

Best wishes to

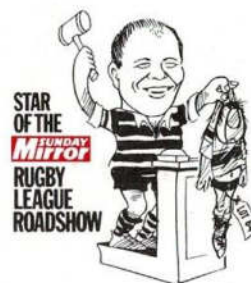
MICK MORGAN

in his Testimonial Season

and to Oldham R.L.F.C.
throughout 1985 - 86

**NORTH WEST
DECOILING LTD.**

Unit 3,
Causway Avenue,
Warrington



Mick Morgan

TESTIMONIAL

OLDHAM

V



**GREAT
BRITAIN
X111**

Watersheddings, Oldham
August 21st, 1985
7.30 p.m.

Donation 50p

MATCH SPONSOR:

NORTH WEST DECOILING LTD.

Unit 3, Causeway Avenue,
Warrington.

Tonight's souvenir programme
sponsored by the

**OLDHAM
R.L.F.C.
COMMITTEE**

Tonight's match ball sponsored by

COMPUTATILL LTD.

77 - 79 CHADDERTON WAY

Tel. 061 - 652 - 8006

THANKS.....

Tonight's meeting between Oldham and the Great Britain squad preparing to meet New Zealand is the highlight of my 20-year Testimonial.

My first thankyou is to the Oldham Committee for applying to the Rugby Football League for the three months of fund-raising and to the Great Britain management for providing the top-class opposition in this Testimonial game.

I hope that tonight's encounter will aid the international bosses in their build-up to the forthcoming Kiwi Tests, and I am certain that the public of Oldham endorse my best wishes to Messrs. Bamford and Bettinson and company in the bid to restore Britain's standing at international level.

A thankyou to tonight's sponsors. Match sponsors North West Decoiling are already well known to Oldham fans as backers of the fixtures with Warrington, and tonight they will also be handing over a Man of the Match award to each side. This special programme

is being sponsored by the Oldham Committee and the match ball donated by COMPUTATILL. Many thanks - literally - to the sponsors of the 30 players on duty this evening, the full list being featured on the centre spread.

Thanks to the Testimonial Committee who have helped stage tonight's match and to the players who once again show the comradeship that is abundant in Rugby League.

Most importantly, thankyou to the Oldham fans, not only for turning out this evening, but also for helping make my stay at Watersheddings such a happy one. Let's hope that this season the dedication and enthusiasm is rewarded with a trophy.

To celebrate two decades as a first-team player is a great thrill, especially as the latter end of a memorable career is being spent with a club of great tradition and modern-day potential. My final thankyou is to the great game of Rugby League for providing so many wonderful moments on and off the field.

Mick Morgan



Mick Morgan, displaying his renowned ball-handling skill against Leeds at Headingley

LILLESHALL SQUAD 1985

Name	Club	Age	Height	Weight	Caps			
					G.B.	Eng.	U-24s	U-21s
Beardmore, Bob	Castleford	25	5.07	11.08	-	-	-	-
Burke, Mick	Widnes	26	5.11	14.10	10+1	1	5	-
Burke, Tony	St. Helens	24	5.11	16.00	-	-	-	-
Creasser, David	Leeds	20	5.10	12.02	2	-	-	2
Dannatt, Andy	Hull	19	6.02	15.04	2	-	-	2
Dickinson, Roy	Leeds	28	6.01	16.10	2	-	5	-
Divorty, Gary	Hull	19	6.01	13.07	2	-	-	1
Drummond, Des	Leigh	27	5.07	11.03	17	5	5	-
Duane, Ronnie	Warrington	22	6.01	13.12	3	-	2	-
Edwards, Shaun	Wigan	18	5.09	12.03	1	-	-	1
Fieldhouse, John	Widnes	23	6.00	14.07	-	-	1+1	-
Ford, Phil	Wigan	24	5.10	12.07	1	1	1	-
					(Wales)			
Fox, Deryck	Featherstone R.	20	5.05	11.00	2	-	-	1
Groves, Paul	Salford	20	5.08	11.08	-	-	-	2
Hanley, Ellery	Bradford N.	24	5.11	13.08	10+1	1	2	-
Hobbs, David	Oldham	26	6.01	15.07	7+1	1	2	-
Kiss, Nicky	Wigan	25	5.09	13.06	1	-	-	-
Ledger, Barry	St. Helens	23	5.11	11.08	1	1	2	-
Lydon, Joe	Widnes	21	6.01	12.07	6+1	-	3	-
Myler, Tony	Widnes	24	6.00	13.03	7	-	3	-
O'Loughlin, Keiron	Widnes	31	5.11	13.00	-	-	-	-
O'Neill, Mike	Widnes	24	6.01	14.09	3	-	3+2	-
Peters, Steve	St. Helens	25	5.10	12.08	-	-	-	-
Pinner, Harry	St. Helens	28	5.10	13.07	1+1	3	4+4	-
Potter, Ian	Wigan	27	6.01	14.08	-	2	4	-
Wane, Shaun	Wigan	20	5.11	14.11	1	-	-	1

