

*Issue 1 *Sunday 13th Feb 2011

Electric Blue


HALIFAX
RLFC
CHAMPIONS
2010

HALIFAX RLFC V OLDHAM

Northern Rail Cup Group Game

- * Grand Final Special
- * Interview with Blacky
- * 2011 Preview

*Kick Off 3.00pm *@ The Shay Stadium *£2.50



Today's Teams

	Halifax RLFC	V	Oldham	
1	Miles Greenwood	FB	Ben Heaton	1
20	Paul White	W	Lucas Onyango	2
2	Lee Paterson	C	Ben Wood	
5	James Haley	C	Jack Broadbury	4
23	Rob Worrincy	W	John Gillam	5
6	Danny Jones	SO	Neil Roden	6
7	Ben Black	SH	Mick Deveney	7
10	Neil Cherryholme	P	Luke Sutton	8
13	Bob Beswick	H	Martin Roden	25
15	Jim Gannon	P	Dave Ellison	10
24	Stephen Bannister	SR	Andy Isherwood	11
14	Ryan Clayton	SR	Paul Noone	24
12	Sam Barlow	LF	Chris Clarke	14
9	Sean Penkywicz	Subs	Jason Boults	8
18	Joe Chandler		Valu Bentley	13
8	Makali Aizue		John Clough	17
17	Frank Watene		Tom Wood-Hulme	22

Today's Referee:

Assistants:

Scoreline: V

Penalties: V

Man of the Match:

Shay Attendance:



Good for every pass, every tackle,
every feint, every grubber,
every up and under, every play the
ball, every restart, every dropout,
every scrum, every turnover, every
hooter, every player, every fan.



Club Directory

Chairman: Michael Steele

Director: Mike Riley

Director: Tony Abbott

Director: Ian Croad

Vice Presidents: Roger Harvey
Charles Moran
Howard Posner

General Manager: Sarah Morgan

Marketing Manager: Matt Turner

Operations Manager: Jenna Helliwell

Retail Manager: Malcolm Powell

Lottery Manager: Mick Scott

Lottery Sales: Richard Watnough

Head Coach: Matt Calland

Assistant Coach: Damian Ball

Performance Manager: Martin Gonzalez

Conditioner: Andy Proctor

Club Doctor: Amjid Mohommed

Physio: Nicola Cooley

Kil Management: Hilda Hardy

Ian 'Ned' Kelly

Phil Coventry

Dave Fleming

Sean Rothery

Gareth Rothery

Match Programme

Contributors: Dave Fleming
Andrew Hardcastle
Nicholas McGhee
Gareth Walker

Photos: Mike Riley

Produced By: Trac Group

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From The Chairman

3

2011 starts here!

What a pleasure it is to welcome Oldham Roughyeds to the Shay for the first time since 2006. Whatever difficulties the Board of this Club experience fade into insignificance in comparison with the problems Chris Hamilton and his colleagues have overcome in the last few years. The whole Rugby League family owes Chris an enormous debt of gratitude for keeping the faith and keeping the Club operational.

Everyone at Halifax RLFC remembers the derby clashes of old, and we look forward to regular league meetings in the future, whether in the Co-operative Championship or Engage Super League. These are two of the greatest Clubs in the game and both were members of the inaugural Super League. Success has to be earned, but there are cycles, and we both have reason to believe we are 'on the up.' As Chairman of Halifax RLFC, I have had no better feeling than watching the Ben Black drop goal at Warrington. Chris has had the agony of successive Grand Final defeats. He and his Club deserve a change of luck, but not today!

It has been an eventful close season. Some of the events must remain behind closed doors, but it is right to emphasise that we are pushing strongly, assisted considerably by our new Principal Partner, PROBIZ, to ensure that the Super League

**"These are two of the
greatest Clubs in the game
and both were inaugural
Super League"**

bid does not fail by default. In that respect, I pay tribute to the originality of my colleagues Mike Riley and Ian (Santa) Croad whose helicopter put the 'Stobart stuck in a snowdrift' method of delivery, firmly in the shade.

This is also the formal occasion to welcome Tony Abbott to the Board. He has joined with a specific aim, to massively improve the attendances. If he succeeds quickly, that, too will add to the Bid. If he succeeds at all the Club's future will be so much the rosier. One thing is sure, he isn't going to fail for lack of effort!

On the playing front, as a supporter of the principle of Halifax lads representing Halifax, it is a pleasure to welcome back to the squad, Danny Jones, Josh Barlow and Jacob Fairbank on Dual Registration with Huddersfield Giants. The U23 squad, generously sponsored by the Supporters Trust Faxbuilder fund, will extend this process.

As a Club, Halifax RLFC have not covered ourselves with glory in the Northern Rail Cup. In what could be our last year of participation, it would be a delight to put that right. The Finals day in Blackpool is one of the great occasions of the year, and as League Champions we are determined to experience it. Northern Rail's support of the event is indicative of their commitment to the community which provides their business. We thank them for it.

Michael Steele

Dave Fleming



I wish that I had a fiver for everytime that I've said, "Welcome back," recently. There was Danny Jones. Then Paul Smith, Jim Gannon, Ryan Clayton. And then Mike Ratu. We've yet to find anyone recently to match players like Mick Scott and Alan Kellett who both signed for Fax on three occasions.

