. We are grateful to Richmond FC for hosting us, and to our sponsors Rhino Rugby and Sake Samurai. Thanks also to Paul Farrelly MP of the Commons & Lords RFC for attending and refereeing.

Our aim today as ever is to honour the memory and celebrate the life of Ambassador Katsuhiko Oku, a truly great man, by playing the game he loved and doing so in the spirit he would have wanted - with a smile on our faces.

Reg Clark

Reg Clark

OKU TROPHY PAST RESULTS

26/11/2005	Kew Occasionals 31 London Japanese 28 Richmond Athletic Ground	08/12/2012	Kew Occasionals 35 London Japanese 12 Vincent's/Hertford 29 London Japanese 24 Kew Occasionals 31 Vincent's/Hertford 7 Iffley Road, Oxford
25/11/2006	New York Japanese 7 London Japanese 0 Kew Occasionals 30 New York Japanese 5 Kew Occasionals 25 London Japanese 7 Richmond Athletic Ground	07/12/2013	Vincent's/Hertford 57 London Japanese 0 Kew Occasionals 48 Vincent's/Hertford 22 Kew Occasionals 31 London Japanese 7 Iffley Road, Oxford
24/11/2007	Kew Occasionals 31 London Japanese 19 Richmond Athletic Ground	13/12/2014	Vincent's/Hertford 24 London Japanese 10 Kew Occasionals 47 Vincent's/Hertford 10 Kew Occasionals 42 London Japanese 10 Iffley Road, Oxford
10/12/2008	Kew Occasionals/OURFC 1988 XV 48 London Japanese 26 Richmond Athletic Ground	13/09/2015	Oxford University 26 Waseda University 7 Kew Occasionals 63 London Japanese 7 Iffley Road, Oxford
28/11/2009	Kew Occasionals 44 London Japanese 31 Richmond Athletic Ground	15/05/2016	Waseda University ROB 31 Kew Occasionals 32 Kami-igusa, Tokyo
04/12/2010	Hertford College 31 London Japanese 15 Vincent's Club 21 Kew Occasionals 7 London Japanese 15 Kew Occasionals 5 Vincent's Club 5 Hertford College 0 Iffley Road, Oxford	03/12/2016	Kew Occasionals 48 London Japanese 21 Richmond Athletic Ground
03/12/2011	Hertford College 19 London Japanese 5 Kew Occasionals 50 Vincent's Club 5 Vincent's Club 39 London Japanese 10 Kew Occasionals 50 Hertford College 7 Iffley Road, Oxford	02/12/2017	London Japanese vs Hertford College Kew Occasionals vs Hertford College Kew Occasionals vs London Japanese Richmond Athletic Ground

OKU MEMORIAL TROPHY 奥 記念杯



KEW OCCASIONALS LONDON JAPANESE HERTFORD COLLEGE



SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2017
11.45AM KICK OFF RICHMOND ATHLETIC GROUND



MATCH SPONSORS



KEW OCCASIONALS RFC

Captains: Ed White, Ross Swanson; President: John Purcell; Chairman: Chris Stone
Hon Secretary & Treasurer: Chris Bucknall

LONDON JAPANESE RFC

Captain: David Hajime Stanton; Vice Captain: Shunsuke Matsuyama
Treasury: Shinsuke Ikegami; Fixture Secretary: Gareth Palmer

HERTFORD COLLEGE

Captain: Lewis Greenan-Barrett; Vice-captain: Charles Beard
Chairman John Collis

REFEREES: Reg Clark and Paul Farrelly MP

