

THE ROUGHYEDS

V WHITEHAVEN WARRIORS

OLDHAM R.L.F.C	V Played	WHITEHAVEN WARRIORS
Gavin Dodd		Gary Broadbent
Rob Mills		Craig Calvert
Alex Wilkinson		David Seeds
Jon Goddard		Mick Nanyin
Nick Johnson		Wesley Wilson
Marty Turner		Leroy Joe
Carlos Matoera		Steve Kirkbride
Ricky Bibey		Neil Baines
Gareth Barber		Aaron Lester
Dana Wilson		David Fatiolofa
Simon Houghton		Brett Mcdermott
Mark Roberts		Craic Chambers
John Hough		Carl Rudd
James Kirkland		Howard Hill
Tere Glassie		Aaron Summers
Ian Hodson		Gary Padham
David Tootill		Mark Cox
Damien Munro		
Paul Norman		
Adam Sharples		
Simon Svabic		
Chris Hough		

Match Officials:

REFEREE: P Taberner TOUCH JUDGES: R J Stokes, P Taylor
4TH OFFICIAL: M P Thomason

Team Sponsor

Lansdowne Roofing Supplies Ltd.

Designed & produced by DijiGroup 0870 333 999 4

healthplans
from



National
League One

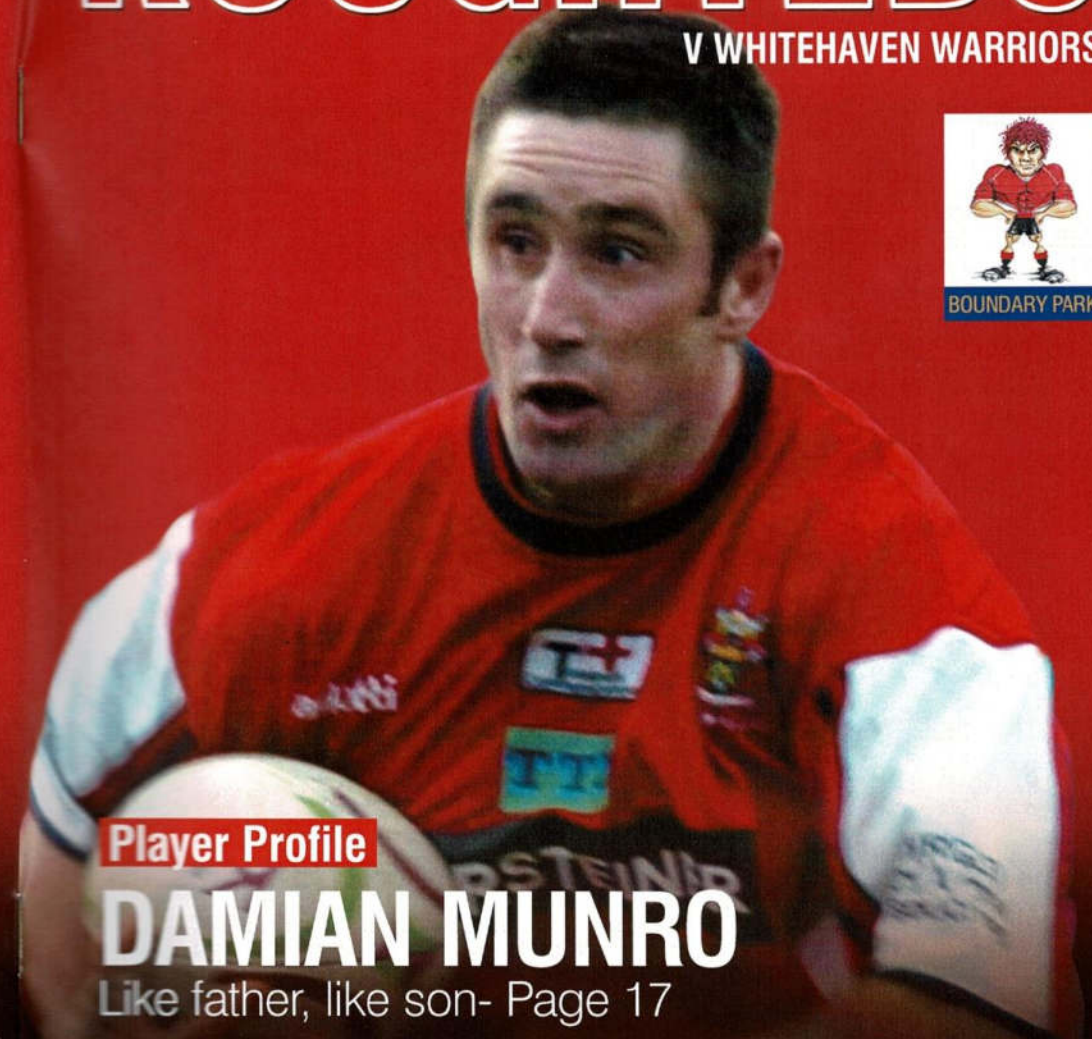
SUNDAY 15TH MAY 2005
KICK OFF 3.00pm

THE ROUGHYEDS

V WHITEHAVEN WARRIORS



BOUNDARY PARK



Player Profile

DAMIAN MUNRO

Like father, like son- Page 17

Main Sponsors



WARSTEINER
Imported German Beer

Official Kit Supplier

carlotti

healthplans
from



National
League One

SUNDAY 15TH MAY 2005
KICK OFF 3.00pm

Together, a winning team



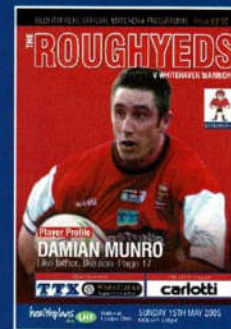
Oldham Council
is proud of its
association with
Oldham Rugby
League Football Club

and the rich heritage of the sport in
the Borough. Oldham Rugby plays
a key role in community life and in
helping to enhance the reputation
of the Borough.

OLDHAM 
Metropolitan Borough

oldham  **together**
the outlook's bright

www.oldham.gov.uk www.visitoldham.co.uk



The Roughyeds
Oldham Rugby League Football Club
(1997) Limited

14 Waterloo Street
Oldham OL1 1SQ

Telephone: 0161 628 3677

Fax: 0161 627 5700

Club Shop: 0161 627 2141

CHAIRMAN Christopher Hamilton

DIRECTORS Christopher Hamilton
Sean Whitehead

HEAD COACH Gary Mercer

ASSISTANT COACH Keith Brennan

PHYSIOTHERAPISTS Nic Walker
Clare Gross

TIMEKEEPER David Lord

KIT MAN Paul Hulbert

PROGRAMME EDITOR Nigel Marland

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 1954-56
Derek Turner 1955-59
Bob Irving 1964-74
Martin Murphy 1966-82
Andy Goodway 1979-85 & 1993-94

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 express our thanks to the Oldham
Evening Chronicle, League Publications Ltd,
Phil Burdge and all concerned for the use of
photographs.

15th **MAY** 2005

- 4 **The Chairman's Thoughts** Looking forward to today's game
- 6 **From The Touchline** Gary Mercer looks at his new signings & fully fit squad
- 9 **As Ian Sees It** Hoping for success in the coming games
- 10 **In Yer Face** With Geoff Cooke
- 12 **In The News**
- 14 **Walkerbouts** with Brian Walker
- 16 **Today's Opponents** Pen pics for Whitehaven Warriors
- 17 **Team Profile** A profile of Damian Munro
- 21 **Player Sponsorship** A look at the current squad and their sponsors
- 23 **On This Day** Don Yates looks back to May 15th yesteryear
- 24 **Roughyed Kids & Co** Events for all the family and today's mascot
- 25 **Oldham Rugby League Social Club**
- 26 **Recent Photos**
- 28 **From The Pen Of** Michael Turner
- 30 **League Weekly** Up to date news from the League Weekly
- 33 **Club Cash**
- 37 **National League Talk** The leading lights By GARETH WALKER
- 38 **Fixtures & Sponsors**
- 40 **Today's Teams** View both of today's teams in full, plus match officials

Club Records - 1998-2004

Trans-Penine Cup
Finalists - 1998

Northern Ford Premiership
Club of the Year - 2000
Grand Finalists - 2001

MOST APPEARANCES: John Hough, 189 - Jan 1998 - September 2004

CONSECUTIVE APPEARANCES: Phil Farrel, 67 - *April 2nd 2000 - March 15th 2002
*John Hough was on the team for every match February 1st 1999 - April 16th 2001 (82)

TRIES IN A SEASON: Nick Johnson, 25 - 2004

GOALS IN A SEASON: Pat Rich, 146 - 2000-2001

POINTS IN A SEASON: Pat Rich, 320 - 2000-2001

DROP GOALS IN A SEASON: Neil Roden, 7 - 2001-2002

TRIES IN A CAREER: Mark Sibson, 60 - 1999-2002

GOALS IN A CAREER: Pat Rich, 254 - 1999-2001

POINTS IN A CAREER: Pat Rich, 576 - 1999-2001

DROP GOALS IN A CAREER: Neil Roden, 18 - 2000-2003

TRIES IN MATCH: Mark Sibson v Wigan St. Judes, 4 - Feb 8th 2000 at Boundary Park

Mark Sibson v Queensbury, 4 - Jan 28th 2001 at Boundary Park

David Gibbons v Chorley Lynx, 4 - Jan 30th 2001 at Boundary Park

James Bunyan v Featherstone Rovers, 4 - Apr 12th 2004 at Boundary Park

GOALS IN A MATCH: Simon Svabic v Swinton Lions, 10 - Apr 6th 2003 at Boundary Park

POINTS IN A MATCH: Gareth Barber v Dewsbury Rams, 26 - Apr 2nd 2002 at Hurst Cross
(7 goals, 3 tries)

DROP GOALS IN A MATCH: Neil Roden v Workington Town, 2 - Dec 17th 2000 at Derwent Park

John Braddish v Hull KR, 2 - Dec 16th 2001 at New Craven Park

HIGHEST SCORE/WINNING MARGIN: v Yorks Wasps, 70-6 - Apr 1st 2001

at Huntington Stadium

v Queensbury (am), 64-0 - Jan 28th 2001

RLCC 3rd Rnd at Boundary Park

www.roughyeds.co.uk



The Chairman's Thoughts

with CHRIS HAMILTON

Welcome back to Boundary Park for what is to be our last "home" game until 31 July.

