



# WARRINGTON RUGBY UNION



## OFFICIAL CLUB PROGRAMME



COMMUNITY RUGBY  
SEAL OF APPROVAL



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# A Message from the President

I would like to welcome you to Warrington RUFC and I hope you enjoy your afternoon with us. This is my first year as president and I look forward to meeting new friends from the clubs in North 1 West.

Warrington has enjoyed some success over the past years, since our promotion to North 1 West but it doesn't get any easier. This year the competition looks to be even harder with clubs of great tradition such as Birkenhead Park, Broughton Park and Penrith returning this season. I must admit that I am sorry to see the departure of Altrincham Kersal and Rochdale as in life, changes offer new challenges.



Once again, it seems that there will be no such thing as an easy game but that also ensures a good level of entertainment for spectators and enjoyable, testing matches for the players.

We can all contribute in so many ways as those who have gone before us as Members of WRUFC have done. Players need to remember that it is not just about playing. Fund raising and making sure everything runs smoothly on match days and all the other small but essential tasks is not just the province of those of us who are at the age where sadly playing is no longer possible. The more people who volunteer and get stuck in, the stronger our Club will become.

Former players making a perhaps an infrequent visit to the Club are more than welcome we can always find something for you to do! You will have taken a lot out of the game. Please think seriously about what you can put back in, just as there were the "old farts" in your day who made sure that the baths were run, the tea made, the pitch marked, the game refereed, the raffle run and so on.

I would also take this opportunity to thank all spectators, and especially visiting spectators, for buying this programme. We are not a rich club and we must mainly rely on the income which we generate ourselves from sponsorships, events, raffles, occasional donations - and programme sales. So many thanks for your contribution, which helps to fund the playing side of our activities as well as helping us, enhance the outstanding facilities we enjoy at Warrington Sports Club.

So once again, a very warm welcome to all of you, Warrington supporters as well as visitors, match officials and players. We hope you will enjoy the rugby on offer and that you will also enjoy the beer and banter in the bar after the match.

**GEOFF PERKS**

**President, Warrington RUFC**

Langtree





Welcome to Northwich RUFC

Warrington RUFC extends a very warm welcome to the players, officials and spectators of Northwich RUFC. We look forward to an enjoyable game and a convivial time in the bar afterwards.

Northwich RUFC formerly known as Mid-Cheshire College RUFC (MCC) was established in 1964 as a casual team playing on an ad-hoc basis. Their story starts in 1965 when John Chappell, a lecturer at the College, thought he could form a Rugby club rather than play as a casual team. He gathered his players from Northwich students plus a strong contingent from the Runcorn/Widnes area and managed to play 18 games in the first season.

In the early 70's the Club colours were standardised to black shorts and gold socks. The colour of jerseys had earlier changed from the original maroon with one amber stripe to the now familiar all black. In 1972/73 a 2nd XV was formed and the following season Northwich began running a 3rd XV. In the early years it was difficult to arrange fixtures with the leading Cheshire clubs; as at that time most club games were organised friendly fixtures, traditionally arranged over many years. 1974/75 saw Northwich's 1st season in the Cheshire Cup; in opening game they defeated Old Parkonians, but went out to Davenport losing 17-9 in the next round.

1982/83 was a successful season, the Northwich Club winning the Winnington Park 75th anniversary 15-a-side tournament and reaching the Cheshire Plate final but losing to New Brighton. 1983/84 was another successful year with Northwich winning the Whitchurch 15-a-side competition and reaching the semi-final of the Cheshire Cup only to be defeated by New Brighton. The early 90's consisted of many league restructures made by the RFU and also saw a change of name from Mid Cheshire College to Northwich RUFC. Season 1990/91 sees another successful campaign for Northwich, winning the opening game 13-12 v Manchester, in Courage North West Div. 1.

2006/07 was a season to remember for Northwich RUFC who went undefeated in Euromanx South Lancs & Cheshire League 1, Cheshire Vase winners and EDF Energy Senior Vase winners' .defeating Bradford Salem 18-13 at Twickenham. In season 2011/12 Northwich played in North One West but for season 2012/13 transferred to Midlands One West which proved very disappointing so 2013/14 they came back to South Lancs/Cheshire 1 gaining promotion as champions in 2015/16 to North One West which is where they are today. They have finished 3rd in the league for the last two seasons and showing strong in 2018/19 at 3rd with Warrington 7th.

