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 L				
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 W		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						
October 6 13 20 27	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 DOUGLAS (IOM)



Welcome to Wilmslow Rugby Club for today's match against Douglas Isle of Man.

Our opponents today are currently in 8th position in the league with 10 wins and 9 losses and they are certainly the most "travelled" team in the league. With the number of flights they clock up I would imagine that their end of season tour will be on air miles! Last time out they narrowly lost to away to Broughton Park 10-8 so we need to be on our "A" game today.

Last week we hosted Penrith on what was supposed to be a "free" weekend, but with them cancelling back in Janary the RFU gave us the rearranged game last weekend. Sadly that meant we were once again short of players, this time through a mixture of injuries and holidays.

The game resulted in a 21-14 win for the Wolves, only our second of 2020, and the converted try Penrith scored just before the final whistle left the Penrith players and supporters cheering that they had achieved a losing bonus point. The strong winds and wet conditions meant that it was a scrappy game but as the Penrith guys said after the game, "the best team won". Whilst we were pleased with the win and the 4 points it gave us, taking us up to 3rd place in the league with a game in hand, there is still much to work to be done to get back to our form in the first half of the season, but it was great to see Ben Day scoring 2 more tries to add to his unbelievable tally. I must say that the President and "Ally's" were a great bunch of guys who are very much like ourselves in their outlook to rugby.

Once again it was sad to report the loss of another long term Wilmslow member, Geoff Mitchell, who passed away last week. Geoff used to attend most of the Wilmslow home games in his latter years and he will be sadly missed.

On Thursday it was Mike Barltrop's funeral at Macclesfield Crematorium followed by a celebration of his life back at the rugby club. Mike also affectionately called "Zin Zan" had played for Wilmslow, he'd been a captain for Wilmslow and he touched many young players lives as a coach from Under 7's through to Colts. Even after falling ill with Parkinson's disease and more latterly fighting cancer Mike came down on a Sunday to help coach the Wilmslow Mini's and Juniors before he was no longer physically able to.

Mike dragged me into coaching the Under 7's with him back in 1996, where his son Matthew played, before moving up to coach his older son Jonny with the Under 9's after they lost their coach. His team went on to be the best at their age group in Cheshire and the North of England for several years providing many players for Cheshire and Wilmslow First XV. One of his favourite rugby moments was when two of his players competed against each other in an international. Charlie Mulchrone played for Ireland U18 against Chris Davies who played for England U18. Charlie went on to play premiership rugby with Harlequins, whilst Chris Davies played for Richmond. Another notable player in Mike's age group is Tom Cruse who is currently playing for Wasps.

A memorial game has been arranged by Stephen Beard on Saturday May 30th at the rugby club where the Mike Barltrop Select XV will play the Wilmslow Barbarians. A large turnout is expected for what will be a fun day of rugby, beer, music, food and lots of photographs and videos on the large screen to remember our great friend.

Today the Vikings, our 2nd XV are away at Helsby playing against their first XV. Sadly, the bad weather meant that they couldn't play their cup game against Widnes so their away game on 28th March will serve as a "double-header" league and cup game. The Vikings are currently top of the league, 14 points clear of Holmes Chapel in second. However, they have three away games on the bounce now against Helsby today, against Didsbury Toc H on 7th March and against Liverpool Collegiate on 14th March. We wish them well on their travels and hope they can keep the wins coming.







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HALBRO NORTH WEST LEAGUES

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HALBFO NORTH WEST LEAGUES http://www.rfu.com http://www.nowirul.org.uk

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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### **DOUGLAS (IOM)**

Our visitors today are in their third consecutive season at this level. When they first came up from SLC1, they got off to a decent start with wins against Warrington and Northwich, who with the return of their principal sponsor were fancied to do well that season, and ended up with eleven wins from twenty four games to finish ninth in the table. Last season, they achieved fourteen wins



for a sixth place finish and this season they have ten wins thus far. Eight of these have been at home with only Firwood Waterloo and Northwich winning on the island. On the road, they've won at Keswick and Penrith. All respectable enough.