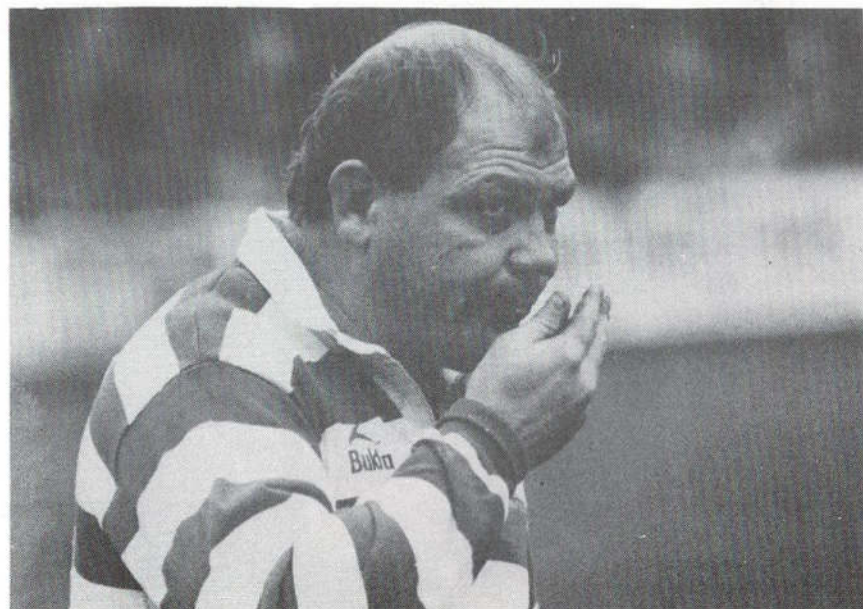
+ indicates substitute appearance



The 26-man Great Britain training squad at Lilleshall last week

MORGAN'S MEMO

Nickname:	Aubry
Birthdate:	September 30th, 1948
Birth Place:	Featherstone
Clubs:	Wakefield Trinity, York, Featherstone Rovers, Carlisle, Oldham
Height:	5ft. 8½ ins.
Weight:	16 stone
Occupation:	Oldham R.L.F.C. Commercial Manager
Favourite T.V. Programmes:	Morph and Bilko
Favourite Drink:	Tea
Favourite food:	Seafood
Favourite film:	Jungle Book
Person most like to meet:	Dolly Parton
Outstanding Ambition:	See above
Most memorable moment:	Playing at Sydney Cricket Ground
Favourite all time player:	Don Fox
Likes:	Training
Dislikes:	Lapping
Hardest Opponent:	Fred Lindop
Funniest moment:	Intercepting while playing for Featherstone Rovers and Stan Wall beat me to the line



Champagne and a silver goblet, plus £1,350, for Mick Morgan, judged Man of Steel 1982 and Second Division Player of the Year.



What am I bid? Morgan style.



