



Welcome to St Benedict's

A very warm welcome to players, officials and spectators of St Benedict's. This is one of many long away trips for the Cumbrian club, as their only short hop is to Kirkby Lonsdale - and that takes an hour! We made the trek up to Workington in September and played a side which was continuing its success in the North Lancs and Cumbria Division by winning its first two games in North 1 West. They made it three by beating us.

After dominating the opening exchanges, Warrington suddenly found themselves behind when a speculative kick and a fortuitous bounce gave Benedict's the lead after 20 minutes. Although Warrington replied with a converted 30 yard try from prop Elliot Johnstone, two Benedict's penalties gave the home side a six point half time lead.

The second half saw Benedict's adopt a running, rather than a kicking, approach to their game and this allowed them to score a further twelve points without reply, although Warrington could take some comfort from the fact that they lost three key players through injury..

St Benedict's was founded in 1974, a Rugby Union Club in what is still a hotbed of amateur and professional Rugby League. I am sure that many of us Warrington RL (and Wigan) supporters remember those trips to Workington and Whitehaven in the 50s, 60s and 70s. They were always hard games and we rarely won, playing against the likes of Frank Foster, Ike Southward and Dick Huddart on their own midden. We also have a further connection with the Cumbrian coast, as one of our more illustrious Vets, Kevin Tamati, coached at Whitehaven for two years.

So here's looking forward to a typically robust game of rugby and may the better side win.

Dave Jervis

PS. Welcome back Phil Lynch. Phil Lynch returns to the first team today after many thought his career was over. Well done Lynchy. Keep on gooin' wit yed dahn!

<u>Name</u>		Games Played This Year	<u>Total</u>	Tries this Season	<u>Total</u>
Arnold	Tom	13	22	3	?
Beesley	Nathan	11	42	10	27
Bennett	Jon	0+ 3	7		
Bennett	Sam	0+ 1	9		
Brazendale	James	4+2	9		1
Byrne	Craig	1+ 5	?	1	?
Caldwell	Max	10+3	28	4	6
Callander	Sean	13	65	1	2
Dixon	Ben	0+2	2		0
Downes	Josh	10+1	12		0
Evans	Jonny	1	1		
Fleming	Dan	10+1	130	1	8
Fraser	Hayden	1	49		26
Giles	Oli	3	3		
Green	Tom	5+3	12	2	2
Gregory	Matt	0+1	1		
Griffiths	Dan	3+2	26	1	5
Hannon	Jack	1	5		
Hockenhull	Ben	13	39	2	3
Hughes	Sean	12+1	106		4
Hughes	Kieran		82		87
Johnstone	Elliot	10	87	6	12
Johnstone	Luke	10+1	121		27
Jones	Kevin		247		72
Lewis	Cam	4+2	12	3	5
Little	Josh	3+2	5		
Lynch	Phil		43		2
McGregor	James	3+1	12		0
Nicholls	Sam		13		5
O'Rourke	Clement	12	60		0
Pennington	Nick	3	4	2	2
Preston	Ryan	2+2	27	1	1
Riley	Josh	12+1	93	1	4
Roberts	Andy	8	87	2	20
Roberts	Pat	1+1	30		
Rockey	Matt	1+2	160		52
Thompaon	Paul	6+4	238	1	21
Walker	Max	1	32		7
Ward	Jon	0 + 1	34		1
Wardley	Keith	8	8		0
Wilson	Joe		16		0
Wood	Tom	14	125	2	46
Wright	Andy		5		1
Yoxhall	Shaun	2	65		3
				Penalty	2

North 1 West - 7th January 2017

#	Team	Pl	W	D	L	Diff	Pts	Adj
1.	Kirkby Lonsdale	14	14	0	0	458	69	13
2.	Birkenhead Park	13	13	0	0	297	62	10
3.	Northwich	15	11	0	4	168	54	10
4.	Wilmslow	15	11	0	4	126	51	7
5.	Blackburn	15	10	0	5	76	44	4
6.	Burnage	15	8	0	7	-4	41	9
7.	Warrington	15	6	0	9	-93	34	10
8.	Vale of Lune	14	7	0	7	-93	32	4
9.	St Benedicts	13	6	0	7	-28	31	7
10.	Altrincham Kersal	15	4	0	11	-124	23	7
11.	West Park SH	15	4	0	11	-197	22	6
12.	Leigh	14	3	0	11	-214	16	4
13.	Rochdale	12	2	0	10	-183	11	3
14.	Eccles	15	1	0	14	-189	10	6

