Fixtures and Results 2019 - 20									
	Wolves North 1 West			Vikings Sale Sharks Division 2 South					
September 7 14 21 28	BURNAGE Stockport NORTHWICH Penrith	W W W L		Anselmians NORTHWICH Altrincham Kersal CREWE & NANTWICH	W W W				
October 5 12 19 26	ALTRINCHAM KERSAL Broughton Park WARRINGTON Douglas IOM	W W W L		Lymm LIVERPOOL ST HELENS Holmes Chapel Didsbury Toc H (Cup)	W L W P				
November 2 9 16 23 29 30	BOWDON Vale of Lune WATERLOO SANDBACH (Cheshire Vase)	W W W L		HELSBY Didsbury TOC H LIVERPOOL COLLEGIATE Manchester	W W W				
December 7 14 21 28	Birkenhead Park KESWICK	W W		WIDNES Moore	W				
January 4 11 18 25	STOCKPORT Northwich PENRITH	L L P		Northwich AILTRINCHAM KERSAL Crewe & Nantwich	W W W				
February 1 8 15 22 29	Altrincham Kersal BROUGHTON PARK Warrington PENRITH DOUGLAS IOM	L W P		LYMM Liverpool St Helens HOLMES CHAPEL Helsby	C W P				
March 7 14 21 28	Bowden VALE OF LUNE Waterloo BIRKENHEAD PARK			DIDSBURY TOC H Liverpool Collegiate MANCHESTER Widnes					
April 4 11 18 25	Keswick Burnage			MOORE ANSELMIANS					

Halbro Senior U18 Colts : Senior League C											
	Caldy LITTLEBOROUGH Sefton	W W W		February 2 9 16 23	Southport CALDY						
	ALDWINIANS Whitchurch			March 1 8 15 22 29							
November 3 10 17 24	SOUTHPORT Littleborough			April 5 12 19 26							
December 1 8 15 22 29	SEFTON Aldwinians										
January 5 12 19 26	WHITCHURCH										



Club President CHRIS GEORGE Welcomes PENRITH



A warm welcome to Wilmslow Rugby Club for our re-arranged match today against Penrith.

Penrith were the early leaders of North One West winning their first 4 games on the bounce, including beating the Wolves up in Penrith 32-27 in what was described as a very poor Wolves performance. Since then they have won 4 and lost 10 games, the most recent being last week at home to Vale of Lune 0-12. Penrith find themselves in 10th position in the league after a 5-point deduction for having to cancel the original game with us on 18th January, which I think is a tough penalty imposed by the RFU for not having a front row. In times when many clubs are struggling to put out a second team and with front row players becoming more and more scarce it doesn't help having to endure points deductions as well.

Meanwhile, two weeks ago, we won our first match of 2020 beating Broughton Park at home 23-17. In what was a close fought game in very damp conditions against a strong Park team we managed to hold on to the victory. After our nightmare start to 2020 due to player injuries and unavailability, and losing our first three matches of the year, it was a welcome respite and good to see the Wolves returning to winning ways. Our 41 -22 defeat to Northwich away on 11th January was somewhat expected with 9 changes from the previous week due to injuries. Nevertheless, it was our worst defeat of the season and even our club coaches had to dust their boots off and play!!

Last week the game against Warrington away was cancelled due to Storm Dennis, so we find ourselves in 6th place in the league but with 2 games in hand on the 4 teams above us and one game in hand on league leaders Burnage.

Our poor start to 2020 means that the league has all closed up, our 10-point margin over second placed Burnage at the start of the year is now a 10-point deficit!!

Meanwhile our Second XV also suffered a postponement at the hands of Storm Dennis, with their home game against Holmes Chapel postponed. The Vikings, have had a fantastic start to 2020, beating Liverpool & St Helens 2nd XV away two weeks ago 0-33 and consolidating their lead at the top of the league. We are now 14 points clear of second place Holmes Chapel. At the time of going to press no game had been arranged for this week so hopefully the lads will be down supporting the Wolves against Penrith.

Saturday 8th February was a great day down at the club as it was our annual former players reunion. Over 100 players turned out for a pre-match lunch and to watch the win against Broughton Park. A further 40 or so Vets from Wilmslow and Sale battled it out up on the Jim Evison fields where the Wilmslow Vets beat our old rivals from Heywood Road. As you would expect, the three wins from the Wilmslow teams together with England's victory in the Calcutta Cup over Scotland meant some serious celebrating into the evening.

