

Newsletter 4 25 September 1995

GOOD WINS FOR ALL HOME TEAMS ON SATURDAY - ONLY THE TRAVELLING SECONDS GO DOWN. LOADS OF CLUB NEWS SHOCK HORROR.

Did you hear about the skeleton who walked into the pub? "Pint for bitter and a bucket please," he said to the barman. Two condoms were walking past a gay club, one turns to the other and says, "Do you fancy going in and getting shitfaced?" What's the difference between Blackburn Rovers' squad and a puddle? A puddle has more depth. What's the difference between Manchester City and a lift? A lift doesn't take seven months to go down.

TEAMS FOR SATURDAY 30 SEPTEMBER v Helsby, Wallasey 1st XV League game.

1st XV Helsby (A) Meet 1.15 J.POLLOCK	2nd XV Helsby (H) Meet 1.30 G.MURRAY	3rd XV Helsby (A) Meet 1.30 P.GRAVES	4th XV Wallasey (H) Meet 1.45 L.ROBERTS	5th XV Wallasey (A) Meet 1.45 M.NEISH
C.ELKERTON P.COTGRAVE D.THOMAS M.F'STONE	A.GAYLE A.T.HOLLAND* B.BURNS P.THOMPSON	G.DAVIES JOE DAVIES D.BALDWIN A.PEARSON	J.KNAPMANN S.ROBERTS A.ROBERTS C.AINSLIE	M.GAUNT L.POVALL S.MARSHALL S.REGAN
M.HOUSTON C.SALISBURY	M.DALTON M.ASTBURY	F.INGRAM M.EVANS	N.SIMMS(C) J.BURGESS	J.WARD N.LEEDS
M.CAVANAGH C.McHUGH(C) D.McCLUSKEY S.CROMPTON J.TYLER S.WALLACE C.HOLLAND G.LEWIS	F.M.* K.JONES P.YARLETT M.TYLER P.REEVES P.WALLACE A.ROBERTS M.LEET (C)	W.THORNBUR J.MASON M.COFFIN C.CHEARY D.WALKER K.DEVANEY M.PENNY J.TUOHY	FRED G.WILLIAMS N.OLSSSEN P.BENNETT F.WILLIAMS I.MASON P.PARRY S.HILL	J.GAUNT P.STOKES P.ASTBURY T.FISHER S.MURRAY G.PALMER S.MYLETT J.BECALL
Res: P.STEEN; T.BRADFORD		*pitch marking		
RESERVES:L.COLLINS; P.EVANS; B.DAVIES; T.TRIGGS; J.PERCIVAL				

CRY OFFS BY FRIDAY AT THE LATEST TO:

Chris McHugh Ian McLean Nigel Simms
678 5148 652 6180 01270661277(H) 01270251871(W)
FIRST XV: This is a league game - Number Ones compulsory for everyone.

THE CRY OFF SITUATION last week was a nightmare for the captains with cry offs coming right left and centre. This week we have several illustrious names unavailable, so the only excuse for crying off will be loss of limb(s)! PLEASE NOTE!!!

FUTURE FIXTURES: Saturday 7 October: 1st XV v Newton (home) in the Pilkington Shield; Prenton Vets XV v Shrewsbury Vets (home), team to be selected by Nigel Simms, see him to confirm availability.

PRENTON 200 CLUB, once again, run by Bert Bushell, this important club fundraiser needs your support. Bert has distributed envelopes to everyone so please try to sell them, the club desperately needs the money. Please make cheques payable to 'Prenton 200 Club.'

THE PRENTON LADIES COMMITTEE has got off to a great start, Chairperson

Helen Tyler reporting much interest. She can be contacted on 606 8808. A Womens' Keep Fit session has been organised for Monday nights, at the club, 7-8pm. The session will be taken by Paula Triggs, everyone, beginners included welcome, only £1.

FRIDAY 20th OCTOBER at 8.00pm, a Jewellery Party by Cabouchon will be held at the club. Tickets are £1.50 each and that includes a supper. Please see any of the Ladies Committee.

FORWARD PLANNING the Club Kids Christmas Party, only three months hence(!) is now being planned. The intention this year is to have a traditional 'Santa' sort of affair at the club for the 2-7 year olds and then to organise a trip to the pantomime, perhaps in January, for the 7-12 year olds. To enable this to be booked well in advance, please sign up accordingly on the list that will be on the board in the clubhouse shortly.

SATURDAY 30 SEPTEMBER ... at Birkenhead Park RUFC, Mark Tyler's 18th birthday bash. Everyone is naturally welcome!

