

## Welcome to Crewe and Nantwich RUFC



A warm welcome to our visitors for today's game.....Crewe and Nantwich. C&N find themselves at the wrong end of the League table as we go into the final weeks of the season. We find that very surprising as they gave us a really tough game back in November at their place and actually won the try count by 3 to 2. Opportunist scores from Matt Rockey and Paul Yeadon saw us narrowly scrape home by 21pts-19.

We feel sure that a hard game will take place today. The reward for us winning will be a further step forward towards promotion and the celebration of a 12 month unbeaten home record. Of course, records are there to be broken they say, so we will take nothing for granted.

### **1<sup>ST</sup> XV UPDATE**

The 1<sup>st</sup> XV celebrated a fine win in the Isle of Man last weekend, built around excellent travel and accommodation arrangements made by Richard Turner's wife, Sara, and also the coaching and tactical skills of Stewart Coleman and Dave Rockey together with outstanding leadership skills on the park from captain Paul Thompson. That game, like this, was a potential "banana skin" but we took by and large our regular team over to the island, with just Sean Hughes playing his first game at that level this season.

### **100 CLUB TIES**

The question was asked at the weekend who would be most likely to reach 100 1<sup>st</sup> XV games next from the current squad of players. Well, a quick glance at the record books will show that up to and including last weekend's game against Douglas reveals the following leading contenders:-

- Paul Gill 83
- Matt Rockey 72
- Duncan Rickard 61
- Shaun McDermott 55

### **LANCASHIRE PLATE**

As most of you know we have reached the Quarter Final of this important competition without having had to play a game. In Round 1 Bay Horsa refused to travel and in the Second Round, Broughton declined the invitation to come to Walton Lea Road. We have been drawn at home to Tarleton in the Quarters and guess what....they are saying that they don't think they can find a convenient date to play the game. Watch this space and the programme fixture page for an update. Ironically, the weekend when the Final will be played is when we away on tour, so anything could happen over the next few weeks.

### **..... Finally to the Quiz.**

The answer to the last question was Will Stokes, who scored 4 tries at Wallasey in the final match of the inaugural League season in 1986.

This weeks question is a little more light hearted.....Which player complained bitterly on a training night on the week we first ever played against today's opponents, 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!

Enjoy the game!

*Peter Riley, Warrington RUFC*

## Results and League Table

### South Lancs/Cheshire 2

### Results Feb/Mar 2009

*Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2009*

Anselmians	34 - 17	Southport
Ashton-on-Mersey	24 - 11	Trentham
Crewe and Nantwich	17 - 34	Wallasey
<b>Douglas (I.O.M.)</b>	<b>10 - 17</b>	<b>Warrington</b>
Ruskin Park	11 - 12	Oswestry
Sefton	27 - 5	Orrell Anvils

*Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2009*

Crewe and Nantwich	11 - 24	Southport
Orrell Anvils	P	Wallasey
<b>Oswestry</b>	<b>22 - 19</b>	<b>Warrington</b>

*Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2009 (Orrell Anvils v Warrington Postponed)*

Oswestry	7 - 16	Anselmians
Sefton	13 - 20	Ruskin Park
Southport	9 - 17	Ashton-on-Mersey
Trentham	34 - 26	Crewe and Nantwich
Wallasey	19 - 5	Douglas (I.O.M.)

### South Lancs/Cheshire 2

### League Table at 13<sup>th</sup> March 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>
<b>Warrington</b>	17	14	0	3	329	206	123	28	0
Anselmians	18	13	1	4	429	251	178	27	0
Oswestry	18	12	1	5	320	262	58	23	-2
Ruskin Park	18	11	0	7	298	243	55	22	0
Sefton	17	11	0	6	301	257	44	22	0
Douglas (I.O.M.)	17	8	1	8	263	256	7	17	0
Trentham	18	7	2	9	200	305	-105	16	0
Ashton-on-Mersey	18	6	1	11	281	325	-44	13	0
Southport	18	6	0	12	201	262	-61	12	0
Wallasey	17	5	0	12	247	368	-121	10	0
<b>Crewe and Nantwich</b>	18	3	0	15	247	381	-134	6	0
Orrell Anvils	16	6	0	10	233	233	0	4	-8

