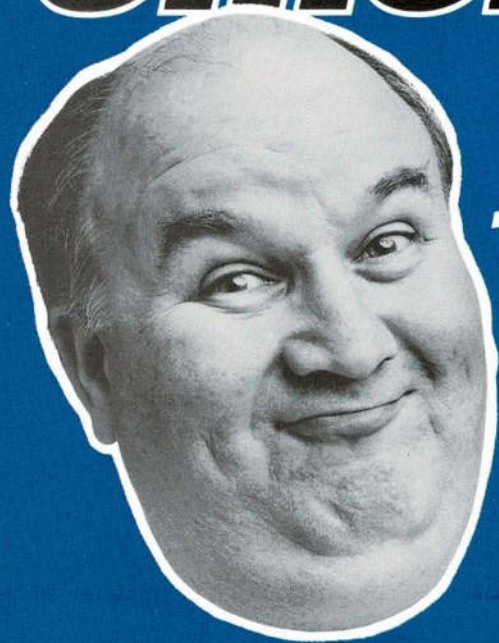


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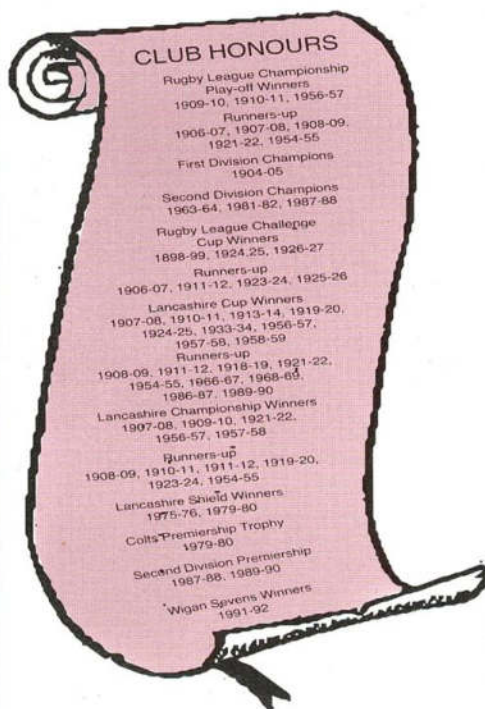
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Club Records:

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, 24th 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: Ref 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, Jach Hirst, 233

Since 1900, Alan Davies, 182

O.R.L.F.C. VICE-PRESIDENTS SEASON 1993/94

Ronnie Hardaker, Terry Doyle, Alan Butterworth, Mavis Butterworth, Tommy O'Brien, Major B. Howell, Harry Randall, K. Folks, C. Folks, Ken Waddington, J. L. Perrins, A. Perrins, Irene Turner, Adamsons Crash Repair Centre (2), Nigel Tench, Kevin Geany, R. Langton, Rick Coombs (2).

FROM the BOARDROOM

by **CHAIRMAN JAMES QUINN**



Today we welcome Wigan to Watersheddings in the third round of the Regal Trophy and, in so doing, we have to acknowledge that this is the club that has set new standards for all to follow.

For the last five or six seasons the men from Central Park have been "the team to beat" and that in itself is a marvellous tribute to Wigan's professionalism and consistency not only on the field of play but in all aspects of club life.

Don't count me among those people who criticise Wigan for all manner of things. Such thoughts can only be born out of envy. How can you possibly knock a club that has been to Wembley six consecutive times and lifted the Stones Bitter Championship almost as many times in an era of trophy success that has never previously been matched in Rugby League history?

Don't forget that this wonderful chapter in Wigan's wonderful history began in the Second Division. Maurice Lindsay and his fellow directors rescued the club from difficulties, turned it round and laid down the foundations for men like Graham Lowe, John Monie and now John Dorahy to weave their spells of magic as coaches.

Wigan have neglected nothing. Unafraid to spend heavily to take some of the world's best players to

Central Park, they have also tuned to perfection a youth policy that will not only stand their own club in good stead for many years to come, but will also ensure that Great Britain will at last conquer the Australians in Test rugby after all these years of trying.

Just look at young players like Phil Clarke, Andrew Farrell, Jason Robinson and Barrie-Jon Mather, to name but four, and you can see that the next wave of home-produced talent is striking through, no doubt determined to follow in the footsteps of players like Martin Dermott, Denis Betts and Shaun Edwards, who is set to receive a club record testimonial of £54,000.

So, you see, Wigan's success has not all been down to the cheque book, big-money signings from other clubs or stars from the other side of the world such as Brett Kenny, Gene Miles or Frano Botica.

Whether buying from overseas, closer at home or developing home-spun talent, Wigan have gone for the best and that applies also to the magnificent stadium they have developed at Central Park.

So, believe me, there is no jealousy of Wigan here at Watersheddings, just an appreciation of all they have done and all they have achieved and the realisation that they have established guidelines for the rest of us to follow.

One has to admit, of course, that the

board at Central Park always knew it would get the total backing of the Wigan public if it put the goods in the shop window. Five-figure crowds would be assured and there was always a stadium to accommodate them.

Like many other West Lancashire towns (St Helens, Warrington and Widnes among them), Wigan don't have an FA Carling Premiership soccer club on their doorstep. With due respect to Wigan Athletic, the town is almost exclusively interested in Rugby League.

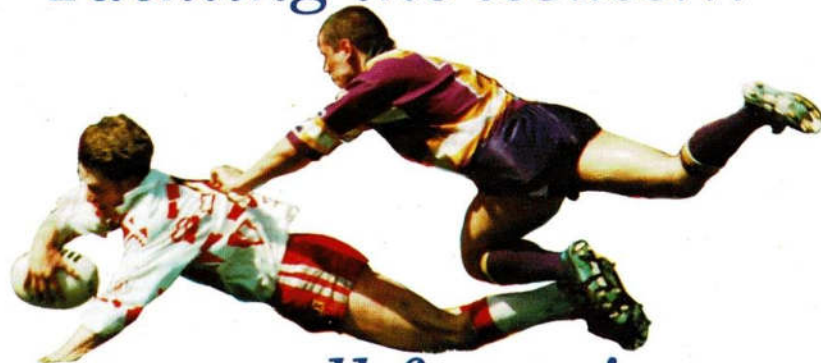
Nevertheless, Wigan's policies should surely merit adoption by other clubs even if they have to be modified or tailored down to suit realistic crowd expectations and financial budgets.

We have to agree, surely, that over the past decade or so Wigan have been simply the best in Rugby League terms. Other clubs, including ours at Oldham, should examine what has gone on at Central Park and use their policies as a guideline to their own success in future.

