

TEAM CHECK

OLDHAM

PAUL ROUND — 1
STEVE ROBINSON — 2
JOHN HENDERSON — 3
CHARLIE McALISTER — 4
KEVIN MEADOWS — 5
CHRIS O'SULLIVAN — 6
MIKE FORD — 7
NEIL CLAWSON — 8
ANDY RUANE — 9
IAN SHERRATT — 10
JOHN FAIRBANK — 11
LEO CASEY — 12
TONY MORRISON — 13
KEITH ATKINSON — 14
ASHLEY GILBERT — 15

HALIFAX

COLIN WHITFIELD
MIKE TAYLOR
BOB GROGAN
TONY ANDERSON
WILF GEORGE
PETER COYNE
DAVID HOLMES
DICK FAIRBANK
SEAMUS McALLION
BEN BEEVERS
PAUL DIXON
NEIL JAMES
JOHN PENDLEBURY
ROY DICKINSON
DAN STAINES

Referee: Mr. R. Tennant (Castleford) Touch Judges: Mr. K. Reed (Red Flag), Mr. H. Josephson (Orange Flag)

PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5
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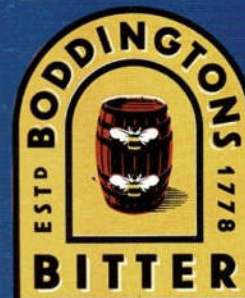


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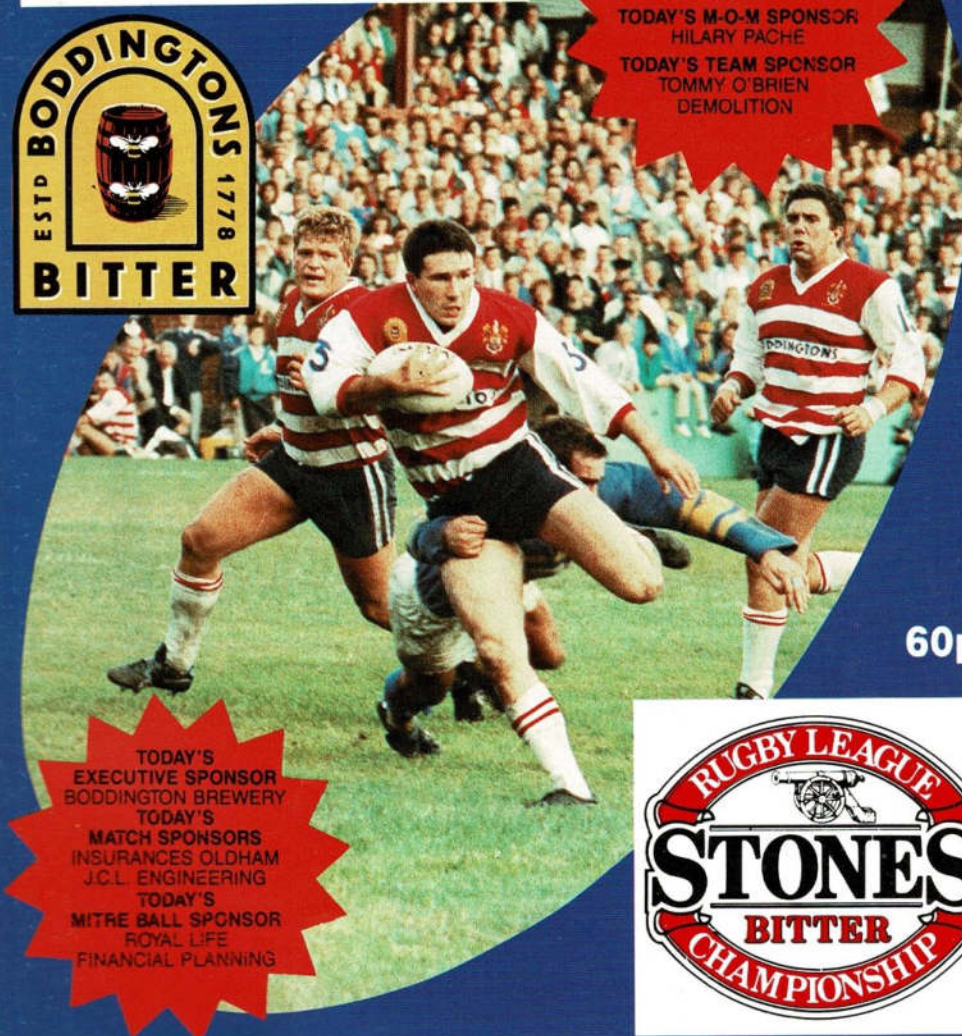
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Record Defeat: 11-67 by Hull K.R., September, 1978

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. Helens
for Paul Round August 1987
and £65,000 for Mike Ford January 1988

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

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

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

First Game: 21st October, 1876 v Stalybridge

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

Most Appearances: Joe Ferguson, 685

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

CLUB HONOURS

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

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

First Division Champions: 1904-05

Second Division Champions: 1963-64, 1981-82,
1987-88

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

Lancashire Shield Winners: 1975-76, 1979-80

Colts Premiership Trophy: 1979-80

Second Division Premiership: 1987-88

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PLAYERS PROFILE

PAUL TAYLOR



PLAYER PROFILE

Full Name: *Paul Anthony Taylor*
 Nick Name: *Taza*
 Birthdate: *26.7.59*
 Birthplace: *Sydney*
 Marital Status: *Wife Debbie*
 Occupation: *Pro Footballer*
 Car: *LTD*
 Fav. TV Show: *Adams Family*
 Fav. Film: *Caddshack*
 Fav. Music: *Eagles*
 Fav. Food/Drink: *Spaghetti Bolognaise/Southern Comfort & Coke*