Wilmslow's record against them stands as one win and two lossess.

We had no idea what to expect when they made their first and so far only visit to the memorial Ground in September 2017. Reports were suggesting that they had a decent pack, had adapted quickly to level 6 rugby and were no pushover. In the event, it went Wilmslow's way by 45 - 24 with seven tries. At one stage it was 38 - 10 to Wilmslow but the Manxmen hit back with two late scores, which made the game look closer than it actually was.

The following January, we lost 22-20 on the island, despite scoring four tries to their three. No disrespect to the Manx club but it was a

very uncomfortable day for Wilmslow. A 7.00am. meeting at the airport was followed by an early kick off and then a rush back to Ronaldsway for a 4.30pm. return flight. It rained incessantly during the match. Wilmslow try scorers were Alex Taylor (2), Jack Masters and James Coulthurst.

We then lost again by 38 - 34 last October. This time conditions were far more agreeable and we actually outscored them with six tries to their five but their kicker had a far more profitable day than ours. The Wolves had recovered from a 24 - 10 half time deficit and came mighty close to snatching a win right at the end. It was an excellent game.



Photos from Douglas v Wilmslow 13 Jan 2018

### WHAT THEY SAID AT PENRITH

Penrith's management team were delighted with the effort and spirit shown by their makeshift side at the end of a difficult week, they were also delighted to win a losing bonus point at the death with the last kick of the game. This was Penrith's second attempt to play this game and they almost had as many problems this week raising a side as they did the week they couldn't travel because of lack of numbers. They named an 18 man squad on Thursday only for there to be one cry off on Friday evening and another unforgivably on Saturday morning without telling anyone and just not turning up. This resulted in both the coaches naming themselves on the bench to fulfil the fixture.

There had been talk the game might be off due to a waterlogged pitch but a let up in the rain and a strong wind had combined to make the ground playable but conditions were testing, It was very soft underfoot and there was a wind gusting down the ground.

The home side had first use of the slope and wind and soon had the Cumbrians under immense pressure in their own 22, Penrith defended for their lives with some desperate last ditch tackling and made life as difficult as they could for the home side who were dominating the proceedings. The away side were leaking penalties as they strove to keep their line intact and Wilmslow had a string of attacking 5m lineouts and scrums but could not get themselves over the line.

It was a credit to the away side's tenacity that it took the almost 20 minutes before Wilmslow could open the scoring but then a second try quickly followed and it was then a credit to their spirit that Penrith hung on in there and didn't allow the them another score in the rest of the first half with the gale at their backs and a two man numerical advantage..

Brad Quail was unlucky to be yellow carded as he covered back when the home side made a clean break from half way, he ran down and tackled one attacker who got the ball away and then caught the second but was adjudged to have used a high tackle. Penrith received a second yellow for persistent offside and had to play the final 10 minutes of the half with 13 men.

Mike Sanderson's full report can be read on Penrith's web site





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# 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

15th. February Division 2 South Vikings P Holmes Chapel

16th. February Aldwinians 0 - 20 Colts

Team	Р	W	D	L	For	Agst	Diff	+/-	Pts	
Wilmslow Vikings	18	16	0	2	616	181	435	1	83	
Moore	18	12	0	6	478	342	136	1	67	
Liverpool St Helens 2nd XV	18	12	0	6	314	293	21	0	65	
Holmes Chapel	18	12	0	6	436	284	152	3	69	
Didsbury Toc H 2nd XV	17	11	0	6	467	312	155	1	62	
Altrincham Kersal Cougars	18	11	0	7	523	399	124	2	61	
Crewe & Nantwich 2nd XV	19	9	0	10	415	357	58	2	55	
Liverpool Collegiate 2nd XV	18	8	0	10	381	483	-102	1	51	
Widnes 2nd XV	16	8	0	8	406	342	64	2	50	
Manchester 2nd XV	18	7	0	11	519	448	71	3	48	
Anselmians 2nd XV	18	7	0	11	321	467	-146	1	46	
Northwich 2nd XV	19	6	0	13	333	617	-284	2	45	
Lymm Eagles	18	4	0	14	420	721	-301	2	35	
Helsby	17	2	0	15	184	567	-383	3	27	