Yes, Wigan ARE the team to beat. They still recall that we were the last team to beat them in the Challenge Cup six years ago when Paddy Kirwan scored his last-minute try and Mick Burke landed the winning goal. Wouldn't it be nice for a repeat performance today.

James Quinn

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A Watersheddings Welcome to ... WIGAN

Danny Ellison: Position - winger. This youngster signed from Golbourne ARLFC in 1991 and has made several first team appearances during the past two seasons. A promising young player who has gained honours with G.B. Under 19's.

Michael Cassidy: Position - back row forward. This youngster signed from St. Judes ARLFC in May 1990. Has made several first team appearances and has gained international honours playing for G.B. Under 21's. A hard grafting forward with great future prospects.

Barrie Jon Mather: Position - second row. This strong youngster has supported the first team for most of the season to date. A brilliant worker, signed from Arnold School RUFC. A player with great prospects in the game. Has gained GB Academy and Under 21's honours.

Franco Botica: Position - wing/stand-off. An ex-All Black Rugby Union star signed in a blaze of publicity. A very quick worker who has earned the position of goal kicker with his immaculate kicking record, thus having solved a long standing problem for Wigan. Made an eight point Wigan debut at Swansea in the Charity Shield competition. Franco created history last March, recording the fastest 1000 points aggregate in British Rugby League's history in 93 matches. Has been described by one of his team mates as the "closest thing to a goal kicking machine". Played for New Zealand in the 1993 Test Series.

Dean Bell: Position - centre. A former New Zealand captain. Known as "Mean Dean". Dean became the first New Zealander to receive the coveted Stones Bitter Man of Steel Award. One of the team's stars who has appeared in the club's sixth consecutive Cup Finals. Had a spell with Eastern Suburbs before joining Wigan in 1986. As club captain, a great team member and a highly respected player. Was represented with the "This Your Life Award" in September, 1993.

Joe Lydon: Position - centre or wing. Graphic designer. Another great of the modern game. A versatile player who has filled every backline possible for Great Britain and is capable of turning a game with a try or, on one occasion, a sixty yard drop goal. Signed from Widnes in 1986, Joe is only the fourth player in history to have won both the Harry Sunderland and the Lance Todd Trophy. Joe has gained 30 caps for Great Britain.

Shaun Edwards: Position - stand off/scrum-half. Shaun has a blistering pace off the mark, great vision and constant alertness for the half chance. A player who demands perfection from

himself and expects it from his colleagues. Voted Young Player of the Year on a record three occasions and 1990 Man of Steel. The games leading try scorer in the past two seasons. Showed great courage when he stayed on the field despite a fractured eye socket and cheekbone during a Wembley Cup Final. Son of Jackie who played for Warrington. Shaun joined Wigan in a blaze of publicity in 1983.

Denis Betts: Position - second row forward. Burst into the Rugby League scene as an 18 year old player and is now a Great Britain star. A powerful forward who played in every one of Wigan's games during their championship year. Has twice been nominated Young Player of the Year. Signed from Leigh Rangers ARLFC in 1986. Was once on the books of Manchester United F.C. A dedicated young player who gives his all.

Andy Platt: Position - utility forward. Joined Wigan from St. Helens in September 1988 for a then club record fee of £140,000. Became only the sixth forward in history to gain 25 Test Caps when skipping Great Britain against France at Headingley early in 1993. Harry Sunderland Award winner for his try scoring display in the 1992 Premiership Final against former club St Helens in 1992. A Great Britain star and a relentless tackler. A good clubman and the ideal Coach's player.

Kelvin Skerrett: Position - prop forward. Great Britain prop signed for Wigan in 1990. Previously had spells with Hunslet and Bradford Northern. Nephew of ex Great Britain star, Trevor Skerrett. A product of Oulton ARL. A workhorse who was impressive on the 1990 Lions tour.

Phil Clarke: Position - loose forward. A player who is undoubtedly destined for the game's highest honours. A skilled footballer and a powerful runner who gets through a lot of work in defence. Took the man of the match award for the 1993 test series. Former GB Under 21's skipper, son of former Wigan hooker and Coach, Colin. Excelled in all three tests on the 1992 Lions tour and was a member of the England side which defeated Wales at Swansea in November 1992.

Martin Dermott: Position - hooker. A dangerous dummy half runner with quick hands. A Great Britain international who fought to make the number nine shirt his own. Joined Wigan from Wigan St. Patricks ARL juniors in 1984, making his debut in 1985 at Wakefield. Skipped GB at Colts level in 1988 and 1989.

Martin Hall: Position - hooker. Aged 23, signed from Rochdale Hornets. Has made several first team appearances but yet to gain international honours. Another hard worker and a great prospect.

Ian Gildart: Position - second row forward. A young but yet strong tackling machine. Signed from Leigh Rangers ARLFC. Has gained international honours at GB colts and GB Under 21's level. Has supported the first team often but yet to gain his own regular place.

Martin Offiah: Position - winger. Signed from Widnes RLFC in January 1992 for a record fee of £440,000 and repaid some of that fee with 30 tries in just 16 appearances, including a club record 10 in the Stones Bitter Premiership defeat of Leeds. Former Lance Todd Trophy holder. Topped the League try charts in each of his first four seasons gaining immediate selection for Great Britain. After a long period due to injury, has made his way back into the number five shirt. A speedy player known throughout the game for his pace.

Jason Robinson: Position - winger. Voted Young Player of the Year for 1992. This Leeds born teenager made his first team debut against Sheffield. Represented Great Britain in the 1993 Test series but was injured in a club match which meant he was unable to appear in the second and third tests. A great player who has so far excelled himself and will no doubt be in contention for many of the games highest honours.

Sam Panapa: Position - centre/utility player. Joined Wigan from Sheffield in August 1991 and scored Wigan's opening try in the Foster's World Club Challenge Match in October 1991. An invaluable member of the team who has helped Wigan to Championship and Premiership glory.

Neil Cowie: Position - prop forward. A product of Tormorden ARL. Gained all five domestic winners medals inside his first 18 months at Central Park. A great tackling machine and a hard worker who gives his all in defence.

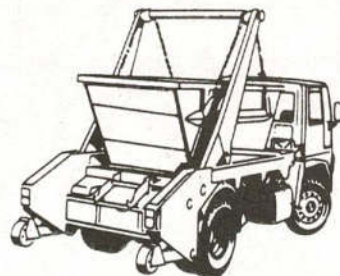
Billy McGinty: Position - second row. Joined Wigan from Warrington in 1991, forcing his way into the 1992 Lions party. A product of Widnes Tigers ARLFC. Another player who has gained all five domestic medals inside his first 18 months at Central Park. A player who has been out of action due to a serious injury but is working his way back after making an excellent recovery.

