

# ROUGHYED REVIEW

PROGRAMME No. 1

Sunday, 25th February, 2018

KICK OFF 3PM | £3.00



**Meet the  
new players**  
pages 14 & 15



**Roughyed Fan  
Focus, Chris  
Applegate**  
page 9



## OLDHAM vs FEATHERSTONE LIONS



**Bamford  
Print Ltd**

**H. MULLANEY & SON LTD.**

University of  
**Salford**  
MANCHESTER

**Premier**  
  
SSANGYONG

**HANLON & WRIGHT**

**Regenda**  
Homes

**Oasis**  
Academy  
Oldham

*The*  
**Oldham Times**

# BETFRED

Proud Sponsors of

# BETFRED



# LEAGUE 1



# PASSIONATE ABOUT RUGBY LEAGUE



## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

**A BIG welcome back to the Vestacare Stadium for our first "proper" home game of the season.**

Its great to be back in Oldham although it goes without saying we would have liked to have still been in the Championship. That wasn't to be, as we know, and this season we will be aiming to bounce back to the second tier although anybody looking at the division will probably be able to name six or seven teams who will be in the mix.

Last week we started off our league campaign with a rarity - a comprehensive win up at Whitehaven. The performance was every bit as convincing as the score and my only concern at half time was whether we could control possession a bit more than we had in the first 40.

We duly did that and to nil Haven on their own ground was no mean feat, backed up by the fact that it hadn't happened previously since 1965.

We looked well organised and determined and we will need those qualities if we are to get where we want to be this season.

Today sees us embark on the annual Wembley journey and we welcome Featherstone Lions who have done exceptionally well to reach the third round. In the last round they produced a fantastic effort to beat Thatch Heath so they will come here today full of confidence and with nothing to lose.

As ever, we need to make sure we treat the game no differently than we would treat a league game and to make sure also that our attitude is right on the day.

We have had the biggest turnaround in our squad for a number of years this off season but it has been really good in terms of freshening up the squad.

It's also fair to say that the coaches have relished the opportunity to integrate and teach these new players. The mix of the squad, as ever, has been really good and we are in no doubt that we have assembled a group of players who are committed to the cause and who have already demonstrated their willingness and desire to put in the work required to be successful.

Hopefully, those who have already watched the team in action this season will have liked what they have seen and enjoyed the honesty of the performances with the promise of much more to come.

This season we will need your support more than ever. Crowds in this division can be challenging and we hope you will be encouraged to bring friends and family along with you to enjoy a great afternoon at a family sport and also to help to swell the crowd.

Great support last week and hopefully the lads will give you more to shout about today,

Enjoy the game.

**Christopher Hamilton**  
Chairman  
Oldham Rugby League  
Football Club



# TOUCHLINE TOPICS

by **Scott Naylor**

**HELLO everyone and welcome back to the Vestacare Stadium for today's Ladbrokes Challenge Cup tie against Featherstone Lions.**

It's fantastic to be back home in Oldham and back at the newly refurbished and newly named Vestacare Stadium for this third-round tie against the Lions.

We made this place a fortress three seasons ago and that was one of the main reasons why we won promotion to the Championship. We have to do the same again this season and make sure that every team which comes to play here knows they've been in a game.

Our opponents today will be looking to claim another scalp on this season's Challenge Cup journey and I'm sure we'll have to be at our best to ruin their big day and make sure we move into the next round in a couple

of weeks.

We produced a real professional performance at Whitehaven last Sunday in bad conditions and on a shocking pitch.

A win on the opening day of the League 1 campaign was all-important. We looked to be in control from start to finish and we showed a high level of maturity in the way we won the game by keeping the scoreboard ticking over whenever we got a chance to kick a penalty goal.

For me as a coach our solid defence was the most pleasing aspect of the entire performance, especially our desire to prevent 'Haven scoring even when we had a man sin-binned in the first half.

We've shown a lot of good qualities in our pre-season warm-up matches and we carried those qualities forward into the first league game.



We looked hungry for more wins and then promotion- and its that determination and that desire which makes working with this group of players a real pleasure for the coaching staff.

We need to show the same hunger today and get the job done professionally so that we can progress as a team and as a club.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Stick together,  
**Scott**



Muse Developments Ltd are sponsors of head coach Scott Naylor and his assistant Peter Carey





## All new SsangYong Rexton 4x4



- Stylish and fully equipped luxury SUV
- Tough body on chassis construction
- 3,500kg towing capability
- Highly efficient 2.2 Litre EURO 6 engine
- Choice of 6 speed manual or 7 speed Mercedes E-tronic transmission
- 7 Seat option available

Range From  
**£27,500** to £37,500

**5 years limitless  
mileage warranty**

- Contemporary small SUV
- 1.6 petrol or diesel, 6 speed transmission
- 4 Wheel drive option available
- Standard features include:
  - 7 Airbags
  - Smart steering
  - Cruise control

Range From  
**£12,990** to £20,700

**5 years limitless  
mileage warranty**

## New model SsangYong Tivoli



# Premier

Premier SsangYong, Junction 3 M67, Pitt Street, Hyde SK14 2AT  
Tel: 0161 393 6240

[www.premier-car.co.uk](http://www.premier-car.co.uk)

## SSANGYONG

All with **5 years limitless  
mileage warranty** and  
**3 years breakdown cover**

Range fuel consumption figures in mpg Urban 28.8-44.1 Extra urban 28.8-61.4 Combined 36.2-53.3 Co2 emissions in g/km 177-139.

