



TOUCHLINE RAMBLINGS

SEASON 2007-2008



STOCKPORT RUGBY NEWS

THREE WHEELS ON MY WAGON..

Absentees give the advantage to New Brighton

I'm not someone who usually searches for excuses when a wheel comes off. We had been riding high with four wins out of four. Fair enough, we had seen off all the challenges put before us but with the benefit of hindsight it easy to see that there were bigger challenges to overcome and perhaps we took our eye slightly off the ball just as

one came running over the horizon. Part of our distraction was enforced part not. We went to New Brighton six players short of a possible 1st choice XV.

It was too much disruption for a team so early in it's evolution. At this point of the development con-

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2007-2008

No. 5

No. 333

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13-10-07

NEW BRIGHTON	15	v	0	STOCKPORT
Half Time	11		0	

HOME TEAM

Rick HOPKIN	15
Gareth SIMPSON	14
Sean ELLIS	13
Chris DALE	12
Alan HESKETH	11
Stephen DEAN	10
Mike GALLIMORE	9
Mark DORRINGTON	1
Lewis MULLEN	2
John BROTHERTON	3
Paul ROBERTD	4
Paul CAMPBELL	5
Josh BATES	6
Wayne CLAYTON	7
Danny JONES	8

AWAY TEAM

Richard HOPKINSON	
Nick WROE	
Ben KERR	
Steve PEARSON	
Greg NEWTON	
Chris NEL	
Mike RAVEN	
Ian KENNEDY	
Andy FULLER	
Jan-Erik ANDERSON	
Matt LANGTREE	
Dave MARWICK	
Christian CHAPMAN	
John WILSON	
Tim OAKES	

Attend: N/K

Weather: Fine Sunny

Venue: N Brighton

REPLACEMENTS

Dan STAFFORD	16	Alex HOOLEY
Adam BAIRD	17	Julian HARRIS
Ali CHILDS	18	Chris THOMPSON

SCORING SEQUENCE

REPLACEMENTS

Time	Home	Away	No.	T	C	P	DG	Score	Y	R	Off	On	Reason
8	X		10			N		0 0					
10	X		10			Y		3 0					
32	X		14	X				8 0					
32	X		10		N			8 0					
								8 0					HALF TIME
43	X		10			Y		11 0					
62	X							11 0			6	18	NK
55		X						11 0			15	18	BLOOD
60		X						11 0			10	15	INJURY
64	X							11 0			12	16	NK
66	X		18					11 0	X				
67		X						11 0			1	16	INJURY
70	X		3	X				16 0					
			10		N			16 0					
72		X						16 0			4	17	TACTICAL

(Continued from page 1)

tinuity is essential.

TEAM: How long have you got.... **Peter Bredenkamp** – Dental Operation. Tim Oakes to No.8 Matt Langtree in at Lock. **Alan Boyd**, Knee injury. Christian Chapman in for his first 1st XV start on the flank. **Chris Weeks** not available, Andy Fuller to Hooker with Ian Kennedy made his first league start for 2 years at prop. Three down three to go. **Craig Cooper**, man of match against Sandbach, unavailable, Steve Pearson to inside centre. **James Dalton**, duty called, Ben Kerr in at outside centre. Finally **James Drew** unavailable. Nick Wroe took his place on the wing. 40% of the team..a big ask.

The pitch at New Brighton is a big field and it was bathed in autumn sunshine. Everything was set fair except perhaps for our mind set. The opening exchanges were alarming to say the least. Kicks charged down, Passes intercepted, clearances sliced and the first of a number of injury scares for Chris Nel. Chris was targeted throughout the game and by the time he was replaced he was lucky not to have had to leave the ground in the back of an ambulance. The worst assault came when he was

(Continued on page 3)

picked off his feet and unceremoniously dropped from shoulder high.