The lads mentioned though join such notable returnees like Sam Barlow, Johnny Lawless, Marty Moana, Damian Gibson, Sean Penkywicz, Graham Holroyd, Oli Marns, Jamie Bloem, Richard Smith and Neil James. And I'm sure that there are more!!

Welcome too to Josh Barlow, brother of course of the aforementioned Sam. Brothers playing together at the Shay is not a new phenomenon though. It's only a few years since the Greenwoods (Lee and Gareth), the Grixx (Scott and Simon), the Corcorans (Ged and Wayne), the Jones Boys (Gareth and Danny), the Garnetts (Luke and Sam), the Boothroyds (Andy and Mark) and the Denbys (Craig and Colin) were all hanging around at training at Ovenden Park. I bet though that Tony Anderson wishes that he could have had Jerry Seuseu (along with Anthony) and Adam MacDougall (to play with Scott) in 2003. And does Malcolm Reilly ever wonder what may have happened if he'd signed Paul Sculthorpe as well as older brother Lee ten years before that.....?

"I wish that I had a fiver for everytime that I've said, "Welcome back," recently."

Does this sound familiar? There was this renowned old rugby league club. Founder members of the sport, famous old ground. It may have been on top of a hill and a bit on the chilly side in midwinter but it was marvelously atmospheric as the players walked through the crowd to reach the pitch. They had a star studded team during the 1950's. But by the mid 1990's, even though they had gained admittance to Super League as a founder member, the old ground was in a bad way. The seeming solution to all the woes was to sell up and move to the football ground on the other side of town. This is Oldham that I'm talking about by the way, not Halifax. Let their nomadic existence in the years since 1995 be a classic example of "there but for the grace of God go I." And let all Fax fans count their blessings.

It's funny to recall that when I first really remember an Oldham team it contained such players as Fred Hall (father of Martin) and Phil Larder (Did's dad). Not forgetting Terry Flanagan, dad of former loanee Mark. Showing my age there. Although none of them played for Halifax there have been plenty who have played for both clubs, especially in the past five years or so. One who did was that eccentric character Paul Round. They broke the mould after they made that bloke. When he signed for Halifax he used to run the social club in the Watersheddings carpark. Notoriety achieved by putting live maggots in Roy Southernwood's gumshield case, he went into club folklore at one of Malcolm Reilly's preseason training sessions at Hipperholme and Lightcliffe School. Michael Jackson was a proper athlete, really looked after himself. Didn't drink, ate all the right things, used every possible decent diet supplement. During the session in question "Jacko" was physically sick on the grass though. Round promptly knelt down and consumed it...urghhh "If Jacko's eaten it then it must be good for you," he beamed.....

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Calland's Cue

Good afternoon everyone.

I'd like to welcome the players, coaches and staff from Oldham to the Shay for today's Northern Rail Cup game.

Oldham have been consistently one of the top sides in Championship One over the last few years and we are expecting a stern challenge.

They will be full of confidence after beating Hunslet last weekend and we know we will need to play to our potential if we want to come away with the points.

We got an important victory at Swinton last Friday night, but, as I said in the Press after the game, the manner in which we achieved it wasn't ideal.

There were certainly aspects of our play that we want to improve considerably this afternoon, in attack and defence.

We have had a lot of changes over the winter though, with new players coming in to some key positions in the side, and it will take for the team to settle down.

Rome wasn't built in a day and hopefully we can take another step forward against Oldham today. Enjoy the game,

Matt Calland



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2010

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&

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Today's Visitors

Oldham



2010 ended in devastating fashion, as Oldham lost in the Championship 1 Grand Final, to the York City Knights.

Yet they arrive to the Shay hopeful today, after an off season that saw the likes of John Clough, Paul Noone and Andy Isherwood join the Club.

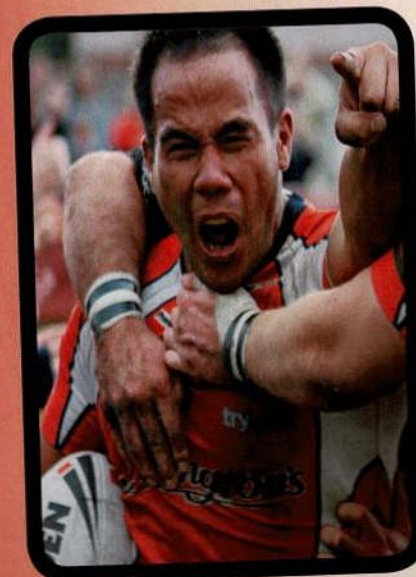
Tony Benson's men arrive at the Shay looking to start the year on a high. Last week they hosted the Hunslet Hawks (who will visit the Shay on Thursday 9th June - live on SKY), which ended up 28-22 to Oldham.