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	12	12	0	0	389	78	311	0	60	
Wilmslow	11	7	0	4	233	162	71	1	38	-2
Whitchurch	11	6	0	5	225	139	86	2	36	
Aldwinians	10	4	1	5	132	240	-108	0	28	
Caldy	11	3	0	8	164	275	-111	1	24	
Littleborough	10	3	0	7	138	285	-147	2	24	
Sefton Senior	11	2	1	8	179	281	-102	4	23	-2

Concedes: Whitchurch1



For those of you who do not read the Telegraph, I thought Brian Moore's piece about paying players was exactly my feelings and I couldn't agree more. The main paragraphs are well worth forwarding.

"We should start with the RFU review into payments allowed at all levels of the game. That became a fudge and failed to grasp the essential point that we are allowing payments to players who do not deserve them and thus taking money out of a sport that cannot afford it. What is needed is a complete ban on any payment below the Championship, because Clubs are having to find sums of anywhere between £30,000 and £120,000 a year before they address any other expenditure. And for what? For players who could not get anywhere near a professional contract because they are not good enough. All this money should be spent expanding mini, junior and women's sections within lower league clubs. Not only would this make them better and bigger community clubs, it would increase the chances of producing that small percentage of players with the talent to go on to play professional and international rugby. It would also restore what lower-league rugby is meant to be about - fun; competitive, but fun, friendship and lifelong memories. We are allowing a series of local businessmen to distort the lower leagues for their own vanity. Their investment is often made up solely to steal players developed by other clubs and advance up leagues until they decide to end their largesse, leaving clubs to plummet and sometimes to go under."

I think there are some diehard clubs who are still paying players, but the majority have seen sense and the matches are now more even. There are only seven points between the second club, Waterloo, and the seventh, Birkenhead Park, in our League.

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## eague Round

There are some hard to call interesting matches today which could well have a bearing on the final shape of the table. On current form fourth placed Altrincham Kersal at home to second placed Firwood Waterloo could go either way and the same could be said of league leader's Burnage at home to Stockport. AK and Stockport have been amongst the form sides in recent weeks and look capable of upsetting the top two.

Wilmslow's win against Penrith last week didn't look like that of a team heading for the Northern Premier League but it was arguably more convincing than the final score line suggests and if their attacking play can refind the fluency it showed last autumn, then who knows. Their destiny is in their own hands with matches against Firwood Waterloo, Birkenhead Park and Burnage still to come.. If they enjoy the kind of run in they had two seasons ago, then they could yet end up in the top two.

The only other rearranged game played last week was at Penrith to where Keswick had transferred their home game against an improving **Broughton Park**. That ended 0-24 for Park and eased them up the table to twenty five points ahead of Keswick and Warrington, who look destined to drop down to N2W at the end of the season

Stockport's five match winning run came to an end a fortnight ago 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 have now slipped back to fifth in the table. The fact is though that so little separates all the sides in the top half of the league, that they're all still in the chase for a play off at least.

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 theoretically in the race to stay up but last week they conceded sixty points at Blackburn, who are the only one of last season's promoted clubs to 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 staving up.

Macc's short tenure at the top of the Norther Premier came to a sharp end with an unexpected reverse at home against Sandal and they now drop back to third behind 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 their rearranged game against De La Salle being postponed again. With Rochdale and Glossop both winning, Manchester's lead at the top is now reduced to just two points but with a game in hand.

