



1923 - 2012

South Lancashire/Cheshire League 1

Welcome to Bowdon RUFC from Warrington RUFC

A warm welcome to our visitors for today's game – Bowdon RUFC. We feel sure that a hard and close game will take place today, despite the fact that both sides are somewhat apart in the league table and Bowdon hammered Warrington 43 – 3 in the last meeting on Oct 1st. However, my memory is long enough to remember Bowdon being beaten 114-0 by Orrell in the 1960s. *Touché, but no hard feelings!*

Enjoy yourselves ladies and gentlemen and put as much money as possible behind the bar and buy a ticket or two for the post-match raffle.

Bowdon RUFC Contacts and Information:

Web site: www.bowdonruffc.com/

Location: http://www.bowdonruffc.com/cgi-bin/bowdonruffc.cgi?page_id=find_us

Address: Bowdon RUFC - Clay Lane, Timperley, Cheshire, WA15 7AF.

From the M56 junction 6 follow signs for Hale along the A538. Follow the road for approx. 1½ miles through Hale Barnes town centre. At the first set of traffic lights turn right onto the A5144 (Delahays Road). Follow the road to the roundabout and take the 3rd exit onto Clay Lane. The club entrance is approximately ¼ mile on your left.

CONTACT: Telephone: 0161 980 8321 or by e-mail to info@bowdonruffc.com.

Today's Game Sponsor: Derek Bate

Today's Referee: Craig Barclay, Manchester Society

Next Home Game: v Hoylelake on Saturday 4th February

Regards

Dave Broadbent, *President, Warrington RUFC*

Welcome to Bowdon RUFC: 1877 - 2012



A warm welcome to our visitors from Bowdon for today's Cheshire Lancashire South League Division 1 fixture.

Bowdon are currently at the top end of the table fighting with three other clubs for the play-off place, with Sale FC clearly going to win this League by some distance. We find ourselves also vying with three other clubs – but at the wrong end of the table, trying to fight off relegation.

We got yet another thumping at Clay Lane back in October in a game that proved to be the last in charge for our then coaches. We did, however, register our first ever points at Bowdon in that game with Danny Newens kicking a solitary penalty in a 43pts-3 defeat. Our two previous other games there saw us lose 65-0 and 34-0! Our team today shows many changes from that day, with only Andy Almond, Haydn Fraser, Kevin Jones, Zak Lythgoe, Danny Fleming, Mike Haddon and Paul Grant likely to feature today. Head Coach Steve Riley has swept a new broom and his team today shows many of last year's Colts players together with a smattering of tough and experienced players.

To date the improvement on our early season form has been clear for all to see and we are sure we can give Bowdon a run for their money this afternoon.

Bowdon, of course, has always run a 7's competition at the close of the season and it is sad to note that this year would have been the 61st, but as they are embarking on a major pitch improvement programme this year's competition will not go ahead.

I had the great pleasure in 1983 in captaining the only Warrington team to win the Bowdon 7's when we beat Sale 26pts-22 in the final.....you might want to read that last sentence again.....with an extra time try from Tony Humphries who later went on to sign professional rugby league forms with Warrington. For those of you younger players who think you have it tough these days let me tell you about the build up to the day itself. The previous day Warrington 1st XV travelled by coach to play Gordon League in Gloucester and lost a close encounter by 20 odd points to 3. We arrived back in Warrington around 5 o'clock on the Sunday morning and met back at the Club at 11 o'clock to see what bodies we had for the tournament. In those days you would not cry off from a commitment the Club had made. We eventually grabbed Tony Mills out of his pit to give us our 8th man and away we went. We even beat the mighty Wilmslow in the semi-final by 14pts-12.

Finally, may I personally thank Derek Bate for his sponsorship of today's game. Derek had an illustrious career with Swinton and if you have never seen his "Best 100 tries" video compilation I can thoroughly recommend it. Derek played for all of our teams once his professional career was over and is now a great supporter of WRUFC and active cricket member of the Club and maturing nicely into the role of an allickadoo! Derek, once again, thanks for your support!

History of Bowdon R.U.F.C.

Saturday, the 13th of October 1877 "was a fine day"

The opening line of the match report for the first competitive fixture of newly formed Bowdon & Lymm Football Club against Widnes penned by the first secretary Mr. Walter Rycroft. The account of the first game manages to describe not only the game, but also the weather, details of the Bowdon team, changing arrangements (usually a hostelry of some theme), names of officials including the "umpire" Dr. Cartwright and the precise make-up of the final score. Bowdon & Lymm triumphed by 2 goals and 1 try to Widnes's 2 touchdowns and a "disputed" try "which ended the game a little before time".

