

## WARRINGTON RUGBY UNION

## Vs Keswick RUFC

**North 2 West** 

Saturday 11th September 2021

# OFFICIAL CLUB PROGRAMME





#### A Message from the President

I would like to welcome you all to South Warrington Sports Club, Stockton Lane, Grappenhall, the home of WARRINGTON RUFC.

The past 18 months has been tough for everyone and never more so than to our rugby playing fraternity due to Covid-19 Lockdowns etc., Rugby fixtures were at a standstill from March 2020 and the RFU cancelled the 2020/21 league season. On the positive side all players at all levels have been training supported by dedicated club coach Stu Beeley with his team and all the Mini & Junior coaches which is a testament to the spirit in the club. Changes have been made, improvements inside and outside the club house which I sure will benefit us all now that rugby has returned. I would like to thank all who have put time and effort



into these changes but in this regard special mentions goes to our chairman Lewis Nunn and his team looked after the infrastructure, and Nick Stafford who advised the club on Covid-19 matters. The support from our rugby club community was also a major factor in the unbelievable response to the Lockdown Challenge held over a weekend in November 2020 which raised over £5000 which was shared equally between the Club and NHS Warrington & Halton Hospital's Charity so another big thanks to all concerned especially Dave Evans and the team who put it all together

**Now to season 2021/22** which sees the club playing in North 2 West which comes as a result of our position in North 1 West when the 2019/20 season was curtailed. Warrington renew rivalries with some teams from the past so once again, it seems that there will be no such thing as an easy game but that also ensures a good level of entertainment for spectators, enjoyable and testing matches for the players.

Annual plea, we can all contribute in so many ways as those who have gone before us as Members of WRUFC have done. Players need to remember that it is not just about playing. Fund raising and making sure everything runs smoothly on match days and all the other small but essential tasks is not just the province of those of us who are at the age where sadly playing is no longer possible. The more people who volunteer and get stuck in, the stronger our Club will become. Former players making a perhaps an infrequent visit to the Club are more than welcome we can always find something for you to do! You will have taken a lot out of the game. Please think seriously about what you can put back in, just as there were the "old farts" in your day who made sure that the baths were run, the tea made, the pitch marked, the game refereed, the raffle run and so on.

I would also take this opportunity to thank all spectators, and especially visiting spectators, for buying this programme. We are not a rich club so rely on the income which we generate ourselves from sponsorships, events, raffles, occasional donations, programme sales and now bar sales. So many thanks for your contributions, which help to fund the playing side of our activities as well as helping us to enhance the facilities.

Once again, I wish a very warm welcome to all of you, Warrington supporters as well as visitors, match officials and players. We hope you will enjoy the rugby on offer and that you will also enjoy the beer and banter in the bar after the match.

GEOFF PERKS President, Warrington RUFC

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#### Welcome to Keswick RUFC

Warrington RUFC extends a very warm welcome to the players, officials and spectators of Keswick RUFC on their league visit and we look forward to an enjoyable game.

Keswick RUFC founded in 1879 have always kept the flag flying in Cumbrian rugby and has had many ups and downs since the heady 1950s when they were undisputedly one of the leading clubs in the county. Their original ground was Greta Park, the Keswick club attracted county games and representative games and was a local point tor rugby in the twin counties of Cumberland and Westmorland. Today they play at the now renamed Davidson Park in honour of the achievements and support of one of Cumbria's rugby 'greats' Phil Davidson. In the 1989/90 season they won the league beating rivals Rossendale 13-7 to win the title. In 1994 Keswick got to the quarter finals of the RU Pilkington Shield when they entertained Kidderminster Carolians it was the biggest game in their history. After a brave performance in front of an 1800 strong crowd their journey came to an end losing 17-27 but only after extra time

#### Return to Rugby

Promoted to North One West in season 2019/20 having finished top in Cumbria Division 1 in 2018/19. Keswick struggled to find the form they had shown in the previous season. Like ourselves both teams were at the bottom of the league when the pandemic forced the season to be suspended, as a consequence both teams dropped a division to North 2 West this season 2021/22.