Welcome to the Shay Stadium Oldham fans, we hope your afternoon is a great one

Player to Watch



Marcus St Hilaire



SUBS

[illegible]

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Player Profile **Miles Greenwood**

Position: Full Back Age: 23

Former Clubs: St Helens
Leigh

Honours: Grand Final Winner
England Academy

Hobbies: Music
Reading

Ambitions: Play Super League

Fave Movie: Snatch

Pride and Joy: Laptop

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Two: CCF & 4NF	85	55	35	25
Two: SLGF & 4NF	85	55	35	25

KEY: CCF, Carnegie Challenge Cup Final; SLGF, Engage Super League Grand Final; 4NF, Four Nations Final

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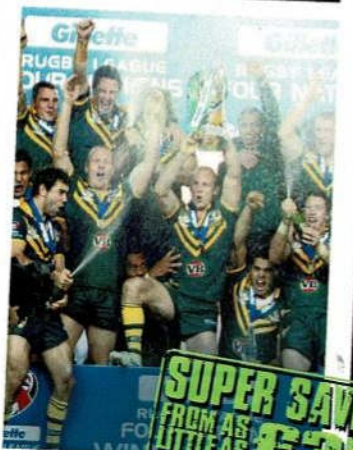
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*Stadium venue for Four Nations Final to be finalised.

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16 League Express

By Gareth Walker

FEATHERSTONE Rovers coach Daryl Powell raised an interesting proposal in the latest Rugby League World magazine – a Championship Origin series. Powell would like to see teams from Lancashire, Yorkshire and Cumbria compete against each other every year.

One of the key reasons behind his thoughts is that players at this level currently have no realistic representative rugby to aim towards.

But he also feels that the matches would provide a thrilling spectacle that would attract fans from across the sport.

"I think it would be good to have a Lancashire-Yorkshire game at this level, which could include Cumbria as well," Powell said.

"That would give the players something extra to aim for. Maybe it would be just one game initially and see if there is anything there, but I think that the more competitive rep football we can get, the better."

"There is nothing for our blokes to look towards from that point of view at the moment, and this would provide them with a real step up to work towards and give us something that we don't currently have.

"Players at our level just don't get picked for rep games at the moment.

"I was fortunate enough when I was coming through at Sheffield to get picked for Yorkshire, and that was immense for me at the time. You don't see that happening any more.

"This would be something that all players at our level

could strive towards, and showcase themselves at a higher level.

"We would have 30-odd high quality players on and for me it would be outstanding.

"We would also get a couple of coaches with some to aim towards, providing a terrific short-term coaching opportunity, which is a little bit different to managing club football."

Powell's idea has found immediate support from former Great Britain teammate Denis Betts, now coach at Widnes Vikings.

"It could raise the bar up again, and would be good for the players at this level to improve themselves," Betts said.

"They could showcase themselves against the best of their competition in a new environment, and it would be a great game for Sky to showcase as well.

"What it would do for coaches like Daryl and me is it would provide another incentive to dangle in front of the players – that they could be regarded as the best players in their position in Lancashire or Yorkshire.

"Super League clubs would be watching the game and that would provide the players with even more motivation."

To read an in-depth club-by-club guide to the 2011 Championship season, including the expert analysis by Barry Eaton, see the March issue of Rugby League World magazine, out now

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Larder's lot

Welcome to this first home game of the season against Oldham in the first stages of the Northern Rail Cup.



This is a massive year for us. Obviously, our Super League application has gone in now, but whether we're successful or not in that, we have got to make the most of what we achieved last year – winning that Grand Final. It was a great feeling lifting the trophy at Warrington last year and we'd be stupid not to capitalise on it, and hopefully getting a bigger fan base to target, more sponsorship and investment. I know that those behind the scenes are working on all these issues and it's true to say that since I've been here in the last six seasons the club has come on leaps and bounds both on and off the field.

So we believe we are ready for Super League, but if we don't get it, we'll just have to keep building until they find it very hard to turn us down.

I'm a firm believer that the best in any sporting competition should be measured on whoever's the most successful on the pitch, and I think that beating Featherstone has certainly helped us prove that.

I'm pretty confident with what we've done as a club and we can't be too far off the Super League place.

Getting to one Grand Final and then winning another means we are the most successful club from a playing perspective currently but we can't afford to sit back now.

If you look at the Halifax team over the early part of Super League they had a really big say in it. They finished third and were getting crowds of 10,000.

So the fan base is there, but unfortunately in this day and age fans want to see top-flight rugby. Certainly if we get the opportunity I think we'll bring those sorts of numbers through the turnstiles again.

But today it's The Northern Rail Cup and we know that at this level you only have two chances of silverware – the Grand Final and Northern Rail Cup. We've certainly been disappointed not to be involved in those big Northern Rail days out in the last couple of seasons so we'll definitely have a good shot at it this year.

Thanks for all your support last season and keep on shouting us on this season, and we'll do our best to deliver again

Dave Larder

We can't be too far off the Super League place

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League Stats

The co-operative

Northern

23

Northern Rail Group 2

Team	Pts Diff	Points
Leigh	20	3
Sheffield	12	3
Halifax	6	3
Oldham	6	3
Hunslet	-6	1
Swinton	-6	1
Gateshead	-12	1
Whitehaven	0	0
Workington	0	0
Batley	-20	0

Results

Featherstone	54	10	Doncaster
Swinton	22	28	Halifax
Toulouse	40	38	Dewsbury
Barrow	24	20	York
Batley	4	24	Leigh
Gateshead	20	32	Sheffield
Leighley	24	6	Rochdale
London	18	62	Widnes
Oldham	28	22	Hunslet

Co-operative Top Try Scorer
COMING SOON

Co-operative Championship

Pos	Team	Pts Diff	Points
1	Barrow	0	0
2	Batley	0	0
3	Dewsbury	0	0
4	Featherstone	0	0
5	Halifax RLFC	0	0
6	Hunslet	0	0
7	Leigh	0	0
8	Toulouse	0	0
9	Sheffield	0	0
10	Widnes	0	0
11	York	0	0

Co-operative Top Points Scorer
COMING SOON

Co-operative Top Goal Scorer
COMING SOON



Volunteer Uncovered



Sean Rothery Kit Man

How Long Have you Supported FAX?

