



Welcome to Eccles

A very warm welcome to the players, officials and spectators of Eccles. It's always a pleasure to meet old friends again and try to repay the generous hospitality we receive when we visit them..

A quick glance at the league table shows that Eccles are currently languishing at the bottom, having won just one match all season. Don't be misled. In the last five games between the clubs, we have won 3 and Exccles 2. And apart from a runaway 42-8 win in 2014, all the games have been pretty close affairs, with, until this season, the spoils always going to the home side. In 2015, Eccles won both games, while in 2016, we won both games.

Earlier this season, we just managed to scrape home by 33-28, We were 14-7 up at half time thanks to an individual effort from Tom Arnold and a penalty try, both converted by Tom Wood. The second half saw a second superb effort from Tom Arnold followed by a stroll-over from five yards by Andy Roberts before Danny Fleming finished off a forwards' drive to give Warrington a 19 point lead. However, Eccles showed a never-say-die spirit and their fourth try scored at the final whistle made sure they at least gained two bonus points.

So there you go! Be prepared for another close game.

Bryan England

It is with deep regret that we announce the death this week of Bryan England. Bryan was 1st team captain in the 1960s, looked after our early Colts' side and was a tireless wotker for Lancashire RFU. We offer sincere condolences to his wife Chris and his family. Terry Critchley will let people know of the funeral arrangements.

<u>Name</u>		Games Played This Year	<u>Total</u>	Tries this Season	<u>Total</u>
Arnold	Tom	16	25	4	?
Beesley	Nathan	11	42	10	27
Bennett	Jon	1+ 3	8		
Bennett	Sam	0+ 1	9		
Brazendale	James	5+3	11		1
Byrne	Craig	1+ 7	?	1	?
Caldwell	Max	12+3	30	5	7
Callander	Sean	15	67	2	3
Dixon	Ben	0+2	2		0
Downes	Josh	10+1	12		0
Evans	Jonny	1	1		
Fleming	Dan	12+1	132	1	8
Fraser	Hayden	1	49		26
Gilooly	Luke	3	3		
Giles	Oli	3	3		
Green	Tom	7+3	14	2	2
Gregory	Matt	0+1	1		
Griffiths	Dan	3+2	26	1	5
Hannon	Jack	3	7		
Hockenhull	Ben	14	40	2	3
Hughes	Sean	14+1	108		4
Hughes	Kieran		82		87
Johnstone	Elliot	11	88	6	12
Johnstone	Luke	11+3	124		27
Jones	Kevin		247		72
Lewis	Cam	5+2	13	3	5
Little	Josh	3+2	5		
Lynch	Phil		43		2
Marland	Alex		7		0
McGregor	James	3+1	12		0
Nicholls	Sam		13		5
Norman	Darren		19		5
O'Rourke	Clement	14	62	1	1
Pennington	Nick	4	5	2	2
Preston	Ryan	3+2	28	1	1
Riley	Josh	15+1	96	1	4
Roberts	Andy	9	88	2	20
Roberts	Pat	4+1	33	1	6
Roberts	Nick	0+1	1		
Rockey	Matt	1+2	160		52
Thompaon	Paul	7+4	239	1	21
Thompson	Jamie		13		5
Walker	Max	1	32		7
Ward	Jon	0 + 1	34		1
Wardley	Keith	10	10		0
White	Chris	0 + 1	44		14
Wilson	Joe	1	17		0
Wood	Tom	17	128	3	47
Yoxhall	Shaun	4	67		3

