



TODAY'S TEAMS



4 SPRINGFIELD BOROUGH
White/Blue/Tangerine
Jerseys

OLDHAM 20
Red & White Hoop Jerseys
Blue Shorts

Full Back	
MIKE SMITH	1 MICK BURKE
Three Quarters	
DAVID BACON	2 ~~TOM NADIE~~ (Fiji) McCarthy T
MIKE STEWART	3 GARY WARNECKE (Aust)
~~CHRIS GANLEY~~ Donlan	4 KEVIN MEADOWS
~~COURTNEY THOMPSON~~ Broxton	5 BRIAN MCCARTHY (Aust)
Half Backs	
TOMMY FRODSHAM	6 PETER WALSH (Aust) Foy
GEOFF BIMSON	7 STEVE PETERS Walsh 4G
Forwards	
BOB ECCLES	8 NEIL CLANSON
~~S. GARNER~~ /T. HODSON	9 IAN SANDERSON
~~CARL BRISCOE~~ Emson	10 HUGH WADDELL
IAN MCKENZIE	11 PAUL ROUND
MICK NANYN	12 ~~TERRY FLANAGER~~ Hawkyard
ROY HOWARTH Garner	13 MAL GRAHAM
Substitutes	
PAUL ROBERTS Price	14 ~~CHRIS MYLER~~ Bardsley
GRAHAM KARALIUS C Eccles	15 ~~MICK BARDSLEY~~ Flanagan

Referee: Mr P.N. HOUGHTON (Warrington)
Touch Judges:
Mr K. MORRIS (Widnes) Red Flag
Mr M.J. HESKETH (St Helens) Orange Flag

Next Home
Game

FULHAM
January 17th (Kick off 3pm)

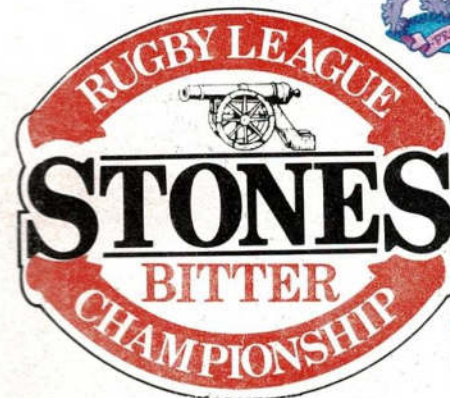
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SECOND
DIVISION

OLDHAM
3rd January 1988

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 50p



Carl Briscoe



Bob Eccles



Tommy Frodsham

Springfield Borough R.L. Club

(Parent Company: Blackpool Borough R.L. Club Ltd.)

Reg. Office: Borough Park, Princess St., Blackpool FY1 5EU

Telephone: (0253) 21104

Ground: Springfield Park, Wigan WN6 7BA

Telephone: (0942) 824166

Secretary: Mr D.S. Brown, 6 Maple Ave, Poulton-le-Fylde.

Tel: (0253) 884689

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Promoted to Division One 1979/80

PLAYERS RECORDS

IN A SEASON:-

Most Goals: 89 J. MAUGHAN 1958/59

Most Tries: 30 T. FRODSHAM 1985/86

Most Points: 201 P. FEARIS 1957/58

Most Consecutive Appearances: G. WRIGHT

April 1955 to October 1956

Most Appearances: PAUL GAMBLE 330 plus

9 non playing sub. Oct '72 to present

Most Points in Career with Blackpool

Borough: TEX McCARRICK 689 1963 to 1969

Most Goals: TEX McCARRICK 334 1963/69

Most Tries: JIMMY JOHNSON 82 1969/76

Most Points in a match: NORMAN TURLEY

27 v Carlisle 26/4/84

Most Goals in a match: NORMAN TURLEY

11 v Carlisle 26/4/84

Most Tries in a match: FOUR

TONY WILKSHIRE v Bradford 14/1/61

JOHN STOCKLEY v Doncaster 1/4/84

TOMMY FRODSHAM v Bridgend 14/4/85

TOMMY FRODSHAM v Mansfield 30/11/86

Chairman's Message



Ladies & Gentlemen,

Happy New Year to you all.

Today's game sees the visit of the favourites for the 2nd Division title. Oldham, like ourselves, underwent lengthy surgery before the start of the season. The new Board, although smaller than our own, boasts commercially competent Directors and we hope their work is well rewarded at the end of the season with promotion. Oldham is one of the towns in RL where a good side will command larger support than Soccer and today should see a good gate at Springfield.

Borough's emergence this season has shocked a lot of people. However much credit for the professional attitude of the club stems from the coaching staff. Mick Peers and Stan Gittins have formed an excellent partnership. Training is varied and never boring with new methods and moves being introduced from time to time. Our scouting policy for local talent is also paying dividends. One of the big advantages in our move to Wigan is the vast array of talent on our doorstep. Wiganers love RL and every club in the town has considerable playing strength so hopefully our scouts will have an endless supply of talent to focus on over the years.

