



13

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP



2nd Round

OLDHAM v HUDDERSFIELD

SUNDAY, 14th FEBRUARY, 1993

KICK - OFF

3.00 pm

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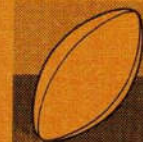
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SIMPLY THE BEST

No. 9 - EDGAR BROOKS

It is most appropriate that the ninth person to be featured in the "Simply the Best" series, is one of the club's most well-known hookers, EDGAR BROOKS.

A local lad, Edgar joined Oldham from the Watersheddings amateur club at the start of the 1933-34 season, making his first team debut against Australia on 10th January, 1934.

That was back in the days of proper scrummaging, when a good hooker could make all the difference to a team's fortunes on the field of play and Edgar was right up there with the best of them.



He played for England on three occasions and was also capped by Lancashire, more honours would have come his way but for a troublesome knee injury, which disrupted his career on and off, up until his retirement in 1951 this, allied to the fact that among his contemporaries just before and after the Second World War, were two of the best "Strikers" the Rugby League game has ever seen in the shape of Swinton's Tom Armitt and Joe Egan of Wigan.

As mentioned earlier, Edgar continued playing until 1951, giving 18 years excellent service to Oldham R.L.F.C. He was granted a testimonial in 1948 and on 27th April of that year, Oldham played an Empire XIII in Edgar's benefit match.

At the time, Oldham official and ex-player Fred Ashworth had this to say about the Oldham hooker:

"Apart from his outstanding qualities as a hooker, he is a great forward in the loose and a full 80 minute player. Edgar has not had the best of luck during his playing career, his chief misfortune being the knee injury, which kept him out of many representative matches."

A fitting tribute from one great and loyal Oldham forward to another.

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CLUB HONOURS

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Runners-up:

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First Division Champions:

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Second Division Champions:

1963-64, 1981-82, 1987-88

Rugby League Challenge Cup Winners:

1898-99, 1924-25, 1926-27

Runners-up:

1906-07, 1911-1912, 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, 1989-90

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, 1989-90

Wigan Sevens Winners:

1991-92

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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: £37,505.50 v Wigan, 5th October, 1989

Record Transfer Fee Paid: £70,000 to Halifax for Tony Anderson, March 1990

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

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

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

First Game: 21st October, 1876 v Stalybridge

Highest Number of Points Scored: Bernard Ganley, 2,881

Most Appearances: Joe Ferguson, 685

Most Tries: Pre 1900, Jack Hirst, 233

Since 1900, Alan Davies, 182

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FROM the BOARDROOM

by

CHAIRMAN JAMES QUINN



Rugby League interest this week turns to the Silk Cut Challenge Cup again and we will be staging what should be a cracking Second Round tie with Huddersfield.

I would like to dwell for a moment or two, though, on problems faced by clubs such as Oldham, who are ambitious to get out of the Second Division and build a side capable of doing well in the top flight.

The eight-club Second Division was devised to be more competitive and to prepare teams for going up, but as far as revenue is concerned it is a killer. It costs a lot of money to build and maintain a team to win promotion and it will cost even more money to put the finishing touches to it and convert a promotion-winning squad into a successful First Division outfit.

At the very time when all that preparatory work is going on, however, clubs are faced with a situation in which it is extremely difficult to draw the sort of gates that are needed to balance the books.

Toss a disruptive winter into the hat as well and the situation becomes even more difficult. When we returned to action in January, after the freeze, we played Bramley twice within a matter of a few days and, after deductions, the receipts from those TWO games would not meet the wage bill for ONE week.

We have done our homework and it has shown that our break-even figure for attendances would be 3,500. We have had 10 home games so far in the Second Division, only four more to go and we have not reached our target figure even once. Our average crowd is about 2,500 which represents a shortfall of 1,000 fans at every match.

It is against this sort of backcloth that we are trying to build and prepare for promotion. Any team that fails to do so would languish in the Second Division for two seasons or more and would be faced with little alternative but to scrap contracts and face a very bleak future.

The longer you stay in the Second Division, the greater becomes the gap you have to make up if you are ever to get out. It is a vicious circle that is not made any easier by the fact that, once promoted, a club faces a tremendous fight to just stay up and establish itself in the First Division.

I don't pretend to know what the answers are to all these problems, but I think there is a good case for a return to two divisions, the introduction of summer football and the creation of a scheme in which clubs that were promoted were given one season free from the pressures of battling against relegation.

A season's grace would allow a promoted team a bit more time to adjust to the greater demands of the First Division and to build up financially, after all the expenditure that has gone out in getting promotion in the first place.

Everyone talks about the cut-throat pressures of the Winfield Cup but the clubs do not have the problems of promotion and relegation. They can build on a long-term basis and they are not spending short-term money on either getting up or trying to stop up, a policy that often produces the yo-yo syndrome and leads many clubs into a financial crisis.

The Oldham Board realises the squad will have to be strengthened, if and when we realise our promotion aim and, as I told shareholders at the Annual Meeting of the plc last week, we will be launching a share issue in a bid to raise the necessary.

In the meantime, we rely on our loyal support week in and week out. The backing of our hard-core supporters is fantastic and I can assure you it is greatly appreciated both on and off the field.

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IN TOUCH



TOP TEN TRY SCORERS:

1. Shaun Edwards (Wigan)	30
2. Paul Newlove (Featherstone R)	24
3. Ellery Hanley (Leeds)	22
Owen Simpson (Featherstone R)	22
5. Alan Hunte (St. Helens)	21
Greg Austin (Halifax)	21
7. Nick Pinkney (Ryedale-York)	19
8. Phil Ford (Salford)	18
Andy Mason (Wakefield Trinity)	18
10. Mark Preston (Halifax)	17
Steve McGowan (Bradford N.)	17

The 1992-93 top try scorer will receive £30 a try from Stones bitter.

