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RUGBY LEAGUE INSPIRES

# OXFORD RUGBY LEAGUE



## OLDHAM



SUNDAY 7TH JULY 2013

Kick Off 3:00pm

Programme £3.00

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RUGBY LEAGUE  
2013



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## WELCOME FROM THE BOARDROOM



A warm welcome to all the officials, players and staff of Oldham RLFC on their first visit to Iffley Road. We enjoyed one of our finest victories at Oldham in April and I am pretty sure that Oldham will be fired up today to redress the score. One thing is for sure, we will need to improve considerably on our performance last week against the Gloucester All Golds if we are to take the three points. We face a period of away games post today's match so it's vital we sign off with a victory.

We will once again be without Sean Morris today as he is representing the World University Barbarians against the University of Sydney ahead of yesterdays Lions Test decider. It's a great honour for Sean and everyone at the club is very proud of him.

The back room set up at Oxford RL continues to be strengthened and we recently announced the appointment of Mark Ramsdale to be on the board of Directors. He has vast experience in PR and Marketing and will be a great asset to the board. Mark is also secretary to the All Parliamentary Rugby League Group and was the driving force behind the new clubs (including ourselves) presenting to the MPS at the House of Commons a few weeks ago. The

MPS were very supportive of our club and we look forward to welcoming a few of their members to Iffley Road in the near future.

We will be announcing our new club lottery in the next few weeks. This will be raising funds to help fund our planned community activity in the coming years. Your support is as always appreciated and I know that you will be supportive of this vital activity. The recent cut in Sports England funding means that all clubs must now provide their own funding and our plan is to provide opportunities for anyone under the age of 18 to have access to play our great game.

Enjoy the game today and may the best team win.

Yours in sport

**Tony Colquitt**





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## COACH'S CORNER



To say we were disappointed in last weekend's result against Gloucester All Golds would be an understatement. We were devastated as a group because we had improved so much week on week, and only a week before put in a clinical display to comprehensively beat a very handy South Wales Team, then make history providing the All Golds with their 1st professional win was a horrid experience.

I'd like to personally welcome Chris Hamilton the Oldham Chairman and my friends from Oldham who are true fans of the game. I hope you enjoy our unique surroundings of Iffley Road. I highly recommend that you sample some of our sponsors fine products either a nice pint of Kingstone Press cider or the fine ale produced by White Horse. For an after match relax you've got to head up the road and try the Oxford Blue they've got a load of local Ales on and do a real good feed to sort you for your trip up the M6.

Enjoy your day

**Tony Benson**

It was an entertaining end to end game and our defence was still pretty strong as we were forced to spend plenty of time defending our goal line, in fact far too much time because we didn't pay enough respect to territory or possession and that eventually kills any team. Full credit to the All Golds they were certainly the best team on the day and have made massive progress in adding experienced personnel and the quality in their game. I think there are more wins in line for them as the season rolls on.

We've worked hard on our game this week and I expect a positive reaction today against one of the traditional Clubs in Oldham. They have been travelling really well of late and have racked up some reasonable points against some good sides. We need to be on our game today and spend most of the game at the right end of the pitch or we'll be in all sorts of trouble.