Following today's game we need to find alternative venues for our next three home games and as we speak I can honestly say that I don't know where we will play them.

One thing is for sure and that is that we will again incur losses as a direct result of the situation and quite clearly we have to find a solution that prevents this from happening in the future or else, given our other problems, we may as well all pack up and go home.

Today's game sees us playing a Whitehaven team that is sitting at the top of the league and looking to build upon the success it had last year when reaching the Grand Final - what a distant memory our final of 2001 now seems.

At least this week Gary Mercer has got a different kind of selection problem and it's the first time this season that he has had that.

We know that we need to compete for eighty minutes to get anything from the game but we did it last year against the same opposition and there is no reason why we can't do it again.

There was some good news also this week with the adjournment of the winding up petition for 35 days which now gives us the time we asked

for to present a repayment plan to the Revenue.

As I have said all along however please do not think that everything is now all right because that is far from the truth. If the proposals we give to them are not acceptable then the club will be wound up - end of story.

In a way the real battle starts now and it can only be won with everybody here today who is supporting Oldham doing their bit.

As ever we will be fighting hard and if we can show the same spirit on the field then we won't go far wrong.

Enjoy the game

Christopher Hamilton

www.roughyeds.co.uk

LEVER'S FISH & CHIP RESTAURANT

UNITS 2 & 3

MARKET HALL

OLDHAM

MON - SAT 10.30-5.30

0161 633 0074

The legal team that gets results

northainleyhalliwell

North Ainley Halliwell

Solicitors

34/42 Clegg Street, OLDHAM OL1 1PS

Tel: 0161 646 5614

e-mail: info@northainley.co.uk

web: www.northainley.co.uk DX23605



Totalplus Communications Ltd specialise in the design, installation and management of structured cabling systems for all types of environments, ranging from single outlets to full site cabling and roll out programmes. We place a strong emphasis on designing clients specific systems to meet both existing and future needs.

for further information or quotations contact



Northern House, Moss Street East, Ashton-u-Lyne

Manchester OL6 7BX

Tel: 0161 343 8181 Fax 0161 343 8181

alternatively call Bob Thompson on 07973 684 299 or Paul Gough on 07973 764 938



From The Touchline

with Gary Mercer

Q&A

WITH GARY MERCER

Roughyedpride asked:

Could you explain how you structure your training programmes. Do you favour a flat line defence and a deep attacking option?

Gary replied:

Not sure what some of your terminology means but here goes. To be honest we have done very little work on attack because of our defensive frailties but I am a big fan of a flat attack. My model would be Melbourne Storm where they play the play and nearly everything comes off the dummy half. That is why I see Barber as such a pivotal player for us. We should play quick and play flat.

In defence I have been working on what we call a compressed defence where we attempt to move in from the flanks and put up a tight compressed line moving up quick together after the play the ball.

Ultimate Roughyed asked:

As you may know we have set up a fan's rugby team recently in order to raise funds for the club. Would it be possible to have one training session with you and the first team? It would be much appreciated.

Gary replied:

Yes I have had very complimentary reports of the performance of our supporters' team against Hollinwood. I think it shows the spirit in the club that so many of you have got together and put your bodies on the line to raise money for the club. At present having not won a game I don't feel I should have a minute at training that isn't completely focussed on the first team. In principle, however, once we have put a winning run together, I would be only too keen to welcome you all to one of our training sessions, where you can practice your defence on Dana and vice versa.

I was very critical of the players in the last programme and said I hoped to have more positive comments when I next wrote a piece for the programme.

I am happy to say that I can comply with this as we have definitely improved as a side in our last two games against Hull K R and Castleford despite on both occasions struggling to find 17 fit players and fielding youngsters on loan and local amateurs. In fact I will go so far as to say we should have won both the games.

The acquisition of Rob Mills, David Toothill and Chris Hough has certainly beefed up the squad and helped to give a competitive ethos in the club. All these lads have shown a fantastic attitude both on and off the field and will certainly be fighting hard for places in the 17 today despite me having an almost fully fit squad. Since then we have also added Andy Sands, from Oldham St Annes to our squad. He is a strong hard working second row or prop and I hope in the two weeks he is here, initially, on trial he will prove to me that he has a place in the professional game here at Oldham. Believe me if he produces the goods he'll get a shot.

I think that the improved links we now have with local amateur sides is vital to the club's development and I would like to thank Gary Highton, especially, for allowing and helping this to happen. The two practice games against local amateur sides have been a great success and benefited the amateur and professional game and provided great entertainment for supporters.

I can hardly believe as I write this that I have 24 fit players to choose from for today's game and this will give me a bit of a headache. But this is just the sort of headache a coach needs. Players will be selected on merit during training and in the previous game and nobody has a divine right to a place in the 17.

Finally can I welcome Steve McCormack, his players, directors and fans to Boundary Park? They are a very competitive side up there at the top of the league on merit. It is ironic that our last three matches will have been against the top three unbeaten sides. Nothing less than what we produced against Hull K R and Castleford will be good enough but with the advantage of a bigger squad and home advantage I want a victory.

Enjoy the game,

Gary



Ricky Bibey

Hull KR

24/04/05

Played 80 mins
Tackles 23
Misses 3
Hit ups 11
Metres gained 54
Average metre gain 4.6



Mark Roberts

Hull KR

24/04/05

Played 80 mins
Tackles 19
Misses 2
Hit ups 11
Metres gained 62
Average metre gain 4.4



Dana Wilson

Castleford

17/04/05

Played 50 mins
Tackles 14
Misses 2
Hit ups 17
Metres gained 56
Average metres gained 4

Lansdowne Roofing Supplies Ltd.

Secondhand tiles and slates
bought and sold

Demolition work undertaken

All materials can either be
collected or delivered

Tel: 0161 626 0896 and 627 4231

Night 0161 633 4252

Proprietor: Sean Whitehead



Locally manufactured hydraulic equipment for
the Power & Marine industries Worldwide

www.pilgrim-international.co.uk

Tel: 0161 785 7700

Working for a brighter future

Oldham Conservative Party
Continuing its support for Oldham RLFC
Tel: 0161 624 4907 or 01457 870 143
www.conservatives.com

CONSERVATIVE

Talkin Rugby

All your Rugby requirements,
accessories and more
call 01706 882414
or visit our website
www.talking-rugby.co.uk
14 Milnrow Road, Shaw Oldham

RIBBLE

PACKAGING LIMITED

MANUFACTURERS OF SPECIALISED CORRUGATED PRODUCTS

PACKAGING SOLUTIONS FOR BRITISH INDUSTRY

GREENGATE ST. OLDHAM OL4 1DF

0161 284 9000



WARSTEINER
Imported German Beer

Proud to sponsor Oldham Rugby League



So we appear at least to have a stay of execution. Maybe, then, it is time to get back to matters on the field.



With the break, we presumably have been able to make some inroads into the injury crisis, and so to get somewhere near being able to put on the field today a side which resembles the one which Gary Mercer had in mind when he put together this season's squad. All clubs have to accept that a fair share of injuries is an inevitable part of our high-impact collision sport, of course, and part of the skill of squad-building is to provide a degree of flexibility so that a normal run of injuries can be coped with. It is only when the run is genuinely abnormal that a coach has real grounds for grievance, it seems to me - which is not to deny that we have been particularly unfortunate in the early stages of this season

The next two games look to me to be absolutely crucial in determining our 2005 playing prospects. It is interesting to look back to outcomes of equivalent fixtures over the past five seasons, covering our run of semi-success in the form of play-off qualification at least:

	White haven [H]	Batley [A]
2004	31-22	34-18
2003	22-22	20-20
2002	46-12	20-20
2001	8-19	9-8
2000	26-22	28-16

So, overall, you would say that these are two fixtures which are by no means easy ones, but in which we have enjoyed a fair amount of success. To have gained 15 out of the possible 20 points over the five years is a very reasonable return, and certainly sets a benchmark for today and next

week. If we were to earn 3 or 4 points, then we would probably be on for a decent prospect of a genuine fight for qualification again over the final two-thirds of the league campaign. If, however, we were to lose both, then there would be a real chance of becoming marooned at the bottom. With another short break then to follow, and more vital fixtures in June, a reassessment would be the order of the day.

Turning to other matters, the Challenge Cup seems set for interesting times. Whilst there were no real shock results in the 5th round, there were certainly some intriguing ties. UTC[Perpignan] gave Wigan a good run for their money, and indeed were apparently pretty unlucky not to have gone through. And it is good to see Toulouse in the quarter-finals, even though you would imagine a full-time Widnes will prove too strong for them. I only hope that they then draw Hull in the semis, since I would love to see John Kear's side - and an army of Humberside supporters - in Cardiff. They certainly deserve it for their cracking win over Bradford, and I can't see them having too much trouble with either Leigh or Widnes.

