

# OLDHAM 12 Team Check 54 LEIGH

|                |                 |    |                |           |
|----------------|-----------------|----|----------------|-----------|
| MICK BURKE     | JEFF EDWARDS    | 1  | ANDY COLLIER   | C Johnson |
|                | HUSSEIN M'BARKI | 2  | NEIL McCULLOCH |           |
| FARKY WARWICK  | PAUL SHERMAN    | 3  | JOHN HENDERSON |           |
| JEFF EDWARDS   | GARY WARNECKE   | 4  | CHRIS JOHNSON  | Leulani   |
|                | MICK TAYLOR     | 5  | IAN JEFFREY    |           |
| STUART RAPER   | MICK BURKE      | 6  | JOHN KERR      |           |
|                | PADDY KIRWAN    | 7  | MICK FORD      |           |
|                | IAN SHERRATT    | 8  | DAVE EVANS     |           |
|                | IAN SANDERSON   | 9  | GARY HUGHES    |           |
|                | HUGH WADDLE     | 10 | DEREK PYKE     | Cottrell  |
| COLIN HAWKYARD |                 | 11 | MILTON HUDDART | Collier   |
| NEIL CLAWSON   |                 | 12 | TOM NADOLE     | Huddart   |
| TERRY FLANAGAN |                 | 13 | JOHN WESTLAND  | P Johnson |
| TONY MORRISON  |                 | 14 | PHIL JOHNSON   | Davis     |
| MARK FAIRBANK  | WALLY JONES     | 15 | NIGEL ROBINSON | Westhead  |

Referee: J. Holdsworth Touch Judges: G. Holgate, Pink Flag; B. F. Walker, Yellow Flag

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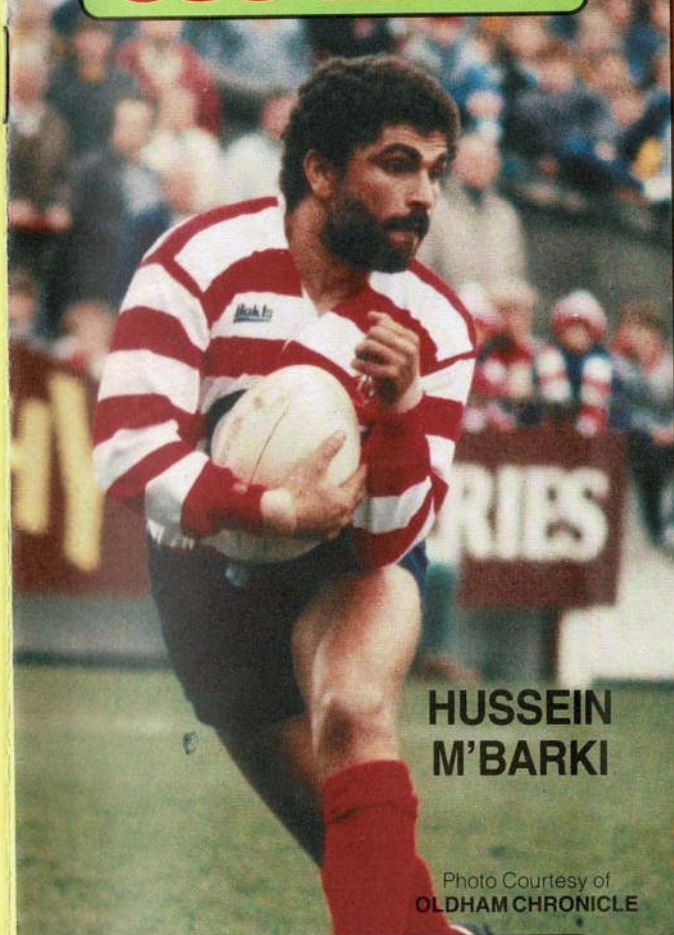


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HUSSEIN M'BARKI

Photo Courtesy of  
OLDHAM CHRONICLE



STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP

**LEIGH**

Sunday, 12th April, 1987

Kick off 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 50p

Programme Sponsor:  
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## Oldham Rugby League Football Club

THE PAVILION · WATERSHEDDINGS · OLDHAM

Telephone: 061-652 5244 and 061-624 4865

**President:** R. Hatton

**Chairman:** H. Ashworth

**Vice-Chairman:** K. Potter

**Treasurer:** E. Bayliss

**Committee:** K. Broadbent, R. Ogden, M. A. Richardson, B. Boustead, David Lord, J. Hall

**Hon. Architects:** J. Hall R.I.B.A.

**Hon. Club Solicitor:** A. J. Adler L.L.B.

**General Manager:** F. Myler

**Hon. Secretary:** F. Howarth, B.A.

**Coaching Staff:** G. Starkey, B. Gartland

### Professional Playing Staff:

A. Alexander, R. Ashton, K. Atkinson, L. Casey, N. Clawson, T. Foley, M. Hall, C. Hawkyard, W. Jones, P. Kirwan, P. Lord, T. Naidole, J. Ogburn, M. Parrish, I. Sanderson, M. Worrall, C. Chisnall, J. Edwards, T. Flanagan, D. Foy, D. Hobbs, P. Lowndes, H. M'Barki, R. Marsden, A. Morrison, S. Patterson, P. Sherman, M. Taylor, G. Warnecke, G. Bishop, G. Bridge, B. Caffrey, L. Chadwick, B. Clark, L. Cook, P. Morris, C. Myler, D. Nicholson, T. Ogden, A. Taylor, D. Topliss, G. Walczack, S. Raper

**Hon. Doctors:** Dr Grey, Dr Johnson

**Dental Surgeon:** Mr N. Gibbison

**Hon. Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeons:** Mr H. Thompson, Mr D. Walker

**Physiotherapist:** Mr. A. Bonnelle

**Asst. Physiotherapist:** Mr J. Watkins

**Lifeline:** L. Bostock

**Official Timekeeper:** J. Roscoe

### CLUB RECORDS

**Record Victory:** 67-6 v. Liverpool City, April 1959

**Record Defeat:** 11-67 by Hull K.R., September 1978

**Record Attendance:** 28,000 v Huddersfield, 24th February, 1912

**Record Receipts:** £9,100 v Wakefield, 24th February, 1980

**Record Transfer Fee Paid:** £40,000 to Featherstone for David Hobbs, February, 1985

**Record Try Scorer:** Reg Farrar, 49 tries, 1921-22 season

**Record Goal Scorer:** Bernard Ganley, 224 goals, 1957-58 season

**Record Point Scorer:** Bernard Ganley, 28 points v Liverpool City, April 1959

**First Game:** 21st October, 1876 v Stalybridge

**Highest number of points scored:** Bernard Ganley, 2,881

**Most Appearances:** Joe Ferguson, 685

**Most Tries:** Pre 1900, Jack Hirst, 233. Since 1900, Alan Davies, 182

### CLUB HONOURS

**Rugby League Championship Play-off Winners:** 1909-10, 1910-11, 1956-57

**Runners-up:** 1906-07, 1907-08, 1908-09, 1921-22, 1954-55

**First Division Champions:** 1904-05

**Second Division Champions:** 1963-64, 1981-82

**Rugby League Challenge Cup Winners:** 1898-99, 1924-25, 1926-27

**Runners-up:** 1906-07, 1911-12, 1923-24, 1925-26

**Lancashire Cup Winners:** 1907-08, 1910-11, 1913-14, 1919-20, 1924-25, 1933-34, 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59