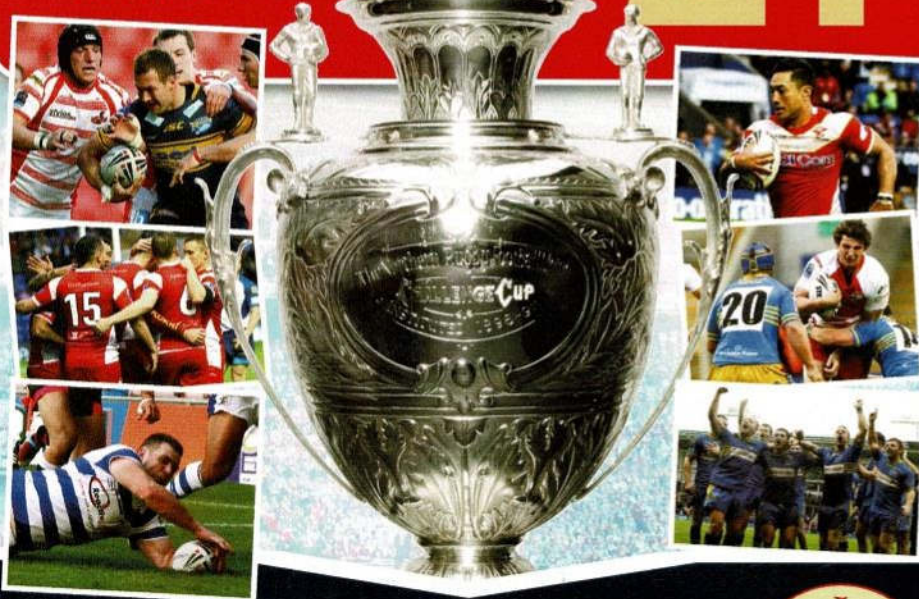


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## CAPTAIN'S CORNER



I am writing ahead of our clash with Gloucestershire All Golds where I am in line to make a return to the squad after almost two months out! Ironically the injury occurred against today's opposition and returning to fitness has been a long time in coming and at times a frustrating period for me personally. However, I have been really impressed with the lads efforts, currently sitting in 4th place in the standings is a fantastic achievement with 7 games left. I am now looking forward to getting involved and help the team for the final push.

Last time out saw us gain revenge against South Wales who had beat us in our first home match at Iffley Road. It was an impressive performance considering the previous week the Scorpions had put 32 points past today's opposition, only losing to a try after the hooter had gone! So to limit the Scorpions to 6 points is a fantastic defensive performance and I would also like to point out we are the first team this season to limit the Scorpions to 6 points in any competition. This should give us a lot of confidence for the rest of the season.

I am expecting a tough game today as Oldham are a team that should be pushing for promotion, they have been on a good run of form and are playing well. We will be expecting a tough game just as we experienced up at Whitebank earlier in the season where we came out 18-16 winners and I am expecting much of the same once again.

Oldham have some dangerous players which we need to be aware of and can score from anywhere on the pitch. Sam Gee at hooker will try and move them around the field and a lot of

ball comes off him. He's a good mate off the field but this will be forgotten come 3 o'clock this afternoon. Richard Lepori is another danger man that we need to watch out for, he is a big, strong, quick player who can play either full back or on the wing and currently has scored 7 tries already this season.

Saying that we will be worrying about our own performance and just sticking to completing our sets, playing with a purpose, playing some exciting open rugby and improving our discipline on the penalty count.

Enjoy the game

**Alex Thompson (Tommo)**



## MATCH REPORT VS GLOUCESTERSHIRE ALL GOLDS



**30th June 2013**  
**Oxford RL 18 - 20**  
**University of Gloucestershire All Golds**  
**By Ryan Cousins at Iffley Road**



The University of Gloucestershire All Golds stunned the home side at Iffley Road on Sunday with a spirited and fully deserved victory to gain their first win in Kingstone Press Championship One.

The away side started on the front foot when a forty twenty kick gave them an attacking scrum which the All Golds capitalised on. Quick passing created space for Mark Barlow who went in-between two defenders to score under the posts. Matt Bradley added the extras to make it 6-0 to the away side after 3 minutes.

On 21 minutes Oxford were back in the game when a weighted kick on the last by John Clough saw panic in the All Golds defence and the ball was picked up by Shaun Robinson to score in the corner. Leather added the extras 6-6.

Oxford extended the lead on 27 minutes when Leather found the gap and brilliantly offloaded the ball to John Clough just before the try line to score under the posts. Leather again added the extras 12-6.

The home side conceded a couple of penalties in quick succession and were made to pay for this when Patrick Smith took a quick tap and put in Tyla Hepi to charge over the line to bring the game back to 2 points. Bradley's conversion levelled the scores on 32 minutes.

This see-saw game took another twist when Brett Robinson put in a pin point kick into the corner and the ball was fantastically pounced on by Ian

Burch to touch down. Leather again with the conversion to make it 18-12 just before half time. The opening exchanges of the second half were a tight affair with both defences on top and a number of mistakes by both sides.

However 62 minutes saw University of Gloucester right back in this match when a break by James Greene saw him beat two defenders in a 20 metre run. He then released Phil Cowburn to sprint the rest of the way to go down in the corner. Bradley missed the conversion to leave it finely poised at 18-16.

The home side had two excellent chances to extend their lead both falling to JJ Baird. Firstly he was released by a neat ball by Clough on his own 10 metre line, Baird broke through two tackles to sprint away down the pitch. All Golds' scrambled defence pulling him down on the 10 metre line, but with no forthcoming support the move came to nothing.