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### SIX NATIONS 2020

Saturday 1st. February Wales v Italy Principality Stadium 2.15pm Ireland v Scotland Aviva Stadium 4.45pm

France v England Stade de France 3.00pm Sunday 2nd. February

Saturday 8th. February Ireland v Wales Aviva Stadium 2.15pm Scotland v England Murrayfield 4.45pm.

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.

England v Ireland Twickenham 3.00pm Sunday 23rd. February

> Ireland v Italy Aviva Stadium 2.15pm. England v Wales Twickenham 4.45pm.

Scotland v France Murrayfield 3.00pm Sunday 8th. March

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





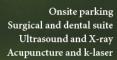
Saturday 7th. March













The Six Nations will be finishing on 14th.

March, when England play Italy in Rome,
providing that the game does actually The Six Nations will be finishing on 14th. providing that the game does actually take place. Either way, I thought a

Britalian style supper would be the thing for the occasion. Real Italian meals are based around a strict four course structure. You start with



antipasti and then move onto a primi, which is normally a pasta or risotto dish, a seconde which will be meat or fish course and then finally a fruttae or dolce, which doesn't seem to need any explanation from me. It seems pretty good to me so here goes.

### **CRAB CROSTINI AND WATERCRESS SOUP**

For the soup, you'll need unsalted butter, olive oil, a chopped onion, 150g tinned cannellini beans, chicken or vegetable stock, watercress, spinach, seasoning, double cream and chilli flakes (optional)

Soften the onion in the butter and oil with a pinch of salt until turning colour. Add the beans and stock and simmer for 5 minutes. Stir in the watercress and spinach, turn off the heat and allow the vegetables to wilt. Blend and season. Serve with cream and chilli flakes.

For the crostini: you'll need a dressed crabmeat, lemon juice, diced red chilli, olive oil and ciabatta slices.

Mix the crab, lemon juice and chilli together and allow the flavours to intermingle in the fridge for up to 24 hours. Drizzle the oil over the sliced ciabatta and bake for 5-10 minutes, spread with the crab mixture and serve with the soup.

### ASPARAGUS AND CLAM RISOTTO

Chicken stock, olive oil, chopped onion, garlic cloves, chilli, crushed fennel seeds, roughly chopped asparagus, arborio rice, glass of white wine, clams, cockles or mussels, chopped parsley.

Sften the onion, garlic, chilli, fennel seeds and asparagus in the olive oil. Stir in the rice. Add the wine and allow to bubble. Gradually add the stock, a ladleful per time as required. Keep the rice moist during cooking and when it is soft add the clams and steam until they are open. When serving, sprinkle over a garnish of basil or parsley.

### MILANESE STYLE PORK OR VEAL CUTLET

Milanese means that the meat is coated with breadcrumbs before frying in olive oil. Ideally, the cutlets should be cut as thinly as possible and still be on the bone. If you can't get veal, then use thinly cut rump steak. In this country, our beef is slaughtered so young, it's near yeal anyway. Rose yeal is best though.

Coat the veal in seasoned beaten eggs, then simply cover on both sides in white or golden breadcrumbs. I use a coffee bean grinder to make the crumbs from slightly stale bread and add some seasoning, cayenne and chopped parsley. Fry for a couple of minutes on each side until crisp and golden and serve with saute potatoes and a green vegetable such as spinach or broccoli.

### PEARS POACHED IN RED WINE WITH MASCARPONE AND GORGONZOLA

300ml water, 300ml fruity red wine, 200g sugar, strips of lemon rind, cinnamon stick, 8 black peppersorns, 8 under ripe pears, 1 tbsp red currant jelly, 500g gorgon zola, 250g mascarpone.

Heat the water, wine and sugar until dissolved. Add the cinnamon, lemon rind and black peppercorns. Peel the pears without removing their stalks but cut a small piece from their bottoms so they will stand upright. Lay them in the poaching liquid and cook at a low simmer until tender. Ensure every part of the pears touches the wine mixture. The slower the better.

