



1. Chris Atkin
2. Shaun Robinson
3. Stuart Littler
4. Macaulay Hallett
5. Greg Scott
6. Ben White
7. Matty Beharrell
8. Mike Morrison
9. Anthony Nicholson
10. Jordan Hand
11. Connor Dwyer
12. Andy Thornley
13. Rob Lever
14. Kieran Hyde
15. Corbyn Kilday
16. Ben Austin
17. Steve Nash
19. Josh Barlow
20. Mike Butt
21. Matt Bradley
22. Harry Aaronson
23. Rhodri Lloyd
24. Greg Wilde
27. Vila Halafihi
28. Liam Marshall



1. Richard Lepori
2. Adam Clay
3. Jon Ford
4. Jack Holmes
5. Jamel Chisholm
6. Lewis Palfrey
7. Steven Roper
8. Phil Joy
9. Sam Gee
10. Jack Spencer
11. Josh Crowley
12. Danny Langtree
13. Liam Thompson
14. Gary Middlehurst
15. Gareth Owen
16. Craig Briscoe
18. Jake Bibby
19. Adam Files
20. Danny Grimshaw
21. Kenny Hughes
24. Will Hope
25. Tom Ashton
26. Michael Ward
28. Thomas Ashton
- Joe Burke

2016 Season

£2.50

Founded 1866
SWINTON LIONS

This match day programme has been designed & produced by The Swinton Supporters' Trust



Monday 28th March 2016

2PM

Heywood Road

Swinton Lions RLFC

105-107 Chorley Road, Swinton, Manchester, M27 4AA
www.swintonlionsrlfc.com – swintonlions@hotmail.co.uk -
Twitter - @swintonlion - Facebook - Swinton Lions Media

CLUB OFFICIALS

Chairman: John Roddy, **Honorary President:** David Jones, **Directors:** Alan Marshall (Financial Director), Peter Aaronson, Richard Ralphson, Martin Vickers (Commercial Director) **CEO:** Steve Wild

Head Coach: John Duffy, **Team Manager:** Mark Richardson **Assistant Coaches:** Wes Rogers, Stuart Littler, Jay Duffy **Essential Backroom Staff:** Cedri Roberts (Coach) Greg Stebbings (Head of Sport Science), Martin Fisher (Assistant Trainer), Lee Marshall (Performance Analysis) **Club Ambassador** - Les Holliday **Kitman:** Alan Gibbons, **Assistant Kitman:** Chris Gettins **Sports Therapist:** Jenny Richmond **Physio:** Sarah Webb **Assistant Physio:** Norman Brown, **Commercial & Events Manager:** Abbi Roddy - abbi.rod@swintonlionsrlfc.com

Media: Ian Rigg - lionsman992000@yahoo.co.uk, **Club Photographer** - Pete Green **Time-keeper:** Alan Dixon **Community -:** foundation@swintonlionsrlfc.com, **Lottery Liaison** - Fred Dyson, **Matchday Operations:** Colin Gettins **Security & Safety** - Rob McGivern

The Board wishes to express its grateful thanks to all our matchday volunteers.

2016 Matchday Programme Produced by: Jeff Tyldesley, Stephen Johnson, Pete Green, Ian Rigg and Toni Tyldesley, on behalf of Swinton Lions Supporters' Trust.

CLUB HONOURS & RECORDS

Rugby League Champions: 1926/27, 1927/28, 1930/31, 1934/35, 1962/63, 1963/64 **Runners Up** 1924/25, 1932/33, 1939/40 **Challenge Cup Winners:** 1899/1900, 1925/26, 1927/28 **Runners Up:** 1926/27, 1931/32 **Lancashire Cup Winners:** 1925/26, 1927/28, 1939/40, 1969/70 **Runners Up:** 1910/11, 1923/24, 1931/32, 1960/61, 1961/62, 1962/63, 1964/65, 1972/73 **Lancashire League Winners:** 1924/25, 1927/28, 1928/29, 1930/31, 1939/40, 1960/61 **Runners Up:** 1892/93, 1893/94, (Under RFU), 1897/98, 1900/01, 1922/23, 1926/27, 1934/35, 1938/39, 1965/66 **Second Division Championship Winners:** 1984/85 **Runners Up:** 1986/87, 1996 **Second Division Premiership Winners:** 1986/87 **Runners Up:** 1988/89 **BBC Floodlit Trophy Runners Up:** 1966/67 **West. Div. Champ. Runners Up:** 1963/64 **Championship One Champions:** 2011 **League 1 Play Off Winners:** 2015

