

TEAM CHECK

OLDHAM		BATLEY
RICHARD RUSSELL	- 1 -	PAUL STOREY
STEVE ROBINSON	- 2 -	JOHN McGOWAN
GARY HYDE	- 3 -	ANDY WILLIAMS
RICHARD IRVING	- 4 -	PAUL MARSHALL
PAUL LORD	- 5 -	BRIAN WAITE
BRETT CLARK	- 6 -	SIMON WILSON
MIKE FORD	- 7 -	JOHN STAINBURN
JOHN FAIRBANK	- 8 -	MARK SPENDLER
ANDY RUANE	- 9 -	MARK SCOTT
JOHN FIELDHOUSE	- 10 -	MARK SPEIGHT
PAUL ROUND	- 11 -	MARK HINCHCLIFFE
SHAUN ALLEN	- 12 -	PAUL GEAREY
JOHN COGGER	- 13 -	GARY SMITH
KEVIN MEADOWS	- 14 -	DAVID PERRY
CHARLIE McALISTER	- 15 -	GARY MACKAY

Referee: Mr. G. Holgate (Barrow), Touch Judges: Mr. J. R. Lindsay (Red Flag), Mr. B. F. Walker (Orange Flag)

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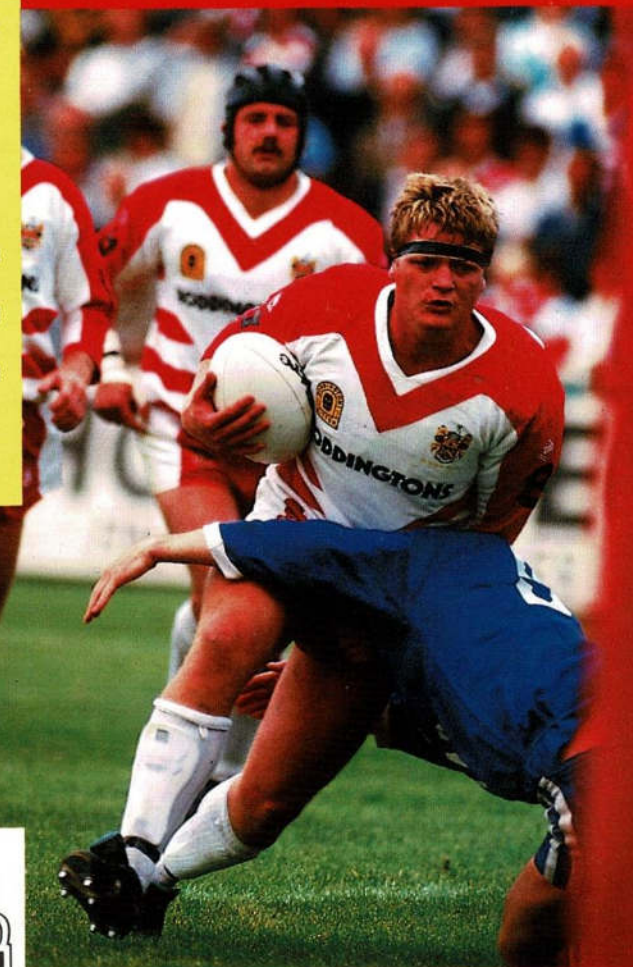
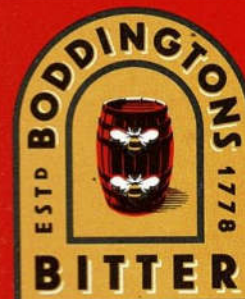
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I. Sanderson.

CLUB RECORDS

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

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

Record Attendance: 28,000 v Huddersfield,
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 Scores: 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

WE'RE PUTTING OUR SHIRTS ON OLDHAM



The Barrow Beat THE BOSS'S VIEW



THE appointment of Brian Gartland as chief scout is another positive move in our attempts to take Oldham back to the top of the Rugby League tree.

From one St. Helens man to another, I warmly welcome Brian to the club's backroom team, although Brian probably feels he is more of an Oldhamer these days than a St. Helens man.

His record in the past shows that he can be remarkably successful in his talent-spotting and I'm sure you already know that he played a big part in the signing ten years ago of players like Andy Goodway, Mick Worrall, Terry Flanagan, Paddy Kirwan, Ray Ashton and a whole lot more.

Brian is also the Lancashire open-age coach, the Oldham St. Anne's under-19 coach and the Oldham program British Coal Youth League coach, so he is heavily involved at all levels of the game.

Of course, he also has past experience of the Oldham club, so he is the ideal man to take charge of our youth scouting network, which will play such an important part in our rise to the top of the Rugby League world.

A top-class chief scout is worth his

weight in gold to any club and, in Brian Gartland, we think we have the best.