Remove the pears to a bowl. Add the recurrant jelly to the poaching liquid and reduce to a syrup. Cool, pour over the pears, cover with cling film and refrigerate overnight.

To serve, place a pear upright on a plate together with a wedge of cheese and a scoop of mascarpone.

And now the wine. It has to be an Italian for this meal but that's no hardship as there's plenty of decent Italian wine around at about a tenner. For the crostini and risotto, go for a Verdicchio or Gavi. These are northern Italian wines but there's plenty of decent white wine from other parts of Italy. If in doubt, tell your supplier what you're going to eat and let him or her make the recommendations. That's partly why buying your wine from a specialist is better than a supermarket because the staff in the former have a better idea of what they're talking about.

For the pork or veal, switch across to a medium bodied red wine. Again, plenty to choose from. 'Dogagello' from Majestic is an interesting hybrid described as a 'Super Tuscan', whatever that means. It's predominantly made from Tuscany's stand out grape 'Sangiovese' and then blended, with other varieties, which are not necessarily of Italian origin. But it's on offer at the moment and in my opinion is a very good tenner's worth, especially if you screw the top off and allow it to breathe for a few hours before consumption.

# 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
Wilmslow	18	13	0	5	550	380	170	67	15	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
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	19	8	0	11	454	467	-13	43	16	-5
Broughton Park	19	7	0	12	376	472	-96	37	9	0
Bowdon	19	3	0	16	352	656	-304	18	6	0
Warrington	18	2	0	16	256	541	-285	12	4	0
Keswick	18	2	0	16	181	717	-536	11	3	0

### THIS WEEK'S OTHER MATCHES

Altrincham Kersal v Firwood Waterloo

Birkenhead Park v Penrith

Burnage v Stockport

Northwich v Keswick

Vale of Lune v Broughton Park

Warrington v Bowdon

### League Fixtures & Results - 2019/2020 HOME **TEAMS** 18/4 38-13 Altrincham Kersal 31-17 49-3 28/3 34-35 27-10 29/2 44-24 17-25 29-24 14/3 37-24 Birkenhead Park 15-24 35-24 44-7 31-21 71-7 35-20 29/2 36-3 43-22 50-7 22-24 14/3 18/4 24-35 38-15 7-24 14-25 14/3 36-5 28/3 35-14 15-23 7/3 Bowdon 12-38 12-31 **Broughton Park** 7/3 34-14 21-6 10-8 19-58 68-10 21/3 34-20 12-15 20-22 17-24 10-41 4/4 59-29 14/3 57-27 27-25 45-21 26-19 Burnage 40-37 29-15 28-18 29/2 28/3 **57-22** 18/4 22-17 33-7 **39-7** 21/3 15-17 24-22 6-17 31-0 **Douglas** 4/4 36-7 7/3 20-8 38-34 16-12 38-22 63-10 61-15 37-27 49-20 28/3 27-14 35-12 20-14 Firwood Waterloo 18/4 7/3 21/3 Keswick 7/3 5-36 21/3 0-24 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 37-30 4/4 10-15 7/3 17-27 43-22 19-26 29-39 0-12 29-10 Penrith 21/3 31-29 32-27 **38-29** 21/3 27-26 20-20 33-17 34-12 23-43 45-15 4/4 69-3 31-21 41-26 22-29 Stockport 29/2 12-17 20-10 12-41 Vale of Lune 24-26 21/3 40-24 43-5 4/4 19-28 19-25 28-18 12-19 20-19 12-52 22-25 13-19 29/2 18/4 7-17 14/3 22-33 28/3 7-32 18-21 Warrington 28-15 28/3 59-14 23-17 36-32 29/2 34-6 56-8 35-14 21-14 8-17 14/3 **47-22** Wilmslow

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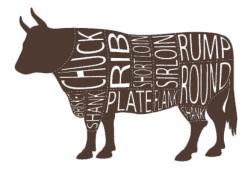
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Jonty Fallows and Geoff Mitchell Both now in a different place

### GEOFF MITCHELL

Many of you will know that Geoff died last week. There was a minute's silence before the game against Penrith and a piece in the programme.