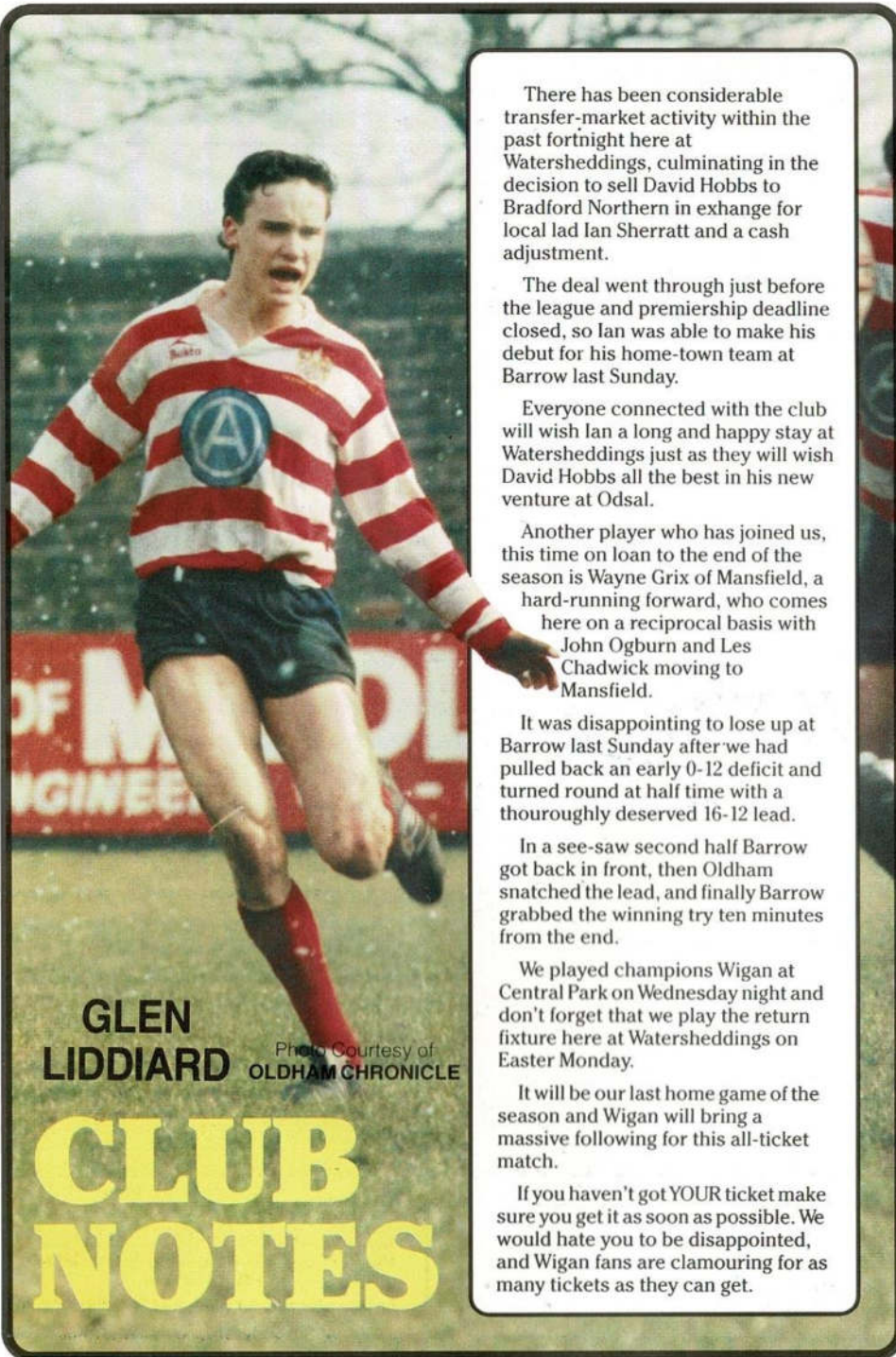
**Runners-up:** 1908-09, 1911-12, 1918-19, 1921-22, 1954-55, 1966-67, 1968-69

**Lancashire Championship Winners:** 1907-08, 1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57, 1957-58

**Runners-up:** 1908-09, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1919-20, 1923-24, 1954-55

**Lancashire Shield Winners:** 1975-76, 1979-80

**Colts Premiership Trophy:** 1979-80



**GLEN LIDDIARD** Photo Courtesy of OLDHAM CHRONICLE

# CLUB NOTES

There has been considerable transfer-market activity within the past fortnight here at Watersheddings, culminating in the decision to sell David Hobbs to Bradford Northern in exchange for local lad Ian Sherratt and a cash adjustment.

The deal went through just before the league and premiership deadline closed, so Ian was able to make his debut for his home-town team at Barrow last Sunday.

Everyone connected with the club will wish Ian a long and happy stay at Watersheddings just as they will wish David Hobbs all the best in his new venture at Odsal.

Another player who has joined us, this time on loan to the end of the season is Wayne Grix of Mansfield, a hard-running forward, who comes here on a reciprocal basis with John Ogburn and Les Chadwick moving to Mansfield.

It was disappointing to lose up at Barrow last Sunday after we had pulled back an early 0-12 deficit and turned round at half time with a thoroughly deserved 16-12 lead.

In a see-saw second half Barrow got back in front, then Oldham snatched the lead, and finally Barrow grabbed the winning try ten minutes from the end.

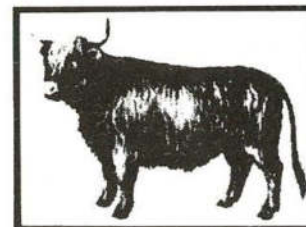
We played champions Wigan at Central Park on Wednesday night and don't forget that we play the return fixture here at Watersheddings on Easter Monday.

It will be our last home game of the season and Wigan will bring a massive following for this all-ticket match.

If you haven't got YOUR ticket make sure you get it as soon as possible. We would hate you to be disappointed, and Wigan fans are clamouring for as many tickets as they can get.

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**Matthew Brown**

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# LEIGH BATTLING FOR SURVIVAL

Relegation-threatened Leigh come to Watersheddings today desperate for the win that could ensure First Division football at Hilton Park next season.

Having swept all before them in the Second Division last season, the Leigh fans always knew the top flight would prove a sterner test. In recent years most promoted teams have struggled but as this season has seen the reintroduction of four relegation places, Leigh's task of avoiding the drop has been made even harder.

However, nobody at Hilton Park is ready to admit defeat especially as their win at Widnes recently and last Sunday's victory over Wakefield meant they had picked up ten points from six matches during a very productive spell.