The next chance fell to Baird again when Oxford made good metres after the All Golds had conceded a penalty for a high shot. On the final play Martin Roden passed the ball to the oncoming Baird to go under the posts unopposed, however the referee deemed it a forward pass.

The All Golds were sensing their first victory and it came when Richard Jones went over in the corner after the ball had quickly gone through hands to put him over. Bradley missed the conversion to leave it at 20-18 with one minute to go. Oxford were unable to re-claim the ball from the kick off and the All Golds saw the game out to spark wild celebrations on the touchline.



## CLUB HISTORY OF OLDHAM



In 1876 Oldham Football Club was founded in a meeting at the Prince Albert Hotel, Union Street West attended by Chairman of the Watch Committee, William Chadwick, Chief Constable Charles Hodgkinson, mill owner Fred Wild, eminent local Quaker and Lord to be Alfred Emmott and three brothers of the Fletcher family.

A playing field was organised at Sugar Meadow, Gartside Street adjacent to Glodwick Spinning Mill and changing facilities were provided by the nearby Shakespeare Inn. The club's headquarters were at the Black Swan Hotel, Bottom O'th Moor, Mumps. Their first match at Sugar Meadow was held on 21 October 1876 against Stalybridge. After two seasons they joined Oldham Cricket Club at the new Clarksfield ground before finding a more permanent home in 1889 at Watersheddings.

Oldham were one of the twenty-one clubs that left the Rugby Football Union to form the Northern Union in 1895. Oldham were fourth in the first title race of 1895-96 and second a year later. They were the second club to win the Challenge Cup after beating Hunslet 19-9 in 1899.

Oldham finally won their first Championship title in 1904-05. Oldham won the Lancashire League in 1897-98, 1900-01 and 1907-08 as well as the Lancashire Cup in 1906-07. Another title success followed in 1909-10 as they beat Wigan in the Championship final. Also in that same season they managed to win the Lancashire League and Lancashire Cup. The following season, 1910-11, they beat Wigan again in the Championship final.

Oldham won the Lancashire League in 1921-22 and the Lancashire Cup in 1912-13, 1918-19 and 1923-24. The annual Law cup was first contested against neighbours Rochdale

Hornets on 7 May 1921. Having lost in the 1907, 1912 and 1924 Challenge Cup finals, they finally won the trophy again in 1925 when they beat Hull Kingston Rovers 16-3 at Headingley, Leeds.

The club's last Challenge Cup final was in 1927 when they beat Swinton 26-7 at Central Park, Wigan, their fourth consecutive final and revenge for their 9-3 defeat when the same teams met in the previous year's match. In 1932-33, Oldham won the Lancashire Cup again.

Oldham's success in the 1950s also included a Championship title-in 1956-57; the Lancashire League 1956-57 and 1957-58 and the Lancashire Cup 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58. Oldham lost 16-13 to Wigan in the 1966 Lancashire Cup Final. In 1964, Oldham reached the semi-finals of the Challenge Cup against Hull Kingston Rovers. Oldham were Division Two champions in 1963-64.

At the end of a disastrous 1969-70 season, when Oldham finished 29th out of 30 clubs in a single division, the committee was voted out of office en bloc and replaced by nine new officials and a new chairman in Arthur Walker.

Oldham plead with the local council for a financial bail-out in April 1987. Oldham decided to float as a public limited company and sold their training ground to the council in May 1987. Oldham won the 1988 Division Two title and the Division Two Premiership but lost £135,000. They would win the Premiership again in 1989-90.

To many loyal fans' dismay, the club sold the dilapidated Watersheddings in June 1994 for £1.25m to pay-off debts and moved to Oldham Athletic's Boundary Park stadium.

When a Rupert Murdoch funded Super League competition was proposed, part of the deal was that some traditional clubs would merge. Oldham were supposed to merge with Salford to form a club to be known as Manchester which would compete in Super League. When Salford visited Oldham for a match on Good Friday, 14 April, supporters of both clubs demonstrated against the idea by invading the pitch during the interval. This merger was

## CLUB HISTORY OF OLDHAM



resisted and instead they adopted the name Oldham Bears and were founder members of the new league.

Relegation came in the second year of the new summer season, 1997, when they finished below Paris Saint-Germain. Later that year, under Chairman Jim Quinn, they went bankrupt with debts of over £2m. A new team Oldham Roughyeds was then formed in December to play at a lower level. The new club was created by Chris Hamilton and a band of three directors. The Roughyeds tag had been a long accepted nickname for the old club.