Brian and his wife, Maureen, were guests of the club at the Halifax game last week, after which his appointment was confirmed.

What a night that was! It was a difficult match for both teams due to injury problems and the fact that we were both playing our sixth game in 22 days due to involvement in our respective county cup-ties.

There were a lot of mistakes and it was end-to-end stuff. We had a few heartaches until it all came right in the last 20 minutes, but it was a vital win for us in our quest to take the championship and it was terrific to see the ground full of people again. What a marvellous atmosphere!

The club, officials, coaching staff and players appreciate the backing we are getting more than you will ever know. That's why the lads ran over to have a word with the fans after the Lancashire Cup final and why they went into the middle of the pitch the other night to give a salute to the supporters.

It was their way of saying THANKS — and I know it is genuinely felt.

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Welcome to Batley

Prior to their home game against Whitehaven last Sunday, they had won five of their seven Second Division games, beating Nottingham home and away, Runcorn away, Bramley home and Hunslet away and losing twice to Ryedale-York at home and Swinton at home.

Coupled with a good run at the end of last season, Batley had won 13 games out of 16 — and that has not happened before at Mount Pleasant in more than 60 years!

Under the shrewd guidance of Paul Daley, the coach, Batley have made a lot of people sit up recently, and secretary Linda Hartley, who is thoroughly enjoying her involvement, says: "The lads are playing as a team and that's the secret of their good run. It isn't about individuals or star players; it's all about teamwork."

The squad has been strengthened recently by the addition of two Australian boys from Queensland — prop Gary Mackey and winger David Perry — but it is not known whether they will be in the squad today.

Among the better-known Batley players are full-back Paul Storey, stand-off and skipper Simon Wilson, and forwards Mark Spendler, Mark Speight, Mark Hinchcliffe and Paul Gearey.



Photograph courtesy of Terry Swift.

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Flashback . . .

1987/88

Batley 0, Oldham 44



Whitewash time in the JPS Trophy as Oldham romped home by 44 points against Batley in front of nearly 3,000 spectators just before Christmas. Doing the damage was hat-trick hero Paul Round with help from Hugh Waddell, Brian McCarthy, Mick Burke, Des Foy and Gary Warnecke, with three goals apiece for Peter Walsh and Mick Burke. Here, Australian Brian McCarthy adds to Batley's woe.

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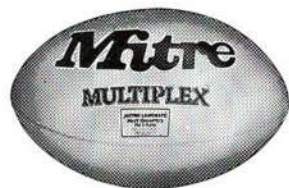
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Spotlight on . . . JOHN COGGER

OLDHAM may have lost to Warrington in the Lancashire Cup final, but they won the hearts of thousands who watched the game with their brave, never-say-die attitude that was epitomised by club captain and loose-forward John Cogger.

The 26-year-old all-action Aussie, with the flowing blonde locks and the distinctive black headband, was inspirational that day and has been ever since he signed on the line for Tony Barrow despite stiff competition from Leigh and Barrow at what now seems to be the incredibly low price of £12,000.

For archetypal Australian John Cogger the thrills and spills of cup final football is a far cry from playing for Runcorn Highfield in front of a handful of spectators.

Fed up with the intensity of the Australian game after several seasons playing first and second-grade professional Rugby League for Sydney's Western Suburbs, John came to England and signed for lowly Runcorn.

He pledged himself for two years but found the promises that made him choose the Merseyside club didn't match up to the realities. "Playing for Western Suburbs we would have gates of 10,000 — at one second-grade final over 35,000 packed into the ground. It was quite a shock when I ran out for Runcorn against Blackpool Borough to play in front of a mere 200 people."

Despite the problems at Runcorn John, who won the Second Division Player of the Year in the 1986/87 season, was enjoying his rugby. "Back home in Australia the game is built on defence, while over here the object is to score as many tries as possible which is the way I like to play Rugby League. The more tries scored, the merrier."

And since joining Oldham that is what Johnny F. Cogger has done, scoring once every other game. Despite this impressive strike rate, no one try sticks out above the rest. "The best one is the next one!" states the effervescent Aussie.

One of three Rugby League playing brothers, Cogger is now very much part of the Oldham scene, living in the town with his girlfriend Leanne and 3-year-old son Jay. Off the field he's busy working



To win an OB T-shirt like the one featured here, simply tell us who John made his Oldham debut against. Send your entries to Andrew Field, Field Public Relations, 24 The Crescent, Salford, Manchester M5 4PF. First correct entry wins the T-shirt.

on the commercial side of the club's activities, helping out with Lifeline and making numerous personal appearances at OB locals throughout the area on behalf of Boddingtons, Oldham's official sponsors. He's even featured on a Boddingtons T-shirt which states emphatically that he, and Mick Ford, are OK with OB.