A major talking point this season has been the five-year contract offered to former St Helens and Warrington coach Billy Benyon following his mid-season shake-up which saw coach Tommy Gittins and his assistant, Stan Wall, leave the club.

Benyon has made an immediate impact with his shrewd coaching methods and Leigh's performances on the field have reflected the players' belief in their new boss.

Benyon took time off from the frantic relegation battle to lead his new team into the Challenge Cup semi-final where they agonisingly fell at the last hurdle to St Helens. Leigh, in fact, produced a fine performance against hot-favourites Saints so their fans could certainly take heart from that.

Losing in a semi-final leaves a bitter taste as we found 12 months ago when Castleford ended our Wembley dreams, but Leigh have recovered quickly from their disappointment to produce some excellent League displays since.

A kingpin of the Leigh pack for much of the season has been veteran Aussie Ian Schubert, who first made his name in Britain over a decade ago. However, Schubert returned to Sydney just before the semi-final and his fine displays have been missed since.

Leigh, though, have several other fine forwards from whom their pack will be chosen. Prop Derek Pyke is a firm favourite at Hilton Park, combining his silky ball-handling skills and rugged front-row play to good effect.

The Leigh board recently backed their coach by paying out a reported £20,000 to sign the Rochdale Hornets prop David Evans, a player who has attracted our interest in the past.

Loose-forward John Westhead is a popular figure and could be vying with Wayne Atherton for the No. 13 spot today, although Cumbrian Milton Huddart, the ex-Carlisle and Whitehaven pack ace, will also be in contention.

Another possible for the Leigh pack is Ivor Owen, the former Leigh Miners prop, who is brother of our former pack Gareth Owen and son of former Leigh and St Helens front row star Stan Owen.

Leigh suffered two cruel setbacks recently when forwards Tony Cottrell and Mick Dean were injured to cast doubts on their availability today. Cottrell has been a key figure in recent times with his aggressive, battering ram displays from the second-row, while Dean is a hooker in his first season with Leigh.

There could be a familiar face in the Leigh starting line-up today. Our back-row forward Tom Nadiola is currently at Hilton Park on loan and will be doubtless keen to put one over on his Watersheddings mates.

A special Watersheddings welcome is reserved for two Oldhammers in the Leigh side — scrum-half Mike Ford, the Hollinwood newsagent, has been signed from Wigan for whom he produced some excellent displays against Oldham in the past. One need think no further back than this season's Lancashire Cup final when Ford turned on the style in a broken field to inspire Wigan to that commanding victory.

It seems sad that a quality player like Ford should have been pushed out at Central Park due to the signing of Andy Gregory and the fine displays of Shaun Edwards at No. 7 earlier in the season.

We know from experience, however, that Ford is a fine footballer and will be particularly keen to do well today.

The second local lad in the Leigh ranks is free-scoring centre John Henderson, who scored many tries in Leigh's Second Division title win last term and has carried on scoring in the First Division.

Former Hull centre James Leuluai, the Kiwi international, is a polished performer in his new venture at Hilton Park and his experience has proved invaluable.

Chris Johnson, Leigh's goalkicker, will probably be at full back while namesake Phil will be in contention for a half-back place.

Ex-Warrington stand-off John Kerr is a lively performer while Neil McCullough, the former BARLA international, is a speed merchant on the right-wing, and former Union man Ian Jeffrey will appear on the left.

Clearly, Leigh will provide stern opposition as they bid to escape the dreaded drop. We wish them well and hope they pick up enough points in the remainder of the season... but not at the expense of Oldham today!

## STONES BITTER PREMIERSHIP DOUBLE-HEADER

*Seat tickets can now be ordered for the new-style end of season finale...  
The Stones Bitter Premiership Double-header.*

*Manchester United's Old Trafford soccer ground will house three hours of top class Rugby League on Sunday, 17th May.*

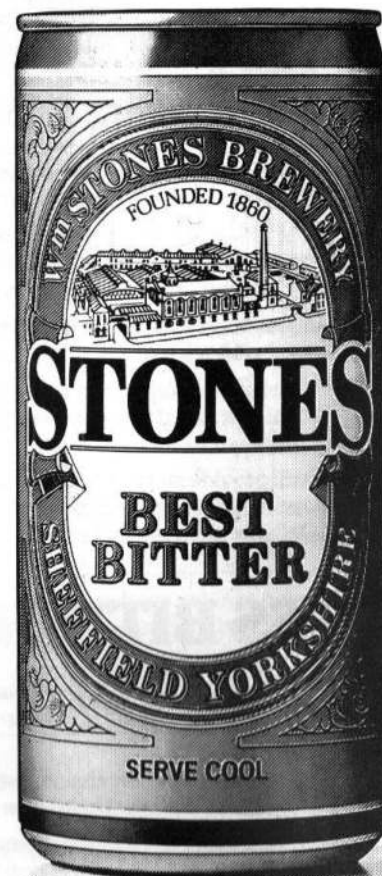
*The new Second Division Premiership Final will kick off at 1:30 p.m. followed by the Stones Bitter Premiership Final at 3:30 p.m.*

*The double-header is a special "two for the price of one" promotion with seat tickets available priced only £7 and £6.*

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## ***Around the League... with Roughyed***

Congratulations must go out to all at Wigan following the Riversiders' clinching of the Stones Bitter title in front of 13,000 ecstatic fans at Central Park last Sunday. Wigan have dominated the domestic League scene since that great Kiwi coach Graham Lowe took over the reigns last summer and have thoroughly deserved their first championship success for 27 years.

They have retained a remarkable level of consistency in recent weeks as their main rivals have slipped, and pulled away to clinch the title in impressive style.

Wigan really do seem to have got things right at present. The whole club is running smoothly, they have one of the world's greatest coaches at the helm, and whenever quality players become available on the transfer market, the Wigan Board are prepared to go out and buy the best. Players of the calibre of Hanley, Gregory, Lydon and Goodway are all big-name, big-money signings and all played crucial roles in the triumph title run-in.

The crowds flock to Central Park in their thousands, to witness the spectacular rugby Wigan serve up, they really are the envy of the Rugby League world right now.

It probably went unnoticed at Central Park last weekend but as Wigan celebrated, their bewildered opponents Featherstone had just been condemned to the backwaters of the Second Division next season. It seems sad to see a club like Rovers, with quality players like Fox, Steadman, Smith and Lyman languishing in Division Two, don't forget that a David Hobbs inspired Rovers lifted the Challenge Cup at Wembley just four years ago.

Speaking of Hobbs, it was an interesting beat-the-deadline deal that took the Oldham forward to Odsal in a player-plus-cash deal which saw Bradford prop Ian Sherratt come to Watersheddings. Hobbs joins Northern's other new signings Brendan Hill and Jeff Grayshon at Odsal, while Sherratt joins his home-town team where he will be wished a long and happy stay.