Coincidently todays fixture is a repeat of the last game at the suspension of the 2019/20 season back on 14th March 2020 which resulted in a Warrington win to avenge the narrow defeat at Keswick in November 2019. It's Warrington's first league game of the new season, Keswick, who opened their season last weekend with 16-7 home win against Cockermouth so after their encouraging start an entertaining game is sure to be in prospect and may the best side win on the day.

#### **Footnote**

Warrington Rugby Union club would remind supporters to refrain from the use language that today is considered defamatory, offensive or that could be seen as abuse or harassment to other spectators, players or officials, whether anything you may consider right or wrong in the game you are watching.

#### Thank you

## **AL SCOTT PHOTOGRAPHER**









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Well, it's been a long time coming and we've had a number of false starts but here we are, finally, the start of a rugby season! I cannot commend the players enough for their patience and sustained commitment since the abrupt end to their previous season in March 2020; one that sadly and perhaps a little unjustly, of course, ended in relegation. I'm sure it's been a challenge for many, myself included, to maintain that enthusiasm over such a long period without

competitive rugby but the progress, individually and collectively, has been evident in training and in the five fixtures we have had in June, August and last week's 2<sup>nd</sup> XV encounter at Crewe & Nantwich. Only time will tell but we certainly feel ready for the challenges ahead. We are a relatively young squad (granted we have a few wily old dogs too – a prerequisite for success on the pitch), whose potential is huge and I am sure we will see that potential increasingly fulfilled as the season progresses.

It is a great source of pride to see lads I have previously coached through minis, juniors and colts now representing the seniors. In fact, tribute must be paid to all the M & Js coaches for their excellent work as we now have a 'conveyor belt' of talent coming through year-on-year that stands the club in good stead for the future.

Success on the field can only be made possible with a huge effort behind the scenes. Can I, therefore, take this opportunity to congratulate and thank all members of the Committee (I won't start naming them as I'll inevitably forget someone and cause offence). To think where we were in October 2019 (homeless for one thing!), it has been a truly remarkable feat by so many volunteers to ensure the club's future stability. There will undoubtedly be countless others who will help me and the senior players out in so many ways over the course of this season, those unsung heroes, the club stalwarts, without whom grassroots sport and clubs like WRUFC simply wouldn't exist. Thank you to those guys too; you know who you are.

Just a quick word to those of you who will fill the touchlines this season. First of all, I thank you in advance for your support but support is indeed the key word and what I would ask for. Unfortunately, at our club and elsewhere, I have witnessed spectators berating referees, haranguing the opposition and even (I remember one particularly shameful occasion) criticising our own players (the game's always pretty easy from the side line with 4 pints of strong continental lager inside you!) This conduct does not fit with the RFU's, the club's or, for that matter, my own personal values and will not be tolerated. Let's work together to be the perfect hosts off the pitch and the toughest of opponents on it.

Finally, our aims for this season? Well, given the squad we have, bouncing straight back up to Level 6 rugby has to be the (very achievable) goal; our performances against teams in the league above in warm-up games certainly bodes well. Further to that, bringing through and developing fresh talent, as alluded to earlier, is of paramount importance, and having GSC 'rocking' every Saturday night after games would be a reflection of the sort of club we should be.

I'm no club historian but I'm pretty sure we're approaching the club's centenary; Warrington RUFC has a proud history and we owe it to our predecessors to create an even more glorious future. Who's up for it?!

Thank you.

Stuart Beeley

### 1st XV League Table & Recent Results

Saturday, 4 September		North Two West
Anselmians	69 - 13	Winnington Park
Keswick	16 - 7	Cockermouth
Leigh	48 - 3	Bolton
Rochdale	65 - 15	Orrell
Southport	20 - 18	Tarleton
St Benedicts	P - P	De La Salle (Salford)
Warrington	V	To be arranged 14

