



WARRINGTON RUGBY UNION



OFFICIAL CLUB PROGRAMME



COMMUNITY RUGBY
SEAL OF APPROVAL



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A Message from the President

I would like to welcome you to Warrington RUFC and I hope you enjoy your afternoon with us. This is my first year as president and I look forward to meeting new friends from the clubs in North 1 West.

Warrington has enjoyed some success over the past years, since our promotion to North 1 West but it doesn't get any easier. This year the competition looks to be even harder with clubs of great tradition such as Birkenhead Park, Broughton Park and Penrith returning this season. I must admit that I am sorry to see the departure of Altrincham Kersal and Rochdale as in life, changes offer new challenges.



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 and enjoyable, testing matches for the players.

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 and we must mainly rely on the income which we generate ourselves from sponsorships, events, raffles, occasional donations - and programme sales. So many thanks for your contribution, which helps to fund the playing side of our activities as well as helping us, enhance the outstanding facilities we enjoy at Warrington Sports Club.

So once again, 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

Langtree





Welcome to Anselmians RUFC

Old Anselmians' RUFC was formed in 1947 by a group of former pupils of St. Anselm's College to whom all current members owe a great debt.

Early fixtures were played against traditional old boys' teams in the Wirral and on Merseyside by a small but dedicated band of travelling players before a temporary home were secured at "Solly Rec" in Birkenhead.

Playing facilities and amenities were primitive and it wasn't until the mid-1950s that the club relocated to its present home in Eastham village. By the 1960s Old Anselmians was a well-established and thriving club running three sides. At this stage, it was a "closed" club, in RFU language, meaning its players were drawn from "The School" but it was recruiting soccer players from the town presumably attracted by the promise of a more active social life than the football clubs could offer.

Further expansion in the 1970s meant that by the end of the decade Old Anselmians could field six teams playing "friendly" fixtures all over the north-west of England and north Wales.

In the 1990s, the club's profile was greatly enhanced by the success of several alumni on the international stage. Austin Healey, England toured with the British and Irish Lions in 1997 and 2001. In the 1995-96 Five Nations competition, Simon Mason and Christian Saverimutto were capped for Ireland. More recently, in 2002, Ben Johnston, England, the erstwhile Newcastle Falcons scrum-half, Chris Pilgrim is the most recent graduate of "The Saints".

With the advent of, first, merit tables and, now, league rugby, many of our traditional fixtures have lapsed. The "Old" was dropped from the name and "Anselmians" 1st XV competed in the South Lancashire/Cheshire Division One for several years, before spending two seasons in North One West in 2011-2013. Saints were promoted to North One West after a six year absence after a memorable play-off game, 65-14 victory against Aspatria in May 2018.

Anselmians have found life in this league difficult this season and Warrington after recent defeats will want to see an improvement so it all points to an interesting afternoon..

On the day may the best side win.

Geoff Perks
President Warrington RUFC



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.

**THIS IS
RUGBY.**

Milestones

Game against high flyers Douglas saw another player notch up his 175th first team game.



Powerhouse forward Danny Fleming came off the bench into that game with the task to keep the game in our hands, he went about this as you would expect, quietly determined, destructively carrying and menacingly in defence.

Coming to the club at 16 it didn't take long for Danny to be noticed and make his debut at 17 playing at No.8. Although he doesn't remember the team he debuted against, he vividly recalls being told, by the mild mannered scrum half at the time Matt Hennessey, at a scrum to "put your right foot on it!" Where he promptly picked the ball up to execute his first

and only box kick. Needless to say with the guidance of the ever diplomatic Hennessey he quickly learnt what was actually meant.

During the time Danny has scored 9 tries and is yet to dot down this year, however he can't recall his first try but assured that it would have a 40 yard break with a side step to pass the fullback. If only!! Equally comfortable at second row or back row Danny's become an integral part of the current squad.

Coach Andy Roberts gave this when asked about Danny, "Flembo's the type of player every coach loves having. Determined and dependable. You're always waiting for that next big carry and devastating charge from him."

Congrats on your milestone Danny and hopefully there's a few good years left in the tank.