One of the most surprising things to happen in Rugby League this season is the demise of the two once-powerful Humberside clubs. Incredibly Hull FC one of the most successful clubs in the past decade, are involved in a frantic struggle against relegation while Hull KR, so impregnable at Craven Park, and arguably the most difficult team to beat in the League just a couple of years ago, have slumped also, so they are by no means certain of reaching the premiership play-off.

Crowds have fallen on Humberside, particularly at the Boulevard and teams such as Leigh and Salford have won there recently, while Warrington scored 46 points to silence the Threepenny stand folk. Rovers have had severe financial problems this year at a time when star forward Gavin Miller failed to rediscover his previous excellent form and now scrum-half Paul Harkin has moved to Bradford.

It seems the balance of power in Rugby League has moved from Humberside to west Lancashire in the last couple of years with Wigan, St Helens and Warrington now the elite.

Belated congratulations to Chris Anderson and his Halifax troops who made it to Wembley. May 2nd at the Twin Towers promises to be a splendid occasion with two fine attacking teams, Halifax and St Helens, involved. May I offer an early prediction that the Thrum Hallers will wipe that smile off Mr Murphy's face at Wembley.

# STONES RUGBY LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

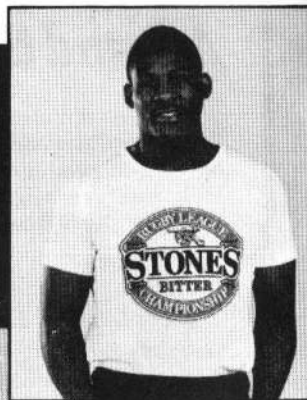
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| 31-8-86  | LEEDS                      | Seddon             | John Leatherbarrow                       | Salford           | N.W. Decoiling                           | Pennine Lounge                    | Stones Bitter Championship |
| 14-9-86  | LEIGH (Lancs. C.C.)        | Atkinson Ltd       | Wigan                                    | Automatics Ltd    | Warrington                               | Oldham                            | Grünhülle Lager            |
| 21-9-86  | HULL K.R.                  | Seddon             | Target Finishing                         | Automatics        | J. Bowden Ltd                            | Fashion Craft                     | Stones Bitter Championship |
| 24-9-86  | WORKINGTON (Lancs. C.C.)   | Atkinson Ltd       | Oldham                                   | Salford           | Harveys (Nissan)                         | Lawrence Perrins Ltd, Oldham      | Grünhülle Lager            |
| 1-10-86  | WIDNES (Lancs. C.C.)       | Atkinson Ltd       | Fairway Rubber                           | Automatics Ltd    | B.C.C.                                   | H. Ashworth                       | Grünhülle Lager            |
| 5-10-86  | WIDNES                     | Seddon             | Salford Automatics Ltd                   | Automatics Ltd    | Oldham                                   | Manchester                        | Grünhülle Lager            |
| 2-11-86  | BARROW                     | Atkinson Ltd       | Grünhülle Lager                          | Salford           | Barry Bromley                            | —                                 | Stones Bitter Championship |
| 4-11-86  | AUSTRALIA                  | Seddon             | F.D. Kitchens                            | Automatics Ltd    | Weir Hotel, Bacup                        | Bosch Services                    | Stones Bitter Championship |
| 16-11-86 | ST. HELENS                 | Atkinson Ltd       | Prestwich                                | Automatics Ltd    | B.C.C.                                   | Middleton                         | Stones Bitter Championship |
| 30-11-86 | BRADFORD N. (J.P.S.T.)     | Seddon             | Austin Timber                            | Salford           | M.A. Appleton                            | Montys Bar                        | Stones Bitter Championship |
| 14-12-86 | HALIFAX                    | Atkinson Ltd       | Oldham                                   | Automatics Ltd    | Preston                                  | Oldham                            | Tour Match                 |
| 26-12-86 | SALFORD                    | Seddon             | Matthew Brown Ltd                        | Automatics Ltd    | Britvic Ltd                              | Halifax Building Soc.             | Stones Bitter Championship |
| 18-1-87  | FEATHERSTONE               | Atkinson Ltd       | Bardsley Cleaning                        | Automatics Ltd    | Leeds                                    | Oldham                            | Stones Bitter Championship |
| 4-2-87   | WIGAN (Silk Cut C.C.)      | Seddon             | Ashton                                   | Salford           | N.W. Decoiling                           | Guttenberg International          | Stones Bitter Championship |
| 14-2-87  | ST. HELENS (Silk Cut C.C.) | Atkinson Ltd       | John Player                              | Automatics Ltd    | Warrington                               | Rawtenstall                       | Stones Bitter Championship |
| 22-2-87  | HULL                       | Seddon             | Harveys (Nissan)                         | Automatics Ltd    | Manchester                               | Sat-Tei (UK) Ltd                  | Stones Bitter Championship |
| 11-3-87  | WARRINGTON                 | Atkinson Ltd       | Salford Construction Co, Oldham          | Automatics Ltd    | Merchants, Bury                          | Oldham                            | Stones Bitter Championship |
| 15-3-87  | BRADFORD N.                | Seddon             | —                                        | Automatics Ltd    | —                                        | —                                 | Stones Bitter Championship |
| 25-3-87  | WAKEFIELD T.               | Atkinson Ltd       | Sponsor: Silk Cut Donor: Blue Bird       | Automatics Ltd    | Donor: Commercial Vehicles, Manchester   | J. Knox                           | Stones Bitter Championship |
| 29-3-87  | CASTLEFORD                 | Seddon             | Sponsor: Silk Cut Donor: St Helens Glass | Automatics Ltd    | Donor: Peter Kendall Commercial Vehicles | Fairway & Grundy                  | Stones Bitter Championship |
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|          |                            |                    | N.W. Decoiling                           | Automatics Ltd    | Oldham Motor Co.                         | Javelin Music (NW) Ltd, Middleton | Stones Bitter Championship |
|          |                            |                    | Warrington                               | Automatics Ltd    | Oldham                                   | Fairway & Grundy                  | Stones Bitter Championship |
|          |                            |                    | Nat West Bank plc                        | Automatics Ltd    | Harveys (Nissan)                         | Manchester                        | Stones Bitter Championship |
|          |                            |                    | Oldham                                   | Automatics Ltd    | Harveys (Nissan)                         | Tyson's                           | Stones Bitter Championship |
|          |                            |                    | —                                        | Automatics Ltd    | Harveys (Nissan)                         | Pharmaceuticals Ltd               | Stones Bitter Championship |
|          |                            |                    | —                                        | Automatics Ltd    | Oldham RLFC                              | Candlelight Club (Oldham) Ltd     | Stones Bitter Championship |
|          |                            |                    | —                                        | Automatics Ltd    | Supporters Club                          | —                                 | Stones Bitter Championship |

ALL TICKET – Next Home Match – ALL TICKET

# WIGAN

Easter Monday, 20th April, 1987 kick-off 3:00 p.m.