This first season had its ups and downs, as would be expected, but one of the season's highlight must have been the victory over Sale in the Cheshire Challenge Cup by 1 goal and 2 touchdowns to 2 touchdowns. With a season tally of 4 wins, 4 losses and 3 draws and fixtures against clubs such as Sale, Birkenhead Park and Manchester A, credit is due to Mr Walter Rycroft and his friends Mr H. Maw and Mr B.D. Beever who, together, were instrumental in launching the club and guiding it through the initial difficulties which invariably beset a project of this kind.

Over the initial three years of existence Mr Rycroft's reports provide a valuable insight into both the establishment of the club and the beginnings of Rugby Football in Cheshire.

Prominent in the early reports are the names of Mathieson and Rycroft himself, both playing for Cheshire, and also of H.C. Rowley who went on to play for England whilst still a member of the Bowdon & Lymm Club. During the second season, and following a move from the grounds at Stamford Road in Bowdon, Bowdon's new home at the Devisdale was used in March 1879 for a County match between Lancashire & Cheshire for which entrance was charged at 1 shilling & 6d.

Throughout the 1880's the fixture list was strengthened considerably by the inclusion of Liverpool, Rochdale and New Brighton and the club commenced its representation on the County Committee. Several further players achieved County Honours including fullback F. Wainwright and forwards C Hardy and H.F. Ransome. During these years, owing to difficulties with grounds, the club had a somewhat nomadic existence. After Stamford Road and the Devisdale, Bowdon, a move was made in 1883 to Green Walk Bowdon where changing was at the Griffin Hotel. In 1900 the ground was in Hale and the players used the Bleeding Wolf (*now demolished: Terry Critchley*) as their changing facility. A change was made in 1904 when the club relocated to the Hare & Hounds in Timperley.

Subsequent moves were to Heath Road, Hale (1908), South Downs Road (1911), Ashley (1913), where the Greyhound became home, and then to our penultimate home in 1924 the Devisdale, at Lord Stamfords invitation where floodlighting was arranged and the players were able to settle down for a period of fourteen years.

Finally, at a special meeting on January 14th 1938 it was decided to buy a seven acre ground at Clay Lane, Timperley, on which a new clubhouse and, if possible, a stand could be built. Once loans from the RFU and Cheshire County were negotiated the foundations of Bowdon RUFC as it now exists were well and truly laid.

Warrington RUFC**1st XV Fixtures and Results 2011-2012**

Date	Opposition	Result (*)
2011		
3 Sept	Winnington Park (A)	L 31 - 17
10 Sept	Orrell (A)	L 30 - 3
17 Sept	Ormskirk (A)	L 21 - 7
24 Sept	West Park (H)	L 9 - 34
1 Oct	Bowdon (A)	L 43 - 3
8 Oct	Glossop (H)	L 14 - 15
15 Oct	Hoylake (A)	L 26 - 21
22 Oct	Liverpool Collegiate (H)	L 14 - 17
29 Oct	Wigan (A)	L 22 - 20
5 Nov	Sale (H)	L 6 - 27
12 Nov	Tyldesley (A)	L 17 - 12
19 Nov	New Brighton (H)	L 15 - 24
26 Nov		
3 Dec	Ashton-on-Mersey (A)	L 12 - 5
10 Dec	Orrell (H)	W 33 - 23
17 Dec	Ormskirk (H)	W 10 - 6
24 Dec		
27 Dec	Thorn Cross (H) non-League Friendly Game	W 50 - 26
2012		
7 Jan	West Park (A)	L 22 - 3
14 Jan	Bowdon (H)	
21 Jan		
28 Jan	Glossop (A)	
4 Feb	Hoylake (H)	
11 Feb		
18 Feb	Liverpool Collegiate (A)	
25 Feb		
3 Mar	Wigan (H) + WRUFC Past Players' Reunion Lunch at Walton Lea	
10 Mar	Sale (A)	
18 Mar		
24 Mar	Tyldesley (H)	
31 Mar	New Brighton (A)	
7 April		
14 April	Ashton-on-Mersey (H)	
21 April	Winnington Park (H)	

(*) Home team score first

WARRINGTON RUFC 1ST XV APPEARANCES 2011/2012 SEASON(UP TO AND INCLUDING WEST PARK – AWAY - 7TH JANUARY 2012)

