

Today's Teams

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Barrow Raiders v Oldham Roughyeds

KHAMAL GANLEY		1		GARETH LANGLEY
JAMES FINCH		2		ALEX WILKINSON
PHIL ATKINSON		3		CRAIG LITTLER
LIAM HARRISON		4		ADAM HUGHES
JAMES NIXON		5		LUCAS ONYANGO
LIAM FINCH		6		NEIL RODEN
DARREN HOLT		7		MATTY BROOKS
PAUL RAFTERY		8		JASON BOULTS
ANDY ELLIS		9		ANDY CRABTREE
MICHAEL SMITH		10		RICHARD MERVILL
MARTIN OSTLER		11		GENO COSTIN
DAVE ARMITSTEAD		12		ADAM ROBINSON
PAT WEISNER		13		CHRIS BAINES
CHRIS ARCHER		14		JAMES COYLE
PAUL WILCOCK		15		DREW HOUSTON
MIKE WHITEHEAD		16		TONY TONKS
LEE DUTTON		17		IAN HODSON
PAUL CRAREY COACH				COACH STEVE DEAKIN

Today's Officials

Referee: M Dawber

Fourth Official: S Barrie

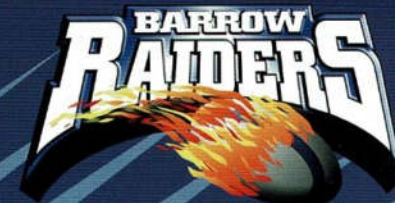
Touch Judges: P Medows
G Wallace

Match Commissioner: P Gilmour

Next at the Craven Park Finger prints Stadium

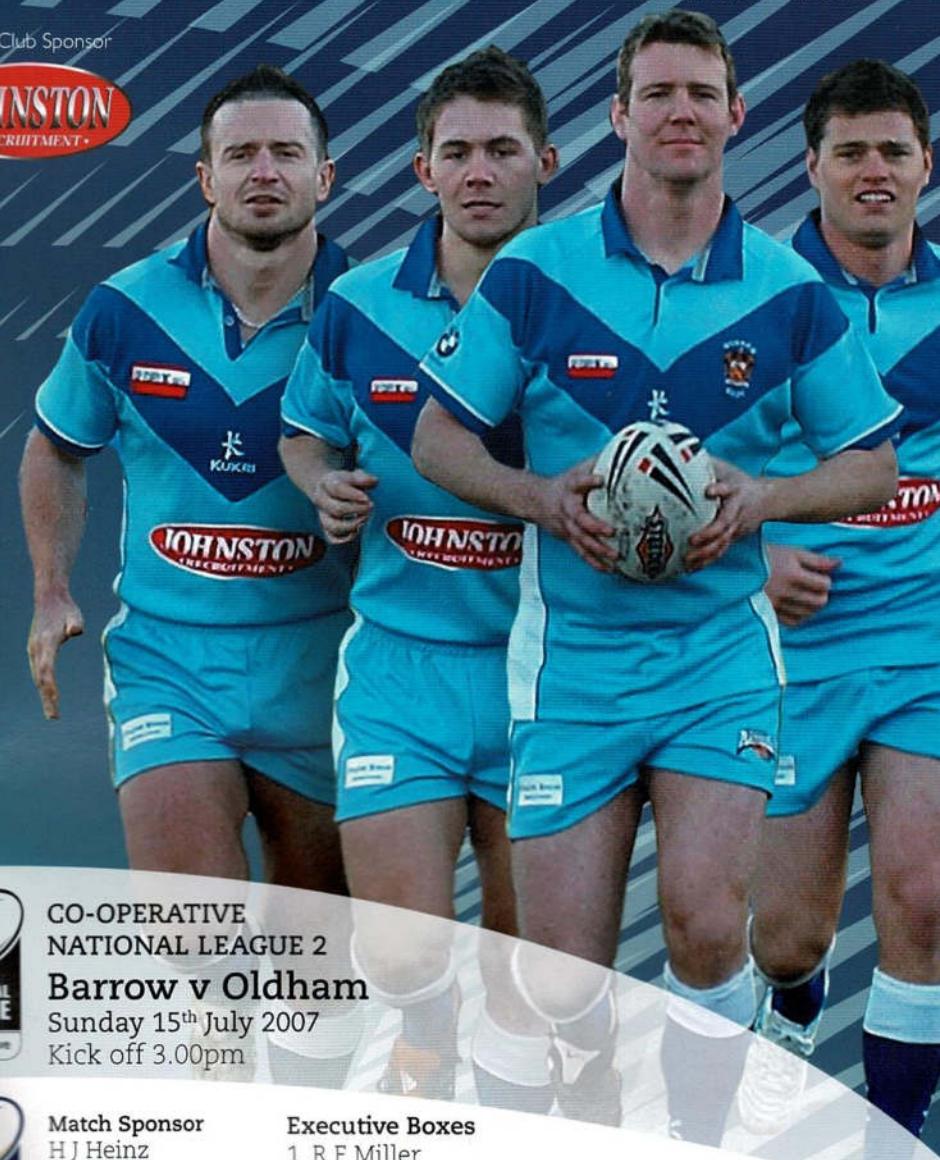
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Barrow Raiders v Celtic Crusaders
Sunday 5 August 2007 3.00pm Kick off

Barrow Rugby League Football Club Matchday Programme 2007



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Barrow v Oldham
Sunday 15th July 2007
Kick off 3.00pm



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Chairman's Column



A very important game today as we've dropped off the pace a little in the last couple of games. This is not something to worry unduly about. We've only got a small squad and the heavy schedule of games is bound to take its toll on our players. People are playing with little niggles and slight sprains etc. Now is not the time to criticise but to get behind the players and coaching staff here at Craven Park Finger prints Stadium, and give them your support.

The players and staff work extremely hard in preparation for each weeks game, and the players don't like losing. They are an extremely proud bunch of lads, who want to give their all for Barrow Raiders. So lets hear some noise today, to shout them home to a good win.

Our opponents today, Oldham are an extremely good side who gave us a good drubbing at Boundary Park when we played them earlier in the season. Though in mitigation we were playing our third game in eight days and were a little jaded by that schedule. Having said that Oldham played very well against us. Having come down from Division One they have recruited well, Adam Hughes being one such recruit. A top class centre with a world of Super League experience, and they are now challenging for promotion with ourselves and Featherstone. We won't be overawed, because we believe we're as good as anyone in this league and hopefully we will see that today.