## STONES BITTR CHAMPIONSHIP

|                    | P  | W  | D | L  | F   | A   | W  | D | L  | F   | A   | Pts |
|--------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Wigan .....        | 26 | 12 | 0 | 1  | 467 | 74  | 12 | 0 | 1  | 336 | 87  | 48  |
| St Helens .....    | 26 | 11 | 0 | 2  | 435 | 191 | 8  | 1 | 4  | 334 | 180 | 39  |
| Castleford .....   | 27 | 11 | 0 | 4  | 385 | 196 | 8  | 0 | 4  | 218 | 187 | 38  |
| Warrington .....   | 26 | 10 | 1 | 1  | 319 | 176 | 8  | 0 | 6  | 317 | 230 | 37  |
| Halifax .....      | 26 | 10 | 0 | 3  | 303 | 177 | 5  | 1 | 7  | 182 | 262 | 31  |
| Hull K.R. ....     | 27 | 11 | 0 | 3  | 252 | 184 | 3  | 0 | 10 | 153 | 295 | 28  |
| Bradford N. ....   | 27 | 7  | 1 | 4  | 232 | 167 | 6  | 0 | 9  | 270 | 346 | 27  |
| Leeds .....        | 27 | 8  | 0 | 5  | 330 | 239 | 5  | 0 | 9  | 205 | 269 | 26  |
| OLDHAM .....       | 26 | 10 | 0 | 3  | 280 | 221 | 3  | 0 | 10 | 224 | 290 | 26  |
| LEIGH .....        | 27 | 7  | 1 | 6  | 257 | 221 | 4  | 0 | 9  | 211 | 353 | 23  |
| Widnes .....       | 24 | 8  | 0 | 5  | 291 | 194 | 3  | 0 | 8  | 170 | 294 | 22  |
| Salford .....      | 27 | 7  | 0 | 7  | 249 | 283 | 4  | 0 | 9  | 187 | 321 | 22  |
| Hull .....         | 25 | 8  | 0 | 3  | 251 | 231 | 2  | 1 | 11 | 190 | 366 | 21  |
| Featherstone ..... | 27 | 6  | 1 | 7  | 250 | 295 | 1  | 0 | 12 | 164 | 391 | 15  |
| Barrow .....       | 27 | 5  | 0 | 9  | 243 | 269 | 1  | 2 | 10 | 181 | 362 | 14  |
| Wakefield .....    | 27 | 2  | 1 | 10 | 181 | 389 | 0  | 0 | 14 | 165 | 492 | 5   |

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| First Division 1986-87 | Barrow | Bradford | Castleford | Featherstone | Halifax | Hull  | Hull K.R. | Leeds | Leigh | Oldham | Salford | St Helens | Wakefield | Warrington | Widnes | Wigan |
|------------------------|--------|----------|------------|--------------|---------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|--------|---------|-----------|-----------|------------|--------|-------|
| Barrow                 | ■      | 18-14    | 14-24      |              | 12-23   | 16-17 | 24-6      | 16-23 | 16-27 | 24-22  | 20-26   | 12-34     | 38-13     | 9-6        | 16-18  | 8-16  |
| Bradford               | 36-20  | ■        | 12-7       | 41-2         | 8-12    | 20-20 | 24-6      |       | 18-26 | 10-18  |         |           | 15-12     | 26-14      | 27-14  | 10-20 |
| Castleford             | 70-10  | 46-18    | ■          | 16-7         |         | 16-6  | 16-10     | 12-14 | 19-8  | 22-18  | 20-21   | 12-10     | 42-16     | 18-24      | 44-8   | 6-12  |
| Featherstone           |        | 10-26    | 16-18      | ■            | 16-16   | 18-12 | 0-14      | 29-14 | 50-16 | 24-6   | 16-6    | 8-44      | 27-10     | 22-29      | 14-48  | 0-36  |
| Halifax                | 40-14  | 20-4     | 12-16      | 34-8         | ■       | 28-16 | 24-18     | 23-8  | 43-24 | 20-14  | 18-8    | 20-19     |           | 13-16      |        | 8-12  |
| Hull                   | 41-18  | 27-22    |            | 26-6         | 28-23   | ■     |           | 10-32 | 31-26 | 20-16  | 8-14    | 36-22     | 12-6      | 12-46      |        |       |
| Hull K.R.              |        | 12-30    |            | 36-14        | 14-0    | 29-6  | ■         | 10-6  | 35-20 | 6-4    |         | 4-36      | 22-11     | 14-10      | 18-0   | 6-23  |
| Leeds                  | 14-4   | 4-12     |            | 33-12        |         | 28-22 | 42-7      | ■     | 26-12 | 20-26  | 46-10   | 20-40     | 46-4      | 16-54      | 35-6   | 0-30  |
| Leigh                  | 9-9    | 18-16    | 6-12       | 20-18        | 20-28   | 22-10 | 8-12      | 20-8  | ■     | 40-12  |         | 8-16      | 46-8      | 22-17      | 18-20  | 0-35  |
| Oldham                 | 32-20  | 12-8     | 6-29       | 20-16        | 18-20   | 24-18 | 28-12     | 14-12 |       | ■      | 34-18   | 17-18     | 38-20     | 15-14      | 22-16  |       |
| Salford                | 12-24  | 12-22    | 36-10      | 26-16        | 16-8    | 29-18 | 14-34     | 12-14 | 20-12 |        | ■       | 4-38      | 36-12     | 10-25      | 22-16  | 0-34  |
| St Helens              |        | 40-14    | 8-10       | 43-14        | 38-16   | 50-10 | 44-22     | 24-22 | 50-18 | 28-6   | 32-14   | ■         | 32-11     | 42-22      |        | 4-12  |
| Wakefield              | 14-14  | 22-32    | 12-40      | 2-29         |         | 19-4  | 14-28     | 6-12  | 10-54 | 10-16  | 6-30    | ■         | 22-38     | 38-20      | 6-72   |       |
| Warrington             | 24-20  | 31-10    | 20-26      | 32-15        | 18-10   | 42-10 |           | 20-6  |       | 22-18  | 42-14   | 17-17     | 28-18     | ■          |        | 23-12 |
| Widnes                 | 26-14  | 14-36    | 29-20      |              | 6-10    | 10-18 | 26-8      | 35-10 | 8-10  | 44-10  | 13-12   | 16-10     | 48-14     |            | ■      | 16-22 |
| Wigan                  | 18-6   | 60-6     | 16-6       | 62-7         | 42-2    | 34-7  | 26-0      | 30-8  | 31-0  |        | 42-12   |           | 62-10     | 4-6        | 40-4   | ■     |

