



Welcome to Anselmians RUFC

"THE WINNER TAKES IT ALL"?

A warm welcome to our visitors from Anselmians for today's crucial CLS2 League fixture. A win for Warrington will ensure the League title, whilst if there is a draw or win for the visitors it will all go to the last day to decide who tops the table after 22 rounds. For those interested we travel to Ruskin Park for our last fixture and Anselmians play at home to Douglas who traditionally treat their last away game of the season as a "tour". One would suggest, therefore, that Warrington do really need to win today if they are going to head up the table.

Anselmians inflicted Warrington's first League defeat of the season back in December – our only defeat in the opening half of the season. Since then and from what proved to be Pete Cannon's last game for us, our form has suffered somewhat, winning only 6 of the last 9 games as injury, unavailability and Paul Gill's weekly visit to the sin bin has begun to take their toll. All our defeats have been narrow ones – in fact the 16pts-3 defeat at Anselmians being our heaviest defeat of the season.

Last week at Ashton we outscored the opposition by four tries to nil, but persistent penalties given away and an inability to win any primary possession meant we only had about 20% of the ball to play with. As it turned out, we had to defend our line with all we had in the closing minutes.

As many as five sides from this League could get promoted at the end of the season, due to the League's restructure and we have made some interesting selections in recent weeks as the 2nd XV have been strengthened at times in a bid to help them stave off relegation. There have been some notable absentees in recent weeks – Alwyn Hughes has been working more at weekends, captain Paul Thompson has been injured, Richard Turner on holiday, James Shaw somewhere, Paul Hennessey skiing and Richie Macnair experiencing life with the 2's. Without doubt when we move to 26 League games next season it will be even more likely that teams will lose some of their consistent turn outs week in week out and they will be the odd strange scoreline appear.

In terms of what is coming up then our Senior Colts have reached the Lancashire Cup Under 18's semi finals and the 1's (or will it be the 2's?) play Tarleton next week in the Quarter Final of the Lancashire Plate next Saturday. The winners entertain either Ormskirk or Hutton in the semi finals.

..... Finally to the Quiz.

The last question was a little more light hearted....Which player complained bitterly on a training night on the week we first ever played against Crewe & Nantwich, that he thought it was very unfair that we had to play two teams on the same day? A clue....it was a forward!
Answer: Alan Marsh

Peter Riley, Warrington RUFC

Results and League Table

South Lancs/Cheshire 2

Results Mar 2009

Saturday, 28 March 2009

Anselmians	22 - 7	Wallasey
Ashton-on-Mersey	15 - 22	Warrington
Crewe and Nantwich	0 - 25	Douglas (I.O.M.)
Orrell Anvils	5 - 16	Oswestry
Ruskin Park	22 - 8	Trentham
Sefton	30 - 15	Southport

Saturday, 21 March 2009

Orrell Anvils	21 - 14	Warrington
Sefton	20 - 29	Douglas (I.O.M.)

South Lancs/Cheshire 2

League Table at 3rd April 2009

<i>Team</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>Diff</i>	<i>Pts</i>	<i>Adjust</i>
Warrington	20	16	0	4	425	268	157	32	0
Anselmians	20	15	1	4	504	258	246	31	0
Ruskin Park	20	13	0	7	333	254	79	26	0
Oswestry	20	14	1	5	357	287	70	25	-4
Sefton	20	12	0	8	371	322	49	24	0
Douglas (I.O.M.)	20	11	1	8	337	279	58	21	-2
Trentham	20	7	2	11	208	380	-172	16	0
Ashton-on-Mersey	20	6	1	13	313	369	-56	13	0
Southport	20	6	0	14	219	305	-86	12	0
Wallasey	19	6	0	13	276	407	-131	10	-2
Orrell Anvils	19	7	0	12	262	283	-21	6	-8
Crewe and Nantwich	20	3	0	17	273	466	-193	6	0

Trivia 1: Blue Murder

I protest unto you, it may rather be called a friendly kind of fight than a play or recreation, a bloody and murdering practice than a fellowly sport or pastime. For does not everyone lie in wait for his adversary seeking to overthrow him and pitch him on his nose, though it may be upon hard stones ... so that by this means sometimes their necks are broken. Sometimes their legs, sometimes their arms. Sometimes one part thrown out of joint, sometimes their noses gush with blood ... a hundred such murderous devices, and hereof groweth enmity, malice, rancour, choler, hatred, displeasure, envy and what not else. And sometimes fighting, brawling contention, quarrel picking, murder, homicide and a great infusion of blood.

