

Prenton RUFC

March 1995

NEWSLETTER 18: 14.3.95

BACK TO WINNING WAYS FOR ALL BUT THE SECONDS WHO ONLY JUST LOSE

What has Birkenhead girl and a computer got in common? You don't appreciate them until they go down on you.

What's the difference between a tyre and 365 used condoms? One's a Goodyear, the other's a fucking good year.

Bruce Forsyth sends his apologies for missing the Club Dinner - he'll be attending the birth of his next wife.

TEAMS FOR SATURDAY 18th March v Whitehouse Park & Wallasey

1st XV REARRANGED LEAGUE GAME. Please note early kick offs.

1st XV	2nd XV	3rd XV	633 Squad	Reserves
W'house Park	Wallasey	Wallasey	Wallasey	
(H) 1.30	(A) 11.15	(A) 11.15	(H) 11.45	
L.ROBERTS	J.POLLOCK	G.MURRAY	S.REGAN	V.WILSON
				S.MYLETT
C.E'RTON	A.GAVIE	D.BENNETT	M.NEISH	P.M.HALL
P.COTGRAVE	B.BURNS(C)	S.ROBERTS	JO.DAVIES	F.INGRAM
M.PENNY	J.JENKINS	J.ASPINALL	A.ROBERTS	M.DAVIES
B.ROWLANDS	C.AINSLIE	B.ELKERTON	R.HARRISON	P.YARLETT
				S.WILLIAMS
A.WHITEHEAD	P.SHERIDAN	M.HOUSTON	N.SIMMS	P.GRAVES
T.TRIGGS	M.EVANS	C.SALISBURY	M.ASTBURY	B.ILES
				J.BURGESS
T.BRADFORD	F.M.	R.DODD(C)	FOGGO	G.WILLIAMS
C.McHUGH	G.FISHER	K.JONES	P.STOKES	N.LEEDS
W.THORNBUR	P.YARLETT	J.GAUNT	A.HOWARTH(C)	F.WILLIAMS
P.REEVES	K.G'COLE	M.TYLER	N.OLSSEON	E.JONES
P.WALLACE	B.DAVIES	C.ROBERTS	T.FISHER	A.JONES
S.WALLACE	K.DEVANNEY	I.MASON	G.KNAPMAN	
C.HOLLAND	A.ROBERTS	G.LEWIS	B.SHAW	
P.LEWIS(C)	I.MCLEAN	D.WALKER	J.BECALL	
A.T.HOLLAND, M.LEET				

CRY OFFS BY FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE VERY LATEST TO:

Peter Lewis	John Ward	Russell Dodd	Arthur Howarth
608 1091	678 3455	0254 57966(work)	336 1026

Recent results v Whitehouse Park & Wallasey. The only recorded Prenton game v Whitehouse Park was a 3rd XV affair in October 1992. It was lost 0-22. We're pretty familiar with Wallasey however - the 3rds lost 5-7 a couple of weeks ago, while the 4ths won 29-5. The Squadron has played them twice, drawing 3-3 and losing 10-12.

CLUB DINNER: Now confirmed for Friday 21 April at the Prenton Suite. Guest speaker - Gordon Brown, ex Scotland and British Lion. Guests of honour - Jonathon Davies and Richard Moriaty. Tickets £20 each. See Toby Tyler/Alan Roberts who will take money in instalments.

CLUB TOUR: Full money to be paid by Saturday 18 March, as hotel has to be paid. See Alan Roberts with your full £75.

It is with regret that the newsletter reports the sad recent death of Leo Connolly, father of Chrissie, Mick and Gary. Our sympathies go to the Connolly family, great servants of the club in the past at this time.

MATCH REPORTS FOR LAST SATURDAY

1st XV v Mossley Hill, Home, Won 37-7 GOOD PERFORMANCE AT A CANTER

This was a pleasing win, backs and forwards combining with a satisfying balance on a very heavy pitch, which, though it had dried out quite a lot, was still a veritable bog for much of its surface area. Tony Triggs managed to remember numerous aspects of the game, these by chance all concerning his own involvement with scores. The principal one, not surprisingly being his own try, when having told the pack he was going to the left and that lumbering juggernaut beginning to gesture in that direction, he hared off to the right and slipped over. The pack, having to adjust were not amused but could hardly show it due to the end result. Other tries came from Lardidar Gunner Wallace, who 'Swished' over the line for two tries (in fairness to our man with the curtains he had a magnificent game), Paul Cotgrave, Mick Featherstone and Craig Elkerton. Good to see both wingers scoring. Andy Whitehead kicked two conversions and a penalty. Three of the tries came from quick second phase possession. The only downside was brought to our attention by acting skipper Buller Magoo, who pointed out that despite the win that we were never in any danger of conceding, there were some small but worrying lapses in discipline. Once we eradicate these, we will become even better.

2nd XV v Liverpool St Helens Vets, Away, Lost 12-13 OH SO CLOSE....