After a comprehensive win last week Warrington will want to keep the momentum going against today's visitors Northwich who they beat at Moss Farm in early September. An exciting game is predicted may the best side win on the day.

Geoff Perks  
President Warrington RUFC

## *Friends of Warrington Annual Lunch*

*Saturday 15th December*

*Warrington Sports Club*

*Walton Lea Road*

*Paul Broadbent, Paul Hockenhull and the numerous helpers would like to thank all those attending the lunch and especially those who donated a prize.*

*This gives much needed help to the club's finances. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*

## **Perky's Paragraph** – HISTORY OF THE WARRINGTON RUFC

### **The early years**

Warrington R.U.F.C. was formed towards the end of the 1922/23 season and its first full season was 1923/24 when two teams were fielded quite often. The first official Committee consisted of R. M. Swinton, A. Ferguson, W. T. Davenport, C. Hatton, C. E. Radcliffe, J. Baguley, C. Melbourne, J. R. Locker and O. J. Dilworth with L. G. Lythgoe as the Secretary. A temporary ground near to the Baptist Church at the end of Loushers Lane was used and the 'Warrington Guardian' records show that the first game the Club played was on April 21st, 1922, when the Bury Club was the visitor. This match was played at Chester Road and was watched by 1,200 spectators who saw Warrington lose 5-11. At this time the team played in white jerseys with blue shorts and the players were coached by Sergeant/Instructor C. W. Jones, a Welsh International who had won 8 caps. Other players in the first season were Dr. C. W. Healey and V. Francis, both of whom had won their Rugby Colours at Liverpool University, J. Makin, a Manchester University 'Blue', G. N. England, N. Tilling, J. R. Locker and J. Wilkinson, one of the forwards whose qualifications are shown as being the Welter-weight champion of India from 1920-22.

The first Annual Meeting was held on 24th August, 1923 in the Royal Oak Hotel. It is illustrative of the enthusiasm of these pioneers of the Club that on January 4th, 1924 they were able to hold the first Club Annual Ball in the Parr Hall when 260 people attended and danced to Louis Male's Syncopated Orchestra with G. N. England and J. Darbyshire acting as M.C.'s. Clubs that played in the first season some of who we no longer play included Manchester Y.M.C.A., Stockport (defunct), Eccles, Widnes O.B., Central O.B. (defunct), Metrovicks, Colwyn Bay, Wilmslow, Sale 'A' and Waterloo 'A'.

The earliest record shows that in the 1923-24 season the 1st XV played 31 games, winning 16, losing 12 and drawing 2 while the 'A' XV played 26 games, won 15, lost 8 and drew 3. Original Club Members and Committee recorded were Messrs. J. R. Locker, who went on to become England RFU President in 1968, G. N. England, Dr. C. W. Healey and W. T. Davenport.

The Club soon moved from their temporary home in Loushers Lane and played at the Warrington Cricket Club for four seasons until 1929 when it moved to the ground in Loushers Lane, where, apart from the War years, the Club played until the season end of 1961.

Of the early teams the 1928/29 team had the best playing record, out of 29 games, won 18, lost 11, scoring 328 points and conceding 202.