Fav. Reading: *Sports Mags*
 Hobbies: *Water-Skiing*
 Fav. other sports: *Racketball*
 Likes about game: *Ability to succeed*
 Dislikes about game: *Losing*
 Superstitions: *None*
 Fav. position: *Lock*

(loose-forward)
 Fav. ground: *Parramatta Stadium*

Best moment: *1986 Grand Final (Sydney)*

Worst moment: *Broken Jaw, 1987*
 Hardest player to tackle: *One that gets past me*

Hardest tackler: *Depends on the situation*

Fav. all-time player: *Ray Price*

CAREER WITH OLDHAM

Date signed on: *8.84 (One season)*
8.88 (One season)
 Debut: *v Featherstone (h)*
Div. One 28.10.84
 Appearances: *30*
 Tries: *11*
 Goals: *0*
 Drop goals: *2*
 Total points: *46*

AUTOGRAPH:

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Here's to the last time! Oldham and Halifax last met at Watersheddings on December 14, 1986 when the Thrum Hallers won a tight battle 20-18. Terry Flanagan is held in a vice-like grip as Oldham's Stuart Raper and Halifax's Seamus McCallion look on.

PICTURE: OLDHAM EVENING CHRONICLE.

Player of the Month Awards

A new award scheme to recognise the most outstanding Rugby League player to be called the Rugby Leaguer/Metamec Player-of-the-Month, aims to put the spotlight on players who contribute most to the sport.

Giving details of the sponsorship, Rugby Leaguer's editor Phil Smith said he welcomed Metamec's initiative.

"The Rugby Leaguer/Metamec Player - of - the - Month will be chosen by professional journalists, many of whom have, in their time, enjoyed illustrious careers in the sport.

It will not be an easy task to select the most outstanding player of the month.

"He will be someone who demonstrates a combination of many talents — skill, team spirit, initiative, drive and enthusiasm — not simply the man who scores the most tries and goals."

In recognition of this achievement, the Rugby Leaguer/Metamec Player-of-the-Month will be presented with an engraved carriage clock by the sponsors.

Commenting on his company's sponsorship, Metamec's Managing Director Herbert Hanna, said: "Rugby League is enjoying renewed popularity and I believe it is one of the most exacting and hard-fought games in sport. It provides tremendous entertainment and without the dedicated players we have, we would be seeing a decline in the game. It is, therefore, a small measure of our appreciation that we have joined forces with the Rugby Leaguer to sponsor the player-of-the-month awards and we are delighted to be associated in this way."

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OLDHAM'S FUTURE

A message to all from director Greg Pache



It is not very often that I speak publicly, or in the programme, but I wish to bring to the attention of supporters the importance of our forthcoming share issue.

As you are probably aware, we have been a members' club since 1876 and we have never been able to compete at top level consistently. Even the little success we have had was more than 30 years ago or as far back as the 1920s.

Being a members club has always hindered progress and limited financial support. For the first time, we can now convert to a limited company but when this was set in motion by the previous committee only £15,000 was raised by members. As it was for a closed company we could never have gained enough funds to keep Oldham Rugby afloat.

The alternative, therefore, was to look at other ideas to create a strong financial basis for success, hence the creation of the **PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY**.

This gives an opportunity for everyone, not just members, to become a share holder of the club. i.e. companies, individuals, institutions, amateur club etc, both in the Oldham area and throughout Great Britain.

Putting figures into perspective, the market we are now entitled to pursue is enormous. As an example, our average home support totals about 4,000 and if each one of those 4,000 contributes, say, £100, we would be nearly half way to our target. That in itself would guarantee the survival of the club. Make no bones about it. If you want to continue to see rugby played in Oldham **BUY SHARES**.

It is no use saying: 'It'll be reet. Somebody else can put it in. I'm giving nowt. They'll only waste it. The club'll still be ere'

WRONG. Think again. Be patient. Success takes time. You may say £100 is a lot of money. I'm saying, 'Yes, it is'. However, providing we float in early December, as our professionals have advised, shares could be bought for Christmas presents.

Spread them around the family and relatives. Ask your bosses to help. Think of every conceivable way in which you could introduce a shareholder. Mention it at your pub or club. I'm sure that, with effort, each supporter could raise £100 at least.

Don't forget also the Business Expansion Scheme. Contributions over £500 entitle the individual to tax relief, effectively reducing net cost for shares by 25 or 40 per cent.

We know supporters are not satisfied with results. Neither are we. We not only need money to reduce our deficit, but to be in a position to compete for the better class of players.

We have not become directors for the benefit of ourselves. On the contrary, we are here for the benefit of Oldham RLFC, a club which everyone should be proud of and which should be among the elite of the game.

Help us to save Oldham. Help us to make the club great. **BUY SHARES.**
Yours sincerely,

GREG PACHE

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WITH THE SUPPORTERS' CLUB

FROM the Oldham Supporters' Club we issue a big welcome today to our friends from over the hill at Halifax. After our spell in the Second Division last season, it will be good to meet our Thrum Hall friends again — even if we are partners in trouble at the wrong end of the First Division.

Naturally, we are hoping for a good, clean game in the true spirit of Rugby League.

Our thanks this week go to G. Hill (Timber Merchants) for their splendid help in supplying wood for the Junior Reds' bonfire a fortnight ago. It was much appreciated.

