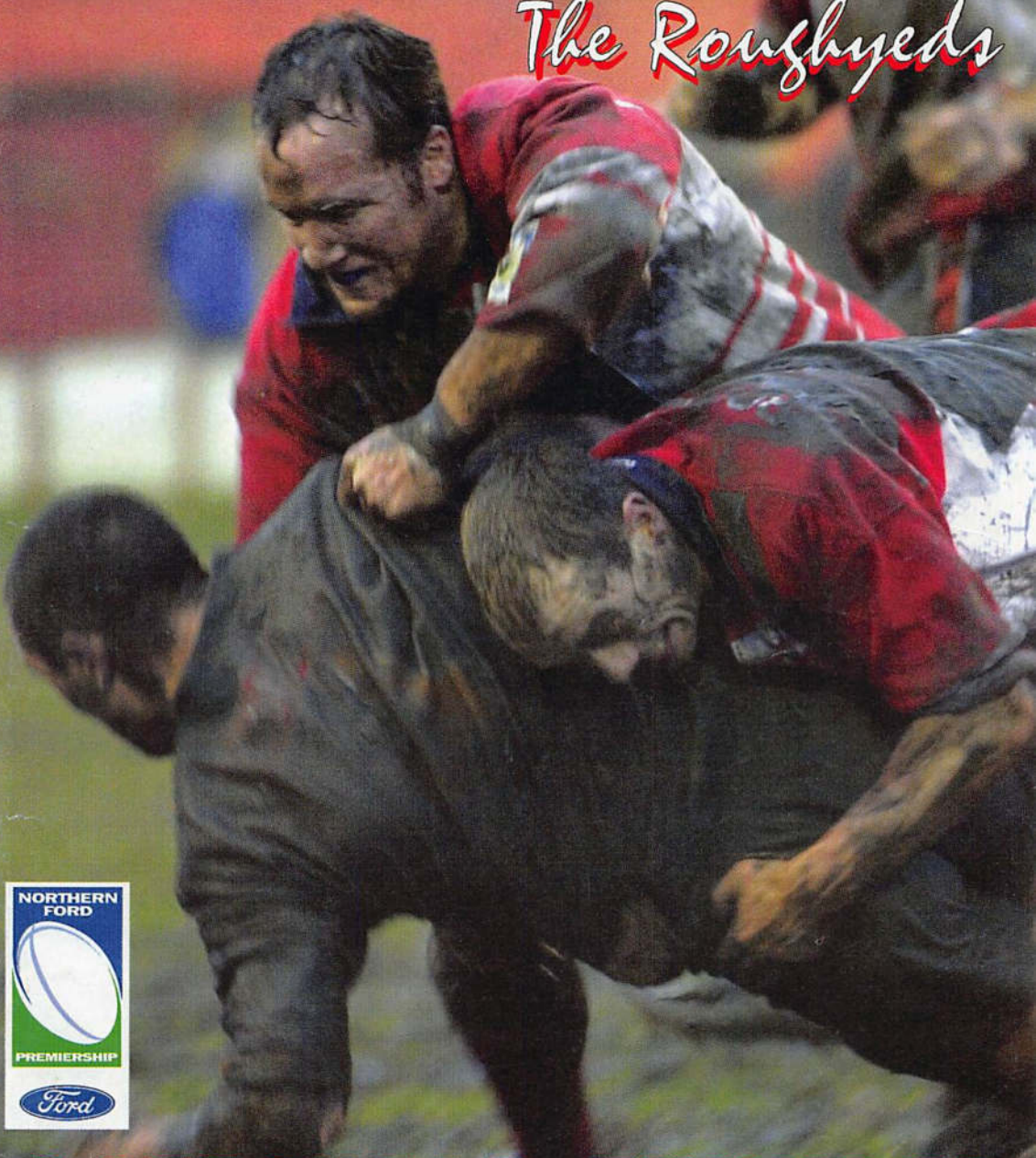


OLDHAM RLFC

The Roughyeds



GATESHEAD THUNDER
AT ASHTON U.F.C. SUN 17TH FEB 2002 KO 3.30PM
Official Matchday Magazine of Oldham R.L.F.C. £2.00

OLDHAM

at the very heart of the North West

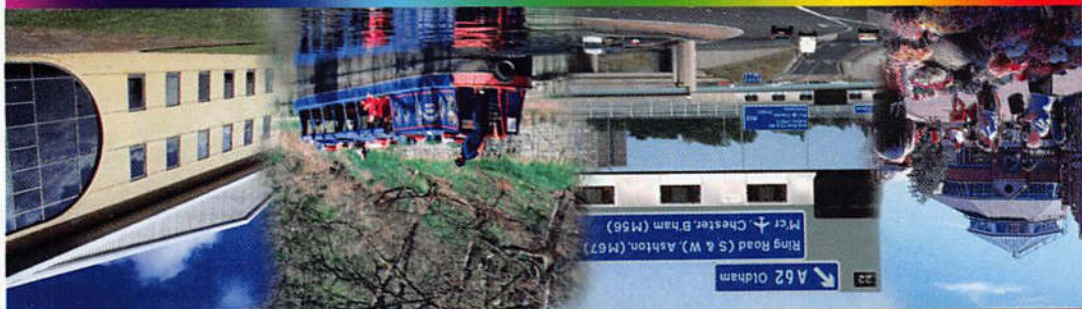
Oldham continues to take significant strides to be THE desirable place to live, work or visit at the heart of the North West.

Massive investment in regeneration and renewal continues apace and Oldham has the region's largest town centre based indoor shopping area.

Businesses are benefiting from the new M60 motorway which now puts Oldham less than 25 minutes away from Manchester Airport. A new bus station and the anticipation of the Metrolink tram system coming to Oldham soon further strengthen the appeal of the town for investment and new opportunities.

Add to this superb opportunities for education and training, including a new Business Management School, exciting developments in tourism and the arts like the newly opened Huddersfield Narrow Canal and the soon-to-be opened Art Gallery and the desirability of Oldham becomes even clearer.

Enquiries to the Marketing and Communications Unit, PO Box 160, Civic Centre, West Street, Oldham, OL1 1UG. Telephone 0161 911 4707, Fax 0161 911 4936. E-mail ce.presspr@oldham.gov.uk, or visit our website at www.oldham.gov.uk



OLDHAM
Metropolitan Borough

IN THE HOT SEAT

with
Christopher Hamilton



WELCOME back to Hurst Cross. I'm sure that everybody will agree that last week's performance against St. Helens was a very creditable one and the players acquitted themselves very well. We are obviously hoping that we can take that into today's game and beyond.

John Harbin is settling into his role at the club and I am sure his influence at the club will grow as each week passes.

Today's visitors are a Gateshead team who have had it tough since they started last season and whose problems have been getting steadily worse since they released 15 players and coach Andy Kelly recently.

There has been considerable speculation as to whether or not the club would survive, but they are here today and we hope that their troubles are behind them and that they can start to move forward again with renewed vigour.

It is obviously not going to be easy for them but we wish them well. Perhaps significantly what it does do is highlight the problems that clubs are facing at the moment, particularly in the Northern Ford Premiership as this year is the first one without any News Corporation funding for most clubs.

There is no doubt at all that it is becoming increasingly difficult to balance the books and the problems at Gateshead have to an extent been replicated at Swinton where Chairman and major club benefactor, Malcolm White, has resigned.

Recent crowds have been disappointingly low at most clubs and despite again having a vibrant competition, people are reluctant to make the effort to support their local clubs. I said a long time ago that once the News Corporation money ran out some clubs would struggle to survive and it gives me no pleasure to again re-iterate that statement.

What it does do is again show just how important your individual and collective support is and I hope that you will continue to back our club.

Thank you for going to Stalybridge last week and for the support you gave to the players. Please keep it up this week – we all appreciate it.

Chris



The Roughyeds
**Oldham Rugby League Football
Club (1997) Limited**

**64 UNION STREET
OLDHAM OL1 1DJ
TELEPHONE: 0161 628 3677
FAX: 0161 627 5700
CLUB SHOP: 0161 627 2141**

CHAIRMAN

Christopher Hamilton

DIRECTORS

Christopher Hamilton, Stewart
Hardacre, Sean Whitehead

HEAD COACH

John Harbin

ASSISTANT COACH

Mark Knight

ALLIANCE/ACADEMY COACH

Shaun Gartland

ACADEMY MANAGER

Pete Beswick

PHYSIOTHERAPISTS

Lisa Sharratt & Danni Turner

CONDITIONER

Andy Proctor

TIMEKEEPER

John Barrett

CLUB DOCTOR

Dr Ian Wilkinson

STATISTICS

Eddie Barton, Bruce Deadman

PROGRAMME EDITOR

Geoff Cooke

CLUB HONOURS

A J Law Cup Winners 1998,
1999/2000

Trans Pennine Cup Finalist 1998

NFP Grand Finalists 2001

HALL OF FAME MEMBERS

(SPONSORED BY J. W. LEES, BREWERS)

Joe Ferguson 1899-23, Herman Hilton

1913-26, Alan Davies 1950-62,

Frank Stirrup 1950-62, Bernard

Ganley 1950-61, John Etty 1954-59,

Derek Turner 1955-59, Bob Irving

1964-74, Martin Murphy 1966-82,

Andy Goodway 1979-85 & 1993-94.

Front Cover:

Action from the Kellogg's Nutri-Grain
Challenge Cup victory over West Hull.

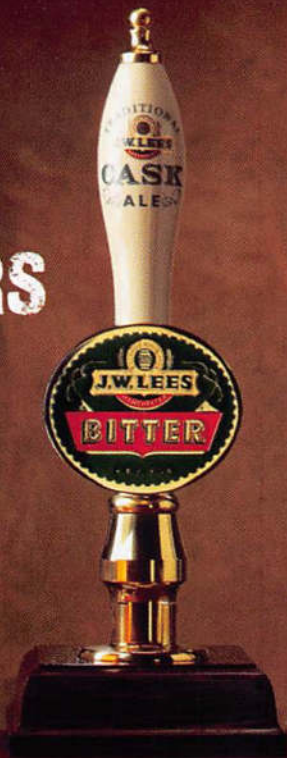
THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THIS MATCHDAY MAGAZINE DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THOSE OF THE MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF OLDHAM RLFC (1997) LTD.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE OLDHAM EVENING CHRONICLE & RUGBY LEAGUE EXPRESS FOR THE USE OF PHOTOGRAPHY



HOME SHIRT SPONSORS OF OLDHAM R.L.F.C.