Gary Connolly: Position - centre. Signed from St. Helens in September, 1993. Had a successful off season in summer 1993 with Canterbury Bankstown returning to play for Wigan after they were eliminated from the Winfield Cup. A current Great Britain international who played in all three of the 1993 tests versus New Zealand. A strong, fast player who is exceptional in defence.

Nigel Wright: Position - stand off. Signed from Wakefield Trinity in August 1993. A great player who will, along with the other Wigan youngsters, no doubt gain some if not all of the games highest honours.

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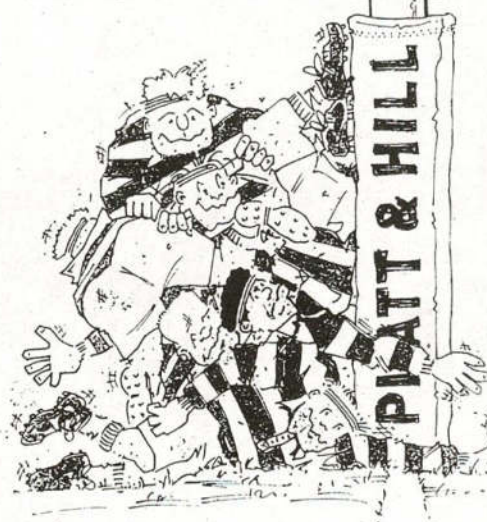
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Roughy 'eds Recalled

No. 11 SAM WILLIAMS



Photo courtesy of Oldham Evening Chronicle

ing this three year spell, he made a total of 88 appearances for Oldham scoring 104 tries.

The press reports of the day would talk about his "corkscrew" runs, when he would weave inside and then outside of the opposing defenders until the ball was placed safely over the try line.

The wing position was and still is the most glamorous position in a Rugby League team and Sam Williams was truly one of the games first superstars.

In the successful Challenge Cup campaign of 1899, Sam scored a total of 14 tries, including two in the final against Hunslet.

No. 12 GLEN LIDDIARD



At the end of the 1896-97 season Oldham gave a trial to a young threequarter from Northampton, at the time I'm sure no-one connected with the club could have realised the impact this player would have on the freshly formed "Northern Union".

Sam Williams did enough in that trial game to convince the Oldham officials to sign him for the club. So he made his debut in the first match of the 1897-98 season, as a centre, by the seasons end, he had played 18 matches, which yielded him four tries.

For the following season Sam was switched to the wing, with dramatic effect. In 28 games in the 1898-99 season he scored 39 tries to top the list for the whole Northern Union. He also scored most tries in the entire League for the next two seasons and dur-

Younger brother of Aussie full-back, David, Glen came over with the rest of the Liddiard family in 1985 to follow David's progress in the English game. After playing a few matches with Saddleworth, Glen was catapulted right into the R.L. First Division with Oldham, making a try scoring debut against Dewsbury on December 15th, 1985.

Glen played most of his games for Oldham on the wing but occupied the stand-off position in the Challenge Cup semi-final against Castleford, when he scored Oldham's only try before having to retire with concussion. Only 16 at the time, Glen would have been the youngest player ever to play at Wembley, if Oldham had won through to the final.

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Oldham born and read

ACTION GALLERY

So far this season the "ACTION GALLERY" has featured six of Stephen Bennetts water-colour paintings, showing some of the star players and dramatic moments in the history of Oldham R.L.F.C. The series so far is...

1. David Liddiard 2. Alan Davies 3. Oldham at Old Trafford 4. Mick Parrish 5. Reg Farrar 6. Oldham v The Kiwis.

By the end of the season there will have been a minimum of 15 of these excellent paintings and up until Christmas the first six can be obtained from the Oldham R.L.F.C. stall in the "Spindles" shopping centre. The price is £3.20 each or £18 for a set of six.

ACTION GALLERY No 7 will appear in the next home programme and amongst the paintings still to come are:

Bernard Ganley - Oldham v The Aussies - Martin Murphy - Jim Lomas - The 1964 Hull K.R. semi finals.

Right: Action Gallery - No. 4 MICK PARRISH

Below: Action Gallery - No. 6 Oldham v the Kiwis



Action Gallery

To coincide with their return to the First Division of the Rugby League, Oldham R.L.F.C. are introducing this special new feature into the matchday programme for the the 1993-94 season.

The ACTION GALLERY is a set of excellent water colour paintings, that depict some of the star players and dramatic moments in the club's history on the field of play.

With the centenary of the Rugby League now just two years away the ACTION GALLERY will cover the full time-span of almost 100 years of professional Rugby League in Oldham, from the early days of the "Northern Union" right up to the intense, high pressure atmosphere of the game in the 1990's.

The team that dominated the R.L. Championship in the 1906-1911 era; the cup specialists of the mid 1920's; the "great" entertaining team of the late 50's, all of these are sure to feature in this unique series which is a must for collectors of Oldham and Rugby League memorabilia in general.

FULL COLOUR copies (size 11 1/2 "x 8") are to be made available and will come complete with a detailed narrative giving particulars of the player or incident depicted in the painting. The copies will cost £3.20 each (add 80p if requiring the copies to be sent by post) and can be obtained from **Mr M. Turner, 158 Balfour Street, Oldham, OL4 1NS.**

Please note that the ACTION GALLERY series are not fabricated images and have all been painted from actual photographs.

A limited number will be available in the club shop for 30 minutes after the match.

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A-TEAM NEWS

Complacency could be just as dangerous as any of our future opponents, as we continue on our remarkable season so far.

While obviously delighted at our record to date of played 16 won 16, we have got to impress on the lads the need to avoid thinking we have only got to turn out and everything will slot into place.

We have got where we are by trying to be disciplined in all aspects of our game, so it is vital we keep our feet on the ground and it is my job to impress on the players the need for total commitment and the right mental approach to every game.

We have been drawn away against Dewsbury in the semi-final of the Youngers Second Division Trophy on Wednesday, 15th December. So the lads would welcome the same tremendous support we have been receiving. Prior to this we play Barrow at home on Saturday, 11th December, kick-off 2.30 p.m. and I view this game as equally important as we chase points for our ultimate goal of the Second Division Championship.