Thanks also to Mrs. Turner of the Prince George Hotel, Ripponden Road, for her kind donation to the juniors' draw. Anyone wishing to donate £5 for this worthy cause can do so to any member of our committee, providing us with name and address so it can be acknowledged in the programme.

We are again running party nights on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve and orders for tickets are now being taken at the souvenir hut and the small canteen on the main-stand corner. Please hurry to put in your orders because numbers are limited.

We will need to know the ages of children attending and please appreciate that these are true family evenings and anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by parents, not friends. We apologise to anyone who, in the past, has brought family friends but with the present clampdown on under-age drinking we have to be particularly vigilant. Please help us to help you.

Looking a bit further ahead, we are also running a Wembley trip and anyone

interested in joining us should telephone 627 0235 for further details. We need to know numbers and take in deposits for seat tickets within the next seven days.

Don't forget that membership of the Supporters' Club represents great value for money for both adults and juniors and that bookings for away-day coach travel **MUST** be made early on 665 1832 or 627 0235.

Many thanks to Mike Turner and Donald Pilkington for their efforts last week in helping with the programme fair in the social club. It was a great success and the Collectors' Club organisers were delighted with the attendance figures.

Thanks also to everyone who supported the bonfire. Do book early for coaches, our festive season family nights, and Wembley.

★ ★ ★

COACHING VIDEO LAUNCH

Rugby League's first-ever coaching video is to be launched at Headingley, Leeds, on Thursday, November 24th 1988.

Funded by the Rugby League Foundation and produced by Rugby League National Director of coaching Phil Larder, the 40-minute video will be screened at 11.30 a.m. in the Ballroom.

The launch of the top class video, produced by Mediafusion of Leeds, is a major landmark in the rapid development of the coaching scheme and invitations are being extended to the premiere to all sections of the media, governing bodies, coaching scheme staff and development officers.

— BRING A FRIEND —

Rugby League gates are on the up and the average First Division crowd this season is 1,500 **BETTER** than last year. We must play our part at Oldham so . . . bring a friend!

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HERE COME HALIFAX

A GLANCE at the lower reaches of the First Division table shows how important is today's fixture for both Oldham and Halifax, who are rooted firmly in the bottom two positions.

Both teams desperately need to win to avoid becoming stranded at the wrong end of the division, so we can expect a real relegation dog-fight.

Halifax hit the headlines pre-season with the appointment of Ross Strudwick, an Australian, as team manager. A Queenslander, Ross has coached both Valleys and Brothers, whom he led to the Brisbane Grand Final in 1987.

He was to link up at Thrum Hall with player-coach Graham Eadie, the former Australian Test full back, who had done so well at Thrum Hall during Chris Anderson's days. Within a matter of weeks, however, 'the wombat' — as Eadie is affectionately known — stepped down as coach to concentrate on his own performances as a player and to leave the way open for Strudwick to take sole charge of the team in his first spell in England.

This was the start of a series of events which ultimately led to Eadie's departure from the Thrum Hall scene when Halifax were forced to unload an overseas man to comply with the League's restrictions.

Eadie was exempt from the quota, as a British passport holder, and the three quota men were Bob Grogan, Tony Anderson and Dan Staines.

Halifax had hoped to win residential status for centre Anderson, now in his fifth season with the club, but when they failed to do that and Peter Coyne arrived on the scene somebody had to go and that 'somebody' was Eadie.

Coyne, also from Valleys, is a British passport holder, so he is eligible to become the fourth Aussie in the Halifax side, alongside Staines, Anderson and Grogan.

Staines is a second-row man from the Cronulla Club in Sydney, while Anderson and Grogan are both from Queensland and are well versed in Aussie methods to put Strudwick's theories into action on the pitch.

His plan is to work hard on defensive strategy and capitalise on opponents' errors and the league table tends to indicate that the plan is working well in stopping opponents from scoring but not so well in terms of Halifax attack.

In stark contrast to Oldham's excellent 'points for' record and poor 'points against' record, Halifax have scored only 87 points in eight games — 100 fewer than Oldham — but conceded only 132, which is bettered only by Leeds, Widnes and Castleford.

Early on, Halifax made League fans sit up when they beat Widnes and Bradford, but they are now suffering from a run of five consecutive league defeats, including a narrow 5-4 reverse at Widnes in the infamous match when Colin Whitfield was sin-binned for alleged time-wasting when taking a kick at goal.

Whitfield, in fact, is enjoying an excellent season in the full back position and another familiar name in the back division today could well be former Oldham winger Mike Taylor, who has kept the wing spot this season so far and has scored half a dozen tries.

Aussies Grogan and Anderson will probably be in the centre today if there are no injury problems, while Wilf George could be on the other wing, assuming he came successfully through his leg test last Sunday when he returned to action after a six-week lay-off with ankle trouble.

Coyne will be earmarked for stand-off and there could be a new face at scrum-half — that of former Sheffield, Yorkshire and England 'B' RU scrum-half David Holmes, who will be playing at Watersheddings for the first time.

There is a more familiar look about the Halifax pack which will be chosen from men like Dick Fairbank — elder brother of Oldham's John — the long-serving and loyal Seamus McCallion, Ben Beevers, Roy Dickinson, Paul Dixon, Aussie Staines, Neil James and John Pendlebury.

We can expect a large contingent of Halifax fans making the short trip from Thrum Hall for this extremely important fixture, so there should be plenty of atmosphere and, we hope, lots of good football in a fine advertisement for Rugby League.



Halifax winger Mike Taylor in his Oldham days
Picture: Oldham Evening Chronicle.

