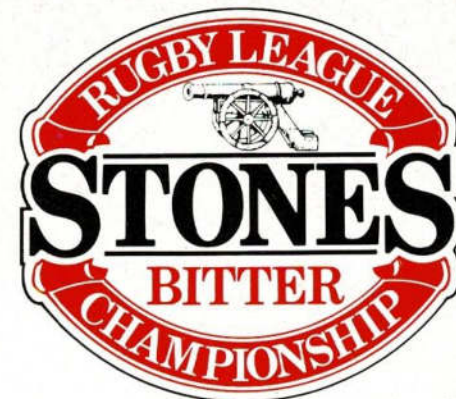


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BATLEY v OLDHAM

50p

Sunday 22nd November 1987 – K.O. 2.30 pm

Batley Rugby Football Club

Mount Pleasant, Batley

Registered Office: The Pavilion, Mount Pleasant, Batley.
Tel: Batley 472208.

Directors

M. J. Lumb (Chairman), L. Hardy (Secretary), I. C. Bragg
(Lottery Director), B. Fenwick (Commercial Director),
W. Yeadon (Youth Policy Director).

Officials

Manager Coach – Paul Daley
Assistant Coach – Keith Cotton
Club Doctors – Mr. J. Shea, Dr. G. Fox, Dr. J. Clark.
Physiotherapist – Gordon Gray-Cowan.
Groundsman – P. Bould. Kitmen – A. Brearley, G. Stainburn.
Lottery Manager – C. Croft.
Programme Editor/Official Photographer – T. Swift.
Time-keeper – G. Hobson.

Honours

First winners of Challenge Cup in 1896–97 and again in
1897–98 and 1900–01.
Yorkshire Cup Winners 1912–13.
Beaten finalists in 1909–10, 1922–23, 1924–25, 1952–53.
Yorkshire League winners 1898–99, 1923–24.
Championship winners 1923–24.

Records

Attendance 23,989 v Leeds (RL Cup), 14th March 1924.
Goals: 120 by Stan Thompson 1958–59.
Tries: 29 by J. Tindall 1912–13 (Post war: 26 by Carl Gibson
1983–84 and 1984–85).
Points: 281 by Jack Perry 1950–51.
Highest score: 52–0 v Widnes 1908–09.
Highest against: 78–9 v Wakefield T. 1967–68.

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SECRETARY'S REPORT

Good afternoon and welcome to Mount Pleasant and a very warm welcome to the directors, players and supporters of Oldham R.L.F.C. I must start today's report in thanking you all once again for your magnificent vocal support in last weeks win over Hunslet the last 10 minutes helped the lads no end. In tribute to the players every one gave 120% and they got the result they deserved. The other good news is we came through with no injuries although Mark Scott has got a very painful shoulder at the time of writing. Billy Harris's injury problem seems to be clearing up okay, so he could be back in the running for a place today. We had to say a sad farewell to Keith Mitchel this week after a month's loan from Hunslet unfortunately terms could not be agreed. But in the same breath Mark Fortes moved into the first team squad, and after last weeks performance proved he can hold his own at the highest level. The A Team's win over Dewsbury last week put us into first place in the Slalom Lager Alliance League. First team places are now in great demand. This gives coach Daley one or two options in team selections. Steve Durham is hoping to make his come back game next week at Wakefield and all the directors and players wish him well.

BATLEY RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB – CUP COMPETITION PROGRESS A CORRECTION TO NEWS REPORTS

For the benefit of our sponsors and supporters we wish to correct false statements made on Teletext and in some newspapers about the club's progress in Cup matches. The derogatory reports stated that:- Batley had the league's worst record for not getting through to the second round of any cup competition. **The last time was in 1975. – This is incorrect** and we print the facts below for your satisfaction.