Win: 94-0 v Gateshead Thunder Aug 2010 **Loss:** 0-112 v Warrington Wolves May 2011

Appearances: Ken Gowers 602 (Including 8 as Sub) 1954-1973

Points: Career - Ken Gowers 2,105 - 1954-73. **Season:** - Ian Mort 338 - 2011. **Match:** - Ian Mort 48 Vs Oxford, Jul 2015

Tries: **Career** - Jim Valentine 300, 1884-1901. **Season** - Jim Valentine 48 1888/89, John Stopford 42 - 63-64. **Match** - Mark Riley 6 Vs Prescott, Aug 1996. **Goals:** **Career** - Ken Gowers 970. **Season** - Albert Blan 128. **Match** - Ian Mort 14 Vs Oxford, Jul 2015

Ground Record Attendance: 44,621 Warrington v Wigan 07/04/1951

Club Record Attendance: 26,891 Swinton v Wigan 12/02/1964

World Record Kick: 77.75 yards by Martin Hodgson at Rochdale Hornets 13/4/1940

Welcome To The Kingstone Press Championship

With Steve Wild

A big Heywood Road welcome to Chris Hamilton and his colleagues, as well of course the players, coaching staff and fans of the Oldham club.

Due to the vast differences in central funding across the Championship, which of course make it difficult for ourselves and Oldham to compete against the full-time teams, the importance of our likely four league meetings with the Roughyeds take on added importance.

I'm writing these notes before the game at Leigh last Thursday night, but I'm guessing that it will have been another tough outing. We've not picked up as many league points as we would have liked, but aside from the Featherstone match when we didn't seem to get going until the last 10 minutes, we've shown tremendous spirit. Certainly John Duffy and the players remain very upbeat and there is definitely no despondency at the club. This tremendous team spirit was typified in our performance at Sheffield in the Challenge Cup, which we were desperately unlucky not to win. Let's just say that I don't think we're getting the rub of the green at the moment, so perhaps we are due a change of fortune today.

On 1st May, prior to our home match with Whitehaven, we are hosting a special pre-match 'Heritage Lunch'. All Swinton past players have been invited, together with the descendants of deceased former players. Amongst the proceeding on the day, all those past players present (or represented) will receive a special Heritage "Scroll". This will display the player's individual Heritage Number together with all their career details for the Lions. Further entertainment is planned and Swinton fans are invited to join us.

However, attendance is limited to 150 persons and tickets are sure to sell out. So to avoid disappointment, please book as soon as possible through Abbi at: abbi.rod@swintonlionsrlfc.com. The price is £30 (including match ticket) or £15 to Season Ticket holders. Every player that has ever played for the Lions has been allocated a unique Heritage Number, based on the chronological order of their debut. This has been a monumental piece of work and great credit is due to Les Smith and John Edwards.

On the same day, our special edition heritage kit will be revealed. This is a retro design to mark our 150th Anniversary. It will only be ever worn once by the Lions, most likely in our last home game of the season. Sublimated in the fabric of the shirt are the names of 150 of our greatest players, each representing a relevant year between 1866 and 2016. You too can have YOUR name on the shirt. The process for putting names on the shirt will be via the club shop tab on our website. The shirt itself will cost £50, with an extra £20 for each name you'd like adding on. We will also be publishing a handbook to accompany the shirt, giving the story behind each of the 150 famous players chosen to go on the shirt.

Finally, the Board would like to thank our loyal supporters for so readily embracing the move to Heywood Road. Mike Jefferson and the Sale FC management have been extremely welcoming, and we very much want to make this place feel like home until such a time as we can deliver our own stadium. Please support our hosts by enjoying a pint or two in the bar, and maybe some of you would like to stay around for the Sharks' fixture later this afternoon.

Duffy In The Den

With John Duffy

Welcome to Scott Naylor and his Oldham side to Heywood Road this afternoon. Oldham are a really well-coached and motivated side, and we'll need to be at our best to beat them this afternoon. Oldham came top of the pile last year in League 1, and we couldn't have too many complaints about that, seeing as they beat us twice. At home we blew it in the first 15 minutes, and then later in the year at Whitebank they came strong at the end just as we thought we'd got ourselves into a winning position.

I'm not sure about the outcome of the Leigh game as I'm writing these notes before the game, but we will have certainly gone there with the right attitude. Anyone who was at Sheffield 9 days ago will have been encouraged by our performance, and I was very disappointed that we couldn't see the game out. A couple of crucial decisions went against us, especially in the lead up to their late try, and then in the last 5 minutes we just needed a bit of composure which might have won us the game anyway.