### Trivia 1: Billy Williams Cabbage Patch

The nickname given to ten acres of market garden in Twickenham which the RFU bought in 1907 as a permanent site on which the national team could play home matches. It had been spotted by William Williams, an RFU committee member and former Harlequins player. This was considered a wise choice as the purchase price was £5,572 12s 6d (£5,572.65) in 1907. Not sure why this figure is detailed as this as it doesn't apparently involve guineas (£1 1s in old money).

## Warrington RUFC v Crewe and Nantwich RUFC

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at Walton Lea

### WARRINGTON

Colours: Red, White and Green

### CREWE AND NANTWICH

Colours: Red, Yellow and Black

TEAM :	Almond	15	Doyle
	McKay	14	Cowap
	Rockey	13	Greatbanks
	Rickard	12	Dan Lynch (C)
	Jones	11	Tatlock
	McDermott	10	Booth
	Hughes	9	Germain
	Turner	8	Collins
	Hennessey	7	McGregor
	Fields	6	Gammage
	Tierney	5	Weilding
	Gill	4	Evans
	Haddon	3	Lamb
	Thompson ( C )	2	Cockburn
	Tickle S	1	Voller
	Wheatley	16	Adamson
	Grant	17	Walker
	Farrell	18	Pemberton

**Referee:** Today's referee is Stephen Snoddy from Manchester Referees Society.

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

**Crewe and Nantwich RUFC Contact Details:** [www.creweandnantwichrufc.com](http://www.creweandnantwichrufc.com)

### Trivia 2: Rugby Union Scoring 1886-1992 (\*)

Years	Try	Conversion	Penalty	Drop Goal
1886 - 1888	1	1		3
1888 - 1890	1	2	2	3
1891 - 1892	2	3	3	4
1893 - 1947	3	2	3	4
1948 - 1970	3	2	3	3
1971 - 1991	4	2	3	3
1992 - on	5	2	3	3

(\*) 15-aside only

## WARRINGTON RUFC 1ST XV APPEARANCES 2008/2009 SEASON

(UP TO AND INCLUDING DOUGLAS – 7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2009)

NAME	THIS SEASON + SUB	TRIES	CONS	PENS	POINTS
A ALMOND	18	5			25
J CALLANDER	3 + 4				
P CANNON	13	6			30
JA FARRELL	3 + 1				
A FIELDS	1				
E FIELDS	18	4			20
P GILL	15 + 1	1			5
L GRAHAM	8 + 4	1			5
P GRANT	10 + 2				
D GRIFFITHS	5 + 1				
M HADDON	8 + 4				
P HENNESSEY	9 + 3				
A HUGHES	12				
S HUGHES	1				
B JONES	0 + 2				
K JONES	13 + 4	7			35
J KERAİ	0 + 1				
P MACKAY	4	1			5
R MACNAIR	16		5	2	16
S MCDERMOTT	2 + 1				
R MULLEN	1	1			5
D RICKARD	15	2			10
M ROCKEY	18	4	19	31	151
J SHAW	14 + 1	5			25
M STEVENSON	4 + 1				
P THOMPSON	19	1			5
M TOBIN	0 + 1				
M TICKLE	5 + 2	3			15
S TICKLE	8 + 3	1			5
M TIERNEY	9 + 1				
R TURNER	8 + 2	1			5
J WELSH	0 + 1				
G WHEATLEY	12 + 2	1			5
S WILLIAMS	9 + 5				
P YEADON	9 + 4	1			5
PENALTY		2			10
	<b>35 USED</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>382</b>

*Table maintained by Peter Riley, our loyal secretary*

## **As It Were**

*By Warrington Secretary and Archivist Peter J Riley*

**Club Senior Vice President:** Dave Broadbent is Warrington RUFC's Senior Vice President and will take over from our current President Fred Winstanley in the season starting summer 2010.