The younger of you will not have known him well. His first club was Halifax, then a force in the land, before he moved to Wilmslow, where he became club captain in 1955. Geoff played for Yorkshire from 1950 to 1957. He also appeared for the North East Counties and in a couple of England trials.

Until very recently he regularly attended matches here, often in the company of others from that generation.

His funeral will be at the Vale Royal Crematorium on the Chester Road on Monday, March 9th at 11.00.



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### Wolves Players and Personal Sponsors 2019-20

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Mike Parker

Harry Patch

Seb Pemberton

Andy Rimmer

Elliot Rowe

Loui Staples

Sean Street

Jez Sumner

Adam Taher

Alex Taylor

Rob Taylor

Jack Walmsley

Ollie Wilkinson

Tommy Wilkinson

George Witham

Ollie Witham

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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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\*only wolves need apply



### Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>. 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, Appearances and Point Sco ers 2019 - 20										
0.0.2	-0.0	<b>-</b>				Г				
	Appearance	Tries	Drop Goals	Penalties	Conversions	Points				
Jordan Ayrey	7	1				5				
Nick Barker	1									
Sam Beckett	3									
Guy Colongne-Brooks	1									
James Coulthurst	15	8				40				
Sam Cutts	16	4				20				
Ben Day	14	8				40				
Alex Donaldson	1 7									
Charlie Gardiner	1	_				_				
Sammy Graham	17	1				5				
Ethan Harding Adam Hewitt	16	3			4	23				
Richard Hughes	5	'				٦				
Mark Jennings	14	7			3	4				
Chris Jones	2	1			Ü	5				
Danny Kennedy	8	1				5				
Jonny Kennedy	5	3			3	2				
Jamie Kingdon	15	11			Ü	55				
Sam Lawton	14	1				5				
Ollie Lee	9	'								
Rhodri Lewis	8	1				5				
Bob MacCallum	17	2		6	48	11				
Conor McMurdock	8	1				5				
Jack Masters	16	2				10				
James Nicholson	3	-								
Matthew Norfolk-Clarke	7	2				10				
Kieran O'Rourke	10	2				10				
Harry Patch	3	1				5				
Rick Parker	1									
Mike Parker	8									
Seb Pemberton	14	2				10				
Andy Rimmer	6	1				5				
Toby Rowe	1									
Matt Shufflebottom	11									
Loui Staples	1									
Ollie Stockwin	10									
Sean Street	15	14				70				
Adam Taher	14	5				25				
Alex Taylor	13	6				30				
Robert Taylor	17	2				10				
Tommy Wilkinson	3	2				10				
George Witham	1									



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 22<sup>nd</sup>. February 2020 Wilmslow 21 – 14 Penrith

### North 1 West

Wilmslow were not flattered by their three tries to two win against Penrith. Indeed, they could and should have had it won by half time but by the end of the game, the Wolves will have been grateful for the four league points, which keeps them in the leading group of sides in this season's North 1 West league.

Both Wilmslow and Penrith have faded since the balmy days of last autumn. Penrith were the early league leaders but their progress has suffered through losing key players to injury, others moving from the area for career reasons and another handful leaving for a gap year of travel. This was their fifth successive loss since the start of the year. Nevertheless, their side stuck to the task at Wilmslow and although on the back foot for much of the game, they defended their lines well and weren't so far away from nicking a result.