Pitch side advertising

Opportunity coming soon!!

Warrington RUFC will soon be offering local businesses the opportunity to advertise their business on our spectator barrier. This will be a great way to increase exposure and support the local club.

For information contact warringtonruffc@sky.com

Or call 07977737902



Player Profile : Josh Riley

Age: 25

Position : Lock/Back Row

Club Player Since : 1998

1st XV Debut : .

Career record so far: 123 apps. 5 tries

Memorable rugby moment: Winning the colts league

Favourite nickname: nerd!!

Favourite biscuit: You guessed it. Ginger nuts!!!

Favourite wine: Argentinian Malbec

Most influential player: Paul Thompson

Josh is proudly sponsored by

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Everything included in Bronze Package plus:
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Use of function room and new balcony (advance booking required)
Access to International tickets
Full page advert in match day program

GOLD PACKAGE: £400^{+VAT}

Silver package for two players.



Friends of Warrington RUFC Annual Lunch

*Saturday 15th December
Warrington Sports Club
Walton Lea Road*

12:15pm Arrival - 1pm Seated

£25/£10 Entrance (Adult/Child)

which includes lunch, a programme and a raffle ticket

Singer Katie Hammond

Prematch meal

1st XV Vs Northwich RUFC

2nd XV Vs Liverpool Uni Vets RUFC

3rd XV Vs Newcastle RUFC (Staffs)

Everyone is welcome, men, women and children.

We would welcome donations for raffle prizes i.e. bottles of wine, gin, chocolates and flowers for the ladies, vouchers for the children etc.

For tickets and information contact:

Paul Hockenhull : 07910890395 - phock369@gmail.com

Paul Broadbent : 07770553231 - broadbentpa@outlook.com

Junior Rugby Spotlight

This week we take a look at our ever improving Warrington under 14's

The U14's have made a strong start to the 2018/19 season, our first with a full complement of 15 players on the pitch. Most of the squad have played together for a number of years all through the mini age groups, with a handful of players leaving, joining and even some re-joining after seeing the error of their ways in choosing football previously, so there is a great camaraderie within the group.

Big wins in the opening matches, including a 62-7 thrashing of Mold over the Welsh border, set the tone for the opening games in this year's Lancashire Cup. Following a below par season as U13's we found ourselves relegated to the 2nd division of the qualifying groups; the target we've set for this season is to finish in the top 2 of the division to qualify for the Cup Quarter Final draw later on.

So far we're well on target; 4 wins from 4 over Rochdale, Blackburn Sedgley Park and Rossendale, all by the maximum winning margin of 30 points, whilst only conceding 1 try in the process.

This puts us top of the group, with a showdown against the other uneaten team, Liverpool St Helens, fast approaching - it should be a tough encounter, but the boys are really eager to take them on.

Outside of the Lancashire Cup our biggest game of the season so far was undoubtedly the trip to Chester, last year's Cheshire Cup finalists and one of the "Big Beasts" of our age group, not to mention a side who totally played us off the park last year. The lads were fired up and really took it to the home side, with scores being traded until it was 10-10 with only 8 minutes left, the game being settled in the final seconds when Chester scored on a breakaway, to run out 20-10 winners.

The boys have clearly gained in confidence from that performance, and it showed when we travelled to Vale of Lune and Sefton in November. Both sides are in the 1st Division of the Lancashire Cup, and any chance of us "sneaking" into the quarter finals and being underestimated has no doubt been dashed after beating Vale 45-7 and Sefton 17-12, a team who are unbeaten so far in the Cup.

In all we've played 14 matches, 12 wins, 1 draw and 1 defeat; the average score being a 41-8 win.

We've a squad of 24 players; we haven't got the biggest set of lads so our game is based on keeping the ball alive, with a mobile pack aiming to provide quick, clean ball to the pacy, skilful backline. As a sign of how much we like move the ball out wide, our wingers have scored 40% of all our tries this season, a stat I doubt many teams at our age can come close to matching.

