

OLDHAM Team Check DONCASTER

17	MICK BURKE	1	JOHN GREEN	16
	STEVE ROBINSON	2	NEIL TURNER	
	GARY WARNACKI	3	AUDLEY PENNENT	
	BRYAN McCARTHY	4	PHIL PAYNE <i>EVANS</i>	
	KEVIN MEADOWS	5	MARK ROACHE	
	PETER WALSH	6	KEVIN JONES <i>PAYNE</i>	
	STEVE PETERS	7	CLIVE PICKERILL <i>JONES</i>	
	NEIL CLAWSON	8	KEVIN PARKHOUSE	
<i>MARTIN HALL</i>	IAN SANDERSON	9	MARK GIBBON <i>ROBINSON</i>	
<i>MICK BARDLEY</i>	HUGH WADDELL	10	DAVID NOBLE	
	PAUL ROUND	11	STEPHEN LOUIS	
	MAL GRAHAM	12	PAUL MILNER <i>JENKINS</i>	
	TERRY FLANAGAN	13	ANDY TIMSON	
	CHRIS MYLER	14	JOHN EVANS <i>PICKETT</i>	
<i>TONY MORRISON</i>	MICK BARDLEY	15	STEWART SMITH <i>SARTO</i>	

Referee: C. Fiddball (Wakefield) Touch Judges: D.J. Barrett (Salford) J. Fishwick (Leigh)

J. Keadwell (Leigh)

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

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

Record Receipts: £30,388.70 v Wigan,
4th February, 1987

Record Transfer Fee Paid: £65,000 to
St. Helen's for Paul Round August 1987

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

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

Runners-up: 1906-07, 1907-08, 1908-09, 1921-22,
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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, 1986-87

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

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PLAYERS PROFILE

DES FOY



PLAYER PROFILE NO.5.

Full Name: Desmond Joseph Foy
Nick Name: Des
Birthdate: 29.12.63
Birthplace: Oldham
Marital status: Tricia, Michael/Declan
Occupation: Rugby player
Car: Mazda
Fav.TV Show: Beverley Hill Billies
Fav.Film: Starman
Fav. Music: Bob Dylan
Fav. food/drink: Spaghetti/Guinness
Fav.reading: Sport
Hobbies: Family
Fav.other sports: American football
Likes about game: Winning pay
Dislikes about game: Losing pay
Superstitions: None
Fav.position: Centre
Fav.ground: Wigan
Best moment: First Test, '84 tour
Worst moment: Losing semi-final v Castleford.
Hardest player to tackle: Everybody
Hardest tackler: All
Fav.all-time player: Still waiting

CAREER WITH OLDHAM

Date signed on: August, 1982 (on loan from Widnes)
December, 1982 permanently in Brian Hogan deal)
Debut: v Bradford (A), Div One 29-8-82
Appearances: 141
Tries: 60
Goals: 0
Drop Goals: 0
Total points: 236
Note: As the four-point try was not introduced until the 1983-4 season, Foy's four tries in the previous season were worth three points, hence the 236 total rather than 240.

Des Foy was the first contract signing in Oldham's history following the introduction of the new system last summer. In the background is club official Jim Knox.

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- 1983 BREWEX BRONZE MEDAL. Slalom D draught lager.
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- 1983 B.B.I. AWARDS DIPLOMA OF EXCELLENCE. Slalom D – for bottled lager.
- 1983 B.B.I. AWARDS DIPLOMA OF EXCELLENCE. Slalom Lager – for packaging and bottle dress.
- 1984 MONDE SELECTION MADRID. Gold Medal with Palm Leaves and Certificate.
- Slalom International – for bottled lager.
- 1984 MONDE SELECTION MADRID. Gold Medal and Certificate.
- Slalom D – for bottled lager.
- 1984 MONDE SELECTION MADRID. Gold Medal and Certificate.
- Slalom Lager – for bottled lager.