Wilmslow's start to 2020 began with three successive defeats before they scrambled a win in mid month against Broughton Park. The side still had an unsettled look about it for this rearranged game, several players being absent for



family half term activities on what was originally a blank date in the Wolves calender. Neverthelee, on the field the side enjoyed plenty of possession and territory, especially in the first half when they had the benefit of a gusting wind behind them, and with a bit more patience and composure on the ball could well have scored more than the three tries that they did. Their performance was far from perfect, occasionally it was painful to watch, but after recent outings, it was still a step in the right direction and will have given coach Chris Jones something to work on.

Full back, Ben Day crossed twice in the first half. His first try came when he took a short pass from Ethan Harding, playing at No. 10, to break the Penrith defensive line and the second followed five minutes later when he got himself in the perfect position to take Mark Jennings inside pass. The Wolves were on the attack again from the base of a scrum as half time approached when Penrith intercepted a pass in midfield to race away for their centre Rossi to reduce the deficit. Up to that point, they'd hardly been out of their own half and their spirits were visibly lifted to find themselves only seven points adrift at half time with the prospects of



an awkward wind in their favour to drive them on in the second period. Wilmslow defended well though and, despite a number of worrying moments, had several good attacking phases themselves, from one of which Ethan Harding broke the Penrith line for what transpired to be the decisive score with about fifteen minutes left to play. Several other good positions were squandered before Penrith had the last word in the last play of the game with winger Kyle Adams making the extra man to cross and full back Fraser Nicholson making an awkward conversion to secure them a deserved losing bonus point.



Wilmslow No. 7, Sammy Lawton was justifiably named man of the match for his carrying of the ball, his tackling and overall work rate. He was mortified though that his otherwise excellent showing wasn't rounded off with a first half try, when he was caught from behind just five metres or so short. Mark Jennings was also tackled short as he went for the line but overall looked to be

finding his form again after an injury induced layoff. You would have put your money, quite a lot of it, on prop Adam Taher scoring late on but he was stopped just an inch or so short when a try looked inevitable. Once again though, Ben Day had demonstrated his remarkable ability to intrude the line to maximum effect in just the right place and at the right time. He's already Wilmslow's all time record try scorer and his two in this match not only increased his tally but ensured the win.

A word for ground manager, Bryn Lewis, who somehow against all the odds, the incessant rain and flooding of the last week or so had produced a surprisingly firm and dry pitch. It wasn't his fault that a stiff wintery North Westerly wintery was rattling everyone's bones as it blew and gusted its way down the ground.





Broughton Park Broughton



# 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** 

7th. March Intermediate leagues ; Division 2 South Vikings v Didsbury TOC H

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**

Ian Morgan NW Federation and MDRURS

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



### Saturday 29th. February 2020 North 1 West Wilmslow v Douglas (IOM)

### **Wilmslow**

- 15. Ben Day
- 14. James Coulthurst
- 13. Richard Hughes
- 12. Ethan harding
- 11. Sam Cutts
- 10. Bob MacCallum
- 9. Sean Street
- Ollie Stockwin
- 2. Robert Taylor (capt.)
- 3. Adam Taher
- 4. Adam Hewitt
- Chris Jones
- 6. Seb Pemberton
- 7. Sammy Lawton
- 8. Jack Masters

### Subs

Rhodri Lewis Matthew Norfolk-Clarjke Jamie Kingdon

### Douglas (IOM)

- 15 Carl Murray
- 14. Ott Krusell
- 13. Guy Wood
- 12. Ethan Pocklington
- 11. Adam Boyd
- 10. Aidan O'Shea
- 9. Steven Pocklington
- 1. Simon Hoddinott
- 2. Joseph Corkish
- Owen Carvin
- 4. Harry Raven
- 5. Ralph Clarke
- 6. Michael Dunnett
- 7. Samuel Games
- 3. Niall Killey

### Subs

Christian Brew Harrison Kirk Sean Garland



145a Ashley Road Hale Altrincham WA14 2UW Tel: 0161 928 3276

Wishing the Wolves a Successful Season