



## Welcome to Eccles

A very warm welcome to the players, officials and spectators of Eccles. In the games we have played over the last two seasons, the spoils have always gone to the home side. Our first meeting in October 2014 saw Warrington run in five tries to claim a 42-8 victory. In our second encounter, we led 6-0 at half time but the game was turned on its head when Eccles introduced a kicking stand-off for the second period and, conceding two penalties and a converted try, we had to settle for a losing bonus point.

Back in December, we suffered only our second defeat of the season to-date in the relentless Eccles rain. After speeding into a 13-0 lead, we were suddenly down to 14 men and Eccles used their numerical superiority to trail by just one point at half time. Eccles then scored two excellent tries to go ahead but we came back to claim the losing bonus point with a second try from Tom Wood and a conversion from Darren Norman. So, from Warrington's point of view, let's hope today follows the usual route and we enjoy our turn to win!

Naturally, it is impossible to write about Eccles without mentioning the world-famous Eccles cake, often called "Dead fly pies", or "Fly cemeteries" or "Squashed fly biscuits". Although no-one can be sure of the date they were first made, it is clear that their history goes back over three centuries.. The word "Eccles" means church, from the Greek "Ecclesia" and the town took its name from the old church built in 1111 A.D. Each year for centuries, a service was held at the church to mark its construction and this became known as the "Eccles Wakes". The service was followed by a fair, with an abundance of food and drink, including the Eccles cake. However, when Oliver Cromwell came to power, the Puritans banned the fair and the eating of Eccles cakes, as they thought there were pagan connections.

Over a 130 years later, the first shop selling Eccles cakes was set up on the corner of Vicarage Road in Eccles but unfortunately large scale Eccles cake manufacture now belongs to companies such as Warburtons. All that is left is the front window of the original Bradburn's shop, which is in the Salford Museum collection.

So back to today. Hopefully, we shall witness a good game of Rugby and go on to enjoy a couple of pints. There are no Eccles cakes on sale but Malcom's pies are very good.

Dave Jervis, President, Warrington Rugby

## Apperances

<u>Name</u>		Games Played This Year	<u>Total</u>	Tries this Season	<u>Total</u>
Aboushakra	Danny	1	1		
Beesley	Nathan	20+2	29	12	15
Bennett	Sam	6 + 2	8		
Brazendale	James	0+2	3	1	1
Byrne	Craig	0+2			
Caldwell	Max	7	14		2
Callander	Sean	20	52	1	1
Connelly	Matt	16+1	78	3	9
Edwards	Pete	5+5	22		0
Fleming	Dan	18+2	116	1	7
Fraser	Hayden	7+2	45	4	24
Green	Tom	2+1	4		
Griffiths	Dan	0+1	21		4
Haddon	Mike	2 + 1	150		5
Hannon	Jack	3+1	4		
Hockenhull	Ben	21	22	1	1
Hughes	Sean	13+1	90	1	4
Hughes	Kieran	14=1	79	10	87
Johnstone	Elliot	13+6	75	3	6
Johnstone	Luke	12+2	108	3	26
Jones	Kevin	3	246		72
Lynch	Phil	2+2	43		2
Lyon	Phil	2 + 1	3		
Lythgoe	Zak	4	134		22
Marland	Alex	3+4	7		0
McGregor	James	5 +3	8		0
Nicholls	Sam	2+1	13	1	5
Norman	Darren	16+3	19	5	5
O'Rourke	Clement	17	45		0
Pennington	Nick	0+1	1		
Pilkington	Steve	15+2	72	6	33
Preston	Ryan	1+2	23		0
Riley	Josh	21	77	2	3
Roberts	Andy	1	79		18
Rockey	Matt	3+2	157		52
Smith	Jono	9	19	4	12
Thompaon	Paul	7	225		19
Thompson	Jamie	6+1	13	3	5
Walker	Max	17+2	29	4	4
Ward	Jon	8+4	30		0
Wood	Tom	20	108	10	43
Wright	Andy	4+1	5	1	1
Yoxhall	Shaun	2+2	64		3

## Club Dinner

Don't forget the club Dinner on the 28th May. Last few tickets are still available from Sean or Fiona. And don't forget, this will be the last chance to get together before we start training in June!