Yours in Sport

Shane Tupaea

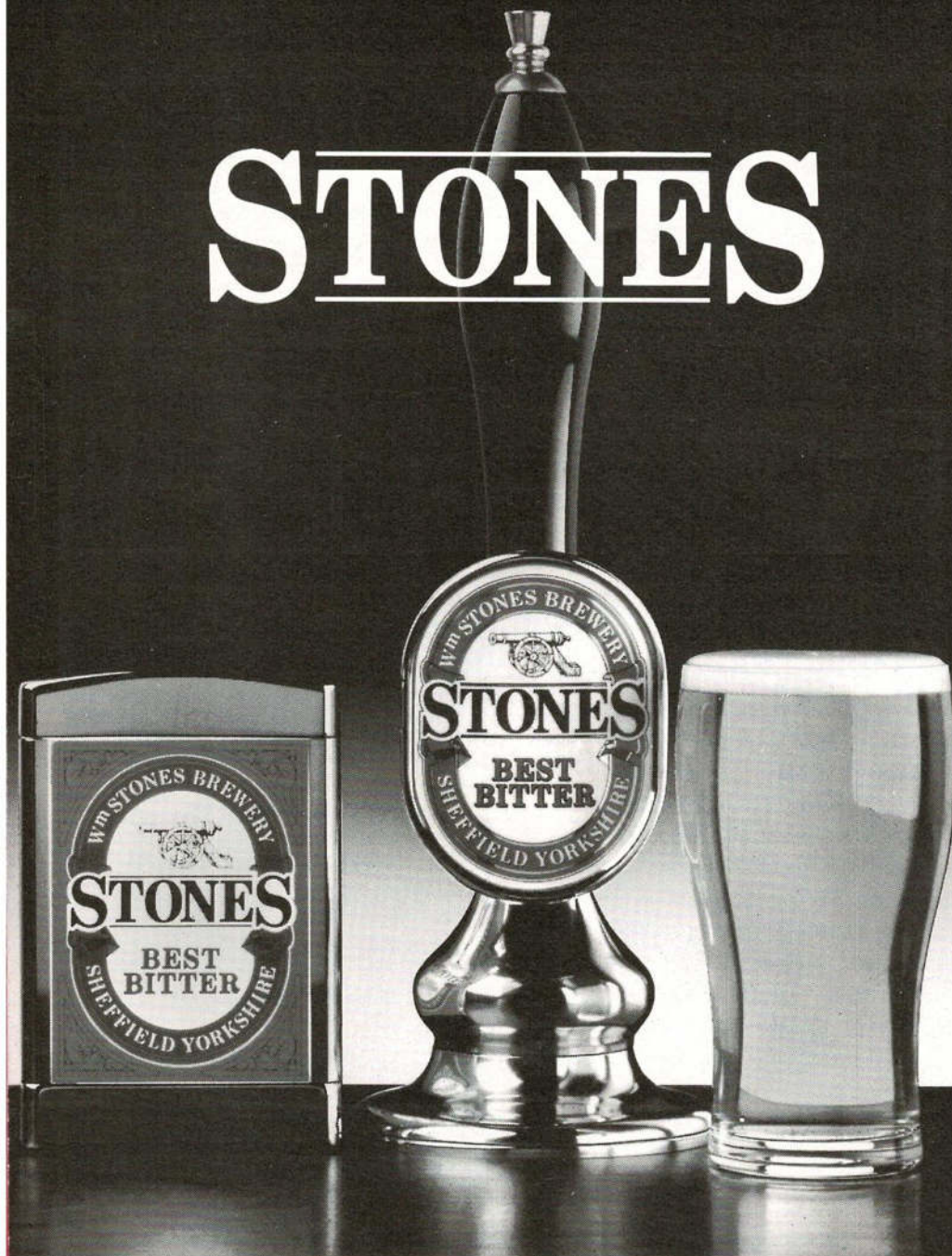


YOUNGERS ALLIANCE SECOND DIVISION FIXTURES SEASON 1993/94

AUGUST					
Saturday	28th	Workington	H	(W)	44-16
SEPTEMBER					
Saturday	4th	Rochdale	A	(W)	30-18
Thursday	9th	Hull K.R.	H	(W)	32-12
Thursday	16th	Hunslet	A	(W)	29-18
Saturday	25th	Doncaster	A	(W)	36-16
OCTOBER					
Saturday	2nd	LCSS - Round 1 Workington	H	(W)	38-10
Thursday	7th	Leigh	H	(W)	26-24
Saturday	23rd	LCSS - Round 2 Wigan	A	(W)	26-22
Saturday	30th	Swinton	A	(W)	28-2
NOVEMBER					
Wednesday	3rd	LCSS-Semi Warrington	H	(W)	12-6
Saturday	6th	London	H	(W)	64-30
Saturday	13th	Youngers ASDC Round 1 - London	A	(W)	16-6
Thursday	18th	LCSS Final Rochdale	A	(W)	32-20
Saturday	27th	Youngers ASDC Round 2 - Hunslet	A	(W)	36-10
DECEMBER					
Wednesday	1st	Huddersfield	H	(W)	48-2
Saturday	4th	Leigh	A	(W)	39-16
Saturday	11th	Barrow	H		
Saturday	18th	Bramley	A		
Wednesday	22nd	Carlisle	H		
JANUARY					
Friday	7th	Youngers ACC - Round 1			
Friday	14th	Huddersfield	A		
Saturday	22nd	Barrow	A		
Friday	28th	Youngers ACC - Round 2			
FEBRUARY					
Thursday	3rd	Rochdale	H		
Thursday	10th	Keighley	H		
Friday	18th	Youngers ACC - Round 3			
Monday	21st	Sheffield	A		
Saturday	26th	Carlisle	A		
MARCH					
Saturday	5th	London	A		
Thursday	10th	Dewsbury	H		
Friday	11th	Youngers ACC - Semi-final			
Thursday	17th	Swinton	H		
APRIL					
Thursday	14th	Youngers ACC - Final			

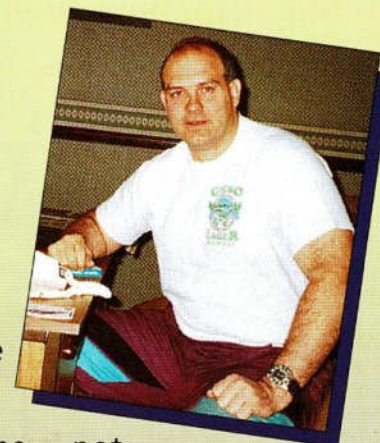
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TUNKS' TALKBACK



It's Regal Cup day and today's opponents do not come any tougher than the mighty Wigan, whose cup record speaks for itself.

They have virtually cleaned up in all competitions these past few seasons and clearly will present a tough challenge if we are to progress into the next round.