A big thank you to Fran and her team who provided 180 meals on the day and to Rusty and his bar team who will have been glad to see their beds at the end of the day.







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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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PENRITH

Penrith are one of those clubs who don't regularly appear on Wilmslow's fixture list, being either a league above or below us and occasionally switching to the North East leagues. The last time they were at the Memorial ground was in January 2015. At that time they were lying fifth in this league behind Birkenhead Park, Kirkby Lonsdale, Kendal and Widnes. Wilmslow were two places below but were showing some signs of form having won their three previous games. In the face of a stiff Arctic breeze, Penrith scrum half Ed Swale suffered the indignity of an early clearing kick being blown back by the wind into his face as the Wolves set about Penrith with some gusto, nearly scoring twice before Sam Cutts was put away for a twenty yard sprint to the

line. Ollie McCall playing at No. 10 then put Lawrence James in for the second try, Legin Hotham added a third and McCall himself chased his own kick ahead for the fourth try, all in the first twenty minutes, against a side that still had aspirations of a quick return to level 5. It couldn't last, of course. The Wolves started to get penalised, Penrith took a series of short penalties and hit back before half time through Darren Lee. With the wind behind them in the second half, there was everything for them to play for but the Wolves defence was proving to be robust and Vili Tuipolotu earned the plaudits of the crowd with several fearsome hits. Lee scored a second time for Penrith but Cutts and James both got their second tries as the Wolves ran out winners by 40 –12. It was the first time that they had achieved four successive wins in this league.

The tables were turned though in the return fixture in April as Penrith ran out winners by 48-17 against a jaded looking Wilmslow side

It was way back in 1997/98, that we had last faced Penrith in what was then North West 1. Penrith, according to Barry Fisher, who still has a match programme from January 98, were too strong for Wilmslow and completed the double by winning 21-3. Wilmslow won only one game all season and got relegated to NW2. Back then NW1 was level 7 and NW2 level 8 in a much taller and slimmer pyramid structure.

This season, the Wolves were fortunate to come away from Winters Park with two losing bonus points after being outplayed by the home side on their sparkling plastic pitch. The home side were 32-15 to the good with only a couple of minutes left when they took their eye off the ball to allow Mark Jennings and Sean Street to score within seconds of each

other. The Wolves were then pressing hard for the most unlikely win, when they got penalised for crossing in the last play of the game.

Like us, Penrith have not had the best of starts to the year. They started off by going down at Stockport. There were problems with the wind screen wipers on their coach, necessitating an unscheduled stop at Tebay, and then further delays in the monsoon like conditions on the M6 in North Lancashire. Their game started thirty minutes late, only fifteen minutes after their arrival at Headlands Road and although the Stockport second team pitch has floodlights, it was played on the main unlit pitch and finished in darkness. It's hard enough at any time to get an away win at somewhere like Headlands Road so It says a lot for the Penrith side that despite all the obstacles in their way, they only went down by 41 - 26 and returned home with a four try bonus point for their troubles.



Pictures from Penrith v Wilmslow on 29th. September 2019

They were then due here on 18th. January but with availability problems, amongst their squad, they couldn't raise a side to travel and had to call off, also getting five league points deducted for their trouble

Next up, they were beaten at home by bottom of the league Keswick in a rearranged match under the lights on 24th. January. A week later, they lost at home again, this time to Broughton Park in the final minutes just as we could easily have done against Park a fortnight ago and then they took a 33-7 beating across in the IOM. Last week Vale of Lune, another club also not having the best of seasons, were the visitors to Winters Park

and Penrith's losing run continued as they went down again by 0-12.

Normally, four straight losses in January and February and a points deduction would surely have relegation alarm bells ringing but the bottom three are so far behind and with only two up and two down between North 1 and North 2 West, they don't seem to be in too much danger. Their early season form would suggest that they're a far stronger side than their recent form indicates.