After a successful 2001 season, they narrowly missed out on promotion to the Super League, losing to Widnes 12-24 in the Northern Ford Premiership Grand Final.

In 2002 Oldham won seven and drew two of their last 14 games. In doing so Oldham finished high enough to gain entry into National League 1 when the Northern Ford Premiership was split into two. In the first season of National League 1, 2003, Oldham reached the last four of the play-offs. Although they still made the play-offs for the next couple of seasons trouble was waiting in the wings. Those troubles surfaced in March 2005, Oldham entered a creditors' voluntary agreement (CVA) with total debts of £325,000.

The 2006 season saw the club win only one league game and were relegated to National League 2.

In 2007, a few games into the new season, the excavation and demolition firm, the William Quinn Group, acquired a 52% stake in the club. That stake was later increased to 75%. Bill Quinn became the club's new chairman, with previous owners Chris Hamilton and Sean Whitehead remaining as directors.

Oldham Roughyeds finished their most successful season in recent years in 4th place on the National League 2 table and reached the National League 2 grand final, but they went down to Featherstone Rovers.

In 2009 saw the club finish fourth in the Co-operative Championship One table with a record of 10-1-7. The club would make it to the Grand Final once again, But Oldham were beaten in the Grand Final for a third straight year, losing 28-26 to Keighley.

Roughyeds were told they would no longer be able to use Oldham Athletic's Boundary Park in November 2009. The club went to Oldham Council for help. Oldham Council bought Whitebank Stadium from Oldham Boro FC and then entered into a lease agreement with Oldham Roughyeds RLFC.

Roughyeds' first game at Whitebank took place on 9 May 2010 with the opposition being York. The first time Oldham had played on their own ground in Oldham borough since 1997. The club finished in second place in the standings that year and lost in the grand final to York 25-4.

In 2011 saw the club finish outside the playoffs with a record of 11 wins and 9 losses. In last season's Championship One campaign Oldham finished in 6 place with a record of 7 wins, 1 draw and 10 losses.

## OLDHAM ROUGHYEDS DANGER MEN & FORM GUIDE



### DANGER MEN



**LEWIS PALFREY**

Palfrey was appointed Roughyeds captain in his first season at the club, he can play either stand-off or full back. His previous clubs include Eccles, Wigan St Pat's, then spent five years at Salford, two as full time pro, Captained City Reds at academy and reserve team levels. Since then he played for Whitehaven and Batley Bulldogs, Palfrey currently has 70 points to his name this season and is only behind Johnson of North Wales Crusaders, Skee of London Skolars and our own Johnny Leather.



**ADAM FILES**

Files joined Oldham on a season long loan from partner club Salford City Reds before the start of the season and so far he has lived up to his billing as one of Super League's young stars.

The hooker is often used as an impact player off the bench and currently heads his side's try scoring table with 8 as well as chipping in with a number of assets.

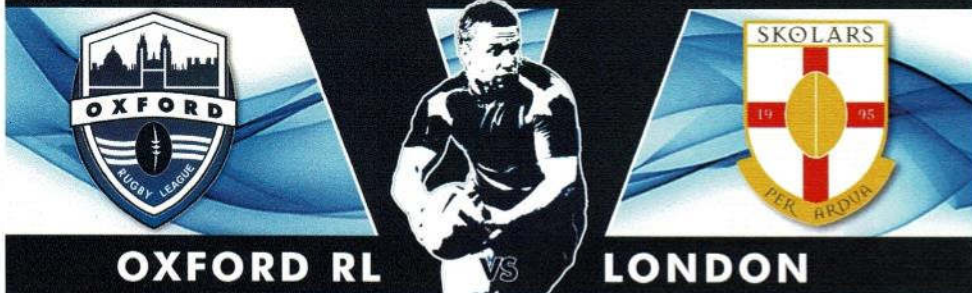


### FORM GUIDE

Oldham currently sit second in the Kingstone Press Championship One standings after beating Hemel Stags and South Wales Scorpions in their previous two matches. Before that saw a loss to league leaders North Wales Crusaders 22-20 but only after missing a match tying conversion after the final hooter had gone. This ended a 3 match winning run after seeing off London Skolars, Gateshead Thunder and Hemel Stags in the previous matches.