Springfield Park will be one of the top stadiums in the game in the next 5 years. There are ambitious plans for a further 5,000 seats, new indoor playing arenas, a restaurant, bars, clubs, stands etc etc. The playing surface certainly has suffered from the October rains this year. Comparisons were made with other football clubs and RL came under fire from the press for increasing the groundsmen's burden. I do not share the view that RL is to blame. Take a look at Central Park or Borough Park to see the current playing surfaces after a hectic weekly fixture list. Both grounds still in excellent shape. No RL is not to blame. Any ground under utilised will not provide the financial return. All weather pitches are now outlawed so new solutions are required in the years ahead to allow increasing usage.

Many Oldhamers have been to Springfield this season and have written to say how much they enjoyed the visit. Today will no doubt see them shout for Oldham so perhaps we may not get as many letters as usual this time! Septembers clash at Watersheddings was a cracker when Borough emerged unlucky losers. Lets hope today brings a change in fortunes.

Enjoy the game.

MIKE MARSLAND (Chairman)

SPRINGFIELD BOROUGH R.L.F.C. DAILY CASH LOTTERY DRAW

JOIN THE
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Dear Customer,

Would you like to win £100 EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR ????????

Springfield Borough Rugby League Club are introducing an exciting new Daily Draw Competition and I have been fortunate in securing the agency in this area for my customers.

The competition is called "SPRINGFIELD SUPERTRY" DAILY DRAW & DISCOUNT CLUB, and offers you SEVEN CHANCES TO WIN £100 every day, 365 days a year. In addition we will have a special Xmas Draw for turkeys etc. — plus a SUPER DRAW at the end of our first year for A BRAND NEW CAR.

But this exciting new opportunity is not just a draw, it's a Discount Club as well, whereby on production of your Membership Card you will receive BIG DISCOUNTS from a wide variety of LOCAL Retailers & Restaurants. For Example, there will be discounts on an extensive range of goods, eg. Garden Centres, Sports Goods, Motorists Spares, Audio Equipment, Wedding Photography.

You will receive a list of all the many outlets offering discounts on thousands of items with your Membership Card.

All you need to do is complete the form below and return it to me at the Club. I will then issue you with your membership card and a copy of your Numbers in the Draw. After that ALL THE PRIZES DUE TO YOU plus a Weekly Result Sheet will be available from me at the shop. In addition to the Result Sheet you will find the results in the Wigan Evening Post, each evening.

All this for only 50 pence per week for which you receive 7 separate chances each day to win £100. There are no coupons to fill in, no collectors at your door, no postage to pay. Nothing could be more simple or fair.

Always at your service,

Please complete and return this form to me at the Club/Pub

I would like to become a member of SPRINGFIELD SUPERTRY DAILY DRAW & DISCOUNT CLUB.

Name..... ★ 50p for 49 chances per week

Address..... ★ £1.00 for 98 chances per week

I wish to pay my lottery money of ★ at the following Pub / Club

Name of Pub/club..... Signed.....

Address..... Date.....

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GEORGE
LUNN'S

Rugby League Review



GOODBYE TO 1987

If anyone had told me at the beginning of last year that Blackpool Borough would be leaving Blackpool and playing in Wigan under another name I would have said they were losing their marbles, and would have taken bets on it not happening. We were in financial difficulties but that was nothing new for the Borough. Over my many years with the club it had never been anything else, but we struggled on, season after season hoping a miracle would happen and that we would start getting gates that would help us to pay our way. However the killer blow came when the Town Council at their first meeting of the year, changed their minds about paying for the work required on the ground to meet the new Safety regulations. This was followed quickly by the Ground Safety officers giving us the ultimatum that unless certain work was carried out by a certain date in January, the ground would be closed to professional Rugby League. This was the knockout blow to the punch drunk directors and so the last game was played at Borough Park on January 4th against Whitehaven. What a start to the year. The remaining games were played at Bloomfield Road and that was another loss making exercise and it is history now what happened at the end of the season and why we are here today under a new name. But with a lot of hope for the future. I was talking to the Batley Secretary, Les Hardy who has been with that club many years at our 'A' team game played at Borough Park. He said, he was flabbergasted, a typical Yorkshire expression, at the closure of our ground, one which he considers the best 'non-soccer' R.L. ground in the 2nd Division. He said, "wait until you see our ground", which of course we did last Sunday. What a sorry sight, the main stand demolished, not a seat in sight, I stood on the re-terraced popular side, which has been well done, by men under instruction by the Manpower Services Commission, the Batley club only having to pay for the material, even so, there was not a crush barrier in sight, and yet at Borough Park, where crush barriers already exist, we were told they were not adequate. One wonders if the Safety Officers have different standards in different areas. I feel that if the Safety Officers are going to adopt a hard line with R.L. clubs then there could be a few less clubs coming up to the starting line for the 1988/89 season unless they get some financial assistance from their Town Councils. Some have, some haven't, their local sports grounds should not be made a political issue, they should be proud to bring these long established clubs upto date with grants.

HALFWAY STAGE....