They have chosen wisely in John Dorahy

to replace the successful John Monie and John will be keen to keep the trophy cabinet at Central Park as full as in previous seasons.

After a tricky start to this years campaign when they had a lot of injuries, which even put pressure on their large squad, they have got back on track with the return of their big name players.

As I have said they do

not come any tougher but we will be ready and well prepared and are looking forward to the atmosphere a cup visit from Wigan will bring to Watersheddings.

Get behind the lads and enjoy the game.

Peter Tunks.

TUNKS TEASERS

1. In what year did Workington win the R.L. Challenge Cup?
2. Which team play at Post Office Road?
3. Who captained the first Australian Touring Team in 1908?
4. Who were the first ever winners of the Second Division in 1902-03?
5. In what year did King George VI attend the Challenge Cup Final?
6. Who was the last Batley player to represent Great Britain?
7. Who contested the first ever R.L. Charity Shield in 1985?
8. Which Oldham player scored 26 tries in season 1981-82?
9. Which team are nicknamed the "Chemicals"?
10. Who holds the goals in a season record for Swinton?

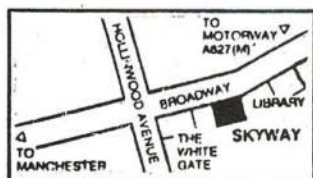
ANSWERS ON STATS PAGE

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commercial corner

A week in the life of the Collinge's

Without doubt most clubs would be in deep trouble without the likes of Alice and her family. They have the club very much at heart and the efficiency in which they get on with doing a variety of invaluable jobs throughout the week is admired and appreciated by everyone connected with the club.

These unsung heroes who, with others, give up their spare time on behalf of the club, are a godsend to the commercial well-being of the club.

Currently putting in a big stint throughout most days at our "Barrow" in the Upper Mall at the Spindles Shopping Centre with Alice, is Dave Featherstone and they would be delighted to see as many of you as possible if you are looking for those "Christmas Goodies".

We have a variety of goods on sale, the ideal Christmas Gifts for young and old alike.

Golden Gamble

Gordon and his army will be scattered around the ground and we are indebted to Wigan for the help they have given us both at today's game and also at the St. Helens game.

Please dig deep and lets make it a "Bumper Pay-Out".

We still urgently require matchday promotional staff of 16+ to promote and sell Golden Gamble at every first team home game. Generous commission available and free entry into the match.

Please contact Judy Campbell or John Watkins on 624 4865.

Ex-Players

It has been a sad few weeks with the passing away of Charlie Winslade and Ken Wilson. Our sympathy goes out to both families.

Charlie's widow travelled with members of her family from South Wales to scatter Charlie's ashes on the pitch prior to the St. Helen's match.

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WEEK No. 44 £500 SUPER BONUS WINNER

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WEDNESDAY	£100	Winner: G 9629, E. Cordwell	Agent: 143 Forge Ind Estate
THURSDAY	£100	Winner: D 5519, A. Smith	Agent: 017 Coffee House
FRIDAY	£100	Winner: A 5241, M. Proudley	Agent: 201 Royal Oldham Hosp.
SATURDAY	£100	Winner: D J463, I. Watts	Agent: 068 B. O'Connor
SUNDAY	£100	Winner: A 1148, F. Brown	Agent: 257 Wagon & Horses

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WEEK No: 8 **£1000:** J. Campbell

£50: F. Halliwell (c/o D. Weigh)

Special Prize: "Mystery Prize" Winner: 1313, L. Wolstencroft.

XXXXTRA EFFORT NEEDED TODAY!

There can't be a single supporter at Watersheddings today who is not aware of the importance of this match for Oldham. Following the recent form of both sides, the result would seem to be a forgone conclusion but Jim Saddler, spokesman for club sponsor Castlemaine XXXX, points out that doom and gloom merchants are forgetting the effect that Watersheddings and the home crowd have, both on Oldham and on the visiting team.

"Oldham are renowned Cup fighters," says rugby

CASTLEMAINE
XXXXX



XXXX

TEAM CHECK

SUNDAY, 12th DECEMBER, 1993

OLDHAM Team Changes

1. Nigel Heslop
2. Scott Ranson
3. Paul Topping
4. Darren Abram
5. David Jones
6. Martin Crompton
7. Wally Gibson
8. Barrie McDermott
9. John Clarke
10. Ian Sherratt
11. Mike Kuiti
12. Shane Tupaea
13. Bob Lindner
14. Iyan Green
15. Charlie McAlister

WIGAN Team Changes

1. Joe Lydon
2. Danny Ellison
3. Barrie-Jon Mather
4. Gary Connolly
5. Martin Offiah
6. Sam Panapa
7. Frano Botica
8. Kelvin Skerrett
9. Martin Hall
10. Andy Platt
11. Denis Betts
12. Neil Cowie
13. Phil Clarke
14. Mick Cassidy
15. Shaun Edwards

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11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

SCRUMS

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

PENALTIES

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

SCRUMS

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

Referee: John Holdsworth

Touch Judges: David Davies (Red Flag)
Peter Walton (Yellow Flag)

expert Roger Halstead of the Oldham Evening Chronicle, "And don't forget that Oldham were the last team to beat Wigan in the 1987 Challenge Cup. Loyal supporters will remember the last-minute try by Paddy Kirwan, converted by Mick Burke, which stunned the Riversiders".

"It's bound to be a hard match - Wigan are an outstanding team," said Jim Saddler. "Which is why it will be all the better if we can beat them!".

The winner of this Third Round match in the Regal Trophy will, of course, go on to the Quarter Finals.

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IN TOUCH with H.Q.

DATE AND TIME - THIRD ROUND MATCH DETAILS REGAL TROPHY QUARTER-FINAL DRAW

The draw for the quarter-finals of the record-breaking £360,000 Regal Trophy will be broadcast live on BBC Radio Five's breakfast programme (909/693 kHz) next Monday (13th December 1993) at 7.45 a.m.

The draw will be made by Rodney Walker, the Chairman of the Rugby Football League accompanied by Maurice Lindsay, the Chief Executive of the League. It will be networked to all local radio stations in the Rugby League playing areas and published in local and national press. The round will be played over the weekend of 18/19th December 1993.