TOP TEN GOAL SCORERS (Including drop goals):

1. Dean Marwood (Workington T)	113
2. Frano Botica (Wigan)	110
3. John Wasylw (Keighley C)	107
4. Lee Crooks (Castleford)	77
5. Gary Pearce (Ryedale-York)	76
6. Martin Pearson (Featherstone R)	71
7. Steve Gartland (Rochdale H)	70
Paul Eastwood (Hull)	70
9. Paul Bishop (Halifax)	69
10. Jonathan Davies (Widnes)	66

The 1992-93 top goal scorer will receive £10 a goal from Stones Bitter.

TOP TEN POINT SCORERS:

	Tries	Goals	Drop Goals	Points
1. John Wasylw (Keighley C)	14	107	0	270
2. Dean Marwood (Workington Town)	10	113	0	266
3. Frano Botica (Wigan)	11	108	2	262
4. Martin Pearson (Featherstone R)	14	71	0	198
5. Steve Gartland (Rochdale H.)	13	69	1	191
6. Mark Simms (Doncaster)	13	61	0	174
7. Paul Eastwood (Hull)	7	70	0	168
8. Jonathan Davies (Widnes)	8	66	0	164
9. Gary Pearce (Ryedale-York)	2	74	2	158
Lee Crooks (Castleford)	1	77	0	158

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DAVID BRADBURY (Oldham)
GARY CHRISTIE (Oldham)
JASON DONOHUE (Leigh)
JAMES MOSLEY (Wakefield T.)
DAVID MYCOE (Sheffield E.)
MARTIN PEARSON (Featherstone R.)
LEE PENNY (Warrington)
JASON ROBINSON (Wigan)
NIGEL WRIGHT (Wakefield T.)

Forwards

PAUL ANDERSON (Leeds)
MICHAEL CASSIDY (Wigan)
RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN (Hull K.R.)
IAN HUGHES (Sheffield E.)
CHRIS JOYNT (St. Helens)
STEVE MCCURRIE (Widnes)
STEVE McNAMARA (Hull) Captain
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MARK PERRETT (Halifax)

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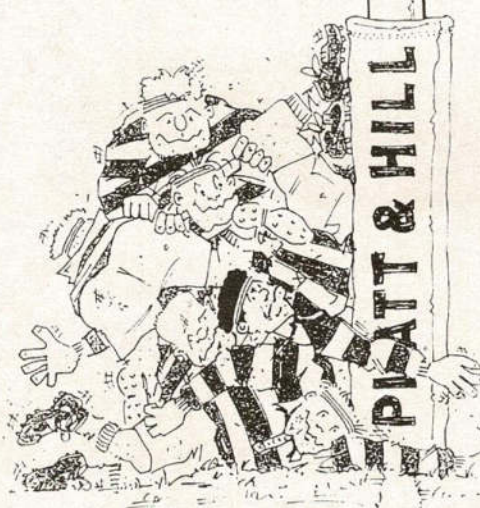
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LET'S DO THE TIME-WARP AGAIN!

Take a good look at Tiny Solomona, some people say that he comes from Western Samoa, some people say that he comes from New Zealand but we know the truth, don't we folks? Let's examine the evidence - the hairstyle, the clothes, the taste in music, it's pretty obvious, isn't it? Tiny Solomona is really from - the 1960's! Yes, Tiny is a time traveller who's gone back to the future in some Tardis-like machine and landed here at Watersheddings in the 1990's.

This must make his old playing kit even more of a collector's item. What a corker of a prize up for grabs today, the actual shirt, shorts and socks of not only a front row forward but also a time bandit from another dimension.

So, whether you are a rugby fan, a science-fiction buff or merely an old hippy, this is the prize for you.

Tickets only cost 50p each, they are on sale from our Matchday Sellers and we will make The Draw at half time.

LIFELINE WINNERS WEEK No. 17

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£100 (Saturday)	F8513	S. McCANE	132	D. Stubbs
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AGENTS WEEKLY DRAW 009 (FARMERS BOY)

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP

13

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SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP

A WATERSHEDDINGS WELCOME TO HUDDERSFIELD

JASON LAURENCE - A new exciting young player with a fair turn of speed. Plays with Bathurst near Sydney, Australia. Had a season with St. George and played a couple of games for Nottingham Forest before coming to Huddersfield.

BRAD DAVIS - A very nippy stand-off also from Bathurst Club. Seems to have a great understanding on the field with Laurence, played together for about four years.

IAN THOMAS - One of the two longest-serving players at Fartown. Very quick when he wants to. In his ninth season and needing one more try for his 100. Ex-International Colt.

BRIAN BLACKER - Started his playing career at Huddersfield when signing with Paul Dixon from Under Bank. Moved to Barrow then on to Hull before coming back to Fartown. Very experienced three-quarter.

CHRIS CHAPMAN - Ex-Castleford winger who excels anywhere in the three quarter. A very hard competitor, works well.

JOE NAIDOLE - A very fine exciting prospect when in full flight. Shirks nothing. Plays either wing or second row. Ex-Bradford and Huddersfield Colt before signing from Deighton Woolpack.

DES FOY - Ex-Great Britain and Lancashire player, very experienced. Has come to Fartown in a player-exchange with Neil Flanagan in exchange for Stuart Cocker to Oldham.

NEIL FLANAGAN - Nephew of Coach Terry, has made an exciting at Huddersfield with his display of

Rugby ability and his attitude to go forward. Scrum hall.