After 8 minutes New Brighton had a penalty attempt from 43 metres which fell short but they only had to wait two more minutes to get on the board as the referee caught us handling in a ruck. 3-0

We then had our best period in the game. We mounted a really concerted attack on the New Brighton line. We pushed and probed but it came to nothing and then we witnessed a rare happening for this season. We left the opposition 22 without any points.



It was made worse by the fact that New Brighton took the ball all the way down the other end and engineered a well worked try in the corner. 8-0 due to the lack of conversion.



No more score before half time but within three minutes of the break the deficit was up to 11-0 with yet another penalty. The game then moved into 30 minutes of pretty unmemorable messy rugby. We saw a lot of errors and a fair of niggling incidents, the majority of which went unseen and unpunished by the match official. Chris Nel was eventually led off after being roughed up one too many times. Richard Hopkinson suffered a possible broken nose.

It was only news of England's minor miracle against the Aussies lifted the spirits and the general feeling was that we just wanted to get off the field as quickly a possible... We weren't going to be allowed to disappear until New Brighton put a final nail in the coffin with a 72nd minutes drive

over try through their forwards. It brought about the final score of 16-0.

Defensively we had shown some steel but had crested very little ourselves. It had been a hard lesson, but as with all lessons.... worth it as long as it learnt from. Don't miss the rematch I have the feeling that it will be a very different affair. There a break in league business until the visit to Headlands Road of Rochdale on the 21st October.

The Rambler



Bruce Adams at the Club Jazz Evening Fri Oct 19th



Tickets £18.00

inc Hot Food

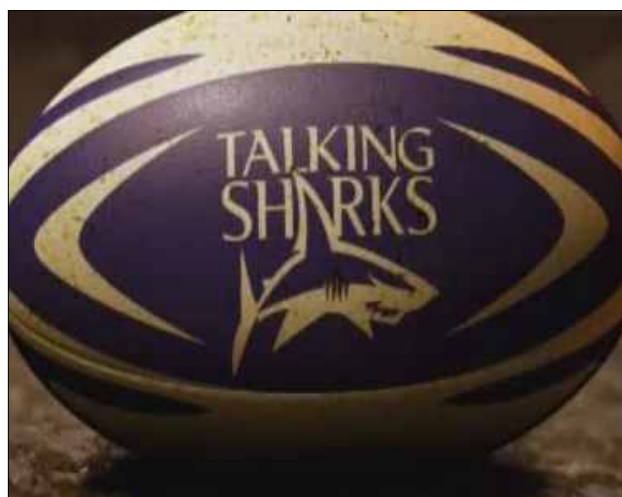
Tickets behind the Bar
or see Clive Oldham, Mike Drew, Kay Weeks
7.30 for 8.00pm

NORTH 2 WEST 2007-2008	Broughton Pk	Chester	Leigh	Lymm	New Brighton	Northwich	Rochdale	Sandbach	Stockport	Tyldesley	Vale of Lune	Winnington P
Broughton Park		24-0	27/10	10/11	1/12	1/3	29/3	12/4	5/1	26/1	16/2	62-4
Chester	9/2		10/11	1/12	26-26	19/1	1/3	29/3	12/4	5/1	13/10	30-8
Leigh	19/1	15/12		18-39	6-27	19/4	9/2	1/3	29/3	24/11	3/11	13/10
Lymm	15/12	19/4	8/3		13/10	16-10	19/1	9/2	14-20	36-3	24/11	3/11
New Brighton	19/4	8/3	16/2	26/1		3/11	15/12	27/10	16-0	42-12	27-26	24/11
Northwich	3-17	27/10	1/12	16/2	5/1		12/4	26/1	8/3	10/11	20-5	16-16
Rochdale	20-11	17-19	22-14	27/10	10/11	24/11		5/1	26/1	16/2	8/3	19/4
Sandbach	24/11	3-28	13-12	9-14	19/1	20/10	3/11		16/2	8/3	19/4	15/12
Stockport	3/11	24/11	39-18	1/3	9/2	29-0	13/10	48-8		19/4	15/12	19/1
Tyldesley	13/10	3/11	12/4	29/3	1/3	15/12	0-29	5-59	1/12		19/1	9/2
Vale of Lune	12-22	26/1	5/1	12/4	29/3	9/2	10-25	1/12	10/11	27/10		1/3
Winnington Park	8/3	16/2	26/1	5/1	12/4	29/3	1/12	10/11	27/10	48-12	22-17	