- 40 Years give or take

Favourite Memories?

- Drawing with Featherstone in 1986, and winning the league
- The 2010 Grand Final

The Best FAX Player you've seen?

- Graham Eadie, he was different Class

How long have you volunteered at the Club?

- 6 years, I think

What do you do at the Club?

- I've been a water carrier, and more recently, a kit man

How did you get started?

- My son was a ball boy, and one game they needed a hand.
- The rest, as they say, is history

Favourite Rugby Ground (Except Thrum Hall or the Shay)

- The Galpharm Stadium

YEARS GONE BY

with Andrew Hardcastle

5 years ago, on Sunday 16th February 1986, Halifax played away at Oldham, in a 14-19 victory.

After a disappointing cup exit to Leeds a week earlier, FAX bounced back with a hard fought away victory that started a 10 man winning streak.

This run was the start of the fine form that brought the Club the First Division Championship title.

On debut in this game was Wilf George, who went on to have a prolonged career at Thrum Hall.

The impressive victory at the Watersheddings was largely down to the fine form of Scrum Half, Gary Stephens. He went onto a score a try and a drop goal that sealed the victory.

Halifax Rugby League

- 1- Kilroy
- 2- Whitfield (Goal)
- 3- T.Anderson (Try)
- 4- Wilson
- 5- George
- 6- C.Anderson
- 7- Stephens (Try, Drop Goal)
- 8- Heugh
- 9- McCallion
- 10- Robinson (Try)
- 11- Dixon
- 12- Scott
- 13- Bond
- Subs
- 14- Crossley
- 15- Juliff (Try)

Oldham

- 1- M'Barki
- 2- G Liddiard
- 3- Warnecke (Try)
- 4- Parrish
- 5- M Taylor
- 6- Ashton
- 7- Kirwan
- 8- Jones
- 9- Sanderson
- 10- Hobbs (3 Goals)
- 11- Worrall
- 12- Graham (Try)
- 13- Flanagan
- Subs
- 14- Lowndes

Volunteer Uncovered



Sean Rothery

Kit Man

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- 13- Flanagan
- Subs
- 14- Lowndes

BACK IN BLACK

How has the off season gone?

- As a team it's been a great off season. I think we're bigger, fitter stronger than we were last year.

Your thoughts on recruitment?

- Losing Shad and Branno is a big loss, we will miss their experience. But Jonesy coming in is a big coup, as is Jim Gannon at Prop. We all have some quality youngsters who have joined, so we are in a pretty strong position.

How is the new partnership with Jonesy?

- It'll take a good month to get used to each other, but we know each others game pretty well from the last time he was here. Hopefully we can get a good combo going and take games by the scruff of the neck.

What's the teams aim for 2011?

- Start strong and build from there. The big aim is to make up for last years early Northern Rail exit. That was gutting!

How was the Golden Point Drop Goal?

- One of the best feelings in my career. It was a lot like a hazy dream to be honest though. It took a few minutes for it to settle in and for me to realise what had happened.

At 22-4 down, how did you all feel?

- When they went 22-4 up, we got together and I've never felt stronger. The belief was always there.

Finally, your impending baby, Australian or English?

- Australian... Definitely!



NFU Mutual



fax in the Community



As I'm sure many of you already know we are very active in the Community through the Calderdale Community Coaching Trust. Frank Watene, together with Rob Worrincy, are this season spending a lot of time in schools around Calderdale.

One such recent activity was when Frank took the youngsters from Salterhebble Primary School to the Northern Rail Cup launch recently.

The launch took place at Eureka and also the Halifax Train Station, and it was great to see all the RFL, Northern Rail staff, and players and coaches from across the leagues, turn up to the local attraction. This day included the children from Salterhebble, who went as guests of Frank

Salterhebble kids were great and Tony Hargraves from Northern Rail commented on how 'well behaved they had through the morning'. They were fed, watered and enjoyed a full hour of exploring around Eureka. Tony 'hopes to make it to the play offs again as they would enjoy bringing the cup back and giving a presentation on Rail to more Calderdale schools including Salterhebble'.

Franky a life long Fax supporter who helped organise the day on behalf of the school agreed that 'it was a success' and 'hopes fax all the best for the coming season'.

Frank and the community team will be holding another 2 days of activities at the Fire Station King Cross on 21st and 22nd of Feb during the half term. The day starts at 9.30 to 3.30pm and includes fun, games and art and craft activities for the low price of £10 per day.

For more details and to book contact Frank via email at frank@salterhebble.co.uk Places are restricted so get in quick to avoid disappointment.

It's not just kids that we are trying to help in our Community.