JASON FOGERTY - One of the famous Rugby family who has given up his first love, International basketball, to play for Huddersfield. Always learning and keen to be better.

KEN KERR - Australia centre/stand off - began his English career with Widnes before joining Workington. Has joined Huddersfield after being with Halifax and Keighley.

ANDY PUCILL - Came to Huddersfield in an exchange for Chris Parr with Swinton. Has his eyes set on higher honours.

GARRY COULTER - Signed from Doncaster last season. A very fiery player, has a fair turn of speed and strength when through the gap. His best is yet to come.

PHIL HELLEWELL - Has joined Huddersfield from Bradford Norther in a swap deal with Stephen Barnett for Boothroyd and Darkes. Started at full back but looks more at home in the centre. Very strong runner and first class goal kicker.

MARTIN MADERS - Another youngster for the future already with first team experience. Under 19 International and County Honours.

Signed from Saddleworth Rangers during last season. Can play anywhere in the forwards.

DICK FAIRBANK - Signed from Nottingham City. Prop forward Dick is a member of the famous Elland Fairbank Family. Played at Halifax from 1986 and played in the 1988 Cup Final against Wigan. Left Halifax last year to join Scarborough Pirates.



Top: Joe Naidole
Left: Andy Pucill
on the charge being
faced by Ian Smales
Right: Brad Davies



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Pen Pics and Photos: Courtesy of
Huddersfield Examiner.

TODAY'S MAN in the MIDDLE

ROBERT CONNOLLY

IS

TODAY'S REFEREE

Robert comes from

Wigan.

He was born on

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He became a Grade One referee

in 1989-90.



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TUNKS' TALKBACK



A huge following of Oldham supporters travelled to Post Office Road last week hoping to see their team stake a claim to the Second Division title. What they saw was Oldham taken apart by a mean machine of a Featherstone Rovers side which on the day played some truly magnificent rugby. Those fans were bitterly disappointed in the Oldham performance and I can tell you that so too were the Oldham players, coaching staff and everyone connected with Oldham rugby.

Today's game offers the perfect opportunity to put that disappointment well and truly behind us. What better way to lift the spirits than a win in the Challenge Cup against our fierce rivals from across the border, Huddersfield.

The Yorkshiremen are back to full strength after losing key players through injury and they will be fired up for this second round tie, the first time they have progressed past round one for several years. Huddersfield had a good win last Sunday, it will not have gone unnoticed that we didn't and they will remember well that they beat us here at Watersheddings in November. We have prepared well this week and there will be a fierce determination on our part to make sure that any disappointment today will be going back back over the Pennines with Alex Murphy and his men.

Enjoy the game.

TUNK'S TEASERS

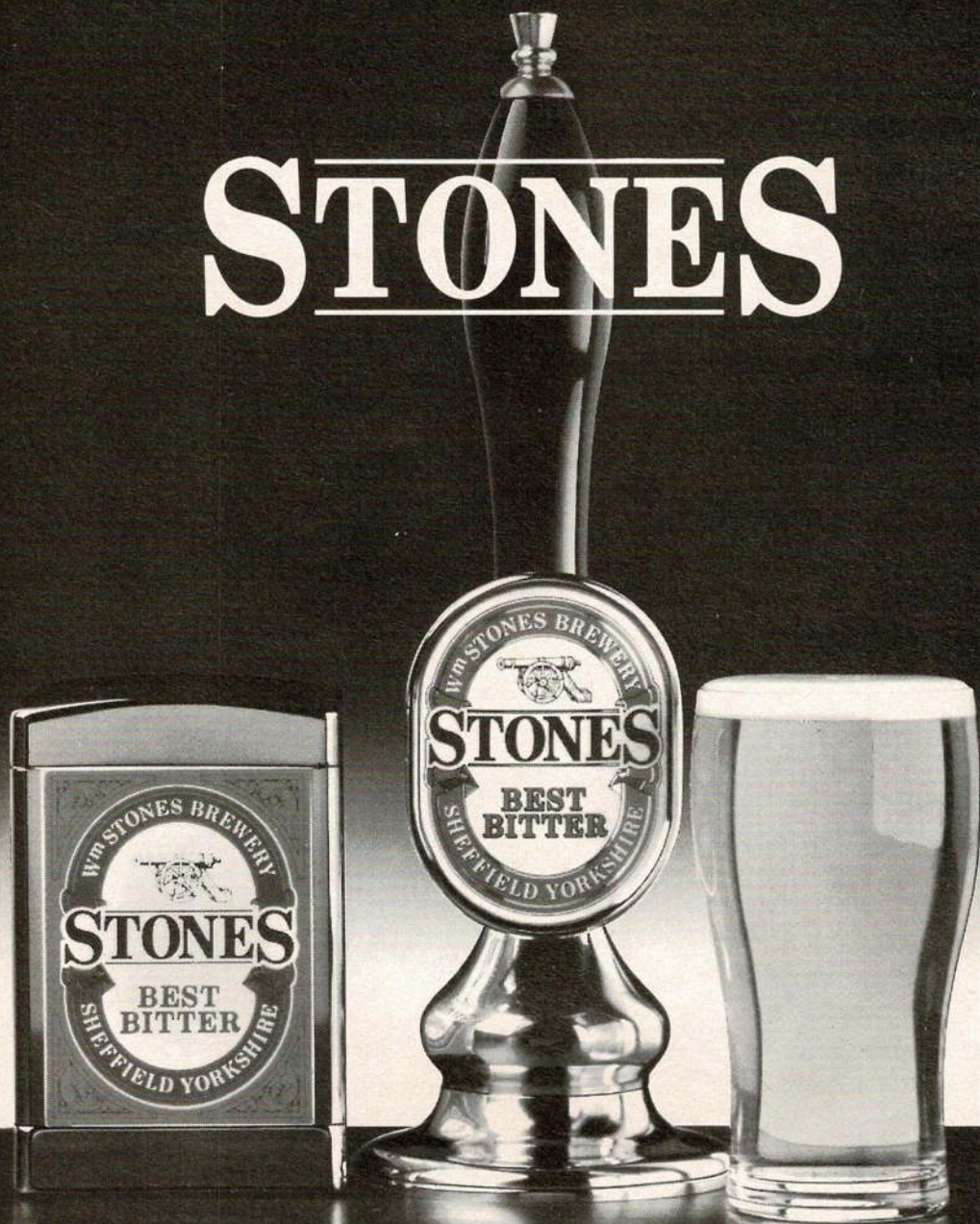
1. In which season did York reach the Cup Final at Wembley?
2. In which city did Great Britain win the 2nd Test match on the 1992 tour to Australia?
3. Which team play at Belle Vue?
4. Which Australian club are nicknamed the "Tigers"?
5. Who were the last winners of the Challenge Cup before the Second World War?
6. Who holds the R.L. record for tries in a season?
7. Name the three Oldham players who toured Australia and New Zealand in 1920?
8. In what season was the "Captain Morgan" Trophy won by Warrington?
9. In which season did Huddersfield last win the Challenge Cup?
10. In which season did St. Helens last win the First Division?