In the meantime the battle for who will go into that draw will be played out this coming weekend, starting on Saturday 11th December when the mighty St. Helens entertain the inform league pace-setters, Warrington in the BBC Grandstand televised match, kick-off 3.00 p.m. The next day (Sunday) attention turns to holders, Wigan, who travel to Oldham in their quest to win the Trophy for the seventh time (kick-off 3.00 p.m.) while the big Yorkshire derby of the day will be at Bradford Northern where Halifax are visitors (3.00 p.m.). Other Regal Trophy matches include Ryedale York v London Crusaders (3.15 p.m.); Hull v Widnes (3.15 p.m.); Batley v Salford (3.15 p.m.); Carlisle v Bramley (3.00 p.m.); and Castleford v Leigh (3.30 p.m.). Of the teams in the third round Wigan (six), Warrington (four), Widnes (three), Bradford Northern (twice), St. Helens, Hull, Castleford and Halifax have all won the competition during its 23 year history while at the other end of the scale London Crusaders and Carlisle have never reached the quarter-final stage.

SHAUN EDWARDS

Shaun Edwards of Wigan needs nine points for a career total of 1000. The half-back's total is made up of 907 for Wigan and 84 in representative matches including 60 for Great Britain in Tests. He has totalled 237 tries and 22 goals including a drop goal.

Edwards shares the Wigan record of tries in a match with 10 tries in a 78-0 Lancashire Cup

second round away win against Swinton on 29th September 1992.

It was also a County Cup record and, playing at scrum-half, the most by a non-winger in any match.

In addition Edwards has thrice scored four tries in a match for Wigan and five other hat-tricks.

He was the game's top try scorer in 1991-92 with 40, second last season with 46 and has finished in the top ten on three other occasions.

The former schoolboy international signed for Wigan on his 17th birthday, 17th October 1983, and made his debut at stand-off in a 30-13 John Player first round home defeat of York on 6th November, 1983.

MARTIN OFFIAH

Martin Offiah of Wigan scored the 300th try of his career with the second of two in the 54-16 Stones Bitter Championship home defeat of Hull KR.

JONATHON DAVIES

Jonathon Davies of Warrington scored the 100th try of his career with one in the 30-14 Stones Bitter Championship home defeat of Featherstone Rovers.

SCORING SEQUENCE

Willie Richardson (Carlisle) and Graham Sullivan (Ryedale-York) are the only players to have scored in all of their club's matches this season.

Sullivan has the longest scoring run stretching back to last season of 19 matches.

WINNING RUN

Warrington have the current longest winning run of eight matches.

London Crusaders' winning run ended at eight matches when they drew 16-16 at Whitehaven.

MILESTONES

Les Quirk of St. Helens needs two tries for a career century of touchdowns for the club.

TODAY'S MAN IN THE MIDDLE



J. HOLDSWORTH (KIPPAX)

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Grade One:

1980-81

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Last Time Out . . .

with ROGER HALSTEAD

An extract from Roger Halstead's match report in the Oldham Evening Chronicle of Monday, November 29th, 1993.

Get a few bob on Wigan to keep the Stones Bitter Championship trophy at Central Park.

Oldham didn't play badly there yesterday, but they were powerless to stay in the game when the champions turned on the heat in the last 20 minutes.

Consider that Wigan produced some of their best rugby of the season without the injured Nigel Wright, Shaun Edwards, Martin Dermott, Andy Farrell, Jason Robinson and Dean Bell and you get some idea of the strength in depth that will take the Riversiders to more glory this season.

They still fielded nine full internationals against Oldham and it was one of them, Phil Clarke, who was an outstanding man of the match in his first appearance since damaging a shoulder in the Third Test against New Zealand three weeks ago.

Oldham couldn't handle Clarke's punishing pace from the loose-forward position and it was appropriate that he should score the first and last Wigan tries with magnificent breaks that brought a 12,000 crowd to its feet.

Winger Martin Offiah chipped in with a hat-trick, but the men who caused Oldham most trouble were Martin Hall, Neil Cowie and Barrie-Jon Mather, filling in at centre.

Mather, like Farrell, can surely climb to the top of Rugby League's ladder of opportunity. Many of Wigan's forwards are there already, but it was a player who is only half way up, Cowie, who emerged as their top pack man here.

Oldham missed a lot of tackles and Cowie capitalised when he went round three defenders on

a crossfield run before sending in offiah for the third Wigan try.

He crowned a fine performance when, in the 60th minute, he sidestepped Wally Gibson to score Wigan's fourth try and spark the late scoring burst.

Oldham trailed 18-12 on the hour, but the floodgates opened after that for Cowie, Mather, Offiah and Clarke to run in further tries.

Oldham did not fare badly considering the team's injury problems and the late withdrawal of Shaun Irwin, who hurt his back at home on Saturday night. Charlie McAlister and Martin Strett started at half-back, but Darren Abram soon suffered a dead leg and left the field.

Martin Crompton came on at scrum-half with Strett moving to stand-off and McAlister to centre.

Oldham made the perfect start when Mike Kuiti (twice) and Abram combined beautifully to send in Bob Lindner for the opening try in the eighth minute, Strett adding the angled goal.

Strett was lively on attack and came close to stretching Oldham's lead with a defence-splitting break that produced a try-saving tackle from Joe Lydon.

After that Oldham were rocked by the full force of Wigan's reply and conceded tries by Clarke and Offiah (2), with Botica landing two goals, before half-time.

Offiah scored his first after a misunderstanding between McAlister and Lindner at a play-the-ball and crossed for his second after poor attempts to



bringing down Cowie.

Oldham scored a good try 15 minutes into the second half when Crompton dummied his way through and turned McAlister inside on a clear run to the posts.

Strett's goal put Oldham only six points down, but it was merely the signal for Wigan to turn up the gas.

Wigan had the advantage of 12 penalties to Oldham's three and it was this possession which contributed to the visitors fade-out.

Scorers: Wigan - goals, Botica (5); tries, Offiah (3), Clarke (2), Cowie, Mather.

Oldham - goals, Strett (2); tries, Lindner, McAlister.

WIGAN: Lydon, Ellison, Mather, Connolly, Offiah, Panapa, Botica, Skerrett, Hall, Platt, Betts, Cowie, Clarke. Subs: Stevens, Cassidy.

OLDHAM: Gibson, Jones, Heslop, Abram, Ranson, McAlister, Strett, Sherratt, Clarke, Solomona, Kuiti, Goodway, Lindner, Subs: Crompton, Tupaea.

Referee: Mr C A Steele (Barrow); Attendance: 11,719.