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- 1986 B.B.I. AWARDS GOLD MEDAL – Theakston Best Bitter – for bottled beer.
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- 1986 B.B.I. AWARDS DIPLOMA OF EXCELLENCE – John Peel Export – for bottled beer.
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Wakefield	9	4	0	0	180	48	3	1	1	92	58	15
Sheffield	13	4	1	2	108	91	3	0	3	102	98	15
Springfield	11	3	0	1	70	59	4	0	3	125	112	14
Workington	10	4	0	1	76	41	3	0	2	70	90	14
Featherstone	11	4	0	1	145	81	2	1	3	107	99	13
Rochdale	12	6	0	2	109	68	0	0	4	39	119	12
Doncaster	13	3	1	2	118	94	1	1	5	91	127	10
Keighley	12	5	0	2	133	83	0	0	5	33	131	10
Batley	10	2	1	2	75	72	2	0	3	54	60	9
Mansfield	11	2	1	2	70	91	2	0	4	110	140	9
Whitehaven	11	4	0	2	87	67	0	0	5	61	99	8
Huddersfield	11	4	0	3	131	115	0	0	4	32	85	8
Fulham	11	3	0	2	93	67	1	0	5	86	163	8
York	10	1	0	3	67	83	2	1	3	80	100	7
Carlisle	10	2	1	1	76	60	1	0	5	61	140	7
Dewsbury	10	2	0	3	56	61	1	0	4	75	120	6
Bramley	11	1	0	4	92	128	0	0	6	65	187	2

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MAL'S MESSAGE

(The start of a new feature in which player-coach Mal Graham will be having a few things to say)

It was a real pleasure to be part of the Oldham Team that shocked the Rugby League world with our win at Warrington. It proved what can be achieved when a team of blokes with the right attitude and the willingness to play their hearts out for each other, for the club and the fans go out determined to tackle the odds.

The Warrington people said afterwards that, far from underestimating us, they had prepared better for Oldham's visit than at any other time this season. By comparison we had big problems. For one reason or another, several players could not train on the Monday before the match and by Wednesday night we were going down like ninepins with either injury or illness. Come Friday, the pitches were not really firm enough to train on and we had to go down to the all-weather floodlit area at Hathershaw Sports Centre to do our final preparations there.

To overcome such obstacles and still beat Warrington in their own backyard shows what the team is really made of.

I daresay all the big guns in the semi-finals would be hoping to get Oldham because we are a Second Division side. But I'll say this. If we stick to our game plan, keep up the tackling, and play with the spirit we displayed against Bradford and Warrington then I think we'll prove that even the best and strongest teams are only human and prone to error and frustration.



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'WATERSHEDDINGS SCENE'

(News and views from inside the club)

BIG DAY OUT AT THE SEMI-FINAL

LET'S all do our best to make it a big Oldham day out when we play St.Helens in the second semi-final of the John Player Special Trophy on Saturday, December 19 at Central Park, Wigan, kick-off 2.15.

As far as we know at this stage, the second-half will be televised, as was our quarter-final tie at Warrington, but as a club we believe we can rely on our wonderful fans to be there on the day to give the team great vocal backing.

The Rugby League fix prices and make all the ticket arrangements for semi-finals. Seat tickets are priced at £5 for the Douglas Stand and £4 for the popular stand, while turnstile admission will be £3 and £2 for pensioners and juveniles.

Our ticket allocation should have arrived by now and be on sale but for future times of office opening etc just consult the local press who will be doing their best to keep you informed.

STEVE ROBINSON

congratulations to Steve Robinson, the former Saddleworth Rangers winger, who has now signed for the club on professional forms and on a contract. Steve did well for us when he was on trial and he has continued to hold down his place on merit. We wish him a long, happy and successful association with the club and if his first few weeks are anything to go by he should do very well indeed.

FRENCH TRIP

Our end-of-season French trip is now ON. We are to play a commemorative game against a French rep side in Limoux on Sat., May 28. The French team will draw its players from Limoux, Carcassonne and Lesignan - three of the best teams in France.

We also expect to involve our 'A' team players in a nine-a-side tournament which will take place before the big match. We are playing against the cream of French rugby on their 20th anniversary of cup finals.

NEW PUBLICATION

'CHAMPIONS', a new 180-page celebration of the RL championship 1895-1987, by Robert Gate, is fully illustrated and priced £11 softback, £14.75 hardback, plus £1 p and p from the PR Dept., the Rugby League, 180, Chapeltown Road, Leeds LS7 4HT.

The 1988 Stones Bitter calendar is now available, priced £2.95 plus 75p p and p, from the above address.

A new RL Collectors' Federation has been given RL blessing as a service for the sale/exchange of photographs, programmes, badges, books etc. Annual membership is £1.50. Further information from 10, Glendare Terrace, Lidget Green, Bradford, BD7 2QH BD.