I went to Salford, and their recent supposed improvement was extremely non-evident. They were awful, and although London were good to watch, and certainly easily the better side on the day, I fear they will have to play a lot better still to have much of a chance at Headingley, much as I would love to see them reach the penultimate stage. That then leaves Saints v Wigan, and history says that anything could happen there. So definitely plenty of excitement ahead, and no sign of any fall-off in the magic of the Cup?

**Goodwin
BEST**

A Member of
OLDHAM CHAMBER



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



In Yer Face!

with GEOFF COOKE

Watching Hull v. Bradford Bulls on Saturday I was struck by the immaculate condition of the KC Stadium pitch. As the ground is dual use soccer and rugby stadium it begs the question as to why Boundary Park is so poor despite the enormous sums spent on it.

And talking of Hull F.C. I'd love to see the Airlie Birds (are they still called that?) go on to win the challenge cup if only for the sake of Shayne McMenemy. I still rate McMenemy the best signing Oldham R.L.F.C. 1997 have ever made. And am I not right that in all the comings and goings on Saturday Shayne lasted the full 80mins? Some tribute these days in the high speed, high collision world of Super League clubs.

One other word about the Hull/Bradford clash: I thought referee Ashley Klein had an excellent game. It seems the Coaches and Referees meeting had a positive outcome after all.

The weekend's other Challenge Cup game was a huge disappointment. The quality of football played by two Super League sides in Salford and London was poor, certainly no better than matches in National League One. Not one player distinguished himself, although normally one could expect Malcolm Alker or a Luke Robinson to stand out. Not only that but an attendance of 2,339 was abysmal.

And referring to attendances, I was not impressed with most of the rest. Admittedly Leeds and St Helens were not facing top-drawer opposition but 7,705 and 6,640

respectively were not brilliant gates. Wigan's 5,906 was even worse given that UTC are about to join Super League and put up a performance that suggests they will be more competitive than most pundits imagine. If the Frenchmen can put together a pack of forwards that can dominate for decent periods just imagine what Stacey Jones can inflict behind good go-forward. No British Super League club has a halfback as good as Jones and I, for one, look forward to seeing UTC prove a few doubters wrong.

Along the same lines I think it would be great for the long-term interests of the game if Toulouse could overcome Widnes, which is a tall order but by no means impossibility. I don't hold with the "heartlands of rugby league" point of view and want to see international expansion, always provided the opposition is up to the task. Clubs in the North of England have had a hundred years and more to establish themselves. If we can't accept a bit of interest and competition from France and, eventually, Wales, Russia, Italy, Holland and Greece then we're in a worse state than I thought. Or should we abandon all international development to Rugby Union and continue to pretend that Dewsbury versus Batley is the height of sophistication?

Although it was at the expense of Waterhead's promotion hopes, it was great to see Saddleworth Rangers under coach Paddy Kirwan escape having to apply for re-election. I hope Rangers Under 18's have a great trip 'down under' and that the club can become a force again in the amateur game's premier competition. The same goes, of course, for Waterhead and St Anne's who have had respectable seasons even if a little below their own expectations. I am pleased Gary Mercer wants to establish strong links with the local amateurs and certainly Rob Mills of Shaw Rhinos was outstanding on debut at Hull K.R. Hopefully there are other gems out there waiting to be discovered too. Finally thanks must go to Hollinwood for their co-operation in staging the fund raising game against Oldham supporters.



Are proud to be associated with Oldham RLFC

Renault Truck and van sales

3.5 Tonne "Master Vans" to the all new 44 Tonne "Magnum"

Any size, make model of commercial vehicle or trailer serviced and repaired **24 hours 7 days week.**

Broadgate, Broadway Business Park, Chadderton Oldham
(Minutes from junction 21 M60)

Tel: - **0161 947 1499**

WWW. Jdstrucks.co.uk Email info@jdstrucks.co.uk

Authorised Renault and DAF repaire for Oldham and surrounding areas



Hire Centres (Northern) Ltd

Speedy Hire (Northern) Ltd.

Coldhurst Street, Off Rochdale Road,
Oldham, Manchester. OL1 2BH

Tel: 0161 626 8111 Fax: 0161 628 5060

W: www.speedyhire.co.uk

In The News

Such a lot seems to have happened since I spoke to you in the last programme and as I know some of you depend on this column for news I will try and summarise everything as briefly as possible.



Chris announced in the last programme that the IR had refused to give us more time, but was hoping that Phil Woolas' plea to the Paymaster General would sway things. This proved to be so as the IR finally agreed not to object to a final adjournment of the winding up petition on the 11th May. This meant that the club have 4 weeks from the 11th May, to put proposals to the Crown Authorities for the repayment of the debt. This does not however mean the club is out of trouble, but we will have a little more time to fight. Hopefully that went through last Wednesday.

In the mean time we have not stood still and The Sportsman's Dinner raised almost £6000 and we set up Club 180 which is a supporters' organisation to raise money for the club that is ring fenced until we know we have a chance of survival. This raised £11000 at the first meeting and money is still being donated into this fund. Many fund raising events are being or have been arranged (See Supporters Team story from Red ED the Roughyed and picture below) and the fighting fund is steadily growing. But as we have set ourselves an initial target of £50,000 there is still a long way to go. Can I thank everybody who has helped so far from the Latics fan who anonymously donated 10 brand new bikes to auction off or raffle to

the little girl who sent us £1.25 pocket money. We were hoping for a good result from the bucket collection at the Salford v Bradford game last Friday (many thanks to the Salford club for their support) and again from the bucket collection at today's game. As I write I have no idea where our next three home games will be played but wherever it is we will have a programme and I will keep you up to date with how things are progressing. Please do all you can to ensure the continuation of this great club.

I include below a message from Red Ed with photograph and the latest Prediction League.

Let the Roughyeds RoAR



"On Sunday the 1st of May the Oldham Rugby Supporters team had their first match against a Hollinwood side with a massive pack. We really played well and I would like to thank all the lads who played that day. We played in the Oldham kit and wore it with pride. Can I on behalf of all the lads thank Paul the kit man for every thing he did for us on the day and also Mick Worrell for training us? Thanks too to all the fans who turned up. The next supporters'

game is on the 23 July 2005 against Hollinwood at Hollinwood with a big party in the ORLFC Social Club after the game. All I ask is for you all to come and watch the game and give the lads your support and help save our club. "

Cheers

Red Ed

Prediction League Round 4

There are lots of changes this week. Some great scores, especially by S McDonagh, who has shot up from 20th to 7th with a top score of 25. Brian Walker's rise in the last two weeks has been phenomenal and he is now in second place. The greatest rugby league writer also matches this having gone from bottom place to 12th in two weeks. Janet and Carole have made a dramatic move from bottom place to 21 in one week. Good scores too from Ashley Baxter and Michael Kivlin, but it was a disastrous week for Nick Henry (who has sunk to the bottom) , John McAndrew and Paul Gough, all who got just 6 points in what turned out to be a high scoring round. Two new members D Else (who we missed out last week) and Geoff Cooke come in at 7= and 12=.

April winner of signed ball - NIGEL MARLAND (Donated back to club to auction off for Club 180)

1	N Marland	67 (13)	12=	P Gough	45 (6)	27	S Kivlin	33 (11)
2	Brian Walker	57 (22)	15=	Paul Norman	44 (13)	28	D Stevens	32 (8)
3	Michael Kivlin	55 (20)	15=	J Davies	44 (11)	29	S Hague	31 (9)
4	T Boycott	54 (10)	17=	David Lord	43 (14)	30	A M Kivlin	30 (8)
5=	M Ackroyd	51 (15)	17=	S Jackson	43 (12)	31	Nick Henry	26 (6)
5=	C Hamilton	51 (10)	19	S Somerville	42 (13)	() Round 4 score		
7=	S McDonagh	50 (25)	20	G Cheetham	41 (10)			
7=	Ashley Baxter	50 (20)	21=	Janet & Carole	40 (20)			
7=	Paul Hulbert	50 (17)	21=	John McAndrew	40 (6)			
7=	D Else	50 (13)	21=	S Whitehead	40 (11)			
11	Brian Larrad	49 (15)	24	S Crossley	37 (16)			
12=	R Halstead	45 (20)	25=	D King	35 (8)			
12=	G Cooke	45 (15)	25=	D Schofield	35 (11)			

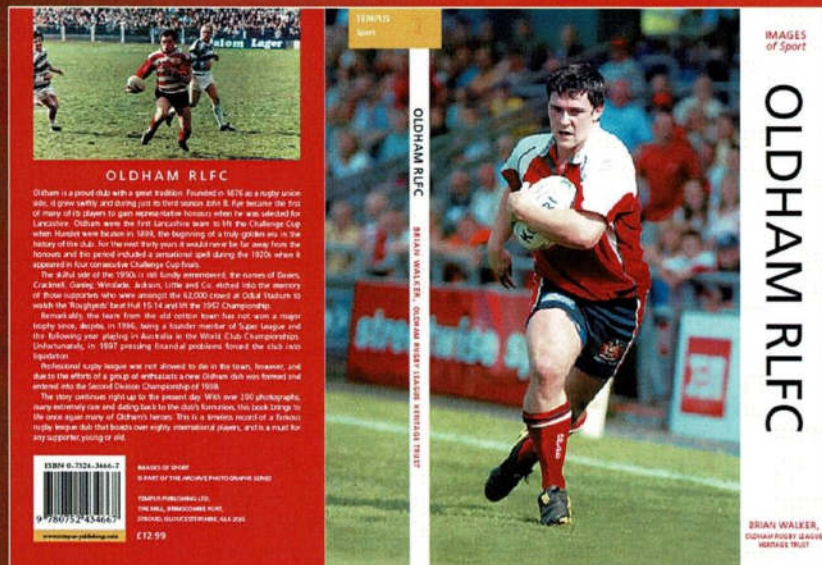
Nigel

Walkerbout

With Brian Walker



Tempus, the publishers, have now indicated that the new Oldham book will be available circa Mid-June.