#	Team	<u>P</u>	W	D	Ļ	PF	PA	+/-	ТВ	LB	Pts
1	Anselmians	1	1	0	0	69	13	56	1	0	5
2	Rochdale	1	1	0	0	65	15	50	1	0	5
3	Leigh	1	1	0	0	48	3	45	1	0	5
4	Keswick	1	1	0	0	16	7	9	0	0	4
5	Southport	1	1	0	0	20	18	2	0	0	4
6	Tarleton	1	0	0	1	18	20	-2	0	1	1
7	De La Salle (Salford)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	St Benedicts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Warrington	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Cockermouth	1	0	0	1	7	16	-9	0	0	0
11	Bolton	1	0	0	1	3	48	-45	0	0	0
12	Orrell	1	0	0	1	15	65	-50	0	0	0
13	Winnington Park	1	0	0	1	13	69	-56	0	0	0

#### The end & start of a journey for last seasons Senior Colts



After 12 years a convincing win away at Lymm became the final act of both a curtailed U18 season (P2 W2) and age group rugby altogether. The squad was guided throughout by coaches Alwyn Hughes and Richard Woodward (assisted along the way by Garry Williams, Jamie Thompson and the sadly missed Neil Shaw).

The mini years were spent embedding the basics (a special thank you to Darren Abram for his Friday evening sessions), but from early on our playing style

became apparent – fast, fluid, heads-up rugby based on a highly talented backline and mobile forwards. The core ethos of the team was inclusivity and whilst that may occasionally have lost us games we could otherwise have won, it also meant that always had a big squad and reached the Colts with 30-odd players – sufficient to manage the multiple evils of jobs, beer and girls.

In 20 mini festivals we won seven Cup finals and two plate finals. As we moved into the juniors our forwards, whilst mobile, were rarely the most robust and although we could style some teams off the park, against the very best sides it could go either way - we lost in the final of the Lancashire Cup in the U15s (22-8 to a very powerful Wigan side) and won the Plate in the U14s.

Our best season was effectively our last. As they matured the forwards learned to neutralise bigger opposition packs, and our Junior Colts A League campaign featured some ferocious defensive performances, allied with some breathtaking play in the loose. In the end it became a race against Covid, but of our eleven league games we won 10 and, in the end, won the league by a comfortable margin.

The roll of honour is headed by Jack Hesketh, Rahul Morrison and Charlie Hughes who all played more than 100 Junior and Colts games. Joseph Craven, our captain and #8 was our top scorer with 129 tries in 96 games, followed by wingers Mark Ravenscroft (70/88) and Joe Taylor (43/32) and scrum half Charlie Hughes (48/105).

Eleven of the colts' squad represented Cheshire (Alex Campbell, Will Uttley, Nicky Woodward, Mark Ravenscroft, Lewis Mercer, Joe Taylor, Joseph Craven, Archie Kellett, Muhammad Ali, Charlie Hughes and Sam Wadsworth). Six (Alex, Will, Joe, Joseph, Archie and Sam) were involved in the Sale Academy, of whom Archie, Joseph and Sam represented them at U18 level. In addition, Luke Thomas (Warrington) and Jon Bennison (St Helens) are playing for RL academies.

Most of the squad will be heading off to university in a couple of weeks and we wish them all well – hopefully we'll see a good few of them turn out for the seniors in the near future.

4 players feature in both of these pictures. Dermot Fagan-Hall, Joseph Craven, Charlie Hughes and Louis McKie, as well as 2 that were injured at the time Archie Kellett and Nicky Woodward. Strange coincidence both taken at Rochdale RUFC

Great testimony to these players and the coaching staff to carry players throughout the full Mini & Junior journey.





# RUGBY IS BACK WARRINGTON RUGBY UNION



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## **CODE OF RUGBY**

Everyone involved in rugby in England, whether as a player, coach, referee, administrator, parent or spectator is expected to uphold the Core Values of our sport.

## Teamwork · Respect · Enjoyment Discipline · Sportsmanship

Play to win - but not at all cost.

Win with dignity, lose with grace.

Observe the Laws and regulations of the game.

Respect opponents, referees and all participants.

Reject cheating, racism, violence and drugs.

Value volunteers and paid officials alike.

Enjoy the game.