# Regenda 'proud' to be our main shirt sponsors in 2018

**WE have had a long-running association with Regenda Homes and we are delighted to have the housing association back on board as our main shirt sponsors in 2018.**

Part of the huge Regenda Group, the Greater Manchester branch of Regenda Homes has a regional administrative base only a few hundred yards from the Vestacare Stadium and is proud of the partnership it has enjoyed with Roughyeds over the last few years.

Chris Standish, regeneration and place manager for Regenda Homes, said: "Roughyeds have a great sporting heritage in Oldham. Regenda are proud to support that. We would like to see as many people as possible get to Roughyeds games and take up rugby league."

"We'll be staging locally, throughout the year, special community events at which some of the Oldham players will be in attendance and residents will be able to win

tickets for games at the Vestacare Stadium."

There are several other shirt or kit backers in our 2018 portfolio, including Dukinfield-based Hanlon and Wright, who have been

Premier SSangYong can be found on the front and back of our Steeden-manufactured jerseys and are continuing their partnership with the club which has previously been under the Premier Kia banner.

Finally, we have the old and the new in long-time Roughyeds backers H Mullaney and Son, a leading waste

management company in Oldham and Tameside, and newcomers in the University of Salford and in the Oldham Times, the lively weekly

launched in the borough by Newsquest nearly six months ago.

Said club chairman Chris Hamilton: "We welcome all our 2018 sponsors, thank them massively for their support and trust that together we will find each of the partnerships of mutual benefit to company and club."

More information about our sponsors and their partnerships with the club will be released soon.



removing, installing and relocating machinery world-wide for more than 50 years.

Also featured on home and away kit, plus replicas, are Oasis Academy Oldham, who are part of Oasis Community Learning and, as such, are passionate about supporting the local community. As with Regenda, our links with the locally-situated school on Hollins Road, go back several years.



# Aye, Aye skipper, the job's yours again !

## **GARETH Owen is excited by the prospect of captaining Oldham again this season.**

It will be his second consecutive year as club skipper and the 25-year-old hooker is determined to make up for the setbacks that blighted his inaugural season as team leader - relegation and the first serious injury of his career.

Now back in full training and getting close to his long-awaited comeback, Owen was one of several players to suffer season-ending injuries last year with a dozen or so games still to be played.

"It was tough, but that's behind us as we look forward with confidence to the challenges that Betfred League 1 will throw at us," said the former Salford hooker, whose elaborate touchline celebrations at Rochdale after our opening pre-season game showed what Law Cup victory meant.

Head coach Scott Naylor later confirmed that Owen will keep the captain's arm band he had last year for the first time.

"He's the most qualified lad we've got for the job and he's an Oldham lad as well which is important," said the Roughyeds boss. "He was very proud when I invited him to accept the responsibility again.

"It was a shame that injury ruled him out of the last third of the season, but he's looking forward to getting back in harness and that shouldn't be too long away.

"It was tough last year, but on and off the field Gareth led with pride and dignity and he'll do the same again."

A former Super League player at Salford, Owen has played 82 games for Oldham, scoring nine tries, since his debut in a 24-23 home win against Hunslet Hawks on July 20, 2014.

## JOIN TEAM STEEDEN

**17 FULL RUGBY KITS**  
**FREE KIT BAG**  
**FREE POSTAGE**

**ADULTS £630** ex.VAT

**KIDS £580** ex.VAT

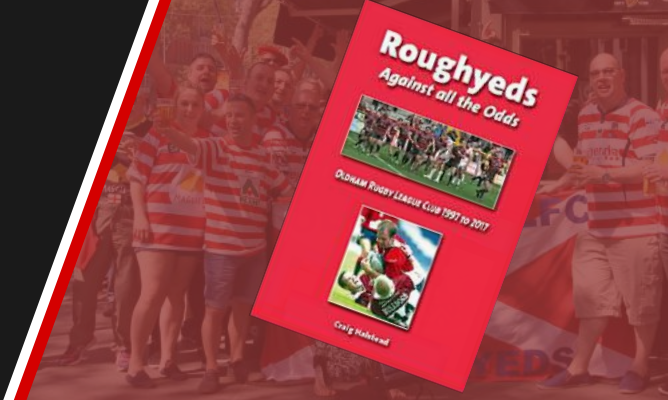


# ROUGHYEDS

## AGAINST ALL THE ODDS

Oldham Rugby League Club 1997 to 2017

Available at the Oldham Website  
[roughyeds.co.uk](http://roughyeds.co.uk)



**DEBBIE Abrahams, MP for Oldham East and Saddleworth, has helped the club to mark its 20th anniversary by writing an introductory article in a new book titled, 'Roughyeds - Against All The Odds', that chronicles the club's history.**

Debbie, who attended a special gala dinner held at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Oldham in November, said: "It was such a pleasure to rub shoulders with many great people who've been part of the Roughyeds' story over the last 20 years.