I hope everyone from Oldham who has travelled to Barrow, enjoys their day here and enjoys the game.

To the Barrow supporters - lets get behind the team and here's to a win today.

I hope you brought a friend.

Dave Nixon

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Paddy McAteer

North West Evening Mail

A year or two ago it looked like Super-League clubs were doing their best to appoint, a

British Coach whenever possible. We had the likes of Brian Noble (Bradford now Wigan) well established, Karl Harrison (Salford), Paul Cullen (Warrington), Jon Sharp (Huddersfield), John Kear (Hull now Wakefield) and others waiting in the wings.

But what happens Salford kick Harrison out, who comes in Aussie Shaun McRae, who failed miserably at South Sydney, however he did well at Saint Helens, but who wouldn't with the talent on hand.

Tony Smith is to quit Leeds for pastures new at G.B., level who takes over Kiwi Brian McLellan. What encouragement does that give to up and coming Coaches in National One and Two. The one I feel sorry for is Harrison who was given an extended contract at Salford, and we are led to believe knocked back any hopes of him becoming G.B., boss in favour of staying at The Willows.

Then he is shown the door and what happens McRae is handed a four year plus contract. There is enough talent, out of work, to Coach these top clubs, and money can be saved by the thousands. These over-seas Coaches don't come cheap.

Away from Coaching and welcome to Oldham for what is an important game for both clubs. Oldham have battled on in recent years without a home rugby league ground, and well done to the likes of Chris Hamilton and Sean Whitehead for the hard work and dedication for keeping the club, and a famous Oldham name afloat.

As a youngster growing up in the rugby league world they had many a great player like full back Bernard Ganley, centre Alan Davies and in later years Bob Irving who came to Barrow at the end of his career and not to forget that fine Cumbrian winger Ike Southward who had a spell at Oldham. Local amateurs Walney Central will always remember going to the Watersheddings in 1960 for a second round rugby league challenge cup tie, Oldham won 50-4 and who got a double hat-trick of tries - Ike Southward. Enjoy the game Paddy.

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Crarey's Comments

This is our moment of truth. After our defeat at York last weekend we have to show we have the ability and resolve to bounce back.

At York we were very poor technically. We spewed the ball out and there was no support work.

The answer has been a very constructive team meeting this week. There is no doubting, the players all know my thoughts.

It might have been a little easier today had we to faced what might be considered as poor opposition but Oldham will be a tough test. I consider them a top-four team but they have had a couple of blips.

Their response has been to bring in James Coyle who has had a lot of experience with Wigan and Widnes but the good thing for us is that this is only his second week in and as a halfback involved in key moves, you need time to settle in. But they have a strong pack and were very enthusiastic at their place when they gave us our heaviest defeat of the season.

Revenge will be sweet but we cannot afford to play like we did at York. In the second half we had five good ball sets in their 25 and we dropped four on the first or second tackle. The other ended with Martin Ostler stretching over the line but the referee found a reason to deny the try.

The conditions were horrendous but I am not blaming them. However it did mean that three times on the first tackle we were dragged into touch.

Too many people had off days and I hope that is out of our system now. We had trained hard on goal-line defence but after a game where we went without a try, we have been working on our attacking structure.

I hope to be bringing in Ian Rawlinson as an impact player and a good thing now is that there is pressure on the players with Michael Bassan, Nicky Beach, Jamie Marshall and Jamie Butler ready to return to the squad.

We have also been having talks with a front row man who has played first grade rugby in Australia with West Tigers and is keen to come over. But finance is a problem. We have been getting good crowds, and I think that is great, but we need even more through the turnstiles because we need to be self-financing and not have to turn to chief executive Des every time we need cash.

Finally a word of praise for the Academy lads. They are doing brilliantly.

Last week we wanted to bring in some new defensive calls and they had no problems in handling with them. In fact you tell them something and they soak it up like a sponge and then come back for more.

Their coach Steve Rae is very open minded about what we are doing. He realises the need to replicate in the Academy what we are doing with the senior squad. He doesn't challenge things but gets on with the job. His help has been brilliant.

Paul Crarey, Coach



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From: Peter Wilson ex-Daily Star

The old rumour mill was working overtime at last week's golf day gathering of the Rugby League Writers Association at Bradford. And, although

I know from experience that you don't want to believe everything you read in the papers, I thought I might pass on some of the titbits that came my way. Only time will tell whether all or any of it is true so it may be a matter of Watch This Space.

For starters there are rumblings in Australia that not everybody is happy with The Greatest Game and calls for change are gaining strength. Cause for concern are the mind-numbing tactics employed by a growing number of NRL coaches.

Folk are getting twitchy at what they see as stereotype play of five drives and a kick and an alarming absence of variety and skill. In other words, it's boring. Fast and athletic - but still boring.

Among the suggestions on how to force clubs to bring back some of the old-style fundamental skills are - and you'll never guess! - Scrapping the 10-metre off-side rule and replace it with a seven-metre. Now, there's a novelty. If there was ever a rule designed to promote biff-and-barge rugby it was the ten-metre rule.

The Aussies are also beginning to wonder if 12 substitutions (replacements) are far too many and should be restricted to six. The argument is that this would prevent coaches from making their changes according to the clock.

On the home front it was whispered that the "Super League Franchise Act" of 2009 is

anything but done and dusted and that all is not lost for those who believe that promotion and relegation should be written in stone and not decided around a board room table.

Apparently, one of the worries about a 14-team Super League is the lack of playing strength in depth. To add another couple of teams to the present dozen - presumably it would be any two from Widnes, Castleford, Toulouse and South Wales - is hardly likely to add to the quality of the sport's top competition. What talent there is would simply be spread more thinly.

And, unless I've been missing something, the available talent is already stretched to the limit. Even Sky's uncritical commentary team have stopped telling us that we are watching the greatest thing since old Mr. Warburton discovered the bread slicer.

There is the odd exception of course - Saints v. Leeds was a cracker in any language - but by and large matches are pretty run-of-the-mill. In other words, better than many other sporting events but hardly mind-blowing entertainment.

Which brings us back to those mutterings Down Under. Is the game going stale? Have coaches devised a way to stifle talent by filling up their squads with big raw-boned second row forwards? Where have all the sidesteppers, body-swerfers and 40-try wingers gone? And is the ten-metre rule to blame?