We are aiming to deliver a project using the Shay Stadium as a base for community based activities for those in the community who are over 55. We hope that after meetings between Age Concern, CMBC, Hx RLFC Community development team, and local residents the needs of local residents have taken place we will begin activities in spring time.

For more information please ring Malcolm Kieley on 01422 206106 or 07946510900 or email; mail@malcolmkieley.co.uk



Top of Page: Frank Watene and Salterhebble at Northern Rail Launch
Above: Malc Kieley accepting a recent award

Today's Entertainment

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Welcome back to the Shay for the 2011 season and the start of the Liquid & Mainstreet Match Day Entertainment.

Today we would like to welcome Emily Haigh winner of the recent HX Factor, who will be performing some of her winning songs today.

The tracks she will sing include numbers from Amy Winehouse, The Saturdays and Paloma Faith.

The 17 year old won the recent event, which was in aid of Help the Heroes, and also sang at the Christmas Lights switch on with Halicat.

Make sure you give Emily a huge Shay welcome, and to also see her performances online at www.youtube.com/emilyhaighmusic

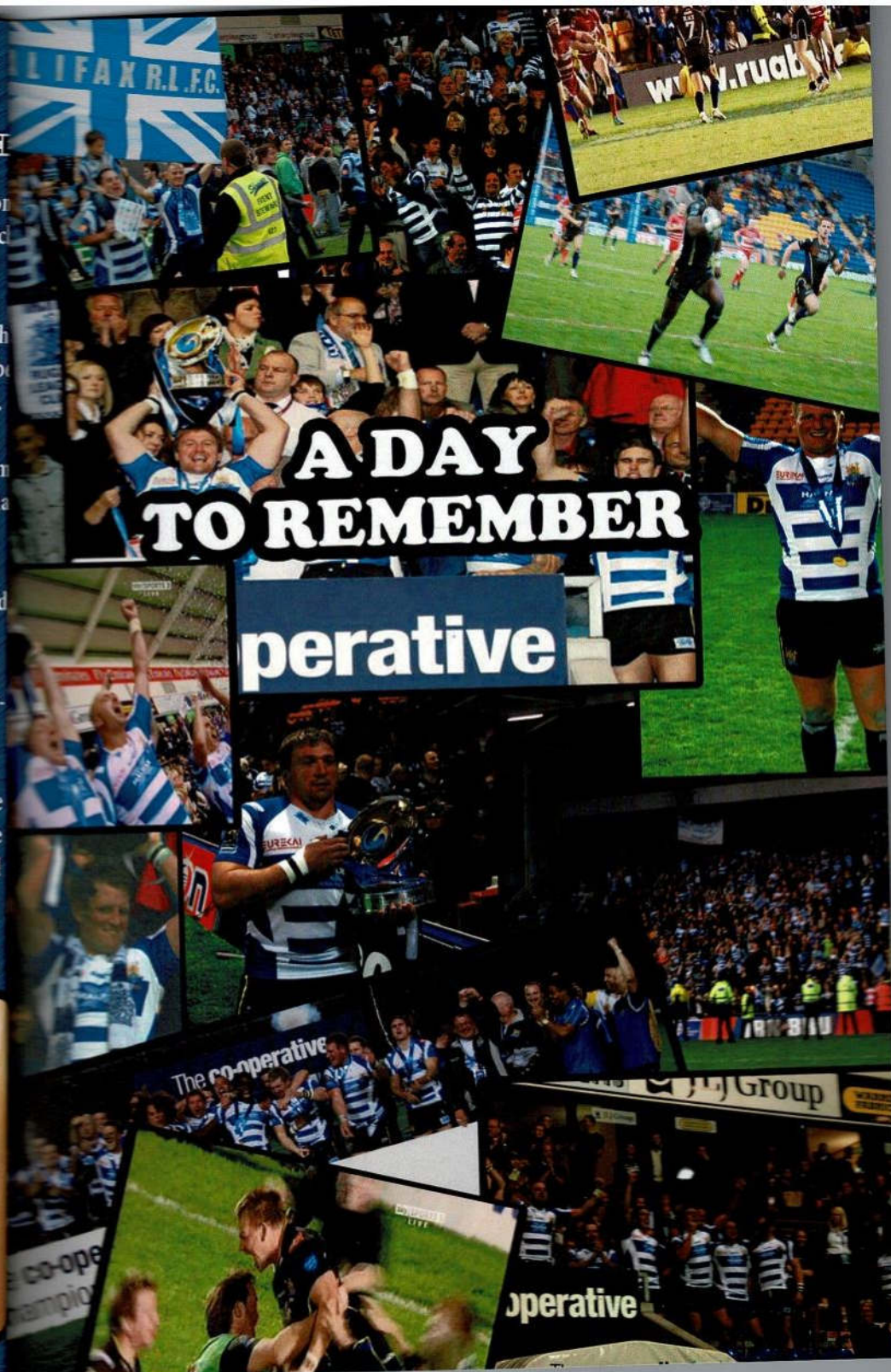
The Faxettes also return to the Shay today, along with a few new members. Some of last years Blue Belle troop have been promoted to the senior squad and are excited to get to work on some new routines. The girls have been training hard recently, so be prepared for some new routines in the coming weeks.

The Club has a lot of new ideas planned for the 2011 Match Day, so look out for more news online in the lead up to each Home game.

