

MESSAGE FROM H.E. MR. HAYASHI HAJIME, AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN



I would like to express my great appreciation for the Oku Memorial Trophy rugby event. It is heart-warming to know that the intense passion for rugby held by Ambassador OKU Katsuhiko, who worked so enthusiastically to deepen Japan-UK ties through sport but was tragically killed in the line of duty in Iraq in 2003, has touched and inspired his friends and colleagues as well as younger rugby players from both countries.

Katsu Oku was well-known for his warmth and kindness, and for the pleasure he took in making people happy. I have no doubt that my dear friend would be very grateful for this annual event, a precious opportunity to commemorate and celebrate his life, and I deeply appreciate the efforts of the organisers in making it happen despite what we have experienced.

For all of us, this past year has been hugely challenging. While it has been greatly tainted by sadness, it has also provided opportunities to reflect upon the value of what we have taken for granted. In this regard, sport is certainly something which can inspire and empower us. And moments such as this, where we can enjoy together the uplifting power of rugby, are ones to cherish – more, perhaps, than we have ever done before.

We are now certainly sensing that normality is gradually returning. I trust it will not be long before we can fully enjoy our lives, which will surely represent the resilience of the human spirit.

Let me once again express my gratitude to the organisers of the Oku Memorial Trophy, the participating teams and all those who have come from far and wide to be present on this special occasion. I trust everyone enjoys the day.

 HAYASHI Hajime, Ambassador of Japan to the UK


MESSAGE FROM REG CLARK



I think I speak for us all in saying what a relief it is to be back on the rugby field and able once more to gather to honour the memory of Ambassador Katsuhiko Oku. Katsu had links with all participating teams today – a founder of London Japanese, a student at Hertford College when he became the first Japanese national to play for the Blues XV at Oxford, a member of the Kew Occasionals and someone who was instrumental in initiating parliamentary rugby matches between Japan and the UK. Above all however, when we last got together in December 2019 we were basking

in the glory of a fantastic Rugby World Cup, an event which he did so much to bring about. There is so much in his life for us to be thankful for and to celebrate today.

I would like to thank Ambassador Hayashi and also Nick Preston, Chairman of our hosts Richmond Rugby, for agreeing to attend and address the participants today. Thanks also to the five participating clubs - players, officials and referees - and to our sponsors, for making this event possible.

Lockdown be gone - enjoy everyone! 

OKU TROPHY PAST RESULTS

20/09/2004	Waseda University 25 Oxford University 9 Chichibunomiya Stadium, Tokyo	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
26/11/2005	Kew Occasionals 31 London Japanese 28 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
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	13/09/2015	Oxford University 26 Waseda University 7 Kew Occasionals 63 London Japanese 7 Iffley Road, Oxford
24/11/2007	Kew Occasionals 31 London Japanese 19 Richmond Athletic Ground	15/05/2016	Waseda University ROB 31 Kew Occasionals 32 Kami-igusa, Tokyo
10/12/2008	Kew Occasionals/OURFC 1988 XV 48 London Japanese 26 Richmond Athletic Ground	03/12/2016	Kew Occasionals 48 London Japanese 21 Richmond Athletic Ground
28/11/2009	Kew Occasionals 44 London Japanese 31 Richmond Athletic Ground	02/12/2017	Hertford College 24 London Japanese 12 Kew Occasionals 21 Hertford College 7 Kew Occasionals 29 London Japanese 7 Richmond Athletic Ground
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	11/03/2018	Oxford University 27 Waseda University 19 Iffley Road, Oxford.
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	17/11/2018	London Japanese Veterans 23 Commons & Lords 19 Kew Occasionals 33 London Japanese 10 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	18/09/2019	Waseda University 0 Oxford University 3 Kami-igusa, Tokyo
		07/12/2019	Kew Occasionals 43 London Japanese 24 Richmond Athletic Ground

OKU MEMORIAL TROPHY

奥 記念杯

TOUCH RUGBY TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY 17TH APRIL 2021



日英両国の絆が、
ラグビーを通じて強めてくれた
奥 克彦君のご遺志とともに、
未来に継承されることを祈ります。

May Japan and United Kingdom,
with the bonds through the Game of Rugby
and the will of Mr. Katsuhiko Oku,
forge a finely-woven relationship toward the future.

奥 克彦

1PM KICK-OFF RICHMOND ATHLETIC GROUND

PARTICIPATING TEAMS



LONDON
JAPANESE



OXFORD
UNIVERSITY
OLD BOYS



KEW
OCCASIONALS



HERTFORD
COLLEGE



COMMONS &
LORDS

SPONSORS



All participants are invited to mark the commencement of the funeral of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh with a minute's silence at the conclusion of the tournament at 3pm.



Photographs courtesy of Anthony Lynn