

Season 2017
20th anniversary
season

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ROUGHYEDS

vs LONDON BRONCOS

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19 2017
KICK-OFF 3PM



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WHAT THE CHAIRMAN HAS TO SAY

.....

It has been a long time since I was as happy with a defeat as I was last week after we narrowly lost at Featherstone.

The team's effort, determination and commitment were exceptional, given the dreadful conditions and the quality of our opponents.

Featherstone are one of the division's big spenders and as they finished in the top four last season it was very pleasing to come away

disappointed, if that makes sense.

It was also good to compare what happened last Sunday with what happened when we played there last season.

Last season we paid them far too much respect and we didn't get into the game until they had scored 12 points or so, whereas last Sunday we got stuck into the match right from the start and we didn't allow the quality of our performance to drop throughout the 80 minutes.

What's more, we didn't deserve to come away empty-handed.

I have spoken previously about the quality we have added to the squad this season and the two performances so far have proved that.

There is a long way to go, of course, and we would never be so naive as to think we have "made it". Nevertheless, we have shown that we can play to a higher level than we did last season and that is the kind of improvement we want and also want to maintain.

The strength of the division is demonstrated not only by the results so far, but also by the fact that today we are up against one of the full-time teams in the Kingstone Press Championship.

London Broncos will also be looking to improve on what they did last year and to be challenging again for promotion to Super League.

We were 'nilled' in the

corresponding fixture last season here at Bower Fold. It was our first game at this level and although we had a lot of possession and Broncos had to drop out from under the posts at least four times we couldn't get over the line.

Personally, I think we are a different proposition this season so it will be interesting to see how we fare against them this time round.

Next week we go to another full-time team in Hull KR, who are everybody's favourites to get promoted. We did quite well on our last trip over there so let's hope for more of the same!

The opening fixtures have demonstrated just how hard the division is and have underlined also how much we want to be in it. We want to improve year on year, both on and off the pitch, and if you are in the ground today and you are reading this, then you are one of the club's disciples.

Please tell as many people as you can about the fantastic performances the team puts in as we seek to grow our attendances so that everybody connected with the club can then benefit.

Support so far has really encouraged the lads, so please keep it up.

Enjoy the game,

Christopher Hamilton.
Chairman



TOUCHLINE TOPICS BY SCOTT NAYLOR

HELLO everyone and welcome to today's game at Bower Fold.

This afternoon's opponents are the London Broncos who, after two Championship games, come to us with a win and a loss under their belts, which mirrors our results.

Last season we played the Broncos here at Bower Fold in our very first game at Championship level and we looked a little nervous because everything about the Championship was new to us and nerves, as you would expect, were very much to the fore in our first couple of games.

Last week we played Featherstone Rovers away and we were extremely unlucky, in an 8-6 defeat, to get nothing from the game.

My point is this; we played

Featherstone away early on last year, as well, and again we looked nervous in defeat. But what a difference last week.

We were dominant and aggressive and for large parts of the game we looked better than Featherstone, even though we didn't get anything from it in terms of league points.

That shows how far we have come, as a team and as a club, in the past 12 months

As far as today's match is concerned, it's all about being the same team as last week and believing in ourselves and what we work on consistently to improve ourselves.

This is the best squad of players we have had at Oldham for many years and I truly believe we will make progress as a club in 2017.



Many thanks,

Scott

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

OUR trip to Belle Vue Greyhounds on March 18 is sold out, but there are still places available when we go to Chester Races on Saturday, June 10. The price of £35 includes return transport and entry to Dee Stand.

We are also selling wine and whisky to celebrate the club's 20th Anniversary, red, white and rose at £12 a bottle and whisky at £24. Ring Anne on 07811988426.





