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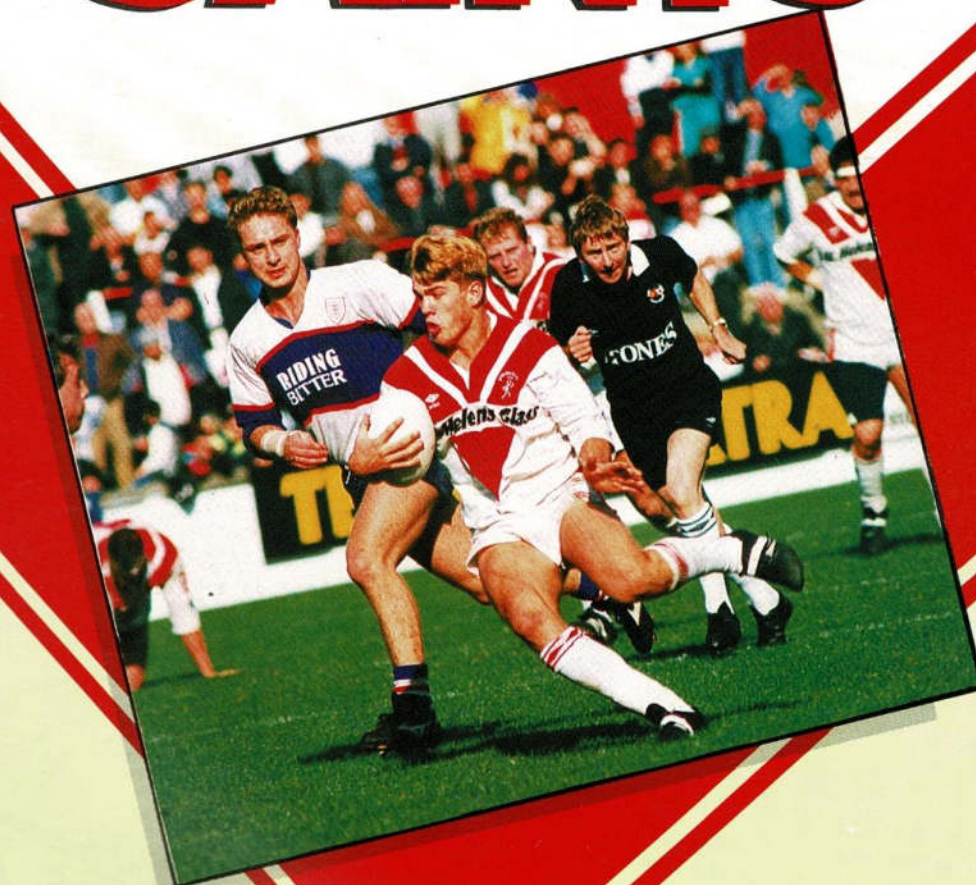
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ST. HELENS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

SAINTS



**ST HELENS
v
OLDHAM**

Wednesday 13th March 1991
Kick off 7.30 p.m.

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME 70p

CLUB DETAILS

ST. HELENS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB LTD.

President:
LADY PILKINGTON

Knowsley Road, St. Helens
Office Telephone: 0744 23897
Fax No: 0744 451302

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Knowsley Road		Watersheddings	
W	33-12	L	11-12
L	7- 8	W	15- 8
W	17- 7	L	20- 9
W	11-10	W	21-18
W	20-15	W	10- 0
W	31-20	L	6-32
W	32- 5	L	18-20
W	44-12	W	28-12
W	28- 6	W	18-17
W	58-12	W	26-22
—	1989-91	W	20-16

Saints won 17 lost 4.

As can be seen from above Saints and Oldham have met on 21 occasions to date since the introduction of the two division system back in 1973 with Saints holding the upper-hand by winning 17 of the encounters, the most recent being a closely fought game at Watersheddings, Oldham last month which resulted in a narrow 20 points to 16 for Saints thanks largely to two magnificent kicks by Shane Cooper in the 2nd half which resulted in two fine Alan Hunte tries.

Last term Oldham gained promotion from the 2nd Division by finishing in 3rd place winning 24 of their 28 games for a total of 48 points and did magnificently well in the respective cup competitions. In the Lancashire Cup Oldham were beaten finalists here at Knowsley Road to Warrington who beat them 24-16 after beating three 1st Division sides to get there, Barrow 46-12, St. Helens 36-6 and Wigan, the holders, 19-18 in the semi final. In the Regal Trophy fine victories over Bramley 46-16 and Huddersfield 22-8 saw them meet St. Helens again, in the quarter finals only on this occasion for Saints to gain their revenge with a 32-18 win, after Oldham full back Duncan Platt was sensationally sent off for tripping in the very 1st minute. In the Challenge Cup they reached the semi final and were very unlucky to lose to Warrington at Wigan by 10 points to 6 after leading for a spell and having a last minute try controversially disallowed. On route to the semis Oldham accounted for Huddersfield, 30-8, Workington 30-8, Salford 18-7 and Widnes 16-4 in a great cup run and to their credit ended a very successful season by winning the 3rd Division Premiership Trophy in a thrilling final at Old Trafford 30 points to 29 against Hull K.R. after beating Swinton 32-10 and Ryedale-York 32-8 to qualify.

To date this season Oldham have struggled and are currently 3rd bottom of the 1st Division desperately trying to avoid relegation although they have, like Saints, reached the semi final of the Challenge Cup.

Their results to date are as follows:-

HOME		AWAY	
Leeds	W 32-22	Salford (LC 1)	L 24-27
Castleford	W 28-22	Wakefield	L 12-17
Hull K.R.	L 25-28	Widnes	L 16-24
Warrington	W 4- 2	Sheffield	W 24-14
Bradford	L 16-18	Wigan	L 15-38
Widnes	L 18-24	Castleford	L 10-28
Salford (RT 1)	W 26- 6	Batley (RT 2)	L 16-20
Rochdale	W 18-13	Hull	L 4-31
Featherstone	W 18-20	Leeds	L 12-28
Wakefield	W 26-22	Hull K.R.	L 14-42
St. Helens	L 16-20	Featherstone	L 20-28
Salford (SCCC 3)	W 40- 3	Bramley (SCCC 1)	W 38- 6
		Workington (SCCC 2)	W 20-15
		Bradford	W 37-10

TRY SCORERS:- 15. Round 10. Clark, 9. Martyn*, 6. Ford & Lord, 5. Irving, McAlister & Russell, 4. Donegan, Francis & Platt, 2. Anderson, Atkinson, Foy, Henderson & Ruane; and 1. Cogger, Duane, Fieldhouse, Hyde and Newton.

GOAL SCORER:- 73. Platt, 7. Martyn, 4. Atkinson, and 1. Ford, Hyde, & McAlister.

DROP GOALS:- 3. Martyn and 2. Ford.

*Martyn's total of 9 tries includes 1 for Great Britain U'21s.



PREVIOUS Encounters

TEAM TALK



We welcome to Knowsley Road former GREAT BRITAIN player JOHN FIELDHOUSE and his team to an entertaining match that appears will provide all the ingredients that complimented the first round encounter between **OLDHAM** and the **SAINTS** at the Watersheddings.