Today's Mascot is James Stansfield, who is 12 years old. His favourite player is Ben Black and he goes to Brooksbank School. He also came 2nd in the Grand Final Mascot competition. Have a great day James.



TOP LEFT: Emily Haigh on stage
BOTTOM RIGHT: James Stansfield



As you may be aware this season, Halifax RLFC will be running a team in the new Under 23s competition for Championship clubs. The squad, which is allowed to feature up to 3 over aged players per match, will serve to allow First Team squad players to maintain their match fitness or comeback from injury, whilst providing an opportunity for younger players, many of whom will be locally based, to demonstrate their ability and press for a First Team contract in the future.

Whilst everyone at the club is saddened and frustrated by the rule changes that have meant that the Scholarship scheme cannot be continued at this time, the fantastic support of the Supporters Trust will provide some opportunity to develop and nurture local talent and hopefully translate it into the First Team players of the future. This has long been an aim of Directors at the club, and the revival of the youth team will assist in that goal. The Trust have made this possible with some outstanding fund raising efforts and I know many more are planned throughout the season. Put plainly, without their financial support there would not be a team, so if you can contribute in any way by attending events, coming up with ideas or volunteering your services it really is making a difference.

Realistically, however, the road is a long one – despite the contributions of the Supporters Trust we cannot realistically compete financially or in terms of opportunity with our Super League neighbours, and lose out on players who we would like to have at the club. Furthermore, the absence of running such a team for the past few seasons means that many talented local players are already on the books of rival clubs. Given this fact, the squad is being started from scratch and will have a very mixed look to it – a handful of familiar faces, some prospects from further afield (including Matt Calland's successful Hopwood College team), a number of Halifax born young players who have been involved with other professional clubs and come to their hometown club with a point to prove, and many talented local youngsters aged Under 18, including 4 16 year olds who were on the Scholarship scheme last season. I am not one for predictions, however, rest assured that they will be determined, competitive and committed.

This youthful look to the squad gives us time to work with, develop and nurture these talented prospects with the hopes that some, if not all, may eventually progress to the First Team.

Their development of the younger players will inevitably take place over a number of seasons and patience is a

Key factor in terms of getting them to where they need to be (although if they are good enough, they are old enough). The older players will be expected to help bring them through while pressing their own case for an immediate First Team place as they near the age ceiling for the competition. The nature of the Beast successful team does not necessarily produce the individual or individuals who breakthrough into the First Team, which is the ultimate aim, so it is important that we get the most out of each player to give them every chance to impress Matt Calland.

It would be remiss of me not to pay tribute to the sterling work of our local clubs who have produced these players. The fact that Halifax is among the strongest areas in the game for producing players is no secret in the game, and the level of competition for Halifax based players from Super League clubs including Bradford, Huddersfield, Leeds, Wakefield, Salford and Warrington is testimony to the hard work and dedication of our clubs. THEY are the 'hotbed' that people refer to and we are fortunate to have them.

We are looking at Thursday evenings for our home matches, and I hope that many of you will get the opportunity to pop down and support the boys on their journey.

FAXBUILDER FUND members & the U23s



Ahjay Hussain

Age: 17

Position: Full Back

Amateur Club: Siddal

Honours: Played for Pakistan

FAXBUILDER FUND

The aim is to raise £25,000 in order to fund the new Under 23 Squad. There are a number of ways you can help, ranging from donating old FAX gear, attending the regular events or joining the Supporters Trust. This Fund is by the fans, so please get involved. Visit www.HalifaxRLFC.co.uk to find out how you can help raise this money.