"The atmosphere at the dinner was amazing and it was so much fun listening to the many stories being shared between supporters past and present, who all share a common bond; an absolute love of rugby league.

"As I said in the book, Rugby League is interwoven into Oldham life and adds to our rich

history. It is a part of our community and I very much look forward to the next 20 years and beyond."

Club chairman Chris Hamilton said: "This latest book by Craig Halstead is another cracker. The title underlines the obstacles the club has had to overcome just to exist. And the tales, reminiscences and memories of so many people who have been directly involved with the club will bring our adventure against all the odds back to life for all Oldham RLFC fans.

"It's a great read and a must for Roughyeds fans young and old."

A fascinating insight into the launch of the 'new' club, and its early days, is provided by former director Sean Whitehead, who also has some revealing things to say about Chris, who has had an official and unbroken connection with the club

from day one and is still its chairman and owner.

The book's author, Craig Halstead, said: "It was with great pleasure that I accepted an invitation by Chris Hamilton to tell the story of the club's fortunes over the last 20 years. I thoroughly enjoyed talking, among others, to past and present Oldham players who have worn the jersey with pride and passion.

"Through them, I have attempted to give an insight into what the club has achieved and what it has had to overcome since it was launched in 1997. My thanks to everyone who has contributed and best wishes to the club for the next 20 years. Happy reading. Hope you enjoy the memories!"

'Roughyeds -- Against All The Odds' costs £12.95 and can be purchased at the club (tel: 07904 898177) or on match days or on line via the club website at [www.roughyeds.co.uk](http://www.roughyeds.co.uk)



# Roughyed Fan Focus:

## Chris Applegate

### ***How long have you been watching Rugby League?***

I can remember watching games on Grandstand back in the 1960's when the second half of games were shown and Cup Final day was always very special. I have very strong memories of the 1968 Watersplash Final.

### ***You travel up from Northampton for games, why did you start supporting Oldham?***

My Mum came from Glodwick originally. She tells stories of my Grandfather saving his 3d each week to go to Wembley. She was born in 1929 and that was the year of his first trip to the Cup Final. He was cutting it fine as she was born only four days later!

I seem to remember once finding a copy of the match-programme for that game many years ago in our old house. Sadly lost now. I bet he was at Wigan in 1927 though.

Sue and I had been to a few international games and a couple of games with Hull as we have good friends who follow the Airlie Birds. We even went to Perpignan with them. Having a bit more money and time we decided to go and watch Oldham, this team that I kept wittering on about.

### ***So your family are fans too?***

Oh yes. Sue had always watched Union but now says that she prefers League, not only for the game, but in the case of the Yeds, she loves the fans and friendliness we have had from everyone. As soon as the fixtures came out we started trying to work out what games we could go to.

Both my sons Jimmy and Steve were persuaded to come along to keep me company on the long drive up from Northampton but are now fans. Actually they have both played for Oxford Cavaliers too.

### ***Have you ever played the game?***

I played Union both at school and afterwards



but where we lived back in the seventies, League was a real no-no.

I think it was in the Rugby League Centenary Year, 1995, when I got in contact with the amateur side Oxford Cavaliers who were being formed by Lionel Hurst. I got involved with them and from that also involved in helping to set up the Summer Conference as it was first called. In the way of amateur Rugby I did play the odd few minutes when required and my admiration of League players grew immensely!

Lionel is very much a visionary and it is a shame that he never worked at Red Hall. For myself I got involved in the promotional side of the club. I can remember prior to match against Cheltenham getting hold of the telephone numbers of both Dave Hadfield and Eddie Hemmings. I rang them both and the upshot was that the game got coverage in the Independent and also a slot on Boots and All the first coverage for a Summer Conference game.

### ***How many games do you hope to attend this year***

We are looking forward to the season and will try to get to as many games as we can although the Cumbrian matches are a little too far for us. Anyway who wants to follow Wigan or Leeds when you can be with the best fans in the world.

*Dare to be Wise. Follow the Roughyeds!*

**Chris, Sue, Jimmy and Steve —  
the Northampton Yeds**



# Every man did his duty in famous Test triumph

**The start of a new series in which GEORGE COWBURN will look at Oldham's contribution to major events in RL history**

WHEN Oldham players Alf Wood, Billy Hall and Dave Holland set sail for Australia on April 17, 1914 they could hardly have imagined the circumstances in which they would play the third and deciding Test on July 4.

Wood was an ex-England and Gloucestershire county RU player who signed for Oldham after a meeting with their committee men at the third Test against the New Zealand All Blacks at Cheltenham in 1908.

