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4. Colin Hawkyard
5. Steve Dobb
6. Des Foy
7. Ray Ashton
8. Adrian Alexander
9. Alan McCurrie
10. Andy Goodway
11. Dave Nicholson
12. Alan Platt
13. Terry Flanagan

Subs:

14. T.B.A.
15. T.B.A.

**TODAY'S
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MATCHBALL
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STADIUM**

Referee:

J. E. Smith (Halifax)

Touch Judges:

W. Brown - Red Flag
J. E. Lloyd - Yellow Flag

ST. HELENS

*White Jerseys with a red V
White Shorts*

- Clive Griffiths 1.
- Barry Ledger 2.
- Brian Parkes 3.
- Roy Haggerty 4.
- Kevin Meadows 5.
- Chris Arkwright 6.
- Neil Holding 7.
- Mel James 8.
- Graham Liptrot 9.
- Paul Grimes 10.
- Gary Moorby 11.
- Peter Gorley 12.
- Andy Platt/Harry Pinner 13.

Subs:

- T.B.A. 14.
- T.B.A. 15.

SCRUMS					PENALTIES					SCRUMS					PENALTIES				
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25

NEXT MATCHES AT WATERSHEDDINGS

State Express Challenge Cup 1st Round:

Oldham v. Workington T. Sunday, 13th February K.O. 3.00 p.m.

Slalom Lager

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CHAMPIONSHIP
DIVISION ONE**

OLDHAM

versus

ST. HELENS

SUNDAY

6th FEBRUARY, 1983

AT

WATERSHEDDINGS

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

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Paddy Kirwan - Steve Littler - Paul Lowndes - Bob Mordell

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WATERSHEDDINGS SURVEY

NEXT Sunday sees the start of the State Express Challenge Cup competition once again and, after a run of five consecutive away draws in the various knock-out competitions, we have been paired to play Workington here at Watersheddings.

Having already beaten the Cumbrians twice in the First Division this season to follow up our Second Division double over them last season, we will be strongly tipped to progress to round two.

But a word of warning. Workington recently had a good away win over Halifax at Thrum Hall and while we have beaten them twice this season, we did not have it easy in either of the games. We won 8-4 at Derwent Park last October and 24-19 at Watersheddings two months later.

It is interesting to see that the Cumbrians have recently engaged our former coach Dave Cox to succeed Paul Charlton as coach at Derwent Park.

Dave has spent the last two years in Australia, studying the Aussie methods of training and match preparation, and he was apparently keen to return to England to try and put some of his methods into practice.

Whether Dave will have arrived from Sydney in time to be in charge of the Cumbrians next Sunday is not yet known, but whatever happens there will be a good atmosphere here and a typical cup-tie is anticipated.

We met Town in a cup-tie here two years ago and that was a real cracker with the Cumbrians being inspired off the field by our former player Ike Southward and their then manager Tommy Bishop, whose son Gary is now a signed professional for Oldham.

Last Sunday saw us stage the return under-24 international between Great Britain and France at Watersheddings when Britain were again under the helm of our coach Frank Myler and when three of our players, Terry Flanagan, Ray Ashton and Andy Goodway represented their country for the second time in a fortnight.

It must have a particularly proud moment for Terry when, as captain, he led out Great Britain

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Matthew Brown 

HISTORICAL NOTES ON ST. HELENS

by Tom Webb

"Herman the German" is probably the best known man to settle in St. Helens. He worked at Pilkington's Glass Works and to him is given the credit for founding the St. Helens Rugby Football Club. His advice to early players has been recorded and often quoted. Here it is again. "It does not really matter whether you win or lose. What does matter is that you play the game—and enjoy yourselves".

Another account of the founding of the club is not generally accepted. A gang of local lads used to watch "the young gentlemen's team" play rugby at Dentons Green. One day a visiting team failed to arrive so the locals formed the opposition. After the local team was defeated they presented the youngsters with the tackle, the ground and the goalposts.

However, Herr Herman is supposed to have founded the club in 1870. In those days there were few accounts of matches but by 1875 the club was playing at Littler's Field, then later at the Bishop Road ground.

It was not until 1890 that the Saints moved to Knowsley Road. The enclosure was described as just a field with the stewards taking pay at pigeon holes in the fencing at the Eccleston end. No doubt this procedure was adopted after troubles with collections at previous grounds. Before the game started the club sent men round with collecting boxes. In due course it was realised that the spectators waited until the boxes had been round before getting near to the playing field. Then it was decided to take the collections at half time which meant greatly increased takings.