North 1 West League - 28th February 2017

#	Team	Pl	W	D	L	Diff	Pts	Adj
1.	Kirkby Lonsdale	16	16	0	0	556	79	15
2.	Birkenhead Park	16	15	1	0	342	74	12
3.	Wilmslow	17	13	0	4	148	61	9
4.	Northwich	17	12	0	5	205	60	12
5.	Burnage	17	10	0	7	25	50	10
6.	Blackburn	17	10	1	6	58	46	4
7.	Vale of Lune	16	8	1	7	-67	39	5
8.	Warrington	17	7	0	10	-139	38	10
9.	St Benedicts	16	6	0	10	-70	33	9
10.	Altrincham Kersal	17	4	1	12	-132	25	7
11.	Leigh	17	5	0	12	-226	24	4
12.	West Park SH	17	4	0	13	-245	24	8
13.	Rochdale	15	3	0	12	-208	17	5
14.	Eccles	17	1	0	16	-247	10	6

Raging Bull North West Division 1 - 28th February 2017

#	Team	Pl	W	D	L	Diff	Pts	Adj
1.	Wirral 2	17	14	1	2	373	60	0
2.	Rossendale 2	16	14	0	2	325	58	0
3.	Macclesfield 3	17	13	0	4	177	56	0
4.	Sandbach 2	17	12	0	5	150	53	0
5.	Warrington 2	17	10	0	7	16	46	0
6.	Blackburn 2	17	9	0	8	120	44	0
7.	Burnage 2	17	7	0	10	-146	38	0
8.	Broughton Park 2	16	7	0	9	19	37	0
9.	Kirkby Lonsdale 2	16	6	1	9	-88	35	0
10.	Fylde 3	17	6	0	11	-136	35	0
11.	Crewe & Nantwich 2	17	5	1	11	-221	33	0
12.	Whitchurch 2	17	5	0	12	-136	31	0
13.	Liverpool Collegiate 2	17	4	1	12	-224	30	0
14.	Birkenhead Park 2	16	3	0	13	-229	25	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)	W 28-26	Chris Gray
14 Jan	Kirkby Lonsdale (Away)	L 48-0	
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. Eccles RUFC

WARRINGTON RUFC

Colours: Green, Scarlet & White

Eccles RUFC

Colours: Navy and White

Kick Off 2:15 p.m.

TEAMS

Clem O'Rourke	1	Sam Simpson
Paul Thompson	2	Ross Seward
Jon Bennett	3	Mark Greenalgh
Josh Riley	4	Nick Spooner
Phil Lynch	5	Steve Lillie
Sean Callendar	6	Glen Cahill
Jack Hannon	7	Greg Wilson
Danny Fleming	8	Steve Samo
Tom Wood	9	Tom Waring
Pat Roberts	10	George Oakey
Will Maudsley	11	Matt Parkinson
Luke Johnston	12	Gareth Miller
John Gilooly	13	Gavin Ackers-Johnson
Tom Arnold	14	Luke Cullen
Max Caldwell	15	Freddie Oakey
	<i>Bench</i>	
Craig Byrne	16	Rich Owen
Nick Roberts	17	Pete Lillie
Josh Downes	18	Will Parkinson
<i>Coach: Andy Roberts</i>		<i>Coach: John Parrott</i>

Referee: Elliot Davies, Manchester Society

This Week's Sponsor

This week's sponsor should have been me. Unfortunately, I am temporarily indisposed and have had to postpone it. But I'll be back!

Granty Update

Lots of people keep asking about Granty. We have virtually taken over Facebook but some of our members have yet to discover social media so here is a quick update.

Amongst others, Thommo visits Granty in Southport Regional Spine Centre every week. Here is his latest report: "Over the last few days he has had increasing periods off the ventilator which is assisting his breathing. Starting from 30 min spells to 1hr, 2hrs, 3hrs up to 10hrs and as such yesterday he has had the tube completely removed from his throat. The staff also had him out of bed and fully dressed sat in a chair yesterday. Movement is slowly improving but his right hand side is taking longer to catch up. I notice a vast improvement each time I see him" Great news, eh?

Various support events are also taking place, including the setting up of a fund to help his family through these difficult times. In addition, there will be a testimonial game against Crosfields. (This is the North. We make no distinction between RL and RU.) Further details of the fund and the fund-raising events will be available soon.

