

Terry's Trophy

Pocklington RUFC has joined forces with the East Yorkshire Referees Society, Pocklington School and the Old Pocklingtonian Association to commission an impressive new trophy in memory of popular East Yorkshire referee, Terry Hardaker, who died last year.

Terry contributed over 30 years of service to local rugby. Starting out as a coach of junior sides at Pocklington School he became increasingly involved in refereeing - graduating from reffing the odd school games to become a respected official throughout the north east. He then moved on to be one of the north's top referees' assessors. He also did a stint as a Yorkshire Schools selector.

In addition he was a Pocklington RUFC committeeman for several years, including a spell as the Good Friday Pock 7s supremo, and after retiring as an English teacher at Pocklington School he became treasurer of the school's old boys association.

Commissioning the trophy was the idea of the East Yorkshire Referees Society, and it will be presented at the end of each season by the society to the local club that is the most sporting and welcoming on the junior rugby circuit. This was felt to be particularly appropriate due to Terry's keen involvement with junior rugby, and even after he retired from being in charge of Saturday club games he continued to ref junior matches at Percy Road on Sunday mornings.

The East Yorkshire Referees Society chairman, Neil Readman, from Beilby, asked Terry's former Pocklington School colleague, Pete Edwards, to create a special trophy, and Neil was delighted to receive the impressive cast bronze in the form of a Shakespearian hand holding a rugby ball - commemorating Terry's joint passions of Shakespeare and rugby, he was working for a doctorate in Shakespearian studies when he died.

Incidentally, the East Yorkshire Referees Society is always available to support and encourage anyone, young or old, who might think about taking up refereeing, whether it is a parent prepared to take charge of an odd junior game, or someone interested in officiating on a regular basis. Several referees have taken hesitant first steps in East Yorkshire and gone on to the highest levels, and anyone who wants advice or further details can contact Neil on 07860 350858.

Photo Caption:

Neil Readman (left) receives the new Hardaker Trophy from Pete Edwards.

Ends



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