1823 — Running with the ball! William Webb Ellis was the first to pick up a ball during a game and run with it

1845 — The first rules of rugby are written

1846 — Being offside - the concept of offside first became part of the rules at Rugby School

1847 — The game takes shape. The tackle is introduced and a fixed number of players is agreed, with 17 forwards and 3 full backs

1857 —
19th December
First game played at Spekefields, and Liverpool FC is formed

1860 — First match between two clubs in the North

Liverpool vs Manchester (result unknown)

1866 — For the first time, the drop goal in officially listed as a way to score

1867/1868 —

First recorded result - Liverpool beat Manchester 1-0

1871 —
First ever international match between England and Scotland takes place in Edinburgh. Three Liverpool players are part of the team

1871 — Birth of the RFU - the Rugby Football Union is formed in London when representatives from 21 clubs meet

1879 — Last game played by Liverpool FC on the old cricket ground, they move to Smithdown Road, Liverpool

1882 — First ever Rugby Union tour - an Australian team travels to compete against New Zealand

1884/1885 — Another move – this time to a new ground at Liverpool Cricket Club in Aigburth

1885 — No referees! Early on, captains from both teams set the rules and were in charge. In 1885 the RFU ruled that all matches need two umpires and one referee

1885 —
Boxing Day 1885
Earliest known photograph of a Liverpool team - a game against Cardiff

1886 — The Irish, Scottish and Welsh unions form the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB)

1888 — The first international tour by a British team - they visit both Australia and New Zealand

Liverpool St Helens Timeline

1890 — The RFU joins the International Rugby Board

1895 — Northern Union (Rugby League) forms, after nine Lancashire teams break away from the RFU

1899 — Liverpool FC moves to a new home ground on land adjacent to the Cricket Club at Riversdale Road

1905 — Sorting out the scrum. In 1905 the scrum develops into two distinct activities – the 'set' scrum and the 'loose' scrum, now referred to as a 'ruck'

1913 — Liverpool FC supplies Captains for the England, Scotland and Ireland teams – these are Ronnie Poulton, F. H. Turner and R. A. Lloyd respectively

1914–1918 — The RFU officially suspends all fixtures for the duration of the war and clubs actively encourage their players to enlist

1919 — St Helens Old Boys is formed by former Cowley School pupils returning from WWI. The club play at the school for the next ten years

1925 — Old Lerpoolian FC is formed by old boys of Liverpool College

1927 — 100th recorded match between Liverpool and Manchester. This may be the longest running continuous fixture in the whole game!

1929 — St Helens Old Boys move to Moss Lane

1932 — St Helens Old Boys become St Helens RUFC

1939–1945 — During WWII the clubs close down and both have their grounds used by the War Office for air raid defence placements and barrage balloons

1946 — In September Liverpool resume their season after the war, although the wooden stand is accidentally destroyed by fire

Old Lerpoolians merge with Liverpool FC and have enough players to form two regular teams. Liverpool College is used for early training sessions

1957 — 100th anniversary of Liverpool FC and the centenary of club rugby in Northern England

1963 — Liverpool FC move to a new ground at St Michael's

The stand from Riversdale Road is dismantled and rebuilt there

1964–1965 — 150th fixture between Liverpool and Manchester

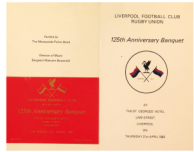
1968 — Replacements for injured players are allowed for the first time, though many players still prefer to play on rather than leaving the pitch

THE HISTORY AND HERITAGE
THE BIRTH OF CLUB RUGBY
OF LIVERPOOL ST HELENS FC

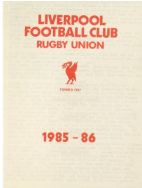
Liverpool St Helens Timeline

1974 – 1975
Mini Rugby starts at Liverpool with teams for boys aged 9 with matches on Sundays

1977
Merit Table for Northern Clubs is established by the Rugby Union; this determined entries into the following season's John Player Cup

1982


125th anniversary of Liverpool FC, celebrations include a match between the club and a selected international XV. A formal dinner is held at the clubhouse to honour the 'Lancashire Lions'

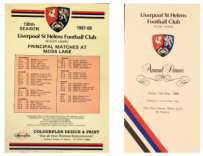
1984 – 1985


21st anniversary of the official opening of the ground at St Michael's. By then the stand and clubhouse are continually blighted by vandalism

1985 – 1986

Merger - St Helens RUFC and Liverpool FC form Liverpool St Helens FC in November 1985. The new club plays its first match at the start of the 1986-1987 season, against Aberavon

1987
First Rugby World Cup is held in New Zealand and Australia. The trophy is named the William Webb Ellis cup

1987 – 1988


The National Leagues are formed and LSH FC are placed in Courage Division 2

1987 – 1992

LSH are promoted or relegated each year, alternating between Courage Divisions 1 and 2

1993 – 2004

LSH settle in National Division 3 (North)

1995
Professionalism is introduced by the International Rugby Board

2001

'Sporting Club St Helens' is formed. An alliance between Saints Rugby League Club, LSH and St Helens Town Football Club, linked to building of the new Saints stadium. This ended after 18 months

2004
LSH drop out of National Leagues, initially to North 1 and then to North West 1

2006 – 2007
LSH Mini, Junior and Colts sections for youngsters start and continue to thrive today

2015
On 8th July the Rugby World Cup – The Webb Ellis Trophy – comes to Moss Lane, celebrations include an U7 and U8 rugby festival and a charity dinner

2017
Today LSH FC is a Community Rugby Club with a committed membership and thriving junior section

2017 – 2018
The club's heritage takes centre stage with the launch of the heritage project supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund

THE HISTORY AND HERITAGE
THE BIRTH OF CLUB RUGBY
OF LIVERPOOL ST HELENS FC

Liverpool St Helens Timeline