The club won through to Round Two of the Yorkshire Cup in 1979 beating Doncaster 25–8; **in 1981 we reached the Semi-Final of the Yorkshire Cup** by beating Doncaster (11–12) and Keighley away (12–28) then lost to Castleford the eventual Cupwinners (40–3) in the semi-final. Finally, **in 1981-2 Batley beat Huyton (23–15) to progress to Round Two of the RL Challenge Cup Competition** (the Gallant Youths were the first winners of this we cannot forget!) losing to Castleford 6–31 – Round Two.

So, on three separate occasions we have proved the allegation to be false. We sincerely hope that the error was made in good faith and that recordkeepers will now rest assured that this Club is keen to keep the match facts in order.

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PLAYER SPOTLIGHT Neil Pickerill – **180 NOT OUT**



Man of the Match against Hunslet for his workrate and scheming. Neil is now in his second spell at Mount Pleasant. He joined Featherstone Rovers in 1982 to better himself in the First Division and after moving on he came back to his original club in 1985. He made his debut as a sub at York in 1978 late in the season. His first club points came a week later when he dropped a goal in the win over Keighley. His first try came the week after in a narrow 19-20 defeat to Blackpool. **He soon became a regular first teamer and in fact plays his 180th game for Batley today. Well done, Neil!**

JUNIOR QUIZ

This is for Batley and visiting supporters under 16. Three questions will be set and the first person with the correct answers can claim his or her prize from the souvenir hut. Prize:- £2 or Batley Scarf.

- 1) Which team has played at Barley Mow and McLaren Field?
- 2) In season 1981-82 where was the Oldham v Batley league game played?
- 3) Which two Batley players have played for both Leeds and Halifax?

Answers to the Junior Quiz in the Batley v Hunslet programme:-

- 1) Barrow and Hull K.R. 2) Carlisle 3) Billy Harris.

Winner: L. Barron, 4 Shibden Drive, Carlinghow Lane, Batley.

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SUPPORTER'S CLUB GOSSIP by "Batley Fan"

Batley R.L. Supporters Club coach to Keighley (Sunday 29th November, 1987, kick-off 3.15pm). Fares: Adults £2.00, Children/OAP £1.20. Times: Branch Road, Batley 1.45pm, Birstall Market Place 1.55pm.

Batley R.L. Supporters Club coach to Runcorn Highfield (Sunday 13th December, 1987, kick-off 3.00pm). Fares: Adults £3.20, Children/OAP £2.20. Times: Branch Road, Batley 12.50pm, Birstall Market Place 1.00pm. Bookings can be made at the souvenir hut at the top end of the ground, or H. Townsley, 743 Bradford Road (opposite Batley Park) or Batley 442487.

Hopefully Batley will progress to the 3rd Round which is to be played on Sunday 29th November 1987, if this is the case then the coach to Keighley will be cancelled. If Batley are drawn away details of a coach will appear in the Batley News on Thursday 26th November 1987.

Coach to 1988 Rugby League Cup Final

Batley Supporters Club are hoping to run a coach to the 1988 Rugby League Cup Final. Any person interested can contact Peter Underhill or Fred Moland at the souvenir hut. Deposit is £5.00. Refundable if there is insufficient support.

Results of the raffle held at the Batley v Hunslet cup-tie were: Whisky 27220, Sherry 27189. None of the prizes were claimed. A raffle consisting of two main prizes will be held this afternoon and anyone with a winning ticket can claim his or her prize from the souvenir hut after today's cup-tie with Oldham. The winning numbers will be announced at half-time, and winning lists will be displayed at the top end of the long stand, at the main gate and on the souvenir hut. At the recent Batley 'A' v Oldham 'A' over £36 was taken on a raffle, this is the best ever at an 'A' team game, a big thank you to all who bought tickets especially to the Batley 'A' team and Oldham 'A' team players and coach Iain MacQuorcodale.

Membership fee is now due – 50p. This can be paid at the souvenir hut. This entitles the member to a free members draw, and priority to all away coaches. The latest winner was number 53: Dean Butterfield, 79 Boothroyd Lane, Dewsbury. He can claim his prize from the souvenir hut.