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ONCE, TWICE, THREE TIMES LEPORI

'LIPPY' is 'home', back for a third time, and after watching the boys blitz Sheffield Eagles in the second half to win 26-10 he expressed the view that it might be difficult to get back into the team

He's not ready to mount a challenge yet, but by early March he should be starting to apply some pressure, having completed his commitments with Sedgley Tigers RUFC and having finished his short spell of intense physical training to get him back up to speed.

At the end of last season, when new contracts were on offer, Richard Lepori decided to take a step back from the game and to take up his studies again, this time in Chester, to work for a master's degree in the sociology of sport and exercise.

In the five months or so since then, 'Lippy's' life has turned full circle. He is still on with his studies, in a part-time capacity, but he's been playing the 15-a-side game, he has relocated from Chorley to city-centre Manchester and he has taken up a new post as a sports lecturer at Tameside College.

"I'm back," said the 25-year-old Italy international. "... Back to where I was always going to be if I returned to rugby league. There was interest from other clubs, but I was never going to go anywhere else."

He added: "I'm ready to get back into rugby league now and I'm looking forward to picking up the pieces again at Oldham. I've always been happy there; always played my best rugby there, "I've been with Scott, 'Spanner' and Peter (head coach Scott Naylor and his assistants Lee Spencer and Peter Carey) since I was a youngster at Salford. They always get the best out of me. They're like father figures.

"It will be a big achievement if we can finish higher in the

Championship than we did last year, but we've signed some good new players and I think we'll go well, especially when we get some of the injured lads back in the side."

He helped Italy to qualify for the World Cup, to be held later this year in Australia and New Zealand, and he is hoping to have a big season at Oldham to enhance his chances of a trip Down Under, playing with and against some of the biggest names in the sport. In his two previous spells at Oldham, going back to 2013, he has scored a total of 19 tries in 53 games.

Said Scott: "We told 'Lippy' at the end of last season that if he ever wanted to come back we would welcome him with open arms. "We found out that he was willing to talk about things again and Chris (club chairman Chris Hamilton) moved very quickly to get the deal done.

"We are delighted. He's a quality player and a quality lad, who will make our back line so much stronger. "We like to start each season by leaving room in the squad for quality additions, and we did look a bit light in the friendlies when we picked up a few injuries.

"But with Richard back; Keiran Gill and Tuoyo Egado having joined us on loan from Castleford; and some of the injured lads getting ready to return we look a lot stronger."