Club Records

Highest Score

88-6 Workington Town 02/03/08

Highest Margin

88-6 Workington Town 02/03/08

Biggest Loss

6-88 Hull KR 23/04/06

Record Crowd

29,153 v Wigan 21/03/59

Honours

Championship - 1907, 1965

Division 1 - 1903, 1986

Co-op Championship - 2010

Challenge Cup - 1903, 1904, 1931, 1939, 1987

Yorkshire Cup - 1909, 1945, 1955, 1956, 1964

Yorkshire League - 1909, 1921, 1950, 1953,
1954, 1956

Regal Trophy - 1972

Match Records

Goals - 14 Bruce Burton @ Hunslet 27/0

Tries - 8 Keith Williams v Dewsbury 09/

Points - 32 John Shuster @ Doncaster 09/

Season Records

Goals - 156 Graham Holroyd 2008

Tries - 48 Johnny Freeman 1956-57

Points - 362 John Shuster 1994-95

Career Records

Goals - 1,028 Ronnie James 1960-72

Tries - 290 Johnny Freeman 1954-67

Points - 2,191 Ronnie James 1960-72

Appearances

Career - 482 Stan Kielty 1946-58

Season - 48 John Thornley 1956-57

Consecutive - 108 Dick Davies 1925-28

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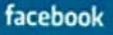
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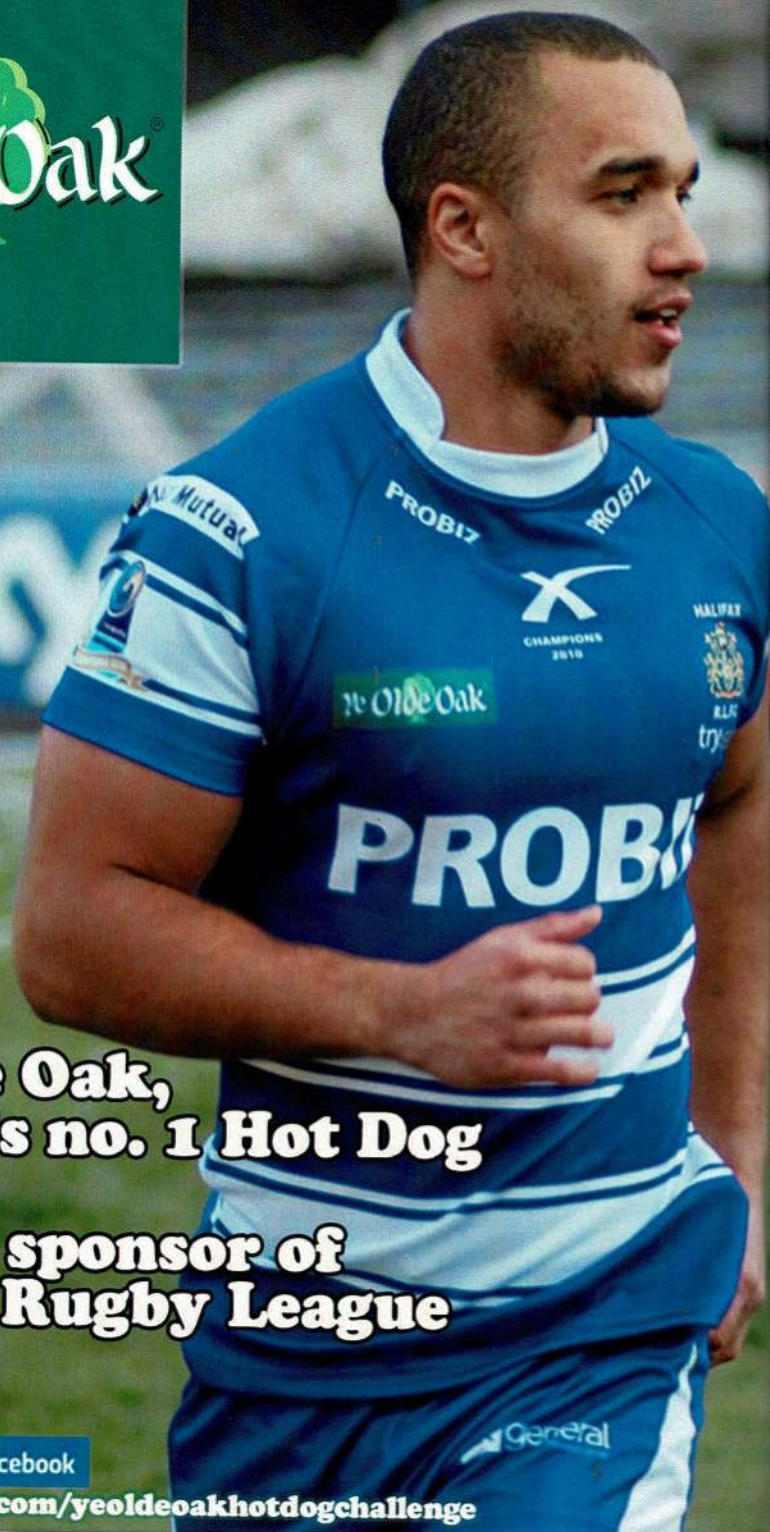




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FAX Fans

Welcome to the Shay,
and the first competi-
ve match of 2011. It's
been a long off-season,
but we have been helped
by the fact that we are
the CHAMPIONS. Will
you ever get old? I
think not!

Hope everyone has been
keeping track on the
website over the winter
months, but if not, you
can be assured that I will
keep you up to date every
single home game.

Let's give you a little
 recap of things that have
 been occurring in the
 last few months. First of
 all, we are still in our old
 offices, and it is driving
 me CRAZY. Why are we
 still there? Something to
 do with phone lines, Vir-
 tun and a whole bunch of
 argon that made me fall
 asleep. Red Tape is quite
 frankly, very annoying!

Mr FAX's Blog

We are hopeful of moving in
soon though, so we would ap-
preciate if you all send good
vibes our way.

We were also lucky enough
to welcome all of the players
into the office recently, in-
cluding the new lads, as they
took the annual Head Test.
It's an interesting time to say
the least. Try and imagine it.
Half a dozen players crowded
around a computer testing
their reaction times and at-
tention span. The latter is
something many of them
lack.

"Yeah, Halifax in Nova Scotia!"

Then there's the competitive
streak they tend to have. It's
great on the pitch, but less
so in the office. Fist pumps,
ridicules, and generally try-
ing to put each other so they
can become victorious. Like
I said, it's an interesting time.

What other little things have
been happening? Well, there
was the one member of the
Club who frantically wanted
to cancel the Hull KR game
after looking at the weather.

"It's going to be -15
tonight, call it off now!"

"What are you talking
about?" was the reply
from Sarah.

"I'm looking at the
weather now, it says
Halifax will drop to -15!"

"Yeah, Halifax in
Nova Scotia!" she said,
hanging up and texting
everyone else in the
Club.