Here we are today at the halfway stage of our league programme and we can look back at the first half with some satisfaction for we have surprised everybody with the good displays we have put up especially

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when the team has had to be re-built. We only had 18 players at the end of last season. The re-building programme has been costly especially with the new 'Players Contracts' coming into force this season. You can't win them all, but the majority of our signings have been a success, a mixture of experienced players and some young and promising ones straight from Junior Football. Some of the latter are already established in the 1st team and there is great credit due to our coaches, scouts and the football committee, particularly Mike Nicholas who seemed to have his finger on the pulse of junior football and it was a stroke of genius to get the signature of Bob Eccles, an expensive signing, and yes, I will hold my hand up, I was one who doubted the wisdom of this move. Bob has been a pillar of strength to the team and despite all the rumours that he was prone to injury, he has not missed a match and he has gained the confidence of the players around him. We have been unlucky with injuries, particularly with our expensive Australian import, Gary French also another expensive signing, from Warrington Tony Hodson who has had to have a cartilage operation, he looked a real live wire in his early games. He is now making a comeback via the 'A' team. The latter has also been a success story. In their first season they have done well, being 3rd in the Alliance league at the moment. Of course we are not complacent enough to think everything in the garden is lovely, the coaches know where the team needs strengthening, but it is all a question of L.S.D. Our Commercial Manager and his staff are working hard to bring in the cash so badly needed. We also require an average gate of 2,000. They are slowly improving as the good Wigan people realise we have not got a team of mugs, and despite uncalled for opposition from across the town, we believe there is room for two R.L. clubs without treading on anyones toes. At the time of writing we are only 4 points behind the League leaders and we have already played eight of our away games. We have nine home games and of the six away we should get maximum points from at least four Mansfield Marksmen, Dewsbury, Fulham, and Carlisle. A glance at the league table shows that there is going to be a real struggle for the top three places but what a cockeyed system when all the clubs don't play each other and yet every week some clubs have blank fixtures. I know it is the big boys who are dictating the compilation of the two divisions at the moment and in my opinion it is not for the good of the game. I would prefer to see 16 teams in the first division and 18 in the 2nd with four up and four down with every club playing each other in its own division. At the moment there is too big a gap with the standard of play between the two divisions. I believe that the more movement there is between the two divisions, the more chance there is of raising the standard.

THE CHAIRMAN and DIRECTORS

wish all our players, coaching staff, officials,
supporters and all those in Rugby League

A MOST HAPPY AND SUCCESSFUL

1988

We thank you for your past support

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NEWS FROM



SCHOOLBOY CURTAIN RAISER AT WEMBLEY

West Cumbria Under 11's are to make their Wembley debut in the 1988 Schoolboy curtain raiser to the Silk Cut Challenge Cup Final.

Barrow Schools are also to make their first ever appearance under the twin towers with TEN of their under 13 town team acting as ball boys for the final.

West Cumbria's opponents in the 14th Schoolboy curtain raiser will be York who have appeared at Wembley once before being defeated 10-5 by Leigh in 1978.

The 1988 Silk Cut Challenge Cup Final will be staged on Saturday 30th April with the Schoolboy curtain raiser kicking-off at its traditional time of 2.00pm, twelve minutes each way.

The Under 11 Schoolboy showpiece was launched in 1975 and schoolboy prodigies who have graduated to senior Wembley appearances include Joe Lydon, David Hulme, Mike Ford, Neil Puckering and David Plange.

Seat tickets for the 1988 showcase final are available priced £25, £18 and £12 with standing at £7 from the Ticket Office, The Rugby Football League, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds LS7 4HT.

SOUVENIR SHOP.....

Why not pay our souvenir shop a visit, just inside the ground, I am sure you will find something to interest you, the following is a list of items available. Our Commercial staff will be pleased to assist you.

Replica Rugby Balls	£10.00
Borough Match Balls with coat of Arms	£10.00
Borough replica jerseys	£14.99
Club Pullovers (acrillic)	£14.99
Club Pullovers (Lambs Wool)	£19.99
Springfield Borough plaques	£ 5.00
Club Ties	£ 6.00
Name or Bar Scarves	£ 2.50
Bob Hats	£ 1.75
Flat cap hats	£ 2.00
Club Pennants	£ 2.00
Club Lapel Badges	£ 1.00

Plus a varied selection of match day programmes from 50p each

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Our Visitors By Chris Garstang

Today we welcome Oldham who were in the First Division last season, but after a disastrous spell when they lost eight of their last ten league games were eventually relegated to the Second Division.

With the departure of last season's coach FRANK MYLER former Hunslet Oldham and Rochdale winger ERIC FITZSIMMONS has taken over and is assisted by Aussie Second Row forward MAL GRAHAM.

Other new faces to arrive this season are Aussie backs PETER WALSH, STEVE MCCARTHY and GARY WARNECKE. Warnecke also played several games for Oldham last season at centre. Second row forward PAUL ROUND was also signed from St Helens for a record £65,000. Winger STEVE ROBINSON joined the club several weeks ago from Saddleworth Rangers. MICK BURKE was signed last season from Widnes and has recently taken over at full back from COLIN ATKINSON. Winger KEVIN MEADOWS and halfback STEVE PETERS were both signed last season from Warrington and both had previously played with St Helens ex-Gt Britain centre DES FOY joined the club from Widnes. Scrum half PADDY KIRWAN and 'A' team hooker MARTIN HALL have both played at no 7 in recent weeks, with Aussie PETER WALSH who joined the club from Newcastle New South Wales now established as regular stand off.