In those long forgotten days under the Rugby Union banner, St. Helens played Werneth, Rochdale St. Clements, Crompton and Mossley before reaching the standard of the Oldham club.

St. Helens players were a cosmopolitan lot as they included foreign workers who were employed by Pilkingtons. A Frenchman, Le Petton was once captain, and Irishmen, one Scot and one Welshman joined the local lads in forming the team.

In the early days at Knowsley Road the cost of fencing the ground was £101 6s. The rent was £30 per annum and on a good day the gate receipts varied from £20 to £40. By 1953 gates of over £2,500 had been achieved with a season's gross receipts amounting to around £30,000.

One famous player was the Rev. C. M. Chavasse who was a curate in an Anglican church in St. Helens. He played wing-threequarter and scored three tries in six games in season 1910-11. In 1908 he had contested the 400 metres race in the Olympic Games. In due course he became the Lord Bishop of Rochester.

Another speedster was Matt Creevey who was champion over 70 yards. Alf Ellabu was a yard outside evens. Halfpenny was a yard or two slower than Ellabu but was still fast. Over 120 yards Tom Barton, who played in the Challenge Cup final at Watersheddings in 1915, was the fastest man for miles around. He won the professional championship at Leigh in 1910 over 100 yards in ten and one-fifth seconds. Over 120 yards he was faster still. His success at Leigh was quite remarkable as the race was open to allcomers from anywhere in the British Isles.

It may seem strange to followers today that Saints were once one of the poor relations. John W. ("Jack"), Manchester was sold by Saints to Hunslet in a bid to restore the club's financial position. When the club decided to become a limited company in 1937 the response to applications for the £5,000 share capital was disappointing but eventually the sum was raised.

THE SAINTS COME MARCHING IN

IT is always a pleasure to welcome St. Helens to Watersheddings. Over the years, the Saints have set and maintained high standards of Rugby League football at the other end of the East Lancs Road.

We have already had two cracking games against them at Knowsley Road this season, drawing 15-15 in a pre-season friendly and losing 20-15 in a First Division fixture there last September.

In the highly-competitive First Division, matches are often won and lost due to one incident late in the game. At Warrington two weeks ago, we might have won but for Green Vigo being recalled for off-side when he chased an Ashley McEwen kick in the late stages with the scores level at 12-12.

There was a similar incident in our league defeat at Knowsley Road when, in the dying minutes, Vigo got over the Saints line for a try that might have levelled the scores only to be pulled back for a forward pass.

In the pre-season friendly, we were leading 8-5 at half-time and in the final reckoning Saints owed much to teenage substitute Andy Platt, who came on and scored two second-half tries.

By a strange twist of fate, Platt might well be playing again for Saints today because regular loose-forward Harry Pinner has been struggling lately with leg and shoulder injuries.

He could not play last week-end against Hull KR, so young Platt, who went to France with Great Britain colts three weeks ago, could well be wearing the No. 13 jersey.

Saints have had a good run lately and when you weigh up the talent they have available it is not difficult to see why.

Welshman Clive Griffiths, who in the past has made a habit of doing it on Oldham, either with his goalkicking or linking up, is now restored in the Saints No. 1 jersey, having seen first John Butler and then Brian Parkes holding down the position earlier in the season.

Young speed men Barrie Ledger and Kevin Meadows have been operating on the wings. Meadows, another former GB colt, scored a hat-trick of tries for Lancashire against Cumbria at Workington at the back end of last season and is always a dangerous and elusive runner.

Ledger, son of former Saints player Eric Ledger, is probably the fastest man on the Knowsley Road books. He has made steady and continued progress this season and looks capable of holding down a wing place for Saints for many seasons to come.

Parkes and Roy Haggerty, who was last week-end called up into Frank Myler's Great Britain under-24 squad, are probably in line for the centre positions, though there could be a place for former under-24 international Chris Arkwright, another well-known son of a famous father, who made his comeback last week in the "A" team after an injury lay-off.

At half-back could possibly be the experienced Peter Glynn and the pacy scrum-half Neil Holding, a player whom Oldham's Ray Ashton has kept out of the under-24 reckoning this season.

Holding has been in good form lately, both as an attacker and a defender, and it was his pace, as much as anything else, which caused Oldham problems in the two games at Knowsley Road.

Few sides possess such a big front-row as that provided by Mel James, Graham Liptrot and Paul Grimes. The last-named has been a revelation since his signing from Whitehaven, for he has recently been named man-of-the-match for Saints on four separate occasions.