The Pirates of the Pennines certainly went on a "rape and pillage" campaign against Salford in their Quarter Final CHALLENGE CUP encounter and the scoreline speaks volumes for their execution.

A team that comprises big ruck runners, astute halves and good finishing threequarters will always have a say in proceedings and rest assured, **OLDHAM** will play with purpose in this vital championship fixture.

SAINTS cup match against **HALIFAX** at **THRUM HALL** on a very slow pitch was intense and rugged but I was confident that our conditioning and resolve would stand us in good stead as the game proceeded.

Perpetual motion forward Bernard (GAS BILL) Dwyer reckons he has a new incentive for success — the **POLL TAX** bill. Johnny Griff injected drive and contributed in our tries. Fred and Big **JOHN** played very strong and Super Cooper was as industrious as ever. Little **BISH** won the **DAVID** vs **GOLIATH** clash and **ALAN HUNTED** for two superb tries. In retrospect it was a total team effort and special accolades must go to the many **SAINTS SPECCIES** who gave marvellous support.

One must take this opportunity to compliment the excellent quality video coverage the **SAINTS** get courtesy of **PETER TUSHINGHAM** and **RON** (Superb) Heart. It's entertainment value with picture precision and informative and "unbiased?" comments with a touch of humour for good measure.

MCCANN



THE ALMOND BROOK HOTEL

Almond Brook Road, Standish,
Nr. Wigan WN6 0SR
Tel: Standish 0257 425588, Telex: 677662.
Fax: 0257 427327

Hotel Facilities

The Almond Brook Hotel which is part of the Queens Moat House Hotel Group, is situated just 200 yards off the M6 motorway in rural Standish and is only 3 miles from the centre of Wigan.

There are 56 bedrooms with private bathroom facilities, remote control television, radio, direct dial telephone, trouser press, hair-dryer, and tea and coffee making facilities. There is also free car parking for 200 cars.

Almond's Bar is the ideal place to relax and enjoy a pre-dinner aperitif. The pleasing ambience of Almond's Restaurant offers the discerning diner a very comprehensive a la carte menu, which is complimented by a carvery, offering excellent value for money.

MIRAGE Lancashire's most exclusive nightclub is also part of the hotel complex and admission is free to guests of The Almond Brook Hotel.

Conference and Banqueting

We are very conscious of standards and service at The Almond Brook, especially when it comes to getting down to the business of meetings and banquets. We believe that conference organizers appreciate the expertise of our friendly and helpful staff, who are always ready and willing to advise on the wide variety of facilities available.

There are four conference rooms to choose from and The Almond Brook Hotel specialises in residential conferences for 6 to 60. The hotel is also very popular for company dinners, dinner/buffet dances and all types of special occasions.

Places of Interest

Wigan Pier, Martin Mere, Camelot, Haigh Hall Country Park, Three Sisters Recreation Area, Beacon Country Park.

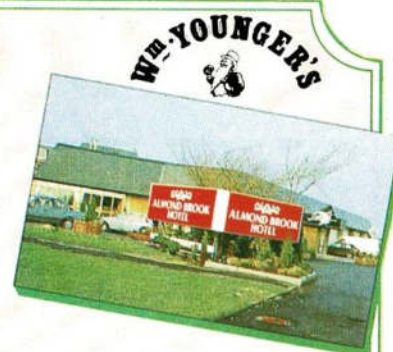
Activities

In the area are golf, sailing, riding and swimming.

Entertainment

Theatre, Concert Hall, Cinemas in the nearby town of Wigan, and of course, MIRAGE our own exclusive nightclub.

(Planned for 1990 — Leisure Centre with mini gym, splash pool, steam baths, solarium, jacuzzi).



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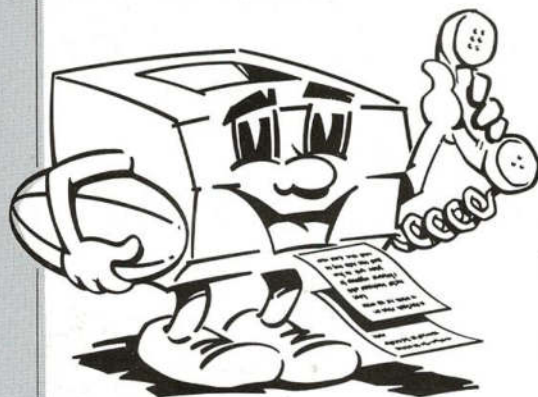


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Supporters

CLUB

THIS evening we welcome our friends from Watersheddings, in particular we welcome Mr. & Mrs. Pilkington and also Alice Collinge who is the Chairperson of the Lancashire Federation of Supporters Clubs and Janet Bradley who is the Treasurer.

Congratulations to all the Oldham team who reached the semi finals of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup for the second consecutive year with an emphatic win over Salford.

Congratulations also to Mike McClennan, Frank Barrow and all the Saints team for that exciting Silk Cut Challenge Cup Quarter Final win at Halifax. It was a really entertaining match and the team spirit really showed. Congratulations also to all you Saints fans who really encouraged our great team.

WELL DONE LADS!!!

THANK YOU to all the people who supported the Billy Butler Show — it was really a great evening and everyone enjoyed themselves. A big thank you also to our Social Sub Committee of Ron, Allan and Terry who organised the evening on behalf of the Supporters Club.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

This evening we welcome **W. HORTON & SONS** of Dentons Green.

W. Horton & Sons is a small family concern in St. Helens that is managing very well. The Hortons spend very little on advertising, adopt the attitude that nothing is too much trouble, and are determined to survive.

Contract work forms a large part of the business — about 50 per cent. Projects have taken the brothers as far north as Glasgow, and they consider that this is of more interest than the domestic side. Contracts have included carpeting and upholstering a yacht bound for Marbella. "We have carpeted a lot of pubs" says Philip Horton, "including my local which had its pub sign woven into the carpet".

JUNIOR SAINTS

On the last Monday of February we held the first meeting of the "revamped" Junior Saints when we opened the club to junior members of the Supporters' Club. It was a terrific success — the numbers more than doubled and a good time was had by all. It was also good to see Paul Bishop junior and Joshua Veivers having a good time.

So, all you junior fans, why not come along to the next meeting on **MONDAY 25th MARCH** at 6 p.m. in the Banqueting Room.

COACHES

At the time of writing these notes, we do not know where our next away match will be, depending on the draw for the semi-finals of the Challenge Cup. So — watch this space in the Featherstone programme!! We will, of course, be taking coaching to wherever.

WEMBLEY

The Supporters Club, on your behalf have purchased 50 Wembley tickets. We are offering these as a special offer, together with a coach seat. Bookings are being taken now, so call in to the Supporters Office for further details. If you have already purchased your own Wembley match ticket you can, of course, book "coach only" but we are only selling these 50 tickets with a coach seat.

MEMBERS DRAW

Tonight's lucky winners of two complimentary match tickets (courtesy of St. Helens directors) are — N. Connolly, G. Harper, W. Lyon and G. Hamilton.