Vikings and Colts

Division 2 South 2019-20

2nd. February Colts Senior C Southport 39 - 14 Colts

8th. February
Division 2 South
Liverpool St. Helens 0 - 33
Vikings

15th. FebruaryDivision 2 South
Vikings P Holmes Chapel

Team	Р	W	D	L	For	Agst	Diff	+/-	Pts	
Wilmslow Vikings	17	15	0	2	583	181	402	1	78	
Holmes Chapel 1	17	11	0	6	384	267	117	3	64	
Liverpool St Helens 2	17	12	0	5	314	260	54	0	64	
Moore 1	16	11	0	5	466	311	155	1	61	
Didsbury Toc H 2	16	10	0	6	467	312	155	1	57	
Altrincham Kersal Cougars	16	10	0	6	488	387	101	1	54	
Widnes 2	15	8	0	7	389	290	99	2	49	
Crewe & Nantwich 2	16	8	0	8	350	322	28	2	49	
Manchester 2	17	7	0	10	502	421	81	3	47	
Liverpool Collegiate 2	17	7	0	10	357	483	-126	1	46	
Anselmians 2	17	6	0	11	297	448	-151	1	41	
Northwich 2	17	5	0	12	277	525	-248	2	39	
Lymm Eagles	16	4	0	12	374	648	-274	1	32	
Helsby 1	16	1	0	15	157	550	-393	3	22	

Concedes: Anselmians 1, Helsby 1, Crewe & Nantwich 1, Manchester 1, LSH 1, Lymm Eagles 1

Senior Colts Conference League - C 2019 - 20

Team	Р	W	D	L	For	Agst	Diff	+/-	Pts	
Southport	11	11	0	0	340	68	272	0	55	
Whitchurch	11	6	0	5	225	139	86	2	36	
Wilmslow	10	6	0	4	213	162	51	1	35	
Aldwinians	9	4	1	4	132	220	-88	0	27	
Caldy	11	3	0	8	164	275	-111	1	24	
Littleborough	9	3	0	6	128	236	-108	2	23	
Sefton	11	2	1	8	179	281	-102	4	23	-2

Concedes: Whitchurch1

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League Round Up

Despite the storms, only two matches went unplayed last week. **Burnage**'s trip to **Keswick** and **Wilmslow**'s to **Warrington** were both called off because of ground conditions.

Whether this will eventually be to **Wilmslow**'s advantage come the end of the season is still to be seen but there is just a suspicion that the Wolves are a side that prosper more when conditions are dry enabling the ball to fly through the air with a bit of zip and that they have never really been able to adapt their game to the wet, boggy and blowy conditions of mid winter. The last time they had a few matches postponed due to winter conditions was back in 2017/18. They then had a backlog of games to play in March and April. Those clubs with no fear of either relegation or promotion were losing interest and the Wolves, after narrowly losing at home to **Burnage**, had a terrific run in which propelled them to second place in the league, at the expense of **Northwich**, a play off at **Driffield** and a season at Level 5. **Driffield** incidentally are lying third behind **York** and two points below **Cleckheaton in** North 1 East. Are we about to see history repeat itself again, I wonder?

Our opponents today for this rearranged match may well subconsciously have their eyes focused more on future campaigns. After a promising start to the season, it's all gone wrong for **Penrith**. They don't look to be in any danger of either relegation or promotion so for them it's probably a question of playing out the season without any undue pressure on them, enjoying their rugby and building for the future.

Last week, they suffered their third successive loss at home against Vale of Lune.

Stockport's five match winning run came to an end when **Birkenhead Park** against all the elements put together over fifty phases to snatch a draw at headlands Road in the last play of the game. With a gale force wind behind them in the first half Park scored twice to go twelve points ahead and added a penalty for 15-0 but 'port hit back before the break when they turned over a Park scrum. In the second half, they added another try and two penalties and were looking good until Park's uninterrupted play which lasted fully ten minutes.

Firwood Waterloo saw off **Northwich** at Blundellsands by 24-17. With ground advantage 'loo were always going to be favourites and their four tries gave them a maximum five points as they leapfrogged the Blacks to move up to second place, whilst **Northwich**, despite a losing bonus point, slipped back to fourth in the table behind **Altrincham Kersal**, who were not much inconvenienced in winning 24-7 just down the road at **Bowdon**.

All of which means that arguably seven clubs are still in the hunt for the top two places.

Once again, it seems that two of the clubs promoted last season to the Northern Premier League, **Morpeth** and **Carlisle**, are likely to drop straight back down again. **Carlisle** are still in the race to stay up. Only Blackburn ,of last season's promoted clubs, look safe. Clear evidence again that if you're going to go up to Level 5, you really have to strengthen your squad to stand a chance of staying up.

Macc's short tenure at the top came to a sharp end with an unexpected reverse at home against **Sandal** and they now drop back to third behing **Blaydon** and **Harrogate** with **Billingham** and **Sandal** hot on their tail. These five are nearly twenty points clear of the field.