NAME	CAREER	THIS YEAR + AS SUB	TRIES	CONS + PENS + DROPS	POINTS
A ALMOND	107	11 = 1	4		20
T ARNOLD	2	0 + 2			
J BRAZENDALE	1	0 + 1			
M BRAZIER-KOBUS	2	1 + 1			
C BYRNE	11	5 + 1	2		10
S COOMBES	70	1			
M DRINKWATER	194	6			
JA FARRELL	24	1			
JO FARRELL	19	5 + 1			
E FIELDS	139	4			
D FLEMING	14	12 + 1			
D FLOYD	4	3 + 1			
H FRASER	13	13	5		25
O GILES	1	1			
L GILLET	2	0 + 2			
L GRAHAM	219	0 + 1			
P GRANT	193	13 + 3			
T GREEN	1	0 + 1			
E GYMA	1	1			
M HADDON	79	15			
M HENNESSEY	63	8			
P HENNESSEY	57	3 + 6			
T HOCKENHULL	3	2			
G HOWSON	29	10			
J HUGHES	27	1			
K HUGHES	8	0 + 2			
E JOHNSTON	8	7 + 1			
I JONES	6	5 + 1			
K JONES	181	8 + 5	2		10
J KERAI	34	4 + 1			
P LYNCH	4	3 + 1			
Z LYTHGOE	54	13 + 1	1		5
S MCDERMOTT	72	1			
S MELVIN	8	8	1		5
D NEWENS	40	15	6	13 + 18	110
N PENNINGTON	4	2			
A RICHARDSON	10	4			
D RICKARD	128	13 + 1			
J RILEY	12	7 + 2			
M ROBINSON	15	5 + 2			
M ROCKEY	116	2		0 + 1 + 1	6
J SHAW	109	2 + 1			
P THOMPSON	184	7			
S TICKLE	47	0 + 1			
D TURNER	4	4			
C WHITE	5	1 + 3			
T WOOD	1	1			
S YOXALL	41	12 + 2			
TOTAL		48	21	13+19+1	191

Table compiled and maintained by Peter Riley, Warrington RUFC Secretary. Thanks Peter.

Results and League Table

Saturday 7th January 2012

Bowdon	27 - 5	Ormskirk
Glossop	A7 - 0A	Orrell (Abandoned)
Hoylake	21 - 6	Winnington Park
Liverpool Collegiate	25 - 26	Ashton-on-Mersey
Sale	48 - 10	Tyldesley
West Park (St Helens)	22 - 3	Warrington
Wigan	14 - 15	New Brighton

SLC 1 League Table *Saturday 7th January 2012*

<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>B Pts</i>	<i>Pts</i>	<i>Adjust</i>
Sale	15	15	0	0	821	135	686	15	75	0
New Brighton	16	11	1	4	367	254	113	7	53	0
Tyldesley	16	11	1	4	338	277	61	6	52	0
Bowdon	14	11	0	3	309	193	116	5	49	0
Hoylake	14	9	1	4	263	202	61	3	41	0
Wigan	16	8	0	8	322	375	-53	9	41	0
Ashton-on-Mersey	15	7	0	8	281	313	-32	7	35	0
Winnington Park	14	7	0	7	238	348	-110	4	32	0
West Park (St Helens)	16	8	1	7	290	344	-54	7	31	-10
Glossop	14	5	0	9	266	288	-22	8	23	-5
Liverpool Collegiate	16	4	1	11	227	397	-170	3	21	0
Orrell	14	2	1	11	203	355	-152	4	14	0
Warrington	16	2	0	14	191	373	-182	6	14	0
Ormskirk	16	3	0	13	165	427	-262	3	10	-5

Death of a WRUFC Club Member

Jack Hockenhull, a Club member from the Loushers Lane days and afterwards passed away in the Old Rectory Nursing home, Church Lane, Grappenhall on December 17th 2011. Jack was 83 years of age and had been in the home for about 16 months after being taken ill in Spain. Jack used to take the training at Loushers lane in the 1950s/early 1960s and was a perennial 'keep fit' man.

His funeral service took place at St Thomas' Church, Stockton Heath, on Thursday 5th January 2012 and then at Warrington Crematorium. The WRUFC Club was handsomely represented. The 'wake' was held at Warrington Sports Club where there was a suitcase of memorabilia Jack had collected over the years, including photographs and newspaper clippings.

