

## Fixtures and Results 2010 - 11

LGE	Wolves NIW		Vikings SU1		Hawks SU4S		4ths. SUSE	
SEP 4	NORTHWICH	W	Sandbach	W	NORTHWICH	W	Oldham	W
11	Sandbach	W	PENRITH	L	Macclesfield 4	W	ALDWINIANS 5	L
18	WEST PARK ST H	W	West Pk. St. H	W	LYMM	L	Stockport 5	L
25	Wigton	L	Burnage	L	Altrincham Kersal	L	BURNAGE	L
OCT 2	VALE OF LUNE	L	CARLISLE	W	KNUTSFORD 2	W	N Manchester 2	L
9	WIRRAL	W	Blackburn	W	Didsbury TH 4	L	BURY 3	L
16	Altrincham Kersal	L	KENDAL	W	CREWE & NWICH	W	Ashton u Lyne 2	W
23	BROUGHTON PK	W	Preston GH 3	W	Trafford MV	W	DUKINFELD 3	W
30	Burnage	L	STOCKPORT 3	L	MARPLE	W	Broughton Pk 5	W
NOV 4			LIVERPOOL ST. H	L				
NOV 6					MACCLESFIELD	HWO	OLDHAM	W
13	KIRKBY L'SDALE	W	Leigh	W	Old Bedians	W	VILE SPARTANS 1	L
20	Leigh	W	MACCLESFIELD 3	W	WHITCHURCH	W	Broughton 2	W
27	LIVERPOOL ST H	P	Fylde 3	P	ACTON NOMADS 1	P	Heaton Moor 3	P
DEC 4	New Brighton	P	ROCHDALE	P	Didsbury TH	P	ASHTON U LYNE 3	P
11	SANDBACH	L	Penrith	P	MACCLESFIELD 4	P	Aldwinians 5	W
18	West Park St. H	P	WEST PARK ST. H	P	Lymm	P	STOCKPORT 5	P
25								
JAN 1								
8	WIGTON	W	BURNAGE	L	ALTRINCHAM K	W	Burnage	L
15	Vale of Lune	L	Carlisle	W	Knutsford 2	L	N MANCHESTER 2	W
22	Wirral	L	BLACKBURN	P	DIDSBURY TH 4	W	Bury 3	L
29	ALTRINCHAM K	P	Kendal	P	Crewe & Nantwich	P	ASHTON U LYNE 2	P
FEB 5	Broughton Park	P	PRESTON GH 3	W	TRAFFORD MV		Dukinfield 3	
12	LIVERPOOL ST. H		Stockport 3		Marple		BROUGHTON PK 5	
19	BURNAGE							
26	New Brighton							
MAR 5	Kirkby Lonsdale		LEIGH		OLE BEDIANS		Village Spartans 1	
12	LEIGH		Macclesfield 3		Whitchurch		BROUGHTON 2	
19								
26	Liverpool St. H		FYLDE 3		Acton Nomads 1		HEATON MOOR 3	
APR 2								
9	NEW BRIGHTON		Rochdale		DIDSBURY TH 3		ASHTON U LYNE 3	
16	Northwich		SANDBACH		Northwich		OLDHAM	
23								



**Club President**  
**DAVID BARKER**  
**Welcomes**  
**LIVERPOOL ST. HELENS**



It seems a long time ago, in fact the 27th November, since I penned the President's notes for the match against Liverpool St Helens. In that article I mentioned that the autumn colours surrounding the ground were looking marvellous and that Maurice Minns and Grant McKechnie should be congratulated on the state of the pitches. Whilst the first comment is now obviously out dated, the second is even more relevant than it was then. Despite the appalling weather over the last three months the pitches have been wonderfully looked after and are a testament to the hard work of the aforesaid Maurice. I also mentioned that the War Memorial to the twenty one players who gave their lives in the Second World War had been repositioned nearer the flag pole, giving it more prominence.

This afternoon we therefore extend a very warm welcome to the players, committee and supporters of Liverpool St Helens to the Memorial Ground. At present they stand in 3rd place, 4 places above us, but 20 odd points ahead. They had a fine win last weekend against an improving Northwich side so we will have to be at our best to take the points today, especially as I gather that we have one or two of our more experienced players missing.

As for ourselves, we have been bedevilled by postponed matches - last weeks's game against Broughton Park away was no different. I am told that their ground was waterlogged and unplayable but back at Pownall Park the second team home match against Preston was played, in driving rain, with little trouble. This does speak volumes for the wonderful grounds we now have. The previous week the game against Altrincham Kersal was also postponed. This was a great pity as it was the day of the Old Players Reunion. It was a great occasion with many people travelling from all over the country and, whilst there was no rugby to watch, the bar takings, I am advised ,were considerable ! It was very good to catch up with old friends and the event will be much looked forward to next year.

Last weekend, despite the first team game being called off, three other games were played, and a good crowd watched Tim Medwell's Vikings beat a good Preston Grasshoppers side 31 - 5 with young Rob Jones on the wing scoring a hat trick. They lie 5th in this league with several games in hand and I see from our marvellous Pitchero website that Tim is hoping for 2nd. or 3rd. place at the end of the season. The third team under Matt Hamilton, lying 2nd in their league, beat Trafford MV 19 - 0 at home and the 4th team under Andy Duggan recorded a great win away at Dukinfield 39 - 7 and lie a very creditable 7th in their league. I see that I wrote in the original LSH programme that there is a wonderful atmosphere in the Club which in no small measure is due to people like Andy Duggan, Matt Hamilton and 'Medders' and their boys. It is no wonder that players from other clubs drift down after their own games to seek out some amusement.

Finally I was privileged to go the quarter final match of the Daily Mail U18's Schools Cup held at Wilmslow High School between the High School and Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Wakefield on Tuesday afternoon. It was a tremendous match played in great spirit on a lovely day. QEGS employed route 1 rugby which at one stage looked as though it would batter the High School off the pitch. However they stuck to their task with some wonderful defensive work and in the 2nd, half ran the very large QEGS forwards off their feet. They ran out worthy winners 31 - 12 and now play Whitgift in the semi-final. It will be quite an occasion.