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FIXTURES 1988/89

FIRST TEAM (Stones Bitter Championship)

AUGUST

28 Wigan A L 40-18

SEPTEMBER

4 Leeds H L 22-28
11 Featherstone R (3.30) A L 18-14
18 County Cup—Workington H W 64-2
25 Castleford (3.30) A L 22-19
28 County Cup — Salford H L 2-18

OCTOBER

2 Hull K R H W 30-16
9 Wakefield T (3.30) A D 12-12
16 Salford A L 38-20
23 St. Helens H L 22-26

NOVEMBER

6 Warrington A L 32-30
13 John Player — Warrington A L 21-14
20 Halifax H

DECEMBER

4 Bradford N (3.30) A
11 Warrington H
18 Hull A
26 Salford H

JANUARY

1 Leeds A
7 John Player Special Trophy final
8 Widnes H
15 Hull KR A
22 Bradford N H
29 Challenge Cup 1st round

FEBRUARY

5 Widnes A
12 Challenge Cup 2nd round
19 Hull H
26 St. Helens A
(or Challenge Cup 3rd round)

MARCH

5 Featherstone R H
11 Challenge Cup semi
12 Halifax A
19 Wakefield T H
25 Challenge Cup semi
27 Wigan H

APRIL

9 Castleford H
23 Premiership 1st round
29 Challenge Cup final

MAY

7 Premiership semis
14 Premiership final

Kick-off 3p.m. unless otherwise stated

'A' TEAM (Slalom Lager Alliance League)

AUGUST

24 York (7.30) H W 38-2

SEPTEMBER

3 Dewsbury (2.30) A L 24-22
10 Featherstone R (2.30) H L 12-18
15 Bramley (7.30) A W 6-18
21 Huddersfield (7.30) H W 44-7

OCTOBER

1 Lancashire Shield — Leigh A W 12-13
5 Wakefield T (7.30) H W 44-18
14 Lancashire Shield — Wigan H L 9-10
21 Huddersfield (7.30) A W 8-34
26 Runcorn (7.30) H W 30-0

NOVEMBER

5 York (2.30) A W 23-24
9 Bramley (7.30) H W 48-12
19 Runcorn (2.30) A
25 Leigh (7.30) A
30 Bradford (7.30) H

DECEMBER

10 Barrow (2.30) A
17 Workington (2.30) H
31 Doncaster (2.30) H

JANUARY

7 Trafford (2.30) A
11 Trafford (7.30) H
20 Bradford (7.30) A
25 Dewsbury (7.30) H

FEBRUARY

4 Challenge Cup (1st round)
11 Doncaster (2.30) A
18 Challenge Cup (2nd round)
22 Leigh (7.30) H

MARCH

4 Featherstone (2.30) A
11 Barrow (2.30) H
18 Wakefield T (7.30) A
25 Workington (2.30) A



Top Leeds model, 20-year-old Tracey Moore, is the 1988-89 Rugby League Personality Girl. From a family of 13-a-side code fans, Tracey will undertake a variety of duties during the season including the Daily Mirror Roadshows, the Greenalls Man of Steel Award ceremony, sponsorship hostessing, plus modelling and photographic engagements.

SPECTACULAR ON VIDEO

Leeds spectacular and record-breaking victory over Castleford in the John Smiths Yorkshire Cup Final at Elland Road is being made available on video in an attractive offer by Yorkshire Television who covered the match for "Scrumdown".

A tape of the full 80 minutes, plus interviews, can be obtained for £9.99 from Yorkshire Television Enterprises, The Television Centre, Leeds LS3 1JS, making the cheque out to Yorkshire Television Enterprises (postage etc. is

included). Fans should state whether they require VHS or Beta.

"This is undoubtedly the most exciting match we have yet covered for 'Scrumdown,'" said YTV Sports Editor Robert Charles. "All the tries were memorable, but the long-range interceptions by Schofield and Gibson were stunning.

"We think a lot of Leeds fans in particular will be keen to have this souvenir of a marvellous match."

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RUGBY LEAGUE ROUND-UP — RECORD SPONSORSHIP



Bass North is to extend its sponsorship of the Stones Bitter Championship and Premiership in a new three-year deal worth a record £¾ million. . a 90% increase on the current contract.

The game's top sponsorship package will feature annual payments of £225,000 in 1989-90, £250,000 in 1990-91 and £275,000 in 1991-92, with at least 50% being invested in prize money.

The Stones Bitter agreement covers the staging each season of 182 Stones Bitter Championship fixtures, 280 in the Second Division, plus the Stones Bitter Premiership and Second Division Premiership tournaments culminating in the prestigious double-header at Manchester United's Old Trafford.

Rugby League's Director of Marketing, Maurice Lindsay, said: "The doubling of Bass

North's sponsorship investment is the first stage of Rugby League's new progressive marketing policy.

"The game has made massive strides in recent years and plans are being formulated to fully capitalise on the top class entertainment being served up to ever increasing crowds.

"The Stones Bitter backing of the Championship and Premiership has provided first-rate projection of the sport, highlighted by the game's biggest prize purse of £25,000 for the Stones Bitter Champions and the establishment of the Old Trafford double-header with crowds approaching 40,000."

Paul Hughes, Bass North's Marketing Director, said: "This deal marks the commitment by Bass to this exciting game and cements the long and happy partnership we have enjoyed with Rugby League over the past three years."

This is the last season of the current three-year Stones Bitter deal, launched in 1986 and worth £400,000.

JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY

This is the 18th season of the John Player Special Trophy and the 22nd year of Imperial Tobacco's involvement with Rugby League. The longest running major sponsorship in British sport.

This season the John Player Special Trophy is worth a record £170,000 and this is divided into two parts — £96,000 in prize money and £74,000 to the League's capital development fund. The increased support is part of a two year agreement, signed last season, worth a total of £320,000 which takes Imperial Tobacco's support of the Rugby League since 1967 to well past the £1 million mark.

PRIZE STRUCTURE

Preliminary Round	— £1,250 each club
First Round	— £1,250 to losers
Second Round	— £1,850 to losers
Third Round	— £3,175 to losers
Semi-Finals	— £5,250 to losers
Runners-up	— £10,000
Winners	— £18,000

ROUND-BY-ROUND DATES

Second Round	— 26/27 November, 1988
Third Round	— 3/4 December, 1988
First Semi-Final	— 10 December, 1988
Second Semi-Final	— 17 December, 1988
Final	— 7 January, 1989

BOTH SEMI-FINALS AND THE FINAL WILL BE PLAYED AT NEUTRAL VENUES

WHITBREAD TROPHY HALL OF FAME

The Whitbread Trophy Hall of Fame, at the Bentley Arms, Oulton, Leeds, has been opened by Mr. Sam Whitbread, Chairman of Whitbread and Company plc.

The Bentley Arms, a Whitbread Roast Inn, now features an extensive display of Rugby League memorabilia as well as the Hall of Fame itself which honours the careers of nine great players of the past.

The highest individual honour in the history of the 13-a-side code has been bestowed on:

Billy Batten, Brian Bevan, Billy Boston, Alex Murphy, Jonty Parkin, Gus Risman, Albert Rosenfield, Jim Sullivan and Harold Wagstaff.

Entry to the Hall of Fame has been restricted to players who graced the British scene for the majority of their career. Only players who have been retired for at least 10 years were considered.

The Bentley Arms bars, restaurant and function rooms are now open to the public during normal licensing hours. Children under 18 may view the Hall of Fame from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Monday to Saturday and from 3 p.m.-7 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is free. During licensing hours children may use the restaurant if accompanied by an adult. For full details on tour-party bookings, meals and other information please contact the Bentley Arms direct on Leeds (0532) 820202.

Mr. Sam Whitbread said: "Throughout the world in a multitude of sports the concept of the Hall of Fame is recognised as a celebration of endeavour and achievement. I am delighted that Whitbread are involved with this project which will provide a permanent testimony to the legends of this great sport."



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WATERSHEDDINGS SURVEY

WE are delighted to confirm today our capture of former Warrington coach Tony Barrow. Events of the last ten days or so have seen considerable changes in our backroom staff, starting with the departure of Eric Fitzsimons and Iain MacCorquodale on the Thursday night before the last game at Warrington.

It would be remiss not to place on record our thanks to Eric and Iain for all they have done in the past 18 months, not least in the considerable part they played last season in our Second Division championship and premiership double triumph.

There are times, however, when hard decisions have to be taken and in this instance the decision was taken to bring in new blood, although at that stage we knew not who. Terry Flanagan was put in charge as caretaker boss and we set about the job of advertising our vacancy.

We must also thank Terry for stepping in at such short notice and taking charge of what was a very creditable performance at Wilderspool, although we slipped out of the John Player Special Trophy at the first round.

We had arranged to hold a board meeting on Monday night and, in the meantime, Tony Barrow took the decision to resign from his position at Warrington. Our vacancy had attracted interest from near and far — as far away as Australia — but the decision was taken to approach Tony and he came to the club where we had long talks before engaging him as senior coach on a contract that covers the remainder of this season and the next three seasons.

Tony has served a real Rugby League apprenticeship in a hard, thoroughbred 'school' at St. Helens, Leigh and Warrington. He has played alongside the great Alex Murphy, he served eight seasons as 'A' team boss at Warrington, leading the young Wires reserves to considerable success, and since March, 1986 he has been in total command at Warrington.

During that short time, Tony has guided the Wires to a John Player Trophy final, a Lancashire Cup Final, and two Premiership finals as well as seeing his side finished third and sixth in the First Division in 1986-7 and 1987-8.

He has worked under or alongside coaches such as Billy Benyon, Murphy, Kevin Ashcroft and Reg Bowden, whom he succeeded at Warrington 2½ years ago, and we have every reason to believe that he is just the man to lead our fight away from the bottom of the First Division and eventually into the upper reaches of the league.

We are delighted to welcome Tony to Watersheddings and we know that you will all give him a big welcome today when he takes

charge of his new team for the first time. Patience, of course, is needed. Things don't happen immediately when you bring in a new man, but let it be said that Tony 'rescued' Warrington when they were in trouble in '86 and he is confident he can do the same here.

A big welcome, too, to our new projects manager Brian Kirkham, who has been engaged to steer through our ambitious share issue scheme and to supervise the computerisation of the administrative work here at the club.



TONY BARROW

RUGBY LEAGUE DIARY 1989

Now available is the John Player Special Trophy Rugby League Diary for 1989. The top class diary, produced by Letts, includes a 24-page Rugby League section featuring photographs, diary dates and a mass of statistics. The traditional diary material includes holidays, calendars, notable dates, a year planner and rail information.

The diary is priced £2.99 plus 50p packing and postage from: The Public Relations Department, The Rugby Football League, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds LS7 4HT.