#### Warrington RUFC vs. Keswick RUFC

WARRINGTON RUFC Colours: Green, Scarlet & White.

KESWICK RUFC Colours: Blue, Green & Amber.

#### Saturday 11th September 2021. Kick off 3pm

Referee: Mr Tim Brown. Manchester & District Society

		Sponsored By	Tries	Pens/DG	Con
15	M. Caldwell	Sponsorship Available			
14	T. Arnold	Sponsorship Available			
13	T. McEniff	Sponsorship Available			
12	E. Mellhuish	Sponsorship Available			
11	L. Turner	Sponsorship Available			
10	M. Beeley	S. Mellhuish			
9	P. Reardon	Sponsorship Available			
8	H. Kellett	Sponsorship Available			
7	J. Hudson	Sponsorship Available			
6	J. Evans	Sponsorship Available			
5	D. Fleming	Sponsorship Available			
4	J. Downes (C)	<b>Boost Personal Training</b>			
3	A. Rowan	Sponsorship Available			
2	S. Bennett	Sponsorship Available			
1	T. Green	Sponsorship Available			
16	A. Kellett	Sponsorship Available			
17	J. Craven	Sponsorship Available			
18	A. N. Other	Sponsorship Available			
Stuart Beeley			]	Head Coacl	1

Warm welcome to today's guests, opposition and referee, We hope a great day and game is enjoyed by all.

#### Today's Match Sponsored by,

Today's match unfortunately doesn't have a sponsor. If you would like to sponsor a match please contact via email warringtonrufc@sky.com or call 07977737902

#### **North Two West Fixtures 2021-22**

Date	Opposition	Result	Sponsor
Sept 11	Keswick (H)		
Sept 18	Rochdale (a)		
Sept 25	Leigh (H)		
Oct 2	Anselmians (a)		
Oct 16	St Benedicts (H)		
Oct 23	Southport (a)		
Oct 30	Tarleton (H)		
Nov 13	De La Salle (a)		
Nov 20	Winnington Park (H)		
Nov 27	Bolton (a)		
Dec 4	Orrel (H)		
Dec 11	Cockermouth (a)		
Dec 18	Keswick (a)		
Jan 8	Rochdale (H)		
Jan 15	Leigh (a)		
Jan 22	Anselmians (H)		
Jan 29	St Benedicts (a)		
Feb 12	Southport (H)		
Feb 19	Tarleton (a)		
Mar 5	De La Salle (H)		
Mar 12	Winnington Park (a)		
Mar 26	Bolton (H)		
Apr 2	Orwell (a)		
Apr 9	Cockermouth (H)		

#### WARRINGTON RUFC ARE PROUD TO BE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:





#### Crewe & Nantwich 2nd XV 14-39 Warrington 2nd XV

In an entertaining game the Warrington side with a mixture of experience and youth ran out worthy winners built on a strong defence throughout and an excellent second half display when the fitter and faster outfit shone.

A Warrington early yellow card for a deliberate knock on gave the hosts the advantage and from the resultant penalty they took play down to near the Warrington line but good defence kept them but a quick ball from the ruck allowed Crewe & Nantwich to bulldoze over under posts for a converted try. The game was end to end with good play from both sides until Warrington equalised with a fine try from Harry Kellett converted by JP Hudson. The score 7-7 remained the same until half time.

In the second half good play from Warrington down the wing saw Tom Heaps score wide out to make the score 7-12 Warrington stretched their lead with a well taken try from Luke Turner 7-17. Crewe & Nantwich hit back with a fine try from their number 10, who had caused Warrington a great deal of problems all afternoon with his speed and this time he outstripped the defence to score near the posts, the conversion was good .14-17. Warrington's fitness began to tell with further tries from Andy Almond, and Tom Green conversion by Matt Beeley 14-29. Scrum half Eddie Melhuish showed great foresight to take a quick tap and run through a tiring side to score. 14-34, in the final minute of the game another excellent try from Harry Stevens completed the scoring 14-39.