Kirkby Lonsdale 48, Warrington 0 - 14th January

Once again, Warrington returned from a trek to the North with nothing to show for their endeavours. This time, they suffered a heavy defeat at the hands of Kirkby Lonsdale, a side that narrowly missed promotion last season but seem to be heading upwards this term.

The Cumbrians controlled this game throughout against a young and inexperienced Warrington outfit, which lacked nothing in spirit and effort. The well-organised Kirkby defence quickly snuffed out any rare Warrington threat, with its excellent ability to exploit every Warrington mistake.

In the first half, much of the game was played in the midfield and Warrington competed well until a swift raid down the right saw Kirby surge into a lead they never looked like relinquishing. The youthful Warrington pack, with Josh Riley, Sean Callander and Danny Fleming to the fore, strove to keep Kirkby at bay but pressure began to tell and two tries in quick succession saw the home side ahead by 19-0 at half time.

Warrington had a fleeting chance to get on the scoresheet early in the second period, but alert Kirkby defence quashed the fleeting danger and hacked the ball 80 metres to take an unassailable lead.

Warrington inexperience led to a late rush of points as they visibly tired and simple errors proliferated. Kirkby scored three late tries to record an emphatic win, despite the tireless prompting and toyal commitment of skipper Tom Wood.

“We came here with a very young side to play the league leaders,” said an undaunted coach, Andy Roberts. “We can now turn our attention to more winnable games against local opponents.”

Warrington 28 St Benedicts 26 - 7th January

Once again spectators' fingernails were bitten to the quick at Walton Lea Road, as Warrington sneaked a last minute win over St Benedicts, after leading by 22 points with just thirty minutes left on the clock.

Warrington began their dominating first half with a try in the opening five minutes, when Jack Hannon, playing in the unaccustomed role of wing forward, exploited a strike against the head by Sean Hughes to slip a well-timed pass to full back Pat Roberts, who sliced through a narrow gap to touch down.

It took just five more minutes for Warrington to increase their lead, when a slick wrap-around move from Keith Wardley brought Roberts into the line again and a perfectly weighted kick found Max Caldwell, who scooted over for his side's second try. The conversion by John Gilooly took Warrington's lead to 12 points.

The visitors then started to make their mark on the game through their physical pack but were kept at bay by determined tackling, especially from Nick Pennington, Shaun Yoxhall and Jack Hannon. A Gilooly penalty extended Warrington's lead before the home forwards began to show some of **their** attacking skills with a series of snappy pick-and-drives, led by Tom Greene and Josh Riley, to take the ball up to the visitors' 5 metre line. Constant, red zone pressure saw Benedict's unable to challenge Warrington's line-out dominance legally and eventually Warrington gained their just desserts when prop Clem O'Rourke rumbled over for his first ever try for the club. Gilooly added the extras to give Warrington a 22-0 half time lead.

The second half saw the visitors assume increasing control and although Warrington strove to produce that elusive fourth try bonus point, sloppy handling continued to let them down. On the other hand, Benedict's seemed to find some of their true form, as their forwards battered the Warrington line for the opening ten minutes of the half until the defensive dam broke and Warrington's lead was reduced by seven points. From the restart, the burly Benedict's right centre broke through weak Warrington tackling to set up a good position in the Warrington 22, which allowed his pack to continue the pressure until they drove over again to reduce the deficit by a further seven points. The visitors' back division then entered the fray and added a third converted try, albeit seemingly assisted by a missed knock-on and forward pass.

With ten minutes left, a Gilooly penalty seemed to have given Warrington breathing space but Benedict's had other ideas, as they retained possession from a short grubber kick restart and battled their way to the Warrington line before their forwards drove over for their fourth try. Fortunately, Warrington were awarded a last minute penalty, coolly dispatched by Gilooly, and victory had been snatched from the gaping jaws of defeat.

"Another close game," mused coach Andy Roberts. "We had an excellent first half but seemed to forget that a game of Rugby last for eighty minutes."