Cumbrian Peter Gorley, a hard tackler and forager in the typical Cumbrian mould, and Gary Moorby, a strong, fast and direct runner, form a well-balanced second-row.

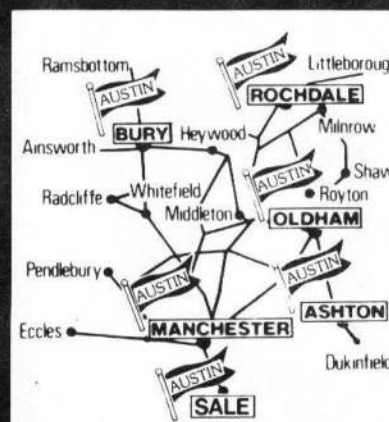
The strength of Saints' front-row was evident in their recent win over Barrow when they won the scrums to the tune of 20-4.



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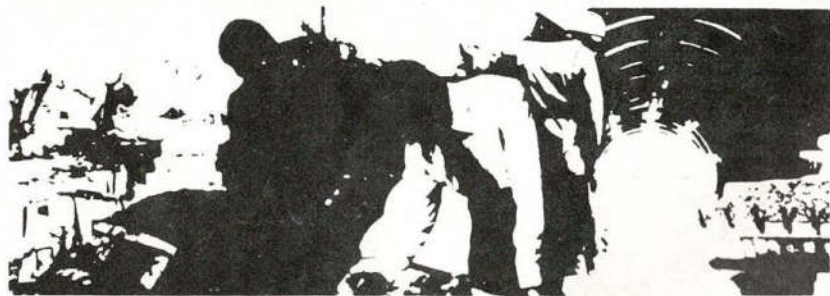
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Supporters Club are once again running a Wembly Draw. We will be asking all our members to sell tickets for us to make it a great success. We will have the draw tickets in the next few weeks. Anyone else being able to sell some draw tickets for us will be most welcome. Ask at any canteen for details.

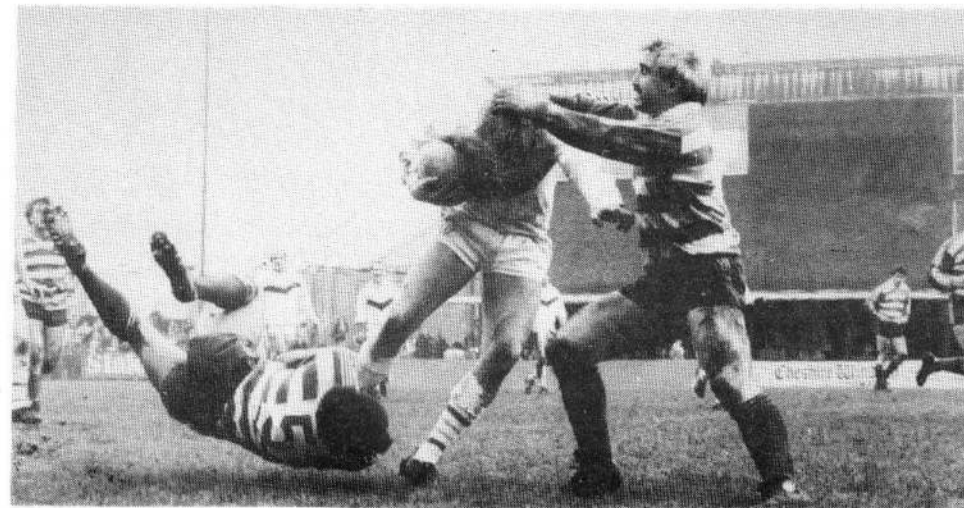
We are holding A FUN RUN of approx. 7 miles on Sunday May 15th, 1983. Watch out for further details.



Andy Goodway scores at Warrington despite the attentions of Ken Kelly and David Clisnall.



Alan Platt, on the way to his first-half try at Warrington, holds off Ronnie Duane as he heads for the line.



Take Off! Stephen Dobb (No. 5) goes in low to tackle centre Ronnie Duane at Warrington while Alan McCurrie comes in to lend a hand.

Photographs by courtesy of the Oldham Evening Chronicle

The second row of John Fieldhouse and Mick Worrall revealed promise for the future as did Flanagan's flair.

Harvey Ashworth

(manchester Ltd.)