Wood, 8. 1973-74. 9. 1952-53. 10. 1974-75.
Rosenfeld of Huddersfield (80 in 1913-14). 7. Evan Davies, Herman Hilton and Alf

ANSWERS

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STONES



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PLAYER PROFILE

RICHARD RUSSELL



Full Name: Richard John Russell.

Date of Birth: 24th November, 1967.

Birthplace: Oldham.

Height : 5 ft. 9½ in.

Weight: 13½ stone.

Favourite Drink: Banana Milk Shake.

Favourite Food: McDonald's.

Favourite T.V. Show: Married with Children.

Favourite Music: Simply Red.

Hobbies: Tennis, occasional dancing, clubs.

Previous Clubs: Wigan.

Biggest Influence on Career so far: James Russell (Dad).

Favourite Player: Brett Kenny.

Favourite Ground: Leeds, Headingley.

Most Difficult Opponent: Tim Street (when it's his round).

Most Memorable Match seen: November '91 G.B. v. Australia, First Test.

Biggest Thrill: Wigan v. Manly (Unofficial World Cup).

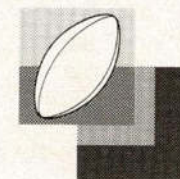
Biggest Disappointment: Oldham v. Warrington (Semi-Final).

Personal Ambition: To go on Tour with Great Britain.

Person you would most like to meet: Sugar Ray Robinson.

Have you ever been mistaken for anyone famous: No.

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OLDHAM KEEP LOOKING TO WEMBLEY

The success of January, in which Oldham won every game they played, was marred last week when they were defeated by Featherstone 52-14 - the biggest defeat for Oldham since 1988.

Oldham's hopes are still high, however, for their first-ever match at Wembley, for the final of the Silk Cut Challenge. If they win the game against their long-standing rivals, Huddersfield, they will be only two games away from Wembley. What a first that will be!

Because this game is so crucial for the lads, capacity crowds are expected today to spur the lads on - so it should be a really XXXX-citing match.

XXXX-PRESS YOURSELF

If the excitement of the game isn't too much, you may remember that it is Valentine's Day today - and what better way to celebrate than have your Valentine Message broadcast on the Oldham tannoy system? A selected number of requests will be taken for all you born romantics - if you don't get too carried away with the game and forget, that is!

A BRAIN TEASER FROM DOWN UNDER

Did you know . . .

- The XXXX ads are filmed at Broken Hill the same location as used to film Mad Max films.
- The residents of Darwin have the largest beer consumption per head in the world - no wonder XXXX is so popular - it has

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TEAM CHECK

SUNDAY, 14th FEBRUARY, 1993

OLDHAM

TEAM CHANGES

1. WALLY GIBSON
2. JAMIE BLOEM
3. GARY CHRISTIE
4. IVA ROPATI
5. STEVE WARBURTON
6. TOMMY MARTYN
7. STEVE KERRY
8. TINY SOLOMONA
9. RICHARD RUSSELL
10. MARK SHEALS
11. BEN OLSEN
12. SHANE TUPAEA
13. RICHARD PACHNIUK
14. SEAN TYRER
15. BARRIE McDERMOTT

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

HUDDERSFIELD

TEAM CHANGES

1. JASON LAURENCE
2. IAN THOMAS
3. KEN KERR
4. PHIL HELLEWELL
5. CHRIS CHAPMAN
6. BRAD DAVIS
7. NEIL FLANAGAN
8. DICK FAIRBANK
9. STEVE BARNETT
10. ANDY PUCILL
11. JOE NAIDOLE
12. GARY COULTER
13. BRIAN BLACKER
14. MARTIN MADERS
15. JASON FOGERTY

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

Referee: R. CONNOLLY

Touch Judges: Mr. A. J. BROWN (Red Flag)
Mr. G. F. TICKLE (Yellow Flag)

been tried and tested by XXXX-perts!

- Australia has introduced plastic banknotes - presumably so that they won't get wet on the bar! Have you ever had that problem?
- Australia boasts some of the best sporting teams in the world - both the Australian Rugby Union and Rugby League teams are World Cup holders and the Australian Cricket Team currently holds the Ashes. Naturally they're all sponsored by Castlemaine XXXX. So, with XXXX for inspiration, let's look to Wembley for our Oldham lads eh?