On and off the field the popular Aussie has proved to be a hit with the fans. And although he's only been with the club for a few months, he is in love with the Watersheddings and the crowd. "The atmosphere of the place is superb. After playing to 200 people, performing to 5,000 die-hard fans every match is really special!"

Last year, John suffered the indignity of a humiliating 92-2 cup defeat playing for Runcorn against a virtual Wigan reserve team. Now he's revenged that defeat in the Lancashire Cup semi-final and is looking forward to the rest of the season.

"I have two aims this season. To win the Second Division Championship and to pick up a major piece of silverware. We went close with the Lancashire Cup so we have the ability to do equally well in the other cup competitions."

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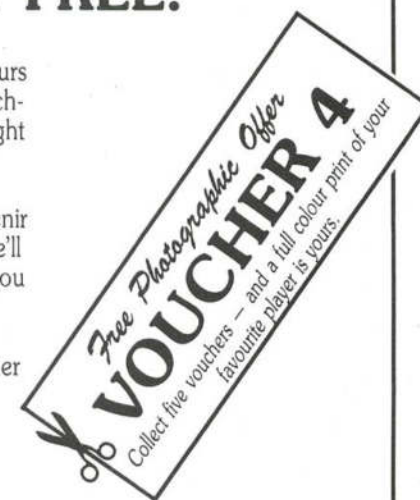
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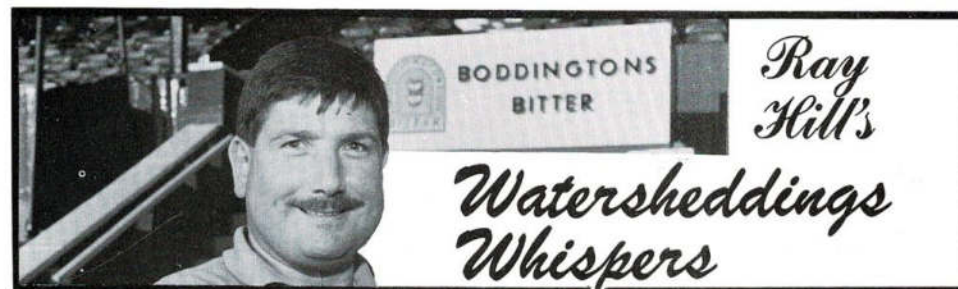
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SOME telephone calls are a sheer enjoyment to make, especially when you can tell someone that they have just won a brand new car.

It was my privilege to tell Jason Dixon and Antony Whiteside that they had won the prize of a lifetime thanks to Lifeline. The duo, who work for engineering company Cobden and Chadwick, received the keys to a brand new red G-reg £6,000 Nova (which was supplied by local Vauxhall dealer Skyways) at a special presentation last Friday.

Obviously, both Lifeline members were overjoyed and agreed with me that the £2 a week investment they make with Lifeline has proved to be one of the soundest financial decisions they have ever made. Not only do members get the chance to win special prizes like the Nova, someone is guaranteed to win £1,000 every single week of the year. If you want to join, simply contact either John Cogger or John Watkins on 061-626 4501.

Rest assured, you will not regret signing up. Just ask Jason or Antony or any of the numerous happy Lifeline winners!

