

Countdown to kickoff
Japan's rugby history one year out from the 2019 Rugby World Cup
Thursday 20th September 2018
Schedule

5:00pm Doors Open

5:30pm **Introduction**
Mana Takatori, Director General, Japan Foundation London
Helen Macnaughtan, Chair, SOAS Japan Research Centre

Speakers:

5:45pm **“The Birth of Japanese Rugby, 1899-1939”**
Phil McGowan, World Rugby Museum, Twickenham
Mike Galbraith, De Montfort University

6:00pm **“Balls of Steel: Japanese Rugby in the Post-war Decades”**
Helen Macnaughtan, Chair, SOAS Japan Research Centre

6:15pm **“The Economics and Business of Japan's 2019 Rugby World Cup”**
Simon Chadwick, Salford University Manchester

6:30pm **“Japan: the Land of the Rising Scrum”**
Hilary Frank, Cornwall Council

6:45pm **Q&A**
J. Simon Rofe, SOAS University of London

7:25pm **Closing Remarks**
Helen Macnaughtan, Chair, SOAS Japan Research Centre
J. Simon Rofe, SOAS University of London

7:30pm Drinks Reception (sponsored by Sake Samurai)

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