## Senior Colts (U19s) Raging Bull Senior Colts League : Division A

SEP 5	CALDY	W	DEC 5	KENDAL	P	Mar 6	League Cup Rd. 1
12	Macclesfield	W	12	Sandbach	P	13	
19	LYMM	L	19	VALE OF LUNE	P	20	League Cup Rd. 2
26	Kendal	C	26			27	Cheshire Cup SF
OCT 3	SANDBACH	C	JAN 2	Kendal	W	APR 3	League Cup SF
10	Vale of Lune	C	9	Widnes	W	10	
17	WIDNES	W	16	ALTRINCHAM K	L	17	League Cup F
24	Altrincham K	L	23	Preston GH		24	
31	SANDBACH	W	30	Caldy			
NOV 7	PRESTON GH	W	FEB 6	Cheshire Cup Rd. 2		MAY 1	Cheshire Cup F
14	MACCLESFIELD	W	13			8	Cock o' the North F
21	Lymm	L	20	League Cup Prel. Rd.			
28	Cheshire Cup Rd. 1	P	27				



2010 - 2011 SEASON  
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**Andy Duggan**

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*Wilmslow RUFC is an open community based club, offering a game to anyone coming through the gates from the age of six upwards - with no upper age limit.*

*Nevertheless, subscriptions and bar receipts are just not sufficient to maintain the wonderful sports field we have here.*

*We, therefore, acknowledge and thank all those individuals and organisations, who have supported the club, the teams and the players this season either by sponsorship, advertising or donation. Without them we just would not be here.*

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**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>. January 2011**

**DAILY MAIL SCHOOLS RUGBY CUP**

**Round 7 (Group A Final)**

**Wilmslow High School 29 – 13 Lancaster Royal Grammar School**

Wilmslow High School's 1<sup>st</sup>. XV played with verve and style against a Lancaster RGS side, who were no slouches themselves, in this Daily Mail Cup Group A final. They scored four well crafted tries through Tom Hudson, Ethan Harding, Sam James and Sam Jafarian to advance to the last eight, where it is expected they will meet the winners of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School Wakefield and Merchant Taylors School. Over five hundred schools from all parts of England had been in the draw.

Late frost on the preceding Thursday and Friday nights had rendered rugby pitches at both the school and Wilmslow Rugby Club unplayable so for the second time in this competition, the match was transferred to Burnage RFC's artificial all weather pitch at Varley Park. It proved to be an excellent decision. The surface was in perfect condition, there was hardly a breath of wind and a bright wintery sun shone down throughout. Conditions for rugby were ideal and the players obliged by playing at pace with few unforced errors in what became technically a very good game .

The Lancastrians were out of their blocks the quickest attacking through the middle with their powerful forwards, controlling and recycling possession. This earned them a penalty shot at goal after just seven minutes. It was the sort of chance that really has to be taken in a match of this intensity and their kicker was off the mark. They were to pay the price when following the drop out the High School got possession and with hard running, good support play and quick passing they released full back Tom Hudson at pace on half way. There was no stopping him as he touched down to give Olly McCall a straightforward conversion.

For much of what followed in the first half, the Lancastrians were seeing more of the ball but for all of their tidy play, they just didn't possess the same cutting edge as their opponents. They made few mistakes but were unable to gain sufficient yardage in the tackle or to put the kind of pace on the ball that would be needed to breakdown the well organised and aggressive defence of the Wilmslow side. For the most part, they were kept well away from their twenty two and at times were driven back into deep defensive positions. Nevertheless, they were on the scoreboard with a penalty after fifteen minutes and as half time approached they managed to string together a series of passes to put their left winger James Ryan in at the corner for a one point lead.

Wilmslow's response was immediate as Luke Tyrell set off from his own half at the gallop and when he was eventually hauled down, it was hardly surprising that the defenders infringed in the ruck under their own posts. McCall made it 10-8 at half time.

Sean Street hadn't being doing anything wrong at scrum half, far from it, but the whole dynamic of the game changed with the emergence of Will Batterby after fifty minutes. Within seconds, he had sucked in the RGS back row before giving McCall just that fraction of a second longer to release his centres for Ethan Harding to simply out pace the defence. Batterby then caused further havoc in the RGS defence being denied only by a forward pass and again it was the attention that he demanded that created a very similar try scored by James out on the left. McCall added the points and with the Wilmslow pack now in charge, it was hard to see any way back for the visitors in the last fifteen minutes.

To their credit, they had a go but the flow was now against them. They looked to have created a possible overlap but a thumping tackle by right winger Sam Jaffarian in his own half not only stopped the ball carrier dead but critically dislodged the ball. In a flash it was snapped up and Jaffarian was quickly to his feet to take an inside pass on halfway for the High School's fourth try. He'll remember the moment for a long time to come.

And then in time added on, the RGS No. 12 crossed for a consolation score which was the least that they deserved for their contribution to what had been was a very good game of rugby, that had been played at pace in a good spirit but with just a touch of edge. The High School march on, still unbeaten, this season and it will now take a very good side to stop them.

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England v France 5.00pm

Sunday 27th. February  
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Saturday 12th. March  
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England v Scotland 3.00pm

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Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>. January 2011  
Wirral 19-13 Wilmslow

North 1 West

This was a game that the Wolves had been expected to win so there was a sense of pain and gloom amongst Wilmslow officials and supporters at the manner of this defeat. Of course, we have all been there before but this time the season had started out with real optimism that the Wolves had the players to be in the mix for league honours. So here we are at the end of January with all such hopes completely mangled. Injuries to proven match winners such as Chris Lillie and Jordan Kennedy, unavailability and departures to other parts of the country have all taken their toll and the draft of new players introduced in recent weeks still have a lot to prove that they are ready for rugby at this level. Where until recently, there had also seemed a never ending conveyor belt of talented back row players to choose from, the supply has just dried up and the captain, born to be a second row, finds himself at No. 6. It's not yet a crisis but captain Mike Clifford and his coaching team now have a real challenge on their hands to raise the team's belief and motivation for the last three months of the season, and in particular to target the winnable games they have left.