Having given away two soft tries in the opening ten minutes, the side settled down and began to play some constructive rugby. Sustained pressure on the home line eventually yielded a good close range try by Gary Fisher, who had a very good game indeed. Just before half time, Marty Evans rounded off a great move with a try and John Ward converted. As the opposition had meanwhile slotted a penalty, we reached half time 12-13 down. The scorers (the official ones that is) were not to be troubled again though they bloody well should have been! Mark Ex Lardo Leet unfortunately dropped the ball on a potential pushover ('Done it many times myself,' Ed.) and Barry Rowlands looked to have scored a good try in the corner. The touch judge, who was right there, did not raise his flag but the referee, who was some yards away obviously had the world's acutest ocular nerve, as he saw the merest smidgeon of a foot in touch and so gave a line out instead of a score. Soon after, we crossed the line again, but the referee was not convinced the ball had been grounded. The consensus of opinion was that he got this one right and the other one very fucking wrong but such is life. It was a very good game of rugby indeed and everyone enjoyed it.

3rd XV v Mossley Hill, Away, Won 12-5 THE ALBATROSS DEPARTS....

A knacker game for the forwards against a team of fit studenty types who exposed our withering lack of fitness. Ian Macca McLean got a little cross with the pack, suggesting that they had no control and didn't want to win. In fact the only highlights of the forwards game was one good scrummage on their line and some good defence on our own. This first incident led to the home side collapsing the scrum giving us a penalty which should have been a penalty try. This notwithstanding, Bernie Burns crashed over for a power score. The same fellow had earlier scored our first try and later on looked guilty of that heinous crime, jug evasion, dropping passes right left and centre. Mind you, this is not unusual in Bernie's case. The pitch was a

great leveller that wasn't level. In fact it sloped from side to side with about a 1:4 gradient. This made it an easy game for those players with one leg six inches shorter than the other. But only for one half! Work that one out if you can! Anyway, the backs had one of their better collective days, some slick passing movements which deserved tries, wingers Colin 'Bald Eagle' Ainslie and Dave 'Del Boy' Bennett just missing out. Paul 'Vomit' Bennett had a good game but the pack didn't work hard enough. Nice to win again, the lads commented that perhaps the victory was due in no small part to the absence of Mr Walker who obviously has a demotivating effect on the rest of the team. After all, who wants to play knowing you're going to lose. Your Editor is really fucking thrilled to bits with this last bit but would point out the next match report.

The Fosies v Mossley Hill, Home, Won 17-15 WE NEARLY BLEW IT

At last the Walker household had cause for celebration on Saturday night. No it wasn't Buster's first bonk of 1995, it was your editor's first win since mid January, mind you, the team did their level best to make a bollocks of the win. We started like a train against what looked like a right ramshackle visiting side. The pitch was still truly disgusting swampy, wet and horribly smelly, foul scummy stuff filming the surface of the large lakes of standing water. Can we play away more often please. However, a good start was made, Paul Yarlett exploiting the narrow side to squeeze in at the corner, then Mark Astbury showing good pace to go in at the opposite corner. Kicking goals from wide out on this pitch is not a feasible proposition. Ten minutes into the second half, we scored a superb try, the ball being run from our own 22, then passing through several pairs of hands, forwards and backs before Kiwi took the scoring pass beneath the posts. Mark Astbury improved to make it 17-0 and it was a bloody good job he did as we then allowed the visitors three quick tries. Luckily, all of them came out wide so conversions were not really on the agenda. Whether it was their younger limbs that kept going better on the heavy pitch or not, there much Prenton relief at the final whistle. Good games noted from Alan Park and John Becall in the back row and from Mark Astbury.

633 Squadron v British Steel, Away, Won 26-18 A WIN HERE AT LAST

This is not a happy hunting ground for the lads, mainly due to the fact that referees at this gaff tend to look at the game with more than a steely glint! On a beautiful day on a beautiful pitch, the opening 20 minutes were a very even affair, the referee displaying commendable neutrality. It could not last however, especially as we began to dominate the scrums and the decisions favouring the home side began to increase. In the meantime, the scores ticked over. Steve Williams, our new lad on the wing scored a good try, soon followed by the customary touchdown from Steve Roberts. The latter improved one. The Men of Steel hit back to take an 18-12 lead and this was the situation going into the last ten minutes. Then we got a scrum five, wide out and were busy trundling over when their dozy back row dived in. Clearly he had underestimated the permissible home bias of the ref, who had no real choice but to award a penalty try, which gave us a much easier kick under the posts. Steve Roberts duly obliged and we were a point in front. This concerned Arthur who now prepared himself to play at least another 20 minutes as the official maximised the home side's scoring potential. This was neatly put paid to by the estimable Mike Penny who put the issue beyond doubt with a cracking try, easily the best of the game improved by Steve. All in all, a very enjoyable win.