A stocky, broad shouldered full-back who kicked 342 goals for Oldham, he was noted for his strong tackling and accurate goal kicking. Curiously, in 244 games for the club he never scored a try.

Hall was the youngest of seven brothers, five of whom including Billy played for Gloucestershire county. He signed for Oldham in 1913 and was used primarily as a centre, although equally at home at stand-off. He played in 240 games for the club, scoring 53 tries and two goals.

Holland, another Gloucester county player, joined Oldham around the same time as Hall and was a robust, hard-working forward who finished with 81 appearances and 19 tries for Oldham.

Playing in red and white hoops, the same colours as Oldham, the British team had already played the Australians on June 27 and 29 when they turned down an Australian request to bring the third

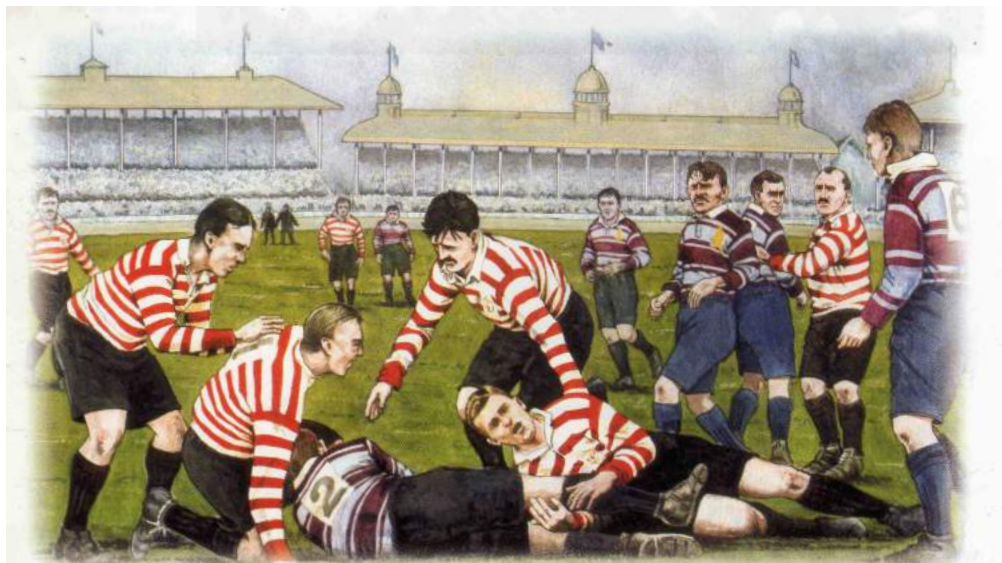
Test forward to July 4, ostensibly to cash in on the huge interest in the series.

However, Oldham's Joseph Platt, secretary of the Northern Union, told the Lions in a telegram to play the match on the new date, adding the Nelsonian touch: "England expects every man to do his duty".

Following a barnstorming speech from joint tour manager Jack Clifford, who strongly suspected the Australians were taking advantage of the tourists' crippling injury list, the British Lions went on to the heavy Sydney pitch in determined mood.

Barely a minute had gone before Halifax winger Frank Williams twisted his knee and was a passenger from then on. Despite this, the Lions led 9-3 at half time with three Alf Wood goals and a try (worth three points in those days). Huddersfield forward Doug Clark went out for the second half with a broken thumb, but in avoiding a tackle he fell





*Holland, Hall and Wood tackle Australia's Frawley in the 'Rorke's Drift' Test 1914. The painting also depicts Australian and British international colours of the time.*

*Courtesy of Oldham RL Heritage Trust*

awkwardly and broke his collar bone.

Twice he valiantly tried to continue but eventually he had to give in and leave the field.

Shortly afterwards Williams damaged his knee again and was unable to continue. As if things couldn't get any worse Billy Hall was then carried off with concussion and that left ten men to face the Australians' 13 (no substitutes back then).

For a short period it became nine men when half back Stuart Prosser had treatment on the touchline.

Pinned in their own half, the ten heroes somehow held out until skipper Harold Wagstaff made a break and passed to Widnes forward Arthur Johnson who was playing on the wing.

Johnson then dribbled the ball - football style - until he reached the try line and touched down for a wonderful try. Ever reliable Alf Wood, who had volunteered to play despite a broken nose and a leg injury, added the goal for a 14-3 lead.

Billy Hall bravely returned to the field with ten minutes to go to help out his exhausted teammates and despite a late try

by Aussie skipper Sid Deane, who had played for Oldham from 1908 to 1912, the Lions emerged victorious by 14-6 with even the partisan home crowd cheering their efforts.

The report in the Sydney Morning Post compared the Lions heroics to those of the British soldiers who defied overwhelming odds against a Zulu army at Rorkes Drift in South Africa. Anyone remember Michael Caine starring in the film Zulu? The name stuck and the match became for ever known as the Rorkes Drift test. Truly every man did his duty . . . and more besides.