Manchester meanwhile continue on their merry way at the top of North 2 West, despite all three clubs at the top of that league losing their games last weekend to the weather.

Penrith 0 - 12 Vale of Lune

Penrith's young much changed side battled hard and showed great spirit in atrocious conditions and were unfortunate not to get something out of their home game against Vale of Lune. Weather conditions at Winters Park deteriorated rapidly on Saturday morning as "Storm Dennis" blew in and by mid afternoon the rain was torrential and the wind, forecast to be at least 50mph., gusted at much more than that with the posts waving wildly in the gale. The Lancaster club had made it up the M6 over Shap and the game started on schedule at 3.00pm, the quality of play was a credit to the players on both sides as the game unfolded and although it was massively affected by the weather when the ball was in the air the handling was generally sound. Conditions were of course aided by the surface of the pitch at Winters Park which being artificial grass remained perfect throughout. Any natural surface would very soon have been a quagmire. It was though something of a lottery.

Vale took the lead from a five yard scrum, when a Penrith handling error ended up over the dead ball line, Alex briggs touching down, Penrith had their chances to level it and it was still only 0—5, when deep into stoppage time, a final Penrith break out broke down on halfway and the ball fell to Vale's winger Jordan Fearn who ran in for the clinching score to deny Penrith's young side the losing bonus points they deserved.

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Sunday 9th. February France v Italy Stade de France 3.00pm.

Saturday 22nd. February Italy v Scotland Stadio Olimpico 2.15pm. Wales v France Principality Stadium 4.45pm.

Sunday 23rd. February England v Ireland Twickenham 3.00pm

Saturday 7th. March Ireland v Italy Aviva Stadium 2.15pm. England v Wales Twickenham 4.45pm.

Sunday 8th. March Scotland v France Murrayfield 3.00pm

Saturday 14th. March Wales v Scotland Principality Stadium .15pm Italy v England Stadio Olimpico 4.45pm France v Ireland Stade de France 8.00pm



19th. October 3.00pm GLOUCESTER

8th. November 7.45pm WASPS

21st. January 3.00pm NORTHAMPTON SAINTS

> 3 January 7.45pm HARLEQUINS

22nd. February 3.00pm LEICESTER TIGERS

7th. March 3.00pm LONDON IRISH

28th. March 3.00pm EXETER CHIEFS

18th. April 3.00pm BRISTOL SHOGUNS

9th. May 3.00pm SARÁCENS

16th. May 3.00pm

5th. June 3.00pm WORCESTER WARRIORS







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Saturday Suppers

COCK A'LEEKIE SOUP
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Description:

For four people: 2 chicken legs on the bone, cut into four pieces, 4 leeks, a grated carrot, 2 tbsp. pearl barley, seasoning to taste, 8 dried prunes, 2 sprigs of thyme, bay leaf, water.

Chop the leeks into half inch slices and in a large pan simmer half of them in a litre of water with the chicken legs, thyme and bay leaf for at least an hour. Season well. When the chicken meat is falling off the bone, remove the legs from the pan and peel off and discard the skin and bone. Return half the chicken pieces to the pan with the remaining leeks, barley and, yed, prunes. Simmer for another hour. Adjust the seasoning and throw in the remaining chicken pieces and the grated carrot. Simmer for another 15 minutes. Serve garnished with chopped parsley.

A glass of either sherry or whisky goes very nicely with cock a'leekie.

HAGGIS, BASHED NEEPS AND CHAPPIT TATTIES

Sticking to the same theme, you can serve haggis with bashed neeps and chappit potatoes as a main course.

You can get perfectly good haggis in Sainsburys, Waitrose and Tesco. McSween's haggis is the best known and most expensive. There's also a very good haggis to be bought at Tebay on the M6 if you're passing by. You can either bake or simmer your haggis, whichever you prefer. Just follow the instructions.

Chappit potatoes are merely quartered boiled floury potatoes, well seasoned and buttered, mixed with chopped scallions.

To make the bashed neeps, simply slice and chop what the scots call a turnip and the english call a swede. It's full name is 'Swedish turnip'. You can add a carrot as well if you like. When softened, mash or blend into a puree with plenty of seasoning and either butter or double cream.

And, of course, a glass or two of whisky makes the perfect accompaniment.

This makes a very nice dessert to finish the meal with. You'll need some rough porridge oats, strawberries or raspberries, something creamy such as quark or mascarpone, runny honey and heather honey flavoured whisky, such as Glenmorangie.