ONE PIECE OF USELESS INFORMATION — Alex Service went to Halifax wearing his 1961 Wembley scarf. Any advances? If so, write to us at the Supporters Club.

WELL DONE to the secretary and his staff at Halifax. In these days when we abhor any form of bad behaviour, there were two people wearing Halifax stewards jackets, who were inciting the crowd at half time. The Halifax staff took quick action and "defrocked" the culprits and escorted them from the ground. Congratulations on such prompt action.

LANCASHIRE FEDERATION OF SUPPORTERS CLUBS

Player of the Year 1990-91

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PRESENTATION EVENING

To be held on Sunday 26th May
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BILL BATES

TALKING RUGBY



I'D like to start my column tonight by congratulating the boys on a fine performance last Sunday at Halifax in the quarter finals of the Challenge Cup to qualify for the semi-finals for the third successive season. By the time you read this programme our semi final opponents will be known and who knows it could be tonight's visitors Oldham who had a magnificent win at the weekend over high flying 2nd Division outfit Salford by 40 points to 3.

Oldham have a very strong Saints connection and as well as extending a very warm welcome to the players, officials and spectators of the 'Roughyeds' for this evenings encounter I'd like to extend an extra special welcome to Oldham's former Saints players — John Fieldhouse, Brett Clark, Paul Round and Austin Donegan. It won't be easy tonight as last weekends fine win was a hard, bruising encounter that must have taken a lot from the lads and Oldham are on a good run, significantly Saints being the last team to beat them last month.

Union Challenge

Next Autumn the sports world will be bombarded with the Rugby Union World Cup which is to be held in England for the first time. It is very important that just what RL has to offer next Autumn is promoted to compete with Rugby Union matters on the sporting press.

It always amazes me that a sport watched by a few hundred spectators gets three-quarters of a full page in our National newspapers when Rugby League is watched by thousands of fans each week and is Britain's second most popular sport behind football gets a few columns — if that!

The newspaper bosses will say that Rugby Union is a national sport whilst Rugby League is local but surely this is an old argument, since the successful spreading of BARLA and judging by some of the games shown on "Rugby Special" probably many BARLA teams are watched by more spectators and significantly Amateur RL — contrary to all the past arguments and scandal is and has been for some considerable time the only true Amateur form of Rugby. Only in the last couple of weeks I've read two very significant pieces of news regarding the spread of our great game that have interested me, the first being the Rugby League's decision to take next August's Charity Shield game to the all-seater 11,000 capacity Gateshead Athletic Stadium in the North-East and the second being Hemel Hempstead ARLFC's request to join the 2nd Division of the Slalom Lager Alliance League with a hope of joining the 3rd Division of the R.F.L. in a few seasons. I'm sure that you'll agree that there are very significant moves and show how healthy our great game is at the present time.

Next Autumn sees three Rugby League playing nations coming to our shores. The well publicised Russians will be here, hopefully after a successful professional league season behind them which for the record kicks off in May with eight clubs involved, the enthusiastic Papua New Guineans are coming for a short tour and the South Sea Island Amateurs are to tour Gt. Britain to play the leading Amateur clubs and the 2nd Division Club from the lower reaches of the league. So all in all there is a lot to look forward to for league fans.

Printers Error

Finally, as many of you noticed, a printing error in our last home programme, had Ian Connors banished to the sin-bin for 10 months rather than 10 minutes — a mistake probably due to the printer being unable to unscramble my scrawl!



TODAY'S OPPONENTS

OLDHAM

COACH



CARETAKER/
COACH
JOHN
FIELDHOUSE

Pen Pictures

JOHN COGGER: Born in Sydney, Aust., John spent 2½ seasons with Runcorn before becoming one of Tony Barrow's bargain boys — for £12,000 — in February, 1989. His team in Sydney was Western Suburbs. A tearaway loose-forward he skippered Oldham to promotion in 1989-90, but has now been succeeded as captain by Mike Ford.

JOHN FAIRBANK: Born in Halifax and one of the famous five farming and Rugby League brother. John signed for Oldham in the deal that took Hugh Waddell to Leeds in the late summer of 1988. Valued at £35,000 against Waddell's £85,000. Hard-working prop-forward.

JOHN FIELDHOUSE: Oldham pack leader and former Warrington, Widnes and St. Helens star. Seven full caps for Great Britain and voted man-of-the-series against New Zealand in 1985. Joined Oldham from Saints for fee of £45,000 to renew a partnership with Tony Barrow who first plucked him from amateur rugby for Warrington.

MIKE FORD: A young man of 24 who has already played at Wembley and toured Australia. While with Wigan he picked up a Challenge Cup winners' medal, three Lancashire Cup medals (one losers), two John Player Trophy medals and a First Division championship medal. After a short spell at Leigh he joined Oldham for £65,000 in January, 1988 and was an influential figure from scrum-half during Oldham's headline-hitting cup exploits during 1989-90.

DES FOY: First signed for Widnes as a youngster, but returned 'home' to Oldham in the Brian Hogan deal in August, 1982. Played twice for Great Britain under-24s in 1983, and went on to play in three full Tests, including the first Test against Australia in Sydney on the 1984 tour. Played stand-off opposite the great Wally Lewis. Played nearly 200 games for Oldham despite a spell with Aussie club Newcastle Knights.

JOHN HENDERSON: Another local lad. First turned 'pro' for Leigh but signed for Oldham for

£50,000 in September, 1988. A prolific try-scorer in a pacy Leigh back division, he has scored more than 100 tries in his career — none more vital than his first-half try in Oldham's shock third-round Challenge Cup win at Widnes in season 1989-90. Had a spell with Wests in Sydney.

GARY HYDE: Spent a decade with Castleford, his home-town club and played twice for Great Britain under-24s in the early 1980s. Played at left-centre in the Castleford team which beat Hull KR 15-14 in the 1986 Wembley final and joined Oldham for £15,000 in December, 1988.

RICHARD IRVING: Former Great Britain under-19 amateur international who played at left-centre during Oldham's run to the Lancashire Cup final in the autumn of 1989. Now playing on the right-wing after a 1990 summer stint in Australian country football.

PAUL LORD: Signed for Oldham as a 17-year-old from amateur rugby in Wakefield where his great pace attracted Oldham scouts. Came as a stand-off but has made his home on the left-wing. One of Oldham's most prolific scorers, he can seek out the gaps in midfield as well as hug the touch-line to score his tries.

TOMMY MARTYN: Baby of the squad at 18, Tommy has the perfect pedigree. His father and uncle both played for Great Britain as forwards. Remember Tommy senior . . . or Mick, who set scoring records for Leigh in the 50s and 60s? Signed from Leigh Miners, Tommy jnr toured Australia with the BARLA Young Lions in 1989 and hit the headlines when he scored the winning try in Oldham's fantastic comeback against Hull KR in the Second Division premiership final at Old Trafford in May, 1990.

CHARLIE MCALISTER: Big centre or wing, now playing in the back-row of the pack. Charlie was spotted playing Union for Bradford and Bingley. Signed after trials in January, 1988. Before coming to England he played for New Zealand Maoris at Union and was an All-Blacks trialist. Talented with the ball and a powerful runner, he had a spell with Sydney League club Newcastle Knights in 1988.