So now you know something about Australia - but what about their lingo? Here's a few tips:

Fair Dinkum - Is that right?

Dunny - Toilet

Fossicking - Panning for gold

Tucker - Food

Drongo - Loser

A Burl - Give it a go

Beer - XXXX

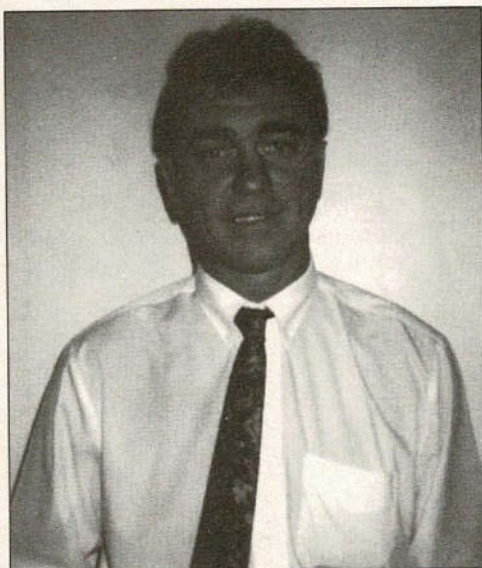
Shellbealright - No worries!

Station Vast outback farm. One of these is actually the size of Belgium and helicopters have to be used for sheep shearing! Doesn't it just make your back garden look small!

Well, that's all for now. We hope you enjoy the match and good luck Oldham - let's keep looking to Wembley!

CASTLEMAINE

XXXXX



'A' TEAM ROUND UP

with COACH JOHN PRINCE

Forget the scores, the last three Alliance games were, without doubt, our best performances of the season, from a coaching point of view.

Improved performances from a lot of our young players, improved effort and commitment and some of them are now beginning to progress along the hard road to becoming a first team professional and, at the end of the day, that is what I am here to do - to make them better players.

ALLIANCE CHALLENGE CUP (Second Round)

OLDHAM "A" 22 pts. v. WIGAN "A" 2 pts.

Friday, 29th January, 1993

I am sure most of our spectators were amazed when we built up an early second half lead of 18-4 against the Cup holders and First Division Champions and at that stage we looked like we would be surprise victors. However, injury to Sean Devine, the loss of Martin Strett for first team duty at half time and the controversial dismissal of Paul Norman, 10 minutes into the second half, meant we had an uphill struggle to keep Wigan out.

They finally levelled the score with four minutes remaining and we held on for a well-deserved draw, with tries from Michael Edwards (2), Nathan Clark and Mark Meadows, plus three goals from Martin Strett.

WIGAN "A" 32 pts. v. OLDHAM "A" 13 pts. (Replay)

Thursday, 4th February, 1993

Even with a changed side, that saw Craig Mort having to fill the wing spot, we once again shocked the holders on their own ground, building a 13-12 half time lead, with tries from Martin Strett and Sean Devine, plus a goal and a drop goal from Mark Hudspeth.

For the first 10 minutes of the second half we took the game to Wigan, with

excellent team rugby, three times we were stopped just short of the line, but we did manage a superb 48-yard drop goal from Mark Hudspeth, to make the score 14-12 but then a series of errors gave Wigan the advantage, which they took to regain the lead 18-14.

At this stage we lost our discipline and gave away advantage, something that Wigan will always use and in the last 13 minutes, ran in three tries, to secure victory and give a little injustice to our efforts.

DEWSBURY "A" 34 pts. v. OLDHAM "A" 10 pts.

Saturday, 6th February, 1993

Fielding a much-changed side, with Craig Mort at blind side prop and Paddy Mitchell in the second row, our battle-weary players once again had to battle against all the odds but, surprisingly, turned round at half time holding an 8-2 lead, with a try from Michael Edwards and two goals from Mark Hudspeth. Despite the 25th minute dismissal of Abraham Phillips, we extended our lead to 10-2 with a Mark Hudspeth penalty goal, before Dewsbury hit back with two tries to take a 14-10 lead. With 20 minutes remaining, we had Mark Hudspeth sin-binned and our walking wounded finally fell to our much bigger opponents.

It is not my policy to publicly criticise match officials but, on the day, I was totally dissatisfied with their performances and ask you to make your own judgement.

To our players I would like to express my public thanks, for their efforts and commitment in recent weeks, as we continue to improve.

Yours in Oldham R.L.F.C.