WHAT THE PAPER SAY..

(An occasional feature to be used when the papers are commenting on the Oldham club and team)

Paul Fitzpatrick (Guardian) - The set up at Watersheddings is now one of the most interesting in the sport - young, fresh, ambitious, thoughtful and receptive.

Michael Crossley (Sunday Telegraph) - The Second Division leaders Oldham produced the shock of this season's John Player Trophy by humiliating mighty Warrington. The Oldham props were magnificent.

Howarth Booth (Mail on Sunday) - This was a triumph for Oldham's magnificent pack in which Neil Clawson earned the man of the match award.

Peter James (Sunday Times) - Oldham indicated that a prompt return to Div. One is only a matter of time with a stirring display to produce a stunning upset.

Alan Thomas (Sunday Express) - Second Div leaders Oldham ripped up the form book with a magnificent John Player victory. Oldham built their success on superb defence and a pack of forwards who never stopped working.

John Robinson (Sunday People) - Faith can move mountains - or, at least, as Oldham proved it, it is the force that can topple the mighty.

John Huxley (Sunday Mirror) - This was more than just a giant-killing act. Oldham showed they wouldn't be out of place in the First Division.

Jack McNamara (Manchester Evening News) - Make way for Oldham's return to the First Div next season. It was Oldham who took - and deserved - most of the honours in an excellent cup-tie.

Brian Batty (Daily Mail) - Oldham swept into the semi-final looking a Sec. Div. side in name only.

Paul Wilson (Independent) - The result would have been even more emphatic had not Oldham conceded three needless penalties.

Keith Macklin (The Times) - Oldham tackled ferociously and threw the home side totally out of their stride.

John Whalley (Daily Telegraph) - Oldham again displayed their liking for playing the top sides when providing the biggest cup upset of the season.

AND SO SAY ALL OF US

FACE IN THE CROWD

JACK DEARDEN — our man on the terraces

As one would expect, the great Alex Murphy was not a bit shy with his comments at a recent sports forum at Oldham Cricket Club. Alex is not everybody's cup of tea but he was very entertaining on this occasion and very honest when answering some tricky questions.

Asked if he had ever instructed a player to take an opponent out of the game, he said: "No. But I said that I want certain players watched 'closely'".

He went on to say that Oldham had "pinched Paul Round at £65,000" while he (Alex) was away on holiday. It is not true that an Oldham director asked him when he was going away again!

I asked Murphy about the gamble of signing Union players, for example, Stuart Evans, and he has promised listeners that the Welshman would become one of the best forwards in the game.

I think it is incredible that clubs pay out enormous sums of money to players who have never played our code. Many Union men have been successful in the past (Martin Offiah is hitting the headlines right now) but I think it is more of a gamble now than ever before.

Murphy also made the point that good referees were being forced to retire too early and that the replacements did not have the necessary experience. I agree. Great referees like Eric Clay and Billy Thompson will have been missed as much by the players as by the spectators.

Referees in any sport are on a hiding to nothing and face a difficult job. The authorities do not always help them, either. Take the sin-bin, which is hardly ever used for the correct purpose.

Murphy would like to involve ex-players in refereeing and while I am sure it would help, there would still be problems. I feel it is as hard to become a good, established referee as it is to develop into a good and respected player..

Finally, congratulations to everyone concerned in the great wins over First Division teams Bradford and Warrington which have earned us the right to a semi-final appearance in the John Player Special Trophy.

I have a message from the terraces to everyone at the club. We are right behind you. Keep up the good work!

JACK DEARDEN



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CORKY'S COMMENTS . . .

Iain McCorquodale – on the local scene.

Hard lines for Saddleworth Rangers who went out of the Lancashire Cup in the semi-final at Leigh Miners by 25-19. The young side played well but should really have consolidated when they held a 14-0 lead midway through the first half. A series of unforced handling errors prevented coach Ray Hicks from preparing for a major amateur final at Watersheddings and entry into the preliminary round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup.

Ray, incidentally, has become regional coach following the promotion of Eric Fitzsimons to staff coach - a role he shares with Maurice Bamford, Tony Barrow and Ellery Hanley. Good luck, Ray, on your promotion.

Oldham's only current grade-one referee, Alan Burke, has been receiving some excellent reports on his handling of senior professional games and this is no surprise to those who have watched his progress over the last decade.