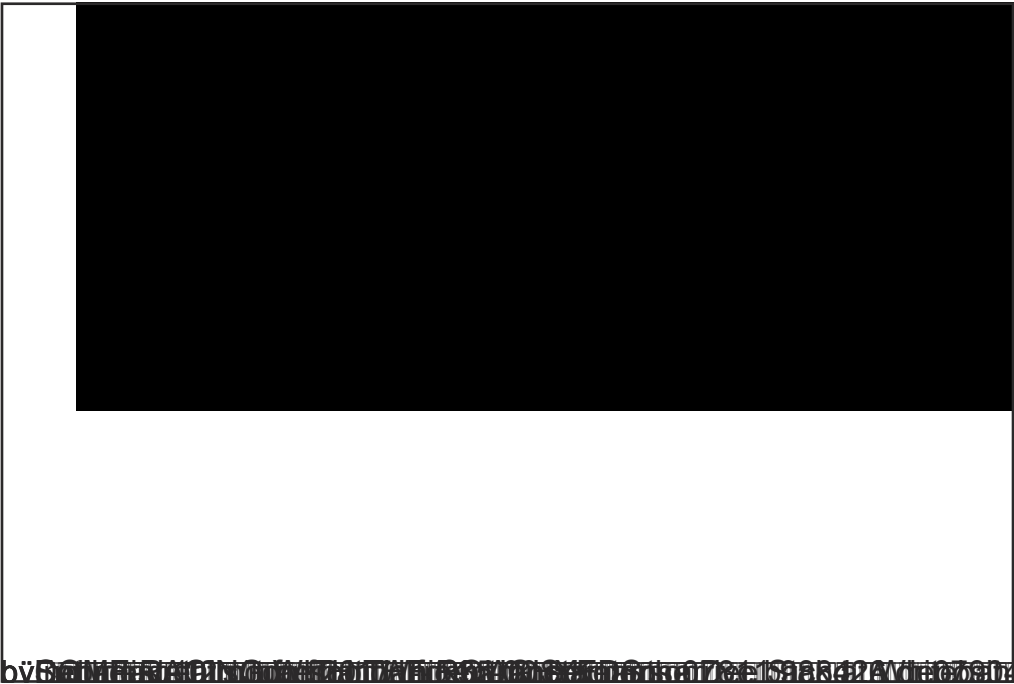


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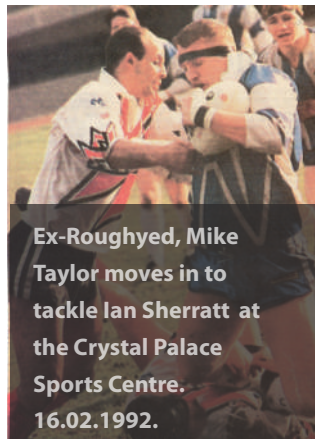
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Oldham Rugby League Heritage Trust

The history of London Broncos can be traced back to the formation of the Fulham rugby league club in 1980. It wasn't until the 1983-84 season that the Roughyeds played against Fulham and have subsequently met them under their various identities as London Crusaders, Harlequins and the



**Terry Flanagan breaks clear against Fulham at Craven Cottage.
18.02.1984.**



**Ex-Roughyed, Mike Taylor moves in to tackle Ian Sherratt at the Crystal Palace Sports Centre.
16.02.1992.**



Under the watchful eye of Tiny Solomona, solid defence from Mark Sheals, Steve Warburton and Sean Tyrer brings an end to a Crusaders attack at Watersheddings. 31.01.1993.



Through the Years. Oldham v London B.



Howard Hill leads the charge against the Broncos at Watersheddings. 20.09.1995.



Phil Joy and Danny Langtree drive into the Broncos defence at Bower Fold last season. 07.02.2016.



AS part of our continuing partnership with Spindles Town Square Shopping Centre, the Roughyeds squad turned out in force on the Centre's upper mall to do a meet-and-greet session with shoppers on a busy Saturday after training.

The players signed autograph books, kit and other club merchandise and enjoyed having chats with supporters, young and old alike.

Central to our partnership is club mascot Roary, who is sponsored by the Shopping Centre.

Said our chairman, Chris Hamilton: "By sponsoring Roary, Spindles continue to support the club in a way that is beneficial to both parties."



Squad signing session at Spindles voted a hit

BIRTHDAY BOY'S BIG WEEKEND!



TUOYO Egodo is relishing the idea of mixing it with the big boys in his first season of Championship rugby.

If he plays on Sunday it will be a massive occasion for the young Londoner, who spent four years at London Broncos before moving north to sign a full-time contract for Castleford Tigers and then coming to Oldham on loan to aid his development.

He celebrated his 20th birthday this week.

Tuoyo was born in Hackney, of Nigerian parents, and grew up in Tottenham, not far from White Hart Lane. Dreaming of soccer stardom, he was

at Spurs as a kid, but was released when he was 12.

To this day, he's still a "massive" Spurs fan, but his sporting ambitions lie in a different direction.

With his 13-year-old boy at a sporting crossroads, Tuoyo's dad suggested he should try the 'rugby club just up the road'; better known to us as London Skolars.

Tuoyo thus joined the junior section associated with Skolars; was soon picked for North London Boys against South London Boys; and was ultimately scouted by the Broncos, whom he joined when he was 15.



Said Tuoyo: "I was living at the family home but last year I felt it was time for me to seek some independence, so I asked my agent to look for another club and Castleford immediately showed interest.

"It was a life-changing decision to move to Yorkshire because I gave up a bank job in the City and left home for the first time.