A number of supporters have complained bitterly about the lack of refreshments at the first team home games, if supporters would write to the Directors it may help to quicken up the return of the refreshments at the top end of the ground.

Batley R.L. Supporters Club Secretary Barbara Ellam is doing a sponsored swim on Monday 14th December 1987 at Dewsbury Swimming Baths, in aid of club funds. She will be swimming 64 lengths (one mile). Sponsor sheets are available from the souvenir hut. You can either sponsor her for a fixed amount or per length.

News from the Yorkshire Federation:- On Saturday 14th November 1987 the Yorkshire Senior Cup Competition Final took place between Halifax 'A' v Hull Kingston Rovers 'A'. Score: Halifax 'A' 2, Hull K.R. 'A' 5.

The winner of the "Bramley Trophy" donated by the late Tom Callaghan for the "Player of the Match" was second rower Peter Bell of Halifax. He was presented with the trophy by the Yorkshire Federation Chairman Clive Harrison (Keighley) and Federation Queen Denise Milthorpe (Featherstone Rovers).

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Batley -v- Oldham

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GRAHAM SNELL	(2) RIGHT WING (2)
JACK McCLEARY	(3) RIGHT CENTRE (3)
PHIL BARTLE	(4) LEFT CENTRE (4)
MALCOLM AGAR	(5) LEFT WING (5)
SIMON WILSON	(6) STAND OFF (6)
NEIL PICKERILL	(7) SCRUM HALF (7)
<i>Spendler</i> BILLY HARRIS	(8) OPENSIDE PROP (8)
RUSS SOWDEN	(9) HOOKER (9)
MARK SPEIGHT	(10) BLINDSIDE PROP (10)
<i>Scott</i> MARK SPENDLER	(11) 2ND ROW FORWARD (11)
JOHN CARROLL	(12) 2ND ROW FORWARD (12)
MARK FORTES	(13) LOOSE FORWARD (13)
<i>M'Gowan</i>	(14) SUBSTITUTE (14)
<i>Ratcliffe</i>	(15) SUBSTITUTE (15)

REFEREE

Mr S. W. Cross (Hull)

M. BURKE	<i>T 30</i>
A. N. OTHER	<i>Robinson</i>
D. FOY	<i>T</i>
B. MCCARTHY	<i>T</i>
K. MEADOWS	<i>T</i>
P. WALSH	<i>30</i>
S. PETERS	
N. CLAWSON	
I. SANDERSON	
H. WADDELL	<i>T</i>
P. ROUND	<i>3T</i>
T. FLANAGAN	<i>Graham</i>
M. GRAHAM	<i>Flanagan</i>
<i>Warneke</i>	<i>T</i>
<i>Nadiola</i>	

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TODAY'S CUP OPPONENTS – OLDHAM

A big welcome to everyone from Watersheddings to this Second Round clash between the two clubs which put out Division One outfits last weekend. Oldham and Batley had the distinction of being the giant killers particularly our visitors who put paid to the highflying Bradford Northern by 22–6.

Had it not been for the cup draw we may never have met this season at all as we are drawn in different groups in Division Two. The Roughyeds come here pot-hunting this afternoon as leaders of Division Two with all that it implies. Just one defeat in nine league matches in their record compared with our four defeats in the same outings.

Oldham player-coach Mal Graham was the inspiration behind last week's victory and clearly he will need careful attention today. The Australian loose-forward went to Oldham from Odsal to join the coaching staff and must have enjoyed putting one over his former club. A similar feelings, no doubt, to Paul Daley's triumph last Sunday over his former club, Hunslet.

The Oldham side were organised in defence in the first round, a factor which has helped ourselves on numerous occasions this season and must be repeated if we are to join the last eight in the draw. Batley tackling against First Division material was superb last week and no doubt today's victors will be the ones with the tightest defence.

The visitors are not without their own share of shocks this season. Recently they struggled to win at Keighley scraping home just 10–12. Their defeat came in September away to Doncaster, the only club we have gained the double over this season, so far. It was a narrow affair with the Dons winning 20–18.