A FIXTURE NOT TO BE MISSED



*Catch the
Chronicle!*

the **daily** choice
for local **News**
and **Sport**

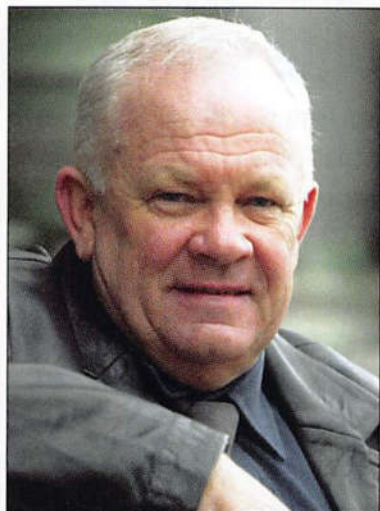
**OLDHAM
CHRONICLE**

Take it as read!

www.oldham-chronicle.co.uk



COACH'S COMMENTS... with John Harbin



IF YOU went to the Cup Tie at Stalybridge I am sure you will agree that the team did themselves proud.

The side was very competitive throughout but, inevitably, the heavy pitch and the benefit of St. Helens' full time training told against us at the death. Given that Saints scored 10 points in the last 3 minutes the score ended up not fully reflecting the quality of the Oldham players' effort. Bear in mind that in Super League this coming season Saints will beat some sides by bigger margins than that suffered by Oldham. Our players were determined not to give anything up and Joe McNicholas' chase and tackle on Sean Long summed that up. But, not only that, by the time Long played the ball we had 7 or 8 players back defending and on the next tackle we forced an error. That all showed our 100% commitment and I believe supporters will forgive shortcomings if they can count

on 100% from the players.

There are still areas to work on from the St. Helens game, like our kicking and our overall fitness. I have ideas I want to implement but I need to be patient (which isn't always in my nature!). And it will be nice to have a full squad to choose from. Hopefully, Tommy Hodgkinson and Anthony Gibbons are not far off recovery and that will give us more depth.

Today we welcome Gateshead. We've prepared as usual for the game despite the uncertainty on Tyneside. Having released their Yorkshire based players, three of whom have signed for Dewsbury and two for Hunslet, they're a bit of an unknown quantity. Normally we'd have looked at them on video and compiled some tip sheets but that's not been possible. Anyway we're glad to be playing as we need game time and are in danger of falling behind if we don't get matches in.

I hope you enjoy today's match and give us your backing.

John



PACKAGING LIMITED

MANUFACTURERS OF SPECIALISED CORRUGATED PRODUCTS

PACKAGING SOLUTIONS FOR BRITISH INDUSTRY

GREENGATE ST. OLDHAM OL4 1DF

0161-284 9000



DEREK ANTHONY LTD.
General Sheetmetal Workers &
Structural Steel Fabricators

UNITS 4/5 · WHITESWAN INDUSTRIAL ESTATE
DERKER STREET · OLDHAM OL1 3LY

Tel. 0161 627 4200 · Fax. 0161 627 3616

WISH ORLFC EVERY SUCCESS FOR 2002

**SPEEDY HIRE CENTRES
(NORTHERN) LTD.**

OLDHAM DEPOT

Tel 0161 626 8111

For all your
Plant & Tool Hire Needs
*Good Fortunes to the Roughyeds
throughout the 2002 Season*

**PERSONAL TYRES
EXHAUSTS &
GARAGE SERVICES**

PUNCTURE REPAIRS · WHEEL BALANCING

TRACKING · SHOCKERS · SERVICING

CLUTCHES · BRAKES · WELDING

M.O.T. REPAIRS · EXHAUSTS



BEEVER STREET · OLDHAM OL1 3TD

Tel: 0161 624 2826 & 0161 628 9949

Fax: 0161 628 9949

hall needham associates

136 Werneth Hall Road
Coppice, Oldham, OL8 1QZ

Tel: 0161 624 4445
Fax: 0161 633 6570

architects

Ashton United F.C.

*Always a warm welcome from your hosts **JOHN AND BARBARA***

Now Open 7 Days a Week

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FRIDAY NIGHTS

❖ WIDE SCREEN DIGITAL TV ❖

Free party function room available ❖ **BINGO** Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

❖ FREE MEMBERS WEEKLY DRAW ❖ New members always welcome ❖

Tel: 0161 330 1511

In Yer Face



THE Kellogg's Nutri-Grain Challenge Cup didn't have too many surprises but my forecasting of results wasn't entirely accurate. The two big upsets were Leeds' defeat of Bradford and Doncaster's victory against Huddersfield.

In common with a lot of people, having watched Bradford overwhelm Newcastle Knights, I thought they'd have no problem in disposing of Leeds. However, on the evidence of the cup tie Leeds are going to be an entirely different proposition this coming Super League season. With Ryan Sheridan recovered from injury and the addition of Ben Walker at stand-off – plus young Rob Burrow waiting in the wings – the Rhinos look to have plenty of craft. Add in Matt Adamson in the second-row and Adrian Vowles (excellent at centre in the cup tie but, surely, destined to be used elsewhere over the course of the season) and you can see there is a lot more steel to the Headingley mens' game this term. And by setting out their stall from the word go the Rhinos showed every other team how to stop the Bulls' big pack from trampling all over them.

In the other televised game Wigan duly accounted for Hull FC. However, I thought the Humbersiders gave a good account of themselves and I see no reason to alter my prediction of them as a top 5 side. With the likes of Jason Smith, Richard Horne, Paul Cooke and Chris Chester they certainly have the playmakers. What they need to go with them are the power players to mix it with the top sides. You can bet that excellent Coach Sean McRae is already on to it.

Doncaster Dragons, meanwhile, were, according to all reports, truly awesome in inflicting Huddersfield Giants' first defeat of the season, a result not anticipated in view of the Giants' record in the NFP so far this season.

Two other results I had wrong were at Spotland and the Lionheart Stadium where I forecast close outcomes but went with home

advantage. In each case the visitors proved me wrong, Leigh defeating Rochdale 24-20 and Hull KR overcoming Featherstone 31-24. Again, both matches were full value earning 5 out of 5 for entertainment from the Rugby Leaguer.

All my other forecasts were correct and I was particularly pleased to have the results right for the French teams. U.T.C. beat Chorley 20-6 and earned themselves a plum draw in the next round against Wigan. I hope the Perpignonnais public turn out in force to support the game and, even more, would welcome a French victory, though I consider that unlikely.

Villeneuve were less lucky with the draw having to travel to Doncaster after knocking out York Wasps 17-8. I fear this one will be a journey too far for them.

The other Gallic challengers St. Gaudens went down 26-48 against Halifax. They put up a spirited fight, however, and will have been encouraged by an attendance of over 3,500.

The other qualifiers were Warrington, London, Castleford, Workington, St. Helens, Wakefield, Widnes and Whitehaven. Several of these however, will be eliminated next time round reducing the number of 'big guns' to contest the final stages. For instance Warrington will go out against St. Helens who must be favourites, together with Leeds, to reach yet another Final.

London will stage their first game of the season on Brentford FC's ground and will suffer disappointment at the hands of Castleford. Leeds should put paid to Hull KR's hopes at Headingley. But the other ties should all be good value. Widnes against Wakefield looks evenly matched but I suspect the Vikings will shade it. Similarly Leigh v Whitehaven could be close but home advantage will see the Centurions to victory. And, finally, can Workington overturn the Blue Sox at Derwent Park? I expect they'll be giving it a real go but Super League fitness should tell in Halifax's favour.



'THE DON'

ON THIS DAY . . .

Don Yates looks back to February 17th yesteryear

It was on this day in 1988, Wednesday 17th February, that Oldham signed the giant trialist three-quarter who had made such a big impression when he turned out on the wing the previous Sunday against Carlisle. He was Charlie McAlister, a New Zealander of Scottish descent, who was signed from Bradford & Bingley RUFC. Charlie made 129 appearances for Oldham during two spells with the club and scored 33 tries and 63 goals. He moved on to Sheffield Eagles in March 1992 and then had spells with Whitehaven and Keighley before returning to Oldham in September 1993. McAlister finished his professional career with Rochdale Hornets but then had a short spell as player-coach with Higginshaw, during which time he represented Scotland in the 1995 Emerging Nations World Cup competition.

One of the 33 tries Charlie scored for Oldham came exactly eleven years ago, on Sunday 17th February 1991, when the Roughyeds won 28-6 at Bramley in the first round of the Challenge Cup. Another away win in the Challenge Cup which brought a surge of euphoria to Watersheddings came on Saturday 17th February 1973 when a special train was chartered for the trip to Hull. Oldham won 24-2 at the Boulevard and such were the scenes on the train journey home that ill-informed observers could be forgiven for believing that the Roughyeds had actually lifted the Cup at Wembley.

Alas Oldham never did come to play at Wembley. In 1985 hopes of reaching the twin towers were especially high and after being drawn at home in round one a lengthy cup run seemed assured.

Unfortunately, the match against Castleford could not be played at Watersheddings on Sunday 17th February because the pitch was frozen solid. The tie, therefore, was switched to Boundary Park which, at that time, was equipped with under soil heating. Oldham's initiative in getting the

tie completed was not rewarded with success for Castleford won 14-8 and another Wembley dream ended.



Charlie Winslade

Incidentally, 59 years previously, on Wednesday 17th February 1926, Castleford were admitted into the Northern Rugby Football League when a League Management meeting accepted their application.

On Sunday 17th February 1963 Wales met France at Toulouse. At that time there was a dearth of Welsh hooking talent in the game and, as a result, Wales selected Oldham's Charlie Winslade to fill the problem number 9 shirt. Charlie was an outstanding second-row forward and an asset to any pack but a hooker he certainly was not. Remember, at that time, a hooker was an essential component of any team and without an experienced hooker any side would struggle for possession. France won the first 14 scrums before Charlie was able to even things up a little. Nevertheless scrum possession figures ended up 23-10 in favour of the home side who put that advantage to good use, winning 23-3.

Nine years ago, on Wednesday 17th February 1993, the new main stand was opened at Spotland, Rochdale. To mark the occasion Great Britain met France at under-21 level. Centre Gary Christie was the only Oldham representative in that match which the young Lions won 46-10. The attendance was 2,080 which is exactly the capacity of Oldham's homely headquarters for this season here at Hurst Cross.

Adamsons

CRASH REPAIR CENTRE

MOTOR BODY ACCIDENT REPAIR SPECIALISTS

Approved repairers to all
leading insurance companies

Telephone

0161 627 4001

0161 624 1904

Cross Street Bottom o'th Moor
Oldham OL4 1JG

24 HOUR RECOVERY SERVICE

• QUALITY WORKMANSHIP ALWAYS •



*As approved distributor for many of
Europe's leading manufacturers, we
support an extensive stock range with
guaranteed delivery and unrivalled
technical expertise*



Certificate No. 910554

Marshall Pump Systems Limited,
Rhodes Bank · Oldham · OL1 1UA
Tel: 0161 678 6111 · Fax: 0161 627 0913 (Sales)
Fax: 0161 628 7747 (Service)
E-mail: info@marshallpumps.co.uk
Web Site: www.marshallpumps.co.uk

HAD AN ACCIDENT?

YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION

NO WIN, NO FEE FREE HOME VISITS

FIRST INTERVIEW FREE WITHOUT ANY OBLIGATIONS



CALL US NOW ON:

0800 917 7278

WE KNOW THE ANSWER

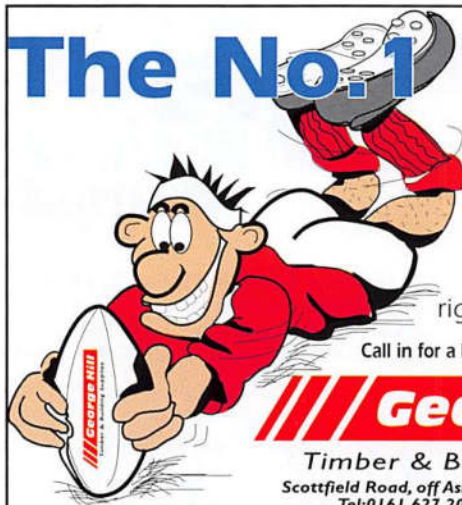
KEITH DYSON SOLICITORS

THE PERSONAL INJURY SPECIALISTS

39 Liverpool Road Castlefield Manchester M3 4NQ

Tel: 0161 832 9933

The No.1 TEAM



At GEORGE HILL
it's never a **TRYING**
experience. We
have all the products
you need to get the
right **RESULT** every time.

Call in for a helping hand not a **HAND-OFF**

George Hill

Timber & Building Supplies

Scottfield Road, off Ashton Road, Oldham OL8 1LB

Tel: 0161 627 2020 Fax: 0161 633 2250

E-mail: sales@georgehill-timber.co.uk www.georgehill-timber.co.uk

**RYDER &
DUTTON**

ESTATE AGENTS
VALUERS AND SURVEYORS

Wherever you see
this sign you can
be assured
of an efficient and
professional
approach to any
property matter

7/15 Union Street,
Oldham, OL 1HA
Tel. 0161 652 1234

www.ryder-dutton.co.uk

Also at Chadderton,
Middleton, Shaw,
Uppermill, Heywood,
Glossop, Mossley &
Ashton-u-Lyne

LAWRENCE PERRINS & SONS LIMITED

Established 1947

**Plumbers • Electricians Heating Engineering
Security Systems**

176 OLDHAM ROAD, SPRINGHEAD, OLDHAM OL4 5SJ

TEL 0161 624 1723 FAX 0161 624 3798

**Goodwin
BEST**



Contact Goodwin Best for a quality assured, professional
review of your commercial risk insurances. Exclusive facilities for
local businesses incorporating Risk Management and
Health & Safety Audits.

Commercial Insurance Brokers

Castle House, Schofield Street, Oldham, OL8 1QL

Tel: 0161 628 2200 Fax: 0161 628 7785



Community
Legal Service



**WRIGLEY
CLAYDON**
SOLICITORS since 1795

29/33 UNION STREET OLDHAM OL1 1HH

TEL : 0161 624 6811 FAX : 0161 624 3743

EMAIL: info@wrigleyclaydon.com WEB: www.wrigleyclaydon.com

PLEASED TO BE PART OF THE TEAM

Criminal
Defence Service



Alliance & Academy

.....with Shaun Gartland and Mark Knight

OLDHAM'S games in the Alliance Spring Cup (since when was January Spring?) have not yet beaten the weather. However others have and to date the recorded results are, Dewsbury Rams 6 Batley Bulldogs 32; Batley Bulldogs 10 Rochdale Hornets 20; Gateshead Thunder 6 Dewsbury Rams 70.

The competition format sees Batley and Dewsbury play each other home and away as do Oldham and Rochdale and Gateshead and Workington. The other teams meet only once for a total of six fixtures followed by play-offs (1 v 4 and 2 v 3) before a Grand Final in April.

With Rochdale Hornets now using Butterworth Park at Castleton all Oldham's home games will be at Manor Park, the home of Oldham RUFC. Please watch the local press for details of rearranged fixtures.

ALLIANCE UNDER 21 SPRING CUP FIXTURES

Saturday 2nd February	Workington Town (H) at Manor Park 2.30 ko (Postponed, to be re-arranged)
Thursday 14th February	Dewsbury Rams (A) At Ram Stadium 7.30 ko
Wednesday 20th February	Rochdale Hornets (A) at Castleton Gabriels 7.30 ko
Saturday 2nd March	Rochdale Hornets (H) at Manor Park 2.30 ko
Saturday 9th March	Gateshead Thunder (A) at Bullocksteads Sports Ground 1.30 ko
Saturday 16th March	Batley Bulldogs (H) at Manor Park 2.30 ko

Week ending 6th April Play-off 1 v 4 and 2 v 3

Saturday 13th April Final

NORTHERN FORD PREMIERSHIP TABLE 2001-2002

	P	W	D	L	For	Agst	Diff	PTS
Huddersfield Giants	8	7	1	0	287	66	221	15
Workington Town	9	7	0	2	224	149	75	14
Whitehaven	9	6	1	2	220	102	118	13
Hull Kingston Rovers	7	6	0	1	198	92	106	12
Leigh Centurions	6	5	1	0	228	67	161	11
Rochdale Hornets	7	5	1	1	188	103	85	11
Featherstone Rovers	7	4	1	2	161	120	41	9
Sheffield Eagles	8	4	0	4	212	144	68	8
Barrow Raiders	9	4	0	5	221	184	37	8
Batley Bulldogs	8	4	0	4	119	176	-57	8
Doncaster Dragons	6	3	0	3	132	118	14	6
Dewsbury Rams	6	3	0	3	113	118	-5	6
Oldham	6	2	0	4	114	148	-34	4
Chorley Lynx	8	2	0	6	126	204	-78	4
Hunslet Hawks	6	1	0	5	76	246	-170	2
Keighley Cougars	6	1	0	5	78	261	-183	2
Gateshead Thunder	7	0	1	6	62	148	-86	1
Swinton Lions	4	0	0	4	36	115	-79	0
York Wasps	7	0	0	7	52	286	-234	0

NFP Round Up

THE last round of the N.F.P. fixtures produced one major shock (to me at least) when Dewsbury beat Rochdale 25-20. Ram Stadium has been a graveyard for Hornets' hopes previously and a storming Dewsbury second-half performance with sub Jim Leatham well to the fore secured the points in a thrilling contest.

Equally exciting was the Featherstone-Whitehaven clash in which the Rovers edged home 20-19. A last minute try from Jim Carlton stole the points, but equally important earlier in the game were two field goals from Jamie Rooney.



Martin Wood

Elsewhere, if Oldham fans will forgive me, results went to form. The Roughyeds went down 28-20 at Workington in a game dominated by the division's best halfback pairing of Tane Manihera and Martin Wood. Had the fixture fallen in June I might have expected an Oldham win, but a windswept, rain sodden Derwent Park in February definitely favours the home team.

Huddersfield stayed top of the league with an expected easy win over Hunslet 68-6. Chris Thorman, with a try and eight goals, closed up on Leigh's Neil Turley at the top of the pointsoring charts, while three-quarters Hefin O'Hare and Eorl Crabtree and fullback Ben Cooper all advanced their positions in the leading try-scorers list (see page 30).

Other big scorers were Sheffield's Gavin Brown (seven goals and two tries) and Craig Brown (three tries) in the Eagles' 34-26 defeat of Barrow.

There were hat-tricks too, for Whetu Taewa as Hull K.R. overcame a spirited Chorley 40-28 and for Anton Garcia as Doncaster powered past Batley 46-10.

In the other game on February 3rd Leigh easily accounted for York 48-6.

In today's fixtures Featherstone face a

difficult trip to Barrow. The visitors have hit better form after a shaky start to the season, but I still expect the Raiders to secure a home victory.

Batley v Sheffield pitches together two teams with identical records – four wins and four defeats from eight games – the Eagles having the better points difference. It could go either way, but the Mount Pleasant slope should give the Bulldogs the edge.

Hull KR entertain second placed Workington and could leapfrog them in the table if they win. Given that the Cumbrians don't always travel well the Robins should pull it off.

Elsewhere the results are predictable (famous last words!). Dewsbury will put up the best fight but will not be good enough to topple Leigh at Hilton Park. Otherwise, Doncaster will beat Hunslet; Oldham will defeat Gateshead; Rochdale will overcome Chorley; Huddersfield will pulverise strifetorn Swinton and Whitehaven will wallop Keighley.



Pat Rich

On the news front Malcolm White did call time on Swinton and I fear for the future of the Lions without their high profile Chairman. Similarly, today's visitors Gateshead have undertaken a restructuring exercise which will set them back in the short term but, hopefully, will pay dividends in the longer

term, especially as there is a sound youth game in Durham and the North-East capable of producing home grown stars (come back Pat Rich!).

Finally, the major transfer story is the signing of Dane Dorahy the former Rochdale and Wakefield stand-off by Hull K.R. A Murdock-Dorahy halfback partnership behind the Robins' big pack is certainly a mouth-watering prospect and emphasises fourth placed K.R.'s plans to mount a major challenge in this year's N.F.P.

IN **Town** TODAY



GATESHEAD THUNDER

TO say that things have been traumatic on Tyneside the last couple of weeks would be an incredible under-statement. With Coach Andy Kelly and all the club's Yorkshire based players released it is impossible to forecast exactly what kind of team Gateshead can field today. We apologise for any lack of accurate information and can only sympathise with the Thunder management for the problems they face and in their efforts to overcome these.

Of course, if any town knows all about battling against the odds it is Oldham and we hope that Gateshead's officials, staff, players and supporters will take encouragement from our experiences here at the Roughyeds. Although it's not, perhaps, our position to criticise it does appear that in its brief life the Gateshead club, in its two incarnations (Super League and N.F.P.) has been shabbily treated. And I cannot agree with the writer in the Rugby Leaguer who would be more upset at the loss of another strife torn club – Swinton – than of Gateshead. In the first instance the loss of ANY club is unacceptable (and where was the outcry over the demise of Bramley?). And in the second place Gateshead is not some far flung outpost of the game, but a club situated in the midst of an enthusiastic following the same as every other member of the N.F.P. and one backed by a strong amateur and youth set up.

At the time of going to press RAY UNSWORTH has taken over as Coach and has had a couple of training sessions with the squad from which he will pick his team today. Ray is the R.F.L.'s and BARLA's Coaching Co-ordinator and Director of Coach Education and has been appointed to run things temporarily. He is a former member of Wigan's successful and outstanding coaching team of the '80s.

On the field the team is difficult to predict and we apologise if the back cover has had to be left blank. However I would expect the following players to feature:-

STEVEN BRADLEY A 20 year old back-row

forward who gave Oldham problems last year with his incisive running. A signing with the original Thunder his registration passed to Hull F.C. on 'merger'. He was, however, released to re-join his hometown club in the N.F.P.