"I don't drive and the first few weeks were tough, but I've settled in now; I've got to know the Cas lads; and when I was put in touch with a barber in Leeds guess who it was --- Jamel Chisholm, would you believe !

"I know Scott Leatherbarrow from Broncos and after four months in the north I prefer it up here

now. The people are more friendly."

He couldn't have had a tougher start than going head to head with Menzie Yere in the Sheffield game.

Added Tuoyo: "Menzie's a juke box ! He smashed me a few times, but I gave him a bit back and that's what I wanted -- to be playing against tough men who have been in the game for a long time.

"I've lost weight at Cas -- down from 101k to 94k --- and I prefer centre to wing because you get more ball and a greater chance to use your feet, which is what I like doing."



BIG DAY FOR LEATHERBARROW



SCOTT Leatherbarrow played 17 times last year for a London Broncos side that finished second to Leigh Centurions in the regular Championship season and then took Salford Red Devils to the wire for the right to play in the Million Pound Game.

A Wiganer, he later moved back north to become a Roughyed on a two-year deal --- and on Sunday he faces the prospect of going head to head with his former team, shouldering heavy responsibility as our chief play-maker, main tactical kicker, vice-captain and goalkicker.



RH: How's life treating you back in the north ?

SL: All good. Loving it. Georgia and I are back in Wigan and ten weeks ago Georgia presented us with baby Autumn, who's keeping us both busy. I've got my old job back, teaching PE at a primary school in Haydock, so things couldn't be much better.

RH: And how are you finding it as an Oldham player ?

SL: Great. We're a closely-knit bunch, training and coaching are good and we showed what we're capable of when beating Sheffield Eagles in our last home game and then taking Featherstone down to the wire at The Big Fellas Stadium.

RH: Will it be a special occasion for you today ?

SL: I suppose it will in a way. It's my first game against my former club, where I made a lot of friends. I'm looking forward to it. I hope we can perform well.

RH: Have you supplied Scott Naylor with any inside tips ?

SL: I've mentioned one or two bits but, of course, they might have changed things around this year. And it works both ways; they know all about me as

well.

RH: Is there much of a difference between full-time and part-time ?

SL: Yes and no. The actual training is very similar, not much difference at all. But full-timers get a lot more time for recovery, rehab and things like that. There are other perks too. As part-timers we have to cram everything into three sessions a week.

RH: Finally, your thoughts on today's game ?

SL: Broncos will be looking for another good season and getting up to Super League. We know it's going to be tough, but if we play anything like we can we can compete with them and then see where we go from there. Regardless of the result, if we put in a good performance we'll know we can compete with the top teams and that will stand us in good stead for the rest of the year.

A product of Wigan St Pat's, Scott spent his formative years with Wigan Warriors and Warrington Wolves, followed by a season at Keighley Cougars, two at Batley Bulldogs and then this year as a full-time pro in the capital. A goalkicker, he has played 102 senior games, scoring more than 500 points.

In his two seasons at Batley, he

amassed 315 points in 54 games and caught the eye of London's Aussie boss Andrew Henderson, who lured him to the bright lights down south on a full-time contract for the 2016 season. When he left for pastures new, Henderson said: "Scotty leaves us with our very best wishes. In leading the side around the park, he will do a big job at Oldham.

"He's at the stage of his career where he needs to be a starting half-back every week, shouldering the responsibility that goes with it, and I couldn't guarantee him that because we have a few good half-backs here. "Also, he wants to head home for family reasons so the move will be good for him and good for Oldham.

"He was a good player when he came from Batley -- I saw a lot of potential in him -- and he's even better now, and a better person too, having worked in a full-time environment with myself and my staff and playing alongside other full-time players."

Scott said at the time: "The capital was okay, but I'm a Wigan lad and there's no place like home. We finally made up our mind when Georgia became pregnant. We wanted to be back with family. "I was looking for a Championship club in Lancashire and when Oldham came in for me I knew right away it was the club for me.