The Australian influx has not escaped Oldham. Besides Graham there is stand-off Peter Walsh and centre Bryan McCarthy. Although it is good to see the endeavour and flair from 'down-under' the prospect is unlikely to deter John Carroll and his men if last week is any criterion. As well as the Aussies played last Sunday we were their match when it mattered and this will surely lift the squad this afternoon.

Oldham provided the shock of the round we are told and will have crossed the Pennines with a degree of confidence against a mid-table club. Yet, how different it would have been if only we had not lapsed in our recent league games after a shattering start to the campaign. The irony is that with a little steadiness near the line in all three matches referred to Batley could have been on 15 points – just one point behind our esteemed visitors.

Put into context the gap is not so desperate after all. Strangely enough the two clubs to have given Oldham greatest trouble have both fallen with a bang here at Mount Pleasant. With that in mind the contest evens up, and Paul Daley's shrewdness and man-management are worth ten scoring points to us. **The Gallant Youths proved their mettle last week by coming back twice against a team playing First Division rugby – today's encounter can be no sterner task.**

Oldham Pen Pics (by Terry Swift)

MICK BURKE – Ex Great Britain full back star. Australian Tourist 1984. Won every award at Widnes except League Champions including Lance Todd Trophy at Wembley and the Harry Sunderland Memorial Award for outstanding performance in the Championship final. Joined Oldham just before the cup deadline in January. Likely to be out for first three weeks with a knee injury.

PADDY KIRWAN – Local lad, who signed from the Oldham colts side – he is a great hearted player with tremendous strength complimented by a good football brain. Affectionately known as Cast-Iron his super try put Wigan out of the Challenge Cup last season and cost the league winners over £200,000 in lost revenue.

JEFF EDWARDS – "Mr Happy" Jeff has played in most three-quarter positions for Oldham and done so with great skill. An aggressive tackler his intelligent cover defence has often helped Oldham out of difficult situations.

IAN SANDERSON – Hooker. A fierce competitor. His schoolboy charm and good looks are no clue to his commitment on the field and his Lancashire cap of 2 years ago is not likely to be his last honour. His darting runs from acting half gain much valuable ground for the side.

HUGH WADDELL – Signed for Oldham despite competition from 3 other Lancashire clubs, just before the cup deadline in a £15,000 move from Blackpool Borough. Ex Rugby Union player, a trialist with Leicester City Soccer. Waddell's strong displays with Blackpool Borough earned him an England cap in 1985 and he won man of the match with a display in pre-season friendly with Leigh.

COLIN HAWKYARD – Native of Huddersfield, plays equally well in the centre or in the second row. Always guarantees 100% effort and a great team player with a tremendous heart for the game. 8 years with Oldham. He scored a magnificent try against the Australian Tourists last season.

MICK WORRALL – Toured Australia in 1984 and was starring until he collected a knee injury in the 2nd Test. Talented kicker and aggressive defender now settled in Oldham and determined to be in this year's Aussie touring party. No reason why he should not achieve this ambition.

TERRY FLANAGAN – A brilliant loose-forward. From a rugby playing family, he toured Australia with Great Britain in 1984. A clever player and one of the youngest most sought after After Dinner Speakers in the North with his quick wit and great insight into the game.

IAN SHERRAT – Local lad who joined Oldham from Bradford Northern in a player cash deal that saw David Hobbs move to Odsal. Sherrat learnt his Rugby at Fitton Hill School, Oldham before signing for Bradford as a 17 year old, now aged 21. Spent last two summers in Brisbane and has attracted the interest of 2 Sydney clubs for next season.

PAUL SHERMAN – Product of the junior leagues in Widnes and developing into a good all-round player with resolute defence and the ability to score tries when least expected. A player to watch out for.

KEVIN MEADOWS – Ex Warrington and Saints flier who scored 5 tries in an Oldham match v Salford when on loan 3 years ago. Played 22 consecutive matches for Warrington last season and has increased his all-round involvement with advice from highly-rated coach Les Boyd.