# MATCH PICTURES



DANNY BRIDGE TRIES TO BREAK FREE



LUKE NELMES IN POSSESSION



PAUL CROOK KICKS HIS FIRST GOAL



DAVE HEWITT & K



ADAM JONES FACES THE HAVEN DEFENCE



# WHITEHAVEN 0 OLDHAM 14

THE RECREATION GROUND  
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2018



ENNY HUGHES



STRONG OLDHAM DEFENCE



THREE MAN TACKLE



MATTY WILKINSON

# Meet The New Boys

**SINCE the end of last season chairman Chris Hamilton and head coach Scott Naylor have been busy building a new squad which they believe will be strong enough to go all out for promotion from Betfred League 1 to the Betfred Championship in what promises to be a fascinating 2018 season.**

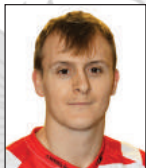
As we say farewell to the boys who have left us, and offer them our best wishes for the future, we extend a huge Roughyeds welcome to each of our new signings.

Scott Turner, Adam Clay,

George Tyson, Scott Leatherbarrow, Sam Gee, Liam Thompson, Luke Adamson, Richard Lepori, Joe Burke, Danny Grimshaw and Michael Ward have moved on, either to other clubs or to futures outside the game.

The 'new' Roughyeds have already got tongues wagging with their performances in the Law Cup win at Rochdale, the 52-6 victory against Keighley Cougars and that hugely impressive 14-0 win at Whitehaven on the opening day of the League 1 campaign.

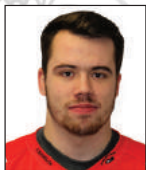
## Sq no 1, **KYRAN JOHNSON**



*(full-back):*  
DOB 23/03/94,  
6ft2in, 75 kgs.  
Pontefract-born  
Johnson played  
for Lock Lane  
and Castleford

Panthers before joining Featherstone Rovers on junior scholarship forms at the age of 13. Went on to play 33 senior games for Rovers and eight for Hunslet on loan. In his first season at Oldham. Sponsored by Mick Harrop.

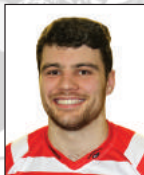
## Sq no 2, **DAVE ECCLESTON**



*(wing):*  
DOB 12/09/96,  
6ft0in, 87 kgs.  
Born in St  
Helens,  
Eccleston  
grew up at

Blackbrook before signing scholarship forms at Saints, aged 15. A regular in the Saints academy side that went unbeaten through 2016, he scored seven tries in 12 games for the Saints second team in 2017. Another new signing. Sponsorship available. Ring 07904 898177.

## Sq no 3, **MATT REID** *(centre):*



DOB 16/09/92,  
6ft6in, 103 kgs.  
A secondary  
school PE  
teacher in  
hometown  
Warrington,  
Matt started at

Latchford Albion, had a couple of years at Lymm RU, and then started his pro career at North Wales Crusaders before moving on to Coventry Bears where he



was an ever-present captain in 2017. Can also play in the back-row. Sponsored by Les and Eileen Davison.

## Sq no 4, **JACK HOLMES** *(centre):*



DOB 15/01/94,  
6ft0in, 92 kgs.  
Another 'new'  
signing for  
2018, but a  
player already  
well known to

Roughyeds fans because he was a key member of the 2015 promotion squad before joining derby rivals Rochdale Hornets during the 2016 Championship campaign. He won promotion with Rochdale too, but came 'home' after a season and a bit at the Crown Oil Arena. Sponsored by David and Val Webster.

## Sq no 6, **PAUL CROOK**



*(stand-off):*  
DOB 28/08/86,  
5ft11in, 95  
kgs. A proven  
points-machine,  
'Crooky' racked  
up 1,499 points  
in seven years at

Rochdale to smash a club record that had remained intact since 1934. Played a massive role in taking Whitehaven to the League 1 promotion final in 2017. Later became Oldham's second new capture for 2018. Will be the old-head in a young Roughyeds back division. Sponsored by Rita Walton.



Sq no 19, **ADAM JONES**

*(back-row):*  
DOB 23/12/93,  
6ft2in, 94  
kgs. This  
hard-tackling  
Wiganer  
rose through  
the ranks at

Salford where he was coached by Peter Carey. Made 19 senior appearances for Swinton Lions in 2017, most of them in the Championship, before joining Roughyeds ahead of the 2018 campaign. Sponsorship available. Ring 07904 898177.

Sq no 22, **DANNY RASOOL**

*(utility back):*  
DOB 25/10/95,  
6ft1in, 89 kgs.  
Danny played  
for Roughyeds  
reserves as a  
17-year-old and

has since played age-group and reserves' rugby at Salford and Warrington respectively. Another to be coached by Pete Carey while at Salford. A Warrington boy, he started his rugby league journey at Crosfields and, while at Warrington, went out on loan to Workington Town for the last ten games of last season. Sponsorship available. Ring 07904 898177.