Oldham will be looking for revenge after losing out to Oxford RL in week 3. The Roughyeds had started their league campaign with a defeat at home to neighbours Rochdale Hornets, and also exited the Challenge Cup at Hunslet Hawks the week after, before picking up a solid 36-0 victory at the University of Gloucestershire All Golds.

**HOME GAME 3PM SUNDAY 1ST SEPT 2013**



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**OXFORD RL CHAMPIONSHIP 1 FIXTURES 2013**



Sunday 7th July 2013  
KINGSTONE PRESS CHAMPIONSHIP ONE

London Skolars v Gateshead 14:00

Hemel Stags v Rochdale 15:00

Oxford v Oldham 15:00

South Wales v Gloucestershire All Golds 15:00

**KINGSTONE PRESS CHAMPIONSHIP ONE**



| TEAM                      | PLAYED | WON | DRAWN | LOST | POINTS |
|---------------------------|--------|-----|-------|------|--------|
| NORTH WALES CRUSADERS     | 10     | 9   | 0     | 1    | 28     |
| OLDHAM RLFC               | 10     | 7   | 0     | 3    | 24     |
| ROCHDALE HORNETS          | 10     | 6   | 0     | 4    | 19     |
| OXFORD RL                 | 10     | 5   | 0     | 5    | 19     |
| HEMEL STAGS               | 10     | 5   | 0     | 5    | 18     |
| LONDON SKOLARS            | 9      | 5   | 0     | 4    | 17     |
| SOUTH WALES SCORPIONS     | 10     | 5   | 0     | 5    | 16     |
| GATESHEAD THUNDER         | 9      | 1   | 0     | 8    | 7      |
| GLOUCESTERSHIRE ALL GOLDS | 10     | 1   | 0     | 9    | 4      |



|    |            |                                       |        |      |             |
|----|------------|---------------------------------------|--------|------|-------------|
| 1  | 29/03/2013 | Gloucestershire All Golds v Oxford RL | 3.00pm | Away | Score 30-40 |
|    | 07/04/2013 | Halifax v Oxford RL (Challenge Cup)   | 3.00pm | Away | Score 54-12 |
| 2  | 13/04/2013 | Oxford RL v South Wales               | 2:30pm | Home | Score 20-22 |
| 3  | 28/04/2013 | Oldham v Oxford RL                    | 3:00pm | Away | Score 16-18 |
| 4  | 05/05/2013 | Oxford RL v Hemel Stags               | 3:00pm | Home | Score 23-22 |
| 5  | 12/05/2013 | Oxford RL v NW Crusaders              | 3:00pm | Home | Score 4-12  |
| 6  | 26/05/2013 | London v Oxford RL                    | 3:00pm | Away | Score 40-34 |
| 7  | 02/06/2013 | Oxford RL v Gateshead                 | 3:00pm | Home | Score 27-22 |
| 8  | 09/06/2013 | Oxford RL v Rochdale                  | 3:00pm | Home | Score 28-42 |
| 9  | 16/06/2013 | Bye                                   |        |      |             |
| 10 | 23/06/2013 | South Wales Oxford RL                 | 3:00pm | Away | Score 6-28  |
| 11 | 30/06/2013 | Oxford RL v Gloucestershire All Golds | 3:00pm | Home | Score 18-20 |
| 12 | 07/07/2013 | Oxford RL v Oldham                    | 3:00pm | Home |             |
| 13 | 14/07/2013 | Gateshead v Oxford RL                 | 3:00pm | Away |             |
| 14 | 28/07/2013 | Rochdale v Oxford RL                  | 3:00pm | Away |             |
| 15 | 04/08/2013 | Hemel Stags v Oxford RL               | 3:00pm | Away |             |
| 16 | 11/08/2013 | Bye                                   |        |      |             |
| 17 | 18/08/2013 | NW Crusaders v Oxford RL              | 2:30pm | Away |             |
| 18 | 01/09/2013 | Oxford RL v London                    | 3:00pm | Home |             |