KEITH NEWTON: Widnes born and bred, Keith signed for the Chemics from local amateur rugby. Made around 50 senior appearances — many of them substitute — and jumped at the chance to sign for Oldham in January, 1989. Fee of £12,000 fixed by tribunal. Yet another Tony Barrow

bargain, he was voted man-of-the-match in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup third-round win at Widnes in early 1990.

DUNCAN PLATT: Another former Widnes player, Duncan cost Oldham £35,000 in December, 1988 and was one of Tony Barrow's first signings. Landed 125 goals last season despite damaging an ankle in the Lancashire Cup final and missing the next seven matches.

PAUL ROUND: Paul was the first Oldham signing when the board of directors replaced the former committee. Tribunal ordered Oldham to pay St. Helens £65,000 — then a club record. Played twice for Great Britain under-21s in 1984 and represented Saints at Wembley in 1987, scoring a try in an appearance as substitute.

ANDY RUANE: Started his career with home-town Widnes and moved to Rochdale Hornets from where he joined Oldham for £13,000 in the summer of 1988. Scooped most of the club's player-of-the-year awards in 1988-89 but had bad luck with injuries in 1989-90 when he began to face competition for the hooking job from Richard Russell.

RICHARD RUSSELL: The bargain to beat all bargains. For £3,000 down, Oldham snapped him up from Wigan in the summer of 1989, although once he has made 50 senior appearances there will be another payment to take the total fee to £15,000. Great Britain colts and under-21 honours as a centre but switched to hooker in a master-stroke.

SHAUN ALLEN: Began his career with St. Helens for whom he did enough to earn Great Britain under-21 honours as a centre in the 1984 match against France. Joined Oldham for a bargain £10,000 in March, 1989. Usually plays second-row but also turns out at loose-forward, hooker and centre.

KEITH ATKINSON: Keith started as an amateur when Oldham had a colts team and played for GB Colts as a winger against France in 1984. Serious injuries have restricted his senior appearances to fewer than 60, but he has successfully made the switch from backs to pack and, as a bonus, is a proven goalkicker of some repute.

BRETT CLARK: An Aussie who first came to England to play for St. Helens. Was the Saints stand-off in their 19-18 defeat by Halifax at Wembley in 1987. Joined Oldham at the start of the 1989-90 season.

POINTS of VIEW

SILK . . . AND PIECRUST

HERE we go, here we go, here we go.

Anybody suffering from déjà vu can be forgiven for thinking they've seen the 1991 Challenge Cup script somewhere before, but 12 months is a long time in Rugby League.

Three of last years four semi finalists are once again 80 minutes away from Wembley and it's hard to believe that Saints were just two minutes away from the twin towers last season.

As for the weekend's results it was great to see Mark Elia back, funny how old memories seem to stick though, Eh, Mark? Treble winners Wigan (if there's anyone in the world of rugby league that doesn't know Wigan have won the Cup for the past three years, I'm sure Mr. French will write them a report titled *The Wonders of Wigan Rugby League*), dominated the radio coverage on GMR's Sunday afternoon show contrary to popular belief, the Oldham and Saints' games did take place believe it or not.

The rugby league are hungry for a Wigan/Widnes final, following Widnes' triumph over the Wire. They believe the confrontation of the 'giants' would provide a great spectacle to launch the game nationwide — they still haven't forgiven Les Quirk for scoring that last minute 'pearler' (sorry Ron) in the 1989 semi. Seems to make a habit of scoring the odd sensational breath-taking touchdown does Les Quirk —

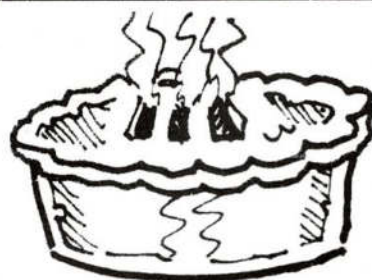
one in the semi would do nice Les.

With Gary Ablett, the only true scouser in the Liverpool ranks, it's interesting to compare the Anglo-Saints accents in the current Saints squad Paul Bishop wins hands down though. His dulcet tones during the after-match radio interview on Sunday, is the best Australian/St. Helens/Warrington accent ever at Knowsley Road Phil Veivers came a close second — sorry Phil, but you're a fully fledged Lancashire lad now if you're listening Douggie, I said LANCASHIRE — Alan Tait! Who's he?

Last mention goes to old war-horse, Desmond Drummond. He got tackled on Saturday and was ordered to hand the ball to Widnes for a change over Des looked at the referee in disbelief — you're not playing Saints now, eh Mr. Holdsworth?

Good luck in the semi lads! It was 'bitter' revenge over Halifax, how about humble pie at Wigan.

by Melanie Whitehead



Denis Whittle of the St. Helens Star

WHITTLE'S WORLD OF RUGBY



Investigation has failed to unearth the whereabouts of others in the group but it is safe to record they were personalities skilfully orchestrated by coach Billy Mercer and kept in trim by the healing hands of physio Norman Borrowdale

THE old adage that the pre-requisite for the success of any side lies in its reserve strength certainly rang true at Knowsley Road in the mid 1950s, as a glance at the accompanying pictorial gem would confirm.



OH CHAMPIONS! The 'A' team of 1954-55. Back row, left to right: Vint Karalius, Cliff Johnson, Frank McCabe, Eric Ledger, unknown, Billy Boycott, Roy Robinson, Billy Adams, Josh Gaskell, Stan Thornt. Seated: Arthur Pimblett, Alec Davies, Joe Ball, Tommy Finn, unknown. Kneeling: Austin Rhodes and Len McIntyre.

Season 1955-56 saw Saints poised to bring home the Challenge Cup for the first time and the club's 'A' team squad weren't doing too badly either — in fact they went through the previous campaign unbeaten!

Small wonder, when a study of the assembled company reveals that almost all eventually sampled the heady delights of first-team football, with four figuring in that Wembley showdown against Halifax, while for two of this quartet there was the ultimate accolade of international recognition.

With regard to that celebrated duo Vincent Peter Patrick Karalius is now resident in the Isle of Man, while Windle man Austin Rhodes has become quite a dab hand with the snooker cue, as opponents at the Nalco club in Bishop Road would no doubt testify.

The Wembley foursome was completed by second rower Roy Robinson and hooker Len McIntyre, with 'Robbie' nowadays dispensing Rugby League info, via his Lingholme newsagency, but for Len there is a different claim to fame in that he crossed the border from Wigan — a real feat of daring in those far-off days!

Frank 'Darkie' McCabe must surely have been in the running for the Number 9 shirt on that Saints date at the Empire Stadium in 1956, only to see his chance ruined through breaking a leg in the third round trouncing of Bradford Northern at Knowsley Road — after Thatto Heath lad Frank had crossed for two tries.

Eric Ledger, like his son Barry, was a winger of genuine pace, and was also quite a humorous character as I discovered after complimenting Eric on the way he shifted when scoring a 75-yarder against Wigan. 'So would you, with Billy Boston breathing down your neck!' chortled the likeable Ledger.