NORTH 2 WEST

NORTH 2 WEST								
Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	
New Brighton	5	4	1	0	138	70	68	9
Stockport	5	4	0	1	136	46	90	8
Broughton Park	5	4	0	1	136	49	87	8
Lymm	5	4	0	1	119	60	59	8
Rochdale	5	4	0	1	113	54	59	8
Chester	5	3	1	1	103	78	25	7
Winnington Park	5	2	1	2	108	137	-29	5
Sandbach	5	2	0	3	92	107	-15	4
Northwich	5	1	1	3	49	83	-34	1*
Vale of Lune	5	0	0	5	70	116	-46	0
Leigh	5	0	0	5	58	140	-82	0
Tyldesley	5	0	0	5	32	214	-182	0

Saturday, 29nd September 2007		
Chester	30 - 8	Winnington Pk
Leigh	6 - 27	New Brighton
Lymm	16 - 10	Northwich
Stockport	48 - 8	Sandbach
Tyldesley	0 - 29	Rochdale
Vale of Lune	12 - 22	Broughton Pk
Saturday 6th October 2007		
Broughton Pk	24-0	Chester
New Brighton	16-0	Stockport
Northwich	20-5	Vale of Lune
Rochdale	22-14	Leigh
Sandbach	9-14	Lymm
Winnington Pk	48-12	Tyldesley



DON'T MISS
THE WEEKLY NEWS PROGRAMME
FEATURING THE SALE SHARKS
ON CHANNEL M ALL WEEK
"TALKING SHARKS"
THE SHOW GOES OUT MANY TIMES
FIRST SHOWING IS AT 7.30PM ON
WEDNESDAY'S
CHANNEL 203 ON SKY - CHANNEL M
<http://www.channelm.co.uk>
 where you can see previous editions



Perfect for
the BIG
occasion.

The All Black Choker. Available soon.

adidas

It's Impossible!

Latest from Sydney IKEA store: "just flown in from Europe, our new products exclusively in green and yellow - the Wallaby range is part of our new "flattened pack" range - easy to disassemble (only takes 80 minutes) - and guaranteed to fall apart every 4 years. Only 30 units currently available, all suffering from jet lag. Please note - this product is not suitable for use in English / Northern European climates.

Q. How do you get a champagne cork back into the bottle?

A. Ask a Kiwi

Q. What do you call 30 guys sitting around the T.V watching the Rugby World Cup final?

A. The Wallabies and The All Blacks



Aussies learn their place....

Q. What's the difference between the All Blacks, Aussies and a tea bag?

A. The tea bag stays in the cup longer.

Q. Did you hear about the new All Black and Wallaby bra?

A. Plenty of support but no cup.

Q. What's the difference between an All Black and an arsonist?

A. An arsonist wouldn't waste five matches

Q. Why do the All Blacks and the Wallabies always have two to a hotel room when they're on tour?

A. So one can perform the Heimlich Manoeuvre when the other one chokes
Graham Henry found dead in hotel room, 4.5 million suspects

SENIOR COLTS BIRKENHEAD PARK v STOCKPORT WON 26-12

LAUGHTER CAPITAL OF THE WORLD?

Isn't that they used to call Liverpool? Well I have to say that I didn't particularly mind the antics of some of their touch-line party that funny. I thought I had a bit of a history with referees in the past but one BP 'coach' took the biscuit. The referee in fact was the third good official we've had in three weeks. Easy to say when you are winning but there you go.

