



### **Welcome to Vale of Lune**

A very warm welcome to the players, officials and spectators of Vale of Lune. This should be a close game today, as we are currently tied on points in the league table but Vale are sixth, as they have a game in hand. After today, they will play West Park, Rochdale and Blackburn. We will play Rochdale and West Park. They have won their last two games. We have won our last two. If we win today, we will go four (or three or five) points ahead.. So if we then win our remaining two matches, who finishes sixth and who comes seventh can go right to the wire.

Previous meetings suggest that we might just edge it. In our five previous encounters, Vale have been successful three times and we have won twice. However, the winner has always been the home team..

Back in December 2014, we scored four tries to Vale's two to win by 25-15, our scorers on that day being Keiron Hughes (2), Karl Jefferies and Danny Fleming, with a penalty and a conversion from Pat Roberts. The return fixture the following April saw the Vale of Lune become the Vale of Tears for Warrington, as they conceded 14 points within 15 minutes and then leaked another two tries when reduced to 14 men, so that the game was virtually decided by half time. In our first meeting in 2015/2016, we secured our position at the top of the league by beating the visitors 45-23, with a two-try performance from Nathan Beesley.

Our last two visits to Lancaster ended in defeats, although we did manage a losing bonus point last November when we came ferom being 19 points behind with just ten miniyes to go. So let the games begin!!

<u>Name</u>		Games Played This Year	<u>Total</u>	Tries this Season	<u>Total</u>
Arnold	Tom	23	32	13	?
Beesley	Nathan	11+1	43	10	27
Bennett	Jon	5+ 3	12		
Bennett	Sam	0+ 1	9		
Brazendale	James	5+3	11		1
Byrne	Craig	2+ 12	?	2	?
Caldwell	Max	19+3	36	11	13
Callander	Sean	19+1	72	2	3
Dixon	Ben	1+2	3		0
Downes	Josh	13+1	15		0
Fleming	Dan	19+1	139	2	9
Gilooly	Luke	10	10	1	1
Giles	Oli	3	3		
Green	Tom	10+4	18	3	3
Gregory	Matt	1+4	5	1	5
Griffiths	Dan	3+3	27	1	5
Hannon	Jack	5+1	10	1	1
Hockenhull	Ben	20	46	3	4
Hughes	Sean	20+2	115		4
Johnstone	Elliot	11	88	6	12
Johnstone	Luke	15+4	129		27
Jones	James	0+1	1		
Lewis	Cam	5+2	13	3	5
Little	Josh	3+2	5		
Lynch	Phil	6	49		2
Maudsley	Will	2	2		
McGregor	James	4+1	13		0
O'Rourke	Clement	20	68	1	1
O'Toole	Keenan	0+2	2		
Pennington	Nick	4	5	2	2
Preston	Ryan	3+2	28	1	1
Riley	Josh	22+1	103	2	5
Roberts	Andy	9+1	89	2	20
Roberts	Pat	11+1	40	1	6
Roberts	Nick	2+5	7	1	1
Rockey	Matt	1+2	160		52
Thompaon	Paul	13+4	245	1	21
Wardley	Keith	10	10		0
White	Chris	0 + 1	44		14
Wilson	Joe	1	17		0
Wood	Tom	23	134	4	48
Yoxhall	Shaun	4	67		3
				Penalty	2

### North 1 West - 1 April 2017

#	Team	Pl	W	D	L	Diff	Pts	Adj
1.	Kirkby Lonsdale	23	23	0	0	842	113	21
2.	Birkenhead Park	23	18	1	4	427	92	18
3.	Northwich	23	17	0	6	304	83	15
4.	Wilmslow	23	17	0	6	169	81	13
5.	Burnage	23	12	0	11	-2	63	15
6.	Vale of Lune	22	12	1	9	-17	58	8
7.	Warrington	23	11	0	12	-99	58	14
8.	Blackburn	23	12	1	10	75	57	7
9.	St Benedicts	21	8	0	13	-215	42	10
10.	West Park SH	23	7	0	16	-333	38	10
11.	Rochdale	22	7	0	15	-211	37	9
12.	Altrincham Kersal	22	5	1	16	-175	33	11
13.	Leigh	22	6	0	16	-314	29	5
14.	Eccles	23	1	0	22	-451	13	9

### Raging Bull North West Division 1 - 1st April 2017

#	Team	Pl	W	D	L	Diff	Pts	Adj
1.	Rossendale 2	22	20	0	2	498	82	0
2.	Wirral 2	23	19	1	3	402	81	0
3.	Macclesfield 3	23	18	0	5	314	77	0
4.	Sandbach 2	23	15	1	7	217	69	0
5.	Blackburn 2	23	13	0	10	219	62	0
6.	Warrington 2	23	11	1	11	-28	56	0
7.	Burnage 2	23	11	0	12	-124	56	0
8.	Kirkby Lonsdale 2	23	9	1	13	-155	51	0
9.	Crewe & Nantwich 2	23	8	1	14	-104	48	0
10.	Broughton Park 2	22	8	0	14	-223	46	0
11.	Whitchurch 2	23	7	0	16	-110	43	0
12.	Fylde 3	23	7	0	16	-187	43	0
13.	Liverpool Collegiate 2	22	6	1	15	-457	41	0
14.	Birkenhead Park 2	22	4	0	18	-262	34	0

