

SATURDAY RESULTS REFLECT FRIDAY PISS-UP!

Club learns it's not such a good idea to have a full fixture list the day after the annual dinner shock horror!

The cannibal returned from his holiday minus an arm and a leg. "What kind of holiday was it?" asked his mate. "Self catering," came the reply. Two cannibals were eating a clown when one of them grimaces and spits out a mouthful. "Fucking hell," he says, "this tastes funny to me...."

What's it called when a woman is paralyzed from the waist down? Marriage. What's the difference between a woman with PMT and a pitbull terrier? Lipstick.

TEAMS FOR SATURDAY 7th March 1998 v Rhyl and TBA

<i>1st XV</i> <i>v Rhyl</i> <i>Meet 12.30pm</i>	<i>2nd XV</i> <i>v Rhyl</i> <i>Meet 1.30</i>	<i>3rd XV</i> <i>v Rhyl</i> <i>Meet 12.30pm</i>	<i>4th XV</i> <i>v TBA</i> <i>Meet 1.30pm</i>
L.ROBERTS	C.AINSLIE	S.ROBERTS	Selection from:
M.ASTBURY	J.BIRD	L.GORDON	C.HAYES
D.BALDWIN	B.DAVIES	J.BECALL	M.COFFIN
P.COTGRAVE	J.BROOKES	C.SMITH	A.HOWARTH
C.ELKERTON	R.DUTTON	P.GRAVES	M.GAUNT
			G.ASTBURY
D.THOMAS (C)	M.HOUSTON	M.DALTON	S.ASTBURY
G.FURLONG	M.COTGRAVE	C.SALISBURY	P.ASTBURY
			J.JOHNS
A.VICKERS	W.THORNBUR	FM	D.WALKER
C.McHUGH	R.DODD (C)	K.JONES (C)	JOEY DAVIES
S.MURRAY	M.CAVANAGH	D.McCLUSKEY	V.WILSON
P.WALLACE	J.BOLTON	K.GATHERCOLE	J.JENKINS
S.CROMPTON	M.TYLER	G.CLARKE	J.LYONS
C.HOLLAND	R.TRIGGS	M.PENNY	P.THOMPSON
S.COPPLE	W.LEE	J.SPENCE	C.CHEARY
S.WALLACE	I.McLEAN	B.SHAW	P.REEVES

Reserves: M.PEERS, A.GAYLE

ALL CRY OFFS BY FRIDAY AT THE LATEST TO: (Late cry offs on Saturday to Golf Shop 609 0669)

Dave Thomas 608 0423	Russell Dodd 01706822202 0125457966 (W)	Russell Dodd see left or below.....	Paul Bennett 644 9775
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Emergency numbers for Saturday contact, if you can't get hold of your own skipper: up to 12.00, Russell Dodd is on 01772 257696 ext 2412; after 12, Russell is on 0410 754567.

1998 CLUB TOUR TO THE ISLE OF MAN. It says it all on the informative and snazzy posters which are currently adorning the club notice boards - 'This island has it all, action, rugby, suspense - see what FM does this year - tropical diseases, drama. Can the plane take off with so many forwards on board?' This all makes the Isle of Man clearly **THE PLACE TO BE** between Friday 24th and Sunday 26th April of this year. The firsts play their final league game and the groupies of the club can get thoroughly ratarised before, during and after. Approx cost will be in the region of £100, including return flight and accommodation. A deposit of £25 secures your place. See **Chris Holland** or **Dave Thomas**.

CLUB PHOTOGRAPHS are now beginning to appear, starting with the very early days. Thanks to **Phil Davies** and **Kiwi Jones** for this marvelous effort which is already giving our club the sense of history which will go towards informing our present. Or some such shit! **Phil** still needs more photographs and/or stories etc as he eloquently expostulated at the dinner last Friday. He also said, "If you look at the photographs, look at the balls..." Hmmm?

THE CLUB DINNER last Friday was a roaring success, excellent contributions from **President Phil Davies**, who waxed lyrically about the club's shared traditions and common goal, and from **International Referee Tony Spreadbury**, the highlight of who's speech came when he was commenting on the new radio links between touch judges and referee. Using this technology during a recent game in Ireland, the referee is buzzed. "The number 12 just

threw a punch referee." brogues Mick on the line. "This gives me a problem," says the referee. "he's already on a caution." "OK." comes the touchline reply. "make it number 13." Again, during an international involving the All Blacks in Wellington, the ref gets a buzz from the linesman. "New Zealand number 2, foul play, you need to send him off." The referee is askance. "New Zealand number 2? Send him off? Why don't you come on and send him off?" Well done to Bongo. Alan Roberts Toby Tyler for the organisation and especially to Leslie and the Bar Staff who did a fantastic job. Leslie has also sent her thanks to the lads for their generosity through the evening. *Next year's event will be improved only by ALL club members giving order and respect to our guest speakers.*

RECENT RESULTS

1st XV v Helsby, League, Home, Won 28-7: tries from Craig Elkerton (2). Dave Baldwin and Gary Furlong who also kicked two penalties and a conversion. Chris Holland had to leave the fray after five minutes due to being stamped on by Peter Collins. Later on, Peter got twat of the match while Chris got stitched up at Arrowe Park hospital!