GARETH BARRON Like Bradley a former Gateshead Academy player. Only 19 but big and strong and a real asset at prop forward. 6'4" and 17st. Wales and G.B. Student international.

STEPHEN RUTHERFORD Another local and graduate from the Thunder Academy. A back-row forward who had trials with Sheffield Eagles before opting for Gateshead. Aged 20.

RICHARD SPENCE Another 20 year old from the Academy side. Can play hooker or halfback with equal proficiency.

PAUL THORMAN 19 year old brother of Huddersfield Giants' leading scorer Chris Thorman. Like his brother, Paul plays half back and is equally at home wearing 6 or 7. Last season's leading scorer.

TONY DOHERTY Signed from the Academy after a spell at Castleford Tigers. An Irish student, he was one of five Gateshead players on the G.B. Students' tour of Russia.

CRAIG FIRTH Local lad who represented England students in Russia. Ex-Academy. good, strong tackler.

ROBIN PEERS Also an England students representative in Russia. Utility back who gives value in whichever position he appears.

KEVIN NEIGHBOUR Speedy wingman who has graduated from the Academy. Can also play full-back or centre. Particularly good under the high ball.

DAVID GRIFFITHS Lively three-quarter.

MICKY SPELLS Hard running prop

Others available for selection are CHRISTOPHER NAYLOR, RUSSELL HUGILL, PHILIP PITT, NEIL RICHARDSON, CRAIG IRWIN, JOHN COUTTS, MICHAEL McDAID, IAIN JOHNSTONE, ROBERT McGREAL AND BEN MAYERS.

Walkerbouts ■ ■

... with Brian Walker

IRISH EYES STILL SMILE

Ex Irish RU international and Oldham RL wingman Sean Quinlan realised his rugby playing days were up after spending three weeks flat on his back in Cheetham Hill's Jewish Hospital recovering from yet another knee problem, this time a more serious cartilage correction. That was way back in 1961 but had today's technology been available then the 27 year old Cork born speedster's league career would probably have spanned more than just three seasons and only eleven first team appearances.

Quinlan came to and left Oldham with knee problems so just after New Year when I caught up with the ex Blackrock College flyer at his County Dublin home it came as no surprise that he had subsequently suffered bad arthritis but fortunately this had been partially remedied by two successful knee replacement operations.

In 1956 the winger represented Ireland against France, England and Wales and played against the Welsh for a second time in 58, departing Lansdowne Rd and the union scene for the onward flight to the pro code following the final whistle. Unlike the exodus of players from Wales Quinlan was one of only a handful of Irishmen to sell his rugby skills to league and it was no surprise that Sean's departure of the Emerald Isle ruffled a few Irish feathers.

Nevertheless the amiable Quinlan is still acknowledged by the Irish RU and tells me that in recognition of his international status and services rendered he still receives two complimentary tickets to all Ireland's home matches which brought me nicely to the reason I had contacted Sean, to gauge his reaction to the departure from league to the Lansdowne Rd coaching scene of former Oldham head coach Mike Ford.

I must admit that I thought the promotion to head coach of fellow recent Irish international wingman Eddie O'Sullivan with assistance from Munster coaches Declan Kidney and Niall O'Donovan plus Mike Ford with his league experience would sit well with Sean but not one bit of it. His view was that under Warren Gatland season 2001 had proved the most successful for the Irish in sixteen years. The squad, by beating the English, finished level with them at the top of the Six Nations Championship table and saw no reason for dismantling what was a proven and successful coaching combination, Gatland with O'Sullivan as assistant.

Sean said "generally the Irish broadsheets agreed with that but heralded Ford's arrival as the 'capture' from league of a young and ambitious coach with proven ability and pointed to Phil Larder's success as defensive coach being instrumental in England's emergence as a major force in world rugby".

Sean Quinlan would have been at Lansdowne Rd to witness the hammering of the Welsh so may already have had a change of mind about O'Sullivan but when asked his view about the future of both codes he explained "I am an avid Sky viewer of league and whilst union lacks its intensity it has, by decreasing the number of stoppages especially from kicks, increased its overall appeal as a spectator sport but there is a desperate need to do away with the ruck and the raking and stamping associated with it. But they are still two very different sports".

Sean still keeps in touch with the goings on at Oldham and just last summer fellow Roughyeds stalwart Des McKeown was a visitor and the Quinlan family aims to rekindle other friendships when they hope to visit the town this summer. He asks to be remembered to the Oldham supporters and wishes the team and its new coach all the best for the season.



Ireland v Wales '57 Sean Quinlan sat front row far right

Iwa Slateloose



COMING SOON ROUGHYEDS – THE MOVIE

'The heart-rending story of the team that died of shame –
only to rise like a phoenix from the ashes.'

'a triumph' – *Gay News*

'where's Hurst Cross?' – *National Geographic*

An All-Star Cast Includes:–

Charlton Heston	as	<i>Jim Quinn</i>
John (I'm Free) Inman	as	<i>Maurice Lindsay</i>
Stanley Unwin	as	<i>Eddie Waring</i>
Rolf Harris	as	<i>Greg McCallum</i>
Danny de Vito	as	<i>Chris Hamilton</i>
Tom Cruise	as	<i>Paddy Kirwan</i>
Arnold Schwarzenegger	as	<i>John Hough</i>
Pamela Anderson	as	<i>the Club Physio</i>
The Bolshoi Ballet	as	<i>the Roughyettes</i>
Marlon Brando	as	<i>John Harbin</i>
Victor Meldrew	as	<i>the season-ticket holder whose view is blocked by two walls and a big red girder</i>

Introducing Johnny Vegas as Jason Clegg

Nominated for 7 Oscars

'The best sports movie – ever' – *Jewish Chronicle*

A Spielberg/Slateloose Production

SUPPORTING FEATURE MRS McCALLUM'S DIARY

A story of intrigue, betrayal and loss.

Officer McCallum struggles with an undercover plot to take over a secret organisation while
Mrs McCallum sits on the other side of the world worrying for her husband's future.

Rolf Harris returns as *Greg McCallum* the troubleshooter extraordinaire

Bruce Willis	is	<i>Stuart Cummings</i>
Christopher Lee	is	<i>Gary Hetherington</i>
Eli Wallach	is	<i>Chris Caisley</i>
John Candy	is	<i>Rodney Walker</i>

And featuring **Julia Roberts** as *Mrs McCallum* and **Brad Pitt** as *Maurice Lindsay*

An Attenborough/Slateloose film

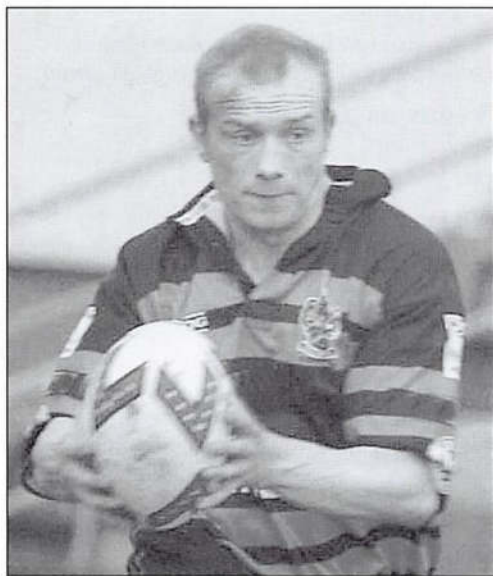
Michael's Match

... from the pen of Michael Turner



TODAY we welcome the Players, officials and supporters of the Gateshead Thunder club. With little history of matches between the two clubs, this week's feature goes back just to last season and the visit of the Roughyeds to the North East for their first ever fixture at Gateshead on June 3rd 2001. Oldham were second in the NFP with their opponents likewise second, but from the foot of the table. However, what a fright they gave the Roughyeds in the first half hour when the "Thunderstorm" rocked the visitors with two tries apiece for Leon Williamson and Carl Briggs, two of them converted by the latter.

A feature of the Gateshead game in this period was the strong, straight running of the second row pairing of Jim Carlton and Steven Bradley. It wasn't until the closing minutes of the first half that Oldham got their act together.



Impressive display at Gateshead last season.

The star of the show was Keith Brennan who shone in both attack and defence and was rewarded for his enthusiastic display with a hat trick of tries. Further Oldham tries

came from; Anthony Gibbons (2), Joe McNicholas, Neil Roden and Brian Henare but the biggest cheer of all accompanied a rare touchdown for the ever popular prop forward Jason Clegg. The reliable Pat Rich converted seven of the scores to leave Oldham eventual comfortable winners by fifty points to twenty but, as at Stalybridge last week, the score didn't really reflect what a great effort Gateshead had put into the match.



Tryscorer at Gateshead last season.

The general view of the visiting Oldham supporters was of a "good day out" amongst the vociferous Geordie fans, whose enthusiasm for their club was admirable. Let us hope for their sake that in these troubled times for the club they manage to keep the RL flag flying in the North East.

Oldham Team v Gateshead June 3rd 2001.
M Sibson, J McNicholas, A Gibbons, P Rich, D Lacey, D Gibbons, N Roden, J Clegg, K Brennan, P Norton, P Farrell, B Henare, K Mannion.

Subs: L Doran, L Casey, G Barber, G Johnston.



Table d'Hôte

Asian & Oriental Restaurant

**BECAUSE EVERYONE'S
TASTES ARE NOT THE SAME**

**WE
SIMPLY CATER FOR ALL**

**WITH WORLD
CUISINE
UP TO
30 DISHES**

Opening Times

**Mon-Sun 11.30-2.30
5.30-11.00**

**Conference / Seminar Facilities
and Party Bookings Welcome**

**Eat as much as you can
all day, every day!!!**

**Lunch Time Special £5.95
Evenings £9.95**



**145-145a Union Street Oldham
T. 0161 652 5559 W. www.GioCuisine.com**



A Great Place To Learn



SPORT & EDUCATION A WINNING COMBINATION

For information on all courses including
Sports, Fitness & Recreation
Telephone Learning Line **0800 269 480**

The Oldham College, Rochdale Road, Oldham OL9 6AA. Tel 0161 624 5214 Fax 0161 785 4234



The Red House

welcomes

**Oldham Rugby League
Supporters**

MEALS AVAILABLE ALL DAY

LEES NEW ROAD • ASHTON-U-LYNE

0161 330 2641

Paul & Kay

welcome

Oldham Rugby League Supporters to the

Hare & Hounds

Live Football ♦ Free Pool
Tuesdays & Thursdays

238 KINGS ROAD, HURST CROSS, ASHTON-U-LYNE
0161 339 4908

A Chance to Meet . . . WILL COWELL

with David McGeally, Radio Cavell 1350AM

Where and when were you born and who's in your family?

I was born on 31st December 1979 in Workington, Cumbria and then moved to Whitehaven. Family: I've got Mam, Dad, an older brother and a younger sister.

So, a New Years Eve baby! Must be awkward that, only one set of presents each year?