PLAY WITH A SMILE...

Funny Stories in Rugby League

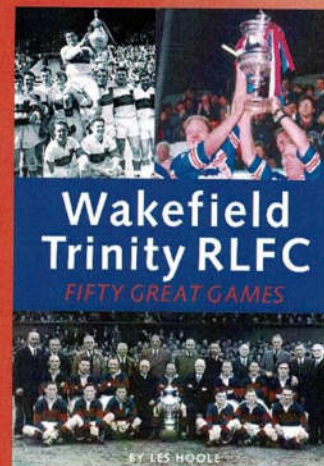


Maurice Bamford

Maurice Bamford, former coach of Great Britain, Wigan, Leeds, Bramley, Halifax, Huddersfield, Dewsbury, Workington and more (including a short spell as coaching advisor at Watersheddings), in his amusing new book **Play with a Smile**, relates a series of humorous tales of some of the toughest men who played rugby league. Builders, drivers, schoolteachers, butchers, bakers – who all played during an era when almost all players were part-time, many real characters but most dedicated to the game. The feelings of Roughyeds' Geoff Fletcher, Frank Foster, Phil Larder and Glen Knight as well as local amateur player Keiron Deakin are not spared. The tales about Geoff Fletcher are worth the book's asking price alone!

This 192 page light-hearted read is available from the Oldham Evening Chronicle who also have a limited number of signed copies available.

ISBN 1-904091-12-1. Price £10.99.



The front cover of **Wakefield Trinity - 50 Great Games** is of the Trinity side that beat Wigan 13-12 in the first Challenge Cup final following the end of the Second World War, and includes two players with Oldham connections. Trinity's captain and goal kicker Billy Stott (the first ever winner of the Lance Todd Trophy) had recently been transferred from Watersheddings, and former England scrum-half Herbert Goodfellow who would join Oldham in 1950.

The author, Les Hoole, tracks the history of one of the most famous rugby clubs in the world by portraying, in date order, 50 of Trinity's matches, starting way back in Edwardian times with an encounter against the touring New Zealanders and finishing with a summertime Super League affair against Hull.

None of the 50 matches are against Oldham but the book gives mention to plenty of players that have donned the red and white hoops, Turner, Vines and Etty for example. This is a well-presented and extremely well illustrated publication from Hoole, ideal for those Oldham supporters who like to have reference on our bookshelves of other clubs from around the Rugby League.

Available (published in hardback) at £16.99 from either Ottakars or W.H. Smith or order direct via Breendon's (publishers) website www.breendonbooks.co.uk

ISBN 1 85983 429 9

Mick Shoebottom, thrilled rugby league fans from the moment he made his Leeds debut as a raw seventeen-year-old in 1962 up to the controversial and tragic incident that finished his career in 1970.

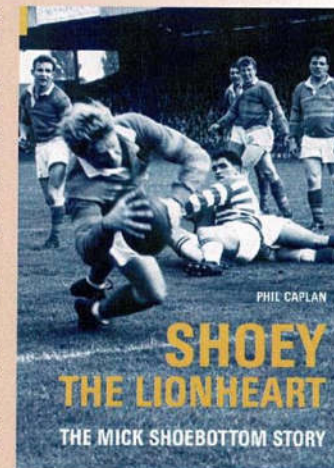
Two weeks away from his second Wembley appearance he was severely injured in the act of scoring a try at Headingley when Salford's Colin Dixon collided into him. It left him battling for his life after a brain haemorrhage, a battle he won but never played again.

Author of **Shoey the Lionheart**, Phil Caplan, writes, "Only Colin Dixon, who like Shoey died desperately prematurely, will know if there was intent behind their collision, but few blue and amber fans who witnessed the clash can never be convinced otherwise."

One of the sport's greatest players, he won every medal available to him playing 288 games for Leeds and 12 for Great Britain and Caplan now tells his story magnificently.

Shoebottom became the first of the 1970 Ashes winning squad to pass away when he died in 2002. When a painting was commissioned to commemorate his memory, some debate went into what should be an appropriate epithet but, inevitably, the choice was limited to one word – 'Lionheart' the perfect description for his fervent approach to the toughest of team sports. Physically he gave height and weight away to many an opponent but because of the passion, desire and seemingly inexhaustible spirit that came from within his slight frame he seldom came off second best.

Published by Tempus the book is available from Sportspages, Barton Sq, off St Ann's Sq, Manchester (Tel. 0161 832 8530) or order via Ottakars or W. H. Smith. ISBN 0 7524 3292 3 £14.99



TODAY'S OPPONENTS

Whitehaven Warriors

Gary Broadbent age 28 (Fullback): Gary signed for Haven in 2003 after five years at Super League level with Salford. A product of the Barrow based Walney team, he signed for the Widnes Academy side as a 16-year-old, before progressing through the ranks to 1st team. As well as representing the Emerging England side in 1998 he captained the revamped Cumbrian County team in 2003 & 2004.

Wesley Wilson age 27 (Fullback/Winger): With Gary Broadbent occupying the fullback role, Wesley's versatility has enabled Steve McCormack to play him on the wing, a position from which he scored two tries in last season's grand final defeat.

Paul O'Neill age 25 (Fullback/Winger): Former Kells amateur who also played for the club's academy side in 1999. An accomplished goal kicker Paul was unlucky to lose out on a grand final appearance in 2004.

Jamie Marshall age 26 (Winger): Jamie is in his second season at Haven after spending seven seasons with Barrow. In 2003 he scored 26 tries for the Shipbuilders, including a hat-trick in the Arriva Trains competition against Haven, and was a member of the Cumbrian squad that drew 24-24 with the New Zealand residents at the Recreation Ground in 2003.

Craig Calvert age 21 (Winger): As well as being named the National League's young-player-of-the-year in 2004, Craig became the official second fastest man in British Rugby League, when he finished second behind St Helens winger Darren Albert in a charity event at Wigan's Robin Park.

David Seeds age 30 (Centre): The clubs all time top try scorer who joined Haven in 1993 from the Kells amateur club. As well as representing Cumbria in 2003 and 2004 David was a member of the county squad that turned out against the Australian tourists in 1994.

Mick Nanyin age 22 (Centre): Powerful centre who joined Haven from NL1 rivals Rochdale at the start of last season. Despite reported interest from clubs nearer to his Wigan home Mick has elected to return to the Recre for a further season.

Leroy Joe age 30 (Halfback): The 2003 season was his most successful season to date when he scored 26 tries in his 30 appearances. Leroy represented former Haven coach Stan Martin's Cook Island's in the 2000 world cup.

Joel Penny age 25 (Halfback): He has played 15 games in the Australian NRL and is a former Australian Schoolboy representative. Joel, who is currently studying for a business degree is a reliable kicker in the absence of regular marksman Mick Nanyin.

David Fatialofa age 30 (Prop): Now in his eighth season with Haven after being recruited by Stan Martin - his former Junior Kiwi coach, who was also coach at his junior club Marist RL in Auckland. Despite incurring a career threatening knee injury at Doncaster in 2001, Dave has returned to become one of the stand out props in the National League.

Aaron Summers age 23 (Prop): New Aussie signing who was so keen to start training with the club he flew over to England in the week between Christmas and New Year. Played for South Sydney last term, having spent the previous three years with North Sydney.

Chris McKinney age 28 (Prop): In 2001 Chris signed for Widnes and was a member of the Widnes team that clinched its place in Super League, when they beat his old club Oldham in the 2001 grand final. Chris declined the invitation to go full-time with Widnes and instead opted to join ex Oldham and Hensingham team-mate Howard Hill at his hometown club for the 2001/02 season.

Marc Jackson age 25 (Prop): After playing most of his amateur career at hooker, Marc has developed into a formidable prop forward that coach Steve McCormack uses mainly as an impact player off the bench.

Aaron Lester age 31 (Hooker): Club captain who joined Haven in 1997 from Auckland Warriors. A former Junior Kiwi Aaron recently signed a two-year contract that will keep him at the Recreation Ground for the rest of his career.

Carl Sice age 24 (Hooker): In his third season at the Recreation Ground after signing from neighbours Workington Town in 2003. Before signing professionally for Workington Carl was player-of-the-year in the Haven academy side of 1997.

Howard Hill age 30 (Second Row): One of the first names on Steve McCormack's team sheet, Howard's biggest threat to opposition defences is when he runs out wide with the ball. Represented Cumbria in 2003 and 2004.

Brett McDermott age 26 (Second Row): Renowned for his bone crunching tackles, he would surely have featured in the NL One Grand Final last year if not sidelined by a serious groin injury. Off-season surgery seems to have solved the problem and he looks set to have a big season in NL1.

Graeme Morton age 32 (Second Row): Famed for his big hand-off - that was reputedly developed in his schooldays keeping other kids of his dinner! Graeme underwent a shoulder operation in the close season but should be fit to bolster Haven's 2005 NL1 campaign.

Spencer Miller age 24 (Second Row): Spencer signed for Haven during Kevin Tamati's reign at the Recre and made his 1st team debut in April 2000. He played in the National League side that played a two match series against the Super League U21's in 2002 and represented Scotland in both the 2003 European Championship and the 2004 Nations Cup.

