

Sunday 27th January - [Home](#) Fixture



Northwich U14's **24** versus **14** Macclesfield U14's



Tries: Ryan Kitt (2), Tom Bebbington and Josh Hall
 Conversion: Chris Sheppard (2)
 Star Man: Tom Bebbington
 With a quarter final fixture next Sunday all players needed to impress their coaches. After a poor first half performance Macclesfield led at half time, but Northwich eventually over powered their opponents. Improvements will be required if the players' aspiration target of a place in the final is to become achievable.

Next Game on Sunday 2nd February: Cheshire Cup Quarter Final against Altrincham Kersal (Home). *(Extract sent to the local papers).*

The warm-up felt good, the forwards seemed fired up, the backs were stalking like hungry lions and the replacements were waiting their moment to impress their coaches. However, from the kick-off the sweltering heat and bone dry pitch obviously sapped the energy from the squad. The heavy eight hour a day training schedule in Portugal was having its toll; the high fibre, high protein diet obviously had not worked; the extra coaching from the All Black squad was obviously a distant memory; and the evenings spent in front of repeated DVD's of previous Macclesfield matches was to no avail. The first half performance was lack-luster, and summed up by King Richard I Jack Vandersteen breaking his father's third golden rule and having a penalty decision reversed for tearing a strip out of his captain. Comedy comes in many guises: black, satire, light, cryptic, stand-up, sit-down, but Monty Python would have been proud of this Holy Grail;



Laural and Hardy's smashed piano would have only played second fiddle to this farce; but Billy Smart's Circus had come to Moss Farm – elephants were a plenty, clowns everywhere, and juggling rugby balls filled the bill. In the same vain as George Bush saying that the American economy is on the mend, and that they were winning the war in Iraq; in a similar way to my bank manager encouraging me to buy shares in both Societe Generale and Northern Rock; and in the same light as the Welsh rugby squad thinking that 13

Ospreys will beat England ... with performances like this, Northwich U14's will win the Cheshire Cup. Well that was the first half, Macclesfield led 7:5 But wait a minute, its stopped raining, guys are swimming, guys are sailing, playing baseball, gee that's better, Mother, Father kindly disregard this (news)letter as the Northwich replacements came on, and showed greater spirit, more guts and a lot of determination, and the Bravehearts won the second half 19:9. A win is a win ... a newsletter is a newsletter ... and a long day at the office destroys your sanity.

With King Dickie Dick's crown still warm from his head, the nomination card was full for this week's prestigious award: Jack Vandersteen for just being a Dick; Mike Collier for having an hours break at bag packing; and Mike Collier for having an hours break during the match; Steve Jones for leaving the bag packing buckets in the car; Steve Jones for being late for bag packing; Steve Jones for having another nightmare of a week; or Steve Jones for driving his car in a ditch. BUT NO, Dickie Dick gave it to Mike Gough for having what I though was a good game ... ironically, sums up the day.

'Tango' Moment of the Day: With the other Northwich players having another bag packing break, Declan Woodward found himself on his own with six Macclesfield players descending upon both him and the Northwich try-line, but somehow he miraculously saved the day, and the try from being scored ... so a Tango toast for Declan "I don't know my Mum's phone number" Woodward.



RBS Spectators' Player of the Day: Joking (or madness) aside, there were some good performances, except for Jack. Between bounty breaks Mike Collier showed some second half flare; Samir Zaman showed some encouraging strength; Mike Gough obviously needs to arrive at 7:00am for every game as he played well; Ryan Kitt and Jamie Hall were superb; and the ever reliable (Uncle) Chris Sheppard was there to mob up the dog-ends; Coco the Clown, Nelly the Elephant and Sid the Snake were ever present; but third place deservedly went to 'Jinky' for his jinky runs (well done Tom Sheridan); second place to captain Sam Jones for standing up to Jack, as well as having a brilliant game; and top of the shop goes to Tom Bebbington who besides beheading a couple of 'ducking' blues was awesome in both attack and defence, and deserves being this week's 'ring leader'.



Next Sunday's Game

Sunday 2nd February [Home](#) Fixture - meet at 10.00am at Moss Farm

PLEASE CONFIRM AVAILABILITY

Cheshire Cup Match



Northwich U14's versus Altrincham Kersal U14's



Please Note: A squad of 22 players will be selected (Cheshire Cup rules) for this fixture on Wednesday night and communicated after training. However all players not selected are encouraged to attend as part of the squad.

BAG PACKING – Saturday 26th January: 17 players including U11's playing mascot Joe Foulkes, attended our latest fund raising event at Morrison's in Winsford. The grand total came to **£740.36** ... well done lads, that is £1500 in two sessions with one more to come in March.