STEVE PETERS – Former Great Britain tourist also ex Saints and Warrington. One of the most talented and versatile players in the game. A players player who regularly tops the tackle count with 40 plus tackles and who will be a key man in bringing on Oldham's youngsters.

PAUL ROUND – Great Britain under 24 star signed in a recent record deal with Saints. A natural athlete with blistering pace who scored for Saints at Wembley last year. Expect a lot of friendly competition between him and Mal Graham for top forward try scorer in the second division.

KEITH ATKINSON – Another local boy, former Great Britain colt, a tremendous goal kicker who has kicked 9 from 10 attempts in pre-season friendlies. With a fine turn of speed and the ability to turn defence into attack with a well-timed run. Only 21 he seems destined for great honours in the game.

RICHARD IRVING – An under 19 International recently signed from Mold Green Club in Huddersfield despite competition from 4 first division clubs. Scored two solo tries from the half-way line in the pre-season friendlies and is likely to prove one of the finds of the season with his powerful runs. Already a firm favourite with the crowd.

MAL GRAHAM – One of the games great players. A former winger who played in the Grand Final in Sydney. In 5 years he has made the transition to forward with ease. He has been the leading forward try-scorer with all his previous English clubs. Hunslet 84/85, Oldham 85/86 and Bradford Northern 86/87. A devastating tackler, now settled in Oldham with his English wife.

COMPARATIVE LEAGUE POSITIONS

Division Two (20 Clubs)							
Pos	Pld	W	D	L	For	Agst	Pts
BATLEY 11th	9	4	1	4	123	110	9
OLDHAM 1st	9	8	0	1	256	102	16

THE LAST TIME WE MET

The past five seasons have kept our clubs apart due to Oldham's engagement in Division One. We have to go back to 1981-82 season in the days of coaches Trevor Lowe and John Fox for our last matches.

1981-82

At Home

Batley 11 – Oldham 20

Batley Scorers: – Try:- K. Riggs

Goals:- H. Oulton (4)

Away

Oldham 17 – Batley 9 (played at Boundary Park home of Oldham Athletic AFC)

Batley Scorers: – Try:- M. Savage

Goals:- H. Oulton (3)

1979-80

At Home

Batley 17 – Oldham 17

Batley Scorers: – Tries:- D. Rippon,
M. Whelan, J. Vodden

Goals:- B. Finn (4)

Away

Oldham 32 – Batley 9

Batley Scorers: – Try:- J. Fox

Goals:- B. Finn (3)

HAVE WE MET IN THE JOHN PLAYER BEFORE?

Yes, in the 1976-77 season at Watersheddings.

ROUND ONE

Oldham 17 Batley 9

Scorers: – Try:- D. Brooke

Goals:- C. North (2) T. Dean – drop goals (2)