The only problem of the day was with route finding. Phil Leigh had been due to make his first start of the season at centre. He unfortunately took the M62 route to BP and got caught in the mother of all traffic jams. He eventually arrived at half time and took over from Dan Faram who had been manfully filling in without any problems.

We got off to a good start and scored in 4 minutes. James Oakes took the ball to the line and we recycled and you ain't going to stop Tom Cruse from a yard and a half when he smelled the white wash of the try line. Tom Bell converted for a 7-0 lead.

The 2nd try after 18 minutes was a cracker. James Oakes on the rampage and as he was caught 12 metres out Jamie Smith received a great off load from him. Tom Bell with another conversion 14-0.

Late on in the half BP got a try back. It was a scrappy affair with some quick tapped penalties and we were caught out of position. At least Marc Smith could stop worrying about his no try conceded record. Good conversion by BP 14-7.

We got back into the swing of things at the start of the 2nd half with a well organised cath and drive after Anthony Coulson had kicked us right into the corner. It was James Oakes who came up with the ball and a smile.

Our final try of the day went to Tom Cruse as he bulldozed his way to the line from 20 metres out knocking defenders out of his way as he went. Anthony Coulson added the extras. 26-7. Jake Winstanley took the Man of the match by a country mile. He had tackled like a demon, run like a whippet and looked after the right wing as if he was born to it.

In the dying moments BP got some consolation with a forwards try from close range when it looked as if we would repel all comers. Final score 26-12.

15. Tom BELL **CC**
14. Mike PEARSON
13. Dan FARAM
12. Henri SIMPSON
11. Jake WINSTANLEY
10. Anthony COULSON **C**
9. James SMITH **T**
8. James OAKES **T**
7. James DODD
6. James WOOD
5. Chris VALENTINE
4. Andy BROADHURST
3. Tom Cruse **© TT**
2. Louis WALKER
1. Sean ROE
16. Richard MOYES
17. Guy ALLISON
18. Phil LEIGH



This Sunday : Colts League v Widnes Home Kick Off 2.0pm

STOCKPORT BULLDOGS v Wilmslow 3's

LOST 8-41

BRING ON THE FROGS

What a Saturday, an early kick off, then a few thirst quenching beers before settling down to watch a thrilling Rugby World Cup Quarter Final, and to top it all England once again smashed the Aussies. Even better the atmosphere in the clubhouse was electric, with beers swilling, good banter (always is when there's an International on the telly and Wales Nil is in attendance), and shouts of encouragement often breaking into yet another rendition of Swing-Lo. Post match an ecstatic audience continued the celebrations and how refreshing it was to hear traditional rugby songs being sung in a rugby clubhouse; just like the old days. Pity then the day had started so badly with a crushing defeat at the hands of the young upstarts from Wilmslow.

It's always been the norm at fourth team level that there will be changes week on week. However, it's also been the norm that a winning team could be built around a nucleus of nine or ten regular players. Well Saturday's availability nightmare certainly blew that one out of the water. Examine the facts (or fall asleep if you prefer). 52 players contacted, 12 never replied, 9 unavailable, 9 out injured left a potential squad of 22. 4 cried off Friday night / Saturday morning and two players no-showed (the ultimate sin – though Chris Holt did turn up later, very apologetic and with a legitimate reason). And Andrew English (Egg) I won't be contacting you again. So ten minutes before kick-off the team had to be completely reshuffled but mercifully Barney and Andy Wailes tipped up with their kit and went straight into the starting fifteen. They probably wished they hadn't as the visitors ripped through the Bulldogs defence to score within forty seconds of the start (a minute's silence having been held as a mark of respect for the young lad that died playing the previous week in the North-West).