The task is made all the more difficult by the announcement that their enigmatic No. 8 Ryan Parkinson has played his last game for the club and is to join Macclesfield. Ryan would dearly have loved being part of a league winning Wilmslow side but time stands still for no man and the opportunity that has arisen there to compete for the No. 6 jersey is just too good to. He'll be a big loss but everyone at Wilmslow will wish him well as he follows in the footsteps of Chris Jones and Charlie Mulchrone.

Wirral were promoted to this league in the autumn and they will be delighted with their progress. All their players have come through local schools and the club's own junior section. They are not amongst the strongest sides in the league but they are well away from the relegation zone and, I suspect, still just a little bit surprised at where they find themselves.

The game started with an electrifying break from Wilmslow full back Matthew King, who very nearly ran all the way to the line. For the next few minutes, the Wolves ran everything and another King break on seven minutes was finished off by Ben Day. From there onwards, the Wirral side slowly gained the upper hand, the Wolves had to change their tactics as slow possession forced them to kick, which they didn't do very well. The Wirral side also looked pretty ordinary in their attempts to run things back, Danny Harvey missing three kickable penalties. The Wolves went 8-0 to the good when Bob MacCallum landed a kick after 35 minutes but Wirral changed their kicker and two strikes by full back Sam Broadbent brought them back to 8-6 at the interval. Overall the game was looking what it was, a mediocre contest between two mid table sides.

And then when it's not going your way, the wheels really can start falling off. Just after half time, the Wolves attempted to inject a bit of pace into the proceedings. An enterprising kick ahead into space was chased by prop Lewis McKay but Broadbent was there first and launched a bombshell into the Wilmslow half and then a howl from the crowd alerted the referee to the fact that Broadbent had been obstructed off the ball by McKay. The referee clearly hadn't seen the incident and it was questionable whether McKay's obstruction had been deliberate or not. Notwithstanding, a penalty was awarded where the ball had landed. It was still a long way out but Broadbent was walking on water by now as he thumped it over the bar. Tales up, the home side produced their best rugby of the game for the next fifteen minutes. Tom Hall, on for Mark Bartlem, got yellow carded as the pressure grew. From a scrum on halfway, a deft kick ahead saw Ben Day caught in possession and when the Wirral forwards were held up, crisp passing created the space for their No 7, Rob Pearl, out loitering on the wing, to score in the corner from where Broadbent converted.



The Wolves then rallied to have the better of the last quarter. Elliot Brierley scored out on the left but Broadbent was soon back kicking his fourth penalty of the afternoon. Back the Wolves came, the game was still winnable but any momentum they threatened to build was always lost with a lack of composure coming from anxiety and a feeling of not getting a fair

rub of the green from the referee. Inaccurate passing, knock ons, infringement in the rucks all handed the initiative back to the home side. The Wolves just didn't have the patience to apply the necessary finish and Wirral were able to hold on for a deserved win without undue alarm.

## Wolves Appearances and Point Scorers : 2010 - 11

	Appearances	Tries	Drop Goals	Penalties	Conversions	Totals
Marc Baldrey	4					
Elliot Brierley	6	4				20
Mark Bartlam	5					
Mike Black	3					
Jimmy Byers	1	2				10
Ricky Chadwick	15					
Dominic Clancy	12					
Chris Clarke	4					
Mike Clifford	16					
Rob Cowley	11					
Ben Day	14	4				20
Alex Donaldson	6					
Tom Hall	3					
Danny Jones	1					
Danny Kennedy	6	2				10
Jordan Kennedy	6	4				20
James Keys	5					
Matthew King	14	9				45
Chris Lee	15	1				5
Harrison Lewis	4					
Chris Lillie	9	11				55
Stuart Lindsey	8	3				15
Josh Longmore	14			2	3	12
Ollie Longmore	9	1				5
Bob MacCallum	16	2		26	20	128
Lewis MacKay	14	1				5
Liam MacRea	7					
Paul Noone	3					
Tom Noot	4	1				5
Adam Parkinson	1					
Ryan Parkinson	16	3				15
Chris Price	2					
Tom Reynor	1					
Alex Taylor	10					
Jamie Thomas	3					
Craig Stewart	6	1				5
Jack Walmsley	8					
Matt Williams	2					

## N 1 WEST LEADING POINT SCORERS 2011

Player	Team	Con	Pen	DG	T	Pts
Greg Smith	Liverpool St Helens	43	30	0	9	221
Ronan O'Brien	Broughton Park	32	24	0	2	146
Bob MacCallum	Wilmslow	20	26	0	2	128
Richard Dale	Northwich	23	12	0	2	92
Sean Rogers	Altrincham Kersal	13	16	2	2	90
Daniel Harvey	Wirral	10	21	0	1	88
Neale Foster	Vale of Lune	16	8	0	5	81
Ian Stanley	Liverpool St Helens	0	0	0	15	75
Adedayo Titiloye	Broughton Park	0	0	0	14	70
Darren Wilson	Vale of Lune	0	0	0	13	65
Chris Stewart	Altrincham Kersal	9	7	0	5	64
Paul Lewis	New Brighton	14	9	2	0	61
Jp Singleton	Altrincham Kersal	0	0	0	11	55
Christian Lillie	Wilmslow	0	0	0	9	45
Fergus Owens	Vale of Lune	0	0	0	9	45
James Moore	Vale of Lune	11	1	0	4	45
Jamie Harrison	Broughton Park	0	0	0	8	40
James Hodder	Vale of Lune	5	0	0	6	40
Sam Broadbent	Wirral	3	11	0	0	39
Terry Knapman	Leigh	8	5	0	1	36
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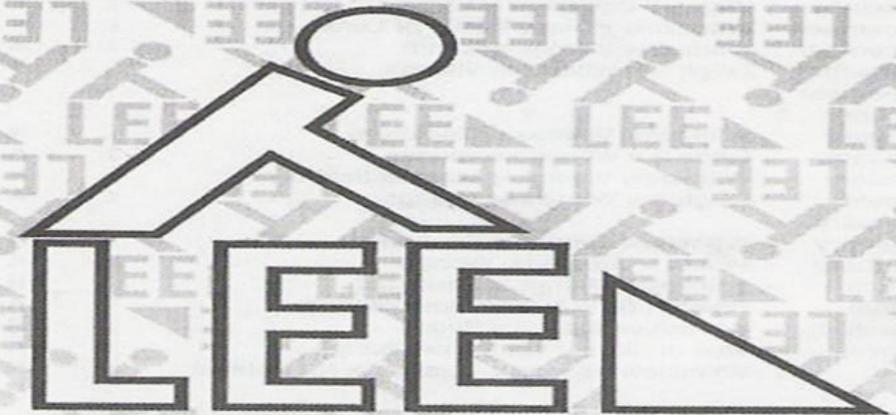
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It was a tough day for photography last Saturday as these ghostly images from the Vikings match with Preston GH show. Some might call them modern art!