Beauties and the beast..... Morgan flanked by Sunday Mirror Roadshow hostesses Val Moss (left) and Collette Caton.

OLDHAM

Red and White hooped jersey
COACH: FRANK MYLER

PLAYER	SPONSOR
ALAN TAYLOR	PAUL TURNER - High Class Butcher, Spring Street
IAN BIRKBY	M. JENKINS - Gardners Rest
DES FOY	FRANK MYLER
MICK PARRISH	STUART LAWTON
MIKE TAYLOR	FRANK PULLEN - Two Counties Service Station
DAVID TOPLISS	JIM KNOX - Fairway Rubber
PADDY KIRWAN	G.K. BARBER - Brick Lane Services
WALLY JONES	PAULINE HODGSON - Phil Radcliffe Auto Elec.
PAUL LOWNDES	STEVE BLOMLEY - Balmflow Ltd.
MICK MORGAN	THE OLIVE BRANCH - Marsden
DAVID HOBBS	COLIN WHITEHEAD - Shepherds Boy
TOM NADIOLA	PHIL LAWTON - J.M. Lawton Consultants
TERRY FLANAGAN	BOB CROWTHER
RAY ASHTON	ERIC BUCKLEY - Service Moulding
TONY MORRISON	BOB BARBER - Barber Building Services

REFEREE:

Jim Smith, Halifax

TOUCH JUDGES:

H.F.T. Mason, Halifax (red flag)
B. Wilkinson, Hyde (yellow flag)

NORTH WEST DECOILING MAN OF THE MATCH
Tonight's sponsors have donated a £25 award to the adjudged
Man of the Match on each side.

GREAT BRITAIN X111

White jersey, blue and red V
COACH: MAURICE BAMFORD

PLAYER	SPONSOR
GEORGE FAIRBURN (Hull K.R.)	MARTIN CULLEN - Cartax
BARRY LEDGER (St. Helens)	NOEL BRADY - Rakeburn Developments
STEVE PETERS (St. Helens)	OLDHAM CHRONICLE
JOE LYDON (Widnes)	MRS. T. TINDALL - R. Tindall (Fabricators) Ltd.
PHIL FORD (Wigan)	COLIN FIRTH - Gardners Rest
SHAUN EDWARDS (Wigan)	STEVE BLOMLEY - Balmflow Ltd.
BOB BEARDSMORE (Castleford)	BRIAN and DEREK DUNKERLEY
ROY DICKINSON (Leeds)	OLDHAM R.L.F.C. SUPPORTERS CLUB
NICKY KISS (Wigan)	DEREK HEAP - Navigation Inn
TONY BURKE (St. Helens)	TED TURNER - Prince George Hotel
SHAUN WANE (Wigan)	JIM KNOX (Senior) - J. & D. Knox Wallpapers
MIKE O'NEILL (Widnes)	D. BLACKBURN & S. BURN
IAN POTTER (Wigan)	JOE GALLAGHER - Oldham R.L.F.C. Social Club
MICK BURKE (Widnes)	PAYNES CONFECTIONERS
JOHN FIELDHOUSE (Widnes)	BARRY GALLAGHER

FIRST TRY

The sponsor of the first player from either side to score a try will receive
a prize of £250.

MORGAN'S MEN

ALAN TAYLOR - "Tatts" - as you'd expect from a school-master, very quiet and unassuming.

MIKE TAYLOR - He once said "I've half a mind to be a winger" and that's all he's got!

DES FOY - One of Des's insurance stamps is worth more than a penny black.

MICK PARRISH - Once kicked a tortoise on the field because it kept following him around.

BRIAN CAFFREY - The team's best dressed man. Gets kitted out at the Army and Navy Stores.

DAVID TOPLISS - Just recovering from a minor operation. Don't ask him about it - it's a sore point.

ROY ASHTON - Must be the richest man in Rugby League because he never spends any money.

PADDY KIRWAN - "The Scarlett Pimpernell". You can never find him after training.

WALLY JONES - Very dry. Master of wit and repartee.