Ryan Campbell age 23 (Second Row): Signed initially as a centre he made his debut for the first team under coach Kevin Tamati the following season. Ryan was a member of the Scottish Students team that was defeated by England at the semi-final stage in the 2001 Student World Cup held in Russia. Played the latter end of the 2004 season on loan to Barrow.

Paul Davidson age 35 (Second Row): Veteran forward who signed for his hometown club in the middle of last season. After spells in Super League with St Helens, Oldham, London, and Halifax Paul will now see out the rest of his career at the Recreation Ground. With a 146 Super League games to his name Paul is by far the most experienced player on Haven's books. He capped a good 2004 season when he represented the Cumbrian team that played the Anzacs last November.

Craig Walsh age 26 (Loose Forward): In an inspired move by Coach Steve McCormack, Craig, who was originally signed as a centre was moved to loose forward for last season's NL1 campaign. This transition led to him scoring a career best 26 tries for 2004 and his inclusion in the Rugby League World magazine NL1 team-of-the-year. Craig was a substitute for Cumbria when they played the New Zealand residents in 2003 and stand-off against the Anzacs in 2004.

Garry Purdham age 26 (Loose Forward): Garry was part of the Egremont team that won both the National Conference Premier Division in 1997/98 and which beat Workington Town in the challenge cup the same season. Along with current teammates Marc Jackson and Steven Kirkbride he represented the GB Young Lions on their tour of Australia in 1997. Garry has now returned to full training following close season knee surgery.

Player Profile by Roger Halstead

DAMIAN MUNRO

MENTION the word Munro to older Oldham rugby league fans and thoughts will turn to Watersheddings and to a winger named Geoff, who scored 84 tries in 193 senior games for his hometown club which he served loyally for nearly 15 years.

He first wore Oldham's red and white as a boy in the old 'B' team, working his way through the ranks until he became a household name at Watersheddings thanks to his scoring exploits up the touchline.

His best season was 1979-80 when he not only scored a hat-trick of hat-tricks but finished with a total of 29 tries in the season - the best haul by any player in the second division and only one behind the two were joint top in the first division, Keith Fielding of Salford and Steve Hubbard of Hull KR.

With a record like that it isn't surprising, perhaps, that son Damian should be a chip off the old block: significantly taller than dad, not as stocky but with the same thirst for tries and with a similar knack of getting to the line and planting the ball down to chalk up another try.

Like dad, Damian of the Roughyeds also pulled an Oldham jersey over his head for the first time while still little more than a boy.

Back then, some 12 years ago, he was tall, lean, lanky and he could, as they used to say of many rugby league wingers, catch pigeons.

He played on the wing as a 16-year-old amateur in the Oldham academy side and showed immense potential as a kid who could really fly.

Unlike dad, however, his first professional engagement was not with Oldham, but with Halifax, who were very active at that time in the Oldham area and who took on as young professionals several Oldham boys, among them Damian Munro, Mick Martindale and George Slicker.

Damian was to spend five years at Thrum Hall, during which time he worked his way through the system and into the first team to lay down the foundations of a career which ultimately took him to Widnes, Leigh and finally back to the town where it all began - Oldham.

He joined Widnes in May, 1998 and he was there on the banks of the Mersey until 2002, during which time he

Cont over...

Player Profile

DAMIAN MUNRO

“Munro, like his dad before him, wins a lot more try-scoring battles than he loses”



Cont...

played for the Vikings in their 2001 Northern Ford Premiership Grand Final victory over Oldham at Spotland.

More than a few Roughyeds hearts were broken that day, but Munro was on the victorious side which, under the stewardship of Neil Kelly, moved onwards and upwards into Super League.

Next stop for Damian was Leigh and he was there for three seasons, during which time he made a name for himself as one of the most prolific try scorers in the game, certainly in the first division.

He rattled in for 42 tries in a spell of 46 games for the Centurions -- 32 of them in the 2003 season when he made something of a habit of plucking interceptions out of the air and going the full length of the field to score.

"I think I must have had about a dozen interception tries," he recalls.

"The way we defended at Leigh encouraged opponents to throw passes over the top and a lot of wide balls were just asking to be intercepted."

Despite all those Munro tries, Leigh were beaten in the grand final by Salford and they had to wait another year before they conquered Whitehaven in the final to earn their place in the top flight.

Many of the players who got them there were to be overlooked when Leigh started the process of offering full-time Super League contracts and, like many of his team mates, Damian had to look elsewhere to further his part time rugby league career.

Alan Rowley, who acted on behalf of many of the Leigh players, faxed all the National League clubs with Damian's CV and Oldham were the first to reply.

Said Damian: "Even before the reply came back, my heart told me Oldham would be the right club to join. I had always had a soft spot for the Roughyeds, as an Oldham lad, and as I was also to embark on a new career outside rugby it suited me to be relatively near to my home and job."

"Barrow offered me a good contract to go up there, but I didn't fancy all the travelling and getting home at ten or eleven o'clock at night after training two or three nights a week."

"I live near Leigh and I work at a Young Offenders' Institute attached to Hindley Prison. There are eight boys in a class

and it's my job, among other things, to help them with their literacy and numeracy."

"Oldham suited me down to the ground. I was impressed by what Chris Hamilton and Gary Mercer had to say and I must say that, even though we struggled as a new team in the Arriva Trains Cup and we have been torn apart by injuries since the start of the National League first division programme I have never once regretted my decision."

"In the long run I think the fact that we have had to endure adversity will make us stronger and I think that will be reflected in our performances and in our results."

"Injured players are starting to come back, others have come on board and the competition for places is going to keep everybody on his toes."

"We were extremely competitive, even in defeat, against Castleford and Hull KR and those performances alone showed how much progress we have made since we were struggling in the Arriva Trains Cup."

Damian insists to this day that the "try" he scored at Hull KR when chasing Chris Hough's long kick straight from the scrum was a legitimate touchdown, completed inches inside the dead ball line and by a similar margin inside the touch-in-goal line.

He looked to be chasing a lost cause, but he kept on running and the ball slowed down in the corner when it hit a sanded area.

Said Damian: "The Hull KR full-back came up to me after the game and acknowledged it should have been a try. Others who were in that corner said the same."

"I don't think a try then would have drastically altered the result, but you never know. The referee perhaps thought the ball was out because it came to rest in the sand, but the sand actually cut across the in-goal area in an arc."

"I suppose that's how it goes . . . you win some and you lose some."

Munro, like his dad before him, wins a lot more try-scoring battles than he loses.

And now he's looking forward to scoring a few more for Oldham as the Roughyeds start the long haul up the LHF Healthplan National League first division table.



Official sponsor of the National League

Tackle the costs
of dentists,
opticians and
everyday treatments



With an LHF Healthplan you'll get money back towards the costs of the following treatments:

- Eye tests, glasses and contact lenses
- Dental check-ups, fillings and treatments
- Physiotherapy, day surgery, hospital stays
- Plus much more for only £2.73 a week.

Join now to receive a free official
National League cap

Just quote ref: D-RFL/CAP

Call 0845 60 60 543

or visit www.lhfhealthplan.co.uk



healthplans from LHF

LHF Healthplan, Riverside House, 7 Canal Wharf, Leeds, LS11 5WA.

LHF is a trading division of HSA Group Ltd, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. HSA is registered and incorporated in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee. Its registered office is at Hambleden House, Waterloo Court, Andover, Hampshire, SP10 1LQ, registered no. 183035. We may record or monitor telephone calls to help improve our service and protect our members.

OLDHAM RLFC SQUAD LIST 2005 & PLAYER SPONSORSHIP

	GARETH BARBER SPONSORED BY TYMBUKTU HEALTH & BEAUTY		WILL COWELL SPONSORED BY JETWARE LTD (TELEPHONE) 08456 445 442		GAVIN DODD SPONSORED BY OLDHAM ADVERTISER		MARTY TURNER SPONSORED BY LEES VILLAGE SERVICE STATION
	CRAIG FARRIMOND SPONSORED BY ROUGHYEDS KIDS		JON GODDARD SPONSORED BY KATHRYN HEPTONSTALL / KATHRYN MOTTRAM		DAMIEN MUNRO SPONSORED BY TOTALPLUS		JAMES KIRKLAND SPONSORED BY JOHN BARRETT
	NICK JOHNSON SPONSORED BY A J F EXPRESS		SIMON HAUGHTON SPONSORED BY TOTALPLUS		PAUL NORMAN SPONSORED BY OLDHAM ADVERTISER		ALEX WILKINSON SPONSORED BY SADDLEWORTH SPORTS
	DANNY NANYIN SPONSORED BY BETTER HEALTH CLUB		SIMON SVABIC SPONSORED BY IAIN TAYLOR & ROSS WILCOCK		RICKY BIBEY SPONSORED BY H MULLANEY & SON (SKIP HIRE) 01457 832870		ADAM SHARPLES SPONSORED BY JADE COMMUNICATIONS
	MARK ROBERTS SPONSORED BY KING FAMILY		JOHN HOUGH SPONSORED BY FRED LAUGHTON		TERE GLASSIE SPONSORED BY FATBUS		CARLOS MATOERA SPONSORED BY TOTALPLUS
	DANA WILSON SPONSORED BY DAVE, KAREN, RONNIE AND GEOFF		ANDY GOREY SPONSORED BY JADE COMMUNICATIONS		MARTIN ELSWOOD SPONSORED BY FATBUS		GARY MERCER COACH SPONSORED BY EDDIE LUCKRAFT
	KEITH BRENNAN ASSISTANT COACH SPONSORED BY PICROM LTD		PAUL HULBERT KIT MAN SPONSORED BY EDMONDSON ELECTRICAL OLDHAM		GOAL KICKER SPONSORED BY OLDHAM ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES		ROUGHYETTES SPONSOR SPONSORED BY LADY JAYNE LIMOUSINES TEL: 0161 633 1577

For all Sponsorship deals ring Sam on 0161 628 3677

ALLEN MILLS HOWARD & CO.