**Programs in the future will continue the story of Warrington RUFC**



# *Sportsman's Dinner*

Friday 15th February 2019 - 7:00pm

-

Master of Ceremonies **Malcolm Lord**

-

Guest Speaker **Paul Sculthorpe**

-

Comedian **John Gillan**

-

2 Course Meal - Auction - Raffle

-

Warrington Sports Club

-

£30 per head or table of 9 £270

-

Smart Casual - Over 18s

-

Tickets NOW ON SALE at the bar

*All proceeds to Warrington RUFC*



Player Profile : Kieran Hughes

Age: 27

Position : Centre/Wing

Player Since : 2007

1st XV Debut : De la Salle cup match 2008

Career record so far: 117 apps. 117 tries



Memorable rugby moment: Winning the league & promotion to NW1

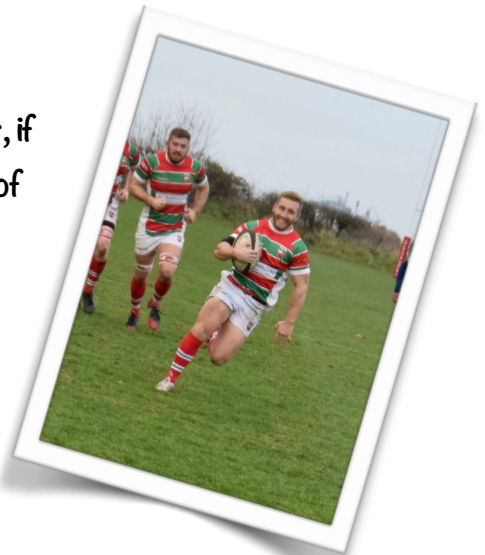
Favourite player: too many brothers past and present to name one!

Favourite insult: "big stiff idiot"

Moment to forget: asking to change £30 into sterling at the local bureau de change.

Kieran is currently looking for a sponsor, if you would like to sponsor Kieran or any of our available players please contact us, via email: [warringtonruffc@sky.com](mailto:warringtonruffc@sky.com)

Or phone 07977737902



WARRINGTON  
RUGBY UNION



# THE PRIDE of WARRINGTON

2018-2019 Corporate sponsorship packages now available

## BRONZE PACKAGE: £150<sup>+VAT</sup>

Company logo and website on all media live all season  
Company logo/ branding next to players name on program  
Invitation to Sponsors Dinner  
End of Season sponsors meal

## SILVER PACKAGE: £250<sup>+VAT</sup>

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Pre & post game photo with players  
Use of function room and new balcony (advance booking required)  
Access to International tickets  
Full page advert in match day program

## GOLD PACKAGE: £400<sup>+VAT</sup>

Silver package for two players.

# 1st XV Half Season Review

As we approach the Christmas Break, we find ourselves positioned in mid-table which some would agree is a fair reflection of where we should be whilst others (including myself) would argue that we should be higher. I think its very clear to see, for all those that follow North West 1, that the league is extremely competitive and that anybody is capable of beating anyone on their day. Its a great standard of rugby and regardless of whether we should be higher in the league or not, I take great pride in the way that the lads have committed to the first half of the season and the brand of rugby that we still continue to play.

A great start to the season saw us pick up two excellent away wins at Birkenhead Park and Northwich respectively. These are two grounds that are never easy to win at and to start the season in such good form was testament to the work that the lads put in over the pre-season period. We then had the task of another two away fixtures and although these games were lost narrowly, we managed to pick up valuable bonus points which is an area we really identified as an area for improvement in the 2018-2019 season. It wasn't until the end of September that we played our first home game and under the watchful eyes of our Sponsor's (who i'll thank later), we played some of our best attacking rugby and brushed Stockport aside and completed the first month of the season with 3 wins out of 5 and two losing bonus points leaving us in mid-table. The remainder of the first half of the season has followed a pattern of winning our home games but losing on the road. Whilst on paper that doesn't look great at all, two of our losses on the road were within 5 points and 2 losing bonus points picked up in Cumbria (Carlisle and Penrith) would be in some eyes a good result. I think it is fair to say however that these two narrow losses could easily have been 4/5 point wins and as a result our league position would be looking much different.

I think its worthy to note some stand out performers over the first half of the season who have in my eyes played some of their best rugby that we have ever seen from them in a Warrington Shirt. Chris White has led from the front (literally) and has put 13 games back to back, often playing 80 mins which for a front rower has been exceptional. When you also realise that he has scored 6 tries, you can see what an impact he has had over the first 13 games. Ste Pilkington has been instrumental in mid field and has added the attacking dimension to his excellent defensive skills and between himself and Kieran Hughes, they are turning into a formidable mid field pairing. So as we approach the second half of the season, the focus will be to continue to play attacking, attractive rugby and doing all we can to take maximum points from our 8 remaining home fixtures. If we can repeat our home form on our away trips then who knows what might happen but whatever does happen, we'll give it our all and enjoy what we are doing.