OXFORD RL

- 1 Jonny Leather
- 2 Lucas Onyango
- 3 Jack Briggs
- 4 Oliver Johnson
- 5 Shaun Robinson
- 6 Tommy Connick
- 7 Brett Robinson
- 8 Dave Ellison
- 9 John Clough
- 10 Chris Clarke
- 11 Alan Blewitt
- 12 John James Baird
- 13 Valu Bentley
- 14 Alex Thompson (c)
- 15 Glenn Osborn
- 16 Matty Hadden
- 17 Kenny Calladine
- 18 Nath Rainer
- 19 Ian Burch
- 20 Andy McGrory
- 21 Andrew Hoggins
- 22 Matt Fiander
- 23 Luke Evans
- 24 George Stevens
- 25 John Connaughton
- 26 Rauiri Lynch
- 27 Michael Crabtree
- 28 Alex Wright
- 29 Martin Roden
- 30 Tala Petelo
- 31 Scott Critchley
- 32 Sean Morris
- 33 Danny Halliwell
- 34 Danny Price
- 35 Andrew Bentley



OLDHAM

- 1 Mo Agoro
- 2 Dale Bloomfield
- 3 Jason Boults
- 4 David Cookson
- 5 Josh Crowley
- 6 Jamie Dallimore
- 7 Adam Files
- 8 Sam Gee
- 9 Liam Gilchrist
- 10 Mark Hobson
- 11 Kenny Hughes
- 12 Phil Joy
- 13 Danny Langtree
- 14 Richard Lepori
- 15 Callum Marriott
- 16 Steven Nield
- 17 Lewis Palfrey
- 18 Neil Roden
- 19 Danny Samuel
- 20 Liam Thompson
- 21 Chris Tyrer
- 22 Michael Ward



## PLAYER PROFILES



**John James Baird**

**DOB:** 30/10/1988

**Weight:** 95kg

**Position:** Backrow

**Previous Club:** Antrim Eels (league) Ballyclare RFC (union)



**Andrew Bentley**

**DOB:** 13/05/1985

**Weight:** 101kg

**Position:** Loose Forward, 2nd Row, Prop

**Previous Club:** Catalan Dragons, Villeneuve, Lezignan, Pia, French International, 8 caps



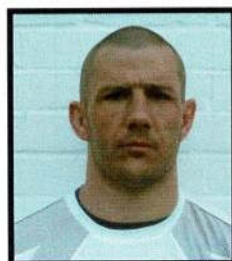
**Valu Bentley**

**DOB:** 09/10/1982

**Weight:** 100kg

**Position:** Loose Forward

**Previous Club:** Ponsonby Ponies, Avondale Wolves, La Reole 13, Tonneins 13, Villeneuve Leopards, Marseille Lions, Gateshead Thunder, UTC 13, Oldham Roughyeds