Warrington RUFC v Bowdon RUFC

Teams for Saturday 14th January 2012 at Walton Lea

WARRINGTON

Colours: Red, White and Green

BOWDON RUFC

Colours: Maroon and White

TEAMS

Johnstone	1	Nick Buckley
Haddon	2	Andrew Hines
Grant	3	Mark Collinge
Lythgoe	4	Jim Calveley
Hughes A	5	Willie Landman
Filedts (C)	6	Callum Baldwin
Jones I	7	Guy Storey
Flemming	8	Alistar Brighton
Wood	9	John Blackwell (C)
Rickard	10	Conor Armstrong
Richardson	11	Phil Gare
Turner	12	Eddie Bredenhann
Hughes K	13	Settareki Kolinisau
Fraser	14	Vereti Bau
Almond	15	John Masi
	<i>Bench</i>	
Newans	16	Martin Gallagher
Jones K	17	Matt Davies
Hennessey	18	David Poots

Coach: Steve Riley

Coach: Fred Baama

Memories: Warrington RUFC: Season 1959-60

Captains

1st XV Captain: MTF (Mike) McClelland

1st XV Vice Captain: P (Peter) Harrison

A XV Captain: B (Brian) Taberham

B XV Captain: RT (Bob) Ormsby

C XV Captain: WG (Wilbur) Wright

Annual Subscriptions

Members up to 18 years of age ... 15s 6d (77.5 p today)

Members 18 years of age and over ... £1 10s 0d (£ 1.50 today)

There shall be a rebate of 5s (25 p) if the subscription is paid before 31st October, or a month after joining.

Warrington RUFC Results and Match Reports

Reports 7th January 2012

West Park 1st XV 22

Warrington 1st XV 3

Warrington could just as easily have won this difficult fixture against West Park, having just missed out on four excellent scoring chances, while the home side cemented victory with three tries in the closing ten minutes when Warrington were reduced to 14 men. Even so, West Park showed better handling of the atrocious conditions, where the gusting wind played an important part and Warrington suffered from an inability to guarantee their own ball at the line outs.

Warrington's attacking skills were soon to the fore when Kevin Jones entered the line at full back and made thirty yards before being adjudged to have stepped into touch one yard out. West Park began to control the game, especially through their skilful stand-off, who repeatedly put in ground-gaining kicks. It was Warrington who again came close to scoring the first try when Danny Fleming broke from the back of a scrum but was stopped inched short of the line.

West Park's line-out dominance eventually paid off when they forced a line five yards out and flipped the ball back inside to their hooker who charged over unopposed. This was to be the final score of the first period, even though a powerful surge from Jones, following a huge kick from Danny Newens, nearly brought success.

The restart saw Warrington make somewhat of a hash of the kick-off but they managed to withstand some intense West Park pressure, before Haydn Frazer picked up an interception and set out for the posts from his own ten yard line. Unfortunately, the speedy winger suffered a twinge of his hamstring and was unexpectedly pulled down ten yards short but Warrington made use of the unaccustomed field position to slot over a penalty by virtue of Danny Newens' boot.

With ten minutes to go, Warrington were down to ten men, when Zak Lythgoe was sin-binned for holding on at a ruck. The home side used this advantage to good effect by scoring from the line out resulting from the penalty. Warrington could still have come back to draw when substitute Kieron Hughes showed his dancing feet and electric pace only to be held up on the line. However, there was to be no reprieve for the visitors and West Park finally slammed the door firmly shut with two tries in two minutes.

A disappointed coach, Steve Riley, said after the game, "Unfortunately we could not adapt to the conditions in a game whose outcome eventually became a lottery. However, there were some positives to be taken on board, notably the model debut performance of scrum-half Tom Wood, deserting the catwalks of Milan for the wastelands of West Park."

Warrington 2nd 38 Chester 3rd 10

This win against a powerful Chester side enabled Warrington's second team to reinforce its position in the University of Salford, Division South 3 league, where they are currently just four points behind leaders Caldy with one game in hand.

The seasoned Chester side opened the scoring when their bulky forwards went over in a driving maul. However their five point lead did not last for long as scrum-half Hockenhull soon found a hole in the Chester defence and darted over to allow Sean McDermott an easy conversion. Warrington soon struck again when centre Craig Byrne put in a jinking run to touch down under the posts. McDermott converted. Veteran winger Steve West then got in on the act when he received the ball thirty yards out and swatted off three would-be tacklers before touching down in the corner. The first half scoring was completed when Jayesh Kerai showed his usual alertness and exploited a Chester gap.