"Monty's"



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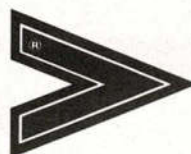
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APPEARANCES & SCORERS

	APP	SUB	TRIES	GOALS	DROP GOALS	POINTS
WALLY GIBSON	13	-	2	-	-	8
NIGEL HESLOP	10	-	2	-	-	8
MARTIN HOLDEN	1	1	-	-	-	-
PAUL TOPPING	11	2	1	38	-	80
SCOTT RANSON	10	-	4	-	-	16
DARREN ABRAM	11	-	8	-	-	32
STEVE KERRY	8	-	2	2	3	15
"TINY" SOLOMONA	10	3	1	-	-	4
PAUL GROVES	6	-	2	-	-	8
IAN SHERRATT	12	-	-	-	-	-
IYAN GREEN	2	4	2	-	-	8
DAVID BRADBURY	2	3	-	-	-	-
MIKE KUITI	14	-	3	-	-	12
DAVID JONES	10	2	-	-	-	-
ANDY GOODWAY	11	1	1	-	-	4
CHARLIE McALISTER	5	2	2	-	-	8
MARTIN STRETT	5	1	1	8	-	20
SHANE TUPAEA	3	2	-	-	-	-
CRAIG RICHARDS	1	5	2	-	-	8
SHAUN IRWIN	9	-	4	-	-	16
MARTIN CROMPTON	4	1	2	-	1	9
BOB LINDNER	11	-	4	-	-	16
JOHN CLARKE	7	-	2	-	-	8
DAVID STEPHENSON	1	-	-	-	-	-
MARK MEADOWS	2	-	-	-	-	-
BARRIE McDERMOTT	1	-	-	-	-	-
ALF GOULDBOURNE	1	-	-	-	-	-
BEN OLSEN	1	-	-	-	-	-
CHRIS PARR	-	1	-	-	-	-

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LEAGUE TABLE 1993/94

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
WARRINGTON	13	11	0	2	290	185	22
WIGAN	12	10	0	2	315	187	20
BRADFORD N.	12	10	0	2	324	244	20
HALIFAX	13	8	2	3	278	219	18
CASTLEFORD	13	8	1	4	333	169	17
ST. HELENS	13	8	1	4	313	183	17
WIDNES	13	7	0	6	231	252	14
FEATHERSTONE	13	6	1	6	272	314	13
HULL	13	5	2	6	195	214	12
LEEDS	13	5	1	7	278	248	11
SALFORD	13	5	0	8	212	299	10
SHEFFIELD E.	13	4	1	8	248	345	9
OLDHAM	13	4	0	9	254	240	8
HULL KR	13	4	0	9	206	365	8
WAKEFIELD T.	13	3	0	10	162	294	6
LEIGH	13	0	1	12	165	363	1

THE ACADEMY with Manager JACK BUCKLEY

As the end of the year approaches, we find ourselves well positioned in the League hot on the heels of unbeaten leaders, Widnes. Although the aim of our Academy is to develop the talents of the players in the squad, we must also be mindful that success on the field is important to the morale of individual players and the squad as a whole. Certainly our recent winning streak has resulted in competition for places

and hence, in general improvement in the teams standard.

Last week we were entertained by Huddersfield in front of a decent crowd at Fartown. Everything went to plan in the first half as we accumulated 16 points without reply by the half time whistle. However, a bizarre incident just before half time caused us to lose Richard Badby when one of his contact lenses went missing. The lack of leadership in midfield on Badby's departure was perhaps the main reason for Oldham's disastrous second half when we were, frankly, lucky to hold on to win the game 23-18. However, a win is a win and by the time this programme is printed we hope to have added further to our tally in last Tuesday's

game against Keighley.

A very pleasing aspect of the Huddersfield match, was the appearance of senior referee, John Holdsworth as a touch judge to a young and very competent referee in Mr. F. Lowes. The trappings of professionalism are most important to young players and we must applaud the senior officials for their backing of the Academy system.

Finally, we would like to welcome to the Academy squad, two Rochdale lads, John McLawrence and Marvin Connolly and Andrew McDonald, a big prop from St. Helens.

We will continue to strengthen the squad and hope to bring you bright and enterprising football.

DEVELOPING SCENE with Development Officer NIEL WOOD

Many of you who came to the St. Helens match will have seen about 50 young players receive their BFL/Rugby League Cub Awards from Mark Meadows, Craig Richards, Martin Crompton and

Charlie McAlister. All the players who go through the Rugby League Development Scheme are eligible to receive their BFL/Cub Level One Award. They can then move on to take the BFL Lion Bronze Award.

The next Bronze Lion Award takes place here at Watersheddings on Tuesday, December 21st from 10.00 a.m. until 3.00 p.m., players should bring a packed lunch. The cost for the full day, which

will include visits from Oldham players, is £5.00. Also included in the price is a free Junior ticket to Oldham v Salford on Boxing Day.

Today's curtain raiser, before a packed house, features the Junior Schools from Fitton Hill, Littlemoor, Blackshaw Lane, Christ Church.

I'm certain that the teachers, parents and players alike will have a memorable day.

Oldham Rugby League Development is sponsored by P. CASEY & COMPANY

QUOTE - UNQUOTE

(Nigel Heslop talking about his first game at full-back)

"I enjoyed it, and I'm sure I would like it a lot more if I played there more often. I set out to concentrate on my defensive duties, but I got a bit more used to the position. I could start to think about coming up into the attack and joining the line"

(Bob Lindner)

"I don't think any team (and that includes Wigan) looks forward to coming to Watersheddings to play us, they would obviously much prefer to play at Central Park. When you play a team you have played so recently you have a better idea of what they are going to do so we'll be much better prepared against them this time around"

(Peter Tunks)

"I was very pleased with both Nigel Heslop and Martin Crompton at Full-back and at Stand-off, I've had it in my mind that Nigel could do a job at full-back and with the injuries we've had it was time to put it there. Martin has played at six before and I'm sure that those two have solved a couple of problems for me in future when we've got injuries."

"It's not an ideal time to play Wigan when you are not at full strength, but our 'A' team have been going well and it's time for a couple of those guys to be given a chance and I'll tell you, win, lose or draw, Wigan will know they have been in a game."

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ACTION FROM OUR PREVIOUS ENCOUNTER WITH WIGAN

BACK PAGES

by **Michael Turner**

Today we welcome to Watersheddings the most famous of all Rugby League clubs... **WIGAN**.

A glance at the record books, show that the men from Central Park are by far the most successful team in both League Championship and the various Cup competitions.

In today's "Back Pages" we look back to the beginning of the Championship play off tournament. This way of deciding the League Champions was first operated in the 1906-07 season when the top four teams played off after the conclusion of the League fixtures. The main reason for the play off being that all clubs did not play each other during a season.