In the early 70s, he was a hard-tackling full back in one of the sides I took at Hathershaw School but even in those early days his real love was refereeing and he has now handled 374 schoolboy games. Add to this the vast number of amateur and professional commitments he undertakes and it is no surprise to learn that he has 'reffed' more than 1,500 Rugby League matches of one description or another in 14 years - a fantastic record.

Every Saturday he handles a town team game as well as countless inter-school fixtures and he even saves his holidays to have afternoons off to referee local schoolboy finals.

In my 15 years association with local school teams he has yet to turn down a request to referee any fixture and he will often referee two local games before going off to a professional commitment.

It was unanimously decided that Alan be invited to accompany the under-13s on their Australian tour in 1988 and it was no surprise that he accepted the honour on one condition - that he pay his own way. A typical gesture from a man dedicated to Rugby League.

Thanks also to Oldham club dentist Neil Gibbison, who has made a fantastic gesture by offering to make gum shields for the boys going Down Under. Both the RFL and BARLA encourage all players to wear gum shields and it is reassuring to know that our boys will be equipped with the best. Thank you Neil.

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THE BOSS TALKING...

(A personal view by Oldham coach Eric Fitzsimons)

A warm welcome to all our friends from Doncaster. We came away from Tattersfield without a point and the Doncaster team played with a lot of spirit. I was particularly pleased for my old adversary 'Nobby' Noble. He scored the last-second try and has continued to create club records for playing and scoring in every match. I used to hold a similar record at Hunslet and it isn't easy having to play with the pressure of having to score in every match.



I admire Nobby more for the position from which he has achieved it. Playing on the wing and kicking goals is one thing, but playing in the pack and doing it is another, and it is nice to see a lad who has been loyal to a club getting the recognition he deserves.

However, neither 'Nobby' nor Doncaster can expect any favours today because we are well motivated to avenge our defeat at Doncaster. This is one of the few league fixtures where the lads will not need raising. They have a point to prove!

A big thanks to all the fans who followed us at Batley and Warrington. Didn't we do well? And what a tremendous boost to know that most of the noise was coming from the Oldham fans. Keep it up. We are going to need it at Central Park in the semi-final on Saturday, December 19. Let's fill that big ground full of Oldham people and cheer us on to the final. We know we can do it. Give us every lift you can on the day.

Apologies, incidentally, to the supporters who waited in vain at the social club after our games at Batley and Warrington. We usually leave away venues 1½ hours after the final hooter and head back to the social club, but on the last two away trips we have been the guests of two of the players' 'locals'. Colin Hawkyard looked after us at the Woolpack, Huddersfield and Steve Peters in his own pub, the Elephant, Thatto Heath.

I have had several phone calls from Wigan, thanking us for beating Warrington. After the fifth call I became curious about how they had got hold of my number. When I inquired, the voice at the other end of the 'phone replied very sheepishly: "Maurice Lindsay!".

What do I think of the draw? We have a strong West Lancs. contingency, who will want to prove a point against their old club. We also have a number of lads who were in the side that lost to St. Helens in the Challenge Cup at 'Sheddings last season. They are still smarting and they want revenge.

We have a good defence, we have players who are capable of scoring from their own '25, we have a confidence in ourselves as individuals and as a team. We believe in ourselves! I don't have a crystal ball. Rugby League is a great game and one of the chief reasons is that it is full of unpredictability. Saints have all the pressure on their backs. They are the First Division side with pedigree and they are expected to win.

Let them have the pressure. We get our share of it as 7/4 favourites in the second division. We aim to enjoy ourselves on the day, knowing you'll all be cheering us on. No one has the right to expect us to win except for the players themselves. It's their game and I know they are not planning on letting themselves down at Central Park.

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Appearances & Scorers

SEASON 1987-88
(to date - 14 possible)