ALAN McCURRIE - Sponsored by Grecian 2000. Says he's only 30. Must have been in an incubator for 14 years.

PAUL LOWNDES - "Wham" is his favourite group. Thinks he looks like one of the singers.

MICK MORGAN - Here's to the next twenty! (minutes)

DAVID HOBBS - Featherstone lad born and bred. What more can I say?

TOM NADIOLE - Another from Huddersfield. Thinks a P 45 is a revolver.

TERRY FLANAGAN - People keep saying he's my lad. Must be the haircut, Terry!

IAN BIRKBY - "Birksby", as Frank calls him. Must be a moral somewhere.



Terry Flanagan in action for Great Britain at Hull in 1983.



Oldham's three musketeers....Andy Goodway(left), Alan McCurrie and Mick Morgan.



As captain of Hull, Oldham's new recruit David Topliss holds aloft the coveted Challenge Cup after the historic 1982 replay at Elland Road, Leeds.



Oldham supremo Frank Myler.

TRIBUTE....

from David Howes,

Rugby League PRO.

Off the field, Mick Morgan is to subtlety what King Herod was to baby sitting!

On the pitch, it has been the subtle touches of ball-handling which have been the hallmark of Morgy's 20-year playing career. These match-winning skills have made him a marked man, which goes a long way to explaining his facial appearance. Mick is not as old as he looks he was, in fact, 12 when he was born! Morgy has been - and forever will be - "one of the lads". Always a player's player, his love of the game has spilled over to off-the-field activities.

His ready wit and effervescent personality made him a natural for his famous - or infamous - auctions, particularly in the highly-successful series of 56 Sunday Mirror Rugby League Roadshows.

I first met Mick in 1975 when he was celebrating his ten-year stay at Wakefield Trinity. It was the year in which he visited Australia and New Zealand with the England World Championship squad. Since then, Mick has served York, hometown Featherstone Rovers, helped launch Carlisle with a spell as player-coach, before moving here to Watersheddings.



Mick Morgan's first try for Oldham, in his second match, against Leigh in March 1983.

In a playing jersey, Morgy has continued to be a key performer as he approaches retirement age. In 1982, he received the highest individual award Man of Steel as the personality judged to have made the most impact in a season in which he scored a record 25 tries for a prop and finished fifth in the League's try-scoring chart.

Last season, it looked as though his days in top-flight football were numbered. At one stage, Oldham were considering putting a price on him for transfer but their plans were dashed when Arthur Negas died! In typical Morgan style, he tackled the situation by being sorely missed in Oldham's Challenge Cup exit at Boundry Park and then turned on five-star shows for the television cameras against St. Helens and Castleford.

Morgy is destined to contribute to the 13-a-side code long past his playing days. It is reckoned that he has raised around £75,000 to date for benefits and charities.

For the next three months, it is his turn to be in the fund-raising spotlight. Mick is a part of the basic fabric of this great game of Rugby League, a talented player with personality and character on and off the field. His heart is as big - and probably the same shape - as a rugby ball.

As one wag said when he skippered a side: "He's a rum one, this Captain Morgan"!

TRIBUTE....

from John Huxley, Sunday Mirror.

Whenever I think of Mick Morgan, a rugby boot comes into my mind. Not that the much-travelled and loved Rugby League forward looks like that gnarled piece of footwear!

It is just a happy memory from some of the 50-plus Sunday Mirror Rugby League Roadshows we have worked together. Mick has been the major pit prop of the record breaking fund-raising team and the boot brought one of the biggest smiles I've ever seen on that happy face of his.

I was helping him with his famous auction and he asked me for the next item for sale. While I rummaged round looking for a suitable item, Mick related one of his witty tales. At the end he looked down and said: "What's next, John?" Innocently, I replied: "A boot". That was a major error of judgement! "A boot!" said Mick. "Whose boot?" And when I was lost for words Mick continued to make me the butt of his humour for the rest of the night, much to the amusement of the packed audience.