Start by toasting the oats in a dry frying pan. Then simply layer all the ingredients into a glass tumbler. Start with a layer of toasted oats, a spoonful of quark or whatever you're using, a layer of berries and a drizzle of runny honey. Repeat until the tumbler is full, then drizzle in a dessert spoonful of Glenmorangie.

Round off the meal with scotch coffee. Firstly lightly whip some cream and then make a good strong cafeteria coffee. Pour the hot coffee into a wine glass and stir in a small measure of whisky and 1tsp of demerara sugar. Go carefully with the whisky as too much tends to spoil the balance of flavours. When the sugar is dissolved, top the coffee with lightly whipped cream. The idea is to get the cream to float on the top so drizzle it in on the back of a spoon. Simple!

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NORTH 1 WEST 2019-20

	Р	w	D	L	PF	PA	PD	Pts	B Pts	Adj
Burnage	18	14	0	4	635	439	196	73	17	0
Firwood Waterloo	19	14	0	5	590	358	232	68	12	0
Altrincham Kersal	19	12	0	7	550	393	157	67	19	0
Northwich	19	14	0	5	514	375	139	66	10	0
Stockport	19	12	1	6	516	420	96	63	13	0
Wilmslow	17	12	0	5	529	366	163	63	15	0
Birkenhead Park	19	11	1	7	583	368	215	61	15	0
Douglas (I.O.M.)	19	10	0	9	432	399	33	51	11	0
Vale of Lune	19	8	0	11	407	411	-4	45	13	0
Penrith	18	8	0	10	440	446	-6	42	15	-5
Broughton Park	18	6	0	12	352	472	-120	32	8	0
Bowdon	19	3	0	16	352	656	-304	18	6	0
Warrington	18	2	0	16	256	541	-285	12	4	0
Keswick	17	2	0	15	181	693	-512	11	3	0

THIS WEEK'S OTHER MATCHES

		Leag	gue l	Fixtu	res	& Re	sults	s - 20	19/2	020				
HOME TEAMS	Attini	ROLL PORSO	Stread Pa	it don bron	green Page	Oord	as ciruo	Andelo Andelo	ict Holling	on Perith	Stockoo	18 of	ine water	Ninglow
Altrincham Kersal		31-17	49-3	28/3	34-35	27-10	29/2	44-24	17-25	29-24	14/3	18/4	38-13	37-24
Birkenhead Park	15-24		35-24	44-7	4/4	14/3	31-21	71-7	35-20	29/2	36-3	43-22	50-7	22-24
Bowdon	7-24	14-25		18/4	24-35	38-15	14/3	36-5	12-38	12-31	28/3	35-14	15-23	7/3
Broughton Park	10-41	7/3	34-14		21-6	10-8	19-58	68-10	21/3	34-20	12-15	20-22	4/4	17-24
Burnage	40-37	29-15	59-29	14/3		57-27	27-25	45-21	26-19	28-18	29/2	28/3	57-22	18/4
Douglas	4/4	22-17	33-7	39-7	21/3		15-17	24-22	6-17	36-7	31-0	7/3	20-8	38-34
Firwood Waterloo	16-12	38-22	63-10	61-15	37-27	49-20		28/3	27-14	18/4	35-12	20-14	7/3	21/3
Keswick	7/3	5-36	21/3	Р	Р	0-36	8-25		12-52	10-39	18/4	3-24	12-6	4/4
Northwich	29-14	18/4	41-17	23-15	24-20	28/3	16-12	29/2		14/3	7/3	21-20	27-3	41-22
Penrith	21/3	37-30	4/4	10-15	7/3	17-27	43-22	19-26	29-39		31-29	0-12	29-10	32-27
Stockport	27-26	20-20	33-17	34-12	23-43	45-15	4/4	69-3	31-21	41-26		38-29	21/3	22-29
Vale of Lune	24-26	21/3	40-24	29/2	12-17	20-10	12-41	43-5	4/4	19-28	19-25		28-18	12-19
Warrington	22-25	13-19	29/2	20-19	12-52	18/4	7-17	14/3	22-33	28/3	7-32	18-21		Р
Wilmslow	28-15	28/3	59-14	23-17	36-32	29/2	34-6	56-8	35-14	Р	8-17	14/3	47-22	

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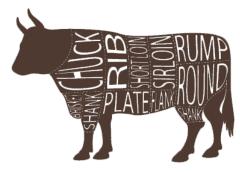
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Tue - Fri 8.00am - 5.30pm **Sat** 8.00am - 5.00pm **Sun** 10.00am - 4.00pm Wilmslow appears to be the unluckiest club in the area this season. The whole side has been disorganised owing to injuries – almost every member of the first team seems to have suffered in some way or another. Already there are only five players who have made



isher's Half Page

100% appearances. Miller, more than once, might have stood down for a rest following injuries, but played owing to other changes. An instance of the extraordinary changes the Wilmslow Club have made is the fact that P. Howarth, the full-back who figured in that position at Oldham last week is the fourth man to be tried there since the start of the season.