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# OLDHAM RLFC FIXTURES & RESULTS 1986-87

|       | Opponents                    | Att.   | F  | A  | 1             | 2          | 3         | 4           | 5           | 6          | 7         | 8        | 9            | 10          | 11            | 12            | 13          | 14            | 15           |
|-------|------------------------------|--------|----|----|---------------|------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------|----------|--------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Aug   | 31 Leeds .....               | 4,621  | 14 | 12 | Atkinson 1T1G | M'Barki    | Foy 1T    | Warnecke    | Taylor      | Topliss    | Ashton 2G | Jones    | Flanagan     | Clark       | Hobbs 1G      | Hawkyard      | Worrall     | Kirwan (10)   | Nadiole (4)  |
| Sept  | 3 Halifax (7-30) .....       | 4,869  | 14 | 20 | Atkinson 1T   | Sherman    | Foy       | M'Barki     | Taylor 1T   | Topliss    | Ashton    | Clark    | Flanagan     | Hobbs 3G    | Hawkyard      | Clawson       | Worrall     | Kirwan D.N.P. | Nadiole (12) |
|       | 7 Warrington .....           | 4,000  | 18 | 22 | Atkinson      | Sherman    | Foy       | M'Barki 1T  | Taylor      | Ashton     | Kirwan    | Clark 1T | Flanagan     | Hobbs 3G    | Clawson       | Hawkyard 1T   | Worrall     | Edwards       | Nadiole      |
|       | 14 Leigh L.C.C. 1 .....      | 4,566  | 29 | 22 | Atkinson      | Sherman 1T | Foy       | M'Barki 1T  | Taylor      | Topliss    | Ashton    | Clark 1T | Flanagan     | Nadiole 1T  | Clawson       | Worrall 6G    | Raper       | Edwards       | Hobbs 1G 1T  |
|       | 21 Hull K.R. ....            | 4,069  | 28 | 12 | M'Barki       | Sherman    | Hawkyard  | Warnecke 1T | Taylor 1T   | Topliss    | Ashton    | Clark    | Flanagan     | Nadiole     | Worrall 3G    | Hobbs 1G 1T   | Raper 1T    | Edwards       | Clawson      |
|       | 24 Workington L.C.C. 2 ...   | 3,412  | 46 | 13 | M'Barki 1T    | Sherman    | Foy       | Warnecke 2T | Taylor      | Topliss    | Ashton    | Clark 1T | Flanagan     | Hobbs 7G 1T | Nadiole       | Worrall 1T    | Raper 1T    | Hawkyard      | Clawson      |
|       | 28 Leigh (3-30) .....        | 4,000  | 12 | 40 | M'Barki 1T    | Sherman    | Hawkyard  | Warnecke 1T | Taylor      | Bridge     | Ashton    | Clark    | Flanagan     | Hobbs 2G    | Clawson       | Worrall       | Raper       | Topliss       | Casey        |
| Oct   | 1 Widnes L.C.C. s/f .....    | 5,601  | 16 | 14 | M'Barki       | Sherman 1T | Bridge    | Warnecke    | Edwards     | Topliss    | Ashton    | Clark    | Flanagan     | Hobbs 1T 4G | Nadiole       | Worrall       | Raper       | Kirwan        | Hawkyard     |
| Oct   | 5 Widnes .....               | 3,875  | 22 | 16 | Edwards       | Sherman    | Hawkyard  | Warnecke 1T | Atkinson 1T | Topliss    | Kirwan    | Jones    | Hall         | Clark 1T    | Hobbs 1T      | Clawson       | Worrall 3G  | Ogburn        | Casey        |
|       | 19 Wigan L.C.C. Final .....  | 20,180 | 6  | 27 | M'Barki       | Sherman    | Bridge 1T | Warnecke    | Atkinson    | Topliss    | Kirwan    | Clark    | Flanagan     | Hobbs 1G    | Worrall       | Nadiole       | Raper       | Hawkyard      | Clawson      |
|       | 26 Wakefield T. (3-30) ..... | 2,740  | 54 | 10 | Edwards       | Sherman 1T | Foy 3T    | Warnecke 2T | Taylor      | Topliss 1T | Bridge    | Jones    | Flanagan     | Clark       | Hobbs 6G      | Worrall 1G 1T | Raper 1T    | Ashton 1T     | Hawkyard     |
| Nov   | 2 Barrow .....               | 3,306  | 32 | 20 | Edwards       | Sherman 1T | Foy       | M'Barki     | Taylor 1T   | Warnecke   | Ashton 1T | Clark    | Flanagan     | Clawson     | Hobbs 6G 1T   | Worrall 1T    | Raper       | Hawkyard      | Nadiole      |
|       | 4 Australia (7-30) .....     | 5,678  | 16 | 22 | Edwards       | Sherman    | Foy 1T    | Warnecke    | M'Barki     | Topliss    | Ashton    | Clark    | Flanagan     | Clawson     | Worrall 3G    | Hobbs 1G      | Raper       | Hawkyard 1T   | Nadiole      |
|       | 9 Hull K.R. ....             | 4,481  | 4  | 6  | M'Barki       | Sherman    | Foy       | Warnecke    | Taylor      | Topliss    | Ashton    | Clark    | Flanagan     | Clawson     | Hawkyard      | Nadiole       | Worrall 2G  | Edwards       | Marsden      |
|       | 16 St Helens .....           | 5,752  | 17 | 18 | M'Barki       | Sherman 1T | Foy 1T    | Warnecke    | Taylor      | Topliss    | Ashton 1G | Clark    | Flanagan     | Clawson     | Worrall 2G    | Hawkyard 1T   | Raper       | Edwards       | Nadiole      |
|       | 23 Bradford N. (3-30) .....  | 4,060  | 18 | 10 | M'Barki       | Sherman    | Foy 1T    | Warnecke    | Taylor      | Topliss    | Bridge    | Clark    | Flanagan     | Clawson     | Worrall 1T 3G | Nadiole       | Raper 1T    | Lowndes       | Jones        |
|       | 30 Bradford N. (J.P.S.) ...  | 5,642  | 12 | 22 | M'Barki       | Sherman    | Foy 1T    | Warnecke 1T | Atkinson    | Topliss    | Bridge    | Clark    | Flanagan     | Clawson     | Worrall 2G    | Nadiole       | Raper       | Ashton        | Lowndes      |
| Dec   | 14 Halifax .....             | 4,905  | 18 | 20 | M'Barki       | Sherman    | Foy 1T    | Warnecke    | Taylor 1T   | Topliss    | Bridge 1T | Jones    | Flanagan     | Clark       | Worrall 1G    | Hobbs         | Raper 1T    | Hawkyard      | Clawson      |
|       | 21 St Helens .....           | 6,821  | 6  | 28 | Edwards       | Sherman 1T | Foy       | Bridge      | Taylor      | Topliss    | Ashton    | Hobbs    | Flanagan     | Clawson     | Worrall 1G    | Hawkyard      | Raper       | Atkinson      | Hall         |
|       | 26 Salford .....             | 4,011  | 34 | 18 | M'Barki 1T    | Sherman    | Foy 1T    | Bridge 1T   | Taylor      | Topliss    | Ashton 1T | Clark    | Flanagan     | Clawson     | Hobbs 1G      | Worrall 4G    | Raper 1T    | Edwards       | Hall         |
| Jan   | 1 Leeds .....                | 7,570  | 26 | 20 | Bridge        | Sherman    | Foy       | Warnecke 1T | Taylor 1T   | Topliss    | Ashton    | Clark    | Hall         | Hobbs 3G    | Flanagan 2T   | Worrall       | Raper 1T    | Nadiole       | Clawson      |
|       | 4 Hull .....                 | 4,895  | 16 | 20 | Trialist      | Sherman    | Foy 1T    | Bridge 1T   | Taylor 1T   | Topliss    | Ashton    | Clark    | Sanderson    | Hobbs 2G    | Worrall       | Flanagan      | Raper       | Kirwan        | Clawson      |
|       | 18 Featherstone .....        | 2,719  | 20 | 16 | Burke 1T      | Sherman    | Foy 1T    | Bridge 1T   | Taylor      | Topliss    | Kirwan    | Clark    | Sanderson 1T | Waddell 1T  | Hobbs 1T      | Flanagan      | Raper       | Edwards       | Clawson      |
|       | 21 Widnes .....              | 2,798  | 10 | 44 | Burke 1G      | Sherman    | Foy       | Bridge 1T   | Taylor 1T   | Topliss    | Kirwan    | Clark    | Sanderson    | Waddell     | Clawson       | Flanagan      | Raper       | Edwards       | Nadiole      |
| Feb   | 4 Wigan (S.C.C.C.) .....     | 10,050 | 10 | 8  | Burke 3G      | M'Barki    | Foy       | Bridge      | Taylor      | Topliss    | Kirwan 1T | Clark    | Sanderson    | Waddell     | Worrall       | Hobbs         | Flanagan    | Warnecke      | Raper        |
|       | 14 St Helens (S.C.C.C.) ...  | 7,698  | 14 | 24 | Burke 3G      | M'Barki    | Foy 1T    | Bridge      | Taylor      | Topliss    | Kirwan    | Clark    | Sanderson    | Waddell     | Worrall       | Hobbs         | Flanagan    | Warnecke      | Raper 1T     |
|       | 22 Hull .....                |        | 24 | 18 | Burke 3G      | M'Barki    | Foy       | Bridge      | Taylor 1T   | Topliss 1T | Kirwan    | Hobbs 1G | Sanderson    | Waddell     | Hawkyard 1T   | Raper         | Flanagan    | Warnecke      | Sherman      |
| March | 1 Castleford .....           | 3,947  | 18 | 22 | Burke 3G      | Warnecke   | Foy       | Bridge 1T   | Taylor 1T   | Topliss 1T | Kirwan    | Clark    | Sanderson    | Waddell     | Hobbs 1G      | Worrall       | Flanagan    | Hawkyard      | Raper        |
|       | 8 Featherstone .....         | 2,033  | 6  | 24 | M'Barki       | Sherman    | Warnecke  | Bridge      | Taylor      | Topliss    | Kirwan 1T | Clark    | Sanderson    | Waddell     | Worrall       | Hobbs 1G      | Flanagan    | Hawkyard      | Raper        |
|       | 11 Warrington .....          | 3,108  | 15 | 14 | Burke 3G      | M'Barki    | Sherman   | Warnecke 1T | Taylor      | Topliss 1T | Kirwan    | Hobbs 1G | Sanderson    | Waddell     | Worrall       | Raper         | Flanagan    | Hawkyard      | Clawson      |
|       | 15 Bradford N. ....          | 3,589  | 12 | 8  | Burke 4G      | Sherman    | Foy       | Warnecke    | M'Barki     | Topliss    | Kirwan    | Hobbs 1T | Sanderson    | Waddell     | Worrall       | Raper         | Flanagan    | Hawkyard      | Clawson      |
|       | 29 Castleford .....          | 3,659  | 6  | 29 | M'Barki       | Sherman    | Foy       | Warnecke    | Taylor      | Topliss    | Kirwan    | Hobbs 1G | Hall         | Waddell     | Worrall       | Clawson       | Raper 1T    | Morrison      | Jones        |
| April | 5 Barrow .....               | 1,720  | 22 | 24 | Burke 3G      | A.N. Other | Sherman   | Warnecke    | Taylor 1T   | Topliss 1T | Kirwan    | Sherratt | Sanderson    | Waddell     | Hawkyard 1T   | Clawson       | Flanagan 1T | Edwards       | Morrison     |
|       | 8 Wigan .....                |        |    |    |               |            |           |             |             |            |           |          |              |             |               |               |             |               |              |
|       | 12 Leigh .....               |        |    |    |               |            |           |             |             |            |           |          |              |             |               |               |             |               |              |
|       | 17 Salford .....             |        |    |    |               |            |           |             |             |            |           |          |              |             |               |               |             |               |              |
|       | 20 Wigan .....               |        |    |    |               |            |           |             |             |            |           |          |              |             |               |               |             |               |              |