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# LIVERPOOL ST. HELENS FOOTBALL CLUB

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When I penned my original notes for this match back on 27th. November, our visitors were lying fifth in the table with 7 wins, 3 losses, 34 points and 9 Ian Stanley tries. They were just one point ahead of Wilmslow. Fast forward to this weekend and they have now won another six games on the trot, last week dealing with the potential banana skin that is Northwich, for 61 league points and third place in the league. Ian Stanley is now the league's leading try scorer with 15. In contrast, Wilmslow have won just once in the same period and are now 23 points behind but with two games in hand. Clearly LSH are the form side but whether they can still overhaul Altrincham Kersal and Burnage is debateable.

They had arrived here last March in a similar position when they still had an outside chance of making the play offs. The odds were in their favour of beating a Wilmslow side short of many of its first choice players but they still had tough away assignments against Northwich and Kersal to come and eventually finished fourth. Things look far more promising this year as after today they only have two away fixtures left and all this season's main contenders to play at home.

They had to work hard to beat the Wolves 27-17 last March. It was all square going into the last five minutes, the Wolves had enjoyed a good second half and were in no mood to settle for a draw and that was their undoing. A bold flat pass intended for Elliot Brierley on the wing was intercepted by Ian Stanley and finding no one at home, he was able to just saunter in under the posts. A penalty to extend the margin a minute later was neither here nor there.

It was Stanley's fifth interception try of the season, in which he scored around twenty five tries for his team, and his second significant intervention of the afternoon, the first being when he had got back to deny Charlie Mulchrone early in the second half with what looked to many observers like a blatant body check. The referee, however, saw the incident more kindly and merely awarded Wilmslow a penalty, despite the loudly expressed opinion of the partisan home support, who thought that something more should have been awarded.

Their win though probably just put the record straight for a 35 – 20 loss at Moss Lane the previous autumn. The Wolves had probably put on their best display of the season in scoring four tries from James Partington, Jordan Kennedy and Callum Manton, none of whom will be playing today for all the reasons which have so held back our progress this season. The Wolves cause was undoubtedly helped by the surfeit of yellow cards issued to LSH players on the day by the zealous referee from Durham.



Pictures from 27 March 2010

# Vikings, Developmentals & Ravens

## University of Salford Leagues : Division 1

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts	Ad
Burnage 2nd XV	18	15	1	2	645	185	460	64	0
Penrith RFC A XV	15	13	0	2	548	164	384	54	0
Stockport 3rd XV	16	10	0	6	340	277	63	46	0
Kendal 2nd XV	15	9	0	6	420	345	75	42	0
Wilmslow 2nd XV	14	9	0	5	326	276	50	41	0
Sandbach 2nd XV	15	8	0	7	417	250	167	39	0
Rochdale 2nd XV	16	7	1	8	292	377	-85	38	0
Carlisle Crusaders (2nd XV)	13	8	0	5	244	247	-3	37	0
Macclesfield 3rd XV	15	8	0	7	296	303	-7	36	-2
Preston Grasshoppers 3rd XV	16	5	0	11	292	432	-140	31	0
Leigh 2nd XV	14	5	0	9	242	328	-86	29	0
Fylde Saracens (3rd XV)	16	3	2	11	257	508	-251	24	-2
Blackburn 2nd XV	15	3	0	12	150	465	-315	23	0
West Park (St Helens) 2nd XV	16	2	0	14	159	471	-312	19	-2

## University of Salford Leagues : Division 4 South

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts	Adj
Lymm 3rd XV	15	15	0	0	404	123	281	60	0
Wilmslow 3rd XV	15	11	0	4	548	215	333	48	0
Altrincham Kersal 3rd XV	13	10	0	3	443	147	296	43	0
Northwich 3rd XV	15	8	0	7	319	363	-44	39	0
Trafford MV 3rd XV	17	7	1	9	277	452	-175	39	0
Crewe and Nantwich 3rd XV	16	7	0	9	212	396	-184	37	0
Marple 3rd XV	14	7	0	7	358	259	99	35	0
Whitchurch 3rd XV	13	7	0	6	341	236	105	34	0
Didsbury Toc H 4th XV	16	6	0	10	206	430	-224	34	0
Didsbury Toc H 3rd XV	14	6	1	7	311	236	75	33	0
Acton Nomads	15	6	0	9	221	281	-60	33	0
Old Bedians 2nd XV	16	5	0	11	251	394	-143	31	0
Knutsford 2nd XV	16	4	1	11	208	464	-256	26	-2
Macclesfield 4th XV	13	3	1	9	205	308	-103	20	-3