The talent we have hasn't gone un-noticed, with 7 players in the Sale Sharks Developing Player Programme - forwards Stephen Antrobus, Josh Maskery and Alex Senior, along with backs Adam Whalley, Archie Caldwell, Conor Keane and Ben Hartill, who is also on the Warrington Wolves player programme.



Finally, the U14's wish Warrington 1st Team the best of luck in their match against Anselmians!

Mark Antrobus, coach U14's

Player Appearances

Name		Games this year	Career total	Tries this season	Career total
Arnold	Tom	2 + 1	63		29
Barker	Joel	8 + 2	?		
Beesley	Nathan	12	80	9	66
Caldwell	Max	2 + 3	62	1	21
Callander	Sean	10	108	1	6
Dixon	Ben	1	9		
Downes	Josh	11	52	1	4
Emmitt	Luke	3+2	5		
Evans	Jonny	9 + 2	28		2
Fleming	Dan	7 + 2	176		9
Gilooly	Luke	3	13		1
Griffiths	Dan	1 + 4	35	1	6
Hannon	Jack	8	18		1
Hughes	Kieran	10	116	9	116
Kellett	Harry	1 + 1	12		
Lynch	Phil	9	88	2	6
Maudsley	Will	1 + 1	4	1	1
McEniff	Tom	9 + 1	13	2	3
Norman	Darren	6	32	1	6
O'Rourke	Clement	8 + 4	106	1	3
Pilkington	Steve	12	109	5	48
Riley	Josh	8 + 1	123		5
Roberts	Andy	2	96		21
Stewart	Alex	4 + 5	9	1	1
Thompson	Paul	9 + 1	272		23
Ward	Jon	1 + 1	37		1
White	Chris	11 + 1	79	2	20
Wood	Tom	12	177	1	54

Statistics Correct as of 7/12/18

North One West

#	Team	PI	HW	HD	HL	AW	AD	AL	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts	Adj	Recent Form
1.	Carlisle	12	5	0	0	5	0	2	10	0	2	395	228	167	50	10	W W W W W
2.	Stockport	12	5	0	0	3	0	4	8	0	4	340	287	53	40	8	W W L W L
3.	Northwich	12	3	1	1	4	0	3	7	1	4	346	292	54	39	9	W W W W W
4.	Douglas (I.O.M.)	12	6	0	1	1	0	4	7	0	5	299	189	110	37	9	L L W L L
5.	Penrith	12	6	0	1	1	0	4	7	0	5	357	343	14	37	9	W L W W W
6.	Birkenhead Park	12	4	0	2	3	0	3	7	0	5	304	271	33	35	7	W L L W L
7.	Blackburn	12	4	0	1	2	1	4	6	1	5	272	236	36	35	9	W W L L L
8.	Firwood Waterloo	12	5	0	2	1	0	4	6	0	6	273	237	36	33	9	L L W L W
9.	Broughton Park	12	6	0	1	1	0	4	7	0	5	291	202	89	32	4	W W W W L
10.	Warrington	12	4	0	0	2	0	6	6	0	6	301	253	48	31	7	L W L W L
11.	Manchester	12	4	0	2	1	0	5	5	0	7	310	379	-69	28	8	L L W W L
12.	Burnage	12	5	0	1	0	0	6	5	0	7	317	351	-34	27	7	L W L L L
13.	Anselmians	12	1	0	6	1	0	4	2	0	10	191	352	-161	11	3	L L L L W
14.	De La Salle (Salford)	12	0	0	7	0	0	5	0	0	12	144	520	-376	4	4	L L L L L