TOP-TEN TRY SCORERS

Martin Offiah (Widnes).....	19
Garry Schofield (Leeds).....	15
Barry Ledger (Leigh).....	15
Phil Blake (Warrington).....	14
Peter Lister (Bramley).....	14
Paul Geary (Batley).....	13
Derek Bate (Swinton).....	12
Keith Bentley (Salford).....	11
Grant Anderson (Castleford).....	11
Dean Bell (Wigan).....	11
Dean Williams (Rochdale H).....	11

TOP-TEN GOAL SCORERS

Steve Carroll (Bramley).....	51
Martin Ketteridge (Castleford).....	50
David Hobbs (Bradford N).....	49
Steve Turner (Rochdale H).....	44
Mark Aston (Sheffield E).....	43
Andy Currier (Widnes).....	42
David Noble (Doncaster).....	42
David Stephenson (Leeds).....	41
Chris Vasey (Dewsbury).....	40
Barry Vickers (Carlisle).....	37
Steve Marwood (Barrow).....	37



MAJOR SPONSOR OF THE RUGBY LEAGUE.

COMMERCIAL CORNER with RAY HILL

SINCE our last home game on October 23, we have published THE LEAFLET. Yes, we now have a four-page, colour newsletter giving full details and benefits of all our Lifeline activities. It gives eight reasons why **YOU**, one of our loyal fans, should be in the scheme and it includes an entry form and full details of how you can go about being a member.

But the leaflet, that warranted a mention in John Wilkes's nightly satire column in the Oldham Chronicle, is not only for new members. For instance, it gives full details of discount shopping and other benefits that can be gained by existing members.

Whether you are thinking of joining or whether you are already in the scheme, the leaflet is for **YOU** so please call in at the Development Association office on the car park and ask for one. We have had a good response from the newsletter so far, but there must be hundreds of people who have still not seen one and who might be interested..

Can I just ask one thing: when you have read the leaflet please pass it on to a friend or workmate or anyone you think might be interested in what it has to say.

Earlier this year, you will recall, our players enjoyed an exercise in which they visited local firms, factories and workshops to 'sell' the club by meeting the work people, signing autograph books and organising a free raffle for an autographed ball and other rugby items.

Well, we are now on the circuit again, starting last Thursday and Friday at Liversidge Joinery, and we are soon to visit Norweb to take part in a promotional push. If your firm would like us to take part in a similar exercise please contact me at the Development Association office or ring on 620 4870.

At Liversidge we linked up with their 'Take-AWAY KITCHENS' promotion and several players were at the factory on Thursday and Friday to push Lifeline and Cashline.

Katie Brereton, our Oldham Rugby Queen, was also involved and she is more than willing to help the club in any promotional work. So don't forget. Give us a ring if we can bring Oldham Rugby into your place of employment. It will be something new for the work force and it will help the club, too.

Christmas is now only just around the corner, of course, and if you look at what we

have on offer in the souvenir shop, in the way of presents, you will find that we are well stocked-up.

As well as all the usual items we have for sale some **NEW**, three-buttoned sports shirts, mainly navy and white but in various colours and sporting the club badge. Also due in this weekend are another new line in waterproof jackets, also with club badge, at the very reasonable price of £12.99.

We are now selling and taking Christmas orders for all our gear, including both sets of Oldham strips, complete with shorts and socks. Pay us a call soon, or ring, because there is sure to be a big demand as fans start to spend for Christmas.

Finally, I would like to give advance notice of our planned involvement in the New Year with a new and **FREE** Rugby League monthly magazine which a keen League fan from the Manchester area — a journalist — is hoping to bring out.

Advertising will produce his revenue and the magazine will be free to anyone buying an Oldham Rugby programme on match day. It will be given away by the programme seller to anyone who buys an Oldham programme which we believe is already excellent value at 60p and probably provides one of the best value-for-money reads in the game.

The addition of a free RL magazine will make it a super buy because the new publication will be full of interesting articles from around the leading Lancashire clubs, including Oldham.

The distribution scheme, with programmes, is also being considered by Salford, Wigan, Widnes, Warrington and St Helens.

We are in good company for what should be another media outlet for all League fans — and another reason why the Oldham programme will give something 'extra' to the faithful Watersheddings followers.

Keep up the good work, everybody!



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Action at Warrington as Oldham winger Steve Robinson sets off up the touchline

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JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY PROGRESS REPORT