That's what it is every year, it does my head in, you get to Christmas and that's it.

So a deprived childhood then?

Oh Yes. Terrible really.

What's your first memory of Rugby League?

Having a fight with one of my best mates as he is now. We used to always battle against each other on the field because he was a good player and I was a good player. I think we were only about seven or eight years old and I always used to be fighting with him on the field. He's Paul O'Neill who now plays for Whitehaven as Full Back.

Was that in a proper game?

No that was just in training when we used to play for Kells amateurs when we were at under eights or under nines.

Who did you play for in your first real game of Rugby League?

That was with Kells. I've always played for Kells from a young amateur right until I moved on to Warrington.

So what age did you go there?

I was at Kells at Under 18's, and I was playing for the Open Age team as well. Then I went on tour to Australia

with the BARLA Under 21's. When I came back I moved down to Warrington in '97 when I was 18.

So Kells are a big club in your area?

Yes. There's a lot of people signed from there, especially for Warrington. The likes of Gary Chambers, David Elliott and Chris Rudd. There's a lad called Stephen Kirkbride who eventually moved back to Whitehaven.

So you signed professional for Warrington, how did that come about?

I was playing for Kells against a team called Broughton Red Rose. After the game a man called Jim Reader, the Chief Scout for Warrington came up to me and just said they were interested in signing me and would I mind coming down. I went down to Warrington and things just went from there. I met the coach, who was John Monie at the time and when I eventually went down in 97 it was Darryl van de Velde.

Tell us a little bit about your time there?

It was good. For the first two years I played for the Academy, Alliance type teams then I eventually broke through to the first team. I only played about three games the first season, then a few more the season after and a few more the season after that. But last season I didn't seem to get in to the side so I thought it was time for a move. My contract ended as well, and when the new coach came I didn't seem to fit into his plans. So I eventually got my P45 and left.

So why come to Oldham, surely there were other clubs interested in you

Well last year they got to the

Grand Final and they're a club that's hopefully going places, so hopefully I can 'kick start' my career back here and 'hopefully' go back into Super League, if not with Oldham then with some other team.

Who's been the greatest influence on you in Rugby League?

My dad really. He wasn't a big rugby league fan, he was more rugby union, but he's always backed me with everything. There was also a man called Ian Gainford who coached me from when I was young right through all the amateur ranks and I've always looked up to him as well. I eventually got to play with him as well in the 'Open Age' team even though he was about thirty five.

Could he still do the business?

He can't now he's about forty odd but he was a good bloke and a good player. He went on the BARLA Tours as well but he didn't want to sign professional because he had a good job up there and he'd never move away.

But he talks a good game?

Oh yes. He talks a very good game.

What was your most memorable moment so far in rugby league?

It's probably a bad one really. My first game in Australia when I went with the BARLA Under 21's. In the first half hour of the game I injured myself and couldn't play for the rest of the five week tour. So it's probably a bad one but that's the main memory I've got stuck in my head.

So you know what it's like to miss out. Did you stay with the Party or come home early?

Oh no I stayed out there. I got a holiday out of it. I went around on all the little trips and everything with the Management Team rather than training.

Let your Jobcentre work for you

With 50,000 new jobs coming on to our books every week, we can help you find the job you want. If you are out of work and looking for a full or part time job, call in at your local Jobcentre or telephone **Employment Service Direct on: 0845 6060 234**

You can also search online through our entire jobs database at the Jobcentre Plus website: www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk



JobCentre

couldn't train because I'd 'popped' my shoulder so I just enjoyed the trips while the other lads were training.

It must have been sheer Hell for you all that!

Who's the biggest character you've come across in the game?

There's a guy called Lee Rutherford who plays for Kells. He used to play for Whitehaven before he went back to Kells. Every time he was playing he was always joking, he never took a game seriously, he was just joking all the time. He was a big tall fellow, with chubby cheeks and long hair and all the time he was just telling jokes. Even in the scrum! A Prop Forward that keeps telling jokes to the other Prop! He's one that's always tickled me. Even in the changing room he's just telling jokes to everybody and you can't get ready or prepare properly for the game.

I've heard of fists flying in the scrum but never heard of telling jokes to put the other team off!

Oh he could fight as well but he just kept telling jokes.

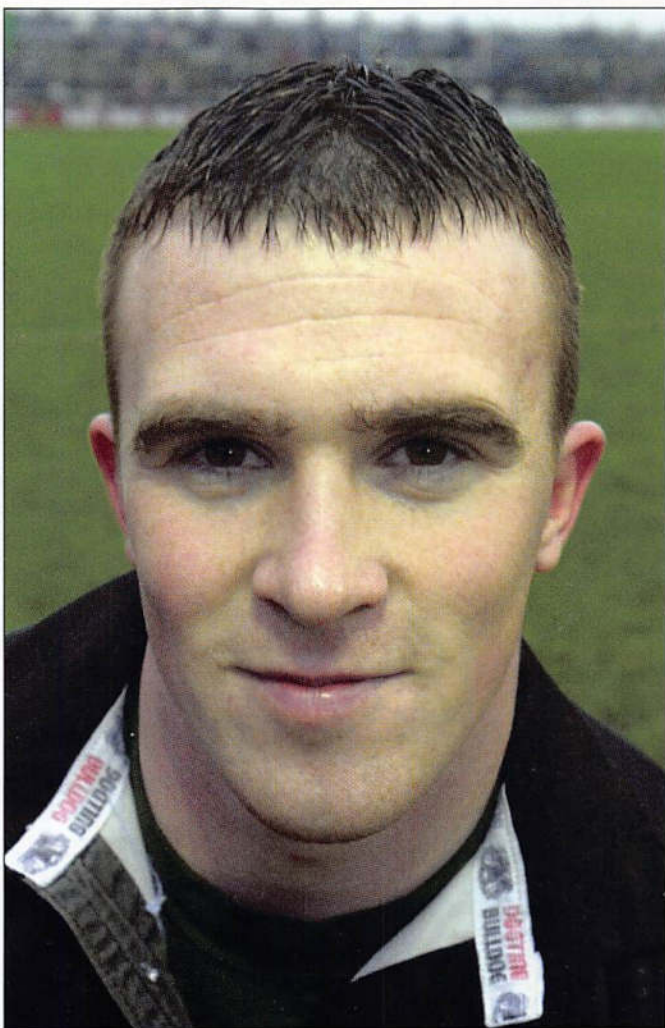
What's your ambition in Rugby League?

Well hopefully go back into Super League. That's what I signed at Warrington for so hopefully I can 'kick start' my career here and then move back up into Super League.

Tell us a secret about one of your team mates at Oldham?

Well Bryan Henare picks his nose a lot!

This interview will be broadcast in full on Radio Cavell - 1350AM next Friday during "Sports Preview" between 5-00 and 6-00pm.



For the best coverage of the Northern Ford Premiership...Every Monday.

RUGBY
League Express



Increase your performance to an all time best

No matter what position you play, supplements can play a key role in your quest for increasing your performance, whether it is endurance, stamina, energy or increased power & strength. Every time you train hard, you place your body under immense stress, break down precious muscle tissue and use up valuable energy and nutrient stores. If these vital nutrients are not replaced quickly, your body will become more susceptible to over training, burn-out, injuries, colds and flu, not forgetting general fatigue, loss of motivation and performance.

By replacing these lost nutrients your body uses during intense training and supporting your body's recovery process, you can avoid many of the problems players take for granted, such as over training and injuries. More importantly you can expect a dramatic increase in performance, well being, health and reduced stress at home and work.



'IOC allowed' guarantee



All Maximuscle 'IOC allowed' supplements are tested to ensure they do not contain any banned substances. Using Maximuscle supplements correctly and as instructed, will not result in a positive reading. Proof can be provided for all athletes, coaches, etc...

Contact Maximuscle today for your FREE 96 page colour catalogue...

Maximuscle Limited:
40 Caxton Way, Watford Business Park
Watford
WD18 8JZ

Tel: 01923 650600 Fax: 01923 229339

Visit the best nutrition site on the web:
www.maximuscle.com


MAXIMUSCLE
Sports nutrition at its best

"Are you suffering from low energy levels, fatigue or stress"

Do you ever find yourself feeling tired and drained at the end of a long day at work?

Although most people accept this as normal. Feelings of fatigue are often due to a deficiency in your diet. If you can correct this deficiency, you'll find that your energy levels will improve rapidly.

A nutrient tied closely to energy production is Coenzyme Q10, or CoQ10 for short. CoQ10 is a vitamin-like substance found in every cell in your body, and plays a vital role in turning food into energy. Many who take CoQ10 supplements notice a rise in energy and mental clarity. According to Dr. Ray Sahelian, author of *Mind Boosters*, using CoQ10 led to, "a slight mood elevation with enhanced focus, motivation, and productivity".

Based on the work of CoQ10 pioneer Professor Karl Folkers, some have suggested that CoQ10 can play an important role in treating high blood pressure [1-2]. Professor Folkers went on to receive the National Medal of Science from President George Bush in 1990 for his work with CoQ10 and other vitamins.

Studies have also shown that patients with severe heart disease have low levels of CoQ10 in the heart and other tissues. These findings have prompted some experts to speculate that CoQ10 could play a role in the treatment of heart disease. In fact, there are reports that over 12 million people in Japan are taking CoQ10 at the direction of their doctor.

CoQ10 is not the latest nutritional fad. Although the wealth of positive research highlighting the benefits of CoQ10 has grown in recent years, it is not new to science. In fact, researchers at the University of Wisconsin first discovered CoQ10 in 1957.

Although CoQ10 is essential for your health, it can increase your endurance also, with one study showing large performance improvements in a group of cross-country skiers taking CoQ10 [3]. Although you can get CoQ10 from your diet (particularly in fish and meats), it's impossible for most people to get enough unless they use a supplement.

Maximuscle's CoQ10 uses the very purest, strongest and most advanced Co-Q10, with 60 mg per capsule. Expect excellent results when taken as directed (two capsules daily). Because CoQ10 is soluble in fat, absorption is improved when taken with food.

CoQ10 comes with a 'no-hassle' 100% money back guarantee of satisfaction*. To order, call Maximuscle today on 01923 650 600 or visit Europe's largest sports nutrition web site at www.maximuscle.com.