	APPS (inc. Subs)	T	G	DG	PTS
Atkinson K.	7	1	27	—	58
Irving R.	9	1	—	—	4
Hawkyard C.	12	2	—	—	8
Meadows K.	14	4	—	—	16
Edwards J.	6	—	1	—	2
Peters S.	8	—	—	—	—
Kirwan P.	9	2	—	—	8
Sherratt I.	4	1	—	—	4
Sanderson I.	14	4	—	—	16
Waddell H.	14	4	—	—	16
Worrall M.	6	2	2	—	12
Graham M.	14	4	—	—	16
Flanagan T.	13	3	—	—	12
Round P.	14	13	—	—	52
Sherman P.	3	—	—	—	—
Copeland T.	3	—	—	—	—
Morrison T.	1	—	—	—	—
Bardsley M.	3	—	—	—	—
Marsden R.	1	—	—	—	—
Burke M.	9	4	3	—	22
Walsh P.	9	6	29	—	82
Bates I.	3	1	—	—	4
Clawson N.	9	1	—	—	4
McCarthy B.	8	7	—	—	28
Foy D.	6	2	—	—	8
Robinson S.	5	1	—	—	4
Nadiola T.	2	—	—	—	—
Warnecke G.	3	1	—	—	4
Myler C.	1	—	—	—	—

TOP CLASS 'READ'

Due to overwhelming demand on space, our two regular pictorial features have had to be held over for a future date. 'Flashback' and 'Action Men' will be back but in this programme we are concentrating on giving you a top-class 'read' about a Club and team that has been giving top-class displays.

OLDHAM RLFC FIXTURES & RESULTS 1987-88

(Opponents Alt.)

F A 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

Aug 30	Widnes	3,124	20	-8	At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Sep 2	Kepher	3,124	22	-3	At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Sep 13	Warrington	554	8	-42	At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Sep 20	Doncaster	314	22	-20	At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Sep 27	Doncaster	296	19	-4	At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Oct 11	Sheffield	179	40	-20	At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Oct 18	Carlisle	179	40	-20	At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Oct 25	Barnsley	395	36	-10	At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Nov 1	Keighley	179	12	-10	At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Nov 8	Fulham	319	36	-8	At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Nov 15	Sheffield	458	22	6	At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Nov 22	Barnsley	288	44	0	At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Nov 29	Warrington	554	14	10	At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Dec 6	Doncaster				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Dec 11	Barnsley				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Dec 26	Sheffield				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Jan 3	Springfield				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Jan 10	Whitehaven				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Jan 17	Runcorn				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Jan 24	Warrington				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Jan 31	Warrington				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Feb 7	Warrington				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Feb 14	Cheshire Cup				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Feb 21	Farnborough				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Feb 28	Farnborough				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Mar 6	Warrington				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Mar 13	Barnsley				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Mar 20	Warrington				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Mar 27	Sheffield				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Apr 1	Sheffield				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Apr 4	Runcorn				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Apr 10	Warrington				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand
Apr 17	Carlisle				At home	Living	Headway	Meadow	Edwards	Peters	Kinnaird	Sherratt	Sunderman	Wardell	Woodroffe	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt	Rand



All the job of a cup tie try is captured in this Chronicle picture. Up go the hands of Mick Burke and Bryan McCarthy, while Kevin Meadows is all smiles as Paul Round scores at Warrington last Saturday.

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WITH THE SUPPORTERS CLUB

Welcome today to all our friends from Doncaster. We are hoping for a good, clean and exciting game. We also invite all fans - home supporters and visitors - to use the canteens situated around the ground. Our programme exchanges can be found in the main canteen behind the main stand.

Big-match videos are now on sale and hire from the club shop near the social club. Give your orders now at any canteen or souvenir hut. £10 each or hire at £1.50 for the day. They make great Christmas presents for all the family.

Thanks time again - to everyone who bought a ticket for the schoolboys' Aussie trip draw won by Gary Allen of Royton. Hopefully, we will be handing over a cheque for £400 to the tour organisers at halftime today. Well done everyone.

Thanks also to J.B.Gallagher, confectioners, of Edward Street, Werneth and Mr. Noel Brady of Chadderton for donations to the Junior Reds' half-time draw, and also to Mr. Harry Winterbottom for his donation at the barbeque. Anyone who wishes to donate £5 for the Juniors' draw, please contact supporters committee members. There is still time to join the Supporters' Club, both for seniors and juniors. Good value for £1 and parents and grandparents who bring children to matches will save a lot on youngsters' ground admission.