Raging Bull North West Division 1 - 7th January 2017

#	Team	Pl	W	D	L	Diff	Pts	Adj
1.	Wirral 2	15	12	1	2	282	52	0
2.	Rossendale 2	13	12	0	1	326	49	0
3.	Sandbach 2	15	11	0	4	133	48	0
4.	Macclesfield 3	15	11	0	4	127	48	0
5.	Blackburn 2	15	9	0	6	152	42	0
6.	Warrington 2	14	7	0	7	-59	34	0
7.	Burnage 2	15	6	0	9	-121	33	0
8.	Broughton Park 2	14	6	0	8	37	32	0
9.	Crewe & Nantwich 2	15	5	1	9	-185	31	0
10.	Kirkby Lonsdale 2	14	5	1	8	-53	30	0
11.	Fylde 3	15	5	0	10	-135	30	0
12.	Whitchurch 2	15	5	0	10	-101	29	0
13.	Liverpool Collegiate 2	15	3	1	11	-220	25	0
14.	Birkenhead Park 2	14	3	0	11	-183	23	0

North One West Fixtures 2016-17

DATE	OPPOSITION	RESULT	Sponsor
2016		Home Team 1st	
3 Sept	West Park (Away)	W 12-15	
10 Sept	Burnage (Away)	L 20-16	
17 Sept	Northwich (Away)	L 41-36	
24 Sept	St Benedicts (Away)	L 25-7	
1 Oct	Kirkby Lonsdale (Home)	L 14-52	
8 Oct	Eccles (Away)	W 28-33	
15 Oct			
22 Oct	Altrincham Kersal (Home)	W 41-27	
29 Oct	Birkenhead Park (Away)	L 55-17	
5 Nov	Wilmslow (Home)	L 36-46	
12 Nov	Blackburn (Away)	L 17-0	
19 Nov	Leigh (Home)	W 37-28	
26 Nov	Vale of Lune (Away)	L 29-24	
3 Dec	Rochdale (Home)	W 28-23	
10 Dec	Burnage (Home)	W 17-10	
17 Dec	Northwich (Home)	L 26-27	Friends of Warrington
2017			
7 Jan	St Benedicts (Home)		Chris Gray
14 Jan	Kirkby Lonsdale (Away)		
28 Jan	Eccles (Home)		Dave Jervis
11 Feb	Altrincham Kersal (Away)		
18 Feb	Birkenhead Park (Home)		
4 March	Wilmslow (Away)		
11 Mar	Blackburn (Home)		Past Players
25 Mar	Leigh (Away)		
1 April	Vale of Lune (Home)		Dave Broadbent
8 April	Rochdale (Away)		
22 April	West Park (Home)		Paul O'Toole



Warrington RUFC vs. St Benedict's RUFC

WARRINGTON RUFC

Colours: Green, Scarlet & White

ST BENEDICT'S RUFC

Colours: Green, Black and Yellow

Kick Off 2:15 p.m.

TEAMS

Clem O'Rourke	1	J Taylor
Sean Hughes (C)	2	B Harrison
Tom Greene	3	C Halligan
Shaun Yoxhall	4	L Wood
Phil Lynch	5	S Wilson
Josh Riley	6	G Gibbons
Jack Hannon	7	G Maudling
Danny Fleming	8	R Anderson
Tom Wood	9	A Middleton
Andy Rpberts	10	C Fisher
John Gilooly	11	T Findley
Keith Wardley	12	S Wood
Tom Arnold	13	M O'Neil
Max Caldwell	14	T Scott
Pat Roberts	15	K Drake
	Bench	
Craig Byrne	16	C Howse
Luke Johnstone	17	J Jardine
Ben Hockenhull	18	N Foster
Coach: Andy Roberts		Coach: Ian McQuire

Referee: Elliot Lewis, Manchester Society

This Week's Sponsor

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This week's sponsor is Adams Residential Sales, introduced by Chris Grey. Thanks for your support, Chris.