From Manchester Evening News, November 14th 1935

Nothing changes. The same can be said about our 1st XV this season. After a fine start, winning ten out of the first twelve games with a hard core of the same players, we lost six players in the Stockport game and then lost the next two games, gathering a list of forty-one players over the nineteen games. The loss of the Penrith game, followed by an empty weekend, gave the injured some respite and most of them had recovered enough to play against a strong Broughton Park team to win the game.

Of the "hard core" I mentioned, six players have notched up very decent appearances: Bob MacCallum 387, Ben Day 254, Alex Taylor 190, Adam Hewitt 175, Sam Cutts 151 and Rob Taylor 135. Sean Street has only played 77 games, but has scored 47 tries, only seventy more to overtake Ben Day's 116!

On another matter, a sports reporter was writing about scrums. In the Wales v Ireland game a week or two ago, he wrote, "the two packs were setting for the scrums and generally arsing about, so the amount of time the forwards wasted on paramilitary jostling must have taken up eight minutes." He suggested that the referee stops the clock the moment he whistles for a scrum and only start it when the ball enters the scrum. I couldn't agree more. There used to be some skulduggery in the old days – I remember Mike Blackett was felled in the first scrum against Leigh some years ago – and we can't return to them.

Finally, I think we should raise our hats to Nigel Day. He first played in the seventies, making the 1st XV in 1977, and played a couple of weeks ago in the Vets game against Sale—six decades.

GEOFF MITCHELL

Sadly, I have to report that Geoff Mitchell died peacefully at home on Thursday 20th. February.

MIKE BARLTROP

Mike's funeral will be at Macclesfield Crematorium at 10.00am. on Thursday 27th. November, followed by the wake here at the club.



We are a family run Tearoom in Alderley Edge, housed in a beautiful National Trust building and situated right next to The Edge - perfect for a stop after a country walk.

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Wolves Players and Personal Sponsors 2019-20

Jordan Ayrey Chris Barber Mark Bartlem Sam Beckett Tom Bull James Coulthurst Fraser Crawford Ben Day Alex Donaldson Jonny Evans **Gus Fiennes** Charlie Gardiner Ethan Harding Adam Hewitt Rick Hughes Mark Jennings Danny Kennedy Jonny Kennedy Jamie Kingdon Sam Lawton Ollie Lee Will Lees James Lewis Rhodri Lewis Jack Masters

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George Witham

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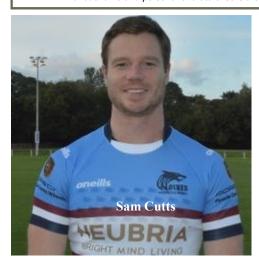
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PLAYERS AND SPONSORS

The players and coaches would like to thank those organisations and individuals who are supporting the cause of Wilmslow rugby by becoming their personal sponsors. All the funds raised are directed towards funding coaching, kit, equipment, physios, team travel and other team expenses. No payments are made whatsoever to any individual to play. Our players are all amateurs, albeit at the serious end of amateurism. They train regularly as a team and put in a lot of time and personal effort to ensure their fitness to play at what is a demanding level..





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Saturday 8th. February 2020 Wilmslow 23 – 17 Broughton Park

North 1 West

It wasn't pretty and nor was it convincing but the name of the game, said coach Chris Jones afterwards, had been to get a win, any kind of a win, to end the Wolves three game losing sequence since the start of the year.