# Appearances & Scorers

|                                       | APPS<br>(inc. Subs.) | T  | G  | DG | PTS |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|----|----|----|-----|
| ASHTON, R. (Now with Leeds RL) ...    | 18                   | 3  | —  | 3  | 15  |
| ATKINSON, K. ....                     | 7                    | 3  | 1  | —  | 14  |
| BRIDGE, G. ....                       | 18                   | 8  | —  | —  | 32  |
| BURKE, M. ....                        | 10                   | 1  | 29 | —  | 62  |
| CLARK, B. ....                        | 28                   | 4  | —  | —  | 16  |
| CLAWSON, N. ....                      | 26                   | 2  | —  | —  | 8   |
| EDWARDS, J. ....                      | 15                   | —  | —  | —  | —   |
| FLANAGAN, T. ....                     | 31                   | 3  | —  | —  | 12  |
| FOY, D. ....                          | 26                   | 15 | —  | —  | 60  |
| HAWKYARD, C. ....                     | 23                   | 6  | —  | —  | 24  |
| HOBBS, D. (Now with Bradford N. RL) . | 28                   | 7  | 47 | 2  | 124 |
| JONES, W. ....                        | 6                    | —  | —  | —  | —   |
| KIRWAIN, P. ....                      | 18                   | 2  | —  | —  | 8   |
| M'BARKI, H. ....                      | 24                   | 5  | —  | —  | 20  |
| NADIOLE, T. ....                      | 16                   | 1  | —  | —  | 4   |
| RAPER, S. ....                        | 28                   | 11 | —  | —  | 44  |
| SANDERSON, I. ....                    | 12                   | 1  | —  | —  | 4   |
| SHERMAN, P. ....                      | 30                   | 6  | —  | —  | 24  |
| TAYLOR, M. ....                       | 29                   | 11 | —  | —  | 44  |
| TOPLISS, D. ....                      | 32                   | 5  | —  | —  | 20  |
| WADDELL, H. ....                      | 12                   | —  | —  | —  | —   |
| WARNECKE, G. ....                     | 26                   | 10 | —  | —  | 40  |
| WORRALL, M. ....                      | 30                   | 4  | 31 | —  | 78  |
| CASEY, L. ....                        | 2                    | —  | —  | —  | —   |
| HALL, M. ....                         | 5                    | —  | —  | —  | —   |
| LOWNDES, P. ....                      | 2                    | —  | —  | —  | —   |
| MARSDEN, R. ....                      | 1                    | —  | —  | —  | —   |
| OGBURN, J. ....                       | 1                    | —  | —  | —  | —   |
| TRIALIST ....                         | 1                    | —  | —  | —  | —   |
| A.N. OTHER ....                       | 2                    | —  | —  | —  | —   |