Philip Stubbes on the forerunner of rugby in the late 16th century. Not much has changed!

Warrington RUFC v Anselmians RUFC

Saturday 4th April 2009 at Walton Lea

WARRINGTON

Colours: Red, White and Green

ANSELMIANS

Colours: Yellow Jerseys

TEAM:	15	Almond	Close, John (C)
	14	Mullen	Brocken, Phil
	13	Rickard	Petterson, Mark
	12	Rockey	McLoughlin, Ben
	11	Mckay	McHugh, Nathan
	10	McDermott	Mason, Simon
	9	Hughes	Kay, Paul
	8	Fields E	Tuna, Scott
	7	Hennessey	Lamming, Nick
	6	Gill	Evans, Ant
	5	Hughes A	Bentham, John
	4	Tierney	Hendry, Duncan
	3	Graham	Stenhouse, Andrew
	2	Thompson (C)	Neale, Adam
	1	Grant	Pilgrim, Steve
	16	Tickle S	Edge, Dave
	17	Tickle M	Cambridge, Liam
	18	Jones	McGowan, Chris

Referee: Today's referee is Steven Ward from West of Scotland Referees Society.

Welcome Steven and please remember whose side you are on today! Hope you enjoy your day with Warrington RUFC and our visitors, Anselmians RUFC.

Anselmians RUFC Contact Details: <http://www.arufc.com/>

Trivia 2:

1. In 1995, most of the world rugby teams adopted the South African practice of supporting jumpers in the lineout. This change called for the development of catching and lifting skills, not to mention timing, by the jumpers and their supporting colleagues.
2. In 1934 the Federation Internationale de Rugby Amateur (FIRA) was formed to promote the game outside the major rugby playing nations at the time. The founding members were:

Catalonia (Spain)

Czechoslovakia

France

Germany

Holland

Italy

Portugal

Romania

Sweden

WARRINGTON RUFC 1ST XV APPEARANCES 2008/2009 SEASON

(UPTO AND INCLUDING – ASHTON ON MERSEY - 28TH MARCH 2009)

NAME	THIS SEASON + SUB	TRIES	CONS	PENS	POINTS
A ALMOND	21	6			30
J CALLANDER	3 + 4				
P CANNON	13	6			30
JA FARRELL	3 + 3				
A FIELDS	1				
E FIELDS	21	5			25
P GILL	18 + 1	1			5
L GRAHAM	10 + 4	1			5
P GRANT	13 + 2				
D GRIFFITHS	5 + 1				
M HADDON	10 + 4				
P HENNESSEY	10 + 3				
A HUGHES	13				
S HUGHES	4				
B JONES	0 + 2				
K JONES	13 + 5	7			35
J KERAİ	1 + 1				
P MACKAY	5	2			10
R MACNAIR	16		5	2	16
S MCDERMOTT	5 + 1				
R MULLEN	1	1			5
D RICKARD	18	3			15
M ROCKEY	21	8	26	35	197
J SHAW	16 + 1	6			30
M STEVENSON	4 + 1				
P THOMPSON	19	1			5
M TOBIN	0 + 1				
M TICKLE	8 + 2	5			25
S TICKLE	10 + 4	1			5
M TIERNEY	12 + 1				
R TURNER	9 + 3	2			10
J WELSH	0 + 1				
G WHEATLEY	14 + 3	3			15
S WILLIAMS	9 + 5				
P YEADON	9 + 4	1			5
PENALTY		2			10
	35 USED	61	31	37	478

Detailed History of Our Game – Part 1

1820s & 1830s Public schools (including Harrow, Winchester, Eton & Rugby) play their own versions of 'football'. Boys from Rugby School gradually develop and shape the game that will become famous world wide.

1838/9 'Running in' (try scoring in modern terminology) becomes an accepted feature of the Rugby School game due to the prowess of pupil Jem Mackie.

1839 Albert Pell, former Rugby School pupil, organises 'football' matches at Cambridge University. Everyone plays by their school rules (including Rugby School football rules) and so a compromise set of rules are produced. This attempt to form one set of football rules would eventually lead to the publication of the 'Cambridge Rules' (see 1863).