**Alan Blewitt**

**DOB:** 31/08/1976

**Weight:** 105kg

**Position:** Second Row

**Previous Club:** Henley & Chinnor RUFC



## PLAYER PROFILES



**Jack Briggs**

**DOB:** 02/02/1989

**Weight:** 102kg

**Position:** Centre / Wing

**Previous Club:** Oxford Cavaliers



**Ian Burch**

**DOB:** 07/01/1988

**Weight:** 92kg

**Position:** Fullback

**Previous Club:** Bracknell RFC, Old Patesians RFC



**Kenny Calladine**

**DOB:** 21/10/1989

**Weight:** 115kg

**Position:** Prop

**Previous Club:** Ballynahinch Rabbitohs / Ulster



**Chris Clarke**

**DOB:** 29/03/1989

**Weight:** 99kg

**Position:** Prop / Loose Forward / Second Row

**Previous Club:** Oldham RL



## PLAYER PROFILES



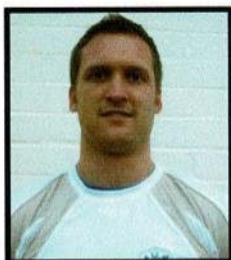
**John Clough**

**DOB:** 13/09/1984

**Weight:** 85kg

**Position:** Hooker / Loose Forward

**Previous Club:** Blackbrook ARL, Salford City Reds, Leigh, Blackpool Panthers, Oldham



**John Connaughton**

**DOB:** 19/12/1982

**Weight:** 76kg

**Position:** Scrum Half / Hooker

**Previous Club:** Oxford Cavaliers, Oldham Saint Annes, Saddleworth Rangers, Royton Tigers



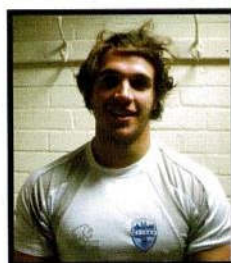
**Tommy Connick**

**DOB:** 19/01/1990

**Weight:** 76kg

**Position:** Half Back

**Previous Club:** Leigh, Oldham



**Michael Crabtree**

**DOB:** 24/04/1991

**Weight:** 80kg

**Position:** Wing / Fullback

**Previous Club:** Oxford Brookes University, Esher RFC, Elmbridge Eagles



## PLAYER PROFILES



**Scott Critchley**

**DOB:** 08/12/1994

**Weight:** 80kg

**Position:** Centre

**Previous Club:** Oxfordshire RU, RGC 1404



**Dave Ellison**

**DOB:** 02/04/1982

**Weight:** 114kg

**Position:** Prop

**Previous Club:** Oldham, London Skolars, Swinton, Wigan RLFC



**Luke Evans**

**DOB:** 09/05/1990

**Weight:** 88kg

**Position:** Stand Off / Hooker

**Previous Club:** Exeter University RL



**Matt Fiander**

**DOB:** 27/06/1989

**Weight:** 92kg

**Position:** Centre / Loose Forward

**Previous Club:** Henley Hawks RFC, University of Gloucestershire, Oxford Cavaliers



## PLAYER PROFILES



**Andy McGrory**

**DOB:** 15/11/1985

**Weight:** 104kg

**Position:** Centre

**Previous Club:** Coventry Bears RL



**Matty Hadden**

**DOB:** 07/06/1990

**Weight:** 93kg

**Position:** Prop / Backrow

**Previous Club:** Rochdale Cobras Littleborough ARL



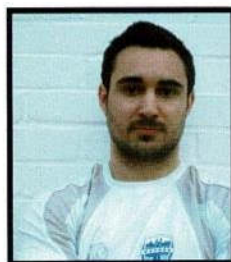
**Danny Halliwell**

**DOB:** 23/03/1981

**Weight:** 104kg

**Position:** Second Row

**Previous Club:** Halifax, Warrington, Salford, Leigh and Oldham



**Andrew Hoggins**

**DOB:** 07/08/1988

**Weight:** 85kg

**Position:** Centre / Loose Forward

**Previous Club:** Southampton Spitfires RL, Millbrook RFC



## PLAYER PROFILES



**Oliver Johnson**

**DOB:** 28/06/1990

**Weight:** 101kg

**Position:** Centre

**Previous Club:** Southampton Spitfires, Harlequins U20



**Jonny Leather**

**DOB:** 29/07/1989

**Weight:** 92kg

**Position:** FullBack

**Previous Club:** Blackpool Panthers, Rochdale, Widnes Vikings



**Ruairi Lynch**

**DOB:** 17/07/1987

**Weight:** 85kg

**Position:** Backrow

**Previous Club:** Oxford Cavaliers, Brookes Bulls



**Sean Morris**

**DOB:** 06/05/1989

**Weight:** 85kg

**Position:** Wing

**Previous Club:** Saracens, Barking, London Scottish, Oxford University



## PLAYER PROFILES



**Lucas Onyango**

**DOB:** 12/04/1981

**Weight:** 98kg

**Position:** Wing

**Previous Club:** Widnes Vikings, Oldham RL



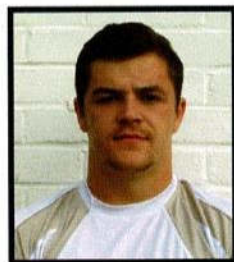
**Glenn Osborn**

**DOB:** 17/08/1983

**Weight:** 106kg

**Position:** Prop/ Second Row

**Previous Club:** London Skolars



**Danny Price**

**DOB:** 5/10/1992

**Weight:** 83kg

**Position:** Scrum Half

**Previous Club:** Widnes 18's, Huddersfield Reserves and Rochdale



**Nath Rainer**

**DOB:** 16/10/1989

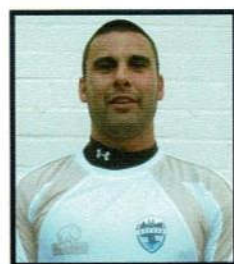
**Weight:** 105kg

**Position:** Prop / Second Row

**Previous Club:** University of Gloucestershire All Golds



## PLAYER PROFILES



**Brett Robinson**

**DOB:** 09/11/1989

**Weight:** 87kg

**Position:** Half back, Hooker and Lock

**Previous Club:** Wigan Warriors, Widnes Vikings & Rochdale Hornets



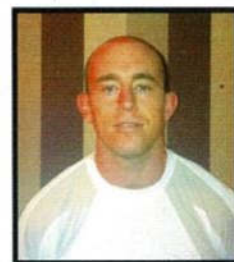