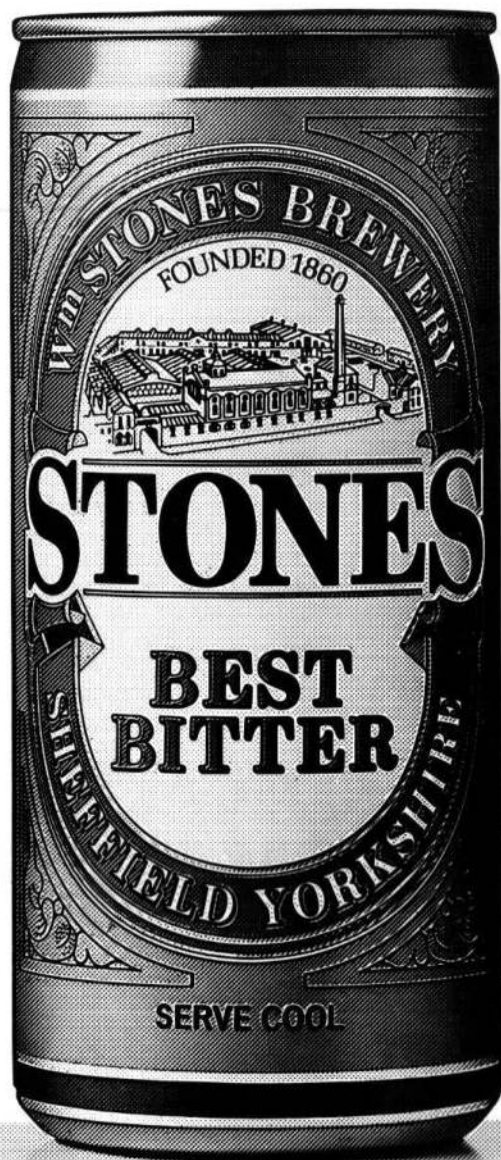
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DIRECT FROM THE BOARD

(a regular feature in which a member of the board will take you behind the scenes).

THIS WEEK - JIM KNOX

ONE of the most gratifying things about working for the club as a director is to find so many people who are willing to help us out in a voluntary capacity. The problem with trying to name one or two is that you are always liable to miss somebody out but at risk of slipping up I want to mention a few of the people who do an enormous amount for the club and ask for little reward except a little bit of success on the field.



On match days we are indebted to people like 'Mo', Steve Hooley, Alec Doherty, Nichola in the sponsors' bar, Lou Lavery, Bob Boustead and his son who run the pavilion bars, 'big Peter' (the doorman), Paul Lovett and Fred Howarth in the office, Joe and Alec downstairs and many others.

The Supporters Club officials operate their refreshment bars, we now have an honorary club doctor in Dr 'Chip' Johnson, and I don't know whether you have noticed or not but we have a couple of new programme sellers in David Gardner and Greg. Pache.

Jack Bowden has done a lot of scouting for us and by the time these notes are read he might be scouting for us on a more official basis. Brian Carruthers is helping out on the public address system, and our best wishes go to Frank Diskin for a speedy recovery.

Sincere thanks to all these people, any I might have missed (I do hope not) and to ALL our fans and backers who are helping us to run the club smoothly and with some degree of success.

JIM KNOX

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FOCUS ON DONCASTER

John Green	Full back — Formerly with Bradford Northern. Signed with Doncaster during the 1985-86 season. One of the best Full backs in the Second Division.
Neil Turner	Wing — Signed from Wheatley Hills Rugby Union. Former Yorkshire Colt. Holds the most tries in a season record at Doncaster.
Mark Roache	Wing — Formerly with Rossington Hornets, before signing with Castleford. Transferred to Doncaster in an exchange deal with David Plange.
Audley Pennent	Centre — Former Doncaster Junior who signed for Bradford Northern transferred to Doncaster in the 1985-86 Season.
Phil Payne	Centre — Former Oulton Junior before signing for Castleford, where he was a member of their Cup winning squad at Wembley in 1986. Transferred to Doncaster this season.
John Evans	Utility Player — Signed this season from Bentley Yarborough. "Mr. Versatile", John can play in any position in the Backs and always gives 100%.
Kevin Jones	Stand off — Former Leeds Colt turned professional with Castleford. Transferred to Doncaster for what was then a record fee.
Clive Pickerill	Scrum Half — signed this season as Player Coach. Former clubs — Castleford, Hull F.C. and Wakefield Trinity. Appeared for Hull F.C. in the 1980 Wembley Final.
Kevin Parkhouse	Prop Forward — Local player signed from Askern Miners Welfare. Holds the most tries in a season for a forward record.
Mark Gibbon	Hooker — Local player signed for Wakefield Trinity before returning to Askern Welfare, where he signed for Doncaster in 1985.
Kevin Robinson	Hooker — Another player who signed for Wakefield Trinity before returning to Junior Rugby. Signed for Doncaster this season.
David Noble	Forward — A true professional who will always give 100% wherever he is asked to play. Holds every goal kicking record for the club.
Stephen Louis	Second Row — Signed on a One Year Contract from Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia. Represented his District in Australia.
Stewart Smith	Second Row — Experienced player who came to Doncaster via Wakefield Trinity. Former Clubs — Featherstone Rovers and Hunslet.
Andrew Timson	Loose Forward — Former Castleford player who represented his country at Colts and under-24 Levels. Came to Doncaster via Rochdale Hornets in 1985-86 Season.
Paul Milner	Second Row — Formerly a Rugby Union Player before changing codes to play for Bentley Colliery, signed this season by Doncaster.
Terry Jenkins	Loose Forward — A former Captain of the Junior Kiwis. Toured Papua New Guinea and Australia as a Junior Kiwis. Hails from Greymouth, South Island, New Zealand.