## University of Salford Leagues : Division 5 East

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts	Adj
Bury 3rd XV	13	12	0	1	485	127	358	49	0
Burnage 4th XV	14	11	0	3	368	226	142	47	0
North Manchester 2nd XV	15	10	0	5	479	275	204	45	0
Broughton Park 5th XV	15	10	0	5	494	311	183	45	0
Oldham 4th XV	14	9	0	5	437	247	190	41	0
Village Spartans	14	9	0	5	508	324	184	41	0
Wilmslow 4th XV	16	8	0	8	469	325	144	40	0
Stockport 5th XV	15	8	0	7	331	261	70	39	0
Heaton Moor 3rd XV	15	6	0	9	383	369	14	32	0
Aldwinians 5th XV	15	4	0	11	238	676	-438	27	0
Ashton-Under-Lyne 2nd XV	14	4	0	10	218	359	-141	24	0
Dukinfield 3rd XV	16	2	0	14	233	637	-404	22	0
Broughton 2nd XV	16	3	0	13	173	679	-506	19	-4
Macclesfield 4th XV	13	3	1	9	205	308	-103	20	-3

**Saturday 8th. January**  
Vikings 6—24 Burnage  
Developmentals 13-5 Altrincham Kersal  
Ravens 7—10 Burnage

**Saturday 15th. January**  
Carlisle 3—5 Vikings  
Knutsford 12—10 Developmentals  
Ravens 34—22 Nth. Manchester

**Saturday 22nd. January**  
Developmentals 73—3 Didsbury TOC H  
Bury 27-21 Ravens

**Saturday 5th. November**  
Vikings 31—5 Preston GH3  
Developmentals 19—0 Trafford MV  
Dukinfield 7—39 Ravens

It may well have been filthy and foul underfoot for our University of Salford league teams last weekend but they all returned good results.

The Vikings scored five tries through Rob Jones (3), Danny Jones and Ricky Chadwick against Grasshoppers. They set off at a scorching pace to lead 17-0 after just twenty minutes and were never really threatened after that.

Afterwards it was farewell to Johnny Newsham, off to Oz, for a couple of years and Chris Clarke, who's leaving the district. Best wishes to both of them.

The Developmentals kept their promotion challenge alive against Trafford MV

And finally, Duggan's Ravens climbed into the top half of their league, a fine achievement in their first season of league rugby.

Geoff Knight reports a match played at Dukinfield in ankle deep pools, of driving rain, of weighed down kit drenched in mud and of conditions that must have been reminiscent of the Somme nearly a century ago.

And skating as if by magic over all of this was the wizard that is Gareth Jones.

For Geoff Knight's full lyrical report, go to the website . It's a classic read.

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# Dumped Out Sunday

**Sunday 6th. February 2011 will not go down as one of the great days in the annals of Wilmslow Junior Rugby. The U13s, 15s and 16s all lost their Cheshire Cup matches, effectively ending the meaningful part of their season. Only the U14s remain and they play their postponed match against Marple tomorrow.**



The U15s hopes of an extended Cup run were seen off by rivals from Sandbach. In an evenly contested game, punctuated by an excess of whistle from referee Harries, it ended up three tries each but the Sandbach kicker was able to deal with the blustery conditions by landing all three

of his kicks to none by his Wilmslow oppo. The Wilmslow side really needed to have taken greater advantage of the conditions in the first half, when they turned round 10-0 ahead, because it was always going to be difficult after that against the prevailing wind. Despite that, the team raised their game in the second half and had their opportunities on more than one occasion.

Sandbach's first score came from a determined run by their chunky centre and their next two were both long range scores as they caught Wilmslow on the counter, their winning score coming when a Wilmslow attack broke down just 5 metres short of the line. A last minute score by the Wilmslow boys was too late to affect the outcome.

It was Sandbach too that edged out the U16s by 7-5. Everyone knew that this would be a fierce battle between two evenly matched sides. A first half score from Sandbach No. 8 Taos Grisdale, battering his way through three defenders and conversion from Jack Moran proved decisive in the end. In response, the Wilmslow boys threw everything they had in their armoury at the home side, were held up over the line on several occasions and only got their score in the dying moments. A full match report is reproduced elsewhere in this magazine.

It was a bad day for the U13s, who lost their cup game by 46 points to Bowdon. According to their coaches, they stuck to their task throughout but the longer the game went on, the more it was the Bowdon side who were coming up with the answers. In particular a classy looking young fly half, who scored three tries.

## REFEREES LEARN THE ART OF SCRUMMAGING

David Barker had been interested to read an article in The Telegraph last week which was about the steps being made by the IRB to enlighten referees at the highest levels at what goes on in the scrum and the various techniques used by players to unsettle it or just to bring it down. As part of the exercise, they were receiving tuition from some of the past masters of the art of front row play particularly to help them to recognise who's doing what and why. The IRB want to see a reduction in down time from the number of scrums collapsing or having to be reset.

Our visitor's president, Ray French, also makes some pertinent points on front row play and scrummaging in both Union and League on the LSH web site. Well worth reading.

The point I would like to make in this column is that what is sauce for the gander should also be sauce for the goose and that if the top referees are deemed to require some extra tuition then what about the rest. It sure wouldn't do any harm if this coaching was extended to referees at our level, many of whom I'm convinced would learn a lot. It could be argued that it's even more difficult to referee scrum play at the lower levels as the exponents will not generally be as skilled, as strong or as knowledgeable as those encountered in the higher reaches. Nevertheless, it is still extremely annoying for a prop to be pinged, when he knows that he hasn't infringed or worse still for an opponent to get away with pulling down, twisting, not properly binding or quite simply conning a referee because he's unclear as to what he should be looking for to deal with the miscreants.



## THE ROAD TO WIGTON

It was bound to happen sometime and sure enough a fortnight ago it did and Broughton Park were the victims. They had been in contact with the Wigtonians since the Thursday night and been assured that it would take more than a few drops of Cumbrian rain to make their new relaid and heavily drained pitch unplayable.

What's more, their groundsman was certain that his precautionary pitch covering would prevent the frost from getting at it. So off they went, up the M6, in a charabanc costing £450 for the day, only to be told on arrival, that a decision had been made half an hour earlier to cancel.