Warrington continued to show their combination of flair and power in a superb team performance throughout the second half. Chester managed a second try but Warrington replied, first with a try from substitute Dan Griffiths, who belly-flopped over the line and then with a superb effort from Phil Lynch, after Alwyn Hughes had used the ball well from the restart after the Griffith try.

Coach, Stu Coleman, was full of praise for his side after the game, "The lads reacted well to an early set-back and found the form we showed before the Christmas break. We took our chances well but the foundation for this all-round success lay very much with our forwards, who stood up well to a very experienced pack."

Saturday 27th December 2011

Warrington XV 50 Thorn Cross XV 26

In the first of what hopefully will become a regular meeting over the festive season, Warrington ran out eventual winners against a scratch side from Thorn Cross but didn't have things all their own way. They soon found out the visitors, inspired by community coach Simon Verbickas, could play a bit and had not come along merely to make up the numbers.

The first ten minutes set the tempo of the game with no quarter asked or given but the gritty Cross defence eventually yielded and Zak Lythgoe, obviously carrying a few extra Christmas pounds, forced his way over in the corner. Matt Rockey converted from the touchline. Warrington scored again within minutes when debutant prop Jordan Rause burst over close to the sticks. Again Rockey made no mistake. Cross soon replied with a well-deserved try, which allowed their backs to show their pace. Warrington managed two further tries in the first period, through Rockey and Dan Pennington but the score of the half came when first the visitors' powerful number 6 and then their mobile second row combined to break 40 yards to set up a try under the posts.

Warrington began well in the second period when Newens put in a superb pass to Kieron Hughes who scooted through a hole in the defence. At this time, Warrington decided to introduce their impact players, with Dave Nicholls, looking a shade over his best playing weight, under 16 coach Conrad Morris, who did well to last ten minutes and joint first team coach Darren Abram, a controversial replacement for Matt Rockey. Abram's first touch of the ball saw him in space in mid-field and although his pass was scrambled, Haydn Frazer made the most of it to show his electric pace and score. Warrington then scored two more tries without response, first from prop Elliot Johnson and then a second scorching effort from Frazer. But it was Cross who had the last word with two excellent tries. The first came after a 15 yard driving maul and the second, fittingly, went to their number 6 who proved unstoppable from 20 yards out, although his team-mates thought he overdid the curtain calls on his way back to the halfway line.

"This was old-style, beautiful Rugby," said Warrington coach, Steve Riley, after the game. "Without the pressures of league or cup, both sides decided to play open Rugby, with the minimum of kicking. As a result, the game was a great crowd-pleaser and what's probably more important, the players of both sides could congratulate themselves on a hard-fought contest which had moments of pure brilliance."

Saturday 17th December 2011

Warrington 1st XV 10 Ormskirk 1st XV 6

Warrington continued their winning ways - but only just - with this second victory in consecutive weeks. Although they carried over some of the excellent form from their match against Orrell, they found the feisty Ormskirk side a different proposition, especially in a dour, hard fought second half, as a sticky pitch started to take its toll.

The home side started well with their backs combining to set up a good scoring chance in the opening five minutes. Ten minutes into the game, they managed to turn the ball over at the halfway line. Duncan Rickard made an incisive break before passing onto Danny Newens and the stand-off showed that he is still mining his rich vein of talent by seeing the gap and then sprinting a full forty yards to touch down between the posts. He converted his own try.

Warrington now had total control in all aspects of the game. Their front row ruled the set scrums, where they took three strikes against the head throughout the game, Eddie Fields was jumping well in the line, the back row was foraging well and turning over possession in the loose and the backs were revelling in all the good possession. Ironically, it was Ormskirk who scored next when they kicked a penalty but the rest of the half belonged to the home side, especially with a bullocking run from Ian Jones and a 30 yard sprint from second row Zak Lythgoe, who also demonstrated his skills at scrum half and centre.