Like I said, it may be a matter of Watch This Space. Incidentally, there was no suggestion of a return to contested scrums. Now that would be a novelty...

Captain's Talk

Good afternoon to everyone for our fixture against the Oldham Roughyeds, I'm sure this afternoon will be a humdinger of a game. Oldham are a tough physical side who can play a bit of rugby, as we found out a couple of months ago! We and probably Oldham were disappointed with our performances last week so both sides will be coming out bouncing to try and put a show on.

As I just mentioned we were gutted with our game last week at York, most players knew they under performed against a team that were simply smarter than us on the day. A lot of analysis has been done by the coaching staff and players this week and we have found some positives, which will hopefully stand us in good stead for the tough, end of season run-in.

On a more positive note, prior to our game last Sunday the U21's gave York a lesson in RL coming away with a 62-4 victory, the whole team deserve massive wraps. An 80 minute performance like this has been due, the big guys in the middle dominated the York 6 giving our pacy backs space to run riot all afternoon. Well done fellas.

Reading the press this week I was disappointed to hear the RL haven't replied to our plans of trying to put a Super League franchise in place. Every club wants a piece of the Super League cake and it's the goal for each NL club to get to. Although I have no problems with the game expanding to the likes of Toulouse, it must be disheartening for CEO's and Chairmen of NL clubs to have strong scholarship/academies, good links to amateur clubs etc., to be continually overlooked. It would be interesting to know how much input Sky TV have on these matters!!

Finally our 'Goose Of The Week' goes to my wing partner Jamo (Finch), there was a quote he came out with after the mini dust-up involving 'Our Kid' at York last week which was heard by a few of the boys, he clinched the 'prize' though on the bus trip home after a few 'Hardman Shandys' claiming he was going to do this and that, unfortunately when the push comes to shove his bottle went! Both really were "you had to be there incidents." Enjoy the game.

Aky



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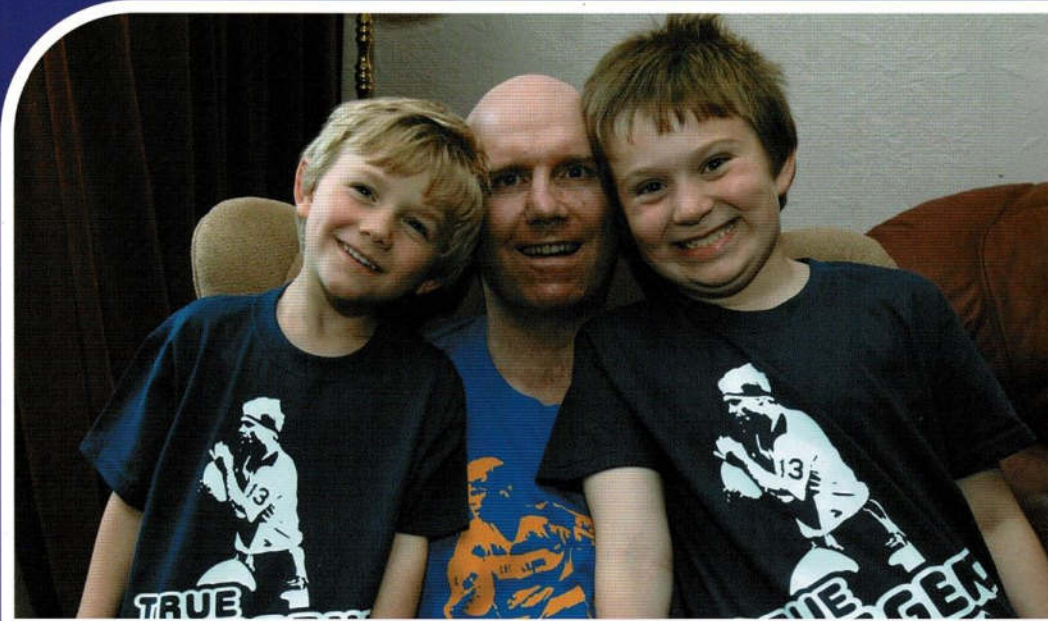
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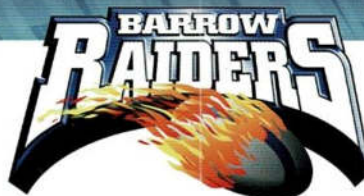
Mixed Darts League. Every Monday full of enthusiasm we competed against teams from other local pubs and had some real fun nights. We may not have been a brilliant darts team and ended up bottom of the league but we had a lot of fun, and more to the point introduced lots of new people to the Raiders Bar. Some of the team decided they would like to continue playing during the summer others thought it would be too much with other commitments. So we enlisted some new blood and joined the summer league. So once again Monday became an excuse for a few beers, a bit of fun and of course a game of darts. We've played three games so far and already won one and one of the two we lost was very close (4 games to 5). So if you fancy a game of darts or just a pint or two why not come along to the Raiders Bar every Monday at 7.30 and support us, we leave at 8 o'clock when playing away from home.