FOLLOW THE 'A' TEAM

SINCE the last programme notes, the 'A' team have had mixed fortunes - first a 30-24 win over Rochdale 'A' at Watersheddings and then a 30-10 defeat by Bradford at Odsal.

Against the Hornets, we came back from 8-18 down at half-time to take command of the second half, score four tries to add to two early efforts, and finish up worthy winners. Six tries were scored by Leo Casey, Tony Morrison, Chris Myler (2) and Bob Marsden (2) and Martin Hall landed three goals.

We struggled at Bradford where Gary Wernecke and Nick Bardsley scored tries and Keith Atkinson a goal. It was good to see Bardsley in such dominant mood when he came on as sub and he got his reward when he was named as sub for the John Player tie at Warrington and came on to produce a superb performance. Well done Mick - and congrats, too, to Chris Myler, who was the other substitute for the first time in his Oldham career.

COMMERCIAL CORNER

(Development Office topics with Ray Hill)

CHRISTMAS is coming ... and the current success of the club is reflected in sponsorship deals that are now coming our way. We were delighted to do a deal with local bed manufacturers, Slumberland, set up by director Greg Pache, for jersey advertising in our third-round John Player win at Warrington and we hope this will be the forerunner of more business with the firm.

Also, we have now entered into a big motor car sponsorship agreement with director David Gardner's firm, Greater Manchester Motor Co., Nissan dealers, of Stretford and Salford, in which Eric Fitzsimons, Mal Graham, Peter Walsh and myself will take delivery of a Nissan Bluebird and three Nissan Sunnys.

In the souvenir shop, Oldham RLFC ski jackets have now arrived and we also have a new item on sale - ideal for Christmas presents - in Oldham RLFC rugby balls in red and white and carrying the club badge, at a cost of £10.50.

I would like to thank all the agents who made our agents' night a roaring success last week and also the Lifeline members who turned up for the AGM on Thursday.

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PRESS BOX CHATTER

(Roger Halstead, Oldham Evening Chronicle)



The entire Rugby League press corps were out in force at Wilderspool last Saturday to watch Oldham's magnificent 14-10 triumph over Warrington in the quarter-final of the John Player Special Trophy.

After the match the Oldham dressing room was full of reporters and local radio men and BBC commentator Ray French was there to offer his personal congratulations to a member of the Oldham coaching team who was once a colleague of his, Iain MacCorquodale.

I can vouch for the fact that the Press Gang was more than a little impressed with the Oldham performance and I couldn't help but compare the atmosphere of excitement and jubilation with the sadness and sorrow when the Oldham dressing room was last full of reporters...the defeat by Castleford in the Challenge Cup semi-final two years ago.

In this game you've got to enjoy your success when it comes along and it was a real pleasure to see the Oldham players relishing every minute of the limelight and Ian Sanderson doing his uncanny impressions of commentator French to bring the house down.

Well done, lads! Let's hope this is just a taste of what's in store over the remainder of this action-packed season.

ROGER HALSTEAD



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MATCH REPORTS

OLDHAM v BRADFORD

(John Player Special Trophy, first round)

The biggest home crowd this season so far - nearly 5,000 saw Oldham produce a spectacular victory over the pride of West Yorkshire, Bradford Northern, to march into the second round of the Player Trophy.