Ormskirk's half time team talk must have been truly inspiring, as they kicked off the second period full of fire and belief, led by their excellent number 8. The storm was met full on by some awesome tackling, especially from Ian Jones, who was everywhere, and Boris Melvin, playing his last game for the club before moving to Derby. This courageous defence was eventually rewarded when Newens kicked his second penalty although Ormskirk replied almost immediately with a penalty of their own. Ormskirk then started to exert constant pressure on the Warrington line and the spectre of another loss in the closing minutes started to loom large. Fortunately, the pressure was relieved when Kevin Jones put in what was probably the longest 22 drop out ever seen at Walton Lea, a kick which eventually bounced into touch 15 yards from the Ormskirk line. Warrington then almost sealed the result in the last move of the match, when electric winger Haydn Davies appeared to have touched down in the corner, only to have the referee adjudge that he was held up.

A somewhat relieved coach, Steve Riley, said after the game, "We obviously dropped a gear after our big win last week but a win is a win. And I don't think the pitch did us any favours. We now don't play a league match until 7th January, but we have a friendly game on the 27th and then it is training as usual to make sure we can carry on in 2012 as we left off in 2011."

There were no 2nd and 3rd team games on 17th December 2011 because of pitch conditions.

Trivia: Tri-Nations Champions

The competition was first staged in 1996, born of a demand for more regular competition between the southern hemisphere superpowers following the success of the 1995 World Cup.

New Zealand, South Africa and Australia have traditionally set the pace in world rugby - five out of the six World Cups contested since 1987 have been shared among these three - so becoming Tri-Nations champion is a great honour. Winners listed below.

- 2011: Australia
- 2010: New Zealand
- 2009: South Africa
- 2008: New Zealand
- 2007: New Zealand
- 2006: New Zealand
- 2005: New Zealand
- 2004: South Africa
- 2003: New Zealand
- 2002: New Zealand
- 2001: Australia
- 2000: Australia
- 1999: New Zealand
- 1998: South Africa
- 1997: New Zealand
- 1996: New Zealand

Early Days of Warrington RUFC

1876 to 1895

Warrington RUFC started life as a combination of rugby union clubs playing the game before the 'broken time' dispute of 1895. Although the official date of formation of what is now Warrington Wolves is given as 1879, there were a number of rugby union clubs in existence in the area before then. Among these were Boteler Grammar School, Padgate, Penketh, Warrington Wanderers and Warrington Zingari. Zingari were thought to be the first rugby union club in Warrington, formed in 1876 and using a pitch in Howley as a home ground.

The first match was an away game against the Walton side, played at Rice Field in Liverpool on the 18th October 1879. Walton won by three goals to nil, the game in those days was decided via goals and tries and not points, though goals were adjudged to have twice the value of a try. The first home game at Sankey Street for the club was against Oughtrington, with Warrington gaining their first victory by three goals to one. In their first season Warrington played 11 games, W 7, L 2 and D 2.

The members of Padgate and Zingari merged to form the Warrington club in 1879, then still playing rugby union football. During the next few years, the new club had five homes - off Sankey Street at two different sites, off Wilderspool Causeway at two sites and at Slutchers Lane in Arpley. In 1881 and 1884 respectively, Padgate Excelsior and Warrington Wanderers joined the club, then called Warrington Amalgamations. When the club played on the field off Sankey Street near the Borough Treasurer's office, the 'clubhouse and changing rooms' were the nearby White Hart Hotel.

The 'Broken Time' Rift 1893-95

In 1895 came the great split in the code over the payment of players for time lost at work while playing rugby on a Saturday afternoon. The rift started life in 1893 and on August 28th 1895, Warrington joined 21 other clubs to form a breakaway body, eventually called the Northern Rugby Football Union and evolved into the Rugby Football League. This essentially meant that Warrington Rugby Union Football Club no longer existed, at least under the auspices of the Rugby Football Union, from which it resigned. An EGM was held on 2nd September 1895 which confirmed the action of the committee. All fixtures previously arranged with rugby union clubs were cancelled. The President that momentous year was J. Fairclough and the Club Captain T.F. Barber.

1923 – The 'New' Warrington

The new Warrington RUFC 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 – while the 'Northern Union' (RL) team went on its merry way. The first official committee consisted of RM Swinton, A Ferguson, WT Davenport, C Hatton, CE Radcliffe, J Baguley, C Melbourne, JR Locker, and OJ Dilworth with LG Lythgoe as secretary. A temporary ground near the Baptist Church at the end of Loushers Lane was used and the Warrington Guardian records show that that the first game the Club played was on April 21st 1922, when the Bury Club were the visitors. This particular match was played at Chester Road before 1200 spectators who saw Warrington lose 5-11.

The first Annual Meeting was held on 24th August 1923 in the Royal Oak Hotel in Bridge Street. 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.