May I take this opportunity to thank all those involved with Senior Rugby at Warrington RUFC. The Coaches, Fi (for everything she does), linesman, House Managers, Match Report writers, Kev Jones (Programme and Social Media), Alex (Photos), Dave Broadbent (Referee Liaison) Paul Agar (Grounds) and of course our loyal supporters who travel everywhere with us. Your support and help is very much appreciated by all of the Senior Playing Squad.

May I also extend my thanks to the committee who are working tirelessly off the pitch to ensure that the Senior Players are provided with the best possible resources to compete in what is an extremely competitive league.



I wish you all the very best over the Xmas Period and wish you a very happy and successful 2019.

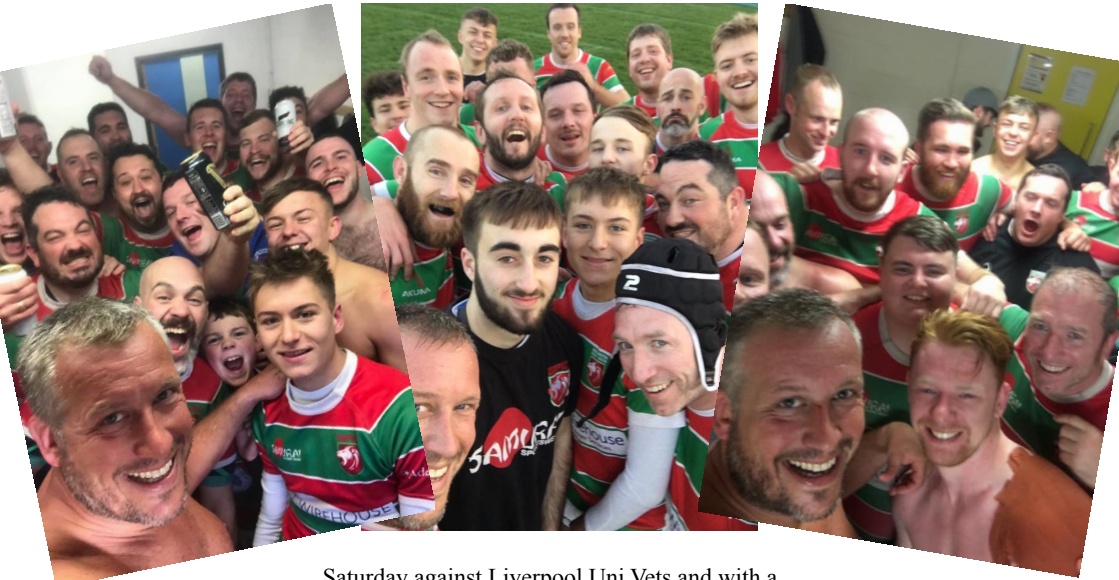
A Rob  
Warrington RUFC - Head Coach

## 2nd XV Half Season Review

Sitting pretty at 3rd in the table is the much deserved position the 2nd team find themselves at the halfway point in the season. Having played 8 of the 11 games away from home on 3 separate occasions with a bare 15 should be enough proof of the outstanding effort, each and every single man that has pulled on a shirt, has put in.

The mix of youth in the back line (excluding Good Tickle and Shaun "I'm retired I promise" McDermott) and experience in the pack, Dom Hastings and Rocky "This might be my last game" Turner, has proven a winning formula on 6 occasions including 4 wins away from Walton Lea Road.

After a great start to the season and all enjoying our rugby, Winners are Grinners after all, we have faced some rather tough days at the coal face recently having to show some true grit and character to compete against some tough sides with an inconsistent line up having used a combination of over 40 players most of whom have only played once this season. Hoping for a resurgence in the last game of the year this



Saturday against Liverpool Uni Vets and with a good run of home games coming in the new year we are hoping to solidify 3rd position which would be the best finish since joining the league.

My personal highlight would have to be travelling to Kirkby Lonsdale with 15 players and coming away with a win in a game we controlled from the first whistle. The effort and passion shown that day was simply outstanding!!

I would like to personally thank every player that has shown up and worn the red, white and green so far this year and if the second half of the season is as successful as the first half has been we may even tempt Rocky T to another last year!!