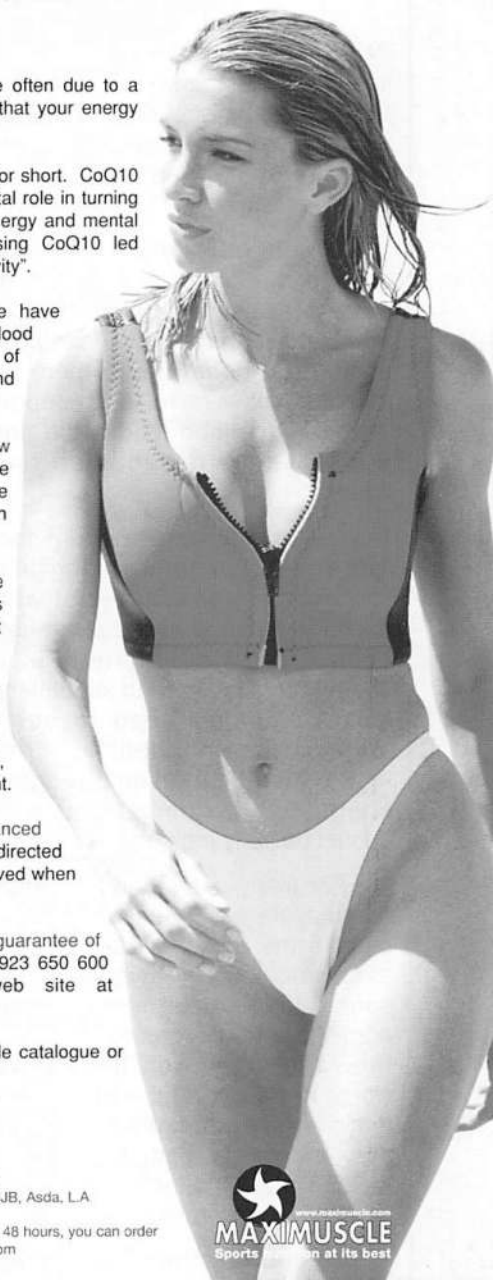
* In accordance with the guarantee in the Maximuscle catalogue or shown on www.maximuscle.com

Maximuscle supplements can be purchased from...

1. All good health food shops, gyms and chemist, including GNC, JJB, Asda, L.A. Fitness & many more!
2. Alternatively, if you don't like shopping and want your order within 48 hours, you can order from Europe's largest sports nutrition website: www.Maximuscle.com
3. Or from the Maximuscle customer service line on: 01923 650600

References

1. Digiesi V, Cantini F, Brodbeck B. (1990). Effect of coenzyme Q10 on essential arterial hypertension. *Current Therapeutic Research*, 47, 841-845
2. Langsjen P, Langsjen P, Willis R. (1994). Treatment of essential hypertension with coenzyme Q10. *Molecular Aspects of Medicine*, 15, S265-S272
3. Ylikoski T, Pirainen J, Hanninen O, & Penttinen J. (1997). The effect of coenzyme Q10 on the exercise performance of cross-country skiers. *Molecular Aspects of Medicine*, 18, S283-S290



Wilson's Wisdom

... with Ian Wilson

IN PRINCIPLE, at least, what good news it is that, at last, it seems that the game's top-level administration and management is going to be sorted out. The last few years have been farcical, and embarrassing.

Of course, there is a long way still to go. In particular, the whole of the amateur game needs to be brought into the unified administration, in a way which can be seen to be beneficial to them. And the correct people have to be appointed to the newly-defined leadership positions. But at least a decent start has been made.

Let us not start to cheer too soon, however. It is fine having a decent management structure, but what then matters is that good decisions get made, both in terms of long-term plans and short- and medium-term strategies. And in addition to the need to sort out a structured and hopefully increasingly high-profile international programme, I suggest that domestic attendances should be fairly high on the agenda.

For many years, the total attendance on an average RL Sunday has been, give or take the odd thousand, 55,000. And ever since Sky televised games have spread the fixtures over weekends, the aggregate figure has remained roughly the same. However, there have been worrying signs over the past two seasons that the figure has often dropped below this. And, to me, early signs this season, in NFP and Challenge Cup, have also been very concerning.

Of course, there are exceptions, Bradford is the outstanding one, Leeds continue to attract a large and loyal

following. Cas did very well for a while, and at a lower level, Keighley have done incredibly well at times. But that leaves an awful lot of clubs who, if they are honest, must be extremely disappointed at their inability either to attract any significant new audience or to retrain some of their traditional bedrock support.

What can be done? I think that the first point to make is that a lot of spectators have been lost because of administrative failures by the game as a whole. It follows that improved leadership and a clear vision of where the game is going should themselves contribute to increased popularity, even if it needs to be accepted that this is likely to be a fairly long, slow haul.

But what about more directly-focused "marketing"? I cringe when I hear the game referred to as a "product", and the techniques used to market Persil or credit cards are definitely not directly transferable. But that is not to say that, both at the level of individual clubs and for the game as a whole, there are not lessons which can be learned from management and marketing theory. Number one is the need for well-directed, carefully-thought-out market research amongst the potential 'customers' before taking action. And number two is to make decisions on the "4 P's" - price, product, place, promotion - which take account of the research, and which are consistent with each other.

The strength of the game depends on its attractiveness to supporters, active or passive, in an increasingly competitive leisure market. The new leadership has a huge task on its hands, and a huge responsibility.

Junior Roughyeds



sponsored by ^{Oldham}Advertiser

WELCOME to the Junior Roughyeds page.

First of all the Juniors would like to pass on their congratulations to John, Mark, and all the players for a fantastic performance against St. Helens. Megan asked whether Joe McNicholas had had *three* shredded wheat for his breakfast last Sunday!

On Saturday night John Mitchell telephoned to ask if I could get a team of ball boys/girls together for the St. Helens game and I said I would try. I would like to personally thank Emma Cameron, Megan Hartley, Carl Clare and Richard Cowling for turning up at short notice on Sunday and doing a fine job in abysmal weather conditions. Each one said they enjoyed doing it and would do it again no problem. Well done.

The mascot for today's game is 9 year old Christopher Marshall. Christopher goes to Knowsley Lane Junior School, Springhead. Christopher's favourite player is our Junior Roughyed Player of the Year Jason Clegg.

Christopher loves playing on his bike and computer and also his skateboard. A word of warning though: when I spoke to Christopher's mum she said he was in their garden making a wormery in their barbecue! So if you are ever asked to go to a barbecue at Christopher's house this year don't say I haven't warned you!!

Have a good day Christopher.

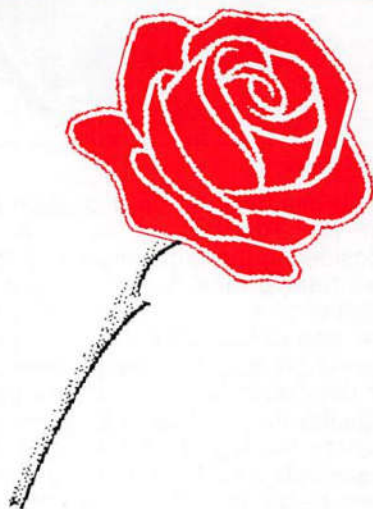
Enjoy the game.

Adele Knowles

Oldham Labour Party

*Continuing its support
for*

OLDHAM RLFC



OFFICES

Oldham Labour Group
Civic Centre Oldham

0161 911 4037

David Heyes MP
Ashton-U-Lyne

0161 331 9307

Michael Meacher MP
Oldham West & Royton

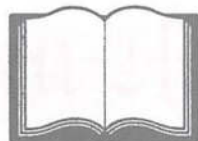
0161 626 5779

Phil Woolas MP
Oldham East &
Saddleworth

0161 624 4248

Amateur Album

.....WITH DON YATES



NEXT Saturday, 23rd February, is a big day for Shaw Rhinos when they meet undefeated Lancashire Cup finalists Rosebridge in an intriguing North West Counties Premier Division League Cup-tie which should attract a bumper gate to George Street.



Iestyn Harris

It has been an up and down season for the Rhinos, no surprise really considering the problems which the club has had to face during the past eight months or so. Everything looked rosy at the end of last season when the club gained promotion to the premier division of the North West Counties League, arguably the most demanding competition outside the Conference League. Indeed many critics consider this division to be even harder than the Conference second division. Shaw were hoping to have over 30 players signed on for what they knew would be a demanding season. However several retirements and the loss of high profile coach Iestyn Harris, who moved to

Cardiff in his quest for Welsh rugby union honours, obviously took some overcoming.

In came new coach Sid Miller ably supported by the ever-reliable David Whitehead and, despite disappointing early results, the club made a reasonable start to the campaign. Between mid-October and Mid-November the Rhinos hit a rich vein of form, winning five matches out of six and indicating that, with luck, they could soon be pressing for honours. Unfortunately that luck never came and injuries plus a poor run of results led to the resignation of Miller. He had done his best, occasionally turning out despite being the wrong side of fifty, but he could do no more and so it was left to Whitehead to steer the ship back on course.

Prop-forward Paul Spencer has been a tower of strength all season. He has been assisted by centre Paul Winrow and fullback Rob Mills whilst goal kicking loose-forward or standoff Danny Atherton has continued to lead from the front. Earlier this month scrum half cum hooker Dean Hamilton made a comeback after a lengthy lay-off with the knee injury which threatened to end his career during his St. Annes and BARLA Great Britain days. His try scoring return in the 38-16 victory over Ulverston more or less ended Shaw's fears of relegation. Indeed it took them into a respectable mid-table position and with the pressure now off, the Rhinos are expecting a bright finish to the season.

The biggest disappointment of the season so far has been Shaw's lack of progress in cup competitions. They bowed out of both the Lancashire and Standard Cup competitions in the early rounds and so are determined to make up for that by causing a few surprises in the League Cup campaign. Rosebridge will provide formidable opposition but they cannot go on winning forever and the Rhinos are confident of causing an upset.

CLUB CALL

THE SATURDAY YANKEE

The Sat Yankee is a major source of the clubs income and prize money last month reached a record level of £5000 and that was for just £1 weekly stake. If you are not a member of this existing lottery you can help the club and hopefully yourself by filling in a Saturday Yankee form or calling Lorraine at the club on 0161 628 3677. Also we need collectors for most areas around Oldham and we offer good commissions.

For all details of the Saturday Yankee and commercial opportunities you can contact the club on

0161 628 3677

OLDHAM RLFC (1997) LTD., DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION, 64A UNION STREET, OLDHAM

I wish to become a member of the Oldham RLFC Saturday Yankee Lottery and to pay my subscription by Standing Order
paid: Four Weekly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Half Yearly ☐ Yearly ☐ Number of shares at £1 per week

Name Address

Standing Order Instruction To the Manager:

Name of Bank Address of Bank

Please make payments detailed below and debit my/our account.

Account No. Amount of Payment Amount in words

Frequency of Payments Date of first Payment Payments will continue until further notice.