Bradford, the Yorkshire Cup winners and First Division high flyers scored one try. Oldham scored four. Need we say more? For the record the tries came from Peter Walsh, Bryan McCarthy, Paul Round and, Steve Robinson, the latter scoring his first try in pro rugby. And didn't he look pleased!.

Peter Walsh chipped in with three goals in a great team performance in which the tackling was superb.

BATLEY v OLDHAM

(John Player Special Trophy, second round)

No mistakes this time on the grounds of inferior opposition. Oldham were determined to make their presence felt and won 44-0 scoring eight tries without reply. Paul Round grabbed a hat-trick to take his tally to 13 for the season and other try scorers were Hugh Waddell, Bryan McCarthy, Mick Burke, Des Foy, (later to be sent off) and Gary Warnecke. Peter Walsh kicked three goals as did Mick Burke, after Peter had retired with groin trouble.

Round won the Man of the Match award, hardly surprising after scoring three and setting up two more for Des Foy and Mick Burke.

WARRINGTON v OLDHAM

(John Player Special Trophy, third round)

STILL, Oldham go marching on. In what must rank as one of the finest hours the club has seen in recent years, Lancashire Cup finalists Warrington went the way of Bradford and were beaten 14-10 in their own backyard.

Oldham have now achieved eight successive wins - the best of any club in the game - to march into the semi-finals for only the second time.

The tackling at Wilderspool was again a feature of a side which has conceded only five tries in six matches. It was teamwork all right, with a capital T, but special mention for props Hugh Waddell and Man of the Match Neil Clawson, Peter Walsh for his three great goals, and try scorers Paul Round and Terry Flanagan.

PROGRAMME PICTURES by Courtesy of the OLDHAM EVENING CHRONICLE
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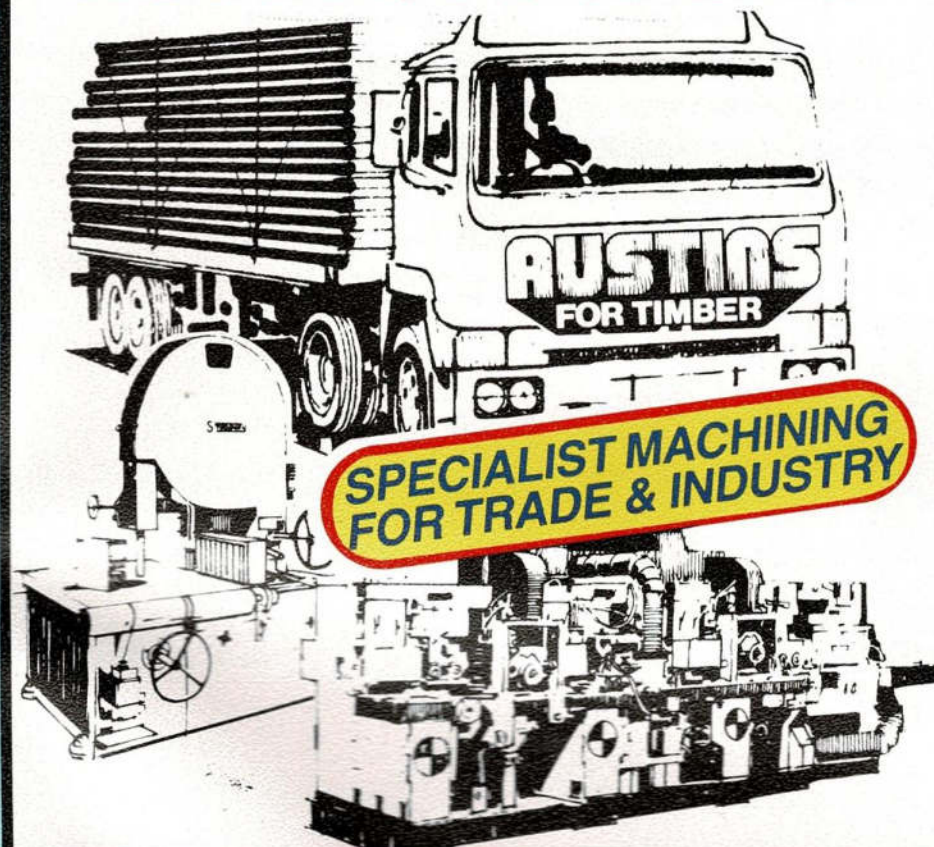
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Oldham 061-620 2128 • Bury 061-761 6416 • Sale 061-973 9578