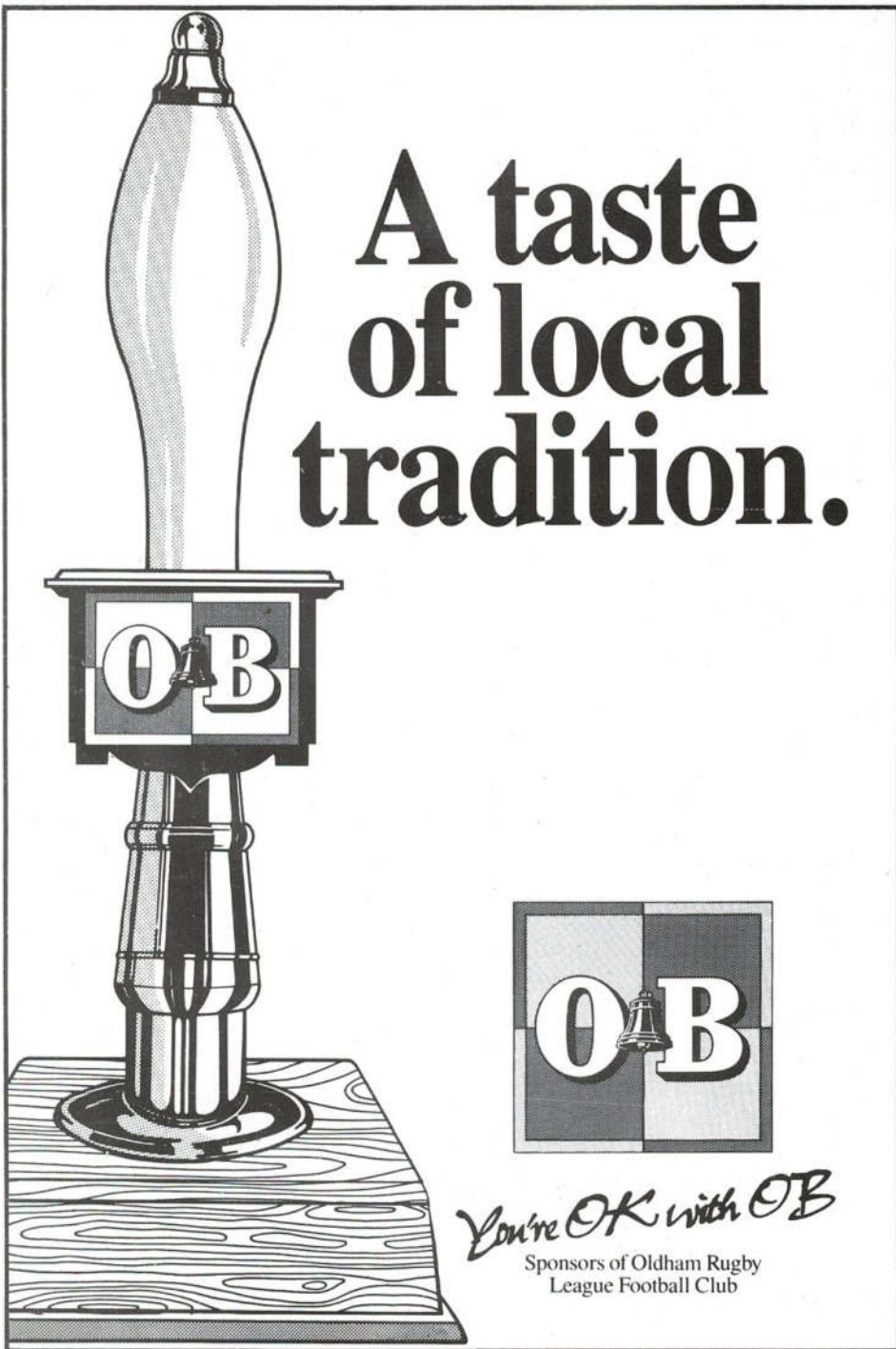
Another winner recently was Geraldine Allen, wife of energetic

Oldham forward Shaun, who won five VIP tickets for last weekend's first Great Britain-New Zealand Test match in a special prize draw held after the Halifax match. Geraldine and five friends had a superb meal before the kick-off and watched the Test from a luxury executive box. From what they tell me, a good time was had by all.

Finally, apologies to the New Vale House. We promised to send some players along for a fete they were holding. Unfortunately, the fete followed the day after the Warrington cup final, and a night of celebrations, so no players turned up. We will make sure we make it up to you in the near future. And that's a promise!



Top gear — the handing over of the keys to a brand new £6,000 Nova won in a special Lifeline draw. Seen (left to right) here are Tony Fowler (Skyways), John Cogger and John Watkins (Oldham RLFC), Jason Dixon and Anthony Whiteside.



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CORNER

200 REASONS TO BE CHEERFUL

DENNIS Adams, popular landlord of the Hathershaw Hotel, Ashton Road, has 200 reasons to be cheerful because the OB licensee has just won £200 of vouchers in a prize draw organised by Boddingtons.



Jovial Dennis, who serves one of the best pints in Oldham, was presented with his vouchers by Oldham's Aussie duo, John

Cogger and Brett Clark, and stunning blonde model Helen Jeffrey, at his OB local.

THEY ARE OK WITH OB!

THE winners of the recent Oldham Evening Chronicle competition for autographed You're OK with OB T-shirts were D. E. Sharp, R. Frankland, Carl Wood, Steven Wood, Paul Lord and L. Smethurst. Congratulations to all concerned.

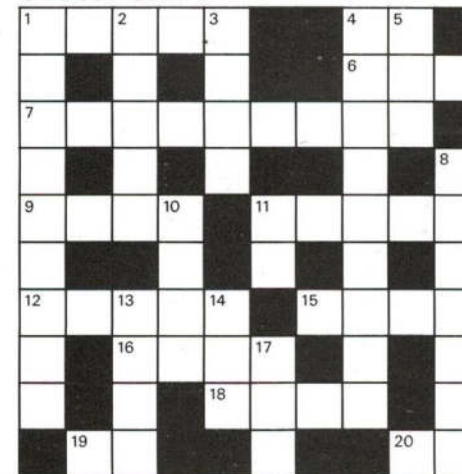
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The winner of Boddingtons Crossword Number 2 was Mr. J. Wrigley, Wellington Road, Greenfield, Oldham, who has chosen a John/Mick T-shirt.