COBRAS MEETINGS

2nd TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

7.30pm RAIDERS BAR - all welcome



RAIDERS FIXTURES 2007

Month	Day	H/A	Kick-off	Comp	Opposition	R	F-A	Attend
January	Sunday 28	H	2pm	Geoff Luxon Testimonial	Whitehaven	W	18-14	1176
February	Friday 9	H	7.30pm	NRC	Blackpool	W	44-4	975
February	Sunday 18	A	3.00pm	NRC	Workington T	L	24-32	927
February	Sunday 25	A	3.00pm	NRC	Whitehaven	D	22-22	1537
March	Friday 2	H	7.30pm	NRC	Workington T	W	36-12	1230
March	Sunday 11th	A	2.30pm	CCup3rd Rd	West Hull	W	70-18	450
March	Friday 16	H	7.30pm	NRC	Whitehaven	L	6-16	1669
March	Sunday 25	A	2.00pm	NRC	Blackpool	W	78-22	358
April	Sunday 1	A	3.00pm	CCup4th Rd	Swinton	W	47-14	596
April	Good Friday 6	H	3.00pm	NL2	Workington T	W	46-10	1714
April	Easter Mon 9	A	3.00pm	NL2	Swinton	W	30-35	416
April	Sunday 15	A	3.00pm	NL2	Gateshead T	W	65-10	305
April	Sunday 22	A	3.00pm	NRC QF-QR	York City Knights	W	18-16	658
April	Sunday 29	H	3.00pm	NL2	York City Knights	W	30-10	1404
May	Sunday 6	A	3.30pm	NL2	Hunslet	W	32-4	393
May	Sunday 13	A	3.00pm	CCup5th Rd	Warrington Wolves	L	16-48	4180
May	Wednesday 16	H	7.30pm	NL2	London Skolars	W	38-8	1044
May	Sunday 20	A	3.00pm	NL2	Oldham	L	18-50	848
May	Sunday 27	A	3.00pm	NRC Q-F	Whitehaven	L	14-34	1484
June	Sunday 3	H	3.00pm	NL2	Swinton	W	52-24	1188
June	Saturday 9	A	6.30pm	NL2	Celtic Crusaders	L	14-26	903
June	Wednesday 13	H	7.45pm	NL2	Keighley	W	30-0	1058
June	Sunday 17	H	3.00pm	NL2	Gateshead	W	60-22	1040
June	Sunday 24	A	3.00pm	NL2	Blackpool	W	28-14	425
July	Sunday 1	H	3.30pm	NL2	Hunslet	W	32-22	1252
July	Sunday 8	A	3.00pm	NL2	York	L	4-14	846
July	Sunday 15	H	3.00pm	NL2	Oldham			
July	Saturday 21	A	3.00pm	NL2	Featherstone R			
July	Sunday 29	A	3.00pm	NL2	London Skolars			
August	Sunday 5	H	3.00pm	NL2	Celtic Crusaders			
August	Sunday 12	A	3.00pm	NL2	Keighley			
August	Sunday 19	A	3.00pm	NL2	Workington T			
August	Saturday 25			CHALLENGE CUP FINAL				
August	Friday 31	H	7.30pm	NL2	Blackpool			
Sept	Saturday 8	H	6.30pm	NL2	Featherstone R			

RAIDERS 1st Team Stats 2007

Player	App	Sub	Tries	Goals	DGoals	Points
CHRIS ARCHER	1	6	0	0	0	0
DAVE ARMITSTEAD	24	0	0	0	0	0
PHIL ATKINSON	18	1	11	6	0	56
MICHAEL BASAN	11	0	5	0	0	20
NICK BEACH	19	0	13	10	0	68
ADAM BIBEY	1	1	0	0	0	0
JAMIE BUTLER	2	0	0	0	0	0
LEE DUTTON	6	17	1	0	0	4
ANDREW ELLIS	24	0	11	0	0	44
JAMES FINCH	11	6	9	0	0	36
LIAM FINCH	20	1	11	0	0	44
KHAMAL GANLEY	19	0	19	0	0	76
JAMES GORDON	0	1	0	0	0	0
LIAM HARRISON	25	0	11	0	0	44
DARREN HOLT	21	0	5	96	3	215
ANTHONY HORTON	0	1	0	0	0	0
SHANE IRABOR	1	5	1	0	0	4
CHRIS LARKIN	1	0	1	0	0	4
GEOFF LUXON	0	6	0	0	0	0
JAMIE MARSHALL	4	16	11	0	0	44
BRETT McDERMOTT	13	1	7	0	0	28
JAMES NIXON	21	0	16	0	0	64
LEE NORMAN	1	0	0	0	0	0
MARTIN OSTLER	14	2	3	0	0	12
PAUL RAFFERY	21	2	3	0	0	12
IAN RAWLINSON	0	7	3	0	0	12
LEE SANDERSON	1	2	1	6	0	16
MICHAEL SMITH	13	1	3	0	0	12
PAT WEISNER	13	0	2	5	2	20
MIKE WHITEHEAD	16	3	3	0	0	12
PAUL WILCOCK	3	21	2	0	0	8

CO-OPERATIVE NATIONAL LEAGUE TWO

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts Dif	Bns	Pts
Featherstone Rovers	14	12	0	2	610	194	416	2	38
Barrow Raiders	14	11	0	3	484	244	240	2	35
Celtic Crusaders	13	10	0	3	506	199	307	3	33
Workington Town	14	9	0	5	397	288	109	3	30
Oldham	12	8	0	4	332	220	112	4	28
Hunslet Hawks	12	6	0	6	231	283	-52	4	22
York City Knights	14	5	0	9	260	323	-63	4	19
Keighley Cougars	14	4	1	9	255	452	-197	2	16
Gateshead Thunder	12	5	0	7	224	469	-245	1	16
*Swinton Lions	13	6	0	7	343	431	-88	3	15
London Skolars	14	3	1	10	236	435	-199	3	14
Blackpool Panthers	14	0	0	14	210	550	-340	5	5

ACTION FROM THE HUNSLET GAME



James Finch scoring one of his two tries
Pictures courtesy of North West Evening Mail