In the event, they had to dig deep into their reserves of stamina and character to keep a resurgent Broughton Park at bay during the final ten minutes in the Wilmslow twenty two. Park had shown throughout that they knew how to retain possession of the ball and in this period, according to Jones, they put together over thirty phases of continuous rugby. Wilmslow's defence for the most part kept its discipline and shape and refused to yield. When Park eventually lost control of the ball just a metre or so short of the line, the Wolves cleared the loose ball and the game was theirs. From the Wilmslow point of view, it was their best defensive showing since playing Firwood Waterloo and Birkenhead Park back in the autumn. The Park players though will be kicking themselves, when they review their tactical nous during this period. At one stage, their backs were totally unmarked and had, at least, a wide three man overlap but none of their forwards or scrum half noticed to release the ball to them for what must have been a certain score. And then, in what turned out to be the final play, they opted for a tap and go from a penalty in front of the posts when the scrum option might have been more productive.

Three tries though from flanker Matthew Norfolk-Clarke, full back Ben Day and left winger Sam Cutts together with one conversion and two successful penalty kicks from Bob MacCallum proved to be just enough. In reply Park scored two first half tries through prop Tom Dewland and centre Josh Maddox with full back Marcus Eaton adding seven points from his boot.

For the opening twenty minutes, Park dominated possession and territory. It wasn't that they were on top in any of the set pieces but that they knew how to keep hold of the football when they had it and with a bit more creativity might have made more of it than they did. Wilmslow are at their most dangerous when they try to put some pace and width into their game but the downside is that if your passing and handling is not sufficiently accurate and goes to ground or ball carriers get isolated, especially on a murky winter's afternoon, you won't have the ball for long and with long periods of tackling and defending, there's always the risk of conceding penalties at the breakdown.

After ten minutes play, Park put together a passage of recycling in the Wilmslow twenty two, which ended with Dewland forcing his way over through a tackle and under the posts. Within five minutes, Wilmslow replied when MacCallum stroked a penalty into the corner and from the lineout Norfolk-Clarke burst through to touch down. This was followed by Cutts cleanly taking an awkward high ball and finding space to counter attack. When the ball was recycled, MacCallum, seeing space out on the left, put in a pin point accurate cross kick, which was taken by Jennings and quickly fed to full back Day for the second try. Play was then held up when a loose dog decided to join in and briefly evaded everyone's efforts to catch him. When play resumed, Wilmslow were soon turned over when they got isolated at the breakdown. Park were then held up but Wilmslow failed to clear their lines from the ensuing scrum and Park with more turnover ball, this time put centre Josh Maddocks in for a 12 – 14 advantage at half time.

MacCallum and Eaton then exchanged penalties in the third quarter as play ebbed and flowed in both directions. The decisive moment came when Wilmslow pressed from a penalty lineout on around sixty minutes. The drive was held and Wilmslow were awarded a scrum from which Ethan Harding eventually put Sam Cutts in with a well timed wide pass. Minutes later MacCallum opted for three more points from a penalty in front of the posts.

Throughout the game Park's No. 10, Matt Hodgkinson had been restarting with highly accurate and testing high kicks. The Wolves had dealt with them reasonably well but this time they didn't and this enabled Park to get possession which they held on to as they laid siege to Wilmslow's line for the final ten minutes. It could easily have gone Park's way in this final flourish so it was with some relief on the Wilmslow side when referee Brown eventually blew for no side.

Hopefully, the Wolves will now have rediscovered what it takes to win in this league. There's very little to choose between the sides from Burnage at the top and Park in eleventh position. Next week the Wolves are away to a Warrington side struggling just one place off the foot off the table but with nothing to lose. They'll be very keen to secure their first win at their new ground.



Wolves Players, App ers 2	earan 2019			d Po	int S	CO
	Appearance	Tries	Drop Goals	Penalties	Conversions	Points
Jordan Ayrey	7	1				5
Nick Barker	1					
Sam Beckett	2					
Guy Colongne-Brooks	1					
James Coulthurst	15	8				40
Sam Cutts	15	4				20
Ben Day	13	6				30
Alex Donaldson	1					
Charlie Gardiner	7					
Sammy Graham	1	1				5
Ethan Harding	16	2			1	12
Adam Hewitt	15	1				5
Richard Hughes	4	_				
Mark Jennings	13	7			3	41
Chris Jones	2	1				5
Danny Kennedy	8	1				5
Jonny Kennedy	5	3			3	21
Jamie Kingdon	15	11				55
Sam Lawton	13	1				5
Ollie Lee	9	١.				
Rhodri Lewis	7	1				5
Bob MacCallum	17	2		6	48	11
Conor McMurdock	8	1				5
Jack Masters	15	2				10
James Nicholson	3					
Matthew Norfolk-Clarke	6	2				10
Kieran O'Rourke	10	2				10
Harry Patch	3	1				5
Rick Parker	1					
Mike Parker	8					
Seb Pemberton	13	2				10
Andy Rimmer	5	1				5
Toby Rowe	1	ľ				
Matt Shufflebottom	10					
Loui Staples	1					
·						
Ollie Stockwin	9	١				
Sean Street	15	14				70
Adam Taher	13	5				25
Alex Taylor	13	6				30
Robert Taylor	16	2				10
Tommy Wilkinson	3 1	2				10
George Witham						