CROSSWORD 4



ACROSS

- 1 Ex-Hull KR centre, double try-scorer at Wembley in 1986 (5)
- 4 Initials of Oldham winger (1,1)
- 6 Evans, Salford & former Swinton winger (3)
- 7 Player who had the nickname "The Flying Dentist" (9)
- 9 Halifax prop (4)
- 11 Tony _____, Rochdale Hornets winger of the 70s (5)
- 12 The Rugby League was originally known as The Northern _____ (5)
- 15 Manly Warringah half-back earned a Lancashire Cup medal last season while guesting in England (4)
- 16 Sullivan, recent Rochdale Hornets capture from Naughton Park (4)
- 18 Platt, Ford, Ruane and Cogger could be described as _____ mates (4)
- 19 Initials of ex-Oldham forward signed in a double deal along with Alan Taylor in the early 80s (1,1)
- 20 Helens or George (2)

DOWN:

- 1 Doncaster No 8 - scored 19 tries in the 1985-86 season (9)
- 2 Name of a "Northern" Rugby League ground (5)
- 3 Kiwi prop, George _____, played for Leigh last season (4)
- 4 _____ and Mitcham, prior to Fulham the last professional club in London (9)
- 5 Bowden, former Widnes scrum-half (3)
- 8 Newcastle Knights skipper and Kiwi back-rower (7)
- 10 Warrington full-back arrived from Widnes (4)
- 11 Initials of ex-Oldham prop forward (1,1)
- 13 MacCorquodale, ex-Oldham coach (4)
- 14 Initials of Springbok RL star of Wigan & Barrow fame (1,1,1)
- 17 Up the Rough _____ (3)

ANSWERS TO BODDINGTONS CROSSWORD NUMBER 2:

ACROSS - 1 Millom, 4 Day, 5 Newcastle, 7 DS, 9 LD, 10 James, 13 SA, 14 Sand, 17 Alt, 18 KR, 19 Fenton.

DOWN - 1 Mantle, 2 Lowe, 3 Moss, 4 Daley, 8 Stanton, 10 Jack, 15 Dart, 16 Leo.

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11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

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1	2	3	4	5
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1	2	3	4	5
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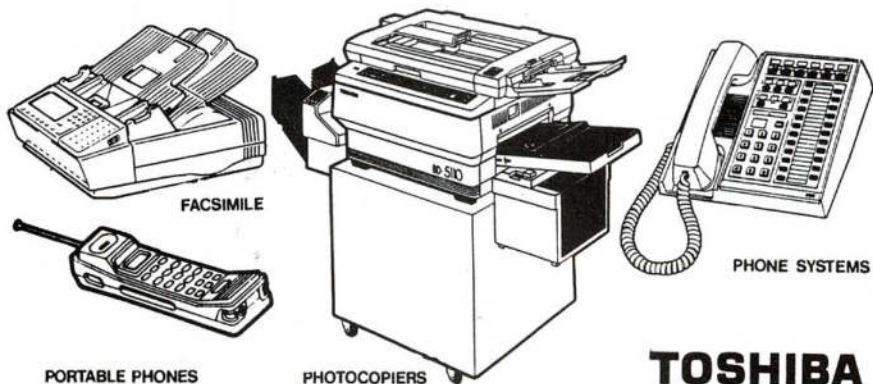
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Fixtures and Statistics

Date	Opponents	V	KO	P	Res	F-A	Tries	Goals	Att
Sep	3 Workington T	H	3.00	W	40-8		Henderson (2), Cogger (2), McAlister, Lord, Ruane, Russell	Platt (4)	3,743
	10 Halifax	A	3.00	11	L	12-22	Platt, Cogger	Platt (2)	8,612
	16 Barrow (Lancs Cup)	A	2.30	W	46-2		Lord (2), Ford, Casey, Platt (2), Allen, Hyde, Cogger	Platt (5)	2,300
Oct	27 St. Helens (Lancs Cup)	A	7.30	W	36-6		Robinson, Ford, Platt, Cogger, Allen, Newton	Platt (6)	7,834
	1 Hull KR	H	3.00	12	W	12-4	Lord	Platt (4)	5,797
	5 Wigan (Lancs Cup)	H	7.30	W	19-18		Fieldhouse, Newton, Ford	Platt, Hyde (2), Ford (dg)	8,603
	8 Runcorn H	A	3.00	9	W	34-6	Russell, Clarke (2), Meadows (2), Clawson, Irving	Hyde (2)	2,500
	14 Warrington (Lancs Cup final)	-	3.00	L	16-24		Irving, Robinson, Lord	Platt (1), Hyde (1)	9,895
	18 Halifax	H	7.30	W	14-3		Lord, Fairbank	Hyde (3)	6,953
	22 Carlisle	A	3.00	5	W	10-32	Fieldhouse (2), Hyde, Fairbank, Cogger, Meadows	Hyde (2), McAlister (2)	1,200
	29 Batley	H	3.00						
	Nov	5 Doncaster	A	3.00					
	12 Keighley	H	3.00						
	19 Fulham	A	2.30						
	26 Doncaster	H	3.00						
Dec	3 Regal Trophy (1)								
	10 Regal Trophy (2)								
	17 Workington T	A	2.30						
Jan	26 Rochdale H	A	3.00						
	1 Swinton	H	3.00						
	7 Hunslet	H	3.00						
	14 Hull KR	A	3.00						
	21 Chorley	A	3.00						
	28 Silk Cut Challenge Cup								
Feb	4 Fulham	H	3.00						
	11 Challenge Cup 2nd Rnd								
	18 Chorley	H	3.00						
	25 Keighley	A	3.15						
Mar	4 Huddersfield	H	3.00						
	11 Bailey	A	2.30						
	18 Runcorn	H	3.00						
	25 Huddersfield	A	3.00						
Apr	1 Hunslet	A	3.30						
	8 Carlisle	H	3.00						
	13 Swinton	A	3.00						
	16 Rochdale	H	3.00						