### North One West Fixtures 2016-17

DATE	OPPOSITION	RESULT	Sponsor
<b>2016</b>		<b>Home Team 1st</b>	
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
<b>2017</b>			
7 Jan	St Benedicts (Home)	W 28-26	Chris Gray
14 Jan	Kirkby Lonsdale (Away)	L 48-0	
28 Jan	Eccles (Home)	W 34-22	Dave Jervis
11 Feb	Altrincham Kersal (Away)	W 19-20	
18 Feb	Birkenhead Park (Home)	L 23-31	
4 March	Wilmslow (Away)	L 10-8	
11 Mar	Blackburn (Home)	W 42-15	Past Players
25 Mar	Leigh (Away)	W 29-39	
1 April	Vale of Lune (Home)		Dave Broadbent
8 April	Rochdale (Away)		
22 April	West Park (Home)		Paul O'Toole



## Warrington RUFC vs. Vale of Lune RUFC

**Warrington RUFC**

**Colours: Green, Scarlet & White**

**Vale of Lune RUFC**

**Colours: Red and White**

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

### TEAMS

Craig Byrne	1	Jack Ferguson
Sean Hughes	2	Andy Powers
Tom Green	3	Ross Pillow
Phil Lynch	4	Adam Foxcroft
Josh Downes	5	Dan Rainford
Josh Riley	6	Tom Cvijanovic
Sean Callendar	7	Bobby Holdbrook
Danny Fleming	8	Jack Ayrton
Ben Hockenhull	9	Billy Swarbick
Tom Wood	10	Jack Turton
Nathan Beesley	11	Chris Ramwell
Luke Johnstone	12	Sam Wallbank (C)
Tom Arnold	13	Olly Jacques
Max Caldwell	14	Jordan Fern
Luke Wardley	15	Damom Hall
	Bench	
James Jones	16	Alex Cowey
Paul Thompson	17	Harry Fellows
Nick Roberts	18	Joe Wallbank
<i><b>Coach: Andy Roberts</b></i>		<i><b>Coach: Dan Williams</b></i>

**Referee: Adam Robinson, Northern Federation**

### This Week's Sponsor

This week's sponsor is Dave Broadbent. Dave is an ex-player and probably the best referee produced by the club (so he tells me). Today, he joins us with his guests and we wish them an enjoyable afternoon. However, being today's host will probably not stop Dave from explaining the finer points of refereeing to today's ref, who travels down from Durham.

### The Threes

Today, our threes are drinking at the last chance saloon. If we do not fulfil the home fixture against Aldwinians, then we are out of the league. And that would be a great shame, for the threes is, to a large extent, the backbone of the club. It is where new players learn the game and old players can still get a game. It also supports the twos, and, in turn, the ones. Fingers crossed!!



## **Leigh 29 Warrington 39**

Leigh are currently languishing at second from bottom in the league and are almost certainly facing demotion at the end of the season. However, their performance on Saturday completely belied their dire situation as they competed superbly against a strong Warrington side in a game where both sides continued to play fast, open rugby, before eventually losing by 39-29.

Warrington began the game in top gear and their speedy backs soon demonstrated the threat that they have posed all season when the going has been firm. Eventually, the forwards managed to secure good ball and a driving run from Sean Hughes paid dividends when the backs used the recycled ball and slick hands from Pat Roberts gave Tom Arnold just enough space to squeeze over in the corner. Ten minutes later, Warrington's mercurial winger scythed through the defence and scored an excellent individual try under the posts, which was converted by Luke Gilooley.

A Gilooley penalty took Warrington into a 15 point lead and it looked like it was going to be an easy day at the office. However, Leigh had other ideas and when Warrington were penalized at a scrum five yards out, the Leigh scrum half found their defence fast asleep and scurried over for a try. Within minutes, Warrington's lead had been further reduced when the Leigh right centre crashed over for a try, whose conversion made the score 12-15. Fortunately, Warrington regained some of their composure before the half time whistle when the two wingers combined. First, Max Caldwell dazzled the defence before handing on to Tom Arnold twenty yards out. The right winger used unsuspected strength to prevent a tackler bundling him into touch before using his pace to cross the line for his third try.

The second half saw Leigh initially in the ascendancy when they notched up 17 points without reply. First their backs combined well and good handling was finished off by an excellent try from their pacy scrum half. This was converted by the full back who then went on to kick a penalty which gave the home side a 22-20 lead. The two point lead soon became a 9 point lead when Lady Luck intervened as Leigh won a foot race to the Warrington line and converted the try.

With fifteen minutes to go, it seemed that Warrington were going to suffer a surprise defeat by a feisty and talented Leigh outfit. Fortunately, Andy Roberts' finishers had other ideas. First, Nick Roberts followed up a well-judged kick from his brother Pat and Luke Gilooley added the extras.