1st XV v Birkenhead Park, Away, Lost 8-15: a spirited effort despite the home side having eight regular first XVers present us having some regular 2nd XVers (Russell D. Wilf L and Rhys Dutton). who acquitted themselves well. Mark Astbury scored our try and Dave Thomas hit a penalty. There was an air of doubt about both their tries.

1st XV v Eagle, Away, Lost 12-25: a very clear example of a collective hangover, we were winning 12-10 with around five minutes left. At which point the referee (in the fact the Eagle coach, he had announced on our arrival that the Society referee had cried off late so he would have to do the job) said he was sorry but he had misread his watch and there were 15 minutes to go. Our boys being finely athletes had psyched up for a 40 minute second half. The excesses of the previous evening meant they were unable to go the extra 10! Craig had scored a marvelous try, juggling the ball before clinging on. Steve Wallace crashed over from close and Dave Thomas slotted a conversion. The somewhat Kiwi Jones had an inspired run out at hooker!

2nd XV v Helsby, Away, Won 14-5: Tries from Matt Houston and Rhys Dutton, both converted by Matt. FM ended up having a slapping match against one of their fellers, the one who had had a bit of a psycho go at Jeff Bird earlier but who had fallen victim to a Matt Houston drive, the full weight of the stampeding stand off rendering the poor sod's arm a limp and listless thing.

2nd XV v Runcorn, away, Lost 0-15: a thoroughly poor effort.

2nd XV v Sefton, Home, Lost 22-29: it was said that this performance, against a 14 strong Sefton side, was an improvement on the previous week. This takes some fucking believing. We started well and after some non-play, Bongo cruised over in the corner. It seemed that the old eminence grise was wearing the excesses of the night previous well, but that fifteenth pint of Chinese soon caught up with him and as Gareth Knapmann arrived as sub, off went Bongo, groaning about not feeling well. A substantial vomit on the touchline soon followed and the Club Coach was heard to mutter words to the effect that he needed a shower and then a return home to bed as he made his exit from the afternoon. Sefton scored two quick tries, we hit back with a Mark Tyler try, converted by Matt, who then kicked a penalty to take the lead at 15-12. Every time their backs got the ball they looked dangerous and they attacked from deep, scoring twice more before John Brookes crashed through the centre for Matt to improve to level at 22-22. Their backs had the last word however with a dazzling move from well within their own 22. We dropped passes, threw passes forward, knocked on, missed passes, missed tackles with great abandon.

3rd XV v Old Parks, Away, Lost 13-32: this was a good free flowing game wherein our points came from the doubly unlikely sources of a Mick Coffin try, converted by Steve Roberts and two Steve Roberts drop goals. As usual there was penetrating analysis from the Prentonites involved. The referee was shite they said. Mick Coffin commented somewhat caustically that "if Mick Penny could pass, I'd have had a hat trick."

3rd XV v Wallasey, Away, Lost 7-32: skipper Dave Ball started his match report with a simple plea - "At the club AGM this year, I want a motion passed that Club Dinners should not take place on Friday evening during the season." Sleb was somewhat more waspish, "Was the game as bad as your behaviour last night, Bally?" It would seem it was! After spending almost the entire first 45 minutes not just in our own half but in our own 22, it was quite a surprise to find we had conceded as few as twenty odd points. We had a little purple patch and Skipper Ball bullocked over for a fine try (men were hanging off him) consummately converted by Graham Davies. Keith Gathercole was told to remove his body padding by the referee prior to the game as "It gives you an unfair advantage." "Marvelous," says Bro Keith, with some justification, "it's all right for Bath players but not for Prenton Thirds....."

Vets XV v Old Parks, Away, Won 24-12: a game played in great spirit by both sides, an enjoyable affair which it is hoped will become an annual event. Our forwards played well, especially the ever youthful Billy Shaw and his elder brother (?) Peter Reeves. We scored four tries all of which were recalled by Gordon and Greg thus: Lenny Davies - very slow dummy then he had to go for the line; Robbie Harrison - long range typical Harrison try, noone to beat the hard work having been done by the forwards; Harry Merry - super break by Greg Pandit (and we don't mean the bone variety), fed onto Joey Davies who kicked for Harry to score in the corner; Kenny Watson - Lenny's high kick was caught by their full back who also got Lenny in full flight, the ball went loose and Kenny went in. Lenny converted two.

The Asp, Senior, turned up with only one boot last Saturday. "Mind you," he said caustically afterwards, "I could've fucking hopped faster than the rest of you lot." He hadn't been at the dinner. Bongo Elkerton was considering the Port Sunlight conjurer who had done lots of tricky tricks after the dinner. "He's a member of that Black Circle or whatever it's called....." Witchcraft huh???