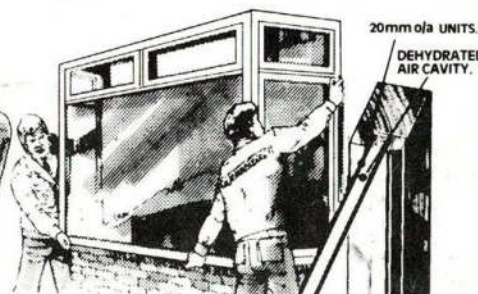
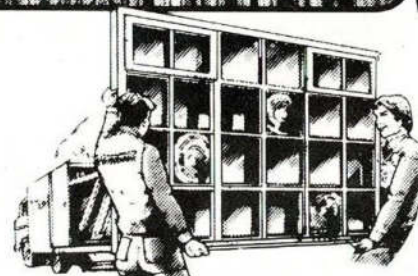
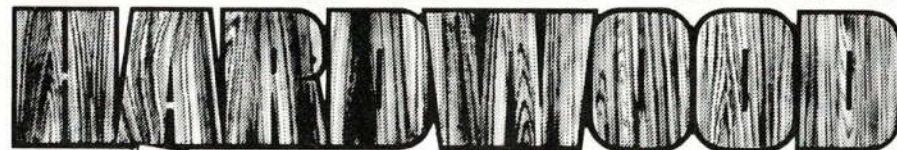
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FLASHBACK by Tom Webb

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FIVE YEARS AGO

Batley 3 1 9 Oldham 3 4 18

Batley: Gray, Simpson, Richardson, Prestley, Whelan, Stockwell, Rippon, Waltham (try), Piwinski, Taylor, Finn (3 goals), Watts, Sheehan.

Substitutes: Jarvis for Presley and Fox did not play.

Oldham: Murphy, Elliott, Larder, Paterson (try), O'Brien, Blair (3 goals), Bates (try), Charles, O'Mahoney, Owen, Herbert, Hall (try), K. Flanagan.

Substitutes: Ward (try) for O'Brien and Hughes for Owen.

Referee: K. Allatt, Southport. Attendance 600. Half-time score 4-5.

TEN YEARS AGO

Leigh 1 2 8 Oldham 3 5 21 (Northern League had only one division)

Leigh: Hogan, J. Davies (try), Stacey, Atkin, Houghton, Collins, McAtee (try), Grimes, Carey, Smethurst, F. Barrow, Martyn, Rowley.

Substitutes: Fiddler (goal) for Smethurst, Smethurst returning to replace Grimes, Sayer for Atkin with Atkin returning in place of Carey.

Oldham: Murphy, Elliott (try), T. Davies, Siddall, Hodgkinson, Hill, McCone (try), Wilson (try), K. Taylor (2 tries), Ashcroft, Irving (3 goals), Hall, Farrell.

Substitutes: O'Brien and Daley for Hill and Wilson.

Referee: K. Allatt, Huddersfield. Attendance 4,000. Half-time score not known.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

Oldham had no match, through postponement of the home game with Warrington. In a trial match Salford lost at home 12-0 to a Great Britain side. Hull Kingston Rovers lost at home to Featherstone Rovers 9-0 in the first round of the Challenge Cup. Doncaster lost at home 12-2 to Bradford Northern and Castleford beat Hunslet 19-3 both matches being in the league tournament. All other games were postponed. Cyril Kellett for Featherstone kicked two goals against Hull K.R., his former club, to reach 2,600 points in his career. Millward of Hull K.R. was leading try scorer with 28 and Bev Risman with 109 was the only kicker to reach the century of goals at that stage.



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TOP TEN TRIES (as at 24th January, 1983)

1. Bob ECCLES (Warrington)	23
2. John CROSSLEY (Fulham)	20
3. Garry CLARK (Hull K.R.)	13
4. Chris BOWMAN (Bramley)	16
5. Paul McDERMOTT (York)	15
David TOPLISS (Hull)	15
Steve EVANS (Hull)	15
Des DRUMMOND (Leigh)	15
9. David MOLL (Keighley)	14
Paul O'NEILL (Salford)	14

TOP TEN GOALS (as at 24th January, 1983)

1. Steve DIAMOND (Fulham)	90
2. Steve HESFORD (Warrington)	79
3. Lee CROOKS (Hull)	71
4. Kevin DICK (Leeds)	68
5. Ron SMITH (Salford)	66
6. George FAIRBAIRN (Hull K.R.)	65
Ken JONES (Swinton)	65
8. Steve QUINN (Featherstone R.)	61
9. Bob BEARDMORE (Castleford)	59
10. Mick PARRISH (Oldham)	58