1841 Running with the ball is formally adopted and accepted by the boys of Rugby School for the first time.

1845 Three boys at Rugby School publish their first set of written rules. These are the first written rules for any form of 'football' and are one of the reasons why Rugby's game flourished whilst others died out.

1854 Trinity College, Dublin is the first rugby club to be formed in Ireland.

1858 Edinburgh Academicals is the first rugby club to be formed in Scotland.

1861 Montevideo Cricket Club, Uruguay, is the first club outside Europe to play rugby.

1863 The 'Cambridge Rules' are published. These rules are an amalgamation of the various forms of 'football' – including elements of Rugby School football.

26 October– Football Association (FA) formed at the Freemason's Tavern, Great Queen Street, Lincoln Inn Fields, London.

"The original object of the Association was to frame a code of laws that would embrace the best and most acceptable points of all the various methods of play under the one heading of 'football'" (The History of the Football Association by Geoffrey Green – 1953).

Clubs attending the first meeting include Blackheath and Blackheath Proprietary School.
10 November – 2nd FA meeting.

Although some public schools reply to the letters sent out by the FA offering membership, Rugby School does not. Rules are discussed. At this point it is still the intention to merge the Rugby School rules into the FA's national football rules with everyone else's.

14 November– 4th FA meeting. The proposed rules for 'football' are read out. F. W. Campbell (Blackheath) asserts that they were "worthy of consideration". Handling the ball is allowed, but other aspects of Rugby School rules, such as hacking (kicking) and hacking over (tripping over), are forbidden.

1 December– 5th FA meeting. Campbell believes that hacking is an essential element of the 'football' game that his club (Blackheath) wants to play. To eliminate hacking would "do away with all the courage and pluck from the game, and I will be bound over to bring over a lot of Frenchmen who would beat you with a week's practice".

8 December– 6th FA meeting. Campbell informs the meeting that the laws that the FA wants to adopt would destroy the game and all interest in it. He then removes Blackheath from membership of the FA.

Other rugby clubs follow this lead and do not join the Football Association. Without the participation of these clubs many of the Rugby School football influences are dropped from the FA's laws and the brand new football game (soccer) will become an almost exclusively dribbling sport.

(cont)

1869 Sydney University is the first rugby club to be formed in Australia.

1870 'Alcocks Football Annual' lists approximately 75 clubs playing Rugby School football rules. These different clubs have different interpretations of the laws as played at Rugby School.

Nelson club of New Zealand starts to play Rugby School rules, the first club in that country to do so.

November - an anonymous surgeon writes to 'The Times' complaining that Rugby football is dangerous. The need is felt to form a body to regulate the laws.

Next parts in this saga will be next season I'm afraid.

Terry Critchley

As It Were

WARRINGTON RUFC UPDATED STATS

CAREER TO DATE

MATT ROCKEY 68 games, 9 tries, 21 cons, 32 pens = 183 points – 106 this year

DUNCAN RICKARD 57 games, 5 tries, 3 cons, 2 pens = 37 points – 5 this year

ANDY JAMES (record in 1 season) 9 tries, 94 cons, 39 pens, 2 dg's = 356 points 1999/2000

ANDY JAMES (career total) 187 games, 33 tries, 374 cons, 230 pens, 10 dg's = 1,629 points

Dates for Your Diary 2009

Next 1st XV Home Games: Possible 'Tour' game vs Douglas at season end.

Annual Dinner 2009: Date and venue t.b.d. but likely to be 15th May 2009.

AGM 2009: Date tbd.

Easter 2010: Mini/Juniors' Tour

The Club committee has supported a tour for the mini's, junior's and academy teams next season. They will travel to Dublin at Easter 2010 and will offer the tour to all U7s to U17s teams. As previous M&J events, it will be completely self funded and self organised.