### North 1 West League 9th April 2016

#	Team	Pd	W	D	L	Diff	Pts	Adj
1.	Kendal	22	21	0	1	470	97	13
2.	Kirkby Lonsdale	22	20	1	1	365	95	13
3.	Wilmslow	23	18	0	5	365	90	18
4.	Vale of Lune	22	14	0	8	133	68	12
5.	Warrington	23	13	2	8	20	67	11
6.	Penrith	22	13	0	9	139	66	14
7.	Rochdale	23	11	0	12	-14	52	8
8.	Altrincham Kersal	23	10	2	11	-46	52	8
9.	Eccles	23	8	0	15	-179	44	12
10.	Blackburn	22	8	2	12	-191	40	4
11.	Leigh	22	7	0	15	-121	37	9
12.	Carlisle	23	3	2	18	-242	26	10
13.	Broughton Park	23	4	1	18	-317	22	4
14.	Widnes	23	3	0	20	-382	17	5

### Standish Media Services Division 1

#	Team	Pd	W	D	L	Diff	Pts	Adj
1.	Preston Grasshoppers 3	22	17	0	5	435	73	0
2.	Wilmslow 2	21	17	1	3	335	73	0
3.	Wirral 2	23	16	0	7	385	71	0
4.	Crewe & Nantwich 2	22	16	0	6	135	70	0
5.	Broughton Park 2	23	12	0	11	53	59	0
6.	Rossendale 2	21	11	3	7	156	57	0
7.	Warrington 2	23	11	1	10	-57	56	0
8.	Blackburn 2	21	11	0	10	52	54	0
9.	Burnage 2	23	8	0	15	-174	47	0
10.	Macclesfield 3	23	7	1	14	-43	44	0
11.	Altrincham Kersal 2	23	7	0	16	-355	44	0
12.	Liverpool Collegiate 2	22	6	0	16	-179	43	3
13.	Bolton 2	21	6	0	15	-311	39	0
14.	Leigh 2	22	7	0	14	-432	32	-10

### North One West Fixtures 2015-16

DATE	OPPOSITION	RESULT	Sponsor
<b>2015</b>		<b>Home Team 1st</b>	
5 Sept	Wilmslow (Away)	W 30-45	
12 Sept	Blackburn (Home)	W 49-13	
19 Sept	Leigh (Away)	W 22-26	
26 Sept	Vale of Lune (Home)	W 45-23	
3 Oct	Rochdale (Away)	W 17-23	
10 Oct	Widnes (Home)	W 38-3	Emma & Richard Woodward
17 Oct	Carlisle (Away)	W 19-21	
24 Oct	Penrith (Home)	W 36-14	
7 Nov	Kendal (Away)	L 27-12	
14 Nov	Kirkby Lonsdale (Home)	D 12-12	Warrington Ladies
21 Nov	Broughton Park (Away)	W 19-32	
5 Dec	Eccles (Away)	L 24-20	
12 Dec	Altrincham Kersal (Home)	W 38-15	Steve Riley
19 Dec	Blackburn (Away)	D 19-19	
<b>2016</b>			
9 Jan	Leigh (Home)	W 29-22	
16 Jan	Vale of Lune (Away)	P	
23 Jan	Rochdale (Home)	L 10-22	Dave Cunningham
30 Jan	Widnes (Away)	L 24-10	
6 Feb			
13 Feb	Carlisle (Home)	W 26-21	
20 Feb	Penrith (Away)	L 60-12	
5 Mar	Kendal (Home)	L 20-44	Warrington Pals
12 March	Vale of Lune	L 38-0	
19 Mar	Kirkby Lonsdale (Away)	L 50-8	
2 April	Broughton Park (Home)	W 34-8	
9 April	Eccles (Home)		Dave Broadbent
16 April	Altrincham Kersal (Away)		
23 Apr	Wilmslow (Home)		Ross Thompson and Dave Jervis

#### Sponsorship

We are still looking for sponsors for next season. If you are interested, please contact Sean Hughes

## Warrington RUFC vs. Eccles RUFC

### WARRINGTON RUFC

**Colours:** Green, Scarlet & White

### Eccles RUFC

**Colours:** Navy and White

**Kick Off 3:00 p.m.**

### TEAMS

Clem O'Rourke	<b>1</b>	Mark Greenhalgh
Paul Thompson	<b>2</b>	Tom Coe
Jon Ward	<b>3</b>	Sean Griffin
Josh Riley	<b>4</b>	Nick Spooner
Danny Flemming	<b>5</b>	Simon Donovan (Captain)
Sean Hughes (Captain)	<b>6</b>	Glen Cahill
Sean Callendar	<b>7</b>	Connor Thornley
Joe Wilson	<b>8</b>	Joe Dale
Ben Hockenhull	<b>9</b>	Matt Cox
Tom Wood	<b>10</b>	George Oakey
Nathan Beesley	<b>11</b>	Matt Parkinson
Max Walker	<b>12</b>	James Wright
Kieran Hughes	<b>13</b>	Chris Fortune
Max Caldwell	<b>14</b>	Ross McMahon
Haydn Fraser	<b>15</b>	Reece James
	<b><i>Bench</i></b>	
Craig Byrne	<b>16</b>	Alex Pugh
Matt Connelly	<b>17</b>	Jordan Bromley
Andy Roberts	<b>18</b>	Tom Chapman
<b><i>Coach: Andy Roberts</i></b>		<b><i>Coach: Sam Simpson</i></b>