TOP POINTS (as at 24th January, 1983)

	Trs.	Gls.	Dr.Gls.	Pts.
1. Steve DIAMOND (Fulham)	6	90	—	198
2. Kevin DICK (Leeds)	13	68	—	175
3. Ron SMITH (Salford)	12	66	—	168
4. Steve HESFORD (Warrington)	—	79	—	158
5. Lee CROOKS (Hull)	6	68	3	157

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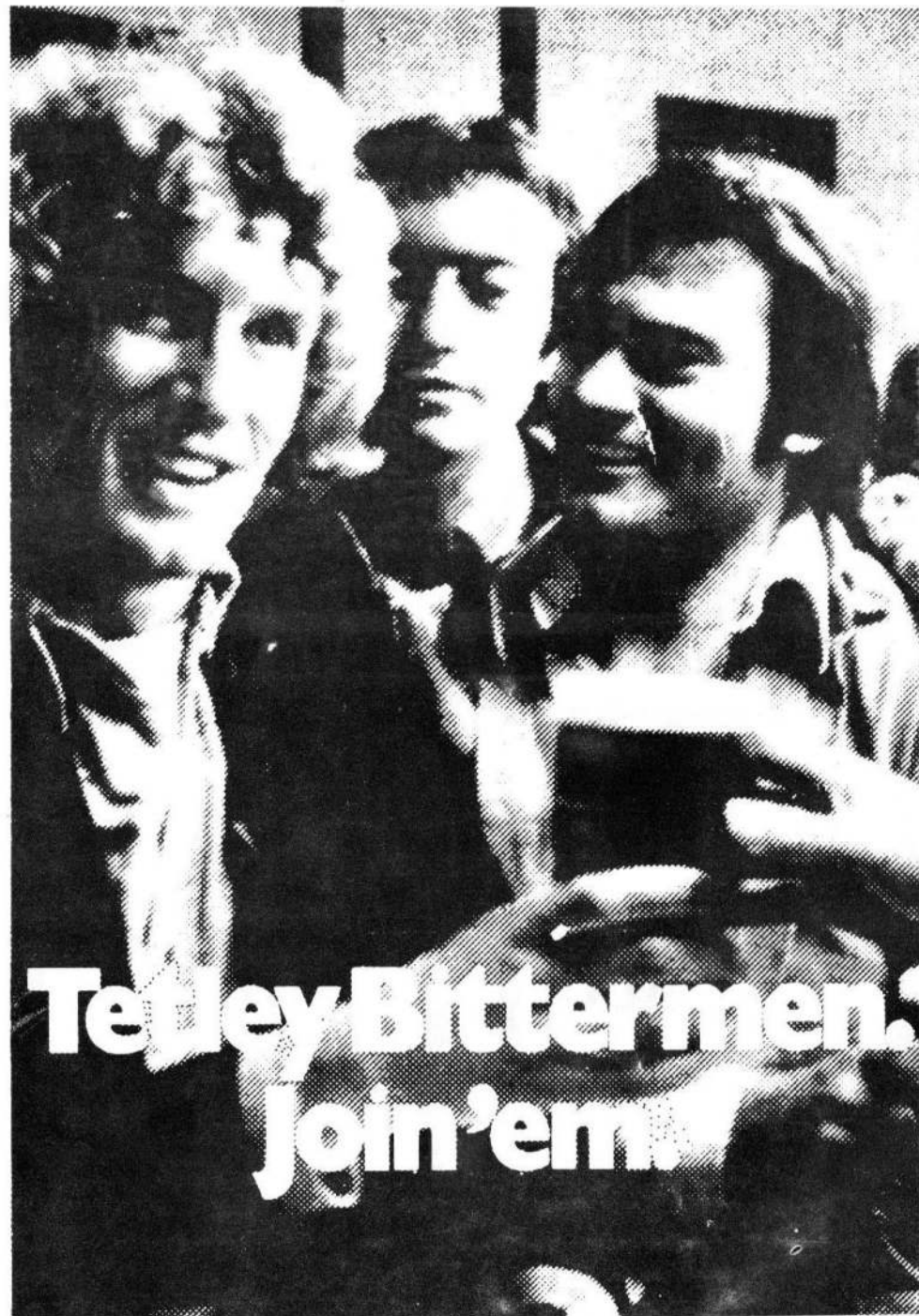
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**Tetley Bittermen.
Join'em.**