I forgave him. Doesn't everybody! I hope people in Rugby League support Mick in the same way that he supports them. Most of all I'll be looking for a special response from the professional players who have all benefited from his off-the-field generosity of spirit and time.

When somebody thought of second benefits it must have been with men like Mick Morgan in mind. He is worthy of your support and respect as a great professional sportsman.

TRIBUTE....

from Dave Topliss,

former Great Britain captain.

It gives me great pleasure to have this opportunity to write a few words of tribute to Mick Morgan.

When I made my first-team debut with Wakefield Trinity at Halifax in 1968, I played on the wing that day.... and who was the centre? It will surprise a few for it was Mick!

I really enjoyed playing with Mick at Wakefield for ten years, and not just on the field. Off the field he has been a personal friend of mine for the last seventeen years, and I am looking forward to renewing playing relations at Oldham this season.

Over the last five years, Mick has travelled the country raising money for rugby and soccer players, cricketers, ..., just about every type of sportsman.

I hope everybody will rally together and give Mick a bumper testimonial. Nobody deserves it more!

TRIBUTE....

from Trevor Watson,

Yorkshire Evening Post.

One glance at Oldham's Mick Morgan is enough to tell you that the chap who cuts his hair is a Rochdale supporter!

The Morgan locks have seen better days. But packing down in thousands of scrums and something about brushed-nylon nighties have helped thin them out.

After all, the last bloke who regularly trimmed hair in Mick's home "town" of Featherstone was Geronimo. Young Master Morgan was very nearly scalped when he ignored the Rovers and signed professional forms for the city slickers down the road at Wakefield Trinity.

Since then the widest grin in Rugby League has been in evidence at several clubs as Mick has added humour and professionalism to their cause.

His playing record speaks for itself. He moved up from being a young winger, who had a nightmare debut with Trinity. -He dropped a steam of try-making passes and it was rumoured he also dropped his wage packet the following week - the first and only time!

He has been centre, hooker, second-row and loose forward and finally prop, where his now-stately figure can still cause havoc among opposing defences.

Mick has also earned the deep gratitude of fellow professionals for his work off the field as an autioneer at testimonial functions.

In Rugby League territory, Christies and Sothebys have been overtaken by Morgans. His unique style has persuaded audiences at the popular Sunday Mirror Roadshows to pay out tens of thousands of pounds towards the benefits of loyal players. That can't be bad when you consider that some of them might have thumped him on the nose at some time!

At a time when the code is said to be short of characters, Mick is one in his own right. In fairness he can claim that even the hairstyle has caught on - among babies!

TRIBUTE.....

from Roger Halstead,
Oldham Evening Chronicle

If Mick Morgan had not chosen the sporting fields of Yorkshire to make his mark in life he would surely have gone on the stage.

He's that sort of bloke - full of fun, a natural wit, and a comedian who is just as much at home behind the mike as he is in the front-row of the scrum.

He is also one of Rugby League's nice guys who has raised thousands of pounds for his fellow professionals, largely thanks to his now famous auction and to his other efforts on behalf of the Sunday Mirror Rugby League Roadshow.

It goes without saying that Mick, a grand old man of the game at the age of 36, deserves the best possible support not only at this evening's match against the Great Britain squad, but also throughout the remainder of his testimonial on completion of 20 years in the game as a player.

If one man can be relied upon to support others it is Mick Morgan....and now it is his turn for a bit of propping up and I know the generous people of Oldham will rally round in their own inimitable style.

Mick signed for Wakefield Trinity as a 16-year-old in 1965 and he served Trinity for 12 years before his travels took him to York, to hometown Featherstone, to Carlisle, and then on to Oldham, where he has become, in the twilight of his career, one of the most popular players ever to wear the red-and-white jersey.

He played a major role in the successful establishment of Rugby League at Carlisle where, in the new Cumbrian club's first season, he established a try-scoring record for a prop with 25 and carried off the prestigious Man of Steel award.