Division 1

#	Team	PI	HW	HD	HL	AW	AD	AL	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts	Adj	Recent Form
1.	Birkenhead Park Wanderers (2nd XV)	11	5	0	0	5	1	0	10	1	0	470	165	305	42	0	W W W W D
2.	Sandbach 2nd XV	11	5	0	0	5	0	1	10	0	1	608	157	451	41	0	W W W L W
3.	Warrington 2nd XV	11	2	0	1	4	0	4	6	0	5	277	272	5	31	2	L L W L W
4.	Burnage 2nd XV	11	1	1	4	4	0	1	5	1	5	332	342	-10	28	1	W L L W D
5.	Broughton Park 2nd XV	11	3	0	2	2	0	4	5	0	6	291	355	-64	27	1	W L L W W
6.	Kirkby Lonsdale 2nd XV	11	3	0	3	1	2	2	4	2	5	238	298	-60	26	1	L W D W D
7.	Penrith A XV	11	4	0	3	0	0	4	4	0	7	379	335	44	24	1	W L W L L
8.	Fylde Saracens (3rd XV)	11	3	0	3	1	0	4	4	0	7	316	303	13	24	2	L W L L L
9.	Liverpool University Veterinarians	11	3	0	3	2	0	3	5	0	6	284	303	-19	24	0	L W L W W
10.	Altrincham Kersal (2nd XV)	11	4	0	1	0	0	6	4	0	7	197	431	-234	23	0	W L W L L
11.	Sedgley Park 3rd XV	11	2	1	2	1	0	5	3	1	7	160	492	-332	22	1	L W D L W
12.	Glossop 2nd XV	11	2	1	4	1	0	3	3	1	7	233	332	-99	21	0	L L W L D

North One West Fixtures 2018-2019

Date	Opposition	Result	Sponsor
01 Sept	Birkenhead Park (A)	15-19 W	
08 Sept	Northwich (A)	10-20 W	
15 Sept	Burnage (A)	32-25 L	
22 Sept	Blackburn (A)	20-21 L	
29 Sept	Stockport (H)	23-17 W	Chairman's Carvery
13 Oct	Carlisle (A)	20-25 L	
20 Oct	Manchester (H)	48-22 W	
27 Oct	Firwood Waterloo (A)	31-3 L	
3 Nov	De la Salle (Salford) (H)	66-0 W	
17 Nov	Penrith (A)	22-20 L	
24 Nov	Douglas (I.O.M) (H)	26-22 W	
1 Dec	Broughton Park (A)	35-10 L	
8 Dec	Anselmians (H)		
15 Dec	Northwich (H)		Friends of Warrington RUFC
5 Jan 2019	Burnage (H)		
12 Jan	Blackburn (H)		
19 Jan	Stockport (A)		
26 Jan	Carlisle (H)		
9 Feb	Manchester (A)		
16 Feb	Firewood Waterloo (A)		
2 Mar	De la Salle (Salford) (A)		
9 Mar	Penrith (H)		
23 Mar	Douglas (I.O.M) (A)		
30 Mar	Broughton Park (H)		
6 Apr	Anselmians (A)		
13 Apr	Birkenhead Park (H)		

WARRINGTON RUFC ARE PROUD TO BE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



Warrington RUFC vs. Anselmians RUFC

WARRINGTON RUFC
Colours: Green, Scarlet & White.

ANSELMIAN RUFC
Colours: Navy Blue, Amber & White.

Saturday 8th December 2018, Kick off 2:15pm

Referee: John Pemberton, Manchester Society

15	Max Caldwell	Sponsorship Available	Ben Sadler	15
14	Darren Norman	Sponsorship Available	Adam Bramhall	14
13	Kieran Hughes	Sponsorship Available	Charlie Hough	13
12	Steven Pilkington	H G Wood Ltd	Sammy Russell	12
11	Tom McEniff	Sponsorship Available	Ben O'Connor	11
10	Tom Wood	H G Wood Ltd	Andy Cummings (capt)	10
9	Ben Dixon	Sponsorship Available	Liam Isaacs	9
8	Danny Fleming	Sponsorship Available	Marty Dowler	8
7	Sean Callander (capt)	Lignum Recruitment	Will Grabe	7
6	Jonny Evans	Sponsorship Available	Nick Lamming	6
5	Josh Riley	3M Technologies	Joshua Jones	5
4	Phil Lynch	Blue Group	Niall Cavanagh	4
3	Nick Povey	Sponsorship Available	J Whitelock-Wainwright	3
2	Alex Stewart	Sponsorship Available	Scott Southwell	2
1	Christian White	Fiona Kellett Physiotherapy	Mark Williams	1
16	Jon Ward	Sponsorship Available	Jack Richards	16
17	Dan Griffiths	Sponsorship Available	Nick Hearn	17
18	Ben Dixon	Sponsorship Available	Ewan Nolan	18
Andy Roberts		Coach	Andy McKinney	