Review from Captain Craig Byrne

# Player Appearances

Name		Games this year	Career total	Tries this season	Career total
Arnold	Tom	2 + 1	63		29
Barker	Joel	8 + 2	?		
Beesley	Nathan	12	80	9	66
Caldwell	Max	3 + 3	63	1	21
Callander	Sean	11	109	1	6
Dixon	Ben	2	10	1	1
Downes	Josh	11	52	1	4
Emmitt	Luke	3 + 2	5		
Evans	Jonny	10 + 2	29		2
Fleming	Dan	8 + 2	177		9
Gilooly	Luke	3	13		1
Griffiths	Dan	1 + 5	36	1	6
Hannon	Jack	9	19		1
Hughes	Kieran	11	117	9	116
Kellett	Harry	1 + 1	12		
Lynch	Phil	10	89	2	6
Maudsley	Will	1 + 1	4	1	1
McEniff	Tom	9 + 2	14	2	3
Norman	Darren	7	33	1	6
O'Rourke	Clement	8 + 4	106	1	3
Povey	Nick	1	1		
Pilkington	Steve	13	110	6	49
Riley	Josh	9 + 1	124		5
Roberts	Andy	2	96		21
Stewart	Alex	5 + 5	10	1	1
Thompson	Paul	9 + 1	272		23
Ward	Jon	1 + 2	38		1
White	Chris	12 + 1	80	4	22
Wood	Tom	13	178	3	56

Statistics Correct as of 14/12/18

North One West

#	Team	Pl	HW	HD	HL	AW	AD	AL	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts	Adj	Recent Form
1.	Carlisle	13	6	0	0	5	0	2	11	0	2	422	242	180	55	11	W W W W W W
2.	Stockport	13	6	0	0	3	0	4	9	0	4	368	287	81	45	9	W W W W L W
3.	Northwich	13	4	1	1	4	0	3	8	1	4	372	309	63	44	10	W W W W W W
4.	Douglas (I.O.M.)	13	6	0	1	2	0	4	8	0	5	316	199	117	41	9	W L L W W L
5.	Blackburn	13	5	0	1	2	1	4	7	1	5	304	248	56	40	10	W W W W L L
6.	Penrith	13	6	0	1	1	0	5	7	0	6	369	375	-6	37	9	L W L W W W
7.	Warrington	13	5	0	0	2	0	6	7	0	6	340	261	79	36	8	W L W W L W
8.	Birkenhead Park	13	4	0	3	3	0	3	7	0	6	316	291	25	35	7	L W L L L W
9.	Firwood Waterloo	13	5	0	2	1	0	5	6	0	7	287	264	23	33	9	L L L L W L
10.	Broughton Park	13	6	0	1	1	0	5	7	0	6	308	228	80	32	4	L W W W W W
11.	Manchester	13	4	0	2	2	0	5	6	0	7	330	391	-61	32	8	W L L L W W
12.	Burnage	13	5	0	2	0	0	6	5	0	8	327	368	-41	28	8	L L W L L L
13.	Anselmians	13	1	0	6	1	0	5	2	0	11	199	391	-192	11	3	L L L L L L
14.	De La Salle (Salford)	13	0	0	7	0	0	6	0	0	13	144	548	-404	4	4	L L L L L L

Division 1

#	Team	Pl	HW	HD	HL	AW	AD	AL	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts	Adj	Recent Form
1.	Birkenhead Park Wanderers (2nd XV)	11	5	0	0	5	1	0	10	1	0	470	165	305	42	0	W W W W W D
2.	Sandbach 2nd XV	11	5	0	0	5	0	1	10	0	1	608	157	451	41	0	W W W W L W
3.	Warrington 2nd XV	11	2	0	1	4	0	4	6	0	5	277	272	5	31	2	L L W L W W
4.	Burnage 2nd XV	11	1	1	4	4	0	1	5	1	5	332	342	-10	28	1	W L L L W D
5.	Broughton Park 2nd XV	11	3	0	2	2	0	4	5	0	6	291	355	-64	27	1	W L L L W W
6.	Kirkby Lonsdale 2nd XV	11	3	0	3	1	2	2	4	2	5	238	298	-60	26	1	L W D W D
7.	Penrith A XV	11	4	0	3	0	0	4	4	0	7	379	335	44	24	1	W L W L L L
8.	Fylde Saracens (3rd XV)	11	3	0	3	1	0	4	4	0	7	316	303	13	24	2	L W L L L L
9.	Liverpool University Veterinarians	11	3	0	3	2	0	3	5	0	6	284	303	-19	24	0	L W L L W W
10.	Altrincham Kersal (2nd XV)	11	4	0	1	0	0	6	4	0	7	197	431	-234	23	0	W L W L L L
11.	Sedgley Park 3rd XV	11	2	1	2	1	0	5	3	1	7	160	492	-332	22	1	L W D L W W
12.	Glossop 2nd XV	11	2	1	4	1	0	3	3	1	7	233	332	-99	21	0	L L W L D