Twenty minutes gone and two further converted scores down the young Wilmslow backs were having a field day. Finally some cohesion began to emerge in the Bulldogs side. The forwards turned domination into possession and although there was no way through the Wilmslow midfield the backs kept plugging away at the gain line before finally being rewarded with a penalty which Andy Wailes chipped over with his sand iron. Whilst the Bulldogs had their moments they could never quite turn territory into points and twice silly errors cost them dearly. Last weeks port moment winner Mike Whetter typified this when he walked the Dick-of-the-Day (and an early candidate for the seasons award) when, in a sudden rush of blood to the head he took a quick throw in to Gareth Phillips. Nothing wrong with that you may think until you realise Gareth is five foot and a bit and the ball was thrown some six foot plus in the air grabbed by the second row and, three slick passes later the left winger strolled to the line.

All three Bulldog subs were on at half time and the reshuffle added some mettle to the side. In fact the Bulldogs almost won the second half. A thrilling three quarter move saw Tommy Burke round his man and head for the line forty metres out. He was tackled into touch half way to his goal and was forced to leave the field with a broken nose. A poor lineout throw was gathered by young Alex Sherwood making his senior debut. He drove head down for the line and driven on by more and more of his fellow forwards crashed over in a pile of bodies to cap a fantastic debut and scoop Man-of-the-Match. A big thanks to Neil Raven who stepped in Friday night to referee and was quite the best ref we have had all season.

No early kick off next week just a small matter of a first round cup game against Kirby Lonsdale to contend with. Hopefully the clubhouse will again be ringing to the sounds of (this time) a double victory, the Bulldogs and England.

Team:

1. Wilson
2. Phillips
3. Baxendall
4. Stirling
5. Blashill
6. Sherwood (T)
7. Russell
8. Lowry
9. Garner
10. Bell
11. Sutherland
12. Wailes (P)
13. Burke
14. Scott
15. Whetter
16. Jo Woodcock
17. Jack Woodcock,
18. Maziere

This Saturday : 4th XV v Kirby Lonsdale (Halbro Vase) HOME Kick Off 15.00hrs

STOCKPORT RUFC 1ST XV 2007-2008

PLAYED 7 WON 4 DRAWN 1 LOST 2 POINTS FOR POINTS 153 AGAINST 77

DATE	OPPOSITION	COMPETITION	VENUE	RESULT	F	A
25/08/07	Longton	Pre-Season	Away	Draw	10	10
01/09/07	Cleckheaton	Pre-Season	Away	Lost	5	21
08/09/07	Leigh	North 2 West	Home	Won	39	8
15/09/07	Northwich	North 2 West	Home	Won	29	0
22/09/07	Lymm	North 2 West	Away	Won	20	14
29/09/07	Sandbach	North 2 West	Home	Won	48	8
06/10/07	New Brighton	North 2 West/CC	Away	Lost	0	16
13/10/07	Bye	Intermediate Cup 1				
20/10/07	Rochdale	North 2 West	Home			
27/10/07	Winnington Park	North 2 West	Away			
03/11/07	Broughton Park	North 2 West	Home			
10/11/07	Vale of Lune	North 2 West	Away			
17/11/07		Intermediate Cup 2				
24/11/07	Chester	North 2 West	Home			
01/12/07	Tyldesley	North 2 West	Away			
08/12/07		Intermediate Cup 3				
15/12/07	Vale of Lune	North 2 West	Home			
05/01/08	Broughton Park	North 2 West	Away			
12/01/08		Intermediate Cup 4				
19/01/08	Winnington Park	North 2 West	Home			
26/01/08	Rochdale	North 2 West	Away			
02/02/08		Intermediate Cup 5				
09/02/08	New Brighton	North 2 West	Home			
16/02/08	Sandbach	North 2 West	Away			
23/02/08		Intermediate Cup Q-F				
01/03/08	Lymm	North 2 West	Home			
08/03/08	Northwich	North 2 West	Away			
15/03/08		Intermediate Cup S-F				
22/03/08		Cheshire Cup Final				
29/03/08	Leigh	North 2 West	Away			
05/04/08		Intermediate Final				
12/04/08	Chester	North 2 West	Away			
19/04/08	Tyldesley	North 2 West	Home			
26/04/08		Play Offs				