And a Sincere and Grateful Thankyou to the Friends of Warrington

The last game of 2016 was sponsored by the Friends of Warrington, that motley group of regular spectators, players' parents and friends, who met for a pre-match lunch and a pint - and raised £900 for the club in the process. Thanks to Paul Broadbent for organising the event, which hopefully will be repeated before the end of the season.

Warrington 26 Northwich 27

It seems that every game at Walton Lea Road these days is destined to end in a nail-biting finish. This meaty encounter with local rivals Northwich proved no exception but, unfortunately, on this occasion, it was the visitors who sneaked a one point win with the very last kick of the game.

Warrington controlled this game for most of the first half, playing some excellent attacking rugby and showing their new-found defensive mettle. After just five minutes, a delicate nudge from Tom Wood allowed Max Caldwell to show his paces with a foray deep into Northwich territory. When the visitors were penalized at a ruck, Ben Hockenhull had no problem in kicking the goal.

Virtually from the restart, it was Caldwell again weaving through the defence to set up a line out in the Northwich 22. With possession guaranteed by the Callendar/Riley machine, the ball flashed across to Keith Wardley and the centre jinked past his opposite number before finding Tom Arnold on his shoulder and his co-centre scuttled over. Ben Hockenhull converted.

Warrington then went further ahead in the twenty fifth minute when Tom Wood threw an outrageous dummy ten yards out and then accelerated through the gap to score and take Warrington's lead to 15 points. Northwich eventually found their attacking gear and the Warrington defence was put under serious pressure, relieved occasionally by the controlling boot of Pat Roberts.

Just when it looked as though the first half was going to fizzle out with Warrington comfortably ahead, a lapse in defensive concentration saw Northwich's right centre ghost over for a try. But probably the defining moment of the game came in the fortieth minute when Northwich won a turn-over in Warrington territory and used the possession to score in the corner. The touchline conversion made the half time score 15-12.

Once again, Warrington started to apply pressure and finally forced another penalty. Northwich responded but the Warrington defence stood firm until the visitors created a try out of nothing and their dangerous centre ran strongly to touch down under the posts. The conversion gave Northwich the lead for the first time. But this was short-lived as a third Hockenhull penalty gave Warrington a two point lead. Northwich then showed their adventurous side running the ball from their own line to score an excellent try, perhaps aided by some sloppy Warrington defence. Warrington soon went ahead again when they exploited a weakness in the visitors' line out strategy and Sean Callendar burst round the front of the line to score. With Warrington two points ahead, the referee signaled the last play of the game at a line out 40 yards out. Unfortunately, Warrington infringed, the penalty was kicked and the final whistle was blown.

"This was as close as it can get," said coach Andy Roberts. "We should have closed the game out early on but a couple of defensive lapses and a last second, somewhat dubious, infringement meant that we lost a game we should have won. We have learned a lot during the first half of this season. Hopefully. We can now apply these lessons for a successful 2017."

Warrington 2nd XV 10 Broughton Park 2nd XV 20

Warrington's second team failed to take advantage of their total domination in the first half and allowed Park to come back into the game and eventually take over control in the second period, when they notched up two tries and a penalty.

It was just ten minutes into the game when Warrington put their first points on the board, when a break from Darren Norman created the space for Nick Roberts to squeeze over in the corner. Ben Dixon converted from the touchline.

Warrington were now enjoying 90% of possession and play was almost entirely in the park half. With Ben Hart leading the forward drives and with Jack Hannon, who was magnificent throughout, worrying the Park defence and feeding his back line, Warrington should have kept the tins on the scoreboard continuously rattling. Unfortunately it was Park who scored next with a penalty and the sides turned around with the score at 7-3.

Park immediately stepped up their game in the second half and although Warrington managed a penalty through Ben Dixon, Park soon replied with a converted try from a driving maul. A second penalty then gave them the lead and Warrington then found themselves chasing the game. Lady Luck then played her part when the visitors picked up a loose Warrington pass in mid-field and scored, completely against the run of play, to make the final score 20-10.