Paul Raftery takes the tackle

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NATHAN MOSSOP

ANDREW CAIRNS

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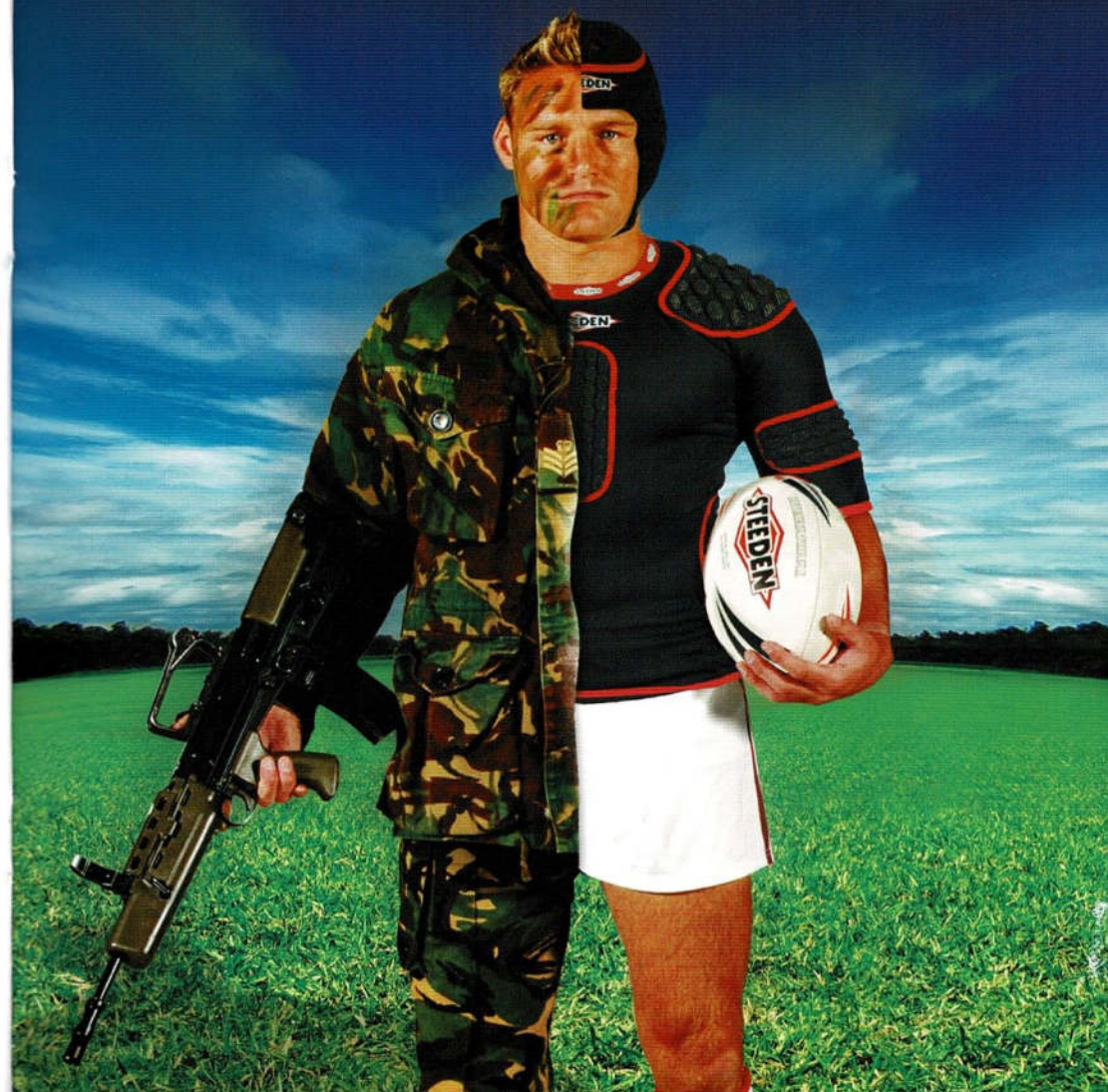
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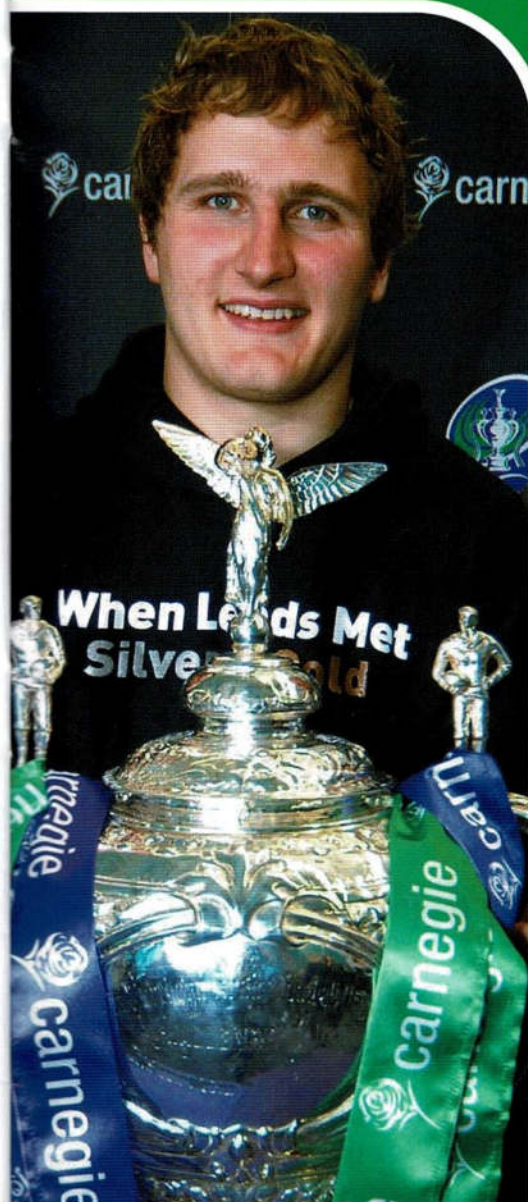