And will there be any recompense for Park? No need to ask that one and as for the rearranged date, I'd expect that to be in May sometime, or even later, when it can be decided whether the outcome of this match will have any bearing on promotional and relegational issues. That seems unlikely so I'd be surprised if Park were to bother themselves with another journey to West Cumbria this season.

RAGING BULL SENIOR COLTS LEAGUE DIVISION A

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts	Ad
Lymm Senior Colts	15	14	0	1	489	152	337	43	0
Caldy Senior Colts	15	11	1	3	475	209	266	38	0
Widnes Senior Colts	15	9	0	6	274	286	-12	33	0
Vale of Lune Senior Colts	14	8	1	5	280	205	75	31	0
Altrincham Kersal Senior Colts	15	8	0	7	299	331	-32	31	0
Kendal Senior Colts	15	7	0	8	327	251	76	29	0
Wilmslow Senior Colts	15	8	0	7	281	333	-52	29	0
Preston Grasshoppers Senior Colts	14	4	0	10	246	408	-162	22	0
Sandbach Senior Colts	16	3	0	13	278	500	-222	20	-1
Macclesfield Senior Colts	16	2	0	14	195	469	-274	20	0

# REARRANGED MATCH DATES

**26th. February**  
New Brighton  
Away

**19th. March**  
West Park  
Away

**TBA**  
Altrincham Kersal Home  
Broughton Pk Away

**Wilmslow's first and third teams were both away to Liverpool on this occasion, travelling together on the same coach. It must have been 1951.**

**PETER POIZER AND JOHN HOLLOWAY REMEMBER A TRACK LAYING INCIDENT AFTER PLAYING LIVERPOOL SIXTY YEARS AGO**

Our captain was Ian Smith, one of the founders of the Parachute Regiment, one of the first Commandos, who had spent the war in S.O.E., MC and Bar and a leader of men, bar none. His close friend was Brian Walker, a

submariner. He was a big man with a huge sense of humour who could charm the birds out of the trees. I recall that he was playing on the thirds that day.

From the Liverpool club and ground, we went to a pub called The Temple in the city centre, known as something of an infamous establishment. We had a couple of pints each and then as we left, we came across a track laying gang removing and replacing setts from between the tram lines running adjacent to the pub.

Ian decided the workers could do with a break so he offered some assistance. The gang readily agreed and sped into the boozier we had just left. We all set to and removed some more setts until we heard an ominous rumble and looked up to see a tram approaching. Ian thought quickly and held up his hand to stop the tram, which it did, and informed the driver that it would be unsafe to travel on the line over the next thirty yards or so because all the setts had been removed.

The driver was not at all pleased as nobody at the depot had informed him of any problems on the line and he would therefore proceed as normal. Ian called his chief ganger, Brian Walker, to discuss the matter. They then approached the driver again and told him that if the passengers got off, for their own safety, then he could drive slowly down the work in progress and the passengers could walk the thirty yards or so alongside the tram before getting back on again.



The driver reluctantly agreed, about twenty passengers disembarked, the tram slowly passed over the problem area, the passengers rejoined the vehicle and it slowly moved off.

We moved off in the other direction much faster.

We can't help thinking now that if the incident had happened more recently, we would all have been detained at Her Majesty's Pleasure.

An idle conversation at our last home game in November prompted me to ask Geoff Mitchell, one of our past captains (1955-6 and 58-9), past presidents and long-time programme producer, to write my half-page today, so here are his thoughts.



In writing about Liverpool St. Helens, I confess that my knowledge relates more to the period when they were separate clubs, says Geoff, which means that the players from the two clubs that I knew, mainly as opponents though occasionally as team mates, were from an era known only to the more elderly readers of this programme.

## Fisher's Half Page

Liverpool, founded in 1857, is the oldest club in the union and throughout the years regularly fielded International players, notably in my time, Martin Regan (England) and Reg. Higgins (England and British Lions). A little later came Ted Rudd, Tom Brophy, Mike Slemen, Maurice Colclough and Fran Cotton. In all seven of my Roses matches (for Yorkshire), Martin was stand-off and Reg was often my direct opposite and also when he was playing for Liverpool, Royal Signals, Northern Command and in an England International trial.

Other notable opponents were J.K. Williams, a prop forward who died at a tragically early age; Ray Lee, an unassuming but effective centre; George Gummerson, a fine full-back, Tom Hackett, a centre of real pace and E. Clarke, a hooker and a rare substitute for Eric Evans.

St. Helens, as one might expect from such a rugby minded area was a club which produced players of the highest quality season after season. I well recall playing in an evening charity match in what was virtually a Lancashire County side and being given the run around by a young St. Helens team coached by Eric Bevins, the pre-war Leicester scrum-half (later of Wilmslow) and players of the calibre of Bob Mustard, Jim Eccleston, Alfie Arnold, Graham Twist, Alan Ashcroft and Wally Moss. Typically, as things worked in those days, Mustard moved to New Brighton and Twist and Ashcroft to Waterloo. Ashcroft later played for England and the Lions.

Later players from St. Helens who achieved International caps were John Horton (Bath's stand-off when we beat them in the National knock-out Cup); Mike Burke, later a leading light in the Widnes Rugby League Cup winning side and Ray French, an International in both codes, now a commentator of note and possibly watching here today.

With such a pedigree, it is little wonder that Liverpool St. Helens are once again strong contenders for a return to the National leagues in which they figured until recent seasons. They have now put together an impressive string of results and if either Burnage or Altrincham Kersal slip up, they look well placed to take full advantage. One thing for certain is that Wilmslow will have to be at their very best to have any chance of winning a game which, if tradition is followed, should involve much fast open rugby.