Star man in the forwards is England international prop forward HUGH WADDELL who was signed from Blackpool Borough last season for a big fee. Formerly a Rugby Union player and footballer from Burton-on-Trent, Waddell is very fast for a 15 stone prop and a hard man to tackle when he has the ball. Hooker IAN SANDERSON is the brother of former Boro player and current Rochdale loose forward MARK SANDERSON. The openside prop is likely to be either NEIL CLAWSON or IAN SKERRATT with leading try scorer PAUL ROUND partnered in the second row by either MICK BARDSLEY or Aussie MAL GRAHAM. GRAHAM has also played in this country in previous seasons for Hunslet and Bradford Northern. Completing the line up at loose forward is long serving TERRY FLANAGAN who is the main ball handler in the pack.

Support our hosts Wigan Athletic

Aug 18	BOLTON WANDERERS	Dec 19	NORTHAMPTON TOWN
Aug 31	GILLINGHAM	Dec 28	CHESTER CITY
Sept 12	DONCASTER ROVERS	Jan 4	PRESTON NORTH END
Sept 22	LUTON TOWN	Jan 16	WALSALL
Sept 26	BURY	Jan 30	MANSFIELD TOWN
Oct 3	YORK CITY	Feb 6	BRISTOL ROVERS
Oct 13	CREWE ALEXANDRA	Feb 20	NOTTS COUNTY
Oct 17	FULHAM	Mar 1	ALDRSHOT
Oct 20	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	Mar 12	SUNDERLAND
Oct 31	ROTHERHAM UNITED	Mar 25	BLACKPOOL
Nov 7	SOUTHEND UNITED	Apr 4	BRENTFORD
Nov 28	BRISTOL CITY	Apr 23	CHESTERFIELD
Dec 15	PORT VALE	May 2	GRIMSBY TOWN

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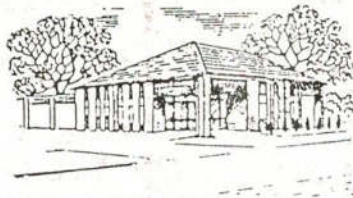
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- **AS MATCHDAY HOSTS** you and your guests will choose the Springfield Borough Player of the Match and present the award after the game.
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- You will each receive a complimentary drink to ensure your special day gets off to a perfect start.
- **YOU RECEIVE EXECUTIVE TICKETS** to the big game for you and your guests in the main stand with two special seats in the Directors Box, with V.I.P. treatment in the Board Room before and after the game.

Public Address

Your existing radio and T.V. commercial soundtracks can be played over the ground on matchday.

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Sponsors Page

SPRINGFIELD SUPERTRY

At this time of year Good Wishes, Best Wishes & Greetings flow in abundance and I am sure that most greetings are communicated with sincerity.

I wish to extend sincere greetings to all our followers who on many occasions have braved the elements to support our team in the effort to bring good class competitive R.L. to Springfield Park.

Particularly, I wish to extend thanks to the Newsagents Federation. The local Newsagents - Licencees of local Pubs and Clubs and those enthusiastic agents who have given so much support & effort to our newly launched 'Springfield Supertry' Daily Cash Lottery. The public have responded magnificently and I am truly grateful.

The Lottery now in its sixth week of existence, is firmly established and we look forward to you continued support. It is worth noting that our lottery, gives back to the public, in CASH PRIZES over £40,000 per year plus we have just presented 50 Xmas Turkeys as additional prizes. In Spring we will introduce more prizes in the form of overseas holidays and a new car will be presented in November when the Lottery will have been in operation for 12 months.