I feel like we are being pushed from pillar to post at the moment by the powers that be, but the spirit in the squad is still fantastic. Training has been good and the players remain positive and focused. I'm certain that a win will turn a big corner for us.

Despite the recent setbacks on the scoreboard the support from Lions' fans has remained positive and encouraging. There was tremendous noise from the "Shed" against Featherstone even though that was our most disappointing performance of the season by far. So keep up the support, the lads and myself really appreciate it.

Duffs.



Our Visitors - Oldham

By Stephen Johnson

Welcome to all Roughyeds players, officials and supporters to Heywood Road for this afternoon's Easter 'Derby' fixture, and although our move to Sale for 2016 means our grounds are further apart than they once were, we are ensured the usual exciting contest between the two sides promoted into the Championship last year.

Having topped League 1 during the regular season in 2015, Oldham hosted the promotion final against Keighley with a 31-20 victory giving them access to the Championship at the first attempt, sending the Cougars into the 2nd stage of the new format where they went on to face ourselves at Widnes for the 2nd promotion spot.

Oldham were losers in 6 of the previous 8 League/promotion deciders at that level, so it was arguably long overdue success for the proud club, with Coach Scott Naylor having spent his tenure so far giving opportunities to many exciting young players and building a talented squad, this has continued into 2016.

At time of press the Roughyeds have won one league fixture and sit in 10th position, with a full league programme due to have taken place on Thursday night/ Good Friday ahead of today's Easter Monday fixtures.

Players to Watch

Danny Langtree

Joined the club for 2013 as an emerging Prop, has been a key part of the squad ever since, maturing into a strong backrower who played a major role in last season's promotion.

Lewis Palfrey

Club Captain and Kingstone Press League 1 Player of the Year for 2015. A key playmaker who fulfils the kicking duties with great accuracy. One of the best League 1 players in recent memory now able to show his skills in the second tier.

Danny Grimshaw

An exciting Scrum Half who joins from Hunslet, having previously been with York. A long-time target of Coach Scott Naylor who brings options to the half back combinations within the squad.

Joe Burke

The Welsh international Prop has recently joined the Roughyeds from North Wales Crusaders, for whom he appeared in every game of the 2015 campaign, making his last appearance for the Wrexham club against Barrow on 6th March. Having joined the club just prior to last week's clash with Workington he is available to make his debut across this Easter Weekend.

Gary Middlehurst

Another recruit from North Wales, the 32 year old backrower comes with a wealth of experience having spent the previous 3 seasons at Wrexham, following two years with Rochdale Hornets. A strong impact player who had built a reputation as one of League 1's key performers, with the Roughyeds beating off interest from a number of clubs to bring him to the Championship.

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Swinton Lions Foundation

Preparations are currently in hand to form a "Lions Foundation", the implications of which are tremendously exciting.

Not only will a Foundation further our young player development aspirations, but it will also provide us with the framework and constitution to further our community stadium ambitions.

The Foundation will allow us to continue our work with all our community partners including Salford City College, Swinton High School, Age UK, Greater Manchester Police and local community clubs, such as Folly Lane ARLFC.



Recent Activities

It was a highly enjoyable evening at Heywood Road on Wednesday 9th March, as officials of both Sale FC and Swinton RLFC welcomed Lions' fans to their new home base.

Around 100 fans made the trip, and they were greatly impressed by the facilities on offer at Sale. As people milled around, Swinton signage was in the process of being put up to give the ground a more homely feel.

Sale FC President Barry Boardman welcomed everyone to the event with gracious opening remarks, and he was followed by John Roddy who updated supporters on recent events, and of the need to back the Lions at Sale. Sale CEO Mike Jefferson was also on hand to outline the close relationship that has already developed between the two historic clubs. Swinton CEO Steve Wild then brought the meeting up to speed with developments at Agecroft, whilst Head Coach John Duffy answered questions from the floor on playing matters.

Everyone was treated to a free pie and peas supper, before the formalities were completed by the official signing of the agreement between the two clubs – John Roddy and Mike Jefferson putting pen to paper! Swinton will now play at Heywood Road until at least the end of 2016, and probably beyond whilst the Agecroft project is pursued.