STOCKPORT RUFC 1ST XV 2007-2008

AFTER 3 LEAGUE GAMES

Players		A	R	T	C	P	DG	Pts
1	Richard Hopkinson	5	0	0	13	5	0	41
2	Dave Marwick	5	0	3	0	0	0	15
3	Steve Pearson	4	1	3	0	0	0	15
4	John Wilson	5	0	2	0	0	0	10
5	Greg Newton	5	0	2	0	0	0	10
6	Craig Cooper	3	0	2	0	0	0	10
7	Chris Nel	3	1	2	0	0	0	10
8	James Drew	4	0	1	0	0	0	5
9	Andy Fuller	5	0	1	0	0	0	5
10	Matt Langtree	3	1	1	0	0	0	5
11	Nick Wroe	2	0	1	0	0	0	5
12	Simon Baker	0	1	1	0	0	0	5
	Mike Raven	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Jan-Erik Anderson	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Tim Oakes	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Alan Boyd	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Chris Weeks	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
	James Dalton	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Peter Bredenkamp	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Dave Morris	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Ian Kennedy	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
	Colin Nevett	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Ben Kerr	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Kieran Hibbs	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Alex Hooley	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
	Chris Thompson	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Julian Harris	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Christian Chapman	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Penalty Tries							0
	Totals	75	15	19	13	5	0	136

LAST WEEKEND'S RESULTS AT SRUFC**SUNDAY 6TH OCTOBER**

1ST XV	NEW BRIGHTON	AWAY	North 2 West	Lost 16-0
2ND XV	MANCHESTER 2'S	HOME	Intermediate Premiership	Lost 66-0
3RD XV	MANCHESTER 4'S	AWAY	Inter 4 South	conceded
4TH XV	WILMSLOW 3'S	HOME	Inter 5 East	Lost
VETS	NO FIXTURE			

SUNDAY 7TH OCTOBER

S COLTS	BIRKENHEAD PK	AWAY	L/ChColts League	Won 26-12
J COLTS	NO FIXTURE			
U16	NO FIXTURE			
U15	NO FIXTURE			
U14	NO FIXTURE			
U13	NO FIXTURE			
U12	Under 10's Winners U 9's Runners up (by 1 try)			
U11				
U10				
U9				
U8/U7	NO FIXTURE			

SUPPORT YOUR CLUB THIS WEEKEND

THIS WEEKEND'S FIXTURES AT SRUFC**SATURDAY 13TH OCTOBER**

TEAM	Opposition	Home/Away	Competition	Kick Off
1 ST XV	No Fixture			
2 ND XV	Preston GH's 2's	HOME	Intermediate Premier	15.00hrs
3 RD XV	Burnage 3's	AWAY	Halbro Shield	15.00hrs
4 TH XV	Kirby Lonsdale 3's	HOME	Halbro Plate	15.00hrs
VETS XV	Chester	AWAY	Vets League	15.00hrs

SUNDAY 14TH OCTOBER

S Colts	Widnes	HOME	Lancs/Ches League	14.00hrs
J Colts	Broughton Park	HOME	Lancs/Ches League	12.30hrs
U16	Lymm	AWAY	Friendly	11.00hrs
U15	Lymm	AWAY	Friendly	11.00hrs
U14	Lymm	HOME	Friendly	11.00hrs
U13	Lymm	HOME	Friendly	11.00hrs
Mini Section				
U12	Bowden	AWAY	Friendly	11.00hrs
U11	Bowden	AWAY	Friendly	11.00hrs
U10	Bowden	AWAY	Friendly	11.00hrs
U9	Bowden	AWAY	Friendly	11.00hrs
U7/8	Bowden	AWAY	Friendly	11.00hrs

TOUCHLINE RAMBLINGS

Forward any comments, letters or contributions to the Editor:
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