“We had our chances, especially in the first half,” said coach Shaun McDermott. “Unfortunately, we didn’t take them and the second half became very attritional and we came off second best. Lesson learned.”

Warrington 3rd XV 24 Bowdon 2nd XV 5

A strong Warrington third team ignored their position at the bottom of the league and destroyed a Bowdon outfit currently lying six places above them.

Warrington began well when a flowing movement led by Dan Johnston was finished off by the ubiquitous Mark Tickle. The same centre then crossed for a second try when he took a quick tap penalty and slalomed through the defence to touch down and give his side a 10-0 half time lead.

Bowdon got onto the scoreboard ten minutes into the second stanza with a driving try but Warrington soon hit back when Olly Giles picked up the ball in his own half and demolished three would-be tacklers to power over. Darren Norman converted. The game was closed out with ten minutes to go by an exquisite chip from talented Jamie Thompson, which found his half back partner Dan Reid and the scrum half scuttled over. Darren Norman added the extras to complete the scoring.

Warrington 2ND XV 29 Whitchurch 2ND XV 23

In a highly entertaining game both sides gave early demonstrations of their strengths. First it was Warrington using their speed out wide in the form of right winger Will Maudsley who, with the benefit of a strong hand-off, crossed for a try in the third minute. Full back Ben Dixon added his first conversion. Left winger Nathan Beesley with his elusive speed and the benefit of early ball, touched down two minutes later after chasing his own nicely weighted kick ahead.

Whitchurch were by no means overawed by this early 12 point deficit and stormed back to equalise the scores within ten minutes with two powerful forward drives, one from a sustained pick and drive from the pack, the second from a 5m line-out. With Whitchurch always threatening through their bigger pack, with their aggressive mauling plays, some astute kicking from stand-off Sean McDermott was necessary to keep the visitors away from the Warrington 22. One such kick took Warrington up to Whitchurch’s 5m line and when the visitors were penalised, scrum half terrier Jack Hannon took a quick tap and scored in the corner. Dixon converted from the touch-line.

Whitchurch bounced back with a series of powerful forward drives to secure an easy penalty in front of the sticks which ensured they turned round only 4 points adrift at 19-15.

The teams traded penalties in the early minutes of the second half, but Warrington seemed to forget how they had scored their first half tries and tried to adopt the Whitchurch forwards-based tactics. Though there were some good breaks and some hard yards gained, notably from slimline prop John Bennett and the burly No 8 Craig Byrne, Warrington seemed unable to retain possession in these forward drives. With Whitchurch countering, it took impressive defensive work from man of the match and captain Shaun Yoxall, ably abetted by youngster Josh Little, to keep the visitors at bay.

Winger Will Maudsley stretched Warrington’s lead in the 60th minute when he received the ball for the first time in the second half, and showed his speed to touch down under the posts. Another conversion from Dixon gave Warrington an 11-point cushion but a push-over try from the visitors 10 minutes later reduced this to 6 and led to a nail-biting finish. In the closing seconds, Whitchurch gained a scrum on the Warrington 5m line but a rare, but welcome, strike against the head allowed scrum half Hannon to kick into touch and welcome the referee’s final whistle.

Raging Bull North West - Division 2 South 7th January 2017

#	Team	Pl	W	D	L	Diff	Pts	Adj
1.	Northwich 2	12	11	0	1	182	45	0
2.	Glossop 2	12	9	0	3	346	39	0
3.	Uni of Liverpool Vets 1	10	8	0	2	85	33	0
4.	Altrincham Kersal 2	11	6	0	5	45	29	0
5.	Bowdon 2	11	5	0	6	8	26	0
6.	Chester 3	12	5	0	7	-97	26	0
7.	Aldwinians 2	10	5	0	5	59	25	0
8.	Didsbury Toc H 2	10	4	0	6	-52	22	0
9.	Winnington Park 2	10	3	0	7	-149	19	0
10.	Sefton 2	12	2	0	10	-290	18	0
11.	Warrington 3	10	2	0	8	-137	12	-2
12.	Caldy 3 OUT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13.	Stockport 3 OUT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Photo Gallery



Our Masters of the Line



Catch Me If You Can