LONDON BRONCOS - Today's Visitors



It was the narrowest of margins that prevented London Broncos from claiming a place in the 2016 million pound game. Salford benefitted from a superior points difference and were able to travel to the East Coast to face Hull KR in that jaw dropping end-of-season finale.

Relegated in that game, Hull KR are widely predicted to be the Londoners main rivals for the Championship Leaders trophy this year and both clubs will be keen to progress even further and return to Super League.

Last week in round two, Hull KR travelled to the Broncos home at Trailfinders in West London for the first of their 2017 encounters. The home side took an early lead but the visitors managed to gain the initiative before half-time and led 16-6 at the interval.

The second period saw tries scored by both sides and although KR never relinquished their advantage, London would not lie down and be beaten; they remained in contention until the closing moments of the game. The match concluded at 28-22 to Rovers and the close result will add spice to the next meeting of the two big guns later in the season.

Broncos head coach Andrew Henderson has recruited well in the Winter. Jarrod Sammut, Jay Pitts and former on-loan Roughyed Tom Spencer have joined his squad together with Hackney born Kieron Dixon who returns for his second spell at the club. They join players with the calibre of hooker James Cunningham who was named Kingstone Press Championship Young Player of the Year for 2016.

Oldham suffered a double loss to the Broncos last season, losing 22-0 at Bower Fold in round 1 before falling to a 56-16 defeat in round 18. Both clubs will be hoping to add to their points tally this afternoon, each having one win and one loss under their belts. The two sets of players will be smarting from close defeats last weekend and should be fired up to put things back on track. We should be in for a thrilling encounter.



SOUTHERN STARS



EDDIE BATTYE

A strong front-rower who came through the academy system at Sheffield Eagles.

Joined the Broncos on a two year contract at the start of the 2016 season, making the step-up to a full-time professional environment.

He made his debut for the club at Bower Fold twelve months ago, helping his side to a 22-0 victory over Oldham.



RHYS WILLIAMS

A Welsh international three-quarter born in Mynydd Isa, Flintshire, Williams has played for Super League sides including Warrington, Castleford and Salford.

Had a spell down under in 2014 with Central Queensland Capras before coming home to the UK, signing for Broncos in 2015.



WILLIAM BARTHAU

French international half-back who started off his professional career playing for Catalans Dragons.

Spent periods of time on loan at Toulouse Olympique and Le Rams de Dewsbury before arriving in London in 2015.

Barthau has played twelve times for his country including France's sole international game of 2016 against England at Avignon.

Oldham RLFC Choose Nutrition X to Fuel New Season



Oldham RLFC have announced sports nutrition specialists Nutrition X as Official Nutrition Partner to the Club for the upcoming season; providing each of the players with a range of scientifically developed supplements to help maximise training and performance.

With this being the first season Nutrition X have partnered with the club, the supplement specialists will be working closely with the Strength and Conditioning Team to establish the nutritional needs of each of the players and provide a range of products to boost energy, support muscle growth and aid recovery; vital

after a heavy training session or intense game.

Products set to be used include Hydra 10 – a hydration-boosting drink containing key electrolytes to help replenish those lost through sweat- and Maximum Recovery Matrix, a whey protein concentrate for amino acid replenishment, accelerating post-match recovery.

Importantly, all of Nutrition X's products are batch tested and Informed-Sport accredited, giving the Club the peace of mind that each of the supplements comply with substances listed on the World Anti-Doping Agency banned substance list.



Ryan Dixon, a key member of Oldham RLFC's Strength and Conditioning Team, said of the partnership:

"We are delighted to enter a partnership with Nutrition X. It will be extremely beneficial to the squad. The presentation given by Nutrition X managing director James Markey was very useful because it helped the squad to understand who they are and what they are doing in rugby league.