Well there you go
everyone. The end of
the pre season that saw
2 new players, 5 players
return to the Club, a new
director, a new main
sponsor, 2 new shirts
and whole heap of stress;
comes to a sudden end.

The year of defending
our TITLE is upon us
and we cannot wait!
Enjoy today's game and
I'll be seeing you soon

Mr FAX

38 looking forward

After such an amazing end to 2010, 2011 was always going to be a tough year. Yet the majority of last season's squad were kept intact, and hopes are high for the coming 9 months.

2011 is also a huge year off of the field too, with our 2012 fate decided. The Club handed in their Super League Application (via SANTA

Jim Gannon returns to the Club after several seasons away, and Danny Jones will look to create a devastating partnership with Ben Black, after his arrival from Keighley.

Other notable acquisitions include Ryan Clayton, Paul Smith and Joe Chandler.

"2010 will be remembered for so many amazing things"

and a HELICOPTER), and a decision as to who will go up will be made on the 31st Match.

Halifax are facing tough competition from Widnes and Barrow, but the recent BACK FAX campaign will hopefully convince the RFL that the CHAMPIONS are the right choice.

2010 ended with some significant losses for the Club, with Shad Royston and Luke Branighan among those leaving the Shay. Yet much of this has been put to one side with the exciting arrivals of a few former players.

2011 will also be a huge year for a few younger players of the FAX squad, as they bid to cement their places in the talented first team. Sam Barlow has the potential to be a devastating player in this league, and Miles Greenwood will be looking to return to his most explosive best, after a full year out injured.

The new U23 programme will also create a fantastic platform for younger players to step up, including the likes of Josh Barlow, Anthony Bowman, and Jacob Fairbanks (the Club's first ever Dual Contract Player).

2010 will be remembered for so many amazing things, and will go down in the Club's history as one of its most successful. Will 2011 be as memorable? Everyone at the Club is working hard to not only make it as good, but better!



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Match Reviews



Halifax finished their pre season programme with a third loss, but took it to the final hooter before surrendering the lead.

A very late Liam Colbon try finished off FAX, after trailing 12-0 early on. Halifax gave a brave effort, with Paul White and Sam Barlow having particular strong games.

Young trialist, Ryan Fieldhouse, also had a fine game and made a strong case for being offered a contract for the 2011 season

Halifax 24 - 26 Hull KR

Halifax

Greenwood
White
Paterson
Haley
Worrincy
Penkywicz
Jones
Aizue
Moran
Gannon
Bannister
Calyton
S.Barlow

Hull KR

Sheriff
Colbon
Welham
Cockayne
Latus
Bell
Hardcastle
Clinton
Hodgson
Watts
Taylor
Cox
Peterson

Watene
Smith
Chandler
J.Barlow
Cherryholme
Ostick
Ratu
Nash
Fiedlhouse
Talatoka

Fisher
Beaumont
Ollett
Hall
Cool
Salter

Halifax Tries: Penkywicz, White (2), Paterson, S.Barlow,
Goals: Jones (2)

Hull KR Tries: Welham (3), Cox, Colbon
Goals: Hardcastle (3)

Referee - Jamie Leahy
Attendance - 2,025



Halifax started the 2011 campaign with a scrappy, but hard thought win. An impressive start was not built upon at the Willows, and took a late comeback from the Shay outfit to dispose of the Championship 1 side.

The game started in promising style, with

Swinton 22 - 28 Halifax

White and Haley adding early scores. Yet Swinton soon hit back and took a 16-14 lead into the half time interval.

Swinton kept it until late, still trailing 22-20 with 15 minutes left, but hit back with late scores from the impressive Lee Paterson and Sam Barlow.

It was a scrappy affair, but Matt Calland will be happy to see an early season win, especially after losing three on the bounce in the pre season programme

Swinton

Hawkyard
Foxen
Dodd
Thompson
Flooks
Ainscough
Watson
Morison
Ashall
Holland
Hawkyard
Cunliffe
Wingfield

Smith
Mort
Rigby
Johnson

Halifax

Greenwood
White
Paterson
Haley
Worrincy
Jones
Black
S.Barlow
Beswick
Gannon
Bannister
Clayton
Smith

Penkywicz
Chandler
Fairbank
J.Barlow

Swinton Tries: Foxen, Thompson, Smith, Holland
Goals: Dodd (3)

Halifax Tries: White, Haley, Paterson (2), Worrincy, S.Barlow
Goals: Paterson (2)

Referee - Robert Hicks
Attendance - 1,000 est

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H	A	L	I	C	A	T	V	S	J
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K	R	O	B	L	A	C	K	Y	D
B	Y	L	W	D	X	F	G	C	A
N	M	R	Z	L	O	F	B	M	O
C	H	A	M	P	I	O	N	S	P
Q	D	B	C	V	B	M	E	T	K
A	S	G	R	U	G	B	Y	K	U

HALICAT
TRY
FAX
BLACKY
BARLOW
CHAMPIONS
SHAY
RUGBY

HALICAT O&A

Q - Who scored the winning drop goal in last year's Grand Final?

Q- How many tries did Rob Worrincy score in 2010?

Q- Who scored the first try for Halifax in last week's opener against Swinton?

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