



## 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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