Chartered Certified Accountants & Registered Auditors

Supporting Oldham R.L.F.C in Oldham & Tameside

for all your accountancy, audit & taxation advice contact:

Hyde - Stephen Howard.....0161 - 366 6535

Ashton - John Mills/David Savidge 0161 - 339 6140

Failsforth - Peter Scholes 0161 -681 5600

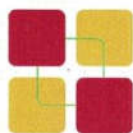
Library Chambers, 48 Union Street, Hyde, Cheshire, SK14 1ND

AMH

Telephone 0161 366 6535 Fax 0161 367 8584

AMH

Right people.
Right job.



Jobcentre Plus understands that getting the right people working for you is crucial to the success of your business. We offer a range of tailored solutions to match your recruitment needs, whatever the size of your business.

To find out more about what we offer, visit our website, or if you would like to place a vacancy immediately, please call Employer Direct on 0845 601 2001*

A textphone service is available for those with hearing or speech impairments on 0845 601 2002*

*Opening hours 8am-8pm weekdays,
10am-4pm Saturday.
Calls charged at local rates.

What could we add
to your business?

www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk/employers

jobcentreplus



Treble Darts & Trophies

54, Yorkshire St,
Oldham, Lancashire
OL1 1SR

Tel: 0161 6271424

RYDER & DUTTON

Opening up the world of property

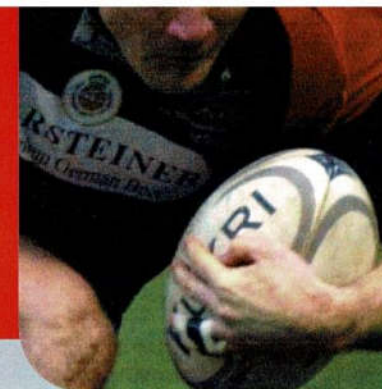
Branches at: Oldham, Chadderton, Glossop,
Shaw, Middleton, Heywood, Saddleworth,
Mossley, Ashton-U-Lyne & Huddersfield

Telephone: 0161 652 1234

www.ryder-dutton.co.uk

On this day

Don Yates looks back to May 15th yesteryear



The history of professional rugby league in Oldham is one of a multitude of ups and downs, a veritable roller coaster ride for supporters, players and management, as recent events have proved. All the emotions of being a Roughyed were encapsulated in eighty sensational minutes which unfolded at Old Trafford, Manchester seventeen years ago, on Sunday 15th May 1988.

Second Division Champions Oldham met runners-up Featherstone Rovers that afternoon in the final of the Second Division Premiership. That final was staged as a curtain raiser to the main Premiership play-off but the appetiser on that occasion proved to be the much tastier dish. The attendance on that warm, sultry afternoon numbered 35,252 with those who attended early, in order to watch what was billed as the lesser event, being particularly fortunate. Oldham had lost only four league matches during the 1987-88 campaign but had failed to defeat Featherstone Rovers. After a draw in Yorkshire, Rovers beat Oldham at Watersheddings so the match in Manchester was an opportunity for the Roughyeds to gain revenge for those three lost points. They began well with Terry Flanagan putting Des Foy over for the first try after 13 minutes. Five minutes later Flanagan scored himself before Foy scored again following a spectacular 60-yard move involving Colin Hawkyard, skipper Mal Graham and Peter Walsh. On the half-hour Peter Walsh scored a fourth try for Oldham with Charlie McAlister adding his third conversion to give the Roughyeds what looked like an unassailable 22-0 lead. As Oldham fans began to celebrate, Graham Steadman instigated a Featherstone revival with a converted try just before half-time. The majority of the second half belonged to Rovers who steadily ate into the Oldham lead. Thirteen minutes from the end, Rovers scored their fourth try to bring the scores level. Full-back Steve Quinn put Rovers ahead with a touchline conversion and then stretched the Rovers' lead to 26-22 with a long range penalty.

There were only four minutes of this pulsating encounter remaining when Des Foy made the initial break and linked up with Gary Warnecke who put

winger Kevin Meadows over for a try close to the posts which tied the scores at 26-apiece. Charlie McAlister kept his nerve to slot over the conversion and put Oldham 28-26 in front. After all that had gone on in this amazing see-saw encounter, spectators could sense that there was still time for a further twist in the tail. However Featherstone's last desperate attack was quelled by the weary Oldham defence who were able to hang on and claim a sensational victory. The fifteen Oldham heroes who did the club proud that day were: Mick Burke; Paul Round, Des Foy, Charlie McAlister, Kevin Meadows; Peter Walsh, Mike Ford; Ian Sherratt, Ian Sanderson, Hugh Waddell, Colin Hawkyard, Mal Graham, Terry Flanagan. Substitutes, Richard Irving, Gary Warnecke.

On Saturday 15th May 1948, a little over three months before today's visitors, Whitehaven, played their first competitive match, Cumberland entertained Lancashire at Derwent Park, Workington. The match was the deciding encounter in the 1947-48 County Championship. Lancashire were crowned Champions after beating the Cumbrians 20-13. There were no Oldham players in the Lancashire team but they did have a presence in the Cumberland side, centre Stan Inglesfield. He joined Oldham from Huddersfield in January 1946 and made 87 appearances, scoring 38 tries, before being transferred to York. Also included in the Cumbrian side was loose-forward Bob Nicholson, a native of Whitehaven who won British test recognition with Huddersfield. Towards the end of his career Nicholson returned to Cumbria and played for Whitehaven before moving into management and eventually becoming chairman of the club.

ROUGHYED KIDS + Co

Hi KIDS

To all you kids who thought we were doing a sponsored walk today, why didn't you ring us to let us know that you would be taking part? Between us Carole and myself had only one phone call, if you do not contact us we cannot make arrangements for these things. However if we get enough interest we can schedule it for a later date.

After today's match there will be a barbecue at the Social Club along with karaoke, disco, play your cards right and of course player question time. Hope to see as many of you as possible back there to enjoy yourselves.

Today's mascot is seven years old Charlotte Trelfa. Charlotte has been a "Roughyed Kid" for quite some time and is a regular at all our parties, her favourite player this season is Marty Turner.

Once again, a big thank you to all our sponsors who now appear under our new heading.

As always good luck to Gary and the Lads.

See you soon

Carole and Janet

TODAYS MASCOT

Charlotte Trelfa

Age: 7 Favourite Player: Marty Turner



Sponsors of the
Roughyed Kids
2005

Gemini Disco
F.R. Elswood Ltd.
Total Plus
Communications
Saddleworth Sports
Oldham Advertiser
Reynards Ltd.
The Red Barn Carvery
ASDA Chadderton
Carryout Solutions Ltd.
Greenco

OLDHAM RUGBY SUPPORT GROUP

Following the 60th Anniversary of V E. Day, the Roughyeds own battle is neither won nor lost. We do not know what the future holds, but in the words of the song, "Though the road be long, let your heart be strong, keep right on 'til the end."

Support the cause and keep fighting right to the bitter end. Who knows? If we win the battle, the victory will be very sweet indeed!

SUPPORT THE ROUGHYEDS

OLDHAM RUGBY LEAGUE SOCIAL CLUB

ENJOY THAT SPECIAL OCCASION

* special birthdays * anniversaries * weddings *
* retirements * Club fund raising dinners *

Let the club deal with all the organising details

DJ.ARTISTES • SPEAKERS • CATERERS

Contact Ashley on 0161 628 3677

Why not join in the fun on Sunday before the game and catch the free bus to the ground and back to the social club to meet the players, have some food and enjoy the karaoke.

**COME TO THE BBQ AFTER THE GAME TODAY
GOOD FOOD, GOOD ENTERTAINMENT, GOOD FUN
HELP TO KEEP THE ROUGHYEDS ALIVE**

RoAR

ENJOY THE FACILITIES

Indoor team bowling - every Tuesday
Games night snooker - every Thursday
Bingo - Saturdays and Sundays
Live entertainment - see notice board
Ladies darts - every Monday

All enquires to Paul Woodward on 0161 627 2128



THE
OLDHAM
COLLEGE

www.oldham.ac.uk

A great place to learn

With a wide range of courses to choose from, you could improve your job prospects, aim for higher education or simply enjoy learning a new skill.



HIGHER
EDUCATION
AT THE OLDHAM COLLEGE



OLDHAM
BUSINESS
MANAGEMENT
SCHOOL

www.obms.ac.uk

Maximise your potential

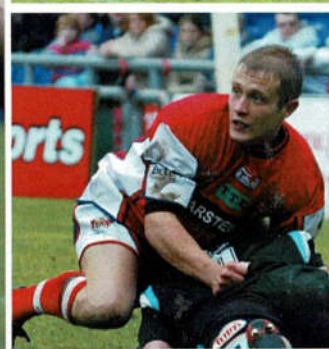
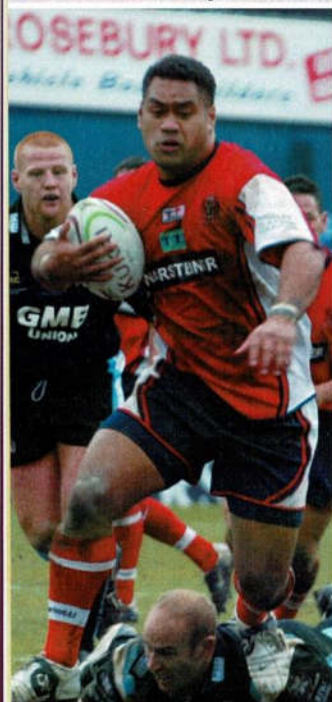
Oldham Business Management School offers Higher Education at Undergraduate, Degree, Higher National, NVQ and Professional Programmes levels. We take pride in offering courses that turn ambitions into successful careers quickly, professionally and affordably.