JOHN PRINCE

YOUNGERS ALLIANCE FIXTURES SECOND DIVISION 1992/93



Saturday, 29.01.92	Sheffield Eagles	H 20-33 (L)	1.00 p.m.
Saturday, 5.9.92	Carlisle	A 28-18 (W)	12.00 p.m.
Saturday, 12.9.92	Keighley	A 28-24 (W)	2.30 p.m.
Saturday, 19.9.92	Salford	H 10-31 (L)	1.00 p.m.
Friday, 25.9.92	Ryedale York	A 14-22 (L)	7.30 p.m.
Saturday 3.10.92	Carlisle (Lancs C.C. Shield)	H 26-20 (W)	1.00 p.m.
Friday 9.10.92	Leigh	H 16-19 (L)	7.30 p.m.
Friday 16.10.92	Wigan (LS 2)	H 4-34 (L)	7.30 p.m.
Friday, 29.10.92	Salford	A 6-42 (L)	7.30 p.m.
Friday, 6.11.92	Doncaster (Cup)	H 64-8 (W)	7.30 p.m.
Saturday, 14.11.92	Carlisle	H 40-12 (W)	1.00 p.m.
Friday, 20.11.92	Huddersfield	A 28-18 (W)	7.30 p.m.
Saturday, 28.11.92	Workington (Cup2)	A 16-26 (L)	
Saturday, 5.12.92	Hemel Hempstead	H 58-10 (W)	1.00 p.m.
Saturday, 12.12.92	Swinton	H	1.00 p.m.
Friday, 18.12.92	Bramley	A	7.30 p.m.
Saturday, 2.1.92	Swinton	H	1.30 p.m.
Saturday, 15.1.92	Hunslet	H 50-10 (W)	1.00 p.m.
Thursday, 23.1.93	Leigh	A 20-30 (L)	7.30 p.m.
Wednesday, 29.1.93	Wigan (YA Cup 2)	H 22-22 (D)	7.30 p.m.
Wednesday, 4.2.93	Wigan (YA Cup 2 Rply)	A 14-32 (L)	7.30 p.m.
Saturday, 6.2.93	Dewsbury	A 10-34 (L)	2.00 p.m.
Saturday, 13.2.93	Workington	H	1.00 p.m.
Saturday, 20.2.93	Hemel Hempstead	A	2.30 p.m.
Saturday, 27.2.93	Doncaster	H	1.00 p.m.
Saturday, 6.3.93	London Crusaders	H	1.00 p.m.
Saturday, 20.3.93	Workington	A	2.30 p.m.
Saturday, 27.3.93	Huddersfield	H	1.00 p.m.

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SKIPPERS' SPOT

with OLDHAM CAPTAIN
RICHARD RUSSELL

We go into today's Cup-tie still smarting from the heavy defeat we suffered a week ago at Featherstone. What the team must do is put that performance out of their minds, it's all in the past, and concentrate fully on producing a winning display this afternoon. One bad result does not make for a bad season and remember we have just been voted STONES BITTER TEAM OF THE MONTH for the 2nd Division, for the month of January.

There was some good news this week when GARY CHRISTIE and DAVID BRADBURY were both named in the Great Britain Under 21's squad to meet France at Spotland on Wednesday, 17th February, kick-off 7.30 p.m..

I should like to offer my congratulations to both players and we all wish the lads good luck on the night.

On to today's game and it should be a cracker played in front of a big partisan crowd. We will be all out to make amends not only for last week but also for the defeat we suffered at the hands of Huddersfield last time out.

We will be all out to gain a win which will put us in the last eight teams for the third round draw.

The Challenge Cup is special to the supporters of Oldham and I know today you will be right behind us as we make a determined bid for a quarter-final place.

Enjoy the Game,

RICHARD RUSSELL



NOTICE TO ALL SPECTATORS
THE R.F.L. HAS INTRODUCED
FINES FOR SPECTATOR PITCH
INTRUSION.
PLEASE KEEP OFF THE PITCH
AT ALL TIMES

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Best wishes to Oldham for the season.

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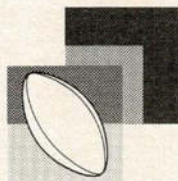
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Subscriber Services Limited,
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Lothian EH14 7DD

P L A Y E R S

Opponents	Date	Ven.	Res.	F-A	Att.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
LONDON C	30.9.92	H	W	2-128	2-128	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Maxwell	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Bates	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
CARLISLE	6.9.92	H	W	38-14	2-292	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
WASHINGTON	13.9.92	A	W	33-20	4-041	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
HUDDERSFIELD	20.9.92	H	W	28-24	2-886	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
LEIGH	22.9.92	A	W	26-14	3-119	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
Leas Cup 2	27.9.92	H	W	16-8	3-246	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
FEATHERSTONE R.	2.10.92	H	L	1-24	3-352	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
Wigan	6.10.92	A	L	8-48	9-020	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
Leas Cup SF	11.10.92	A	W	21-20	2-740	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
ROCHDALE HORNETS	18.10.92	A	W	23-16	1-560	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
BRAMLEY	22.11.92	H	W	56-6	2-731	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
SWINTON	29.11.92	H	W	22-40	4-383	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
REGAL TROPHY RD. 1	8.11.92	H	L	22-40	4-383	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
CARLISLE	15.11.92	A	W	25-20	1-300	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
HUDDERSFIELD	22.11.92	H	L	6-17	3-183	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
SWINTON	29.11.92	A	W	18-12	1-550	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
FEATHERSTONE R.	5.12.92	A	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
BRAMLEY	13.12.92	A	L	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
SWINTON	20.12.92	H	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
ROCHDALE HORNETS	26.12.92	A	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
SWINTON	1.1.93	A	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
BRAMLEY	8.1.93	H	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
ROCHDALE HORNETS	10.1.93	H	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
CARLISLE	13.1.93	A	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
ROCHDALE HORNETS	17.1.93	H	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
SWINTON	24.1.93	A	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
LONDON C	27.1.93	H	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
FEATHERSTONE R.	31.1.93	A	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
SWINTON	3.2.93	H	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
Leas Cup 1	7.2.93	A	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
SWINTON	10.2.93	H	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
FEATHERSTONE R.	13.2.93	A	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
BRAMLEY	20.2.93	H	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
ROCHDALE HORNETS	26.2.93	A	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
SWINTON	1.3.93	H	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
BRAMLEY	8.3.93	A	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
ROCHDALE HORNETS	10.3.93	H	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
CARLISLE	13.3.93	A	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
ROCHDALE HORNETS	17.3.93	H	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
SWINTON	24.3.93	A	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
LONDON C	27.3.93	H	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
FEATHERSTONE R.	31.3.93	A	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
BRAMLEY	4.4.93	H	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
ROCHDALE HORNETS	9.4.93	A	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
HUDDERSFIELD	12.4.93	H	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona
LONDON C	18.4.93	A	W	30-21	3-298	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Raggett	Gaulds	Martin	Deane	Stroals	Parkish	McDermott	Meekins	Tupaea	Russell	Olsen	Solomona



NEXT HOME GAME

Sunday, 21.2.93
OLDHAM V. CARLISLE
K.O. 3.00 p.m.