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## Northern Division League North 1 West

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	B Pts	Pts	Adj
Burnage	18	16	1	1	459	188	271	9	75	0
Altrincham Kersal	15	13	2	0	409	171	238	8	64	0
Liverpool St Helens	17	13	1	3	516	257	259	7	61	0
Vale of Lune	16	11	0	5	391	241	150	7	51	0
Northwich	15	10	0	5	340	174	166	7	47	0
Broughton Park	16	8	1	7	414	364	50	9	43	0
Wilmslow	15	8	0	7	325	314	11	6	38	0
Sandbach	15	7	0	8	249	290	-41	4	32	0
Wirral	15	6	0	9	237	232	5	7	31	0
Wigton	16	5	1	10	259	353	-94	7	29	0
New Brighton	17	4	0	13	287	419	-132	6	22	0
Leigh	15	3	1	11	218	316	-98	7	21	0
Kirkby Lonsdale	14	1	0	13	148	501	-353	6	10	0
West Park (St H)	16	1	1	14	173	605	-432	2	8	0

### TODAY'S OTHER MATCHES

**Altrincham Kersal  
v Kirkby Lonsdale**

**Vale of Lune v  
Sandbach**

**West Park v  
Northwich**

**Wigton v New  
Brighton**

**Wirral v Leigh**

### Sunday 6th. February U16s Cheshire Cup Sandbach 7—5 Wilmslow

Early in the season the contest between these two great local rivals was quite rightly abandoned as an honourable draw to attend to a potentially serious injury. Both coaches agreed then they must try and find a date later in the season for these two evenly matched sides to play out a full game. The matches are too evenly contested, played in such good spirit and produce such good rugby that it would be a great pity if a return could not be arranged.

As fate would have it the Cheshire Cup draw brought the teams together once again for this quarter final and the titanic battle that ensued lived up to every bit of the pre match expectations.

The heavy wet pitch and strong cross wind suggested that this would play into the hands of the well drilled Wilmslow forwards but Sandbach were determined to match everything that Wilmslow could throw at them. The low scoring might suggest a game of mistakes and poor play but nothing could be further from the truth. Well structured attacks were met equally resolute defence and massive commitment throughout. With 10 minutes of the first half remaining Sandbach finally opened the scoring. Managing to work their way into the Wilmslow 22, good line out play and a driving maul allowed Sandbach to move within 5m of the wilmslow line. The ball was recycled for No.8 Taos Grisdale who was having an outstanding game on both attack and defence, to pick and drive into 3 Wilmslow defenders on the line. With great body angle and drive he forced his way over to the jubilant cheers of the Sandbach players and spectators. In the strong cross wind this left a difficult conversion attempt for Jack Moran wide on the right but he didn't look under any pressure at all as he struck the ball sweetly through the middle of the posts. Little did we know then how important that kick would be. It seemed that for the remainder of the half Wilmslow camped on the Sandbach line but were continually repelled being 'held up' over the line on more than one occasion. The determination of the Sandbach defensive effort was epitomised by scrum half Jack Moran, having his best game for the team, when he managed to get himself under the ball to prevent one touch down.

Sandbach took their narrow lead into the second half which continued as the first half had ended, Wilmslow pressing the Sandbach line continually and Sandbach breaking out on occasion threatening to release their speedy backs. Going into the last 5 minutes Wilmslow eventually got the score they been pushing so hard for. Having been held up again and again on the line they finally found a way over to take the score to 7-5 and a conversion to come. To the relief of Sandbach, the kick went wide but that wasn't the end of the drama. The Sandbach kick off went straight out to give Wilmslow a penalty and put them on the attack once again. With a turn over it seemed that Sandbach had survived and managed to play out time but when all it needed was a kick out of play to end the game they conceded a needless penalty. With time over and a difficult penalty attempt left for Wilmslow, Sandbach held their breath. The kick fell short and Sandbach gratefully touched the ball dead to end the game and victory.

It goes without saying, the performance was outstanding and built around a stunning defensive display. For Sandbach to defend their own 22 for the period of time they did was testament to the hard work over the past few weeks in training. Wilmslow although really disappointed were as gracious as ever in defeat and full of praise for the Sandbach defensive effort.

**Report : Courtesy of Sandbach RUFC**

### League Results—2010/2011

HOME TEAMS	Alt Kersal	Broughton Pk	Burnage	Kirkby L'dale	Leigh	Liverpool SH	New Brighton	Northwich	Sandbach	Vale of Lune	West Park SH	Wigton	Wilmslow	Wirral
Alt. Kersal		24-24				40-18	30-14	22-15	24-16	29-7	55-0	20-8	33-32	
Broughton Pk				46-22	13-20	42-21	9-64	29-22	28-15	26-18	60-8		32-18	
Burnage	3-3	35-7		34-11	20-6	14-5	57-29	13-8	20-10	28-0	67-5	27-3	42-18	
Kirkby L'dale					0-34	5-42	13-18		8-36		24-17	10-26		7-11
Leigh			3-6			29-29	10-0	0-32		10-39	46-8		17-30	
Liverpool SH		21-10		97-8	30-0		24-16	22-12	30-20	18-5				
New Brighton	19-33		31-32	19-13	12-5	14-44		8-17		12-17	37-0			
Northwich		24-12	14-8	57-5		15-0			31-14					21-18
Sandbach	8-47	26-8	8-18		13-12		9-8						13-20	
Vale of Lune				51-0	32-8	13-26	47-19	10-3					29-11	
West Park SH	7-20	8-53		30-24		26-51				7-48		19-19		8-39
Wigton	0-20		18-22		19-16	39-17			14-18	11-19	46-13		29-25	8-3
Wilmslow		18-15						19-7	12-23	10-22	42-7	21-16		25-22
Wirral	0-9		9-13					26-10	14-20	9-12	21-37	8-0	20-17	19-13