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Championship Action

With Ian Rigg at the Sheffield Hallam University Sports Ground

A controversial penalty try eight minutes from time gave the Eagles an unlikely victory and passage into the fifth round. In fact, this was also the first time they had been ahead in the whole game as the Lions had played their hearts out and had deserved victory for their performance.

Stuart Littler put the Lions ahead in the third minute when Eagles knocked on in their own half and from the scrum move the ball moved swiftly to the right and he found the gap to go over and Chris Atkin added the conversion points. Macauley Hallett then went close and was held up and just after that Michael Knowles was dumped into touch on the first Eagles attack.

Hallett put the Lions further ahead on fourteen minutes after he finished off a good passing movement in the left corner and again Atkin converted it and it got even better for the Lions four minutes later when Rhodri Lloyd sent a short kick towards the try line and Mike Morrison won the race with Anthony Nicholson to score to the right of the posts with Atkin yet again adding the conversion points and the Lions now held a demanding lead.

Shaun Robinson went close from a Littler pass before Kieran Hyde was forced to knock the ball dead in goal from an Eagles attack. Duane Straugheir got Eagles on the scoreboard when he crashed over from short range on twenty-five minutes and Knowles converted it and this was quickly followed a few minutes later when Togagae found Menzie Yere on the left and he scored in the corner but Knowles could not convert this one. It was the Lions who finished the half strongly with Lloyd making a break down the middle with Stephen Nash in support but Togagae got to him before he could pass the ball and in the dying seconds of the half, Connor Dwyer was held up.

Hallett put the Lions further ahead two minutes after the break when he finished off another good passing movement to score in the left corner but this time Atkin could not convert against the breeze, but Eagles came back quickly when Ben Blackmore made the most of an overlap to score on the right but Dave Hewitt who had taken over kicking duties added the conversion. Straugheir then added his second try on fifty-five minutes when he chased a Togagae kick to score out on the right but again Hewitt missed the conversion.

Hallett completed his hat trick in rather bizarre fashion when Togagae had the ball centre field ten metres from the posts and he had been tackled and got up to play the ball and there was no acting half back and as he played it the ball ran free and Hallett scooped it up and raced in for the try under the posts with Atkin making no mistake.

Blackmore added his second try twelve minutes from time with some pressure on the line and Hewitt again missed the kick but the Lions were still playing the better rugby and then came the hammer blow when Eagles launched a high kick towards Greg Scott who appeared to be taken out in the air and the ball then landed with an Eagles player Cory Aston who touched it down midway between the corner and the posts and was tackled as he scored. Hewitt then added the conversion points to put Eagles ahead for the first time and then the officials awarded another penalty in front of the posts as the player scoring the try apparently had be fouled in the act of scoring and Hewitt made no mistake again with the kick.

Blackmore was sent to the sin bin with three minutes left for punching Atkin in the tackle and the Lions still kept up the pressure on the Eagles line right to the end to try and pull something back and an incident was put on report in the final minute when Morrison was taken out off the ball and had there not have been a four point gap I am sure Atkin would have gone for goal in the position the penalty was awarded but it was not to be and time ran out but it was a fantastic effort from the team and this was echoed by John Duffy after the game who was proud of his side's efforts.

Swinton 28 Sheffield 32



Action from the unfortunate 28-32 Challenge Cup Round 4 reverse at Sheffield Eagles.

Championship Table

1 London	6	5	0	1	147	95	10
2 Batley	6	4	1	1	141	92	9
3 Leigh	6	4	1	1	188	140	9
4 Bradford	5	3	2	0	172	94	8
5 Featherstone	5	4	0	1	97	70	8
6 Sheffield	6	3	0	3	176	126	6
7 Dewsbury	6	3	0	3	138	125	6
8 Halifax	6	2	0	4	130	104	4
9 Whitehaven	5	2	0	3	64	154	4
10 Oldham	5	1	0	4	74	129	2
11 Workington	6	1	0	5	76	172	2
12 Swinton	6	0	0	6	106	208	0

Table correct up and to and including 13/3/2016.



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Ticket News

SUMMER BASH 2016

After our appearance in the iPRO Cup Final last year we return to the Summer Bash for a league fixture against local rivals Oldham.

We have received an allocation of tickets from the RFL which includes both unreserved seating behind the goal in addition to a number of reserved seats in the main stand along the side of the playing field.