Warrington 2ND XV 39 Crewe & Nantwich 2ND XV 10

Warrington's 2nd team remain unbeaten in 2017 with this convincing victory over Crewe & Nantwich, avenging a narrow, 24-17 loss earlier in the season. After a close fought first half, Warrington denied the visitors any score in the second period while they notched up a further 24 points.

It didn't take long for Warrington to trouble the scoresheet, when excellent interplay between winger Matt Grimshaw and full back Mark Tickle took them to within 5 metres of the visitors' line. Although Crewe & Nantwich forced a line-out, relief was short lived as stand-off Shaun McDermott slotted an easy penalty when the visitors were caught off side in front of the posts in the next play.

Crewe turned to attack but a crunching tackle from versatile back rower Phil Lynch created loose ball for a Warrington counter. A beautifully weighted kick from McDermott turned the Crewe winger and although the bounce eluded winger Luke Ferguson in hot pursuit it fell neatly to Tickle also on hand for a clear run to the posts to give McDermott another easy conversion. Two minutes later the ubiquitous Lynch secured Warrington's second try when he followed up an intelligent grubber kick from full back Tickle.

Warrington's pack were also making themselves felt both in the tight, where they were getting the better of the set pieces, and in the loose, where bruising drives from prop James Jones, carried on by fellow prop Marlon and captain Shaun Yoxall, kept the visitors on the back foot. Warrington, however, were caught off-side deep in the Crewe half and a stress relieving kick gained the visitors a line-out in the Warrington half. Crewe retained possession and spread the ball down the line for a copy book try in the right corner to bring the score to 15-5. Five minutes later the Crewe winger was on hand to profit from poor communication between Warrington's full back and winger by touching down for the visitors second try. On the stroke of half time Crewe narrowly missed a drop goal which would have seen them turn round only 2 points down.

However, from the restart Crewe were in trouble. A deep kick to the corner from centre Griffiths had their full back under pressure and his skied kick fell into the welcoming arms of the not inconsiderable Jones who charged forward with relish. Lynch continued the momentum handing on, fittingly, to Griffiths to score in the corner. The restart resulted in a line out from which Warrington drove through the forwards with captain Yoxall and the inappropriately named Josh Little leading the way. Winger Ferguson got in on the act but sensibly turned the ball inside for Yoxall to cross for Warrington's fourth try. Griffiths added the extras.

Having conceded 12 points in 5 minutes, Crewe seemed determined to repair the damage and pressurised the Warrington line through their forwards for the next 10 minutes. Committed tackling kept Warrington's line clear and seemed to break the visitor's resolve. With 20 minutes still on the clock, hooker Matt Bayliss made a rumbustious 30 yards starting a drive which was finished off by a try from back rower Jayesh Kerai. Griffiths converted. Five minutes later a slick interchange between centre Tony Fretwell and full back Tickle after a clean break by winger Ferguson, would have resulted in a score but for the last pass being intercepted.

However, Ferguson then conjured a fine solo try with skill and determination. Bumping off two would-be tacklers on the half way line, he scampered down the touchline and, with a combination of hand-offs and dummies, eluded three more to cross in the corner.

Standish Media Services, Division 2 South - 28th January 2017

#	Team	Pl	W	D	L	Diff	Pts	Adj
1.	Northwich 2	13	11	0	2	167	46	0
2.	Uni of Liverpool Vets 1	13	11	0	2	117	45	0
3.	Glossop 2	13	10	0	3	361	43	0
4.	Aldwinians 2	12	7	0	5	109	33	0
5.	Altrincham Kersal 2	12	7	0	5	90	33	0
6.	Chester 3	14	6	0	8	-113	31	0
7.	Bowdon 2	13	5	0	8	-20	28	0
8.	Didsbury Toc H 2	12	5	0	7	-55	27	0
9.	Sefton 2	14	3	0	11	-330	23	0
10.	Winnington Park 2	12	3	0	9	-158	21	0
11.	Warrington 3	12	2	0	10	-168	14	-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



Just Like His Dad



Now That's a Swerve!!