IMAGINE ALL THESE BENEFITS FOR JUST 50 pence PER WEEK

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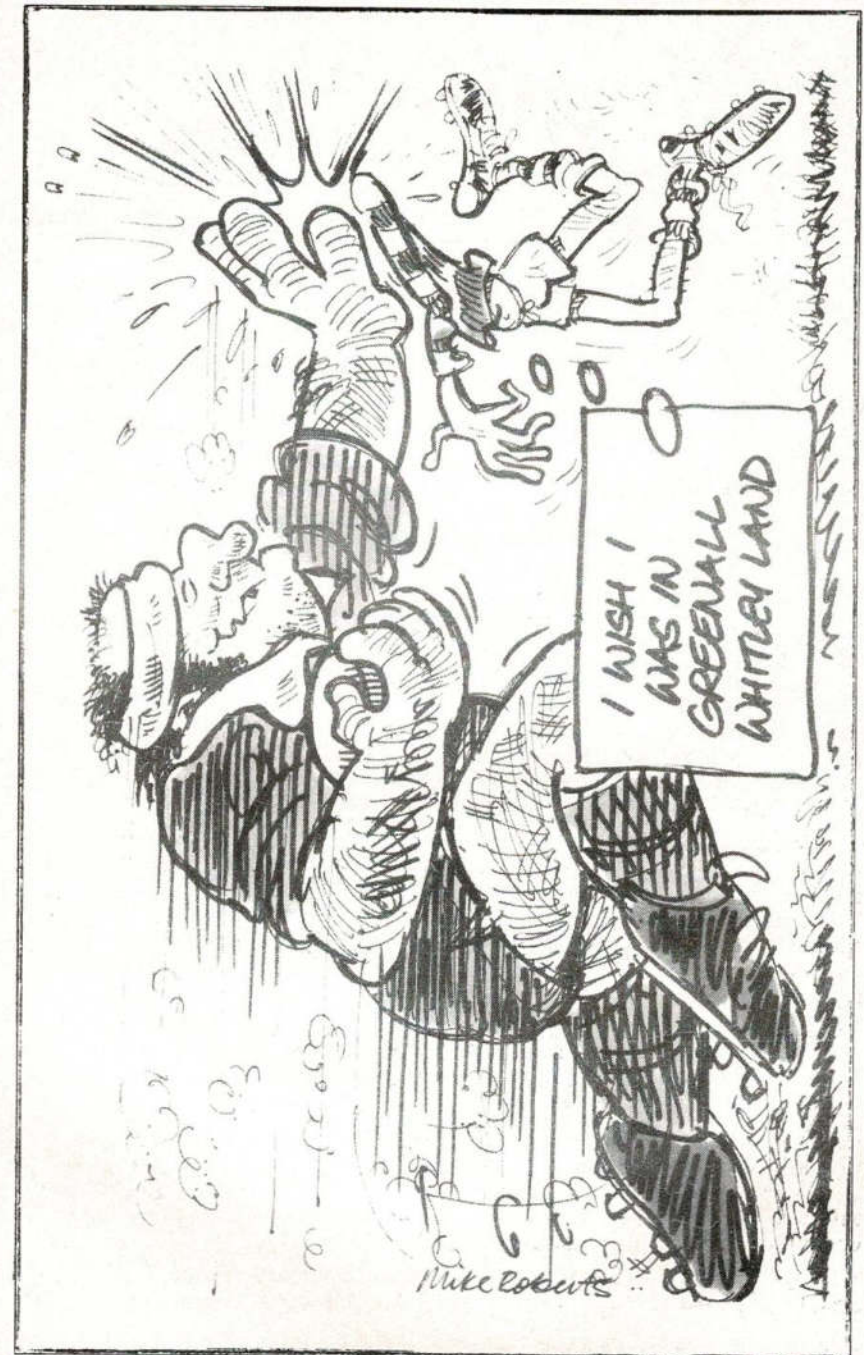
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COMMENTS

By Club Secretary

DERYK S. BROWN



It is not unusual at this stage in the winter calendar to appraise what has gone before and look forward to what might be.

It is a matter of fact that from the ashes of the old Blackpool Borough set-up arose a different and entirely new structure which rightly or wrongly took over the title of Springfield Borough. A title which in the due process of time will have to change again.

Springfield Borough has achieved minor miracles in what is effectively a new team in the league. Springfield Park is a fine venue which can only get better. The team ably led by Bob Eccles, has made an impact both on and off the field and with team spirit riding high and injuries at a minimum who knows what the position might be at the end of April.

A policy of attracting local talent has proved its worth with five of the youngsters drafted into the team being recommended for Under 21 International honours. A string of victories against top opposition, with Oldham being taken all the way earlier in the season underlines the wisdom of this policy which has got to continue. Our ventures into the overseas market has rebounded in that Gary French, imported from Brisbane at some considerable cost received a nasty injury in an off-the-ball incident and will not play again this season.

The calculated risk of running a second team in the Alliance League starting from scratch has paid handsome dividends. Not only has it enabled first team players to play out injuries or re-gain lost form, it has been a wonderful vehicle to try out new players. All the more remarkable is that at the time of going to press the Alliance side, playing its games in Blackpool, lies joint third in a very competitive league.

There is little doubt that the battle for the top three promotion places will continue unabated until the end of the season. No team will run away with the title and there is every chance that we will be in there with a shout at the death.

Obviously there are many imponderables which could dictate the action over the coming months. One is certainly the problems that can be caused by a bad winter. Presently we have two matches outstanding without the winter being upon us and a glut of games in April with a young team is not the best way to finish the season.

The need for co-operation on all sides, particularly with our hosts, Wigan Athletic, will be paramount as we hit the worst of the weather.

Injuries and suspensions can also take their toll. The former you can

Continued on next page

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COMMENTS

By Club Secretary

DERYK S. BROWN



.....Continued from previous page

only hope and pray, the latter is in-excusable particularly when referees will be expected to clamp down on foul play from now onwards.

In wishing our supporters a happy and prosperous New Year let us meet the challenge of 1988 with the goal of a top three place and a visit to Old Trafford in May as participants, and not spectators.

OUR REF.