Founded out of Wilmslow Rugby Club in 2017, LooseHeadz is a rugby leisurewear brand working to tackle the stigma of mental health in sport.

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So visit LooseHeadz.co.uk to see how you can do your bit.

The Garner Cup will once again be held at Prestbury Golf Club on 21st. May, reports David Barker.

More details to follow.

Saturday 15th. February 2020 Warrington P Wilmslow

North 1 West

Amongst the Storm Dennis casualties last weekend was this match due to be played at Warrington's current ground, which oN their web site is given as GSC, Stockton Road., Warrington. I presume GSC is actually Grappenhall Sports Club. A web search didn't reveal very much about it, apart from its existence so I guess we'll have to wait for this game to be rearranged to find out a bit more about Warrington RUFC's new set up.

The first available date looks like 25th. April so unless the ground has floodlights and relegation or promotion places are at stake for either club, I wouldn't bet on this one ever being played. We shall see!





A Wilmslow Vets team, selected and organised by Jason Sankey, played their Sale counterparts on the Jim Evison Field a fortnight ago.





Broughton Park Broughton Fabruary 8th



SPECTATOR AND PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

- . Show respect for officials and other players
- · Encourage in your support
- · Be courteous to all
- · Applaud good play
- . Verbally support in a proactive manner
- Remember victory is not everything
- Children are playing for their own enjoyment
- Enjoy the day and transmit that enthusiasm to the players



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SPECTATOR AND PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

- . Do not force your child to play
- . Do not stray on to the pitch at any time
- Do not verbally abuse match officials remember, they are volunteers
- . Do not verbally abuse players or other spectators
- Do not use bad language
- . Do not threaten or intimidate
- . Do not become involved in physical aggression
- Do not do anything which is likely to offend by way of insult, humiliation or discrimination





NEXT MATCH AT THE MEMORIAL GROUND

29th. February North 1 West Wilmslow v Douglas (IOM)

Next Saturday, it's Bowdon away for yet another local derby match.

BOWDON RUFC, CLAY LANE, TIMPERLEY, CHESHIRE, WA15 7AF

It'll take all of about fifteen minutes to get to Bowdon's ground from Wilmslow Rugby Club. Just head down the A538 towards Altrincham and then just after Ringway Golf Club, turn right into Shay Lane. You then bear left into Ash Lane which becomes Clay Lane. Clay Lane then turns sharp left at the junction with Dobbinets Lane. Go along Clay Lane and Bowdon RUFC is on the right. There isn't much parking there so arrive early unless you're happy to leave your car on the road outside the ground.

TODAY'S REFEREE

Marius Botha MDRURS

Wolves Saturday afternoon kick off times at The Memorial Ground will be at 3.00pm. throughout the season.



Saturday 22nd. February 2020 North 1 West Wilmslow v Penrith

- 15. Ben Day
- 14. Sam Cutts
- 13. Richard Hughes
- 12. Mark Jennings
- 11. Sam Beckett
- 10. Ethan Harding
- 9. Andy Rimmer
- 1. Ollie Stockwin
- 2. Robert Taylor (capt.)
- 3. Adam Taher
- 4. Adam Hewitt
- 5. Matt Shufflebottom
- 6. Seb Pemberton
- 7. Sammy Lawton
- 8. Jack Masters

Subs

Rhodri Lewis Chris Jones Kieran O'Rourke

Penrith

- 15 Fraser Nicholson
- 14. Lewis Stewart
- 13. John Fell
- 12. Ed Smith
- 11. Kyle Adams
- Ross Jackson
- 9. Dalton Frith
- 1. Ben Lydon
- 2. Craig Price
- 3. Adam Howe
- 4. Daniel Richardson
- 5. Chris Jackson
- 6. Tom Lindsey
- 7. Bryn Jeremiah
- 8. Josh Dowson

Subs

Will Morgan Andy Muir James Hogg



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Wishing the Wolves a Successful Season