THE ALLIANCE SCENE



MARK SPENDER
in action against Hunslet

Batley 'A' 30 – Oldham 'A' 20
Dewsbury 'A' 4 – Batley 'A' 11

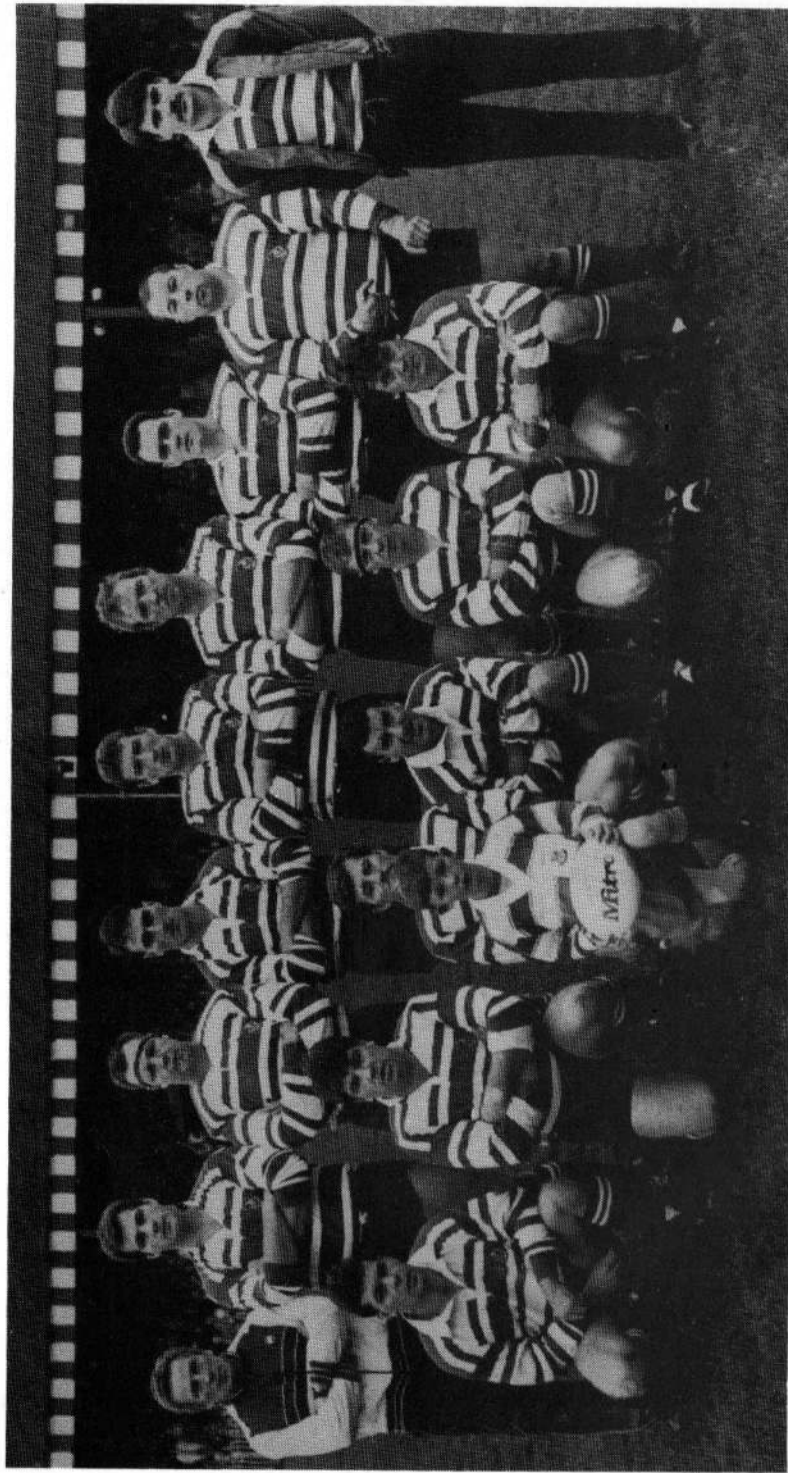
These are our latest results in a three victory run which makes it six wins and a draw in ten matches. Starting with that win at Bradford Northern we were due to face Carlisle here yesterday afternoon to push for four victories in succession and a place at the top of the table.

The terrible weather at Crown Flatt did not stop us from taking the points with tries from **Damian McGarth** and **Andy Williams** and the goals also from McGarth. It was a hard contest and both sides did marvelously to handle and play rugby in horizontal rain. **Mark Spender** showed his mettle by giving a performance worthy of promotion and did a truly great job against Hunslet last Sunday.