"Nutrition X will be sharing recipes with us and that will also be good in terms of educating the squad about the benefits of nutrition for athletes in a physical contact sport. As the season progresses, our partnership will grow, which in itself underlines the direction in which the club is moving."

James Markey, Managing Director of Nutrition X, also said the following:

"We're thrilled to be working with such an established Club and, having met the guys and talked in depth with the Strength and Conditioning Team, we're confident that we can offer products that will not only help to maximise performance on the field, but aid each and every players' physical development off the field.

We're really excited to see how our professional partnership grows over the coming season and wish the Club the best of luck in their upcoming games."

To view Nutrition X's full product range, or to purchase any products, please visit www.nutritionx.co.uk.

To find out more about Oldham RLFC, please visit www.roughyeds.co.uk.

Editor's Notes

Nutrition X is a leading sports nutrition brand, offering a range of products scientifically formulated by a team of world-renowned sports nutritionists to support athletic performance across a range of disciplines.

Renowned for its quality, each Nutrition X product is batch-tested and submitted to Informed Sport for certification, ensuring that every product adheres to WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency) regulations.

As a result, Nutrition X has fast become the number one choice of sports nutrition for a number of elite athletes and professional sports teams.

NUTRITION
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Date	Time	Opponents		Venue
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FEBRUARY

Sunday 5	3.00pm	Sheffield Eagles	H	Bower Fold
Sunday 12	3.00pm	Featherstone Rovers	A	The Big Fellas Stadium
Sunday 19	3.00pm	London Broncos	H	Bower Fold
Sunday 26	3.00pm	Hull Kingston Rovers	A	KC Lightstream Stadium

MARCH

Sunday 5	3.00pm	Dewsbury Rams	H	Bower Fold
Sunday 12	3.00pm	Rochdale Hornets	A	Crown Oil Arena
Saturday 18/ Sunday 19	Challenge Cup Round 4			
Sunday 26	3.00pm	Batley Bulldogs	A	Fox's Biscuits Stadium

APRIL

Sunday 2	3.00pm	Bradford Bulls	H	Bower Fold
Saturday 8	3.00pm	Toulouse Olympique	A	Stade Ernest Ageles
Friday 14	3.00pm	Swinton Lions	H	Bower Fold
Monday 17	7.30pm	Halifax RLFC	A	Mbi Shay Stadium
Saturday 22/ Sunday 23	Challenge Cup Round 5			
Sunday 30	3.00pm	Dewsbury Rams	A	Tetley's Stadium

MAY

Sunday 7	3.00pm	London Broncos	A	Trailfinders
Saturday 13/ Sunday 14	Challenge Cup Round 6			
Sunday 21	3.00pm	Batley Bulldogs	H	Bower Fold
Saturday 27	2.30pm	Rochdale Hornets	Neutral	Bloomfield Road

JUNE

Sunday 4	3.00pm	Swinton Lions	A	Heywood Road
Sunday 11	3.00pm	Hull Kingston Rovers	H	Bower Fold
Sunday 18	3.00pm	Halifax RLFC	H	Bower Fold
Sunday 25	3.00pm	Bradford Bulls	A	Provident Stadium

JULY

Sunday 2	3.00pm	Toulouse Olympique	H	Bower Fold
Sunday 9	3.00pm	Featherstone Rovers	H	Bower Fold
Sunday 16	3.00pm	Sheffield Eagles	A	Belle Vue, Wakefield
Sunday 23	3.00pm	Rochdale Hornets	H	Bower Fold

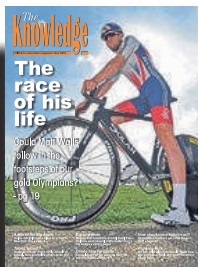
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MUSE DEVELOPMENTS

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3. BEN HELLIWELL

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7. WILLIAM BARTHAU

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16. JUNIOR ROQICA

17. MARK OFFERDAHL

18. BEN EVANS

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20. MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM

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A HENDERSON

(HEAD COACH)

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