Sq no 23, **LUKE NELMES** *(prop):*

DOB 07/04/93,  
6ft2in, 115  
kgs. Heaviest  
forward on  
the books.  
and first new  
signing for 2018,  
having come

to the end of a two-year stay at Halifax. A big, strong prop of the old-school type, Luke learned the rudiments of the game at Newsome Panthers and Underbank before taking the pro

ticket to The Shay. Sponsored by John and Lynda McAndrew.

Sq no 24, **LIAM BENT**

*(back-row):*  
DOB 11/10/97,  
6ft2in, 91 kgs.  
The 'baby' of  
the squad at  
the age of 20,  
hard-grafting  
Liam played 17

games for Roughyeds on loan from Salford in 2017. When he was ultimately released by the Red Devils, Scott Naylor moved quickly to sign him permanently. He joined Salford from Wigan St Jude's at the age of 15 and had two years with their under-19s and another two as a full-time member of the first-team squad. Sponsored by ORSA.

Sq no 25, **DANNY BRIDGE**

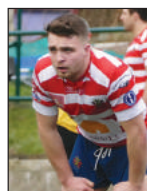
*(back-row):*  
DOB 04/01/93,  
6ft3in, 101 kgs.  
Oldham-born  
Danny, one of  
four locals in  
the squad, is

the younger brother of former Bradford and Warrington centre Chris Bridge. After Royton Tigers as a boy, he had spells with Wigan and Warrington before going to Bradford on loan. Rochdale came next, then two seasons in the Queensland Cup (one tier down from the NRL) with Redcliffe Dolphins. Looking forward to his first season in home-town colours. Sponsorship available. Ring 07904 898177.

Sq no 29, **ZACK MCCOMB**

*(centre):*  
DOB 09-09-95, 5ft11in, 92 kgs. Signed for 2018 after successful trials against Barrow

and Keighley. Spent five years with Huddersfield Giants in his teens and then had a season at Batley Bulldogs, who sent him out on dual-reg to Oxford and on loan to Gloucester All Golds. Returned to his amateur club Siddal before joining Roughyeds for pre-season training and trials. Sponsorship available. Ring 07904 898177.

Sq no 30, **BEN WEST** *(wing):*

DOB 10/05/96,  
5ft11in, 88kgs.  
Like Zack  
McComb, his  
2017 centre  
partner at NCL  
premier division  
club Siddal,  
Ben signed a

one-year Oldham deal ahead of the 2018 season. Prior to joining Roughyeds on trial when pre-season training started in November, 2017, he had spent all his rugby days at Siddal. Impressed Scott Naylor and Peter Carey in trial games against Barrow and Keighley. Sponsorship available. Ring 07904 898177.

Sq no 27, **JOE MARTIN**

*(utility back):*  
DOB 28/03/95,  
6ft0in, 88kgs.  
Completing  
the Siddal  
threesome  
to sign, Joe  
learned his  
early rugby

at his home-town community club, then signed for Halifax, aged 17. Had spells on loan with Newcastle Thunder and Gloucester All Golds. Returned to The Shay to figure in a Super 8s match at full-back against Salford Red Devils. Now keen to re-establish himself as a pro with Roughyeds.



## *Oldham Rugby League Heritage Trust*



**Left:** Ike Southward flies through the air against Walney Central.  
**27.02.1960.**



**Right:** David Gibbons and Keith Brennan bring down their man  
v West Hull  
**27.01.2002.**



**Left:** Jon Goddard on  
the move against  
Castleford Panthers  
**06.02.2004.**

**Right:** Gavin Dodd and  
Dane Morgan force the ball  
loose versus Charlston  
**03.03.2004.**



## *Through the Years... Oldham v Amateur Clubs In the Challenge Cup*



**Left:** Mark Hobson well held  
against Egremont.  
**15.03.2014.**



**Right:** Phil Joy on the  
charge against Kells.  
**20.03.2016**

**Below:** Sammy Gee takes on the Haydock defence at  
Bower Fold last season.  
**18.03.2017**



# Our Visitors

## Featherstone Lions



**Featherstone Lions arrive in Oldham today courtesy of a resounding 18-6 victory over Kingstone Press National Conference side Thatto Heath Crusaders in Round 2.**

Broadcast live to an on-line BBC audience, the Lions led 7-0 at half time against a team fielding players with the calibre of ex-Oldham loanee Lewis Foster, Sean Kenny who played for Salford in the epic Million Pound game versus Hull KR and Paddy Flynn, formerly of Widnes Vikings.

Lions man of the match Joe Fox grabbed a brace of tries either side of half-time and impressed BBC commentator Dave Woods with his explosive exploits in defence.

The match was won 18-6 as the Lions repelled a late Crusaders surge with the Lancashire side scoring a try converted by the son of Bobby Goulding.

Defeating a team of high quality players didn't faze Featherstone one bit and Oldham should be in no doubt that they will be facing a team without any fear this afternoon.

Featherstone Lions are the result of a merger between Travelers Saints and The Jubilee Hotel amateur sides in the early 1990s. They play home games at the Mill Pond Stadium, so called since it is built on the site of a former mill.