For further information call **0161 615 5050**

For course enquiries and prospectus requests call
Freephone 0800 269 480

Recent Photos

All photos by Phil Burdge / Digisport. For copies of these and other Roughyed pictures see www.digisport.net or email orders@digisport.net or telephone 07974 174422



W R I G L E Y
C L A Y D O N
S O L I C I T O R S since 1795



John Armstrong, Clerk Of The Peace, Oldham and Lancashire rugby player, early pioneer of both Oldham Rugby Club and solicitors Armstrong, Whitticker and Ogden forerunners to today's Oldham RLFC solicitors Wrigley Claydon.

29/33 UNION STREET OLDHAM OL1 1HH
DX 23607 OLDHAM EMAIL EMAIL@wrigleyclaydon.com WEBSITE www.wrigleyclaydon.com
FAX 0161 624 3743 TEL 0161 624 6811

SPECIAL OFFER...SPECIAL OFFER...SPECIAL OFFER...SPECIAL OFFER...SPECIAL OFFER...SPECIAL OFFER...SPECIAL OFFER...

**Better
come and
see for
yourself**

Better.

**FREE
DAY PASS**

Better Health & Fitness
for all Oldham Rugby Club's supporters

To claim your free pass call us on
0161 628 9897

Featherstall Road South, Oldham OL9 6HL

Please produce this advert at reception to claim your free day pass at Better Health Club. One advert per person.



For this season the format for this page will be to take a look at players who have represented both Oldham and the opposition of the day.

from the pen of MICHAEL TURNER

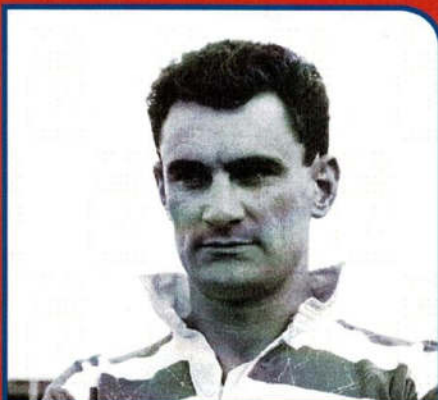
The major transfer to have occurred between Oldham and Whitehaven must surely have been when the Roughyeds captured the signature of second row or loose forward Geoff Robinson in 1959.

"Robbie" has come to be known to the Oldham fans was secured for a fee of £9,000, then a record for a forward. He played in 177 first class fixtures for the Roughyeds before moving on to Warrington in 1965.

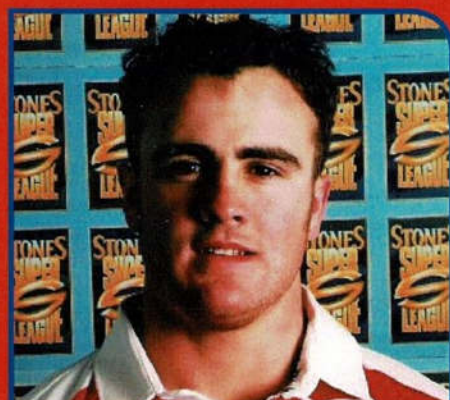
Other players who have come down from "Haven" include Alan Burns, Bill McCracken and Alan McCurrie who arrived after a successful spell at Wakefield Trinity.

Players who have gone the other way to Cumbria have been very few and far between. However, Phil Larder finished his playing days up at the Recreation ground after appearing in a massive 328 games for Oldham. He then went on to a successful coaching career in both League and Union where he is still part of the England set up and was a vital part of the Twickenham world cup winning staff.

There is also of course, Howard Hill who eventually found his way to playing for his home town club after appearing for the "Bears" in the Super League era, as did Chris McKinney.



Geoff Robinson



Howard Hill

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 •

SADDLEWORTH SPORTS

93 CHEW VALLEY ROAD • GREENFIELD
OLDHAM • OL3 7JJ • 01457 872515
e-mail: saddsports@lycros.co.uk

GUMSHIELDS
STICK MITTS
KICKING TEES
RUGBY BALLS
TRAINING LADDERS
ARMGUARDS
HELMETS
PROTECTIVE VESTS
TACKLE BAGS
SHIELD CONE

**OLDHAM'S PREMIER STOCKIST
OF RUGBY KIT and EQUIPMENT**

COOGA
CANTERBURY
CLASSIC
OPTIMUM
PUMA
GILBERT
RUGBY-TECH
MITRE
CATRASPORT
HALBRO
WALSH

Oldham Labour Party continuing its support for OLDHAM ROUGHYEDS

OFFICES

Oldham West & Royton

Lord Chambers
11 Church Street
Oldham OL1 3AN

0161 626 5779

Ashton-U-Lyne

Suite 4 St Michaels Court
St Michaels Sq
Ashton-under-Lyne
Oldham OL6 6XN
0161 331 9307

Oldham East & Saddleworth

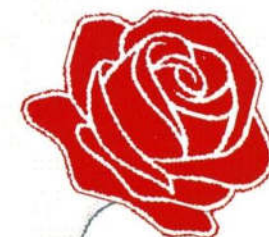
Lord Chambers
11 Church Street
Oldham OL1 3AN

0161 624 4248

Councillor David Jones
Leader Oldham Labour Group

Lord Chambers
11 Church Street
Oldham OL1 3AN

0161 628 8346





Rugby Talk

Danny Lockwood
Publisher, League Weekly

THE decision to preserve the Broncos in Super League caused much furrowing of brows, pointing of fingers and 'told-you-so-ing' of tongues, after their rivals gave a narrow 'thumbs up' in a gladiatorial manner that Nero himself would have approved. That's Nero as in former emperor, not Huddersfield Giants player. But if we're fooling with costume drama metaphors in this glimpse at modern rugby league finances, let's consider that other Coliseum while we're at it – the one residing in that not-so salubrious corner of Greater Manchester, as opposed to Rome.

Leigh came out last week and announced that they're about 40-grand down on budgeted trading after little more than a month of the season. Coach Darren Abrams could do an Oliver Twist impression that might dampen the eyes of a sell-out crowd at Telstra Stadium, but there'll still be a big thumbs down from the Centurions' boardroom if he wants new players.

This is the 'same' Leigh (insolvency law being what it is), that went to the wall less than three years ago. Some might argue that it should have been a consideration in Leigh's attempts to finally escape the National League. But hey, they had worked so hard, given so much, come so close ... they deserved their chance, didn't they? They were, after all, 'a good old traditional rugby league club', in all its most nostalgic senses, as opposed to a bunch of London-based Aussies. We have to help our own, don't we? And besides, after the previous shambles with Keighley, Hunslet and Dewsbury, it would be a brave Executive Chairman – or even emperor – to give the NL champs the thumbs down.

Quite how that nostalgia will play 12 months hence should Leigh's fortunes prove to be in freefall – which none of us want to see – we can only guess. Creditors who are asked to enter into yet another 'voluntary agreement' might not have a dry eye between them either. That's as may be. Who knows, but Russell Crowe might yet bestride the Coliseum walls as their saviour ... be it as the multi-millionaire rugby league fan, or more usefully with his dashing band of gladiators to put a few Super League opponents to the sword.

But as Oldham ruminate over their own CVA meeting this week, Batley fans chew on the dire warnings of chairman Kevin Nicholas, and Mrs Sawyer, wife of Dewsbury chairman Mark, considers another £15k hole in the current account after their Cup disaster at Wath Brow, the RL conspiracy theorists might care to consider again the London experience.

Bigger names than the Broncos trod the financial tightrope last year; and Bulls chairman Chris Caisley, a critic of the decision to keep London in Super League, might be reminded that a certain Bradford Northern went to the wall themselves in the 1960s. As lottery tickets go, owning a rugby league club doesn't hold out much hope of making a million. The luckiest most can get is to be on the happy side of the maxim "there but for the grace of God go I..."

**LEAGUE
WEEKLY**

The Voice of Rugby League – on sale every Monday
Check out www.league-weekly.com

TTX

www.ttexpress.co.uk

WAREHOUSING AND DISTRIBUTION

TT EXPRESS (Oldham) Ltd
Ward Street
Chadderton
Oldham
OL9 9EX
0161 628 5584



LTS
Landsowne Road
Chadderton
Oldham
OL9 9EF

Tel: 0161 626 1141
Fax: 0161 628 7078
www.ltshaulage.co.uk

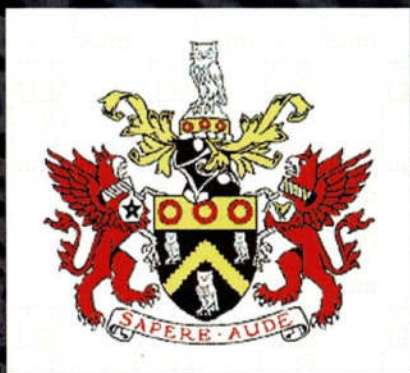


LOW LOADER HIRE
EXTENDABLE TRAILERS
ESCORTED LOADS

LTS

carlotti

OFFICIAL KIT SUPPLIER TO
OLDHAM RLFC



CARLOTTI SPORTSWEAR AVAILABLE FROM



Stores across Yorkshire and the North West - Call 08700 607 607
for your nearest store.