Signed Date

Bank and Branch to which payment is to be made:

The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc, 1-5 Church Terrace, Oldham OL1 3AU

Account to be credited: **Oldham RLFC (1997) Ltd. Development Fund** Account No: **10036551** Sort Code: **16 - 27 - 11**

MANY THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES
FOR THEIR GENEROUS SPONSORSHIP OF OUR
KELLOGG'S NUTRI-GRAIN CHALLENGE CUP MATCH
AGAINST ST. HELENS

Manchester Airport



Doughty's Gym



Hanlon & Wright



The Whistle Blower

..... With Sam Shepherd

OLDHAM 17 · HULL KR 14

CHALLENGE CUP SEMI-FINAL REPLAY AT SWINTON, APRIL 15TH 1964

REFEREE: D. T. H. DAVIES

THESE two teams had met four days earlier at Headingley before a 25,000 crowd with the final score 5-5, Oldham's score being made up of a try and a late drop goal. Peter Smethurst had powered in for the try and Len McIntyre had scored that very late equalising drop goal.

aid of floodlights.

The score fluctuated, and at 14-14 the game went into extra time when Geoff Robinson plunged over for a try to put Oldham ahead. At this stage Dennis Davies did exactly what he had been told to do – he called time in the gathering gloom, but the Oldham spectators were incensed and it certainly did feel strange to take part in a 'drawn' game when winning 17-14!

THE RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Challenge Cup Semi-Final — Replay

HULL K.R. v. OLDHAM

WEDNESDAY
15th APRIL
1964

At
STATION ROAD
SWINTON

Kick-off 6.45 p.m.



OFFICIAL SOUVENIR PROGRAMME - Price 1/-

This then, is the story of the replay on a very murky night, not helped by dark clouds and steam from the trains coming and going at Station Road. The referee, Dennis Davies, spoke to the RL Secretary Bill Fallowfield with his concerns about whether the match would finish, but was told in no uncertain terms that his brief was to start the match and come off if he (the referee) had difficulty in seeing in worsening conditions. After all, this game kicked off at 6.45pm without the

The Oldham team was as follows:

Dyson, Sims, Donovan, Smethurst, Simms, Nester, Pycroft, Bott, McIntyre, Wilson, Robinson, Whitehead, Major.

Attendance: 27,000

The second replay was held five days later at Fartown, Huddersfield, and since Oldham had demanded a change of referee, Matt Coates was in charge as Oldham were beaten 12-2.

Although Dennis Davies followed instructions at Station Road, Swinton, he was no stranger to controversy.

Earlier he had been in charge of a Test Match between Great Britain and France, when, after struggling to control the French players at play-the-ball, he felt compelled to dismiss a French forward named Bescos. However, as the player walked toward the touch line, the French officials pushed him back infield. Unable to solve this, Dennis Davies walked off the field to the dressing room, and the situation was only resolved when Bill Fallowfield, fluent in French, persuaded the visitors to return without Bescos.

Dennis Davies had refereed two Wembley finals and was hoping for a third, but this did not materialise and he was convinced that he was being punished for his action at Station Road.

ALLEN MILLS HOWARD & CO.

Chartered Certified Accountants & Registered Auditors

*Supporting Business & OLDHAM R.L.F.C. in Oldham & Tameside
for all your accountancy, audit & taxation problems contact:*

*Hyde - Stephen Howard 0161 - 366 6535 · Ashton - John Mills 0161 - 339 6140
Oldham - David Savidge 0161 - 624 2550 · Failsworth - Peter Scholes 0161 681 5600*

AMH

Library Chambers, 48 Union Street, Hyde, Cheshire, SK14 1ND

Telephone 0161 366 6535 Fax 0161 367 8584

AMH

Lansdowne Roofing Supplies Ltd.

*Secondhand tiles and slates
bought and sold*

*Demolition work undertaken
All materials can be picked up
and delivered*

Tel 0161 626 0896 and 627 4231

Night 0161 633 4252

Proprietor: Sean Whitehead



PILGRIM
INTERNATIONAL

*Locally manufactured hydraulic equipment for
the Power & Marine industries Worldwide*

www.pilgrim-international.co.uk

Tel: 0161 785 7700

Working for a brighter future

Sunset Windows
PVCu Windows, Doors & Conservatories *Limited*

SUNSET WINDOWS LIMITED, WADDINGTON STREET, OLDHAM OL9 6QH

Tel. 0161 624 5962 · Fax 0161 627 5094

SADDLEWORTH SPORTS AND SCHOOL UNIFORM

*Suppliers of Sports Equipment,
Footwear and Clothing for
all Major Sports*

**SPECIALIST SUPPLIERS OF SCHOOL
UNIFORM AT BEST PRICES**

*Personal Service Guaranteed
Mail Order & Delivery Service
Available*



PROPRIETORS: GEOFF & MARJORIE COOKE
93 CHEW VALLEY ROAD, GREENFIELD,
OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE. OL3 7JJ

Phone or Fax: 01457 872515
24 HR ANSWERPHONE

e.mail: saddsports@excite.co.uk
www.saddleworthsports.co.uk



EASY PARKING • VISA • MASTERCARD • SWITCH •
DELTA • SOLO • AMEX

WE'VE CURED HEADACHES FOR THE ROUGHYEDS



Manufacturers
of upholstery
fillings for over
a century, Platt
& Hill make
foam and fibre
fillings of the
highest quality
right here in
Oldham.

PLATT & HILL
FOAM AND FIBRE FILLINGS

Platt & Hill
Belgrave Mill
Fitton Hill Road
Oldham OL8 2LZ

Tel. 0161 621 4400 • Fax: 0161 621 4408

Fu's



CANTONESE RESTAURANT

富林

Manchester Road • Mossley OL5 9QW
Tel: 01457 839638 / 01457 834169

TOPIC OF THE DAY

...THE 100 GREATEST RUGBY LEAGUE PLAYERS - EVER! (Well, 1951 to 2001)

70 KARL HARRISON Current Bradford Bulls' assistant coach Karl Harrison is one of the game's unsung heroes, yet he made eight test appearances against Australia at a time when the Aussies have been THE dominant nation. A leader by example Bramley, Featherstone, Hull and Halifax prop Harrison was always ready to hit the ball up and gain the hard yards. As his elevation to the coaching ranks via Keighley shows he was also a master tactician when captain of his various teams.

69 DES DRUMMOND One of the great sights of the '80s was Leigh and Great Britain wingman Des Drummond in action. Lightning fast, Drummond flying down the wing at Hilton Park was a memory to be treasured. But Drummond could tackle too: a black belt karate dan, when Drummond put his shoulder in your midriff you knew about it. Even the great Mal Meninga felt the force of Drummond's tackle. A star of Leigh's 1981-82 championship side, Oldham once had the chance to sign Drummond. Instead we got his centre partner Terry Bilsbury who made seven appearances in 1982-83 – almost as good a signing as Derek Pyke!



68 COLIN DIXON Halifax, Salford and Britain centre and second-row Colin Dixon was a star of the game for twenty years from 1961 to 1981. He played the game hard and aggressively and asked no quarter. Yorkshire Cup and Championship Final appearances with Halifax were followed – after a world record transfer – by a Wembley appearance with the great Salford

side of the '70s. He earned a testimonial at the Willows and toured in 1974. Unfortunately Colin died at the young age of 49 following a stroke in 1993. He had made a staggering 738 first team appearances, a total surpassed by only four players in the history of the game.

67 PHIL CLARKE Now a Sky TV commentator, Phil Clarke was a massive loss to the game when a serious neck injury sustained playing in Australia forced his early retirement. Clarke was the brainy, ball-handling loose-forward in the dominant Wigan side of the early '90s and was Britain's first choice No. 13 in 1992 and 1994. Who knows what heights he would have gone on to achieve had he stayed injury free? And who knows how Andy Farrell's career would have developed if he had?

66 STEVE NASH Another Salford star of the '70s scrum-half Nash began his career as a star of the Featherstone halfback production line. He racked up 24 Test appearances, his last at the age of 33 against the 1982 Australian Invincibles. He played for Featherstone at Wembley in 1973 when he won the Lance Todd Trophy, and 1974 (one win, one defeat) and was the guiding spirit of the side, having actually been born on Post Office Road. Transferred to Salford in 1975 and immediately won a Championship winners medal. In any list of great scrum-halves Nash would always feature near the top.

65 DAVID WARD Shaw Cross lad Ward signed for Leeds in 1971 and had an outstanding game at 18 years of age in the 1972 Championship Final. Thereafter he was Leeds' first choice hooker for over a decade with a string of honours and medals to his name. A phenomenal workrate, tenacious tackling and a fine pair of hands earned him international honours. He richly deserved his Man of Steel award in 1977 and was a fine and honourable servant of the Leeds club.

64 WILLIE HORNE Think of Barrow, think of Horne. Even the main stand's named after him. Genius is not a word to be used too often, but in Willie Horne's case it's appropriate. He actually represented Britain on the 1946 tour (outside the scope of my time limit) but such was his quality and dominance that he continued into the '50s, and led Barrow to victory at Wembley in 1955. By the time he retired in 1959 he had scored 1818 points in a 16 year career with Barrow encompassing 462 games. He also captained his country to Ashes victory in 1954. He had even made an odd guest appearance in Oldham's colours, as detailed last season by Brian Walker. His career total was 519 games for 2003 points.



63 IKE SOUTHWARD Oldham smashed the world record transfer fee in March 1959 paying Workington £10,650 for the flying wingman, effectively a direct replacement for Dick Cracknell. In 52 appearances for the Roughyeds he notched 54 tries, but his heart lay in Cumbria and he returned to Workington for another record fee of £11,002.10s. At Workington Southward scored a record 274 tries between 1952 and 1968, with seven tries in a match against

Blackpool (17.9.55) and 31 points in a match in the same game also being club records. And, of course, he appeared in the epic 'Prescott's arm' test in Sydney 1958.

62 BILL HOLLIDAY Whitehaven, Hull K.R., Swinton and Rochdale international second-row and prop Holliday was an on-field leader, accomplished goal-kicker, ball-handler, time-breaker and mean tackler. He had a habit of winning things with unfashionable sides and was a popular figure with each of the clubs he represented. One of the game's great entertainers.

61 ANDY GREGORY Playing for Wigan Gregory was the man you loved to hate. Playing for Britain you would cheer him to the rafters. A teenage prodigy at Widnes, Gregory had all the cheek, bossiness and aggression you could want from a scrum-half. Although never lost for words, his real craft lay in engineering openings with well-timed passes and craftily disguised movement. A master at switching play Gregory was a star in a team of stars and won every honour in the game open to him. Twice winner of the Lance Todd, 10 Tests against Australia and a string of medals as long as your arm. At his peak there wasn't a club in the land that wouldn't have signed him if they could.

Stat Attack

EVER wondered which referee lets a game flow or which referee is most likely to dish out the penalties? Well, look no further. Below is a current referees' performance chart, based on the penalty counts published in League Express. These figures are average penalties per game refereed.