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***

Broughton Park 1st XV 35 - 10 Warrington 1st XV

Warrington travelled to their bogey ground in Chorlton for the first time in two years And once again they returned to Walton Lea Road with no points to show for their efforts, as they were well beaten by a well-drilled, physical Broughton Park outfit. The loss sees Warrington drop to tenth in the North 1 West league, while a resurgent Park now move above them into ninth.



It didn't take long for the home side to get the electronic scoreboard ticking over. After five minutes, a pin-point grubber kick from their talented stand-off was pounced on over the line by their right wing and Broughton were five points ahead. The sides then exchanged penalties before Warrington suffered the loss of their iconic skipper, Josh Downes, with a head injury. Broughton then went further ahead when a speculative high kick was misfielded by Warrington was dutifully punished with a try and the conversion took Park into a 15-3 lead.

Ten minutes later, Park went further ahead when they took advantage of the referee's confusion with a quick tap penalty five yards out and their heavyweight pack crashed over under the post to give their kicker a simple conversion. Warrington looked to be cutting the deficit when a beautiful floated pass from Tom Wood found Nathan Beesley in space and the speedster kicked ahead and seemed to be heading for a touchdown when the referee, rightly, stopped play because of a serious leg injury to a Park forward. The game was then halted for 50 minutes to wait for an ambulance and, hopefully, he will make a good recovery. When the teams returned to play out the remaining ten minutes of the first half, it was, surprisingly, Warrington who seemed to have adjusted better and a lovely break from Kieran Hughes, followed by a delicate chip, saw Nathan Beesley touch down under the post and then convert his try so that the sides turned round with the score 22-10 to Park.

Because of the gathering gloom, the whole of the second half was played under floodlights. Unfortunately with the lights switched on, Warrington seemed to have switched off. They could find no answer to Park's rushing defence, although this constantly flirted with the offside line. As a result, they were unable to generate any real forward momentum so that they were held almost totally in their own half. Park took advantage by kicking a second penalty and then increased their lead when their left centre sidestepped over to allow an easy conversion. A third Park penalty completed the scoring, although Warrington did have a chance of a consolation try when Jack Hannon slipped through a gap but failed to see Kieran Hughes on his shoulder.



"We were well beaten today," conceded coach Andy Roberts. "We were out of sorts from the start and failed to compete in many areas. Hopefully, we can rediscover our mojo for the four home games ahead."



Photo's brilliantly provided by Alex Scott.
www.alscottfrugbyphotographer.wordpress.com

Warrington 1st XV 26 - 22 Douglas 1st XV (IoM)

More than once this season, Warrington have come back after being behind at half time. However, on Saturday, after establishing a 26-3 half-time lead, they managed to hang on to their unbeaten home record against an accomplished visiting side, whose relentless pressure in the second half saw them score 19 unanswered points to provide a nail-biting finish



Tom Wood take the ball 15 metres to score in the corner. Darren Norman extended the lead to 12-0 with an excellent conversion.

Although Douglas opened their account with a penalty try, the home side had the wind in their sails and Pilkington added to his impressive try tally by racing over from 15 metres. That score was followed by an excellent switch move between Tom Wood and Kieran Hughes, which saw the exciting centre take an exquisite line to scorch over between the posts and the Darren Norman conversion established what seemed to be a commanding 26-3 lead at half time.



Little did Warrington know that they were not to score again as a determined and talented away side took charge in the second half and hardly allowed the Warrington backs any ball. Wave after wave of attacks were repelled. The home defence was hard working and generally sound but, attacking at pace, the Douglas backs got their just reward by scoring three tries and left the home side battered and hanging on for a very hard-earned victory.