# North One West Fixtures 2018-2019

Date	Opposition	Result	Sponsor
01 Sept	Birkenhead Park (A)	15-19 W	
08 Sept	Northwich (A)	10-20 W	
15 Sept	Burnage (A)	32-25 L	
22 Sept	Blackburn (A)	20-21 L	
29 Sept	Stockport (H)	23-17 W	Chairman's Carvery
13 Oct	Carlisle (A)	20-25 L	
20 Oct	Manchester (H)	48-22 W	
27 Oct	Firwood Waterloo (A)	31-3 L	
3 Nov	De la Salle (Salford) (H)	66-0 W	
17 Nov	Penrith (A)	22-20 L	
24 Nov	Douglas (I.O.M) (H)	26-22 W	
1 Dec	Broughton Park (A)	35-10 L	
8 Dec	Anselmians (H)	39 - 8 W	
15 Dec	Northwich (H)		Friends of Warrington RUFC
5 Jan 2019	Burnage (H)		
12 Jan	Blackburn (H)		
19 Jan	Stockport (A)		
26 Jan	Carlisle (H)		
9 Feb	Manchester (A)		
16 Feb	Firewood Waterloo (A)		
2 Mar	De la Salle (Salford) (A)		
9 Mar	Penrith (H)		
23 Mar	Douglas (I.O.M) (A)		
30 Mar	Broughton Park (H)		
6 Apr	Anselmians (A)		
13 Apr	Birkenhead Park (H)		

**WARRINGTON RUFC ARE PROUD TO BE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:**



# Warrington RUFC vs. Northwich RUFC

**WARRINGTON RUFC**  
Colours: Green, Scarlet & White.

**NORTHWICH RUFC**  
Colours: Black & Gold.

**Saturday 15th December 2018, Kick off 2:15pm**

**Referee: Gavin Jones, Yorkshire Society**

15	Darren Norman	Sponsorship Available	Will Du Randt	15
14	Tom McEniff	Sponsorship Available	Robin Houghton	14
13	Kieran Hughes	Sponsorship Available	Richard Dale	13
12	Steven Pilkington	H G Wood Ltd	James Underhill	12
11	Max Caldwell	Sponsorship Available	Hayden Skinkis	11
10	Tom Wood	H G Wood Ltd	Nick Baldwin	10
9	Jack Hannon	Sponsorship Available	Matt Poste (capt)	9
8	Danny Fleming	Sponsorship Available	Sam Naylor	8
7	Sean Callander	Lignum Recruitment	Tom Clark	7
6	Josh Riley	3M Technologies	Chris James	6
5	Phil Lynch	Blue Group	Chris Heywood	5
4	Josh Downes (capt)	Simple Solutions Ltd.	Matt Ensor	4
3	Nick Povey	Sponsorship Available	Chris Bradshaw	3
2	Alex Stewart	Sponsorship Available	Mike Gough	2
1	Christian White	Fiona Kellett Physiotherapy	Joe Maddocks	1
16	Tom Green	Sponsorship Available	Adam Bennett	16
17	Jonny Evans	Sponsorship Available	Conor Lapneiwski	17
18	Nathan Beesley	The Specialist Artwork Co.	Tom Husbands	18
Andy Roberts		Coach	Martin Poste	

*Warm welcome to today's guests, opposition and referee,  
We hope a great day and game is enjoyed by all.*

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If you would like to sponsor a match please contact  
via email [warringtonrufc@sky.com](mailto:warringtonrufc@sky.com) or call 07977737902*

# Warrington 1st XV 39 - 8 Anselmians 1st XV

After a flaky first half, Warrington eventually shook off the disappointment of last week's defeat at Broughton Park to outclass Anselmians with a five-try performance, which takes them back to seventh in North 1 West.