Warrington then forced a line-out five yards out and the ball found its way into the safe hands of the unmarked Matt Gregory who stretched out to add five points to Warrington's tally. With two minutes to play, the game was eventually closed out when scrum half Ben Hockenhull used the blind side of a line out to show exceptional, but rarely-used, speed to score. The Gilooley conversion brought the game to an end.

"We always find it difficult against Leigh," commented coach Andy Roberts. "We should really have put this game to bed in the first half but Leigh always show that never-say-die spirit. Hopefully, they will quickly bounce back up."

## **Warrington 42 Blackburn 15**

In a scintillating first period, Warrington produced possibly their best rugby of the season to ensure the four-try bonus point well before the turn-around. Although they took their collective foot off the gas in the second period to leak two tries to an off-colour Blackburn outfit, they still managed to cross the line twice again to notch up their highest points total this term.

It was Blackburn who applied the early pressure, especially when their talented full back joined the line at pace. Eventually, Warrington were penalized for holding on at a ruck and the successful penalty kick saw the visitors 3 points ahead.

Warrington soon responded and were unlucky when a knock on prevented a certain try following a pin-point kick to the corner from Tom Wood. A Blackburn counter-attack took them deep into Warrington territory. Warrington got back into the driving seat, first when Paul Thompson took the first of his three strikes against the head and then when Phil Lynch broke round the front of a line out and found his hooker in support. The ball was quickly recycled and then passed professionally and slickly across the field to give winger Max Caldwell ample space to demonstrate his finishing prowess in the left corner.

Five minutes later, Warrington wrong-footed the opposition with another strike against the head and full-back Pat Roberts' well-judged punt was picked up by Max Caldwell and the dancing winger crossed for his second try. Minutes later Luke Johnstone took full advantage of a third strike against the head to make good ground in the middle of the field before handing on to Josh Downes, who found Tom Green in support and the mobile prop screamed over from ten yards.

Thirty minutes into the game and yet another scoring chance went begging but when Warrington opted for a scrum when awarded a penalty, they provided the quick ball, which allowed Tom Wood to demonstrate once again his finely-tuned show-and-go and glide over between the posts to simplify the conversion from Luke Gilooly.

A drop-off in concentration early in the second half saw Blackburn come back into contention when they drove over through their forwards, the conversion reducing the Warrington lead to just 14 points. The sinning of a Blackburn player allowed Warrington to extend their lead to 17, courtesy of a Gilooly penalty but within two minutes, the binning of Tom Green allowed the visitors to exploit their temporary numerical advantage and score a good try in the corner.

Fortunately, at this point, Warrington recovered their focus and from a scrum at half way, Tom Wood flashed a beautiful pass to Luke Gilooly, and the young tyro, who must be the find of the season, finished off from thirty yards.

A Gilooly penalty took Warrington's tally to 35 and the scoring was completed by a glorious individual effort from Tom Arnold, converted by the versatile Gilooly.

### **Warrington 2<sup>nd</sup> XV 34 Fylde 3<sup>rd</sup> XV 28**

A truly heroic performance from a young Warrington second team saw them beat a strong Fylde fifteen to maintain their mid-table league position.

Warrington went into an early lead when their forwards produced good turnover ball, which was used to feed Luke Ferguson and the speedy winger finished in the corner from forty yards. Fylde replied with a converted try through their heavy duty pack but Warrington struck again when wrecker ball Craig Byrne broke three tackles to touch down under the posts and allow Ben Dixon an easy conversion. A Ben Dixon penalty took Warrington's tally to 15 points before Fylde replied with a second converted try.

Fortunately, Warrington were now gaining the upper hand in all phases, especially in the set scrum, where the front row of Alex Marland, Craig Byrne and Sam Bennett reigned supreme and it was from a strike against the head that Warrington caught the Fylde defence off-balance and Dan Griffiths cut through for a good try.

The second half was a more open affair with both sides adding fourteen points to their score. Warrington were first to score in the second period when veteran Tony Fretwell showed that he has not lost any of his old guile by using sleight of hand combined with a minimum of pace to touch down. Ben Dixon converted. Fylde came back with a breakaway effort but Warrington closed out the game when Dan Griffiths scored his second try, although a late Fylde revival saw them creep within six points.

## Raging Bull North West - Division 2 South - April 1st 2017

#	Team	Pl	W	D	L	Diff	Pts	Adj
1.	Uni of Liverpool Vets 1	18	15	1	2	260	63	0
2.	Northwich 2	17	15	0	2	284	62	0
3.	Glossop 2	17	13	0	4	327	56	0
4.	Aldwinians 2	19	9	1	9	30	47	0
5.	Altrincham Kersal 2	17	9	0	8	111	44	0
6.	Bowdon 2	17	8	0	9	33	41	0
7.	Chester 3	18	7	0	11	-185	36	-2
8.	Didsbury Toc H 2	15	6	0	9	-62	33	0
9.	Winnington Park 2	18	5	0	13	-179	33	0
10.	Sefton 2	17	4	0	13	-419	29	0
11.	Warrington 3	17	3	0	14	-200	21	-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



**A ball-handling prop??**



**On your marks, get set....(But what's Thommo saying?)**



**The forwards decide to play "Statues"**



**Whoops! Here I go again.**