**Referee: Elliott Lewis, Manchester Soc**

## Snippets

### It's a Matter of Taste

A few years ago, three intrepid members of Warrington RUFC, Stewart Coleman, Alex Park and Paul Gill, decided to go on an adventure, This involved flying to Canada and then travelling down through the United States, going on through Mexico and Central America and into South America. Before they set off, they each selected a place of interest they would like to visit during this trip of a lifetime. Stew Coleman decided he would like to visit Machu Picchu, the UNESCO World Heritage site in Peru. Alex Park said he would like to see the magnificent Grand Canyon. Paul Gill opted for Ben & Jerry's ice cream factory, in Vermont!! Well, it could have been Charlie's Chocolate Factory.

### Planning Ahead

They say that it's always good to plan ahead and Jon Callendar, our illustrious coach, has taken this advice very much to heart. He has now started to plan for his own funeral and has made it known that he wants the event, when it comes, to be marked by a minute's violence before the match the following Saturday.

## **Warrington 34 Broughton Park 8**

A virtually full strength Warrington side recovered much of their early season form to completely out-class Broughton Park, who must now look forward to a season in South Lancs/Cheshire Division 1, as they will surely not avoid relegation.

Warrington hammered the first nail into the Park coffin with two minutes of the start. After going through six phases in the opposition 22, they eventually forced a line out ten yards out. Joe Wilson ensured clean possession and the ball flashed to the backs before Luke Johnstone took an exquisite line to slice through the defence and touch down under the posts. Darren Norman added the extras.

The home side's lead was soon extended to 10 points, when Darren Norman kicked a long-range penalty and Warrington were in control in all phases of play. Park enjoyed a brief attack, which promised result, but the final pass went astray. Warrington took immediate advantage and the ball was hacked upfield and picked up by ever-alert Nathan Beesley, who made ground before passing inside to the supporting Ben Hockenhull and the young scrum half claimed his first try for Warrington's first team. With the conversion, Warrington were 17 points ahead after just 15 minutes play. Three more points were added with a second Norman penalty before Warrington notched up their third try, when Kieron Hughes made the initial break from a scrum in the Warrington 22 before handing on to Nathan Beesley, who used his electric speed to destroy the cover and score between the posts. Darren Norman's conversion made the half time score 27-0 and Warrington seemed set for a cricket score.

However, Broughton Park had other ideas and they started the second period with a penalty, while their forwards, led by their excellent number eight and hard-running tight head prop finally started to compete. The visitors' backs also began to threaten but the Warrington defence, aided by some excellent strategic kicking from Tom Wood and Darren Norman, prevented any Park break-through.

Eventually, Warrington managed to claim their bonus point fourth try when Nathan Beesley made the initial break before passing to Keiron Hughes. Spurning the chance to dance over himself, the little magician further cemented his position at the top of the "assist" table by flicking the ball inside to Tom Wood and the stand-off strolled over. Darren Norman added the conversion to take his personal points tally to 14. Park eventually managed the try they deserved when they used the power of their pack to score the final try of the game from a line-out catch and drive.

## **Crewe & Nantwich 2<sup>nd</sup> XV 22 Warrington 2<sup>nd</sup> XV 17**

Because of the unplayable state of pitches at Walton Lea Road, Warrington's second team had to travel to fulfill their fixture against Crewe & Nantwich and were eventually baten by 22-17 in a very close game.

Warrington opened the scoring when a tried and tested backs' move saw Craig Byrne, playing in his usual centre position, cross in the corner. Warrington continued their pressure, with Josh Downes and Christian White leading the attack but the powerful Crewe pack eventually rolled over from a catch and drive from a line out. The Crewe forwards were again in control when they managed a second push-over try, which was converted but Warrington soon narrowed the deficit when Matt Rockey cleverly joined the line to ghost over shortly before half time.

Crewe increased their lead ten minutes into the second half with a break-away effort but Warrington came back when second row Josh Downes forced his way over from short range and Shaun McDermott converted to tie the scores. At this stage, Crewe started to turn the screw and only excellent defence, especially from Jack Hannon and Dan Aboushakra, kept the sides level. Eventually, the tide could be stemmed no longer and Crewe crashed over for the winning score, although Warrington could have tied the game, if not won the match, in the very last play but were unfortunately penalized five yards out and Crewe cleared the danger.