Mr P.N. HOUGHTON

Mr Phil Houghton is one of the new up and coming breed of Lancashire Referees being only 36 years old. He is now in his 2nd season as a Grade 1 official having been promoted at the commencement of season 1985/86. He gained his earlier refereeing in the Warrington Amateur League also the North West Counties League and after passing the R.L. Exam he gained a more senior experience in the Alliance League from which he was promoted to Senior level. He is a member of the Warrington Referee's Society, the Lancashire Referee's Society and the Senior Referee's Association and he is a committee member of the latter.



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NEWS FROM



1988 SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP

The winners of the 1988 SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP will receive a record prize cheque for £18,000 a 12½% increase.

Total prize money of £98,000 will be at stake from the 1988 Silk Cut Sponsorship of £160,000, the remaining £62,000 being invested in the League's Capital Development Fund for ground improvements.

The 1988 prize structure is:

Preliminary Round	12 x £ 1,200	(as 1987)	=	£14,400
First Round	16 x £ 1,200	(as 1987)	=	£19,200
Second Round	8 x £ 1,800	(up £ 150)	=	£14,400
Third Round	4 x £ 3,000	(up £ 500)	=	£12,000
Semi-Final	2 x £ 5,000	(up £1,000)	=	£10,000
Losing Finalist	1 x £10,000	(up £1,000)	=	£10,000
Winner	1 x £18,000	(up £2,000)	=	£18,000
PRIZE MONEY				£98,000
CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND				£62,000
TOTAL				£160,000

The draw ceremonies for the Second Round, Third Round and Semi-Finals will be staged on BBC Television's "Look North" from Leeds and Manchester on the Monday Evening following the previous round between 6.35pm and 7.00pm

As last season a Wembley era record of 38 teams will enter the 1988 tournament, the 34 professional clubs being joined by four amateur entrants - 1986/87 Slalom Lager National League Champions, Heworth of York, and this season's winners of the Cumbria, Lancashire and Yorkshire Cups due to be decided in December.

The 1988 Silk Cut Challenge Cup opens with the six-tie Preliminary Round on Sunday 17th January, the Final being staged at Wembley on Saturday 30th April 1988.

Preliminary Round	17	January
First Round	30/31	January
Second Round	13/14	February
Third Round	27/28	February
First Semi-Final	12	March
Second Semi-Final	26	March
Final at Wembley	30	April

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SPRINGFIELD BOROUGH FIXTURES and INFO....

AUGUST
Sun 16 Dewsbury (Friendly) 24-14
Sun 23 Salford (Friendly) 24-10
Sun 30 Huddersfield 22-16

SEPTEMBER
Wed 2 Rochdale Hornets 6-8
Fri 4 BARROW 6-29
Sun 13 Workington (Lancs Cup) 10-12
Sun 20 Oldham 20-22
Sun 27 HUDDERSFIELD 32-10

OCTOBER
Sun 4 Whitehaven 13-12
Fri 9 CARLISLE 12-9
Sun 18 York 24-10
Sun 25 Keighley 20-18

NOVEMBER
Sun 1 Runcorn Highfield 20-26
Sun 8 ROCHDALE HORNETS 20-11
Fri 13 BARROW (John Player) 14-2
Sun 22 WAKEFIELD T. (JPS) 14-2
Sun 29 LEEDS (JPS 3rd) 12-22

DECEMBER
Sat 12 WHITEHAVEN
Sun 20 Batley 20-16
Sat 26 KEIGHLEY (3.00)

JANUARY 1988
Sun 3 OLDHAM (3.00)
Sun 10 Carlisle (3.00)
Sun 17 FULHAM (3.00)
Sun 24 Workington Town (2.30)
Sun 31 Silk Cut Challenge Cup

FEBRUARY
Sun 7 MANSFIELD MARKSMEN H (3.00)
Sun 14 Silk Cut Challenge Cup 2nd
Sun 21 DEWSBURY H (3.00)
Sun 28 Silk Cut Challenge Cup 3rd

MARCH
Fri 4 Barrow A (7.30)
Sun 13 BATLEY H (3.00)
Sun 27 Dewsbury A (3.30)

APRIL
Fri 1 RUNCORN HIGHFIELD H (11am)
Sun 3 Mansfield Marksmen A (3.00)

BOROUGH STATISTICS
Upto 20/12/87

	A	G	D	t	Pts
D.Bacon	13			1	4
G.Bimson	8			1	4
C.Briscoe	15			4	16
S.Bamber	14			4	16
D.Brown	2				
S.Brennan	5				
I.Duane	10			3	12
B.Eccles	16		1	3	19
C.Eccles	8			2	8
J.Emson	2				
T.Frodsham	13			10	40
G.French	6			3	12
C.Ganley	10			1	4
S.Garner	12				
P.Gamble	3				
T.Grundy	2				
R.Howarth	6	1			2
T.Hodson	5			2	8
J.Jameson	1				
G.Karalius	5				
S.Melling	6			2	8
I.McKenzie	5			2	8
M.Nanyn	4				
B.Price	3			1	4
M.Smith	15	49			98
M.Stewart	14			1	4
A.Swindells	1				
C.Thompson	7			1	4
P.Roberts	1				