SUNDAY ONLY

West Stand Reserved Adult £30 Concession/Junior £15

North Stand Unreserved Adult £20 Concession/Junior £10

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West Stand Reserved Adult £50 Concession/Junior £25

North Stand Unreserved Adult £30 Concession/Junior £15

Saturday 28th May

iPro League 1 Cup Final 12:00

Sheffield Eagles v London Broncos 14:30

Workington Town v Whitehaven 16:45

Bradford Bulls v Leigh Centurions 19:00

Sunday 29th May

Dewsbury Rams v Batley Bulldogs

12:45

Oldham v Swinton Lions 15:00

Halifax v Featherstone Rovers 17:15

Tickets may be purchased from the Club Office on Chorley Road and also via Paypal with an additional £1 for postage. For more information contact abbi.rodde@swintonlionsrlfc.com.



CHALLENGE CUP FINAL 2016

The club will receive an allocation of tickets for this year's final, to be played at Wembley Stadium on Saturday 27th August.

Tickets purchased from the club will be available at discounted prices, with a portion of income being retained by the Lions. More details around seating location and prices will be made available as soon as we have received our allocation.

2016 Swinton Lions Fixtures

Sun 24th Jan Rochdale Hornets (H) - Friendly - L 24-30

Sun 7th Feb Dewsbury (H) - L 24-26

Sun 14th Feb London Broncos (A) - L 18-38

Sat 20th Feb Bradford Bulls (H) 19:00 - L - 16-48

Fri 26th Feb Sheffield Eagles (A) 19:45 - L 26-48

Sat 5th Mar Whitehaven (A) - L 12-18

Sun 13th Mar Featherstone Rovers (H) - L 10-30

Sat 19th Mar Sheffield Eagles (A) - L 28-32

Thu 24th Mar Leigh 8PM (A)

Mon 28th Mar Oldham 2PM (H)

Sun 3rd Apr Workington Town (H)

Sun 10th Apr Halifax (A)

Sun 17th Apr Challenge Cup R5

Sun 24th Apr Batley (A)

Sun 1st May Whitehaven (H)

Sun 8th May Challenge Cup R6

Sun 15th May Bradford Bulls

Sun 22nd May Leigh (H)

Sun 29th May Oldham (Summer Bash)

Sun 5th Jun Away Featherstone Rovers (A)

Sun 12th Jun Home London Broncos (H)

Sun 19th Jun Home Sheffield Eagles (H)

Sun 26th Jun Away Workington Town (A)

Sun 3rd Jul Home Halifax (H)

Sun 10th Jul Away Oldham (A)

Sun 17th Jul Away Dewsbury (A)

Sun 24th Jul Home Batley (H)

Sun 31st Jul Challenge Cup SF

Sun 7th Aug Super 8s R1

Sun 14th Aug Super 8s R2

Sun 21st Aug Super 8s R3

Sun 28th Aug Super 8s R4

Sun 4th Sep Super 8s R5

Sun 11th Sep Super 8s R6

Sun 18th Sep Super 8s R7

Sun 25th Sep Championship Shield SF

Sun 2nd Oct Championship Shield Final

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• Throughout the season, we will be canvassing our loyal Swinton supporters and have membership forms available for potential new members.



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The Gospel According To Spelly

With John Spellman

Good afternoon one and all, and I hope the Easter Bunny has paid you a nice chocolatey visit!

A warm welcome to our new home to our friends from Oldham, who in their charge to the title last year, were the only team to do the double over us. After today's clash, we'll meet the Roughyeds at least twice more this term, so let's hope we can repay the compliment by dong a three-timer on them, eh kids? Biased moi?

So yes another ground for us to call home, but the real good news is that there's light at the end of the tunnel, and a return to playing within the boundaries of Swinton and Pendlebury finally looks (more than) realistic!

Our hopes have been raised in the past, and I can think of two people at least who reckoned they would / could take us back to the promised land, but not a single brick was laid by either of 'em! However, this time, with the (always very approachable) John Roddy and his fellow board members who are now at the helm of our beloved Lions, we can look forward to actually playing at (proper) home again! Yes! YES!! YES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I did a few calculations, and including the shrine that was (RIP) Station Road, I (along with quite a few of you others out there) have watched Swinton at 14, yes fourteen different venues when we've been the hosts! Do we qualify for an entry in the Guinness Book of Records? I don't think we're far off!

But enough of the history lesson, and let's not dwell on / in the past, let's look forward, and plan for when we're again stood or sat in a stadium with an M27 postcode!

What are we gonna call it once it's built, and there in all its splendour? How's about the Jim Valentine Stadium? We could then have the Ken Gowers Stand on one side, the Albert Blan Stand on the other, and then at each end, the Martin Hodgson, and Alan Buckley Terraces. I'm sure you'll have your own ideas, but the good news is, and tell the world (plus anybody else who's listening) that.....