## **Coaches Corner**

As we come to the last third of the season, the first XV are still sitting on top of the league, however after suffering a few away defeats the coaches and players know that the job is not yet complete. The players are still required to put in plenty of hard work both on and off the field. Warrington still have tough away games at Orrell, Ruskin Park and a tough home game against close rival Anselmians.

The second team are having a better end to the season and if they can capitalise on the win against Macclesfield then they must surely miss out on relegation. All players in the club must rally around skipper Jayesh Kerai and play for whichever team you are selected for. The third team continue to move up the table and with stalwarts like Paul "Zog" Chedd returning to the fold, Mickey Mullen's men can only improve on an already impressive season.

It was great to see the club turning out 4 teams a couple of weeks ago, with the 2nd, 3rd and 4th teams all playing at home. Let's see if we can do this on a regular basis lads. Let's all push on to the end of the season and try and fulfil the goals that we have set ourselves.

*Stew Coleman*

## **Dates for Your Diary 2008 - 2009**

**Next 1st XV Home Games:** Warrington v Anselmians 4<sup>th</sup> April . The Lancs Plate game against Broughton did not take place and Warrington will now progress to the quarter final against either Tarleton or Ashton Under Lyne. Will keep you posted via this programme.

**Annual Dinner 2009:** Date and venue t.b.d. but likely to be 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

*Steve and Mandy Riley*

## **Trivia 3: Australia's First Club**

The first club in Australia – Sydney University Rugby Union Club – was formed in 1864 with others appearing over the next decade. An Australian team played their first ever Test in June 1899 against a touring Great Britain side, a game they won at the Sydney Cricket Ground. Nine years later the Wallabies were crowned Olympic rugby champions at Wembley in the 1908 Olympic Games.

*Terry Critchley*

## Warrington RUFC

### 1st XV Fixtures 2008-2009

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

(\*) Rearranged fixtures after 10<sup>th</sup> January and 21<sup>st</sup> February postponements.

### Not Many People Know This ...

1. The English rugby authorities for years resisted the idea of having a competitive league in which clubs could compete. In 1900 a delegate from Bristol suggested the idea of a league at the RFU's AGM in London. The RFU secretary, Rowland Hill, dismissed the idea from the 'radical young gentleman' and insisted 'All know the evils that must spring from such a system'.

2. In his first five years of playing international rugby, Jason Leonard missed only one England game.

3. Dean Richards was nicknamed Warren by Jason Leonard, as in 'warren ugly bastard'.

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

## Match Reports

### *Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2009*     **Douglas (IOM) 10pts vs Warrington RUFC 17pts**

Warrington done what only one other team in the league has done this season, defeated Douglas at home. The game was a great spectacle despite the weather with both teams willing to throw caution to the wind and play expansive rugby. The home side were first to score with a blindside run an intelligent chip and gather finished off with a great offload out of the tackle, conversion missed 5-0.

Warrington were quick to respond and after several strong phases Douglas gave away a penalty just inside they're 10 metre which despite the very strong wind blowing straight at him Matt Rockey slotted over 5-3.

As the first half continued the majority of the game was spent in the middle third of the park with both teams trying to unlock each others defence and it was Warrington who managed it with some panache when after some great work up the right side of the pitch quick ball was gained from the ruck where scrum half Sean Hughes, playing his first game for the 1st team since returning from Australia, fed the ball to the backs who showed great hands to put Matt Rockey over for his 4th try this season, Matt Rockey converted 5-10

Despite their best efforts Douglas never really threatened Warrington's line during the first half this was mainly due to some ferocious tackling from Warrington which had been missing in recent weeks:

*Half time score 5-10.*

The second half went the same way as the first both teams looking to break the others defence and after a sustained period of Warrington pressure Douglas turned the ball over and tried to clear their line the kick didnt reach touch and when full back Andy Almond gathered the ball he set off toward the Douglas line only to deceive the defence with a cheeky chip over the oncoming Douglas players who didnt react and Andy Almond gathered his own kick to touch down for his 5th of this campaign, Matt Rockey converted 5-17.