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BARROW RAIDERS 2007

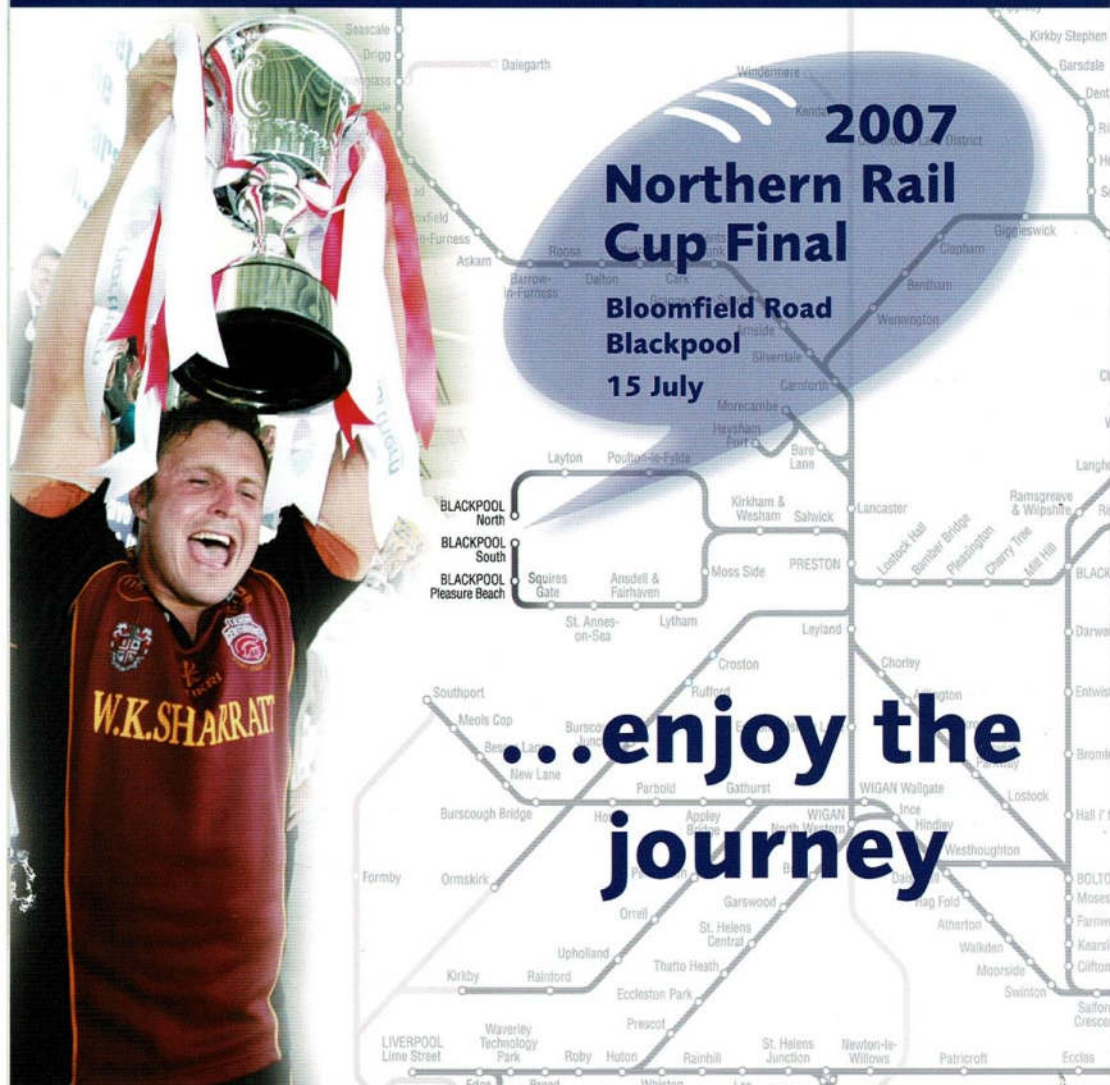


Back row, from left to right: James Nixon, Liam Harrison, Martin Oster, Mike Whitehead, Lee Dutton, Paul Wilcock, Paul Raftery, Khamaal Ganley, Dave Armitstead, Michael Basan.

Front row: Darren Holt, Brett McDermott, Geoff Luxon, Phil Atkinson, Liam Finch, Nick Beach, Jamie Marshall, Andy Ellis.

Insets - left to right: Michael Smith, Pat Weisner, Adam Bibey.

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Workington	2 Mar	Northern Rail Cup		Gilbert Machine Tools	HSS	Finger prints						Furness Building Society
Whitehaven	16 Mar	Northern Rail Cup				Travis Perkins		Geoff Rea				
Workington	6 Apr	NL2	Evening Mail	Paige & Ben Carr		Advance Roofing	Furness Heating	Premier Tiles	Johnston Recruitment Full Season			
York	29 Apr	NL2				HSS Hire Shops	Poole Townsend	Livingstons Solicitors	S & ME Saunders Full Season			
London	16 May	NL2										
Swinton	3 June	NL2	Roger Fisher									
Keighley	13 June	NL2	Poole Townsend									
Gateshead	17 June	NL2										
Hunslet	1 July	NL2	Poole Townsend									
Oldham	15 July	NL2	H J Heinz									
Celtic C.	5 Aug	NL2										Neil Sherratt Wellmore Asbestos
Blackpool	31 Aug	NL2										Marsh Hornets
Featherstone	8 Sep	NL2	Wincanton	Marine Travel Company		Advance Roofing	Geoff Rea	MW Flooring				

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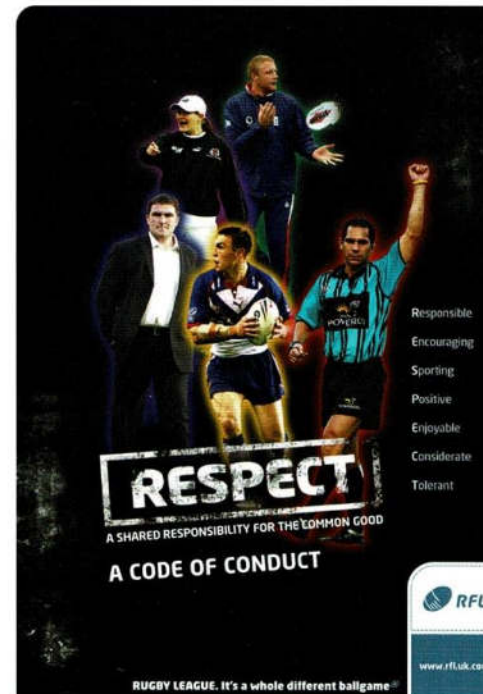
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Oldham Pen Pics

BAINES, Chris (back-row): A young forward who also did enough for coach Steve Deakin last year, while on loan from Warrington, to win a contract for 2007. He proved to be a good, hard-working forward in his first season with the Roughyeds and the experience he gained will serve him and the club well in NL2.

BOULTS, Jason (prop): One of many new boys in the Roughyeds squad for 2007, 23-year-old Jason arrived on the recommendation of two of his former Halifax team mates, Jamie Bloem and Alan Hadcroft Alan, already established here as one of coach Steve Deakin's senior men, wasted no time in tipping off the boss when he learned from Bloem that Boults was ready to leave The Shay to take up a new challenge. At 16 stone and 6ft 2in, Jason can play his weight in the front-row.

COSTIN, Geno (prop or back-row): A non-quota Aussie, 22-year-old Geno is in England for the first time and making an impact in NL2. Former Halifax stand-off Carl Briggs, lined up originally to become Gateshead Thunder's new coach, planned to take Geno to the North-East with him. When that move broke down, Briggs pointed Geno in Oldham's direction, much to the delight of coach Steve Deakin. Geno first established himself in the Queensland Cup competition with Wynnum-Manly but last year played in the same comp for Logan Souths. Has long had a yearning to embark on an adventure to England and now that opportunity knocks he intends to make the most of it.

CRABTREE, Andy (hooker): One of half a dozen players signed by Roughyeds from Swinton Lions for 2007, Andy is eager to fulfil the early promise that earned him not only a spot on the books of Wigan Warriors but also a place in a talented Great Britain academy side that boasted several players who have gone on to big things at the highest level.