Swinton are (finally) coming home!

Enjoy the game, and.....

COME ON YOU LIONS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Championship Action

With Jeff Tyldesley at Heywood Road

Four home games during 2016 for the Lions, four different grounds and four defeats; with the announcement this week of a semi-permanent home at Sale RU's Heywood Road, Swinton have taken a step towards stability, one which they so desperately need right now.

Featherstone also needed to do things on the hoof on the day, making three late positional team changes, after the teams were announced initially with Iain Hardman, Danny Craven and Michael Channing all shuffling round.

Rovers however proved too much of a task for the nomadic Lions, Featherstone's defence in the first half was outstanding and points were only conceded when the game was arguably over.

In the first ten minutes alone, Swinton also did remarkably well to keep a clean sheet, Kyle Briggs looked to have set up Jamie Cording for the opener but the pass was forward, Danny Craven was bundled into touch by a number of tacklers lead by Shaun Robinson and Craven juggled another Briggs inside ball and knocked on by the line.

The first three tackles of the next set showed Swinton muscling up and giving out big hits. On the fourth, Andy Ellis eluded the line and shot away, Briggs supported before Macaulay Hallett brought him down. Fev' got up and flung the ball left where Scott Turner crept in at the corner.

With half back partner Briggs receiving treatment, Andy Thackeray took the reins, a chip to the right was picked off and tapped down by Ian Hardman, among a gaggle of Swinton players. Craven was unable to convert either.

Ellis was then collared inches short and only an interception from Stuart Littler defused the situation before another forward pass denied a score for Misi Taulapapa.

Swinton's best move of the half came when Connor Dwyer ran a great angle, Ben White backed him up and Andy Thornley was somehow caught by Turner, just shy of a four pointer.

Rovers remained unflustered and swooped downfield with Craven providing Kyran Johnson with a walk in at the corner. This time, Craven screwed the kick to the right of the posts, Briggs took over the goalkicking in the second half.

The remainder of the first half was untidy and fractious, Taulapapa was warned for a high shot on Rhodri Lloyd, infractions mounted up and it ended with words exchanged among both teams in the centre of the pitch.

There were also a dozen first half penalties as referee Sam Ansdell had to have his whistle close to hand at all times, the Lions then conceded the first five of the second half, a period in which the game drifted out of their grasp.

Featherstone went further ahead after the interval, forcing firstly a drop out, from which Jack Ormondroyd drove back strongly to ten yards out. Thackeray then provided a delightful deft pass to send in Cording untouched.

A grubber from Matty Beharall just beat winger Liam Marshall to the dead ball line before a wayward pass from White found the ground then the hands of Briggs, who ran it in and with goaling both tries, gave Rovers a pretty unassailable lead.

The home side's agitation spilled over and an all-in brawl ensued with Swinton skipper Mike Morrison being sent to the sin bin to cool down.

While Morrison was away, Rovers had a third try disallowed for a forward pass to Craven. This was prior to Thackeray using the extra space afforded to him to dummy his way over.

The biggest cheer of the day was also reserved for the best try, from all of sixty yards out, Dwyer met Beharall's pass on a sublime angle, handed on to Atkin who located Hallett in enough space to race over down the left for the first try at Heywood Road for Swinton, Atkin adding a touchline conversion.

A great tackle from Littler denied Cording a second at the other end before Atkin himself burst the Rovers' cover to score but then failed to convert Swinton's second try.

Swinton 10 Featherstone 30



Action from Swinton's first game at Heywood Road versus Featherstone Rovers.

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Lions In The Great War

With Ian Jackson

The men of Swinton, Pendlebury and Clifton who enlisted during the First World War served in many different theatres of conflict. They fought in Belgium, Egypt, France and Turkey and took part in most of the main land and sea battles. Many of the set piece locations are etched indelibly in the local and national memory such as Thiepval, Ypres and of course, Gallipoli.