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Appearances and Scorers

1989/90 SEASON

	P	Sub	G	D	T	Pts
Shaun Allen.....	10	0	0	0	2	8
Ian Bates.....	1	0	0	0	0	0
Leo Casey.....	8	0	0	0	1	4
Brett Clark.....	5	0	0	0	2	8
Neil Clawson.....	1	1	0	0	1	4
John Cogger.....	9	0	0	0	6	24
Trevor Croston.....	1	1	0	0	0	0
John Fairbank.....	2	6	0	0	2	8
John Fieldhouse.....	10	0	0	0	3	12
Neil Flanagan.....	0	1	0	0	0	0
Mick Ford.....	9	0	0	1	3	13
John Henderson.....	2	0	0	0	2	8
Gary Hyde.....	10	0	11	0	2	30
Richard Irving.....	8	0	0	0	2	8
Paul Lord.....	9	0	0	0	6	24
Charlie McAlister.....	3	2	0	2	1	8
Keith Meadows.....	1	2	0	0	3	12
Keith Newton.....	9	0	0	0	2	8
Duncan Platt.....	7	0	22	0	4	60
Steve Robinson.....	7	3	0	0	2	8
Paul Round.....	1	0	0	0	0	0
Andy Ruane.....	9	0	0	0	1	4
Richard Russell.....	7	3	0	0	2	8

Division Two League Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rochdale.....	7	3	0	0	124	56	3	0	1	112	73	12
Batley.....	8	3	0	2	79	65	3	0	0	61	22	12
Rydale York.....	7	1	0	0	16	6	4	1	1	134	56	11
Halifax.....	6	4	0	0	103	45	1	0	1	75	34	10
OLDHAM	6	3	0	0	66	15	2	0	1	78	38	10
Huddersfield.....	7	3	0	2	89	69	2	0	0	76	22	10
Swinton.....	8	2	0	1	82	35	3	0	2	106	94	10
Fulham.....	7	3	0	1	80	39	2	0	1	42	29	10
Doncaster.....	7	2	1	1	98	48	2	0	1	58	28	9
Hull KR.....	5	3	0	0	140	28	1	0	1	54	28	8
Dewsbury.....	7	2	0	1	75	33	2	0	2	74	100	8
Hunslet.....	9	1	0	3	69	97	2	0	3	84	64	6
Keighley.....	8	2	0	2	104	124	1	0	3	56	82	6
Workington.....	7	1	0	2	44	84	2	0	2	57	120	6
Bramley.....	7	1	0	2	65	68	1	0	3	52	80	4
Trafford.....	6	2	0	2	89	94	0	0	2	26	70	4
Whitehaven.....	9	2	0	2	75	95	0	0	5	60	126	4
Chorley.....	6	2	0	2	49	62	0	0	2	14	94	4
Carlisle.....	6	1	0	2	76	60	0	0	3	42	106	2
Nottingham.....	7	0	0	3	42	124	1	0	3	48	139	2
Runcorn.....	8	0	0	4	20	102	0	0	4	40	180	0

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Terrace Talk

WELL, as October draws to a close, we can expect the comparative mild and comfortable weather to change, but even though we will now have to start to put on the woolly jumpers and long johns for added weather protection, let's hope the quality and standard of rugby will continue to warm us up.