“Douglas are a good experienced side,” said coach Andy Roberts, “and perhaps we relaxed too much at half time. But our scrummaging was good and, with the ball, we are as good as anyone. We are a young side and I hope we will absorb lessons from this game. We are undefeated at home and now we face a run of games over Christmas at Walton Lea. However, a tough game at Broughton Park awaits us next week. There are no easy games in this league

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GOLD PACKAGE: £400+VAT

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Broughton Park 2nd XV 40 - 7 Warrington 2nd XV

Warrington's young second team suffered a mauling at the hands of a heavier, more experienced Broughton Park outfit but the veterans in the side, notably the front row, the evergreen Mark Tickle and their iconic captain, Craig Byrnes, ensured that they were not disgraced. Although they lost, they still retain their third position in the Sale Sharks league.



Broughton Park soon showed their strength up front when they took advantage of weak Warrington tackling to bully their way over for two converted tries. A well-worked catch-and-drive game them a further seven points and the sides turned round with Warrington 21 points adrift.

Park increased their lead within minutes of the restart but Warrington responded strongly and were held up three times over the line. Unfortunately, the score would not come and Park took advantage of another Warrington lapse when they broke out of their own five metre zone and ran 90 yards to take their tally to 35.

Warrington eventually got on the score sheet when their captain courageous, Craig Byrne, playing on with a head injury sustained in the first forty minutes, hustled over for a try in the corner. Shaun McDermott converted from the touchline, with a grace that bodes well for his forthcoming appearance in St Rocco's Strictly Come Dancing competition. However, Park had the last word when they crossed again to take their total to 40.



"We were really up against it today," commented a still-dazed Craig Byrne. "Park had too much fire-power up front but I was pleased with the performance of the pack generally and with our two 17 year-old wingers, Luke Turner and Tom Heaps."



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Perky's Paragraph – Warrington Vikings

On Tuesday 4th December saw a reunion of people who played with what can only be described as a great attitude to 'course' rugby. The gathering organised by Tony Norcross with guest of honour John Skelton, menu was pie and peas and beer from a jug, oh boy those were the days. Numerous stories were recounted of the Vikings exploits from many games, tours, home and abroad which were organised under the guidance of the 'Leader' the late Kenny Wilkinson, players were given a piece of paper some of which were marked if you drew a marked paper it was a way of telling players they weren't playing that day such was the 'talent' that wanted to play, so the infamous 'the black spot' was born. The referee was the legendary Alan Peaker whose who had a style of his own and the players of both sides were mystified by some of his decisions, on one occasion he started the game with a penalty for the opposition, Kenny asked why, Alan replied that Charles Warburton had called him an obscene name in their previous home game.

Rugby has changed so much from those Vikings days of the late 60's and 70's when those rugby players knew how to enjoy themselves and perhaps did things that would never be allowed in today's world. One can only remember those heady days of yesteryear and they certainly were by the ex-players who came on a memorable lunchtime in 2018.

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Christmas time memories

From the season 2011/12, the season had started dreadfully with the 1sts losing all 13 games from the first half of the season. With that the start of the return fixtures prompted a Lazarus style reversal which just 18 months later would provide the level of rugby we see regularly at Walton Lea. This season saw many new faces as debuts were made by current members of the squad, Tom Arnold, Phil Lynch & Tom Wood,

South Lancs/Cheshire Division One 2011/12												
Pos.	Team	P	W	D	L	PF	PA	+/-	TS	LS	LB	Pts
1	Sale	26	26	0	0	1486	248	1238	26	0	130	
2	New Brighton	26	19	1	6	650	433	217	12	1	91	
3	Bowdon	26	17	0	9	539	480	59	6	5	79	
4	Tyldesley	26	15	2	9	533	512	21	11	3	78	
5	Wigan	26	15	0	11	573	557	16	8	6	74	
7	Haylake	26	15	1	10	434	463	-29	4	2	68	
6	Ashton-on-Mersey	26	10	1	15	475	525	-50	5	8	55	
8	West Park (St Helens)	26	12	1	13	476	551	-75	7	7	54	
9	Orrell	26	9	2	15	435	610	-175	6	4	50	
10	Glossop	26	9	1	16	441	556	-115	5	9	47	
11	Winnington Park	26	9	0	17	497	667	-170	7	4	47	
12	Warrington	26	9	0	17	419	548	-129	4	6	46	
13	Liverpool College	26	6	1	17	397	686	-289	2	5	41	
14	Ormskirk	26	4	0	22	296	815	-519	1	5	17	

What a difference 12 months makes!!