For the first seven years of the Championship play-off either Oldham or Wigan figured in the final and for three consecutive seasons, 1908-09, 1909-10, 1910-11, the "Roughy'eds" and the "Riversiders" were face to face in the title decider.

The match details are listed below:

1909 Wigan 7, Oldham 3 at Salford, attendance 12,000.

1910 Oldham 13, Wigan 7 at Broughton, attendance 10,850.

1911 Oldham 20, Wigan 7 at Broughton 15,543.

Prior to the 1911 final Oldham and Wigan had already played off for the League Leaders Trophy. This came about because both teams had finished the season with 57 points from 34 games. Wigan won this encounter by 11-3 with the strange venue for the match being Belle Vue, Wakefield. It has to be

said that justice was seen to be done, Wigan having finished the season with a superior points difference.

During this period Oldham's star-studded line-up included such names as Alf Wood, Joe Ferguson, Bert Avery, New Zealander G.W. Smith and Aussies Sid Deane and "George" Anlezark. Also by 1911 Oldham had signed the legendary Jim Lomas from Salford, who further enhanced his reputation with two tries and three goals in the 1911 Final.

The Wigan side could boast the fine talents of Jim Leytham, Lance Todd, Joe Miller, Johnny Thomas and Charlie Seeling.



Courtesy of the Oldham Evening Chronicle

A rare action shot from the 1920's. Oldham full back Ernie Knapman just manages to pass out to winger Sid Rix, before taking the tackle. Oldham v Wigan, December 6th 1924.



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SKIPPER'S SPOT

With Oldham Captain
BOBBY LINDNER



Welcome along to today's cup tie against Wigan. It seems only a few days ago since we were on the end of a good defeat against the champions. However, I feel today could well be a different story in front of our own capacity crowd.

Last time we played Wigan we struck them in top form, with the timely return of some of their injured stars they managed to blast us away with a handful of super

plays in the second half.

This time round we will be better prepared and a lot more comfortable at home. I can promise you that if Wigan are going to progress any further than today in the Regal Trophy, they will have to work very, very hard for it.

My sympathy goes out to Tiny Solomona who suffered a broken arm last week against Leigh. Tiny has had a great season up to date

and will be sadly missed today and for the majority of the remaining season.

We were all pleased with the fashion in which we handled Leigh last weekend but are only too aware of the close difference between them and our opponents out there today.

It should be a great game no matter what the result.

Here's to Oldham.

This page is sponsored by IRENE and HELEN CALOW

SUPPORTERS CLUB

● We welcome to Watersheddings all the Directors, Players and Supporters for our third round Regal Trophy tie from Wigan. Hoping we can reverse our League defeat a fortnight ago at Wigan; which ever way the result goes we hope for a good clean and enjoyable game this afternoon. Good luck to both teams.

● Membership of the supporters club can be taken out by going into the club shop to get your membership form. So why not join us and get your 5% discount in the club shop to buy your Christmas presents. Also a discount on your away travel. The membership is £2.00.

● Junior Reds membership may be obtained from the club shop or from Sue Collinge on 061-681 3397. It's quite worth your while joining the Reds for your

discount in the club shop and on your first team admission prices with production of your membership card. Membership is £2.00. The Junior Reds are holding their Christmas Party in the Pavilion on Saturday, 18th December, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

● The Supporters Club have a "Barrow" in the Spindles Shopping Centre to sell all our club merchandise. We shall be in the centre each day till the 24th December. So go along and visit our stall to purchase your Oldham R.L.F.C. Christmas presents and meet some of the players.

● Our club shops opening hours are as follows, Monday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sunday before and after home matches only. If you have any other enquiries phone 633-6780 or 665 1832.

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 PENCIL CASE £1.50
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 PENSION BOOK HOLDER £1.75
 TIDY SET £1.99
 HANDYMAN SET £2.50
 KEY CASE £1.50

Sponsored by MAINTENANCE INSULATION LTD.
 Littlebank Street, Oldham. 652-7325

STATS

Opposition	Date	Ven.	Ref.	F.A.	Att.
Wigan	28.8.83	A	H	13.26	7,441
Wigan	29.8.83	A	H	20.24	4,054
Wigan	12.9.83	A	W	18.14	3,548
Wigan	19.9.83	A	H	12.18	5,715
Wigan	26.9.83	A	H	15.22	3,478
Wigan	3.10.83	A	L	12.14	4,780
Wigan	10.10.83	A	H	21.4	5,079
Wigan	24.10.83	A	W	23.8	4,097
Wigan	31.10.83	A	L	21.22	3,819
Wigan	7.11.83	A	L	24.30	3,719
Wigan	14.11.83	A	W	20.8	803
Wigan	21.11.83	A	L	21.0	6,021
Wigan	28.11.83	A	L	12.38	11,779
Wigan	5.12.83	A	H	42.4	3,139
Wigan	12.12.83	A	H		
Wigan	19.12.83	A	H		
Wigan	26.12.83	A	H		
Wigan	1.1.84	A	A		
Wigan	8.1.84	A	A		
Wigan	15.1.84	A	A		
Wigan	22.1.84	A	A		
Wigan	29.1.84	A	A		
Wigan	5.2.84	A	A		
Wigan	12.2.84	A	A		
Wigan	19.2.84	A	A		
Wigan	26.2.84	A	A		
Wigan	5.3.84	A	A		
Wigan	12.3.84	A	A		
Wigan	19.3.84	A	A		
Wigan	26.3.84	A	A		
Wigan	2.4.84	A	A		
Wigan	9.4.84	A	A		
Wigan	16.4.84	A	A		
Wigan	23.4.84	A	A		
Wigan	30.4.84	A	A		

TUNK'S TEASERS - ANSWERS

- 1952 ✓
- Featherstone Rovers ✓
- Denis Lutge ✓
- Keighley ✓
- 1948 (Wigan v Bradford Northern) ✓
- Carl Gibson in 1985 ✓
- Wigan and Hull K.R. ✓
- Ray Ashton ✓
- Widnes ✓
- Albert Blan 128 in 1960-61 ✓

NEXT HOME GAME
OLDHAM V. HALIFAX
 SUNDAY, 19th DECEMBER
 K.O. 3.00 p.m.

TO BE RETAINED

TICKET

Nº 000689 DATE: 12 DECEMBER 1993

REGAL TROPHY ROUND 3

OLDHAM RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB PLC

V

WIGAN R.L.F.C.

KICK OFF: 3.00pm

TURNSTILE: 5+6+7 HERBERT STREET

PRICE: £6.00 ADULT

OLDHAM RUGBY LEAGUE CLUBCALL

0891 12-15-80