Our last home fixture against Halifax saw Oldham playing their sixth game in 22 days, and that's remarkable when we are not even out of October! Afterwards, the treatment room at Watersheddings resembled something like a M*A*S*H unit. The injured players from previous games had to move over and make way for the doctor to stitch up the walking wounded from that night's endeavours, and there was enough work to have kept M*A*S*H's Hawkeye busy for a week. Tony Barrow said: "Our first-half performance was reminiscent of a display by the Harlem Globetrotters but I was confident once we had got the first points on the board we would settle down, but I felt for the players because they were all mentally tired out. However, no use grumbling about all the matches. I certainly breathed a huge sigh of relief when we came off with the points in the bag." He then went on to issue a word of warning — "When you are up there at the top of the tree, then everyone is trying to knock you off your perch." So of the current crop of injuries, the one to Keith Newton would appear to be the worst, and he might now be looking at a lengthy absence.

On a broader issue, the British Coal test matches are now upon us, and I don't think another word of warning would go amiss there either. The Kiwi's, whilst not

having performed particularly well so far, can be quite an unpredictable bunch, and whilst at the time of writing the first test result is unknown, we will need to be at our best if we are to clinch the series. I only hope that a victory doesn't breed complacency, for while we are now abundantly better equipped to tackle both them and the Aussies next year, we must not allow ourselves to be lulled into any sense of false security which may have disastrous consequences at a later date.

Back to home fronts and it's good to see Brian Gartland set to rejoin the backroom staff at Watersheddings. A man whose shrewd judgement of young players is admired by many in the rugby world. Of course, Oldham supporters won't need reminding of his talents, and he does seem to have the knack of "sniffing out" budding talent.

Finally, one last word about that Lancashire Cup final day, or rather night is perhaps more apt. The lads were given a super reception on arriving back at the new 'Sheddings' and as the night turned into early morning, one thought occurred to me — perhaps it was just as well we did lose out because if we can live it up like that having put up a magnificent effort in defeat, what will it be like when we get some silverware. Ray Hill please take note!

Enjoy your
rugby.



Jack Dearden

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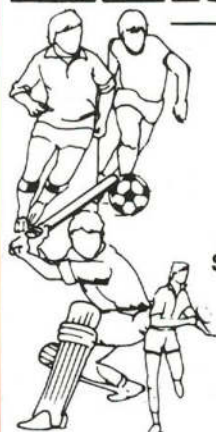
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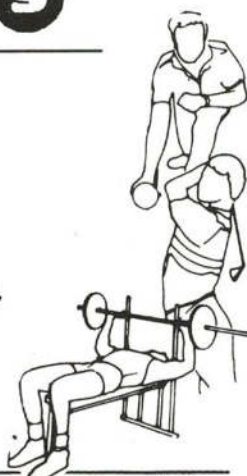
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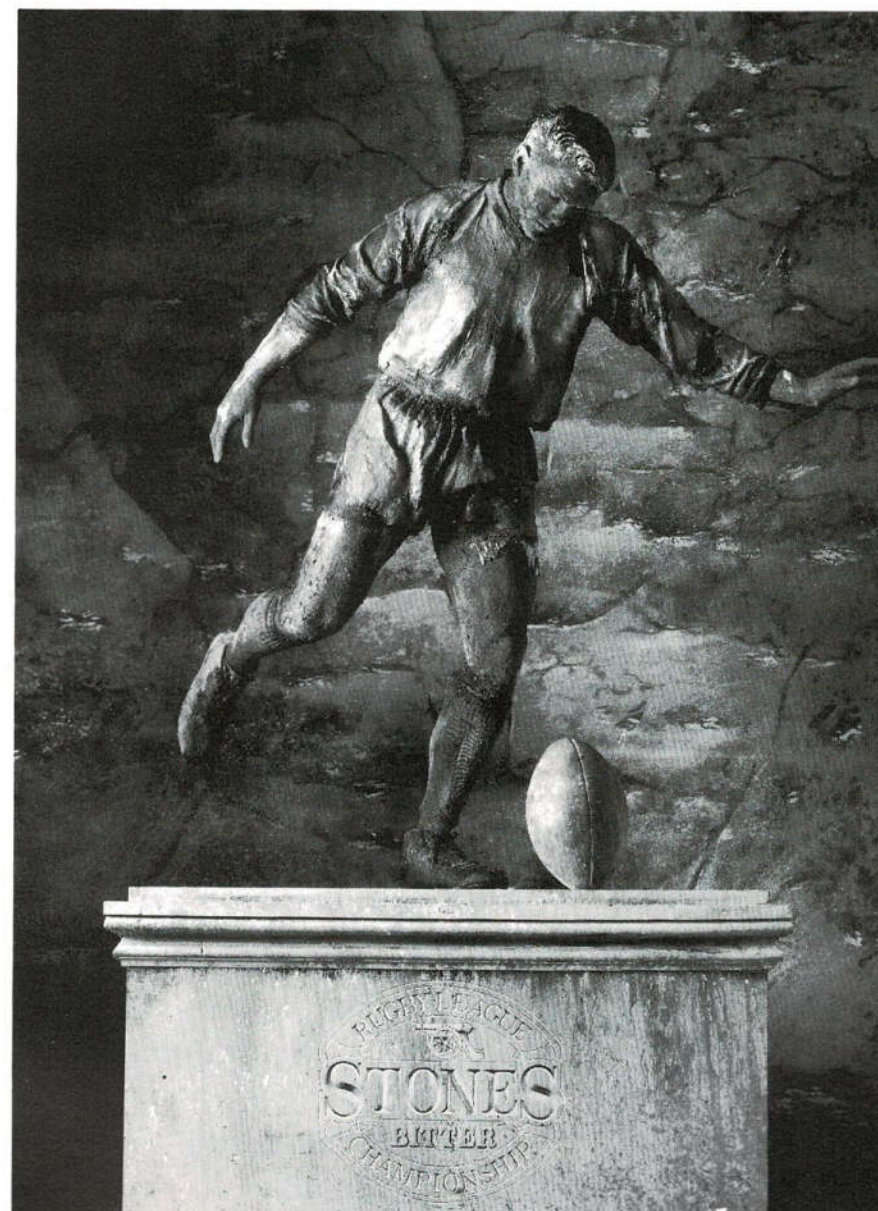