From a Warrington perspective and considering it was a first game for a number of players after 18 months of no game time it was a credit to the coaches to have kept players motivated and their fitness levels up which culminated in a match which was a joy to watch, well done to all. It is also worth mentioning that it was great to see the number of Warrington supporters who came along to watch.



#### **2nd XV League Table & Recent Results**

## NOWIRUL The Right Broker Division 2 South - 2021/2022



Competition Secretary: Ian Cosens

Sponsored by: The Right Broker

Saturday, 4 September 2021			
Bowdon 2nd XV	33	7	Eccles 2nd XV
Broughton Park 2nd XV	29	20	Anselmians 2nd XV
Crewe & Nantwich 2nd XV	14	39	Warrington 2nd XV
Macclesfield 3rd XV	31	27	Didsbury Toc H 2nd XV

	Team	Р	w	D	L	F	Α	+/-	Pts
1	Bowdon 2nd XV	1	1	0	0	33	7	26	5
2	Warrington 2nd XV	1	1	0	0	39	14	25	5
3	Broughton Park 2nd XV	1	1	0	0	29	20	9	5
4	Macclesfield 3rd XV	1	1	0	0	31	27	4	5
5	Didsbury Toc H 2nd XV	1	0	0	1	27	31	-4	2
6	Anselmians 2nd XV	1	0	0	1	20	29	-9	1
7	Crewe & Nantwich 2nd XV	1	0	0	1	14	39	-25	1
8	Eccles 2nd XV	1	0	0	1	7	33	-26	1
9	Altrincham Kersal Cougars (2nd XV)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Knutsford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Liverpool University Veterinarians	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	Manchester 2nd XV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



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Mens KIRIN Tech Polo

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WARRINGTON RUFC

#### **WRUFC Matchday Quiz**

#### This week's Quiz:-

- 1) What colour are the berries of the mistletoe plant?
- 2) Who presented the first ever National Lottery TV programme (in 1994)?
- 3) How many circles are there on a twister mat?
- 4) What did lock millionaire Sir Cecil Chubb give to the nation on 26 October 1918?
- 5) In which sort of high street shop would you find a Brannock device?
- 6) Kissing which slab of limestone in Ireland is supposed to give you the 'gift of the gab'?
- 7) What breed of dog is Santa's Little Helper in *The Simpsons*?
- 8) What is cockney rhyming slang for eyes?
- 9) Most of the top 20 largest hotels in the world can be found in which city?
- 10) What was founded in 1969 in Southampton by David Quayle and Richard Block?
- 11) 'Gone for a Burton' is a euphemistic phrase used by World War Two pilots meaning gone missing, however, what actually was a Burton?
- 12) What form of transport when spelled backwards means 'clever'?
- 13) Which politician was born on June 19, 1964, in New York?
- 14) Who was the first female host of The Radio 1 Breakfast Show?
- 15) How many countries make up Great Britain?
- 16) How many children are there in the TV classic The Waltons?
- 17) How many times has Del Boy Trotter been married in the BBC sitcom *Only Fools and Horses*?
- 18) The London Marathon takes place annually in which month of the year?
- 19) What is the national and official language of Bangladesh?
- 20) 'Ablutions' is an anagram of which sportsman?
- 21-24) Name the Celeb.



25) What do all four above entertainers have in common?

Answer will be posted on the Warrington RUFC web site on Sunday morning.

www.warringtonrufc.com

Thanks for taking part



### WRUFC Quiz Answer Page



1	
1	•

6.

8.

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2.	14.

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0			21

9.	21.

Answer will be posted on the Warrington RUFC web site on Sunday morning.

18.

20.

22.

### www.warringtonrufc.com

Thanks for taking part

## Grappenhall Sports Club

Bar opening times

Thursday. 7pm - 10pm Saturday. 9am - 10pm Sunday. 9am - 8pm

Who's up next



25th Sept 1sts vs Leigh

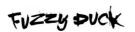
2nd Oct 2nds vs Anselmians

## WARRINGTON RUFC WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS.



























































Warrington RUFC hope you have enjoyed your day.

We look forward to seeing you again.

Please remember respect the players, referee & the venue.

Thank you