GOREY, Andy (winger): A scrum-half in his Royton Tigers days, local lad Andy became a good full-back in the former Roughyeds academy side. He was under contract on the break-up of the academy side, but he pledged to fight for a place in the first team rather than go elsewhere. In 2006 he became a fans' favourite with gutsy performances, capped off with a couple of length-of-the-field tries. Diminutive, but pacy, he established himself as a regular on the wing, making more than 20 appearances and taking his try tally into double figures to finish the season as the club's top try scorer.

HOUGH, John (hooker): Cut 'Houghie' in two and you will find 'Roughyeds' running right through

him. He was the first player to sign for the 'new' Roughyeds club when it was formed by Chris Hamilton and his fellow directors in the autumn of 1997, following the demise of Oldham Bears. Currently two seasons into a three-year contract, 29-year-old Oldham-born John will have completed ten years with the club at the end of the 2007 season and will thus qualify for a testimonial.

HOUSTON, Drew (second-row or centre): One of the two overseas quota men for 2007, 23-year-old Drew comes highly recommended by another new Roughyeds recruit, Simeon Hoyle.

HOYLE, Simeon (hooker): Formerly with Keighley Cougars and Halifax, hooker Simeon was one of the first of the new boys to be signed up by Roughyeds for 2007. He is a hooker of the old school - a tough and industrious operator in defence while having enough know-how to make things happen from dummy half.

LANGLEY, Gareth (winger): Pacy, and a good finisher, 'Gaz' Langley comes to the Roughyeds after five years in one of the most professional learning and development schools in rugby league - the youth and academy set-up at St Helens. Born in the well-known rugby league district of Parr, near St Helens, 22-year-old Gareth didn't take up the sport with Blackbrook until he was 15. By the time he was 16 he was playing for Salford under-18s, having been headhunted by the then Salford academy coach Steve McCormack.

LITTLER, Craig (centre): How appropriate that Littler comes next to Langley in alphabetical order. For that's exactly how they have lined up, as centre and wing partners, in the Saints academy teams of the past four years. A year younger than 'Gaz', at 21, Craig was offered the chance to have another year at Knowsley Road, but he opted to sign for Roughyeds instead - and one of the reasons was that he could continue his partnership with Langley.

MERVILL, Richard (prop): Formerly with Halifax and then Keighley, Richard comes to the Roughyeds for 2007 from Australia - a similar route to that taken by his former Cougars team mate, Simeon Hoyle. Mervill played in the 2003 Keighley side that won promotion to NL1, alongside hooker Hoyle and stand-off Paul Ashton, and later jetted off Down Under, where he has been playing for Dapto in the Illawarra competition. Hoyle, who had also played out there, alerted Roughyeds to the availability of both Mervill and his Dapto team mate Drew Houston and it was thanks largely to Hoyle that Oldham got their names on contracts.

RODEN, Neil (half-back): Neil rejoined Roughyeds from Leigh after leaving the club initially to go to Batley in 2004. In his first stint with Oldham, after joining from Wigan Academy, he amassed 290 points (68 tries and 18 drop goals) in 142 appearances over four and a half seasons. No other player in the nine-year history of the 'new' Roughyeds club has totalled more tries than Roden, whose 68 pushed Mark Sibson (61) into second place. Neil also has the distinction of having played for the Roughyeds in the 2001 Grand Final against Widnes at Spotland.

SINFELD, Ian (back-row): Another vastly experienced forward who has returned to his hometown club. The brother of Leeds Rhinos captain, Kevin Sinfield, Ian played in the first ever Roughyeds game at Rochdale on New Year's Day, 1998. He had come initially on loan from Salford, but soon afterwards he was signed on a permanent basis, with Roughyeds paying out an undisclosed fee for his services. 'Sinny' had four seasons at Oldham, making more than 70 appearances, before moving to Rochdale, then to Keighley, and on to Swinton. While at Keighley he played in the NL2 Grand Final alongside Simeon Hoyle, Paul Ashton and Richard Mervill.

TAMGHART, Said (utility): The description 'utility' perhaps fails to do justice to this French international, who has represented his country at every level, including fully-fledged Test matches against Australia and New Zealand. He played prop against the Aussies and second-row against the Kiwis, but both he and coach Steve Deakin have confirmed that he can operate equally well at loose-forward and also in the backs at centre or wing. On his way up the ladder to full French international honours, he played for Carpentras, Avignon and UTC (better known now as Perpignan-based Catalans Dragons) and it was while he was at UTC that he came under the wing of Deaks, who holds him in the highest regard.

WILKINSON, Alex (centre, wing): Oldham-born Alex played his early rugby with Royton Tigers and toured with GB schoolboys to Australia in 1999 and with England academy to New Zealand and Australia in 2000. Super League giants Bradford Bulls snapped him up and, while at Odsal, he had a loan spell with London Broncos, where he played six times in Super League. He then moved on loan to Huddersfield, where he added another 13 Super League games to his tally. He played a similar number while on loan to Hull FC, who offered him a two-year contract. However, Alex wanted to complete his degree and with part-time rugby the only option he chose his hometown club.

HODSON, Ian (back row): Initially rejected new offer for 2007, due to work commitments, but the Roughyeds door remained open and he re-signed in March after playing one or two games for Tyldesley RU. One of the club's better performers in 2006, he always gave maximum input, even when asked to play out of position at stand-off.

ONYANGO, Lucas (winger): A real flier, aged 25, Lucas grew up in rugby union in his native Kenya. Has played for Sale Sharks, Manchester and Leigh in Union, and Widnes Vikings in League. Did well at Vikings before damaging a knee. Over that now and keen to make the most of his chance at Oldham.

SANDERSON, Lee (half-back): Needs no introduction to Barrow fans, having had a spell at Craven Park from where the Roughyeds signed him in March. Previously played for Leigh, London Broncos and Rochdale Hornets. Currently out injured with a knee problem, for which he is booked in for an operation.

TONKS, Tony (prop): Roughyeds have high hopes of the 22-year-old Yorkshireman, signed from Bradford Bulls just before the start of the NL2 campaign. He had one year at Wakefield Academy, then six at Bulls as a full-time pro, including last season when he was out on loan at Doncaster.

HUGHES, Adam (centre): The massively experienced 29-year-old boasts more than 150 Super League appearances during spells with Leeds, Wakefield, Halifax, Widnes and Leigh. A powerful, pacy centre who knows where the line is, he signed for Oldham in preference to several other clubs and scored two tries on his debut in May - against Barrow.