TRAINING ... every Wednesday night at the club - those who train will get preference in selection to the teams on Saturdays. And starting Monday 2 October, a regular club circuit training fitness session has been set up. The venue is Prenton High School for Girls and the time, 7pm to 8.30pm, immediately after the over 18s Hockey Training. So get to the Prenton session early to avoid disappointment!

PRENTON YOUTH SECTION to judge from the number of youngsters kicking balls around the pitch Saturday evenings, there must be scope for something to be organised for them for Sunday morning. Anyone interested see Yarlo.

What do you call a dog with wings? Linda McCartney.

NEWSLETTER ERRATA CORNER.....

Just to tidy up one or two piffling errors which have caused varying degrees of consternation. After just over three years, John Tuohy has seen fit to point out his name has no 'e', and Karl Devaney has insisted in this organ dropping the extra 'n' it has consistently added. These men have an inalienable right to have their names spelled correctly but that doesn't prevent them from being pedantic fuckers. Then there is the matter of the incorrect captain's phone numbers. After the first newsletter of the season, the new owner of Nigel Simms' old house got a taste of what it's like to organise the lower sides and last week FM's parents got more and more exasperated as their Friday evening TV sojourn was interrupted at regular intervals - your editor hadn't realised that the porky prop had left this address some years ago! And then there was week 2, when Mick Coffin was given a 652 prefix rather than the correct 645. When John Tuohy phoned at around 9-30pm the guy who runs the corner paper shop had become quite worried. "I'm really concerned," he said, entering into the spirit, "I just can't see you lot getting a very strong third team out on Saturday, the number of people who've phoned me to cry off tonight!!!"

OLD FRIENDS CORNER hot news from Central Lancashire, Rossendale RUFC's 3rd XV has had a stunning start to the season, the main man being Big Russell Dodd, late of the Prenton Dream Thirds. In fact Russell is the team's top try scorer so far this term - he has crossed the line once! The only time the team has troubled the scorers!

TOUR DATE CONFIRMED the club will be away for the weekend of Saturday 20 April 1996. Actual travel dates to be finalised.

1st XV v RHOS, Home, Won 13-10 MAKING HEAVY WEATHER OF A GOOD WIN

This was a tough hard game against solid opposition from the Principality. We started well, after a lot of tight forward play we scored twice, Craig Elkerton bagging two tries in the corner. Brian Elkerton, still somewhat chagrined after last week's mauling, was listening to the report and was quick to chip in, "'They're for you, dad,' he was heard to say," he quipped. Turning round 10-0 to the good the skipper asked the side to step up a couple of gears. They didn't. The opposition did and soon drew level with a couple of tries. We rallied after a severe tongue lashing bollocking from the skip and pressured their line. Fat Ox Cav spilled the shopping, the ball popping out of his hands as he crossed the line on a penalty move, then with minutes remaining, we were awarded a penalty on the 22, just to one side of the posts. Andy Whitehead, who up to that moment had been unable to kick his way out of a paper bag, was summoned. The dashing fly half had missed numerous kicks during the game and these bloomers were looming large in his psyche as he had a long wait while an injured player was treated. Matters weren't exactly assisted by Craig who sauntered past him muttering "Hard and low, wind's against you." As it happened, it was all right on the night. The kick sailed over, the winner.

2nd XV v Rhos, away, lost, 8-26 MACCA PLAYS UNCLE BUCK

A lovely day in rural Wales and the sidelined supremo Macca McLean was quite looking forward to watching the team in the autumnal sunlight. All was going to plan till Steeny trotted onto the pitch with his two year old son and casually mentioned to Macca could he look after him. "It was OK for a while," said the armslung Mac, "but then the little twat wanted his dad every five minutes. Then he wanted a piss. And he wouldn't go for a piss anywhere except in a proper pisser." Clearly young Steen has been brought up right! Meanwhile back on the pitch, the side had undergone great reorganisation, the entire picked front row having cried off. The home side scored almost from the kick off, then Phil Sheridan scored a penalty and Greg Pandit pounced on a Rhos fumble to burst through for a try to put us 8-7 in front. Rhos regained the lead on the stroke of half time with a penalty and as the lads gathered together for a team talk, Macca was heard to say, "If you want to have a little pee, I'll take you into the woods." Steeny went paler than he usually is and informed our putative parent of young Ben's requirement. "So I took the little fucker into the clubhouse for a piss," says Macca with some sensitivity, "and by the time I get back, the second half's started and Rhos have scored twice!" From which the side never really recovered. And to complete a thoroughly miserable day the beslinged nominal leader was thrown out of the Rhos clubhouse kitchen for blowing his nose on a teatowel. The whole day was an interesting learning curve for our Macca McLean.