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|  | <b>D. Hobbs</b><br><i>sponsored by</i><br><b>FLOWER</b><br><b>POT</b><br>Alan Pearson                                     |  | <b>K. Atkinson</b><br><i>sponsored by</i><br><b>Schofields</b><br><b>Taxis</b>                     |  | <b>A. Morrison</b><br><i>sponsored by</i><br><b>N.W. Storage</b><br>Milnrow                      |
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|  | <b>G. Bridge</b><br><i>sponsored by</i><br><b>Sandra's News</b><br>Spring Street<br>For your Rugby<br>Leaguer             |  | <b>B. Clark</b><br><i>sponsored by</i><br><b>Harry Davies</b><br>Halfway House<br>Rochdale Road    |  | <b>P. Sherman</b><br><i>sponsored by</i><br><b>A.D. Broadbent</b><br>Joiner                      |

## SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS

President: Mr D. Blackburn, Chairman: Mr D. Pilkington, Vice-Chairman: Miss A. Collinge,  
Treasurer: Mr T. Heywood, Secretary: Mrs J. Pilkington  
Committee Members: G. Bown, L. Chadderton, S. Collinge, E. Crother, S. Doran, J. Bradley,  
J. Gallagher, I. Gallagher, H. Heywood, M. Morgan, I. Pilkington, M. Pilkington, D. Pilkington,  
J. Sagar, L. Wolstencroft

The Supporters Club and members would like to welcome all our friends from Leigh for today's match. Hoping for a good clean game. We would like to invite all home and away supporters to our canteens situated around the ground. The Souvenir Shop at the Pavillion End of the ground will be open throughout the match for sale of replica shirts, ties, badges etc.  
The Programme Shop is situated near the scoreboard in the old bar.

Anyone interested in sponsoring the Rugby Queen Contest please contact any Committee member at any of our canteens. Full advertising is given to sponsor.

### OLDHAM R.L.F.C. SUPPORTERS CLUB

## Player of the Year Dance

Friday, 24th April, 1987

*Sponsored by Greg Pache, Northwest Decoiling*

## THE OLDHAM RUGBY QUEEN CONTEST

Friday, 28th August, 1987

Could we take this opportunity to ask all our friends and supporters to watch out for any hooligans present at home and away matches. They are slowly creeping into League and Cup matches throughout the R.L. Our game is known the world over for its well behaved fans. Let's keep it that way, please report any idiots to the nearest policeman or steward. If possible give their names to any club official who will take the necessary action.

Coach seats for our game against Salford can be booked by ringing —  
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# THE EDITOR TALKING

## ... on the Premiership and all that

At this stage of the season, with the Wembley finalists decided, the main topic of conversation among Rugby League supporters is the championship race, the battle for Premiership places, and the struggle to avoid relegation. First Division this season is tighter than ever with four teams relegated. Only a few points separate teams with an excellent chance of qualifying for the Premiership, such as Leeds, Oldham and Hull K.R., and those deep in the relegation mire, such as Salford, Leigh, and Hull. With the possible exception of champions Wigan, everybody is capable of beating anybody else as several teams play three matches a week in the run-in to the end of the season.

The situation never arises, as it does in soccer, where mid-table teams find they have nothing to play for in the closing weeks of the season. Obviously, the battle for the championship is the ultimate challenge, but Wigan, under the shrewd command of Graham Lowe, and armed with a host of star players, have maintained remarkable consistency and have fully deserved their championship glory. The race for second place, which ensures the possibility of two home ties in the play-offs, is intense with Warrington and St Helens battling it out while a late burst from Castleford cannot be ruled out. Then comes a chase for a top-four spot and a home tie in the first round of the Premiership.

For those clubs out of the top-four race, the top-eight provides a challenge with the chance of toppling one of the big-boys in the play-off. The Division is so tight that any club not involved in the push for a top-eight spot automatically finds itself battling to preserve its place in the top flight. At the time of writing, Wakefield, Barrow and Featherstone were already doomed, but as the fourth spot continues to cause headaches for several clubs Leigh or Salford have been most peoples favourites to go down for most of the season, but whoever expected mighty Hull, League champions in 1983 and Wembley finalists two years ago, to be in such a perilous position?

Remarkably, Widnes, that renowned cup-winning outfit, have plummeted since their third round Challenge Cup win at Leeds and are far from safe themselves. It seems hard to believe that the Boulevard or Naughton Park may be welcoming the likes of Runcorn, Mansfield and Batley next season, especially considering the fact that the Airlie Birds and the Chemics have vital games in hand on their rivals. A crucial, nail-biting affair took place at Hilton Park on Thursday when Leigh and Salford clashed in a real go-or-die battle and the situation could be infinitely clearer after today's matches. Whoever falls into the lower reaches of the Rugby League can count themselves particularly unfortunate as the battle for survival goes on. Of course, the promotion picture in Division two is more clear cut, with Hunslet and Swinton firm favourites to land the two places available.

However, the incentive for top eight play-off places is just as high in the Second Division as it is in the first, with the first ever Second Division Premiership being held. Clearly, with both finals to be held at that mecca of sporting excellence, Old Trafford, the stakes are high as the jostle for places continues. The tension and drama of top four, top eight, relegation and promotion issues keep the Rugby League season well and truly alive until the final hooters bring down the curtain on another season.

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Fully illustrated with many previously unpublished photographs and line drawings.

Code 13 is edited and published by Trevor Delaney the author of 'The Roots of Rugby League'. To make sure of your regular copy write to Trevor Delaney, 6 Elmwood Terrace, Ingrow, Keighley, BD22 7DP, West Yorkshire, enclosing £2.95 (includes postage and packing) per copy or £11 (inc. p&p) for a 4-issue subscription. Issues 1 and 2 are still available in limited editions.

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# CAPTAIN'S TALE

## CAPTAIN'S TALE

by DAVID TOPLISS

Today's game is a vital one for both Oldham and Leigh — for Oldham because we badly need two points to try and get us into the top-eight and for Leigh because they need every point they can get to get away from the relegation scramble.

We owe Leigh one for that day at Hilton Park in early season when they beat us heavily and we also have to try and get back on the winning path so that we can go into the Easter matches against Salford and Wigan with more confidence after disappointing defeats by Castleford and Barrow.

These notes were written before our game at Wigan on Wednesday, but there could also be added significance in today's match because we are still not mathematically sure of escaping relegation ourselves.

It isn't likely, I know, but there is nothing like being absolutely certain of staying up and that's why the points today are just as important to us as they are to Leigh.

A lack of professionalism in the second half cost us dearly against Castleford and up at Barrow last Sunday. At Craven Park we fought back well after going 12-0 down and went into half time leading 16-12 only to lose our way again in the second half.

I think our lapses like this must have cost us about ten League points this season, and with three games still left we must put this weakness right.

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