ROBINSON, Alan (second row): A tough and uncompromising player who relishes his defensive duties, the 20 year old Yorkshireman turned down Featherstone in order to sign for the Roughyeds from Doncaster. He started his pro career at Wakefield and has made a big impact in Oldham colours in his two months at Oldham.

BROOKS, Matty (half-back): Signed on loan from Hull KR, initially for one month, but with a view to extending it to the end of the season. Hull-born Matty, who can also play at hooker, was reared in the Bradford Bulls youth set-up before moving to Hull KR, from where he had a spell on loan at York earlier in the season.

COYLE, James (half-back): Signed last week and made his debut off the bench against Swinton last Sunday. On Wigan's books from being a boy, 21-year-old James spent last season on loan at Widnes. He is leaving full-time rugby behind to take a job with BNFL and Roughyeds were delighted to sign him despite competition from other clubs.

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ADAM BIBBY		Lisa Wilson & Louise Scarr	Steve Rea	
LEE DUTTON	Peter Wilson	Peter Wilson	Peter Wilson	Peter Wilson
ANDREW ELLIS	Pete Durkin	Pete Durkin	Pete Durkin	Pete Dirkin
JAMES FINCH				
LIAM FINCH				
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LIAM HARRISON			Gillian Nicholson	
DARREN HOLT				
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SCOTT KAIGHAN	Amanda Butress			
GEOFF LUXON	E P Access	Darren Wilson	Darren Wilson	Darren Wilson
JAMIE MARSHALL				
BRETT McDERMOTT	Geoff Worrall	Geoff Worrall	Geoff Worrall	Geoff Worrall
JAMES NIXON		Nicole Searle	Annette Nixon	
LEE NORMAN		Jon Livesey	Jon Livesey	Jon Livesey
MARTIN OSTLER	Des Johnson	Des Johnson	Des Johnson	Des Johnson
PAUL RAFTERY	Lisa Wilson & Louise Scarr	Lisa Wilson & Louise Scarr		
IAN RAWLINSON				
MIKE WHITEHEAD	Paul & Helen Doughty	Paul & Helen Doughty	P & H Doughty	P & H Doughty
PAUL WILCOCK				



IN TOUCH

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HONOR NEARS CENTURY

GARETH HONOR of London Skolars will become the first player to make a century of appearances for the club when he plays in his next match. His 99 appearances include 22 as a substitute. A hooker or scrum half, he has scored 16 tries and a drop goal.

TRY SCORING SEQUENCE

TRENT BARRETT of Wigan Warriors has scored at least one try in six successive engage Super League matches as follows: 1-2-1-1-1-1.

PAUL BALLARD of Celtic Crusaders has scored tries in five successive matches as follows: 1-1-2-1-4.

WINNING RUNS

CASTLEFORD TIGERS have won five successive Co-operative National League one matches. Their last defeat was 20-44 to Widnes Vikings on 17 May.

FEATHERSTONE ROVERS have won five successive matches, all in Co-operative National League Two. Their last defeat was 36-28 at Celtic Crusaders on 2 June.

LOSING RUNS

HULL KINGSTON ROVERS have lost five successive matches, all in the engage Super League. Their last win was 12-10 at Wigan Warriors on 18 May.

DONCASTER have lost six successive matches, all in Co-operative National League One. Their last win was 26-16 at home to Whitehaven on 6 May.

BLACKPOOL PANTHERS have lost 28 successive matches - seven National League Two matches last season, six Northern Rail Cup games this year plus a Carnegie Challenge Cup-tie and 14 Co-operative National League Two matches. Their last win was 38-36 at Gateshead Thunder on 15 July 2006.

LEADING SCORERS - ENGAGE SUPER LEAGUE

ALL MATCHES - CUP AND LEAGUE & REPRESENTATIVE

TRIES

Paul Wellens (St. Helens)	22
Lesley Vainikolo (Bradford)	19
Brent Webb (Leeds)	18
Paul Sykes (Harlequins)	16
Henry Fa'afili (Warrington)	15
Matt Gidley (St. Helens)	15
Leon Pryce (St. Helens)	15
Michael Platt (Bradford)	14
drian Gardner (St. Helens)	14
Trent Barrett (Wigan)	14

GOALS () Drop goals included in total

Paul Deacon (Bradford)	105
Kevin Sinfield (Leeds)	98 (1)
Pat Richards (Wigan)	82
Chris Thorman (Huddersfield)	73 (2)
Lee Briers (Warrington)	68 (4)
Thomas Bosc (Catalans)	67 (1)
Jamie Rooney (Wakefield)	55 (1)
John Wilshire (Salford)	50
Paul Sculthorpe (St. Helens)	49
Danny Tickle (Hull)	41

CO-OPERATIVE NATIONAL LEAGUES ALL MATCHES

TRIES

Tony Duggan (Celtic)	24
Craig Calvert (Whitehaven)	22
Dennis Moran (Widnes)	21
Khamal Ganley (Barrow)	19
Stuart Donlan (Castleford)	18
Danny Kirmond (F'stone)	18
Kirk Dixon (Castleford)	17
Mick Nanyin (Widnes)	17
Richard Fletcher (White'n)	16
James Nixon (Barrow)	16
Scott Grix (Widnes)	16
Wayne McHugh (F'stone)	16
Lee Mapals (York)	16
Lee Greenwood (Halifax)	16
Phil Cantillon (Blackpool)	16

GOALS

Mick Nanyin (Widnes)	111
Darren Holt (Barrow)	99 (3)
Carl Rudd (Whitehaven)	95
Stuart Dickens (Featherstone)	90
Carl Forber (Workington)	86
Damien Quinn (Celtic)	82
Danny Brough (Castleford)	80
Kevin King (Rochdale)	66
Francis Maloney (Dewsbury)	59
Damien Couturier (Leigh)	51

POINTS

Mick Nanyin (Widnes)	290
Carl Rudd (Whitehaven)	226
Damien Quinn (Celtic)	216
Darren Holt (Barrow)	215
Stuart Dickens (Featherstone)	208
Danny Brough (Castleford)	196
Carl Forber (Workington)	192
Kevin King (Rochdale)	176
Francis Maloney (Dewsbury)	158
Damian Couturier (Leigh)	130

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