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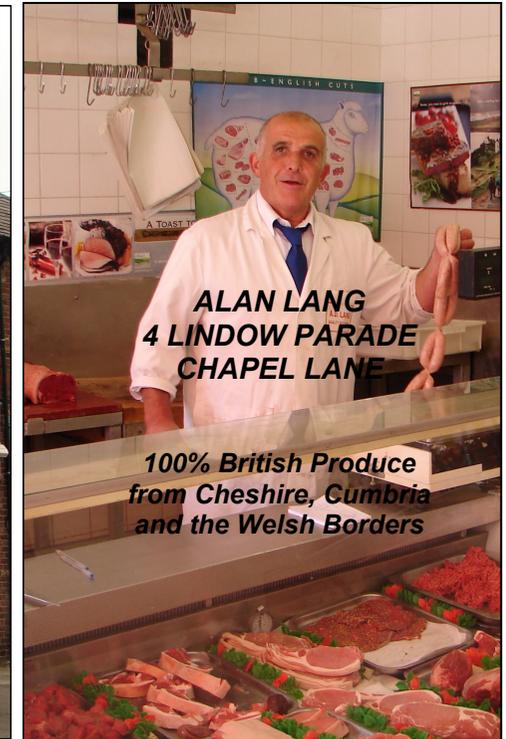


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**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>. February 2011**  
**Wilmslow High School 31 – 12 Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Wakefield**

**Daily Mail RBS Schools Rugby Cup Quarter Final**  
**Wilmslow High School 31 – 12 Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Wakefield**

You could sense the excitement beginning to build immediately after referee Andy Dawson had blown his whistle for no side. The High School had scored five tries and now only one hurdle remains to be cleared on 5<sup>th</sup>. March at Broadstreet, Coventry, before the siren call to a Twickenham final is clearly heard.

They had had to make several enforced changes through injury and competition regulations to the side that had done so well the week before against Lancaster RGS but in the end their strength in depth was enough to see them through with something to spare.

They got off to a good start when, after just five minutes the High School's Tom Phantom broke up a QEGS forward drive by intercepting a pass and releasing the outstanding No. 12 Sam James, who carried the ball to within five metres. A quick ruck saw play moved left into open spaces for second row Calum Hubbard to cross the line unmolested.



As so often happens in a game, WHS then failed to gather in the restart and for much of the first half, it was the Yorkshire school, particularly their rugged forwards, who were in charge. For fully twenty minutes or more, they camped on the High School's line and how they only managed to score a solitary try during this period is



nothing short of a mystery. True, the High School's defence was heroic, not a tackle was missed, but such was QEGS' dominance in the scrum and close play, they really ought to have had a couple of push over tries. Instead, as they marched ominously forward towards the line time and again, they decided to release the ball and their ball carriers, whether close to the fringes or further out couldn't find the space before being hauled down. Given the pressure, they were exposed to, it was remarkable that only two kickable penalties were conceded by the High School but some obscure reasoning caused the visitors to spurn the points on offer by choosing to scrum again. Their score came after 23 minutes, when the anxious High School forwards lost a lineout close to halfway, the QEGS forwards gathered the ball in and drove to the line, where they were awarded a scrum from which it looked as though their scrum half burrowed over. And that, it transpired was all they were going to get and was far less than they should have got. Profligacy in rugby matches tends to catch up with you and they were made to pay in the second half.

Hubbard's first half try had shown how it could be done. Set up a position, get quick ball from it and then move it wide into the domain where Ms. McCall, James and Hudson ruled. Four times the strategy was perfectly executed for tries from Sean Street five minutes after the break and at regular intervals thereafter from Tom Hudson and twice from substitute back row forward, Jimmy Walker, all of them copy book stuff far out on the right. QEGS just had no answer to the High School's pace and terrific ball handling skills. It helped, of course, that Ollie McCall now had a stiffish breeze at his back as he skilfully put foot to ball for good field position and that the more the QEGS forwards had to turn and trundle back, the more the zip in their scrummaging and foraging just faded away.

It was something of a surprise that the last word should belong to QEGS centre Joe Charlesworth, who took his chance well but the game had been won long before that and it finished with the High School calling all the shots as they sought a sixth try. They now have nearly four weeks to prepare for the winners of Whitgift School and Plymouth College and should be able to select from a full strength squad. No wonder there were smiles all round.

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**Oh and Good Luck to Wilmslow Wolves this Season.**

\*Source: FTSE

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## THIS WEEK'S PREDICTIONS

### Altrincham Kersal v Kirkby Lonsdale

The only issue here is how much good this match will do AK's points difference. A win by fifty plus might just come in handy when the final reckoning is made at the end of the season.

### Vale of Lune v Sandbach

With Vale chalking up another win away at New Brighton and Sandbach without a game for a fortnight, you'd have to go for a home win but Sandbach's results are much improved recently so it won't be an easy one for the home side.

### West Park v Northwich

Northwich are now just playing for fun. They're too far behind to challenge in the league but they won't miss out on a points fest against struggling West Park.

### Wigton v New Brighton

This looks like one of the more competitive games of the weekend but on home territory, don't expect Wigton to slip up.

### Wilmslow v Liverpool St. Helens

When this match was due to take place back in November, I fancied a home win for the Wolves on the basis that they would win sufficient possession to give Ms King, Lillie and Kennedy the chances they needed to win. It's not been a good winter for the Wolves though and they now just look to be short of the firepower to win this one. Hope I'm wrong.

### Wirral v Leigh

Wirral have been doing alright against all but the top sides at home so I expect them to chalk up another four points today.

.....and Burnage, well it's a week off for them but with only one home fixture left and seven away games, including visits to AK and LSH, to come, there may be a few twists and turns in the run in yet.



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**NEXT MATCHES AT  
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**19th. February**

**North 1 West  
Wolves v Burnage**

**SU Leagues : 5E  
Ravens v Broughton Park**



**Saturday 12th. February 2011  
League North One West  
Wilmslow v Liverpool St. Helens**

**Wilmslow XV and their Sponsors**

**Liverpool St. Helens XV**

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- 11. Ian Stanley

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- 9. Stuart Lindsey *Drew Donaldson*

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- 6. Paul Bamber
- 7. James Cashman
- 8. Phil Kearns

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Chris Lee  
Bob MacCallum

*Chris George  
Addleshaw Goddard  
Steve Swindells*

**Subs**

Luke Parker  
James Brose  
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The Wolves next away game is on 26th. February at New Brighton. 2.15pm KO.

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**Wishing the Wolves a Successful Season**

**Referee  
Daniel Taylor  
MDRURS**