Fri 8 WORKINGTON TOWN H (7.45)
Sun 17 Fulham A (3.00)
Sat 30 SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP
at Wembley Stadium

MAY
Sat 15 STONES BITTER PREMIERSHIP
at Old Trafford, Manchester

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Profile

OUR COACHES

There have been many arguments in R.L. club circles about the merits or de-merits of having 2 coaches for a team for there have been problems created in some clubs. When the Borough transferred to Springfield Park the club already had a tried and proved coach in Stan Gittens. With the playing staff being doubled the new board of directors felt that this important position should be a joint effort, if the right man could be found. Our chairman was aware of the capabilities of Mike Peers who was joint coach at Swinton when he was a director of that club. He wasted no time in inviting Mike to hold a similar position with us, he accepted and there has not been any regrets. The success of the team in the first half of the season has proved their capability. The "Little and Large" of R.L. hope to lead the club to further success.



MIKE PEERS

Started his R.L. career as a stand off half in his school team and was selected for Lancs County Schools team. Signed for Warrington Colts and after some good displays he was

signed as a professional by that club in 1972. Increasing weight forced him to move up to loose-forward and 1st team recognition, got a losers medal in the 1st Div. Premiership Final in 1977. Played 9 years with Warrington before being transferred to Swinton, becoming 'A' team player/coach and the team had a bit of success winning the Lancs Shield and the Alliance title. He became joint coach last season with Bill Holliday and had a most successful season, the 1st team won promotion and the 'A' team did the double winning the Lancs Shield and the Alliance title. His ambition is to help the Borough to get promoted to Division 1 and stay there.



STAN GITTENS

Started his R.L. career at the Manchester Rd County Secondary School in Leigh. After leaving school he joined Tyldesley R.L. club where he made a name for himself as a full back. Was spotted by Batley coach Terry Gorman and he signed for that club as a professional. His brilliant full back play earned him

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rave notices in Yorkshire but he returned to Lancashire when he was transferred to Swinton. In 1973 his promising career was cut short when he received a serious shoulder injury and on medical advice he gave up playing. However his heart was in the game and he took up coaching. Firstly with Leigh Colts and later as

'A' team coach at Rochdale. He was appointed Blackpool Borough coach in Nov. 1985 and before the end of that season the team were playing the best rugby ever seen from a Borough team. His ambition is to see his team develop a fine team spirit, play good open rugby and obtain promotion.

. ACTION REPLAY... ACT



SIMON BARBER in action (Photo by Wigan Observer)

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WHAT THE PAPERS SAID

HAROLD ASHURST (Wigan Evening Post)

Springfield Borough have signed Salfords 23 year old scrum half Steve Griffiths - but the youngster will have to bide his time before he joins the 2nd Division promotion race. Chairman Mike Marsland said the signing of the former Wigan trialist will be cover for the established pair of Tommy Frodsham and Geoff Bimson adding, "They have done very well since Gary French was injured and Steve will have to fight for his first team place. It all adds up to competition for the first team line up, and that can only be good."

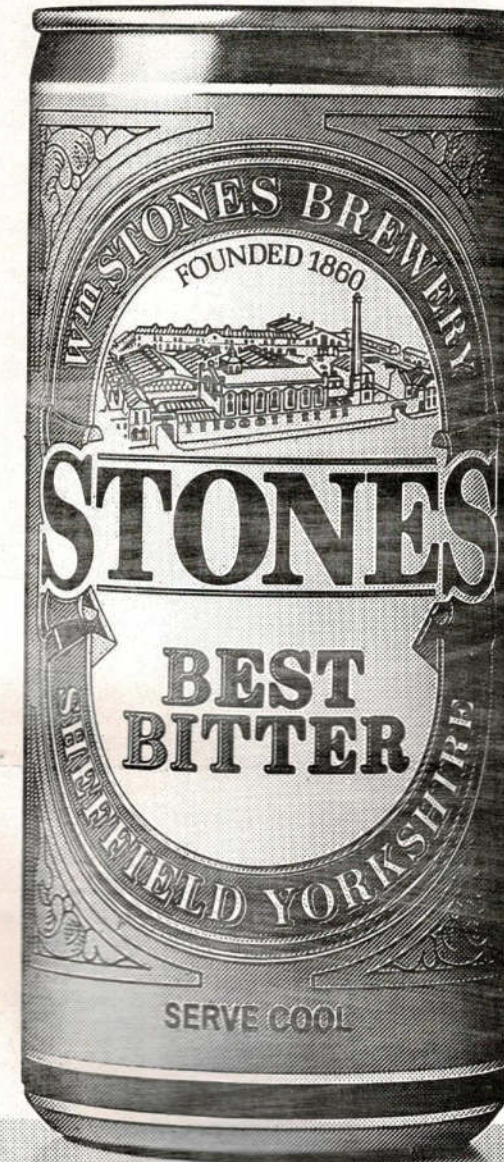
NEIL BARKER (Wigan Observer)

Ambitious Springfield Boro plan to step up a gear in a determined bid to play 1st Div R.L. next season. According to the chairman and driving force Mike Marsland, Borough will not let up in the drive for promotion as the season prepares to enter its second half, Marsland says, "Boro will soon strengthen their squad with a few more new players," he said, "We must be in with a good chance of promotion, we are learning all the time and will be up there with the leaders. We have come good at just the right time but I want us to go up and stay up. This is going to be difficult but with the right players I am sure we can cope. Boroughs captain Bob Eccles shares the chairman's view, he said, "Even though Leeds defeated us in the John Player Trophy, the experience we gained is invaluable. A number of young players in the side now realise what we are capable of and all we have to do is keep going. We are playing well as a team and look a good team when we really get it going. "I am enjoying my rugby better than ever, he said, I am pleased with my own form but know I can still do better. The players are getting to know one another now and this can only be good for a team wanting success."