The club's first season, 1994-95, was in the CMS Yorkshire league First Division. At the end of the 1995-96 season, they had won promotion to the Yorkshire League Premier Division and finished 2nd in the table.

They were accepted into National Conference League Division 2 for the 1996-97 season. In 1997-98, Featherstone Lions won promotion to NCL Division 1 as champions, won the Yorkshire Cup beating Siddal in a bad-

tempered final at Thrum Hall and beat Doncaster in the third round of the Challenge Cup before losing to Hull Kingston Rovers.

Featherstone reached the fourth round of the Challenge Cup, in 1998-99, after beating Hemel Stags before playing Super League side Halifax.

In 2000-01, Featherstone reached the National Cup Final before losing to Thatto Heath at Spotland Stadium, Rochdale.

Former Lions include Rob Burrows, Brett Ferres, John Sharp, Zak Hardaker and Joe Westerman as well as many other current and former professional players.

This afternoons tie, played on the Vestacare Stadium's modern surface, should provide an entertaining spectacle and our visitors from Featherstone will be keen to play their full part.



# Three to watch

## Featherstone Lions



### Harry McAlister

Utility forward who, despite not being the largest, can hit hard and knows his way around a rugby field. Harry is a student at Leeds University



### Dean Gamble

Dean came through the junior ranks at the Lions to become the first-choice hooker and has represented Yorkshire for the past 2 years. A devoted family man with 2 young children, he is soon to be married.



### Danny Glassell

A utility player who is another one of many to come through the junior ranks at the Lions. Danny has played in most positions and has an ability to adapt no matter where on the field he plays. Represented England on tour in Fiji, he has recently changed career and now works as a Prison Officer.



# Changes made to disciplinary process

**A disciplinary review group, which included Oldham chairman Chris Hamilton, have had recommendations approved by clubs and the RFL, resulting in changes to the disciplinary process this season.**

Others on the group were Hull KR chairman Neil Hudgell, Wakefield Trinity chairman Michael Carter, former Hull FC football manager Motu Tony and RFL representatives.

The review was launched in November, 2016 to assess the current system and identify its strengths and weaknesses.

It looked at other sports and involved consultation with stakeholders, including club owners, chief executive officers, coaches, players, members of the media and supporters.

Review Group chair Neil Hudgell, said: "We are fortunate to be involved in a sport that regularly reviews its own processes, seeking improvement and overall excellence.

"It's well documented that the disciplinary process has been maligned, often unfairly, down the years. Working with the governing body and other stakeholders, we have hopefully delivered proposals that will improve decision making, consistency and understanding of the basis for those outcomes."

RFL interim chief executive Ralph Rimmer, said: "This review has been conducted by the clubs for the clubs. We are proud of the way our disciplinary system has developed and the efficient and fair way in which it operates."

## Bamford Print Ltd

*The home of interesting ideas*

- Leaflets ● Business Cards ● Booklets
- Duplicate & Triplicate (NCR) ● Posters up to A0 size
- Rigid Posters ● Banners & Outdoor Signs ● Roller Signs

Call Allison on

# 01706 365182

E: [info@bamfordprint.co.uk](mailto:info@bamfordprint.co.uk) [www.bamfordprint.co.uk](http://www.bamfordprint.co.uk)

*Ladbrokes*

**LADBROKES CHALLENGE CUP**

# 5 FREE ODDS BOOSTS EVERY ROUND

**The power to boost  
your odds instantly**



WHEN THE **FUN** STOPS **STOP**

**BeGambleAware.org**

18+

Ladbrokes Challenge Cup Odds Boost: Max stake for Odds Boost £200. Staking limits may apply. Five Odds Boost tokens will appear in your My Account for the start of each respective round of the Ladbrokes Challenge Cup. Applies to singles only. Ladbrokes rules apply. Full details at ladbrokes.com. 18+ PLEASE BET RESPONSIBLY begambleaware.org - Need Help? Call the National Gambling Helpline on 0800 802 0133.