Both sides then started to ring the changes and it was Douglas' replacement 10 who made the biggest difference, he managed to get the young back line into gaps that they had been searching for all game and if it wasn't for some great cover defence from Andy Almond and left wing Paul McKay the game may have turned out very different. On one of Douglas' rare ventures into Warrington's 22, Douglas were awarded a penalty and the fly half put in a cross kick for the winger to score while Warrington were still wondering what had happened, conversion missed 10-17.

The final 10 minutes were played in Douglas' half with Warrington controlling the ball till the final play that saw Warrington's Man of the Match Andy Almond tackle the left wing into touch. Warrington showed exactly what had been missing in the last three away games composure, control and passion all of which are required if Warrington are to finish the season as champions, all players put in great performances this week however, The half back partnership of Hughes and McDermott totally controlled the game Hughes with his good control over the pack and McDermott who used his gifted right boot to good effect as well as releasing his talented back line, Paul Gill for his defence which was immense.

Warrington are at home against Crewe & Nantwich, who despite they're low league position caused Warrington problems at Crewe, however if Warrington put in the same standard of performance as this week then the scoreboard will be busy.

MAN OF THE MATCH Nominated by Rockey Turner was: ANDY ALMOND

### **Mini and Junior News**

Warrington RUFC has a thriving mini and junior section with an impressive record of achievements. The club puts safety and quality at the very top of our list of priorities and all our coaches hold CRB certificates and are RFU qualified. Our community coach works in local schools and community groups delivering high quality coaching to huge numbers of children every week. We also attend many rugby festivals and organise overseas and UK rugby tours.

Visit: [www.warringtonruffc.com/Mini/index.html](http://www.warringtonruffc.com/Mini/index.html)

Contact: Dave Nicholls

## **Other Warrington RUFC Club News**

### **Academy Update**

The senior colts finished 3rd in their respective league (officially) this is due to having had 2 points deducted for missing a pre season meeting in early September- we hadn't decided to run a team at that point!!

After getting going off to a slow start with last seasons team disbanded and the rest of the lads disillusioned, Peter Riley, Barry Jones and myself decided we could get a team out each week and be competitive. we had additional support from Joe White as kit and registration advisor and Dave Cunningham as technical refereeing coach!!

Brief highlights of our season to date

- \* Highest score 91-0 v. Dukinfield
- \* Biggest defeat 35-12 v. Altrincham Kersal last week

We had the 3rd best defence in the Halbro league, this was no mean feat. Our players defended like their lives depended on it at times this season, this indicates the team spirit and unity within the camp.

On occasion that spirit was finely balanced and sometimes ill discipline did rear it's ugly head. After a mid season card crisis the guys tided themselves up, literally as they had to look smart for the disciplinary hearings!! They even took their 'Burberry' caps off for the hearings!!

As stated we finished our league campaign on a high and in hindsight running the team has been a worthy exercise. Peter Riley suggests we have used 34 different players this year! We have regular players contributing to the senior grades, even scoring tries and wining MOM's on the way.

We still have a bit to go yet and still cry out for further support to develop these fine athletes.

We have been invited to play the Air Cadets on the 14th March. The boys would love it if some parents/coaches would go down with them to Shropshire for the occasion. If anyone can help out on the day please email me on [richardmarshall@therfu.com](mailto:richardmarshall@therfu.com)

We are in the Lancs U18's cup semi final and play Tarleton at home on the 5 April 2pm KO. Please come and support the boys and cheer them on to the final in their first season at Senior colts.

Thanks

*Richard Marshall  
Community Rugby Coach  
Warrington*