	1987-88	1986-87	1985-86	1984-85	1983-84	1982-83	1981-82	1980-81	1979-80	1978-79	1977-78	1976-77	1975-76	1974-75	1973-74	1972-73	1971-72	Prize Money £
Barrow	1	3	2	1	2	3	3	F	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	3	14,700
Batley	2	P	1	1	P	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	9,650
Bradford N.	1	3	2	2	1	3	2	1	W	SF	SF	2	1	W	1	3	1	27,375
Bramley	P	1	1	3	§	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	SF	2	2	11,150
Carlisle	1	2	P	P	2	2	2											6,400
Castleford	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	SF	3	3	2	W	SF	1	2	1	2	19,350
*Chorley B.	3	2	1	1	1	2	P	2	2	1	1	F	1	1	1	1	3	14,075
Dewsbury	2	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	11,450
Doncaster	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	9,550
Featherstone R.	1	2	P	2	3	1	2	2	2	2	3	2	1	1	1	2	1	11,150
Fulham	P	1	1	1	1	1	1	2										6,300
Halifax	2	2	1	SF	1	1	1	3	1	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	W	18,050
Huddersfield	1	P	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	3	1	3	1	1	2	2	10,200
Hull	3	SF	3	F	2	2	W	SF	1	2	1	3	F	1	1	3	3	31,325
Hull K.R.	2	1	F	W	2	3	F	2	1	SF	1	1	3	SF	1	SF	2	31,225
Hunslet	1	1	2	P	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	9,600
Keighley	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	3	2	1	1	2	3	1	2	11,400
Leeds	F	1	1	SF	W	F	3	1	2	1	1	3	2	3	3	W	SF	34,675
Leigh	2	3	SF	1	SF	2	1	33	3	3	3	SF	2	1	2	2	1	17,950
Mansfield M.	2	1	1	1														3,900
OLDHAM	SF	1	2	2	1	1	SF	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	16,500
Rochdale H.	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	F	1	2	11,650
Runcorn High.	1	1	1	2	2	P	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	9,450
St. Helens	W	3	SF	3	SF	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	1	SF	SF	SF	33,050
Salford	3	1	2	1	2	3	3	2	SF	2	2	2	SF	3	2	F	1	18,025
Sheffield E.	1	2	1	1														4,450
Swinton	1	2	1	1	3	1	SF	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	3	1	13,125
Wakefield T.	2	1	2	P	1	1	1	1	SF	3	SF	1	2	2	3	2	F	16,700
Warrington	3	F	3	1	2	SF	2	W	3	F	W	1	1	3	W	1	1	42,675
Whitehaven	1	1	1	2	P	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	SF	2	1	2	10,500
Widnes	1	SF	3	3	F	SF	3	3	F	W	F	SF	W	F	1	3	1	42,875
Wigan	SF	W	W	2	3	W	1	1	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	1	3	45,225
Workington T.	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	3	2	2	3	3	1	2	1	1	12,750
York	1	P	3	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	3	1	2	2	2	2	12,000

§Bramley withdrew from the Trophy while in liquidation, opponents Hull K.R. receiving a bye.

*Chorley Borough's record includes those of Blackpool Borough from 1971-72 to 1986-87 and Springfield Borough for the last season 1987-88.

Key: W—Winners F—Beaten Finalist SF—Semi-final P—Preliminary round

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APPEARANCES AND SCORERS 1988/89

OLDHAM PLAYING RECORD (12 POSSIBLE) (Including Subs)

	App	G	DG	T	Pts	Total App
K. Meadows	12			6	24	54
R. Irving	4			1	4	19
D. Foy	5			2	8	181
C. McAlister	5	16		1	36	23
P. Lord	2			1	4	13
M. Ford	10			2	8	29
I. Bates	2					4
I. Sherratt	4			1	4	23
M. Hall	1					9
H. Waddell	2					54
C. Hawkyard	11			4	16	187
P. Round	12			4	16	45
T. Flanagan	10					283
S. Patterson	3					3
L. Casey	11			4	16	22
M. Burke	7	17		1	38	50
A. Ruane	11	10	1		21	11
N. Clawson	10					62
P. Taylor	7			1	4	30
K. Atkinson	2	2			4	31
J. Fairbank	9			2	8	9
C. O'Sullivan	9			1	4	9
A. Gilbert	7			4	16	7
A. N. Other	3			1	4	3
J. Henderson	7			3	12	7
S. Robinson	6			3	12	14
R. Marsden	1					6
M. Bardsley	3			2	8	13
T. Nadiola	2					66
T. Morrison	2					17

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Castleford	8	4	0	0	113	47	3	1	0	78	54	15
St. Helens	9	3	1	1	106	78	3	0	1	81	90	13
Widnes	8	3	0	0	101	12	3	0	2	114	79	12
Leeds	8	3	0	1	89	52	3	0	1	90	64	12
Salford	8	4	0	0	102	64	1	0	3	80	128	10
Wigan	8	3	0	2	128	90	1	0	2	54	64	8
Warrington	8	3	0	1	96	91	1	0	3	60	66	8
Wakefield	9	2	1	2	83	106	1	0	3	60	112	7
Bradford N	8	2	0	2	101	76	1	0	3	100	93	6
Hull	8	1	0	2	32	46	2	0	3	74	105	6
Hull KR	9	3	0	2	111	104	0	0	4	54	107	6
Featherstone	8	2	0	3	97	137	1	0	2	54	103	6
Halifax	8	2	0	2	62	64	0	0	4	25	68	4
OLDHAM	9	1	0	2	74	70	0	1	5	113	162	3

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MATCH REPORTS

OLDHAM 22, ST HELENS 26

AFTER the disappointing defeat at Salford, Oldham played much more purposefully against Saints, with Mick Burke at stand-off and Chris O'Sullivan at scrum-half. Burke and Terry Flanagan bossed the show for Oldham, Burke setting up two first-half tries for John Henderson and Paul Round.

It was 8-8 at half-time, but Oldham perhaps missed their big chance midway through the second half when Saints prop Stuart Evans was put in the sin-bin and Bernard Dywer was sent off.

Mick Bardsley, Ian Sherratt and Kevin Meadows scored second half tries for Oldham, who lost despite scoring five tries to Saints' four.

WARRINGTON 32, OLDHAM 30

AN amazing fightback by Oldham was the talking point of this match. Down 28-2, Oldham shook the Wires by taking the score to 28-24 and then 32-30 before the hooper put the home side out of their misery.

The artistry of John Woods and Phil Blake counted much for the Wires, but Oldham were well-served by half-backs Paul Taylor and Chris O'Sullivan, Charlie McAlister in the centre, and forwards Ian Sherratt and Leo Casey, who scored two of Oldham's five tries, the others coming from John Fairbank, McAlister and John Henderson.