JAMES DOBSON (The Star)

One armed Terry Gibson has been picked by 2nd Division promotion-chasers Springfield Borough, Gibson has played for top Aussie clubs, Wynnnum and Western Suburbs. Brave Gibson said, "I was born with only one arm but I have never let it stop me playing sport. What you don't have you don't miss and I have overcome the disability without too much trouble. I can pass and tackle like anyone else, but doors haven't always opened for me - I've had to bust through them, I have never expected any favours from opponents and have never been given any either." Gibson was captain-coach of a French club last season and he jokes about his handicap, he said "I play cricket and I swim, though I tend to go round in circles. Chairman Mike Marsland said "I've never met a braver character and he doesn't let his handicap interfere with his love of Rugby League, he has already played 3 'A' team games and played well.

The Blackpool based Supporters are running a coach to all first team games home and away. The coach leaves from Borough Park and there are several pick up points en-route to matches. Anyone interested in travelling with us to any game please contact MIKE LEEMING on BLACKPOOL 405678.



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THE 'A' TEAMALLIANCE NEWS
& FIXTURES

SCORERS UP TO 19/12/87

A	A	A	T	G	D	Pts
G.Bimson	5	1			1	5
S.Brennan	6	3				12
J.Emson	7	4				16
S.Griffiths	1	2				8
T.Iddon	7	3				12
G.Jameson	1	3				12
M.Nannyn	6	4				16
B.Price	6	1	1	2	1	9
P.Roberts	12	7		34		96
M.Smith	2			9		18
D.Seabrook	8	1		3	1	11
A.Swindells	10	2				8
D.Walsh	9	3		1		12
I.Winnard	9	4				16

The following have all scored 1 try each: C.Eccles, D.Bacon, M O'Hara, C.Thompson, J.Ellis, S. Melling, J.Smith, D.Berry, S. Frain, I.Duane, T.Hodson.

With two away games postponed at York and Wakefield Trinity the Alliance team lads were glad to get back into action against Batley 'A' at Borough Park on 19th December. On a wet and miserable day it was not the best of conditions for an entertaining game and it turned out to be mainly a forward slog. We introduced two more players to the side making 52 in all this season but despite all this swapping and changing the team kept its momentum going for a top four place with a fine win in what was an important game for Batley were level on points in the league table. There was very little in it during the first half but our teams superior fitness told in the 2nd period and as the new boys Paul Broxton and Steve Griffiths settled down they showed great promise, the former has a fine turn of speed and created many openings only to see them fail through dropped passes, in fact three certain

AUGUST

Sat 8	BRADFORD N	H	18-30
Sat 29	HUDDERSFIELD	H	42-0

SEPTEMBER

Sat 5	Barrow	A	26-14
Sat 12	Featherstone R	A	15-28
Sat 19	OLDHAM	H	12-12
Fri 25	Huddersfield	A	18-16

OCTOBER

Sat 3	Swinton Shield	A	22-28
Sat 10	Carlisle	A	14-22
Sat 17	Challenge Shield		
Sat 24	Bramley	A	18-16
Sat 31	WAKEFIELD TRINITY	H	28-20

NOVEMBER

Thur 5	Rochdale Hornets	A	14-21
Sat 14	Doncaster	A	16-9
Sat 21	FEATHERSTONE R	H	24-14
Sat 28	York	A	Post.

DECEMBER

Sat 5	BRAMLEY	H	30-6
Wed 9	Wakefield Trinity	A	
Sat 19	BATLEY	H	16-6

JANUARY 1988

Sat 2	Oldham	A	(2.30)
Sat 9	CARLISLE	H	(2.15)
Thur 14	Dewsbury	A	(7.30)
Sat 23	WORKINGTON TOWN	H	(2.15)
Sat 30	DONCASTER	H	(2.15)

FEBRUARY

Sat 6	Challenge Cup 1st		
Sat 13	BARROW	H	(2.15)
Sat 20	Challenge Cup 2nd		
Sat 27	Workington	A	(2.30)

MARCH

Sat 5	ROCHDALE HORNET	H	(2.15)
Sat 12	Batley	A	(3.00)
Sat 19	YORK	H	(2.15)
Sat 26	DEWSBURY	H	(2.15)

tries were lost by players losing the ball after going over the try line, Griffiths, a former Salford player scored two good tries and Ian Winnard, wasted on the wing scored another with Billy Price kicking two goals making a final score 16pts to 6

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