Bob Connolly	9.5	Karl Kirkpatrick	15.3
Colin Morris	9.6	Ben Thaler	15.5
Steve Nicholson	11.2	Paul Lee	15.5
Mick Dawber	12.4	Ron Laughton	16.4
Julian King	12.5	Peter Taberner	16.6
Ian Smith	12.8	Steve Ganson	17.0
Richard Silverwood	14.0	Rick Oddy	17.8
Stuart Cummings	14.5	Steve Addy	19.5
Stuart Lee	15.0	Russell Smith	22.3

The table is compiled using ONLY games (League and Cup) involving NFP sides. And what does it prove? Well, frankly, not a lot. You can make of it what you will. For example, does Russell Smith enforce the rules better than anyone else? Or is Bob Connolly too lenient? Is it luck that a referee gets a 'clean' match or deliberate policy that certain referees are appointed to potentially 'dirty' matches?

As they say there are lies, damned lies and statistics!

LEADING SCORERS (AS AT 11.2.02) NFP PLAYERS (LEAGUE & CUP)

TRIES			GOALS		
SEEDS	(Whitehaven)	12	TURLEY	(Leigh)	42
LEWTHWAITE	(Workington)	10	O'NEILL	(Whitehaven)	38
THORMAN	(Huddersfield)	9	ROONEY	(Featherstone)	37+6
O'HARE	(Huddersfield)	9	ATKINSON	(Barrow)	34
LOWE	(Featherstone)	8	MANIHERA	(Workington)	33+2
CRABTREE	(Huddersfield)	8	BROWN G.	(Sheffield)	31
TURLEY	(Leigh)	8	THORMAN	(Huddersfield)	30+1
MANSSON	(Doncaster)	7	CHARLES	(Hull KR)	30
COOPER	(Huddersfield)	7	IRVING	(Doncaster)	26
MAYBERRY	(Rochdale)	7	JONES	(Chorley)	21
FLYNN	(Dewsbury)	6	BRADDISH	(Oldham)	20+2
SIBSON	(Oldham)	6			
BROWN C.	(Sheffield)	6			
BEAUMONT	(Workington)	6			
SICE	(Workington)	6			
WOOD S.	(Workington)	6			
POINTS					
TURLEY	(Leigh)	116	BROWN G.	(Sheffield)	74
THORMAN	(Huddersfield)	97	CHARLES	(Hull KR)	72
ROONEY	(Featherstone)	88	ATKINSON	(Barrow)	68
O'NEILL	(Whitehaven)	84	IRVING	(Doncaster)	60
MANIHERA	(Workington)	80	BRADDISH	(Oldham)	54

LEVER'S FISH & CHIP RESTAURANT

**BEST WISHES
TO
OLDHAM RLFC**

UNITS 2 & 3 · MARKET HALL
OLDHAM

MON - SAT 10.30- 5.30

0161 633 0074

***If you're not
satisfied with your
bank, convert***



**The Royal Bank
of Scotland**

For more information on the range of
Business Services available from
The Royal Bank of Scotland
please contact

**Tina Horton, Business Manager
on 0161 633 8460**

*The Royal Bank of Scotland plc
Registered Office: 36 St. Andrew Square,
Edinburgh EH2 2VB
Registered in Scotland No. 90312*

DRONSFIELDS — MERCEDES —

**WALLHILL MILL, WALLHILL
ROAD, DOBCROSS
OLDHAM OL3 SRB**

TELEPHONE: 01457 - 871717

FAX: 01457 - 871940

***New & Used Mercedes
Vehicles & Spares***



Amega Labels Ltd

*Manufacturers of Computer Barcodes
and High Quality Self Adhesive Labels*



**Shaw Street
Oldham OL1 3RR**

Tel 0161 785 0813

Fax 0161 624 6507

Player SPONSORSHIP



Gareth Barber
Harry Long (Oldham) Ltd
Plumbing, Heating &
Mechanical Services
Tel: 0161 626 9175



Anthony Gibbons
Alpha Tec



Joe McNicholas
Iain Taylor



John Braddish
Tymbuktu Health &
Beauty Clinic
0161 624 5667



David Gibbons
Allen, Mills, Howard & Co.
Accountants
Oldham & Tameside



Kevin Mannion
Bull's Head
Heyside



Keith Brennan
Lansdowne Roofing
Supplies Ltd
Tel: 0161 626 0896



Jon Goddard
Medlock
Communications



Paul Norton
Sunset National
Conservatories
Tel: 0161 624 5962



Neil Roden
David Macauley
Chartered Surveyor
Poulton-le-Fylde
01253 883833



Danny Guest
John Barrett
(Time Keeper)



Andy Proctor



Jason Clegg
ORLFC Staff



Joey Hayes
Ray & Chris Broadbent



Phil Farrell
Hall Needham
Associates
Architects
0161 688 1820



Will Cowell



Bryan Henare
Lansdowne Trading
Services Ltd
0161 626 1141



Mark Sibson
Mick Harrop



Gavin Dodd
Oldham Rugby Union



Gavin Johnson



Tommy Hodgkinson



Lee Doran
Alpha Tec



John Hough
Medlock
Communications



Simon Knox

**For details of Players Sponsorship
Please phone either
John Battye or Dave Roberts
0161 628 3677**

WINO'S WINE SHOP

63 GEORGE STREET, OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE OL1 1LX

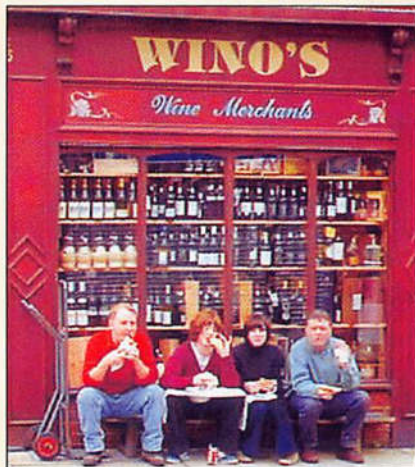
0161 652 9396

Established in 1983, Wino's is an Independent Oldham based company. We stock over 1500 different wines, 250 spirits and over 60 beers.

Apart from the retail shop in George Street, Oldham we now supply direct to the trade, from restaurants and wine bars through to the company board room.

We also offer a sale or return service on many of our wines for parties, weddings etc., you pay for what you drink.

The free loan of champagne flutes, wine goblets and beer glasses, whether it be a party of 20 or a function of 520, is available.



We pride ourselves on offering friendly professional service.

5% DISCOUNT on any MIXED CASE OF 12 BOTTLES

Wines supplied Sale or Return for Weddings or Functions

FREE GLASS LOAN – FREE DELIVERY SERVICE – MAILING LIST

Hope to see you soon - PHIL, IAN, MARK and STEVE



HAYNESWOOD

Engineering Sales Limited

Best Wishes to Oldham Roughyeds

UK Office:

St John's Mill
113 St John Street, Lees,
Oldham OL4 3DJ, England.
Phone: +44 (0) 161 620 5337
Fax: +44 (0) 161 627 4367
E-Mail: anilox@hayneswood.u-net.com

USA Office:

Hayneswood Engineering USA LLC,
1658 Soquel Drive, Unit 6,
Santa Cruz, California 95065
Phone: +1 831 462 2680
Fax: +1 831 462 3583
E-Mail: anilox@pacbell.net

Web Site: www.hayneswood.com

Fixtures

Date Opponent Result Att

DECEMBER
2 SWINTON LIONS F - A
P

16 Hull K.R. 10-26 2032

23 ROCHDALE HORNETS P

30 Leigh 12-46 3388

JANUARY

6 YORK 32-16 1130

13 Dewsbury Rams 6-30 1410

20 CHORLEY LYNX 34-2 1114

27 WEST HULL (3rd Round)H 38-4 1131

FEBRUARY

3 Workington 20-28 991

10 ST HELENS 6-40 4089

17 GATESHEAD H

24 Kellogg's Challenge Cup (5th Round)

MARCH

3 Huddersfield A

10 DONCASTER DRAGONS H

15 Sheffield Eagles A

24 FEATHERSTONE H

29 Rochdale Hornets A (Nat Cup)

APRIL

1 DEWSBURY RAMS H (Nat Cup)

7 Huddersfield A (Nat Cup)

14 KEIGHLEY H (Nat Cup)

21 Hunslet Hawks A (Nat Cup)

MAY

5 BATLEY BULLDOGS H (Nat Cup)

12 National Cup Quarter Finals

19 National Cup Semi Finals

26 National Cup Final

JUNE

2 Keighley Cougars A

9 WHITEHAVEN H

16 Barrow A

23 BATLEY BULLDOGS H

30 Hunslet Hawks A

JULY

7 LEIGH H

14 Chorley Lynx A

21 Whitehaven A

28 HUDDERSFIELD H

AUGUST

4 HUNSLET HAWKS H

11 Batley Bulldogs A

18 Rochdale Hornets A

25 WORKINGTON H

SEPTEMBER

1 York A

8 KEIGHLEY COUGARS H

Sponsors

Match Sponsor

**Greater
Manchester
Waste Ltd.**

**Matchball
Sponsor**

**Oldham
Labour Party**

OLDHAM RLFC FULLY SUPPORT THE LET'S
TACKLE RACISM IN RUGBY LEAGUE CAMPAIGN
AND WELCOMES ALL PLAYERS AND SPECTATORS
IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR ETHNIC OR RACIAL
ORIGINS. RACISM HAS NO PLACE IN OUR GAME
AND RACIST CHANTS ARE TOTALLY
UNACCEPTABLE.

ALLOW EVERYONE TO ENJOY THE GAME.

two players

that deserve a try this season

ford**ka** collection

1.3i 3dr

- cd player
- electric windows
- central locking
- leather steering wheel

£7,995



new ford**focus** zetec

1.6i 16v 3dr

- cd player
- alloy wheels
- remote central locking
- electric windows

£11,745



northern ford dealers – official sponsors of the northern ford premiership

call 0845 7111 888 for your local ford dealer





TODAY'S TEAMS



OLDHAM

Coach: John HARBIN

GATESHEAD T.

Coach: Ray UNSWORTH

Mark SIBSON

1

Will COWELL

2

John BRADDISH

3

Jon GODDARD

4

Joe McNICHOLAS

5

Keith BRENNAN

6

David GIBBONS

7

Jason CLEGG

8

John HOUGH

9

Paul NORTON

10

Lee DORAN

11

Bryan HENARE

12

Phil FARRELL

13

Gareth BARBER

14

Andy PROCTOR

15

Neil RODEN

16

Danny GUEST

17

THE GATESHEAD TEAM WILL
BE CHOSEN FROM THE
FOLLOWING SQUAD:

Gareth Barron

Steven Bradley

John Coutts

Tony Doherty

Craig Firth

David Griffiths

Russell Hugill

Craig Irwin

Iain Johnstone

Benn Mayers

Michael McDaid

Robert McGreal

Christopher Naylor

Kevin Neighbour

Philip Pitt

Neil Richardson

Stephen Rutherford

Micky Spells

Richard Spence

Paul Thorman

Neil Thorman

TODAY'S OFFICIALS

REFEREE: STEVE PRESLEY



M. J. WILSON



C. DEAN



J. S. PEASE