"We were perhaps a little unlucky, today," commented skipper Ben Hart. "We probably played the better Rugby for most of the game but could not contain the Crewe pack."



## **Warrington 2<sup>nd</sup> XV 12 Preston Grasshoppers 3<sup>rd</sup> XV 50**

Although they started well, Warrington's young second team could not bridge the class divide between themselves and a polished, muscular and pacey Preston side, which seemed strangely out of place in this Division.

It was Warrington who ruled the early exchanges, with Sean Callendar and Shaun Yoxhall bossing the forward exchanges and another Shaun, Shaun McDermott kicking beautifully for position. In fact, it was a superbly judged from McDermott which paved the way for the opening try. The ball was picked up near the touchline by Nick Pennington and the winger showed both pace and awareness to cross in the corner.

However, this was to be Warrington's only score of the half as, virtually from the restart, Preston took a quick lineout and the ball flashed professionally across the backs for the left wing to score. The visitors went ahead within minutes when they regained the ball at a set scrum, the number eight broke two tackles and then kicked ahead for his scrum half to chase and score under the posts, to allow a simple conversion. Preston's next two scores came from scrappy kicks ahead and they led 24-7 at half time.

Warrington stepped up a gear for the first ten minutes of the second period and should have turned pressure into points. Unfortunately, Preston once again used the kick ahead from a turn-over and won the race to line to take their score to 31 with the conversion. Ten minutes later, Warrington scored the try of the match when Kieron Hughes made a superb break in his own half before handing onto Nathan Beesley 10 yards inside Warrington territory. The speedy winger completely out-paced the cover over 60 yards and eventually cut inside to touch down under the posts. Ben Hockenhull converted. But this was to be Warrington's last show of defiance as the visitors ran in three more tries to record a comprehensive win.

"I think this was a Preston Easter Monday side," mused coach Paul Thompson. "Most of their players had obviously played at a higher level and we found it very difficult to compete. However, we stuck at it and full marks to the boys for effort."

## **Leigh 2<sup>nd</sup> XV 26 Warrington 2<sup>nd</sup> XV 15**

In what is now a rare fixture these days, Warrington's second team was eventually out-muscled on Easter Saturday by a strong Leigh XV, after taking a 15-12 half time lead.

It didn't take Warrington long to open their account when Kierohan Hughes danced through the ponderous defence to score in the corner. Leigh came back through their heavyweight pack, which rolled over under the posts to allow an easy conversion and take the lead.

Warrington came back with a Darren Norman penalty but the Leigh pack soon drove over again to make the score 12-8. At this stage, Warrington dug in with heroic defence led by Jonny Evans and Craig Byrne, once again playing out of position at prop. Eventually, they managed to turn defence into attack and Joe Wilson, making a welcome return to the side, ran strongly from his own 22 before handing on to Ben Hockenhull, who outpaced the covering defence to touch down under the posts. Darren Norman converted and the sides turned round with Warrington enjoying a precarious three point lead.

Unfortunately the lead did not last long, as five minutes from the restart the Leigh pack rumbled over for another pushover try, which was converted. Warrington were then again forced into defensive mode but were unable to stem the inevitable tide as Leigh used their forward power for the last time five minutes from the end to make the final score 26-15.

"Unfortunately, we just couldn't match Leigh up front today," said stand-in captain Luke Johnstone. "Our young side played well but perhaps we also missed our iconic leaders Paul Thompson and Shaun McDermott."

## Standish Media Services, Division 2, South

#	Team	Pd	W	D	L	Diff	Pts	Adj
1.	Whitchurch 2	22	19	0	2	365	78	0
2.	Christleton 1	22	17	0	5	329	73	0
3.	Bowdon 2	22	12	0	10	147	58	0
4.	Sefton 2	22	12	0	10	-72	58	0
5.	Stockport 3	21	12	0	7	107	55	0
6.	Winnington Park 2	22	11	0	11	-151	55	0
7.	Northwich 2	21	10	0	11	65	51	0
8.	Glossop 2	21	10	0	11	-94	51	0
9.	Caldy 3	22	10	0	9	81	49	0
10.	Chester 3	22	9	0	12	-91	48	0
11.	Warrington 3	20	10	0	8	-10	46	-2
12.	Liverpool St Helens 2	21	8	0	10	54	38	-4
13.	Didsbury Toc H 2	20	6	0	14	-332	38	0
14.	New Brighton 2	22	4	0	17	-398	33	0

### Picture Post



Luke Johnstone enjoys a piggy back



Thommo remembers he's left the gas on