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"THE GALLANT YOUTHS"

John Player Special Trophy – Round 1 – 15 November 1987

BATLEY 18 – HUNSLET 16

BACK L:R:- G. Gray, Cowan (physio), Graham Snell, Mark Scott, Paul Storey, Mark Spendler, John Carroll (capt.), Mark Fortis, Mark Speight
 FRONT L:R:- Phil Bartle, Russ Sowden, Neil Pickerill, Jack McLeary, Simon Wilson, Malcolm Agar,
 (sub: Paul Ratcliffe missing), (sub: John McGowan), Mascot – Richard Wells

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES

Sep	6	Sun	Mansfield	W 26-10	3.00	A
	9	Wed	Doncaster	W 12-8	7.00	A
	13	Sun	Featherstone (Yorks Cup)	L 6-28	3.00	A
	27	Sun	York	D 16-16	3.00	H
Oct	4	Sun	Keighley	W 17-2	3.00	H
	11	Sun	Workington	L 4-11	3.30	A
	18	Sun	Doncaster	W 28-16	3.00	H
	25	Sun	Huddersfield	L 6-9	3.30	A
Nov	1	Sun	Workington	L 12-23	3.00	H
	8	Sun	Runcorn H.	L 2-15	3.00	H
	15	Sun	John Player (1st Rd.) Hunslet	W18-16	2.30	H
	22	Sun	John Player (2nd Rd.) Oldham		2.30	H
Dec	29	Sun	Keighley		3.15	A
	6	Sun	Sheffield E.		2.30	H
	13	Sun	Runcorn H.		3.00	A
	20	Sun	Springfield B.		2.30	H
Jan	26	Sat	Dewsbury		11.30	H
	27	Sun	Bramley		3.30	A
	3	Sun	Dewsbury		2.30	A
	10	Sun	Wakefield T.		2.30	H
Feb	17	Sun	Featherstone R.		3.00	H
	24	Sun	Silk Cup Challenge Cup (1st Rd.)			
	31	Sun	Wakefield		3.30	A
	7	Sun	Silk Cup Challenge Cup (2nd Rd.)			
Mar	14	Sun	Huddersfield		3.00	H
	21	Sun	Sheffield E.		3.00	A
	28	Sun	Bramley		3.00	H
	6	Sun	Springfield B.		3.00	A
Apr	13	Sun	Fulham		3.00	H
	20	Sun	York		3.00	A
	27	Sun	Fulham		3.00	A
	1	GF	Featherstone		3.30	A
Apr	3	Sun	Mansfield		3.00	H
	10	Sun				
	17	Sun				

SLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE

				(Batley Score First)	
Aug	26	Wed	Bramley	16-6	7.00 H
Sep	4	Fri	Huddersfield	6-20	7.30 A
	12	Sat	Rochdale	26-6	3.00 H
	19	Sat	York	6-10	3.00 A
	26	Sat	Whitehaven	24-32	3.00 H
Oct	2	Fri	Hull (Cup 1st Rd.)	10-62	7.30 A
	10	Sat	Doncaster	30-4	3.00 H
	17	Sat	(Cup 2nd Rd.)		
	24	Sat	Huddersfield	16-16	3.00 H
Nov	30	Fri	Bradford N.	20-6	7.30 A
	7	Sat	Oldham	W 30-20	3.00 H
	12	Thur	Dewsbury	W 11-4	7.30 A
	21	Sat	Carlisle		2.30 H
Dec	27	Fri	Wakefield		7.30 A
	3	Thur	Rochdale		7.30 A
	12	Sat	Bradford N.		2.30 H
	19	Sat	Blackpool		2.15 A
Jan	26	Sat			
	2	Sat	Dewsbury		2.30 H
	9	Sat	Barrow		2.30 A
	16	Sat	Wakefield		2.30 H
Feb	23	Sat	Whitehaven		2.30 A
	30	Sat	Carlisle		2.30 A
	6	Sat	Slalom Lager All. Cup (1st Rnd.)		
	11	Thur	Oldham		7.30 A
Mar	20	Sat	(Cup 2nd Rnd.)		
	27	Sat	Barrow		3.00 H
	5	Sat	Bramley		3.00 A
	12	Sat	Blackpool		3.00 H
	19	Sat	Doncaster		2.30 A
	26	Sat	York		3.00 H

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L. HARDY
Director/Secretary