WARRINGTON 21, OLDHAM 14 (John Player Trophy — Round One)

Terry Flanagan had charge of the Oldham side following the midweek departure of Eric Fitzsimons and Iain MacCorquodale and he was impressed as Wires were again made to battle all the way. Oldham could claim to be the better side, although they trailed 9-6 at half-time after the lead had changed hands four times. With quarter of an hour left, Wires led 15-14 and Oldham went desperately close to scoring more than once before John Woods made victory safe for Wires with three late penalty goals. Best for Oldham, for whom Charlie McAlister kicked five goals and Steve Robinson scored a try, were McAlister, who won the man-of-the-match award, O'Sullivan, Mike Ford, and forwards Leo Casey, Ian Sherratt and Neil Clawson.

HUDDERSFIELD 'A' & OLDHAM 'A' 34

ALTHOUGH Huddersfield were boosted by the appearance of four Keighley first-team men on loan, Oldham romped home to victory by scoring six tries from Steve Robinson (2), our best back, Paul Sherman, Trevor Croston (2), and Ian Bates. Keith Atkinson kicked five goals.

A trialist on the left-wing, from Rugby Union, was strong and pacy, and it was good to welcome back Paddy Kirwan, who came on as sub after 60 mins. for his first appearance since last April, to enhance our hopes of Slalom Lager Alliance honours.

OLDHAM 'A' 30, RUNCORN 'A' 0

THE Oldham reserves had to withstand a fiery, physical battering from an over-robust Runcorn outfit before getting on top to score a total of five tries through Chis Willis, Paul Lord (2), Paddy Kirwan and a trialist, with Martin Hall kicking two goals and Keith Atkinson three.

Neil Clawson was very impressive in the Oldham front-row, showing great self-discipline in the face of a fierce Runcorn assault, and one of the highlights was Paul Lord's second try — a magnificent effort from his own line in which he kicked over the defence, hacked-on twice more, and won the touchdown race.

YORK 'A' 23, OLDHAM 'A' 24

THIS was Oldham's toughest test yet in the Slalom Lager Alliance (div 2). York had won their previous five games and they looked like winning this one, too, until two late tries put Oldham on top. Even so, the Minster men scored in the dying seconds, but the goal kick failed and Oldham won by one point, with Paddy Kirwan, Martin Hall and Trevor Croston outstanding.

OLDHAM 'A' 48, BRAMLEY 'A' 12

OLDHAM moved into second place in the second division of the Slalom Lager Alliance with an eight-try trouncing of Bramley. Coach Ian Taylor announced before the kick-off that promotion was now his target and Oldham looked well on course as they scored tries by Trevor Croston (3), Ashley Gilbert, Steve Robinson (2), Richard Irving and Martin Hall.

Highlight of the game, in which Mike Ford made his re-appearance at stand-off after a month's injury lay-off, was the Croston hat-trick from a player whose pace and body swerve beat the defence constantly.

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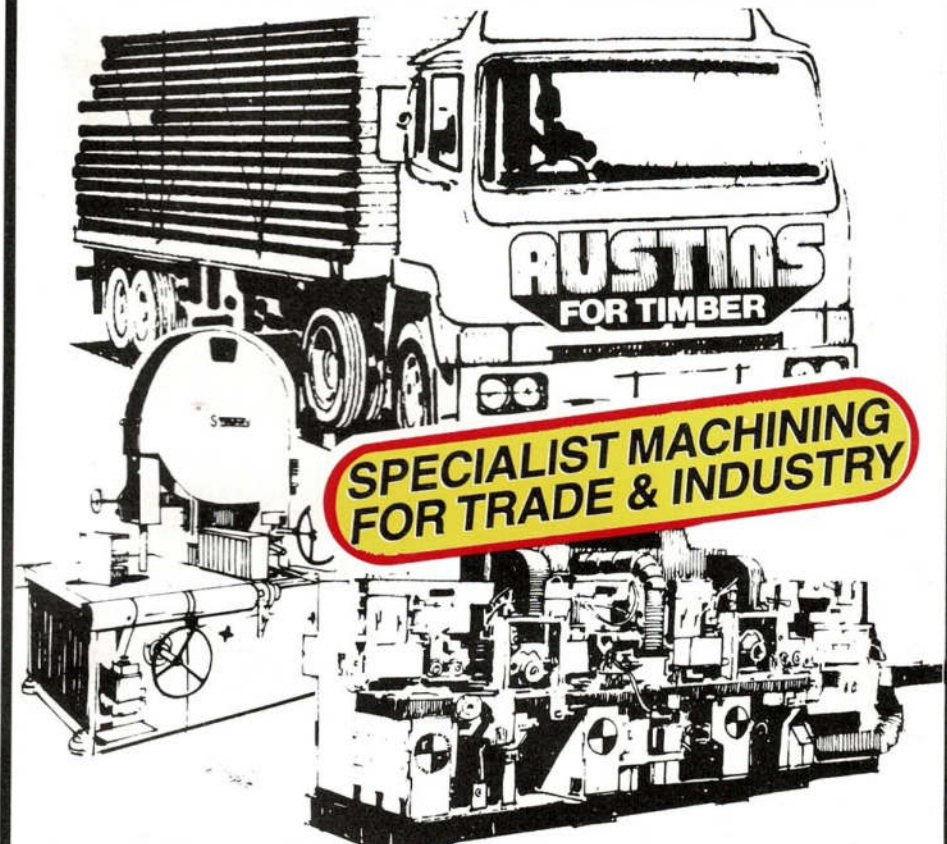
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