3rd XV v Birkenhead Park, Home, Won 54-17 ANOTHER DAZZLING SECOND HALF

It all sounds easy looking at that scoreline, but the first half was a very close run affair, the visitors actually taking the lead with a penalty. The forward exchanges were even and both sets of backs had some good moments. Then Bernie Burns crashed over after we had moved a penalty near their line and Matt converted. At half time we thus led 7-3, and the acting skipper asked for an all round increase. The response from the team was dramatic, even more so than last week! With breathtaking speed and precision, forwards and backs linked and set up great swathing runs with much interpassing. There were several splendid phases of rugby. Tries rained down, Robbie Harrison got two, Bernie grabbed his second and Mike Penny, having a truly devastating game, running, handling and tackling, grabbed a brace. In between Matt Houston strolled over and Mark Astbury scored probably the best of the eight tries, finishing off a length of the pitch

movement wherein all the backs touched the ball at least once, with a searing burst to the line. Matt Houston converted six. Towards the end we relaxed and the visitors responded with a couple of token efforts but the result was never going to be anything other than an embarrassment to them. It was another tremendous second half performance with great running handling rugby, thoroughly enjoyed by all.

4th XV v Caldý, Home, Won 15-10. SKIPPER CONFIDENT FROM THE OFF
Nigel is certainly picking up the arts of psychology. When the lads asked who they were playing, his response was quick, "Caldýnil," he said. Naturally several of our lads, they with small brains, were nonplussed by this response and one or two were heard to mutter, "Who are they? Where are they from?" Well we started positively with a Simms penalty, then a scrum wheeled considerably and Steve Mylett, ever alert, picked up from the side and drove over for a try. The visitors struck a penalty and half time was reached 8-3. The back row now enjoyed a purple spell, Beaky, Mylo and Stuart Hill dominating, well backed up by the ever faithful Benno Bennett, playing second row but acting like a blind side. Pressure gained points reward when from a close scrum the ball was quickly spun wide and Alan Pearson scored a neat winger's try. This was converted, against all the odds (up hill, into the sun, into the wind etc etc) by Skipper Simms to give us a comfortable cushion, which it turned out we needed as some sloppy play allowed Caldý a converted try towards the end. A fine game noted from Dave Baldwin in the backs and thanks to Frank Williams' mate (isn't this a contradiction in terms? I didn't know Frank had any mates! Ed.) a hooker from Daventry. Well, that's Frank's business and he's sticking to it.

George Pollock had yet another stunning moment on the top pitch on Saturday. The visitors, well down were busting a gut to attack. The pack had driven into our 22 with huge effort and had then lost the ball which Frank Ingram kicked well into their half. They were not best pleased to see their dozy full back try to take a quick throw to himself. As throws go this poor pillock couldn't have got it much worse. First he threw it not straight, then he dropped it, then kicked it on as he tried to re-gather straight into the hands of Robbie Harrison who said ta very much as he waltzed over to score. The pissed off Park pack trundled to the half way ready for the kick off. George was having none of this though and he made them all trot back to beneath the posts for the conversion only to then trot back halfway for the restart. "Park shithouses," he growled later!

MACCA MCLEAN, at the club, his right arm still heavily bound up and in a sling. Your editor, ever quick to ask the main question, showed the nose of a newshound. "Right hand out of use, eh Macca, how's the wanking coming along." The sidelined skipper took it in his stride, "Pretty well," he replied with some little bashfulness, "she's been very considerate."

TOUCHLINE DIALOGUE Sleb had a little query for Terry the Ref on Saturday, "Hey ref," he says can I get sent off for what I'm thinking?" On getting a reply in the negative, he's quick on the riposte, "in that case, I think you're a cunt...."

The 2nd XV were discussing tactics before leaving the club. "We've got big jumpers at the back of the line, we'll use them as our secret weapon." Then it was pointed out Kiwi was throwing in. Oh well, bang goes our secret weapon groaned the lads....

BULLER MAGOO, the heroic first XV skipper lay prostrate on the ground towards the end of the game. The bucket was called for and on dashed spongeman Bongo. Just as he was about to treat the stricken skip, he suddenly leapt to his feet and sprinted towards the touchline. The Old Bongo had clarified his priorities - he had just spotted some kids robbing his golf balls!