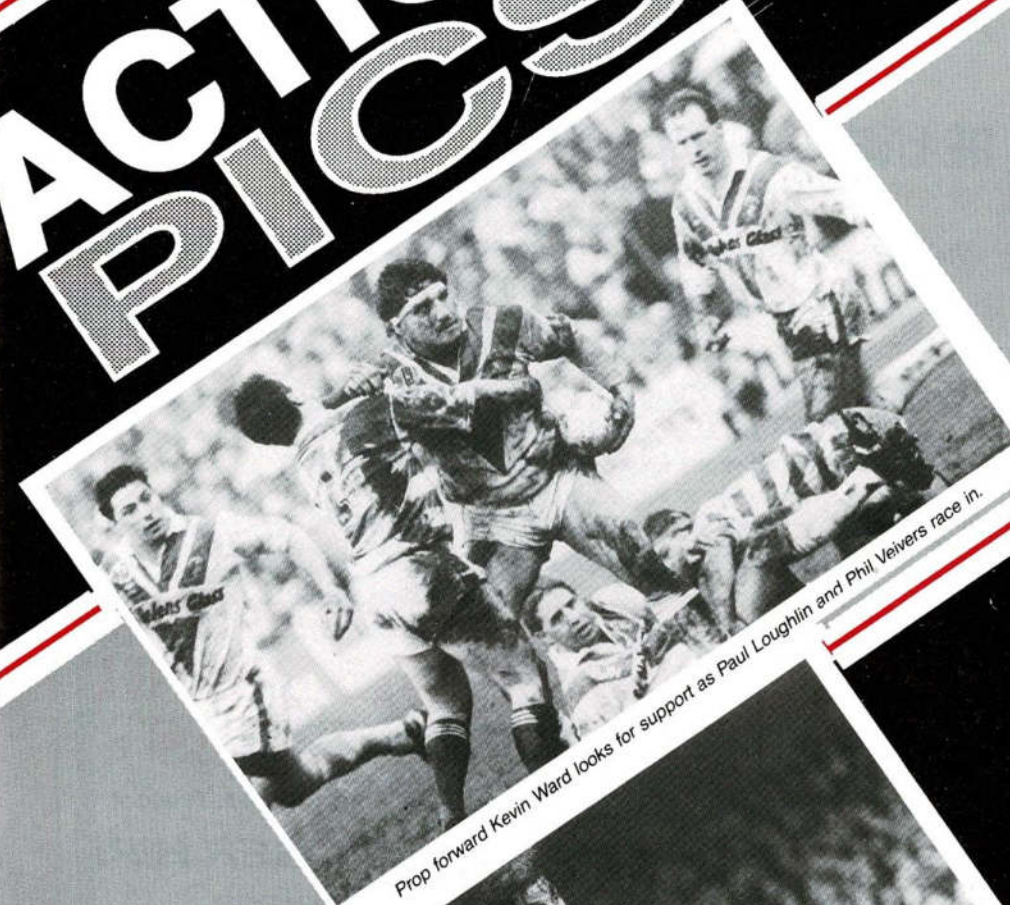
continued on page 17



TOP OF THE LEAGUE



ACTION PICS



Prop forward Kevin Ward looks for support as Paul Loughlin and Phil Veivers race in.

Man of the Match Jonathon Griffiths leave the Halifax defence wallowing in the mud.



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continued from page 13

As in the case of Rhodes Arthur Pimblett and Tommy Flinn were schooled in the game's fundamentals under the watchful eye of headmaster Gerry Landers at the nursery that was St. Austins. 'Pimmer' went on to hold the Widnes goalkicking record while Flinn moved on to Hull and played for them in the 1961 RL Cup semi-final versus Saints at Odsal.

Josh Gaskell was a block-busting forward who is presently nursing arthritic twinges at his Napier Street home; Bill Boycott is a local businessman and Saints life member, while winger Alec Davies also earned distinction in the world of athletics.

Last but certainly not least was scrum-half and captain Joe Ball, another of chairman Harry Cook's proteges from Rivington Road who rendered yeoman service to the Saints before joining Barrow for whom he made a Wembley appearance against Leeds in 1957. Joe, father of latter-day star Ian, was a popular figure both on the field and terrace, and sadly side comparatively young.

Investigation has failed to unearth the whereabouts of others in the group but it is safe to record they were personalities skilfully orchestrated by coach Billy Mercer and kept in trim by the healing hands of physio Norman Borrowdale and —here's the rub — a dozen were local lads, which tells you something of the scouting policy of the time.

Despite the intervening 35 years picture identification posed few problems, but I took the precaution of enlisting the aid of Messrs. Rhodes, Robinson and Gaskell before bursting into print. Just two players escaped the combined memory banks and these were the warrior seated extreme right and the pensive-looking youngster sandwiched between Eric Ledger and Billy Boycott. On behalf of Austin, Roy and Josh I appeal to some long-standing Knowsley Road fan to plug the gaps of a bygone era.

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3	JONATHAN GRIFFITHS					
4	PAUL LOUGHLIN					
5	MARK BAILEY					
6	PHIL VEIVERS					
7	PAUL BISHOP					
8	NEIL WARD					
9	PAUL GROVES					
10	GEORGE MANN					
11	JOHN HARRISON					
12	PAUL JONES					
13	SHANE COOPER/BERNARD DWYER					
14						
15						

HALF TIME

Referee:
J. CONNOLLY
(Wigan)

Touch Judges:
D. BARRATT
(Yellow flag)
R. CARTER
(Red flag)

ATTENDANCE

FULL TIME

OLDHAM

Sub. T G D Pts.

1	DUNCAN PLATT					
2	RICHARD IRVING					
3	DES FOY					
4	TONY ANDERSON					
5	JOHN HENDERSON					
6	BRETT CLARK					
7	MIKE FORD					
8	AUSTIN DONEGAN					
9	ANDY RUANE					
10	JOHN FIELDHOUSE					
11	PAUL ROUND					
12	CHARLIE McALLISTER					
13	RICHARD RUSSELL					
14						
15						

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6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

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11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

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EVERY PICTURE...
Tells a Story



IN AT THE CORNER

THE legendary Tom Van Vollenhoven dives in to score against Swinton at Knowsley Road in the mid 1960s — just one of his 392 tries in 409 competitive matches for the Saints!

A breakdown of Tom's try-scoring feats reveals that he crossed the Swinton line on no less than 26 occasions during his ten year career — no mean feat considering the strength of the Swinton side at the time, with star names such as Blan, Buckley, Gowers, and Vollenhoven's great rival on the flanks — John Stopford.