Contacts: Steve and Mandy Riley

Trivia 3:

Warrington RUFC in training for try scoring



Terry Critchley

Warrington RUFC

1st XV Fixtures 2008-2009

Date	Team	Result
31 st August	Warrington v Bay Horse	
6 th September	Warrington v Birchfield	36-5 W
13 th September	Warrington v Ruskin Park	15-13 W
20 th September	Sefton v Warrington	19-28 W
27 th September	Warrington v Oswestry	40-11 W
4 th October	Southport v Warrington	3-10 W
11 th October	Warrington v Trentham	13-9 W
18 th October	Wigan v Warrington	25-17 L
25 th October	Wallasey v Warrington	12-27 W
1 st November	Warrington v Orrell Anvils	9-8 W
8 th November	Warrington v Douglas (IOM)	25-16 W
15 th November	Crewe & Nantwich v Warrington	19-21 W
29 th November	Warrington v Ashton on Mersey	15-8 W
6 th December	Anselmians v Warrington	16-3 L
13 th December	Newton XV v Warrington XV (Friendly)	0-17 W
20 th December	Warrington v Sefton	25-8 W
4 th January 2009	Warrington v Broughton – Lancs Plate	No Game
10 th January	Oswestry v Warrington	Postponed
24 th January	Warrington v Southport	18-3 W
31 st January	Trentham v Warrington	17-12 L
14 th February	Warrington v Wallasey	32-12 W
21 st February	Orrell Anvils v Warrington	Postponed
28 th February	Oswestry v Warrington (*)	22-19 L
7 th March	Douglas (IOM) v Warrington	10-17 W
14 th March	Warrington v Crewe & Nantwich	60-26 W
21 st March	Orrell Anvils v Warrington (*)	21-14 L
28 th March	Ashton on Mersey v Warrington	15-22 W
4th April	Warrington v Anselmians	
18 th April	Ruskin Park v Warrington	
25 th April	Douglas IOM Tour game??	

(*) Rearranged fixtures after 10th January and 21st February postponements.

Not Many People Know This ...

The duration of international rugby matches was set in 1925 at 40 minutes each way with a 5 minute interval (unless the game is on Sky, when it can be 15 minutes or more to allow for advertisements). The referee was given sole responsibility for keeping a note of the time.

Terry Critchley, Warrington RUFC (from web site, book research and downright lies!).

Match Reports

Saturday 28th March 2009

Ashton on Mersey 1st 15 pts -Warrington 1st 22 pts

Warrington remain top of the table after another tough game against a spirited Ashton on Mersey team. Warrington play Anselmians on Saturday at Walton lea road in a winner takes all game as Anselmians are currently second and one point behind Warrington. It is bound to be a cracker of a game as Anselmians are currently on a winning run, yet Warrington are unbeaten at home for over 12 months.

Warrington scored tries through Rockey, Almond, Mackay and Rickard and it was evident that the tries came from the backs as the forwards found it difficult all afternoon against the tough Ashton forwards. Tierney, in the second row, tackled as if his life depended on it and no 8 Wheatley was getting on top before he had to leave the game with an injury. When the backs had ball they looked dangerous as their pace was too much for the slower Ashton backs. Warrington must win more ball against Anselmians on Saturday if they are to have a hope of winning.

Coach Stew Coleman said " The game on Saturday is massive as we want to win the league and go up as champions. The lads have worked hard all season and must continue to do so right up to the final whistle of the final game of the season. We hope that past players and our usual supporters will come down and back the lads on Saturday"

WARRINGTON SENIOR COLTS 22PTS - BROUGHTON PARK SENIOR COLTS 14PTS

The Colts progressed into the Quarter Finals of the League Plate competition with a hard earned win over their senior ranked opposition. Expertly refereed by Lewis Courtney this a fast flowing game with Park still in the hunt in the closing minutes but tenacious defending by the home team kept them at bay and earned the hosts a home tie against Glossop.

17-7 at the break to Warrington but early in the second half it was all Park. The Park forwards were much bigger than Warrington's but having no joy breaking down the home defence they started to move the ball wide to find they had electric pace on the wing which they began to exploit. Warrington didn't help themselves when captain Kieran Hughes went to the sinbin for ten minutes and it was somewhat against the run of play that Jonny Miller was rewarded for his hard work when he got on the end of a pass after a Mike Lee break for a well worked converted try.

The visitors came straight back with an excellent try from one of their wing flyers and the conversion meant Warrington led now by only eight points. It proved to be enough and despite being under pressure for the final 10 minutes of the game they held on for an excellent win and progression to the last eight of the competition.

Danny Fleming won the man of the match award

NOTE: This is the last official 1st XV home game this season and the Club would like to thank its sponsors and those of you who have helped the Club out by purchasing this non-award winning programme. It's been fun and an education producing it. See you next season.