Warrington kicked off with a creative short kick which gave them immediate possession but they were unable to turn this into points. They could have opened their account when Kieran Hughes danced through on the right but the final pass went astray. However, patient forward pressure eventually created an opening for Tom Wood and the elegant stand-off demonstrated his signature show-and-go to glide through for the first score. Darren Norman converted.

A chance to go further ahead was missed when Darren Norman was strangely wide with an easy penalty but ten minutes later the full back made no mistake from near the touchline to take his side into a 10-0 lead. Max Caldwell was unlucky not to increase the lead after a strong run but Anselmians struck back on the stroke of half time with a simple penalty.

Five minutes after the restart, a ground-breaking run from Kieran Hughes was exploited by the forwards, who pressurised the Anselmians' line until Tom Wood again used his show-and-go skills to cross for his second try. Darren Norman added the extras. Ten minutes later, it was once again Kieran Hughes who made the initial break, supported by Dan Fleming, who, with Phil Lynch, made the hard yards all afternoon. The final pass was snapped up by Ben Dixon and the winger crossed in the corner.

Anselmians were then made to suffer for their insolence when Chris White, whom they had labelled "pudding" crashed over to finish off a forward drive. The restart did not travel 10 metres and from the resultant scrum on the halfway line, Steve Pilkington ghosted through the opposition defence for a brilliant individual effort, which Darren Norman converted.

Following a crunching tackle from Warrington's baby-face assassin Tom McEniff, Warrington's forwards once more marched into Anselmians' territory and Chris White ensured that they had a double helping of pre-Christmas pudding when he crossed for his second try. Although Anselmians managed to engineer a late try, the game was already won and Warrington had claimed a much-needed five points.

"It was good to see us regain our form after last week," commented coach Andy Roberts. "However, next Saturday we have another mountain to climb when we entertain local rivals Northwich, who are currently third in the league, eight points above us. It should be some game."



# AL SCOTT PHOTOGRAPHER



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## Alex's scrapbook for the season so far





**Photo's brilliantly provided by Alex Scott.**  
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# 3rd XV Half Season Review

Over the fabulous summer of 2018 someone, somewhere had an idea to answer the question of “why are so many players stopping playing?” The easy answer was simple. It’s bloody hard work week in, week out!! So from that moment the social roll up rugby from yesterday year was reborn. No league, no points docked for various indiscretions just a way to keep the boots on but also a way for those coming through to be exposed to what rugby is all about, play, eat, drink & enjoy.(responsibly)

Hobble forward a few months and we find ourselves 4 social games in and about to embark on our 5th, without saying this is only achievable through the generosity of Warrington sports club, for allowing us to utilise the guest fee for each home match rather than having full memberships, without this then surely as has happened to numerous of the teams from the outset we would have failed to fulfil a single fixture.

So back in September we set out to get our first game against our nearest neighbours The Gentlemen of Moore, on a pitch fit for top flight rugby, Muchos Gracias Senior Agar, with big Ronnie on loan from Moore it was 14v14. As for the match it was a brilliant mix of the sublime to the slightly ridiculous, everyone to a man put their all in and it showed, Despite Moore taking the win in the last 10 minutes 12-26.



As our guest reporter for the day Matthew Hennessey quoted his “Moment of the Match: The Team Photo post-match. Great to see so many former players and stars of the future back on the pitch. Well done to all involved and for those rekindling the 3rds.” As such the post match photo is no ritual after each match. The return was 3 weeks later under the floodlights on a Friday night away at Moore. Once again a band of merry men made the not too long journey over the A56, despite storm Callum trying to dampen spirits a partisan crowd had formed and cheered the game to an entertaining end where once again, the last 10 minutes belong to Moore and they ran out 24-14 winners. Two more hard fought defeats came in the fixtures prior to the autumn internationals losing heavily to Ormskirk 2s, late replacement after their league fixture and our social game had been called off by the respective opposition, then the dreaded donut 14-0 away at Holmes Chapel.