1992/3 APPEARANCES & SCORERS

AS AT 8TH FEBRUARY, 1993

	APP	SUB	TRIES	GOALS	DROP GOALS	POINTS
SEAN TYRER	17	2	7	3	-	34
SCOTT RANSON	16	-	10	-	-	40
STUART COCKER	13	-	8	-	-	32
IVA ROPATI	17	-	13	-	-	52
JOHN MAXWELL	4	1	1	-	-	4
TOMMY MARTYN	16	-	5	29	4	82
SEAN DEVINE	6	-	4	3	1	23
MARK SHEALS	20	-	2	-	-	8
IAN BATES	1	-	-	-	-	-
BARRIE McDERMOTT	6	4	2	-	-	8
MARK MEADOWS	7	5	2	-	-	8
SHANE TUPAEA	17	2	-	-	-	-
RICHARD RUSSELL	22	-	5	-	-	20
BEN OLSEN	15	5	3	-	-	12
"TINY" SOLOMONA	16	5	4	-	-	16
HUGH GUMBS	13	-	6	-	-	24
RICHARD PACHNIUK	10	2	5	-	-	20
DAVID BRADBURY	11	4	2	-	-	8
PAUL JONES	3	4	-	-	-	-
WALLY GIBSON	19	-	9	-	-	36
STEVE WARBURTON	8	3	4	-	-	16
IAN SHERRATT	12	3	1	-	-	4
STEVE KERRY	18	-	6	64	-	155
DAVID STEPHENSON	6	1	-	-	-	-
GED BYRNE	1	1	-	-	-	-
JOHN HIGGINS	1	-	-	-	-	-
GARY CHRISTIE	8	1	7	-	-	28
JOE GRAZIANO	3	4	1	-	-	4
JAMIE BLOEM	6	-	1	-	-	4
MARTIN STRETT	-	1	-	-	-	4

LEAGUE TABLE

STONES BITTER 2ND DIVISION 1992/93

	P	W	L	D	F	A	PTS	PTS DIFF
FEATHERSTONE R.	18	16	2	0	564	218	32	+346
OLDHAM	19	15	4	0	515	316	30	+199
ROCHDALE H.	18	9	9	0	366	378	18	-12
HUDDERSFIELD	17	9	8	0	334	364	18	-30
LONDON C.	18	7	10	1	320	336	15	-16
BRAMLEY	19	6	12	1	267	420	13	-153
CARLISLE	17	4	11	2	281	407	10	-126
SWINTON	18	4	14	0	225	433	8	-208

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BACK PAGES

by MICHAEL TURNER

Unlike our opponents in the Challenge Cup First Round, London Crusaders (who we were playing for the first time in this particular competition), today's visitors, Huddersfield, have featured in many stern Challenge Cup tussles with the "Roughyeds".

Listed below are all the Challenge Cup meetings between the two sides.

1910	1st Round	Huddersfield 2	Oldham 0
1912	3rd Round	Oldham 2	Huddersfield 0
1920	Semi	Huddersfield 17	Oldham 0 (at Salford)
1921	2nd Round	Huddersfield 8	Oldham 3
1922	2nd Round	Oldham 9	Huddersfield 5
1924	Semi	Oldham 9	Huddersfield 5
1935	2nd Round	Huddersfield 6	Oldham 0
1960	1st Round	Oldham 13	Huddersfield 11
1967	1st Round	Huddersfield 7	Oldham 12
1990	Prelim	Oldham 30	Huddersfield 8

Oldham just have the edge, having gained six victories to Huddersfield's four and it is interesting to note that only once has the away team won the tie, this being Oldham's 12-7 win at Fartown in 1967. Some of the older supporters may remember this was the debut game for Geoff Shelton, after Oldham had signed the Great Britain centre from Hunslet.

No doubt the men in claret and gold will be all out to redress the balance today and another close encounter is anticipated.

Photo Feature

Today's photograph shows action from another tight match against the Fartowners. This time it is a League game played on 13th October, 1962. Oldham won by 9 points to 8. Here Huddersfield winger Ken Senior is being tackled by Oldham's Alf Mumberson and Trevor Simms, with Peter Smethurst and Geoff Sims ready to lend a hand.



Courtesy of the Oldham Evening Chronicle

I am currently researching for a book covering the complete playing records and history of OLDHAM RLFC. If anyone has any old material connected with the club (photos, programmes etc) I would be very interested in viewing such items. Please contact: Michael Turner, 158 Balfour Street, Oldham OL4 1NS. Tel: 061-620 6005

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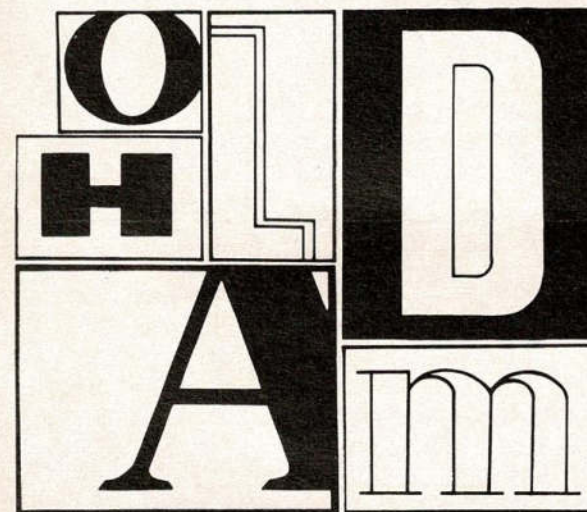
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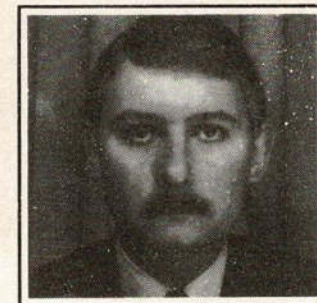
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QUOTE - UNQUOTE



with CLUBCALLS GED MASON

After last weekend's heavy defeat at Post Office Road, hopefully the team can bounce back today against Huddersfield.