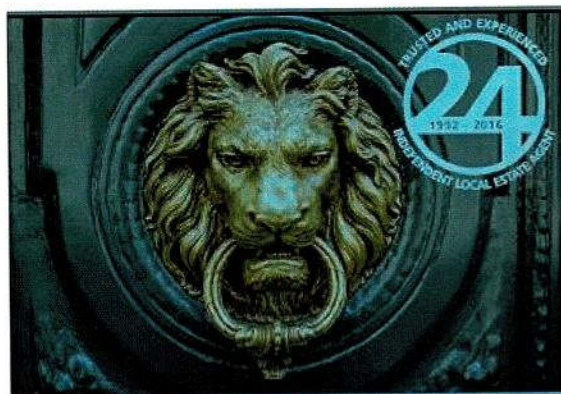
It was at Gallipoli that the men of Lancashire first served along-side the Australia and New Zealand Army Corps known thereafter as ANZAC in one of the fiercest military operations of the entire war. The ill-fated Gallipoli Expedition was an attempt to destroy Turkish forces in the Dardanelles before an outright assault on Constantinople. However, as events unfolded the whole campaign became a costly disaster. Here is a selection of the stories from the local men serving in the Lancashire Fusiliers in Turkey.

Private Harold Unsworth lived at City Walk, Pendlebury and was posted to Gallipoli in May 1915. Before the war, Harold played for the amateur rugby club Deans Rovers from Swinton and was discharged from the army in February 1919 following a long and distinguished military service. In 1920, Harold signed for Swinton and played 67 times for the Lions. Private Jabez Whittaker also played for Deans Rovers before the war and lived on Partington Lane, Swinton. During the Gallipoli Campaign, Jabez was first injured in the head and then sent to hospital in Cairo. However, he returned to Gallipoli and in August 1915 he lost his right hand and was sent back to Bacup Military Hospital in England to convalesce.

Private Arthur Turbine played for amateur rugby club Swinton Park before the war and lived at Bishop Street, Pendleton. During his army career Arthur excelled in boxing competitions but in June 1915 he nearly lost the sight of both eyes whilst serving in Gallipoli. He was evacuated to Malta to recover and then sent back to England. Corporal Henry White also played for Swinton Park as well as professionally for Broughton Rangers before the war. He was killed in action on 5 June 1915 having served previously during the Boer War from 1899 to 1902 in South Africa.

Private Frank Arderton played for amateur club Swinton St Marys before the war and lived at Holt Street, Clifton. On May 1915 he got injured in his left arm and sent to Malta to recover. He wrote back home to his wife: "I had not been in action above an hour when I got shot and the arm is broken." Frank not only recovered but survived the entire war and was not discharged until August 1919. The last word goes to Private Albert Tyldesley of Darning Street, Swinton in a letter home from Gallipoli to his wife. "I would like to see dear old Swinton once again. We must hope for the best and put our trust in God to pull us through."





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2016 Challenge Cup Update

Last weekend, the Fourth Round games that were drawn out earlier this month at the White Lion in Swinton took place. As we went to print, the Fifth Round draw was yet to be made.

The Fourth Round results in full:

Batley Bulldogs 37 Whitehaven 36

Hunslet Hawks 48 Doncaster 6

Sheffield Eagles 32 **Swinton Lions 28**

Featherstone Lions 16 **Lock Lane 30**

Oldham 40 Kells 6

Rochdale Hornets 48 Siddal 20

Pilkington Recs 0 **Halifax 78**

Dewsbury Rams 31 Bradford Bulls 30

Leigh Centurions 68 Workington Town 14

York City Knights 20 Keighley Cougars 12

London Broncos 26 **Featherstone Rovers 48**

Toulouse 62 University of Gloucestershire All Golds 28



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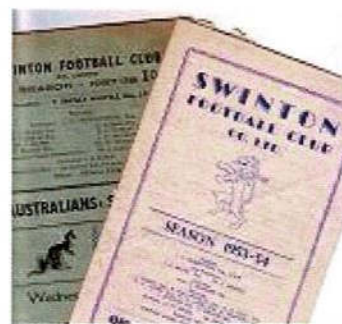
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John Duffy's Blue and White Army

By Stephen Johnson

The Shay Stadium
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The ground offers a choice of seating in the East Stand along the touchline, with covered terracing available in the South Stand – a large standing area that offers a great view from behind the posts.

Admission

East Stand (Seating – along the touch line)
Adult £20, Concession £15, Junior £5, Student £11

South Stand (Standing – behind the goal)
Adult £17, Concession £12, Junior £5, Student £9

Parking

Parking is available in the East Stand Car Park, priced at £5. Street parking is available in the locality, please respect all signage in this regard.

Supporters with Disabilities

There are two dedicated viewing areas within the East Stand. Car parking can be booked in advance direct with the club. Complimentary carer's tickets are available at the main stand reception.