**Shaun Robinson**

**DOB:** 13/07/1989

**Weight:** 83kg

**Position:** Wing

**Previous Club:** Oldham RL



**Martin Roden**

**DOB:** 26/12/1979

**Weight:** 95kg

**Position:** Hooker / Loose Forward

**Previous Club:** Wigan, Leigh, Blackpool, Oldham



**George Stevens**

**DOB:** 11/11/1991

**Weight:** 96kg

**Position:** Hooker / Loose Forward

**Previous Club:** West London Sharks, Hemel Stags, St Albans Centurions



## PLAYER PROFILES



**Alex Thompson**

**DOB:** 11/02/1990

**Weight:** 101kg

**Position:** Loose Forward/ Hooker / Stand Off

**Previous Club:** Warrington Wolves / Oldham



**Alex Wright**

**DOB:** 20/07/1992

**Weight:** 88kg

**Position:** Prop / Second Row

**Previous Club:** Plymouth Titans, Perranporth RFC, Truro RFC

## BACKROOM STAFF PROFILES



**Tony Benson**

Head Coach



**Martin Roden**

Assistant and  
Fitness Coach



**Martin Roddy MBE**

Assistant Coach



**Phil Cavanagh**

Kit Manager



**Ryan Cousins**

Media Manager



**Ozzy Hicks**

Sports and  
Remedial Massage  
Therapist



**Holly Rust-March**

Chartered  
Physiotherapist



**Sy Wiggall**

Strength and  
Conditioning  
Assistant Coach



**Jo O'Donovan**

Sports Massage  
Therapist





In recognition of an outstanding achievement, Oxford RL welcomed pupils from the Royal Grammar School in High Wycombe to their home game against Gloucester All Golds at the weekend. RGS High Wycombe will be heading to Wembley Stadium this August to play in The Champion Schools Final, in front of the 90,000 spectators gathered there to watch the closing match of the Carnegie Cup.

Oxford director Adrian Smith commented "It's a huge achievement for the year seven team, especially considering that the school has only been playing Rugby League for a mere six years and we wanted to acknowledge the huge effort of the boys and their coaches. Actually we are indebted to the RGS coach Liam doubler for introducing one of our players, George Stevens to our great game"

Traditionally the Royal Grammar School is a Rugby Union institution, and a very successful one at that ,they have had teams in two of the last three consecutive Daily Mail Cup finals. The school has, over the past two decades, produced over thirty schoolboy international players, a handful of which have also gone on to play for England and the British Lions – most notably Matt Dawson, Tom Rees and Christian Wade. Alongside cricket, Rugby Union is one of the school's primary sports – and it wasn't until the arrival of Liam Doubler, the school's Director of Sport and Physical Education, that they considered dabbling in rugby league.

Mr Doubler introduced the sport to the school when he arrived in 2007. Initially it was brought in as a developmental experience for the school's U14's Union team to improve key areas of their game ahead of the Daily Mail cup the following year, such as stamina and the strength of their defence. Liam himself was no stranger to the sport, having played both with a Welsh amateur team and Championship One team Hemel Stags, and knew how much of a positive impact the fast-paced game could have on their Union training.

The first year the school entered a team into the Championship schools Cup they reached the national semi-finals, and every year since they have won the London regional title and progressed into the last sixteen of the competition or better – an impressive feat from a team with so little experience. In 2010 the school made it to the national finals of the Daily Mail Cup at Twickenham and took home the title, a win Liam attributes heavily to team's Rugby League training.

The gamble of introducing a new sport to the school has certainly paid off, and what started as extra training for the Union team has now become a game in its own right. The school's U12 team has had consistent success throughout this year's Carnegie Champion Schools tournament, which culminated in their progression to the final following their 52-12 victory against the Yorkshire Champions Dowdales school. Mr Durning, the boy's coach, and the team are now preparing for the upcoming match against the Castleford Academy this August with assistance from Mr Doubler. "The boys are looking forward to it," Mr Doubler says. "They're taking it all in their stride, but they're very excited. We've had tremendous support throughout the tournament, and we've all enjoyed our journey so far, parents and players alike."

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