

Last Sundays Game
Sunday 30th March Away Fixture



Congleton U14's 17 versus 26 Northwich U14's



At late notice, Congleton agreed to host a friendly match on Back Lane. This was the 'Bears' first game for a month and they were itching to gain revenge on their close rivals. Northwich, fresh from their close cup encounter, were missing 7 players who started the Anselmians semi-final (Will Mitchell, Mike Gough, David Lewis, Sam Clayton, Ryan Kitt, Sam Jones and Steven Parry), they also had two key positional 'rookies' with Jamie Hall at hooker and Luke Targett at scrum-half. Therefore this gave Congleton a good chance to beat the 'Stags' for the first time in six matches; but also gave the Northwich 'Bulls' a chance to prove their place in future starting XV's.

With a minimum squad, Northwich started well with Declan Woodward scoring his first try for the club, playing a game for the first time in a 1st XV shirt. The logic of putting the clocks forward in Spring is still alien to many of us and often also catches out the youths residing within both the Northwich and Winsford postcodes. From this point onwards, the team decided to catch up on an hour's lost sleep. In fact, we later found out that some saw the 'hour come in' by going to bed at 2.00am ... **KNOCK KNOCK** – "scrum formed short of a hooker". Congleton then impressed by scoring three tries with one converted before half time.

Half time talk **"WAKEY WAKEY"** well it certainly began with 'W'. For the first time, the team had a half time warm-up and entered the pitch with eyes open, hearts beating and hands surgically removed from their pockets.

Ever seen Goofy's American Football Match when at half time he was 100:0 down but came back to win 101:100 with the final kick bursting the ball, landing on the cross bar, and then sliding the right side of bar with one second remaining. Well our Disney

characters performed the **GOOFY COMEBACK**: "I've darn seen about anything when I see an elephant fly" as 'DUMBO' Vandersteen scored the first try, with 'THUMPER' Sheppard converting; "DONALD DUCK" Collier quacked his way to score the next, with 'THUMPER' converting again; then as the clock ticked down, and down, and down (as everyone thought that Alan Winship's clock was also trying to recover the lost hour as well), 'THUMPER,' through the "little April showers" scored and converted his own try. Northwich ended up the victors 26:17. "The wonderful thing about Tiggers is that Tiggers are wonderful things".



5H1T3 performances in the first half were replaced with heroic displays in the second, DUMBO, THUMPER and DONALD all played

well, Luke Murray and Simon Dale were brilliant and Joe Halsall was taken off because he had simply run himself into the ground, and his run from the dead ball line through hoards of 'Bears' only to be tackled on the half way line enters the Tango Moment Charts at number 3. The RBS selection committee were not consulted for the second week running, as Auntie Barrie's mind has been diverted to choosing baby names, so down to the other two coaches: So in third place for some excellent weaving runs and some extraordinary sprints was Declan Woodward; in second place for an absolute storming game as hooker was Jamie Hall; but the surprise of the day went to Luke Targett who slotted into a very difficult position and looked a natural scrum-half, never missed a break down and never failed to get the ball out. A massive well done to both Jamie and Luke for stepping into difficult shoes and both playing second half blinders!



Final activities of the Season:

- Wed 2nd April Evening training – 6.30pm at Moss Farm
 - Sun 6th April Home match against [Liverpool Collegiate](#)
- meet at Moss Farm at 10.00am
 - Wed 9th April Evening training – 6.30pm at Moss Farm
 - Sun 13th April Home match against [Crewe and Nantwich](#)
- meet at Moss Farm at 10.00am
 - Wed 16th April No evening training due Spring Tour
 - Thurs 17th April Spring Tour – coach leaves Moss Farm at 5.30pm
 - Fri 18th April Spring Tour – South Wales
 - Sat 19th April Spring Tour – South Wales
 - Sun 20th April Spring Tour – South Wales
 - Wed 23rd April Evening training – 6.30pm at Moss Farm
 - Sun 27th April Home match [to be arranged](#)
- meet at Moss Farm at 10.00am
- Now to include: 'End of Season Presentations event'
- venue to be communicated.