Shop online at www.streetwisesports.com



OLDHAM R.L.F.C.

The **Roughyeds**

£1 TO WIN OLDHAM RLFC THE TOWNS No1 LOTTERY

1st prize: **£300** EVERY WEEK GUARANTEED

2nd prize: **£100** EVERY WEEK GUARANTEED

runners-up prizes: **£10 x 5** EVERY WEEK GUARANTEED

Plus

JACKPOT ACCUMULATOR - Rising by £50 every week

Plus

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN £10,000

A Donated Cash Prize

THE BIGGEST CASH PRIZE EVER OFFERED IN OLDHAM

DON'T MISS OUT - BE IN IT TO WIN

For further information contact John

**AUTOMATIC
PAYOUT**

0161 628 3677

**NO NEED
TO CLAIM**

REGISTERED WITH OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Unrivalled coverage of Roughyeds and
Oldham amateur rugby league.



Proud supporters of
Oldham Rugby League Football Club

OLDHAM EVENING
Chronicle



172 Union Street, Oldham.
Telephone :0161 633 2121
email: sport@oldham-chronicle.co.uk
www.oldham-chronicle.co.uk



What's the score?

The competition's
tough ...
but we've a few
points in our favour.

No traffic

No parking

No worries



With local links and national connections we're the new players
across the north. **Give us a try.**

Customer helpline 0845 600 11 59. www.northernrail.org



northern

Taking people to places



Rugby league crazy?

We're mad about it too!

That's why we're the exclusive energy partner of the RFL and sponsor of the Challenge Cup and the Champion Schools tournament.

We've also created the inflatable Powergen Skills Zone for children to practice kicking, tackling, passing and catching in a fun and safe way.

We'll be taking the Powergen Skills Zone all over the country so everyone can have the chance to get rugby crazy!

powergen.co.uk



Positive Energy

NATIONAL LEAGUE TALK

with GARETH WALKER of RUGBY LEAGUER & LEAGUE EXPRESS



THE LEADING LIGHTS

THE near three-week break for over half the teams in NL1 and NL2 provides a chance to reflect on the action so far – and the players that have stood out to date.

So from the games you have seen to date, who would make an early season select team in both divisions?

At fullback in NL1 Whitehaven's Gary Broadbent has been a typical model of consistency. Few players outside the top flight maintain his week-to-week performances.

On the wings, Halifax's Rikki Sheriffe and Castleford's Waine Pryce have both been heavily among the tries and threaten defences with their every touch. Featherstone's Danny Maun, and Jon Hepworth of the Tigers have both impressed in the centres.

Rochdale stand off Radney Bowker almost inspired his side to topple Salford in the Challenge Cup, and played crucial roles in Hornets' two wins to date, against Batley and Halifax.

Hull KR's Australian James Webster has been arguably the form player in the National Leagues to date and is an automatic pick at scrum half.

In the front row, powerful props Adam Watene (Castleford) and Aaron Summers (Whitehaven) could be joined by Halifax's workaholic Aussie Ben Fisher.

Andy Raleigh has been another stand out for Hull KR in the second row, with Peter Green (Doncaster) and up-and-coming youngster Carl Rudd (Whitehaven) completing the team.

In NL2, George Raynor has excelled at fullback in a Hunslet team just starting to find their feet.

Swinton's Marlon Billy and York's Peter Fox get the wing places, and the same two clubs provide the centres in Lee Patterson and Dan Potter.

Dewsbury Rams are reaping the rewards of recruiting the vastly experienced Francis Maloney who has been terrific at stand off, and could be partnered in the mythical team by Swinton's inspirational captain Ian Watson.

York prop Adam Sullivan was a deserved winner of the Rugby League World NL2 Player of the Month for April, and could pack down with the ever-consistent Phil Stephenson, enjoying a testimonial at Keighley. Workington hooker Jonny Limmer completes the front row.

Gary Smith has been a rare shining light for Blackpool in a generally difficult start to date, and earns a second row place alongside Warren Jowitt of Dewsbury. Completing the team is Lions loose forward Lee Marsh.

NL1: Gary Broadbent, Rikki Sheriffe, Danny Maun, Jon Hepworth, Waine Pryce, Radney Bowker, James Webster, Adam Watene, Ben Fisher, Aaron Summers, Andy Raleigh, Peter Green, Carl Rudd.

NL2: George Raynor, Marlon Billy, Lee Patterson, Dan Potter, Peter Fox, Francis Maloney, Ian Watson, Adam Sullivan, Jonny Limmer, Phil Stephenson, Gary Smith, Warren Jowitt, Lee Marsh.

Read the best match reports from all today's matches in Monday's Rugby Leaguer & League Express

FOR THE GREATEST COVERAGE OF THE GREATEST GAME...

Rugby Leaguer & League Express

EVERY MONDAY

SUBSCRIPTION HOTLINE: 01484 401895

...OR SUBSCRIBE ONLINE AT totalrugbyleague.com



SPONSORS

Team Sponsors

Lansdowne
Roofing
Supplies Ltd.

0161 626 0896
0161 627 4231

Man of the Match Sponsor

Jetware Ltd

Match Ball Sponsor

Gemini Disco

(Thanks also to Doughty's Gym)

Champagne Moment Sponsor

**Braddy's Signing
Of The Season**
(Memorabilia)

Tel: 07946052364

Players after match refreshments sponsored by

Taylor Produce (Southport)
Fresh Fruit & Veg

0161 627 2520

&

David Ashworth (Traditional Butcher)

0161 620 6041

(BOTH TO BE FOUND ON THE TOMMYFIELD MARKET)

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.

Fixtures 2005

DATE	OPPONENTS	CUP	VENUE	K. O.	RESULT	W/L	ATT
09/01/05	Rochdale Hornets	Law Cup	Away	15.00	24-8	L	1,404
21/01/05	Leeds Rhinos	Testimonial	Away	20.00	22-10	L	5,196
30/01/05	Halifax	Friendly	Away	15.00	34-12	L	1,443
13/02/05	Blackpool Panthers	NT Cup	Home	15.00	22-20	W	1,446
27/02/05	Swinton Lions	NT Cup	Away	15.00	46-14	L	1,101
06/03/05	Swinton Lions	NT Cup	Home	15.00	30-37	L	1,116
13/03/05	Sharlston Rovers	Powergen CC 3rd Rd	Away	19.30	14-46	W	852
16/03/05	Rochdale Hornets	NT Cup	Away	19.30	68-26	L	1,161
20/03/05	Blackpool Panthers	NT Cup	Away	15.00	16-35	W	250
25/03/05	Rochdale Hornets	NT Cup	Home	15.30	10-54	L	1,544
28/03/05	Featherstone Rovers	NL1	Away	19.30	20-20	D	1,463
03/04/05	York City Knights	Powergen CC 4th Rd	Home	15.00	28-32	L	1,282
10/04/05	Doncaster Dragons	NL1	Home	15.00	22-44	L	1,266
17/04/05	Castleford Tigers	NL1	Home	15.00	20-32	L	2,054
24/04/05	Hull K R	NL1	Away	15.00	32-19	L	2,474
01/05/05	Northern Rail Cup Play Offs	NT Cup	TBA	TBA			
08/05/05	Powergen Cup 5th Rd	Powergen CC	TBA	TBA			
15/05/05	Whitehaven Warriors	NL1	Home	15.00			
29/05/05	Northern Rail Cup	NT Cup	TBA	TBA			
22/05/05	Batley Bulldogs Quarter Finals	NL1	Away	15.00			
05/06/05	Rochdale Hornets	NL1	Home	15.00			
12/06/05	Barrow Raiders	NL1	Away	15.00			
19/06/05	Northern Rail Cup Semi Finals	NT Cup	TBA	TBA			
26/06/05	Halifax	NL1	Home	15.00			
26/06/05	Powergen Cup Quarter Finals	Powergen CC	TBA	TBA			
03/07/05	Featherstone Rovers	NL1	Home	15.00			
10/07/05	Doncaster Dragons	NL1	Away	15.00			
17/07/05	Northern Rail Cup Final	NT Cup	TBA	TBA			
24/07/05	Castleford Tigers	NL1	Away	15.30			
31/07/05	Hull K R	NL1	Home	15.00			
07/08/05	Whitehaven Warriors	NL1	Away	15.00			
14/08/05	Rochdale Hornets	NL1	Away	15.00			
21/08/05	Batley Bulldogs	NL1	Home	15.00			
04/09/05	Barrow Raiders	NL1	Home	15.00			
11/09/05	Halifax	NL1	Away	15.00			
18/09/05	Play Offs	NL1	TBA	TBA			
25/09/05	Play Offs	NL1	TBA	TBA			
02/10/05	Play Offs	NL1	TBA	TBA			
08/10/05	Grand Final	NL1	TBA	TBA			

Key

NT Cup - Northern Trains Cup

Powergen CC - Powergen Challenge Cup

NL1 - National League Division 1

You won't want to put it down.

The image shows a person's hands holding a copy of the Oldham Advertiser newspaper over a kitchen sink. The newspaper is prominently displayed, showing its masthead 'Oldham Advertiser' and a large headline 'NEWS INDUSTRY HONOUR FOR OLDHAM ADVERTISER'. Below the headline, it says 'Your best weekly read and that's official'. The person is standing in front of a window with blinds. On the kitchen counter next to the sink, there is another copy of the Oldham Advertiser newspaper, also showing the same headline. The overall scene suggests a daily routine of reading the local newspaper.

It's all about Oldham