November saw the bodies well rested and we returned to action with a trip last week to Congelton 3rds(result and report later in this program) where the duck was well and truly broken. With players young and old relishing the victory it sets us up nicely to return home after the last 3 away fixtures, so on to today when up until Wednesday we were playing Newcastle(staffs) vets, however dreaded phone call was received and we went on the search for a game at late notice. Gladly the Moore boys were also looking for a game and everyone loves a trilogy. So will it be 3rd time lucky or will Moore take the spoils again.

As always in a 3s match regardless of the score hopefully everyone steps off the pitch safely, having laughed and loved every minute on it. Hopefully this will continue next year and for many years to come.

Here’s to a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

# Junior Rugby Spotlight

This week we take a look at Warrington under 12s 2018/19 season so far



The under 12s have started the season in emphatic fashion! The first game was a rip roaring victory over Leigh in the Lancashire cup. This was a true display of physicality and grit against a huge Leigh squad. This game set the precedent for the following weeks.

Other notable games have included a 60-0 drubbing of Glossop and 2 full games against Caldý teams in an away fixture that resulted in resounding victories! The Manchester festival was an amazing display of defensive durability. The first 4 games against Sale, Chester, Broughton Park and Sandbach ended with no tries being conceded, a massive achievement for any team and one that really helped the side to kick on and play to their full potential.



The mix of hard running forwards, speedy outside backs and playmakers at 9 and 10 have seen some epic displays and breath-taking tries being scored. The team has adapted to the new rules in the ruck and scrum and embraced the extra pitch space. Confidence is high in the squad and the lads are looking to kick on in 2019 with some more convincing performances!



# Congelton 3rd XV 8 - 61 Warrington 3rd XV

The social team got off to winning ways at Congleton RUFC. For those who have not been there, the club is a little gem; and we were made to feel very welcome by all.

The 3rds play down the hill in Congleton Park. In torrential rain after a stiff brandy, we decided to throw it about from the start and ran in 10 tries; all (I kid you not) of which were initiated in our own half. Given the horrendous downpour throughout/muddy pitch it was impressive stuff, led by a Napoleonic Matty Drinkwater bolstered by the speed of our new recruits Harvey Readin and Louis Wainright in the centres who had a field day. Davey Murphy (11) and Ben Unsworth (15) combined and communicated intelligently to open up the field at will.

Defensively we were sound with Messrs packmen Tickle and Sterling getting stuck in right from the KO. Both had well-earned rests for a variety of ailments, but will be back next week. Hard running by Andy Buck, Stu Beeley, Andy Almond (at 8) and a Tom Lineham-esq Dom Hasting saw a strong platform set for some excellent running rugby. Unselfish play by Tommy Hock at 9, who realised where the space was, kept us on the front foot. Every player contributed, which saw 2-on-1s created regularly and with excellent backing up and sublime off-loading the scoreboard ticked over mercilessly with the ball passing through a number of hands, often starting from our own 22.

Superbly lead again by Dave Nicholls at 7 (3 tries) and Dan Johnston at 6 (pinched loads at the breakdown) the scoring was long range and made for excellent viewing. I'm sure I could hear Jerusalem playing from the nearby bandstand. My cold will be worth it.

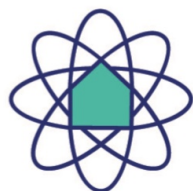
## Scoring:

0- 5 Andy Walker  
0-12 Dave Nichols con Harvey Readin  
0-17 Mark Tickle  
0-22 Dave Nichols  
27 Louis Wainwright  
3-32 Dave Nicols  
3- 37 Andy Almond 39 con M Tickle  
3-44 Matt D 47 con Harvey R  
8-52 Harvey R 54 Louis W  
8- 59 Harvey R 61 Louis W  
Final score 8-61



Regrettably, after some excellent food upstairs, given cold and wet M6 to confront, we didn't get chance to socialise much with Congleton. Apologies, will try and put this right next time.





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**Hell, if you sponsor the game you can join us in the showers if you like?**

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