A place in the last eight of Rugby League's greatest competition, awaits today's winners.

Alex Murphy's side proved, on their last visit here, that they are no pushovers, as Richard Russell has been saying this week on Clubcall. "All the pressure is on us, we are favourites to beat Huddersfield. After the result against Featherstone, the players will want to get that out of their system and progress into the next round."

Iva Ropati, once again, was missing from last weekend's defeat but he did watch from the stands. "I was going to take a gamble and play against Featherstone. I'm glad I didn't now, although it was also very painful watching from the stands."

Peter Tunks had no comment to make after last Sunday, but Assistant Coach Eric Fitzsimons was very honest about Oldham's third defeat of the season against Steve Martin's side. "I thought 52-14 was a true reflection of the game, nearly every time they had the ball they put us under pressure. I thought the play the ball was the key area, they were up quick playing it. They moved us back, they always seemed to have room either round the ruck or out wide. They performed very well and we didn't match up to it."

Finally today, what about Summer Rugby? It is a subject Chairman Jim Quinn feels very strongly about. But what about the players we asked Tommy Martyn. "Speaking generally, I think a lot of players would like to play in the summer but, at the end of the day, I think it will be up to the top clubs. I don't think the top players will be too happy because they will lose a lot of money by not being able to play down under in the summer, but you've always got to be looking to improve the game and Summer Rugby could be a step forward."

Next Sunday, it's back to League action here, as we play Carlisle for the fourth time this season. Two weeks ago we completed the "Grand Slam" over Swinton, surely we can make it another one this time against the Cumbrians.

See you next week,

GED MASON

OLDHAM



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ROGER HALSTEAD looks at PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS



Huddersfield come to town today for the Second Round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup, in the knowledge that they were the last team to win at Watersheddings. That was 22nd November last, when the men from Fartown (or is it Leeds Road?) pulled off a shock 17-6 win that temporarily rocked the Oldham club to its foundations.

The teams that day were as follows:

OLDHAM: Tyrer; Ranson, Byrne, Ropati, Gumbs; Gibson, Kerry; Sherratt, Russell, Sheals, Olsen, Tupaea, Jones. Subs: Meadows, Solomona.

HUDDERSFIELD: Laurence; Thomas, Kerr, Hellewell, Chapman; Davis, Flanagan; Fogerty, Huck, Pucill, Naidole, Coulter, Blacker. Subs: Barnett, Fairbank.

The referee was Mr. Colin Steele of Barrow and there was an attendance of 3,183 - one of the best of the season at Watersheddings.

Oldham's points came from a try by Tyrer and a goal by Kerry, while Davis, Thomas and Kerr scored tries for Huddersfield, with Hellewell landing two goals and Flanagan kicking a drop goal.

Oldham were never in the game, as they slipped to their second home League defeat. Both were played in appalling conditions, on a slippery surface and in non-stop rain.

Huddersfield ran the ball with much more confidence and conviction, giving the impression they were the side that was on top of the table.

There is no greater leveller than the sort of weather in which this match was played.

Speedy Oldham backs like Ropati and Gibson became ordinary on a skiddy surface, Ranson hardly touched the ball, Byrne looked badly in need of a few games under his belt and Gumbs tended to slow down and stop when he hit the defensive wall.

Only Tyrer, of the Oldham backs, seemed to know where he was going and even he wasted a gilt-edged chance late in the game, when he turned back inside with an overlap on his left.

Huddersfield led 17-0 and the game was over, Oldham having been overturned by a side that had a greater thirst for victory and capitalised on a huge dose of complacency in the Oldham camp.

The game was a personal triumph for former Oldham scrum-half Neil Flanagan, who had an outstanding game for Huddersfield. There was plenty of self-satisfaction, too, for another former Oldham man, Terry Flanagan, who helped to mastermind the victory alongside Alex Murphy.

Today's rematch should be a cracker. Oldham will surely be determined to avenge that reverse in November, which still rankles at Watersheddings.



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PHOTOS

ACTION



Photos: Courtesy of Oldham Evening Chronicle

A big hit from Ben Olsen v. Featherstone Rovers.



The Oldham Pack close in v. London Crusaders.

SUPPORTERS CLUB

Today we extend a warm welcome to all our friends and supporters from Huddersfield.

MEMBERSHIP

There is still time to join the Supporters Club at only £2.00. All members enjoy a 5% discount in the Club Shop, plus discounted travel on all Supporters Club Coaches to away games. Further information from the Club Shop or on 665 1832.

JUNIOR REDS

It is planned to organise a trip to Wembley, for a look behind the scenes on the 13th April, 1993. Anyone interested should contact Sue on 681 3397. Don't forget, if you have any items of interest or would like further information, contact Sue.

AWAY MATCHES

Our next scheduled away match is on 28th February, at London Crusaders. Anyone interested in booking seats should contact 665 1832 or call at the Club Shop during the day. Hopefully, this game will be re-arranged, as it is the weekend of the Third Round of the Challenge Cup.

If anyone has any fund-raising ideas or would like to help the Supporters Club in any way, please contact Donald on 665 1832 or call into the Club Shop.

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