Tom Van Vollenhoven's tries in competitive matches for St. Helens — a club by club breakdown:

Barrow 31
Batley 1
Blackpool 32
Bramley 1
Castleford 5
Dewsbury 3
Featherstone 13
Halifax 12
Huddersfield 11
Hull 9
Hull K.R. 8
Hunslet 12
Keighley 3
Leeds 9
Leigh 17

Liverpool 25
Oldham 12
Rochdale 22
Salford 31
Swinton 26
Wakefield 21
Warrington 16
Whitehaven 20
Widnes 17
Wigan 14
Workington 19

Australia 1
New Zealand 1

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LAGER**

**RUGBY
LEAGUE
ALLIANCE**

**ALLIANCE
UPDATE**

**ALLIANCE
FIXTURES**

SAINTS ALLIANCE FIXTURES 1990/91

AUGUST									
Fri 31st	Oldham	(A)	7.30	28-32	(L)				
SEPTEMBER									
Fri 7th	Hull	(H)	7.30	22-46	(L)				
Fri 14th	Salford	(H)	7.30	22-15	(W)				
Thu 20th	Leigh	(A)	7.30	22-24	(L)				
Fri 28th	Leeds	(H)	7.30	36-22	(W)				
OCTOBER									
Fri 5th	Fulham (Lancs. Shield)	(H)	7.30	56-24	(W)				
Fri 12th	Halifax	(A)	7.30	46-20	(W)				
Sat 20th	Swinton (Lancs. Shield)	(H)	3.00	46-14	(W)				
Wed 31st	Widnes (Lancs. Shield Semi-Final)	(A)	7.30	18-30	(L)				
NOVEMBER									
Fri 2nd	Wakefield	(H)	7.30	30-13	(W)				
Fri 9th	Salford	(A)	7.30	8-10	(L)				
Fri 16th	Castleford	(H)	7.30	14-40	(L)				
Fri 23rd	Widnes	(A)	7.30	48-22	(W)				
Fri 30th	Wigan	(H)	7.30	22-31	(L)				
DECEMBER									
Fri 7th	Warrington	(A)	7.30	Post.					
Fri 14th	Halifax	(H)	7.30	12-18					
Fri 21st	Wigan	(A)	7.30	16-38	(L)				
Fri 28th	Widnes	(H)	7.30	Post.					
1991									
JANUARY									
Fri 4th	Wakefield	(A)	7.30	8-28	(L)				
Fri 11th	Featherstone	(H)	7.30	24-24	(D)				
Fri 18th	Leeds	(A)	7.30	16-28	(L)				
Fri 25th	Hull K.R.	(H)	8.00	19-15	(W)				
FEBRUARY									
Fri 1st	Oldham	(H)	7.30	26-12	(W)				
Fri 8th	Warrington	(H)	7.30	Post.					
Fri 15th	Halifax (A. Cup 1)			23-10					
Fri 22nd	Castleford	(A)	7.30	12-36					
Mon 25th	Warrington	(H)	7.30	50-10					
MARCH									
Fri 1st	Bradford (Alliance Cup 2)	(H)		21-36					
Fri 8th	Hull	(A)	7.30	8-18					
Fri 15th	Warrington	(A)	7.30						
Fri 22nd	Leigh	(H)	7.30						
Wed 27th	Hull K.R.	(A)	7.30						
APRIL									
Tue 2nd	Widnes	(H)							
Fri 12th	Halifax	(H)							
Tie 16th	Featherstone	(A)	7.30						

* Abandoned after 53 minutes. NOTE: This match will be replayed.

SLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE LEAGUE TABLE AS AT 5.2.91.

DIVISION I	P	W	D	L	For Pts	Against Pts	Pts
HULL	19	17	—	2	502	248	34
CASTLEFORD	17	11	—	6	455	319	22
HULL K.R.	18	11	—	7	351	303	22
HALIFAX	18	10	1	8	402	437	21
LEEDS	18	10	—	8	419	368	20
OLDHAM	18	9	—	9	330	325	18
FEATHERSTONE R	19	8	1	10	416	395	17
WIDNES	16	8	—	8	369	380	16
ST HELENS	17	7	1	9	407	429	15
WIGAN	17	7	1	9	341	375	15
WARRINGTON W	16	6	—	10	344	404	12
WAKEFIELD T	18	6	—	12	312	377	12
SALFORD	17	6	—	11	282	397	12
LEIGH	17	5	—	12	286	459	10

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THE MAN IN THE MIDDLE



JOHN CONNOLLY (Wigan)
Date of Birth: 30.9.59.
Grade One: 1990-91

TODAY'S MASCOT



SEAN LUCAS

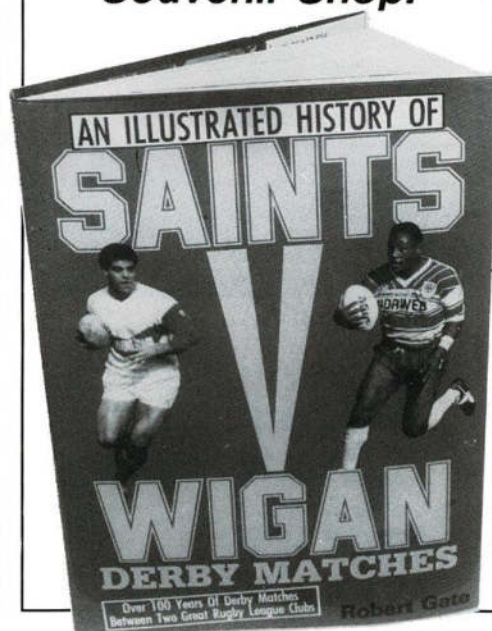
Sean is 6 years old and attends Birkdale Southport school (for the hearing impaired). His favourite player is Paul Loughlin.

FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt+
Castleford	21	15	0	6	490	364	30
Widnes	19	14	0	5	463	227	28
Hull	19	14	0	5	405	236	28
Wigan	16	11	1	4	398	207	23
Leeds	21	11	1	9	493	378	23
St. Helens	19	10	1	8	427	373	21
Featherstone	20	10	1	9	381	409	21
Warrington	21	9	2	10	344	287	20
Hull K.R.	22	8	3	11	356	483	19
Bradford	19	9	0	10	304	362	18
Wakefield	19	8	1	10	279	326	17
Oldham	20	7	0	13	365	451	14
Sheffield	21	6	2	13	348	478	14
Rochdale	21	1	0	20	249	721	2

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Vouchers will not be distributed to season ticket holders who will receive the usual ticket priority as normal.

NOTES continued from page 34

- 6 Alan Hunte's try v Wakefield Trinity on 23.2.91. took his points for the season over 50 to 52 and his career total over 150 to 152.
- 7 John Harrison's try in the above game was the 100th Saints try this season.
- 8 Paul Bishop's 2nd goal v Warrington on 3.3.91. took Saints points for the season to 600.
- 9 Les Quirk made his 100th appearance for Saints v Halifax on 10.3.91.
- 10 Paul Bishop scored his 1st try for Saints in the Halifax game.
- 11 Paul Loughlin's 4th goal in the above game was his 650th for Saints and took his points for the season to 150.