MATCH SPONSORED
BY
**COLGATE PALMOLIVE/
NORWEST PIONEERS
CO-OP SOCIETY**

OLDHAM R.L.F.C. FIXTURES 1982-83

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES

1982				
Aug.	22	Widnes (3.00)	H 7-17	
	25	Leeds (7.30)	H 8-15	
	29	Bradford Northern (3.30)	A 23-10	
Sept.	5	Blackpool Lancs Cup	27-10	
	12	St. Helens (3.00)	A 15-20	
	15	Warrington (7.30)	H 22-12	
	19	Warrington Lancs Cup (3.00)	A 14-16	
	22	FRANCE XIII (7.30)	H 11-15	
	26	Halifax (3.00)	A 5-20	
	29	Featherstone R. (7.30)	H 10-1	
Oct.	3	Wigan (3.00)	H 11-11	
	10	Workington T. (3.30)	A 8-4	
	24	Castleford (3.30)	A 14-12	
	31	Carlisle (3.00)	H 17-14	
Nov.	7	Hull (3.00)	H 2-5	
	14	Barrow (2.30)	A 5-12	
Dec.	5	JOHN PLAYER TROPHY (1)	A 12-13	
	12	Workington T. (3.00)	H 24-19	
	19	Hull (3.00)	A 8-2	
	27	Hull K.R. (3.00)	H 4-5	

1983				
Jan.	3	Leeds (3.00)	A 12-12	
	9	Featherstone R. (2.30)	A 2-5	
	19	Bradford Northern (7.30)	H 12-7	
	23	Warrington (2.30)	A 7-12	
	30	Gt. Britain v France U/24 Int.	H P	
Feb.	6	St. Helens (3.00)	H	
	13	STATE EXPRESS CHAL. CUP (1)	H	
	20	Carlisle (3.00)	A	
	27	STATE EXPRESS CHAL. CUP (2)	H	
Mar.	6	Leigh (3.00)	H	
	13	Widnes (3.00)	A	
	20	Hull K.R. (3.00)	A	
Apr.	1	Leigh (3.30)	A	
	4	Barrow (3.00)	H	
	10	Wigan (3.00)	A	
	17	Castleford (3.00)	H	

'A' TEAM FIXTURES

1982				
Aug.	20	Widnes (7.30)	A 13-17	
Sept.	3	Wigan (7.30)	H 17-12	
	10	St. Helens (7.30)	H 3-34	
	18	Warrington (2.30)	A P	
	25	Whitehaven (3.00)	H 22-20	
Oct.	1	Wigan (7.30)	A P	
	9	Workington (3.00)	H 18-15	
	15	Salford (7.30)	H 27-15	
	22	Widnes (7.30)	H 18-10	
	30	Whitehaven (2.30)	A 19-2	
Nov.	13	Barrow (3.00)	H 11-13	
	20	Workington (2.30)	A 22-19	

COLTS FIXTURES

1982				
Aug.	14	Wakefield	A 11-27	
	18	Huddersfield	A 5-31	
	21	Hull K.R.	H 11-11	
	24	Leigh	H 19-2	
	28	St. Helens	A 18-20	
Sept.	4	Castleford	H 15-26	
	11	Rochdale	A 10-10	
	18	Leeds	H 21-14	
	25	Halifax	A 14-11	
Oct.	2	Wakefield	H 26-35	
	9	Salford	A 41-7	
	16	Hull	A 25-3	
	23	Huddersfield	H 23-7	
	30	Barrow	A 13-11	
Nov.	6	Hull	H 0-12	
	13	Featherstone	A 14-25	
	20	St. Helens	H 8-2	
	27	Hunslet	A P	
Dec.	4	Barrow	H 22-5	
	11	Salford	H 55-0	
	18	Featherstone	H P	
	28	Leigh	A 3-16	

1983				
Jan.	1	Bradford	H 18-15	
	8	Bramley	A 12-8	
	15	Halifax	H	
	22	Hull K.R.	A 3-12	
	29	Rochdale	H	
Feb.	5	York	H	
	12	Cup (1st round)	H	
	19	Leeds	A	
	26	Cup (2nd round)	H	
Mar.	5	Hunslet	H	
	12	York	A	
	19	Bramley	H	
	26	Bradford	A	
Apr.	9	Castleford	A	

Kick off at 12 o'clock at the:-

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Greenacres.

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KEVIN & CHRISTINE
Lunchtime Snacks available

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Matthew Brown 

THE BREW THAT SPONSORS RUGBY LEAGUE DRINK IT AT:-

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Oldham

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Oldham.

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PETER & MILDRED
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