He toured Australia in 1975 with the England World Cup squad and played in every game. The following year he captained Yorkshire to a County Championship triumph over Lancashire and Cumberland - two of ten appearances for the White Rose County.

Sadly, though, Mick does not have a lot to show in terms of medals and trophies for a player of such undoubted skill and talent. He has never played at Wembley, for instance, and in three finals for Wakefield.... in the John Player Trophy and twice in the Yorkshire Cup.... he has had to settle for a loser's medal.

A Second Division Championship medal with Featherstone Rovers and two County Championship-winning medals take pride of place in the Morgan household in Featherstone, but such is Mick's infectious enthusiasm for the game that it would take a gambling man to bet against him adding to his medal haul even at this late stage of his career.

You can safely bet on one thing, though.... Mick will crack a funny and look on the bright side no matter what the future holds in store for him and his family.

He is truly an adopted son of Oldham now and his popularity is reflected in his success locally as a full-time member of the club's Development Association team and as an after-dinner speaker of some repute! He has also given the town's Rugby League fraternity considerable enjoyment with his prowess on the field of play.

Local fans now have their chance to say "thanks" over the next few months.... and I know they will do it to some tune.

* * * * *

TRIBUTE.....

from Frank Myler, Oldham Coach.

When asked to write a tribute to Mick Morgan for the 20 years' service he has given to Rugby League both as player and as coach I was only too pleased to oblige.

When I signed Mick three years ago at the age of 33 some people thought Mick was over the hill, but that was soon proven wrong. Mick must take full credit in the manner in which he has played over those years for Oldham, but more important to the help he gave to the very young Oldham team of that time, who through his help has developed into one of the most formidable teams in the Slalom Lager Championship.

Besides his playing ability, he has a wonderful talent for making people laugh, which as we all know never goes amiss in any dressing room. Truly one of the game's great characters, always willing to help both club or player - if anybody deserves a bumper Testimonial it's Mick!

COMING SOON IN OLDHAM

Thursday 5th September

CELEBRITY GOLF DAY

at Crompton and Royton Golf Club.
Join stars from Rugby League, soccer, cricket and show business.
Prizes worth more than £1,000.
Entry Fee only £25.00.

Wednesday 18th September

SUNDAY MIRROR RUGBY LEAGUE ROADSHOW

at The Pennine Suite, Mumps Bus Station.
More than three hours of personalities, videos, prizes and Mick Morgan's inimitable auction.
Tickets only £2.

Friday 29th November

SPORTSMEN'S DINNER

at Royton Civic Centre. Sponsored by New Earth Plumbing. Guest speakers are Billy Beaumont, David Howes and John Lindley....plus that man Morgan!
Tickets only £12.00.

Tickets now available from
the office here at Watersheddings
or by post, cheques and postal orders made payable to
The Mick Morgan Testimonial Fund.

MATCH: OLDHAM V G.T. BRITAIN.....

DATE: 21ST AUG. 85..... SCORE:

COMPETITION:

SCORERS.

HOME

VISITORS

<u>TRIES</u>	<u>HOME</u>	<u>VISITORS</u>
..	TOPLISS 64.....	.. EDWARDS 10...35.....
..		.. KISS.....32.....
..		.. LYMAN 68.....
..		.. DIVARTY 75.....
..		
..		
..		
..		

<u>GOALS:</u>	<u>HOME</u>	<u>VISITORS</u>
..		.. FAIRBARN 3. 10. 32. 35.....
..		.. LYDON 68. 73.....
..		

<u>DROP GOALS:</u>	<u>HOME</u>	<u>VISITORS</u>
..		
..		
..		

SUBSTITUTES.

(To inform the League if named substitutes were used)

No.	HOME	No.	VISITORS
No. 14	KIRWAN	No. 14	ALLEN
for 7	ASHTON	for 8	BURKE
No. 15	MORRISON	No. 15	O. NIELL
for 12	NADIOLA	for 10	FIELDHOUSE
7	ASHTON		
FOR 1	TAYLOR Awan.		