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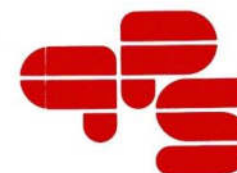
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A MATCH PATRON ROLL OF HONOUR

16th Sept.
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23rd Sept.
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7th Oct.
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PILKINGTON GLASS PLC

21st Oct.
CASTLEFORD
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11th Nov.
SHEFFIELD EAGLES
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25th Nov.
ROCHDALE HORNETS
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26th Dec.
WIGAN
CLC ENGINEERING

6th Jan.
WAKEFIELD TRINITY
ST. HELENS FORD

20th Jan.
LEEDS
CELCON BLOCKS

17th Feb.
HULL
COAL PRODUCTS LTD

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OLDHAM
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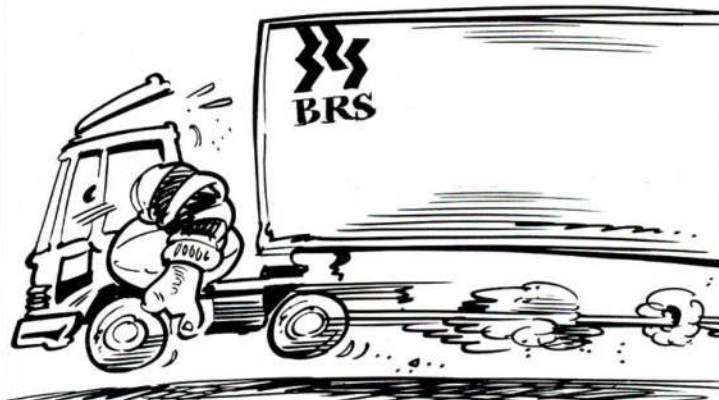
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APPEARANCES AND SCORERS

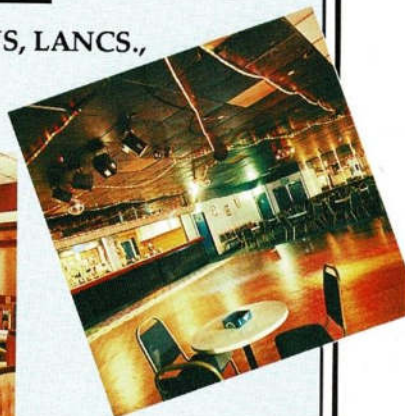
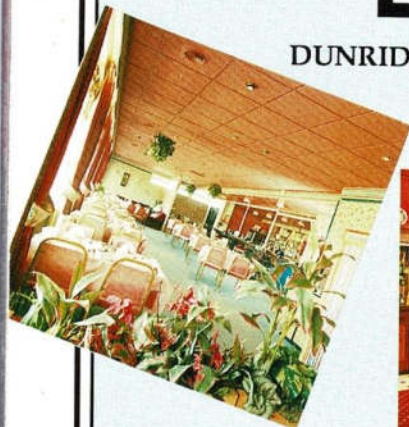
Player	THIS SEASON							ALL SEASONS						
	Apps	Subs	NPSubs	T	G	DG	Pts	Apps	Subs	T	G	DG	Pts	
Peter Atherton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
Mark Bailey	15	9	1	9	—	—	36	66	34	32	—	—	128	
Andy Bateman	1	4	—	1	—	—	4	21	6	5	—	—	20	
Paul Bishop	7	2	—	1	7	2	20	7	2	1	7	2	20	
Gary Connolly	19	—	—	3	—	—	12	56	1	7	—	—	28	
Ian Connors	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	
Shane Cooper	28	—	—	9	—	1	37	117	—	45	—	4	184	
David Cosgrove	1	3	—	1	—	—	4	19	10	3	—	—	12	
Sean Devine	15	2	1	6	22	—	68	35	4	10	48	—	136	
Bernard Dwyer	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	76	24	16	10	1	85	
Stuart Evans	14	—	—	2	—	—	8	71	6	8	—	—	32	
Andy Fairclough	4	—	—	1	—	—	4	4	—	1	—	—	4	
Paul Forber	6	4	—	3	—	—	12	148	52	45	6	—	192	
Tommy Frodsham	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	21	2	8	—	—	32	
Jonathan Griffiths	21	3	—	4	—	—	16	32	6	11	—	—	44	
Paul Groves	19	2	—	1	—	—	4	113	2	21	—	—	84	
Roy Haggerty	5	1	—	1	—	1	5	317	43	115	—	19	442	
John Harrison	19	—	—	4	—	—	16	35	7	6	—	—	24	
Alan Hunte	22	—	—	16	—	—	64	65	—	41	—	—	164	
Paul Jones	4	6	1	—	—	—	—	16	28	2	—	—	8	
Tony Kay	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	2	—	—	—	—	
Brimah Kebbie	3	1	—	2	—	—	8	8	1	2	—	—	8	
David Large	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	22	4	7	—	—	28	
David Lever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	
Paul Loughlin	20	—	—	4	67	—	150	188	8	47	650	—	1488	
Kevin McCormack	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	71	3	34	—	—	136	
George Mann	18	2	—	7	—	—	28	40	3	10	—	—	40	
Jonathan Neill	7	3	1	—	—	—	9	8	8	—	—	—	—	
Darren O'Brien	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	
Les Quirk	22	—	—	18	—	—	72	100	4	73	—	—	292	
Jason Roach	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	
Tea Ropati	22	2	—	10	—	—	40	23	2	10	—	—	40	
David Tanner	—	1	—	1	—	—	4	73	8	13	71	—	194	
Phil Veivers	24	1	—	3	—	—	12	230	5	74	—	3	299	
Kevin Ward	23	—	—	1	—	—	4	23	—	1	—	—	4	
Ward	364	51	5	108	96	4	628							



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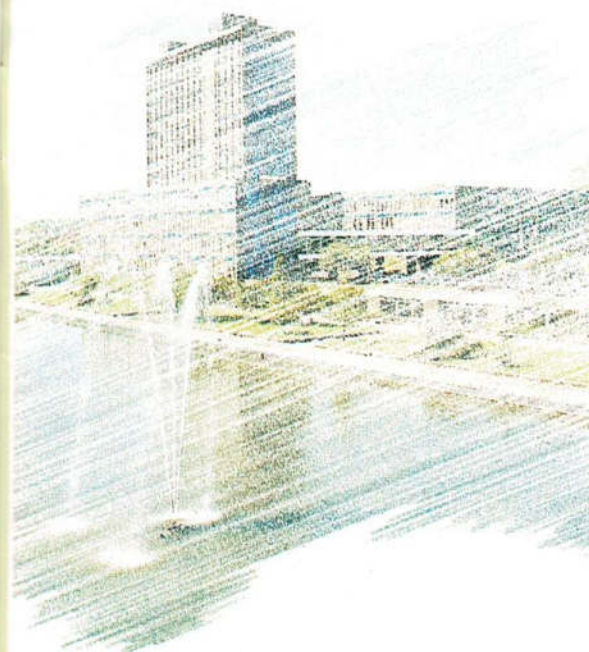
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FIXTURES & STATISTICS