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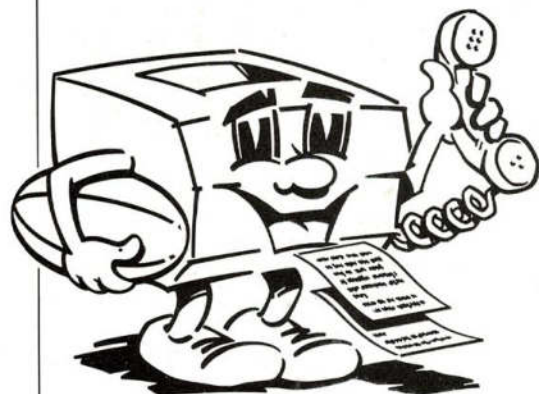
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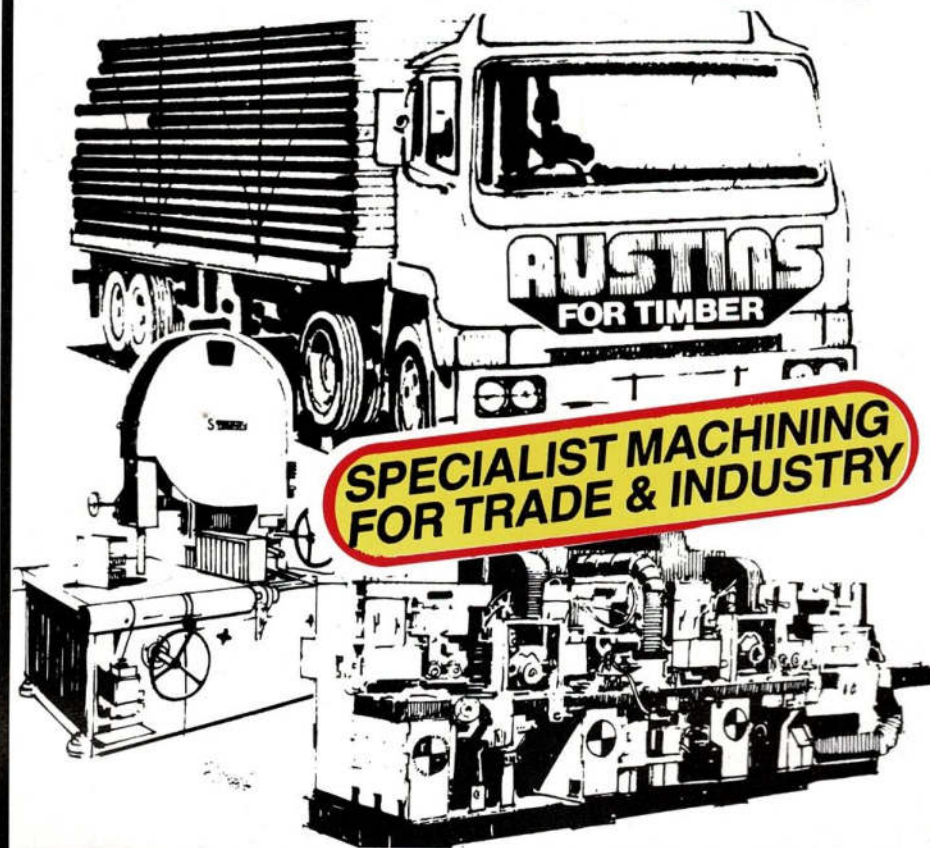
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