South Lancs/Cheshire Division One 2012/13												
Pos.	Team	P	W	D	L	PF	PA	+/-	TS	LS	LB	Pts
1	Warrington	26	25	0	1	1104	509	795	22	0	122	
2	Broughton Park	26	24	0	2	1173	234	939	19	1	116	
3	West Park (St Helens)	26	17	0	9	645	492	153	14	3	85	
4	New Brighton	26	15	1	10	660	487	173	15	6	81	
5	Glossop	26	15	0	11	586	443	143	9	6	75	
6	Wigan	26	14	0	12	577	509	68	11	3	70	
7	Haylake	26	16	0	10	554	425	129	7	1	67	
8	Winnington Park	26	13	0	13	627	640	-13	10	4	66	
9	Crewe & Nantwich	26	10	0	16	648	683	-35	8	6	54	
10	Ruskin Park	26	10	0	16	419	553	-134	5	4	49	
11	Ashton-on-Mersey	26	8	1	17	416	756	-340	5	1	38	
12	Tyldesley	26	6	2	18	452	890	-438	5	1	34	
13	Bowdon	26	6	0	20	316	789	-443	2	3	24	
14	Orrell	26	1	0	25	205	1182	-977	1	3	8	

It also gifted us a work release program with Thorn Cross Young Offenders prison (as it was then) where by as reward for good behaviour selected inmates would do work around the club during the week in order to both train and then play for the club. During this first season of the program 4 players made appearances for the 1st team. This lead to a great idea one evening after training where during the Christmas break we would play the prison team!! Here's the report from that entertaining match.

Warrington XV 50 Thorn Cross XV 26

In the first of what hopefully will become a regular meeting over the festive season, Warrington ran out eventual winners against a scratch side from Thorn Cross but didn't have things all their own way. They soon found out the visitors, inspired by community coach Simon Verbickas, could play a bit and had not come along merely to make up the numbers.

The first ten minutes set the tempo of the game with no quarter asked or given but the gritty Cross defence eventually yielded and Zak Lythgoe, obviously carrying a few extra Christmas pounds, forced his way over in the corner. Matt Rockey converted from the touchline. Warrington scored again within minutes when debutant prop Jordan Rawes burst over close to the sticks. Again Rockey made no mistake. Cross soon replied with a well-deserved try, which allowed their backs to show their pace. Warrington managed two further tries in the first period, through Rockey and Nick Pennington but the score of the half came when first the visitors' powerful number 6 and then their mobile second row combined to break 40 yards to set up a try under the posts.

Warrington began well in the second period when Newens put in a superb pass to Kieran Hughes who scooted through a hole in the defence. At this time, Warrington decided to introduce their impact players, with Dave Nicholls, looking a shade over his best playing weight, under 16 coach Conrad Morris, who did well to last ten minutes and joint first team coach Darren Abram, a controversial replacement for Matt Rockey. Abram's first touch of the ball saw him in space in mid-field and although his pass was scrambled, Haydn Fraser made the most of it to show his electric pace and score. Warrington then scored two more tries without response, first from prop Elliot Johnston and then a second scorching effort from Fraser. But it was Cross who had the last word with two excellent tries. The first came after a 15 yard driving maul and the second, fittingly, went to their number 6 who proved unstoppable from 20 yards out, although his team-mates thought he overdid the curtain calls on his way back to the halfway line.

"This was old-style, beautiful Rugby," said Warrington coach, Steve Riley, after the game. "Without the pressures of league or cup, both sides decided to play open Rugby, with the minimum of kicking. As a result, the game was a great crowd- pleaser and what's probably more important, the players of both sides could congratulate themselves on a hard-fought contest which had moments of pure brilliance."

As it was the prison changed its category and it was to be the only match we had. Although the program did continue for a further season.



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