Stadium Bars

The supporters' bar is open to all pre match and is accessible via the main stand car park. Inside the ground the South Stand bar is accessible to those supporters in this area during the game and will remain open afterwards. In the Main Stand public areas food & drink is served on the concourse.

Directions

Take the M62 exiting at junction 24, follow signs for A629 Halifax into Skircoat Road, then onto Shaw hill where you will find the ground. The ground is signposted in the locality.

By Rail

Halifax railway station is within walking distance from the ground. Turn left from the station and the ground is around half a mile away on the right.

See you all there! Eat 'em Lions!



The Swinton Supporters' Trust

- To give the supporters a direct say in the policy making mechanism at the club, by offering financial and practical support in exchange for a shareholding and seats on the board.
- To promote links with the Swinton community i.e. through the local authority, the amateur game, schools, businesses and through efficient marketing.
- To provide a long-term vision in an effort to galvanise all Swinton supporters past and present.
- To seek the relocation of the club back to its rightful roots, because the future well-being of the club is dependent upon the realisation of this aim.

Meetings are held at 8pm on the second Tuesday of each month in the Hall of Fame room at the White Lion, Swinton.

These largely informal social get-togethers are open to all members (with new recruits always welcome), and are always attended by club officials.

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Lions In The Great War

By Ian Jackson

The First World War cast a long shadow over the entire country. This is why communities everywhere were keen to create war memorials and rolls of honour in public places. For example, the Lych Gate at St Peter's Church in Swinton is covered with the names of local men killed in the Great War including Swinton players Albert Sanderson and Joseph Cartwright, who was the son of Sam Cartwright the Lions' grounds-keeper at the Chorley Road enclosure.

Elsewhere there is a Memorial Cross at Holy Rood Church in Swinton erected in 1920 that features the name of Swinton player Herbert Shedlock, who joined "A" Company of the 22nd Service Battalion of the Manchester Regiment. On the 11 January 1917 whilst stationed in France, Herbert took part in a dawn raid on enemy lines. The assault on a German trench was successful and Herbert came through safely and took-up a position in a captured dug-out. However, as the morning mist cleared, the German snipers became active. Herbert was shot through the head and killed as he emerged to take a message to an officer. In a letter from the company quartermaster, it was said that there was universal respect for Herbert from both the officers and men alike. Many of the other soldiers wrote letters of condolences to Herbert's family as he was held in such high esteem.

Also on the Memorial Cross at Holy Rood Church is the name of Harold Bertram Rylands who was born in Eccles and lived at Ashburn Lodge in Worsley. Prior to the war, Harold studied at the University of Manchester and was part of the Swinton Boy Scouts and the Swinton Home Defence Corps. On 19th December 1914, he was commissioned as second Lieutenant in the 16th Battalion of the Lancashire Fusiliers which contained many local Swinton men. By 22nd November 1915, the Battalion had landed in France at Boulogne headed for the Somme Battlefield. Harold was injured in the head in 10th March 1916 but recovered; and he even survived the carnage of 1st July 1916 on the opening day of the Battle of the Somme. However, on 23 November 1916 the 16th Lancashire Fusiliers attacked enemy lines in concert with the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Supported by a barrage, the men dashed across the devastated terrain and sped towards the German "Munich" trench where fierce hand-to-hand fighting followed. It was here that Private Dai Davies witnessed Harold fall into the German lines after being shot but no-one could reach him. Harold's name adorns the vast Thiepval Memorial in France that commemorates the soldiers who fell at the Battle of the Somme.

Mercifully, Welsh-born Private Dai Davies of the 16th Lancashire Fusiliers survived the conflict. He played for Swinton before the Great War and holds the unique distinction of playing in the 1900 Challenge Cup Final for Swinton against Salford and in the 1904 FA Cup Final for Bolton Wanderers against Manchester City in a truly remarkable life.



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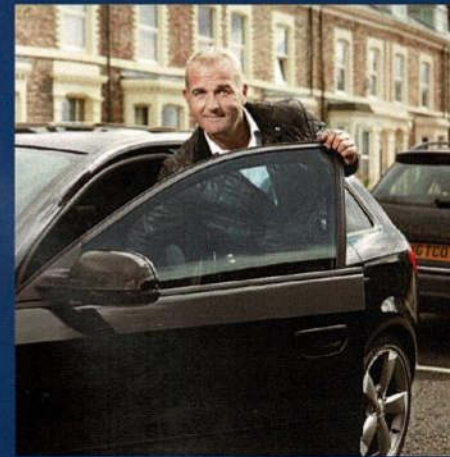
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