

# THORNTON CLEVELEYS RUFC NEWSLETTER



October 2021

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership is now due for **all** members. Please contact JJ McKinnon:

**Email:**

[membership@thorntonrugby.co.uk](mailto:membership@thorntonrugby.co.uk)

**MOB:** 07701367387

Membership Fees are as follows:

**PLAYER: £95**

**STUDENT: £60**






**SOCIAL: £40**

**SUPPORTER: £20**

### WALKING RUGBY

Walking Rugby is now being held for all members at 6.30pm every Thursday down at Thornton YMCA. It's an excellent way to keep fit and catch up with old mates. Contact Terry Ryan for more info.

## THIS MONTHS FIXTURES

	2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2021:	Garstang (Home)	19 - 19
	9 <sup>th</sup> October 2021:	Littleborough (Away)	Postponed (TAB)
	16 <sup>th</sup> October 2021:	Ellesmere Port (Home)	14:15 Kick Off
	23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2021:	Trafford MV (Away)	14:15 Kick Off
	30 <sup>th</sup> October 2021:	Didsbury OB (Away)	14:15 Kick Off CUP

## RESULTS

Sefton 49 – 35 TCRUFC

TCRUFC 38 – 10 New Brighton

Tyldesley 31 – 24 TCRUFC

TCRUFC 19 – 19 Garstang



## Other News

The Club would like to pass on condolences to the family and friends of Colin Woodcock. Sadly, his lovely wife Barbara recently passed away leaving us all devastated for Colin and his family. A lovely service was held last week at Carleton Crematorium, giving the wonderful Barbara a fitting send off. Again, the TC family will put its arms round its members in their darkest hours and when the time is right, we look forward to seeing Colin back around the club soon.

The club would also like to celebrate the birth of Theodore Williams. Andy and Amy are settling in well to parenthood and we can't wait to meet the newest member of the TC family.

Last but not least, huge congratulations to Jack Wills and Kara who tied the knot recently. The club wishes you all the best on the next step of your journey together.

## International Tickets

TCRUFC have an allocation of tickets for the upcoming 6 Nations.

Tickets are available for the following games:

England vs Wales · Twickenham Stadium · Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2022 (16:45) (£110 per ticket)

England vs Ireland · Twickenham Stadium · Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021 (16:45) (£125 per ticket)

Max 2 tickets per member.

If you are interested, please email [ian.potts@barsbank.com](mailto:ian.potts@barsbank.com) to be included in a ballot (if we are oversubscribed).

## **MATCH REPORT**

Saturday saw the return of local rivals Garstang to the Windmill Ground in what was always going to be a spicy affair, the first time the 2 sides had met since TC's Lancashire Cup Final loss of 2019.

The weather looked ominous as clouds and a stiff breeze rolled over the Windmill Ground with a slight smattering of rain in the hours before kick off, however it appeared the weather was to behave itself and provide a decent setting for the local derby.



Thornton started strong from the off and asserted early dominance by keeping possession and probing the stiff Garstang blue wall for weaknesses or mistakes. After the early exchanges the game began to settle and with that, Captain Matt Ellis dipped the clutch, changed gear and banged on the accelerator to smash through the Garstang defensive line and kick on clear of the cover to scamper over for the first score of the day with Kurt Gledhill adding the 2 from the tee.

Although this galvanised the home side, it also appeared to shock some life into the placid Garstang attack. Good phase play from the visitors and poor defensive structure from the hosts led to a parting of the TC defence around the ruck, allowing the scrum half to snipe from the base from 35 metres out and scamper over for their first of the day. Garstang were now rolling on freshly pumped up tyres and began to grow into the game, picking off poor defence from TC and making ground eventually leaving an overlap out wide which presented an opportunity that was cleverly seized upon and Garstang were over in the corner for their second 5 pointer.

TC began to get a grip back on the game and were banging on the door for the remainder of the 1<sup>st</sup> half however a staunch Garstang defence nullified most of TC's creativity and prevented TC's power game from starting up until just before the break, another try from the visitors gave The Larks a real headache going into the half time break.

### **Half Time TC 7 – 19 Garstang**

By the beginning of the second half, the elements had eased, slightly, offering the opportunity for a bit more of a spectacle, and TC began well in that respect. Great continuity from the men in black lead to a strong purple patch and the pack began to gain some ascendancy but it was again the Captain, Matt Ellis, who notched another score in emphatic style with the conversion being missed to bring the home side back to within a converted score. The second half remained quite stagnant with TC attacking and Garstang defending well. The breakdown was hotly contested by Garstang with the referee seeming to allow hands beyond the ball and not clearly releasing the tackled man suiting them to a tee, wrestling back possession and pinning TC back from resulting penalties.

It all seemed as if the game was to fizzle out with just minutes left on the clock when , once again, Matt Ellis pulled the rabbit out of the hat with another excellent break, shrugging off would-be tacklers and diving over under the posts with blue shirts hanging on for dear life. The Captains Hat-Trick try brought the score to 17-19 with the kick to come and just seconds on the clock. Kurt Gledhill stepped up and with nerves of steel, knocked over the extra 2 to tie the score.

### **Full Time TC 19 – 19 Garstang**

**AND DON'T FORGET IT'S DOCS TOUCHLINE BARBARIAN LUNCH ON SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER AT THE ASHLEY. THE FIRST ONE SINCE LOCKDOWN SO DON'T MISS OUT.**

**LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOUR FACES THERE.**

**Low & Hard**

**TCRUFC**