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIPS 1990/91

Date	Opponents	Ven	HT	FT	Att
AUGUST					
12	WIDNES (Fr)	(H)	16-12	40-12	4339
26	TRAFFORD BOROUGH (Lancs Cup 1)	(H)	22-12	56-24	4827
SEPTEMBER					
2	SALFORD (Lancs Cup 2)	(A)	2- 6	7-21	5574
9	HULL	(A)	10- 8	14-20	6026
16	BRADFORD NORTHERN	(H)	14-14	24-20	6954
23	HULL K.R.	(H)	14- 2	42-10	6318
30	LEEDS	(A)	4-10	4-23	12720
OCTOBER					
7	AUSTRALIA (Tour)	(H)	0-22	4-34	15216
21	CASTLEFORD	(H)	12-18	16-29	6978
NOVEMBER					
4	ROCHDALE HORNETS	(A)	14-14	30-18	3642
11	SHEFFIELD EAGLES	(H)	4-10	34-17	6155
21	BRADFORD NORTHERN	(A)	12- 8	16-18	4371
25	ROCHDALE HORNETS	(H)	4- 2	44-14	5546
DECEMBER					
2	SWINTON (Regal Trophy 1)	(A)	13- 7	31- 7	3398
11	FEATHERSTONE R. (Regal Trophy 2)	(A)	12- 6	33-16	3343
16	WARRINGTON (Regal Trophy 3)	(A)	6- 6	12-18	5786
23	SHEFFIELD EAGLES	(A)	8- 6	8-18	4300
26	WIGAN	(H)	7-14	15-28	13225
JANUARY					
1	WIDNES	(A)	4-14	8-14	10494
6	WAKEFIELD TRINITY	(H)	18-10	36-14	5950
13	FEATHERSTONE ROVERS	(A)	14-28	36-28	4879
20	LEEDS	(H)	8- 6	22-16	8188
27	HULL K.R.	(A)	14-16	26-26	4335
FEBRUARY					
3	OLDHAM	(A)	8-16	20-16	5189
10	SWINTON (SCCC1) Man City F.C.	(A)	2- 4	18- 8	2922
18	HULL	(H)	2- 0	12-10	6853
23	WAKEFIELD TRINITY (SCCC2)	(H)	8- 2	16- 2	4586
MARCH					
3	WARRINGTON — (6.30pm)	(A)	8-14	20-34	
10	HALIFAX (SCCC3)	(A)	18-16	24-16	
13	OLDHAM	(H)			
17	FEATHERSTONE ROVERS	(H)			
24	CASTLEFORD	(A)			
29	WIGAN	(A)			
APRIL					
1	WIDNES	(H)			
7	WAKEFIELD TRINITY	(A)			
14	WARRINGTON	(H)			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Tanner 6G Connolly	Kebbie T Hunte •	Veivers T Veivers	Bailey Loughlin 8G	Large T • Quirk T	Griffiths Bailey 2T	Devine Devine	Ward • Evans T	Dwyer S Groves T	Evans + Ward T	Bateman Dwyer +	Haggerty Haggerty T	Cooper 2T Cooper T	Jones T • Fairclough •	Hodgkinson T S Connors + Griffiths T • Bateman T +
Connolly Connolly	Kebbie • Hunte 2T	Griffiths Veivers T •	Loughlin G Loughlin 3G	Quirk T Quirk	Bailey Fairclough T	Devine Griffiths	Ward Ward	Groves Groves	Connors Mann •	Bateman + Harrison	Haggerty D Haggerty +	Cooper Cooper	Veivers • Bailey •	Jones + Jones +
Connolly + Connolly	Hunte 2T Hunte •	Ropati • Ropati	Loughlin T 3G Loughlin 2G	Quirk 3T Quirk	Fairclough Fairclough	Griffiths T Griffiths	Harrison T Harrison	Groves Dwyer	Ward + Ward	Veivers Veivers	Jones Jones	Cooper T Cooper	Bailey • Bailey •	Forber + Bateman + (Neill)
Connolly Veivers	Hunte Kay	Ropati Ropati	Veivers Bailey	Quirk T Kebbie T •	Griffiths • Cooper T	Cooper Devine 2G	Neill S Forber +	Groves Groves	Ward Ward	Forber • Mann T	Harrison + Haggerty	Dwyer Dwyer	Bailey • O'Brien •	Haggerty S Mann + Bateman +
Connolly Connolly	Hunte • Ropati	Ropati T Bailey 2T	Loughlin 5G Loughlin 5G	Quirk T Quirk •	Veivers Veivers	Devine T Devine	Harrison Harrison	Groves Groves	Ward + Ward +	Mann T Forber T	Dwyer Mann T	Cooper T Cooper T	Bailey • Bishop •	Bateman + Jones + Jones +
Connolly Connolly	Ropati T Ropati	Bailey Loughlin •	Loughlin • Hunte T	Devine T 2G Hunte T	Veivers + Devine T 6G	Bishop Harrison	Evans Evans	Groves Groves	Connors + Ward	Forber T Mann T	Mann T Mann T	Cooper T Cooper T	Frodsham • Griffiths •	Cosgrove T +
Connolly 2T Connolly	Ropati Hunte T	Bailey T Griffiths •	Griffiths Loughlin 2G	Hunte T Ropati T	Veivers • Bailey T	Bishop 5GD Bishop D	Evans + Evans T	Dwyer Dwyer	Ward Ward	Harrison Harrison +	Mann Mann T	Cooper T Cooper	Frodsham • Devine •	Forber + Forber T +
Connolly Veivers	Hunte T Hunte	Griffiths Griffiths	Loughlin 2G Loughlin	Ropati Quirk T	Bailey T Bailey	Bishop • Devine T	Evans + Evans +	Groves Groves	Ward Ward •	Dwyer Dwyer	Mann Haggerty	Cooper Cooper	Ropati • (Bailey)	Neill + Neill +
Connolly Connolly	Ropati Ropati	Veivers T Loughlin T 3G	Loughlin T 3G Quirk	Quirk Quirk 3T	Griffiths Veivers T	Bishop Devine 6G	Evans + Evans	Groves Groves	Ward Mann	Dwyer Harrison T	Mann Dwyer	Cooper T Cooper +	Ropati T • Large •	(Jones) Jones +
Connolly • O'Brien •	Hunte Kebbie	Ropati T Ropati	Loughlin 5G Loughlin 5G	Quirk T Quirk 2T	Veivers Griffiths 2T	Devine T Devine	Evans + Evans	Groves Groves	Neill + Neill	Harrison Harrison	Dwyer Mann +	Cooper Cooper	Kebbie T • Bailey •	Mann T + Cosgrove +
Loughlin 4G Veivers	Hunte 2T Hunte	Ropati T Ropati T	Bailey Loughlin 3G	Quirk Quirk	Veivers Devine •	Griffiths Griffiths +	Evans Evans +	Groves + Dwyer	Ward Ward	Harrison Harrison T	Cosgrove Jones	Cooper Cooper	(Devine) Bailey T •	Connors + Cosgrove +
Veivers Veivers	Hunte Hunte T	Ropati T Ropati	Loughlin 2G Loughlin 4G	Quirk T Quirk	Bailey Bailey •	Griffiths Griffiths	Evans + Evans +	Dwyer Dwyer	Ward Ward	Harrison Harrison T	Mann Mann	Cooper Cooper	(Large) Bishop •	Neill + Jones +
Veivers • Veivers	Hunte T Hunte 2T	Ropati Ropati	Bailey Loughlin 4G •	Quirk 2T Quirk T	Griffiths Griffiths	Bishop 2G Bishop T	Neill + Neill +	Dwyer Dwyer	Ward Ward	Harrison Harrison	Mann Mann	Cooper Cooper	Tanner T • Bailey •	Groves + Groves +

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