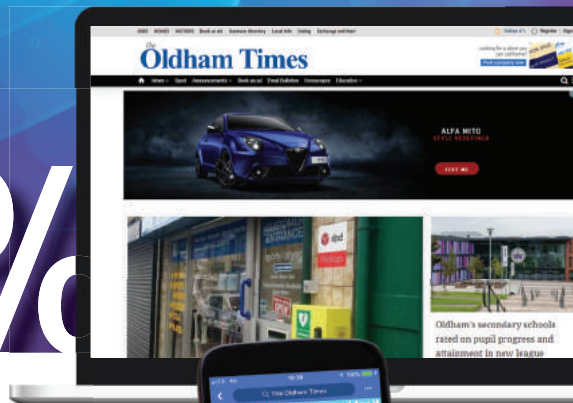
# RESULTS

| Date             | Time   | Opponents                                     |   | Result     | Attn. |
|------------------|--------|-----------------------------------------------|---|------------|-------|
| <b>FEBRUARY</b>  |        |                                               |   |            |       |
| Sunday 18        | 3.00pm | Whitehaven RLFC                               | A | 14—0 (Won) | 785   |
| Sunday 25        | 3.00pm | Featherstone Lions<br>(Challenge Cup Round 3) | H |            |       |
| <b>MARCH</b>     |        |                                               |   |            |       |
| Sunday 4         | 3.00pm | Hemel Stags                                   | H |            |       |
| Sunday 11        | 3.00pm | York City Knights                             | H |            |       |
| Sunday 25        | 2.30pm | North Wales Crusaders                         | A |            |       |
| Friday 30        | 3.00pm | Bradford Bulls                                | A |            |       |
| <b>APRIL</b>     |        |                                               |   |            |       |
| Sunday 8         | 3.00pm | Hunslet RLFC                                  | H |            |       |
| Sunday 15        | 3.00pm | Keighley Cougars                              | H |            |       |
| Sunday 29        | 3.00pm | Workington Town                               | A |            |       |
| <b>MAY</b>       |        |                                               |   |            |       |
| Sunday 6         | 3.00pm | Newcastle Thunder                             | H |            |       |
| Saturday 19      | 3.00pm | West Wales Raiders                            | A |            |       |
| Sunday 27        | 3.00pm | Doncaster RLFC                                | H |            |       |
| <b>JUNE</b>      |        |                                               |   |            |       |
| Sunday 10        | 3.00pm | Coventry Bears                                | A |            |       |
| Sunday 17        | 3.00pm | London Skolars                                | H |            |       |
| Sunday 24        | 3.00pm | Hunslet RLFC                                  | A |            |       |
| <b>JULY</b>      |        |                                               |   |            |       |
| Sunday 1         | 3.00pm | Workington Town                               | H |            |       |
| Sunday 8         | 3.00pm | West Wales Raiders                            | H |            |       |
| Sunday 15        | 3.00pm | Keighley Cougars                              | A |            |       |
| Sunday 22        | 3.00pm | North Wales Crusaders                         | H |            |       |
| Sunday 29        | 3.00pm | Doncaster RLFC                                | A |            |       |
| <b>AUGUST</b>    |        |                                               |   |            |       |
| Sunday 5         | 2.00pm | Hemel Stags                                   | A |            |       |
| Sunday 12        | 3.00pm | Whitehaven RLFC                               | H |            |       |
| Sunday 19        | 3.00pm | Newcastle Thunder                             | A |            |       |
| <b>SEPTEMBER</b> |        |                                               |   |            |       |
| Sunday 2         | 3.00pm | Coventry Bears                                | H |            |       |
| Sunday 9         | 3.00pm | York City Knights                             | A |            |       |
| Sunday 16        | 3.00pm | Bradford Bulls                                | H |            |       |
| Sunday 22        | 3.00pm | London Skolars                                | A |            |       |



ONLINE | MOBILE | SOCIAL MEDIA | PRINT | LEAFLETS | EVENTS

+40%



**growth in online traffic  
since our launch in  
September 2017 now  
boasting over 49,000\*  
unique browsers a month!**



WHATEVER THE WEATHER, NIGHT OR DAY,  
365 DAYS A YEAR, 24/7, WE'RE THERE FOR YOU

Source \* Adobe Analytics Jan 2018 (growth based on Sep 17 – Jan 18)

[theoldhamtimes.co.uk](http://theoldhamtimes.co.uk)



*The*  
**Oldham Times**



theoldhamtimes



TheOldhamTimes



# OLDHAM RLFC



1. Kyran Johnson

2. Dave Eccleston

3. Matt Reid

4. Jack Holmes

5. Steven Nield

6. Paul Crook

7. Dave Hewitt

8. Phil Joy

9. Gareth Owen

10. Adam Neal

11. Craig Briscoe

12. Danny Langtree

13. Jack Spencer

18. Ben Davies

19. Adam Jones

20. Matty Wilkinson

21. Kenny Hughes

22. Danny Rasool

23. Luke Nelmes

24. Liam Bent

25. Danny Bridge

27. Joe Martin

29. Zack McComb

30. Ben West

**SCOTT NAYLOR - Head Coach**

**PETER CAREY - Assistant Coach**

**Mick Harrop**

**Sponsorship available**

**Les and Eileen Davison**

**David and Val Webster**

**Sponsorship available**

**Rita Walton**

**Chris Noble MBE**

**Oldham Past Players Association**

**Sponsorship available**

**Mike, Viv and Jenny Travis**

**Sponsorship available**

**Neil & Charlotte Haigh**

**Graeme Lee**

**Sponsorship available**

**Sponsorship available**

**John and Lynda McAndrew**

**Rita Walton**

**Sponsorship available**

**John and Lynda McAndrew**

**ORSA**

**Sponsorship available**

**Sponsorship available**

**Sponsorship available**

**Sponsorship available**

**Muse Developments Ltd**

**Muse Developments Ltd**

1. Phil Banks

2. Tom Battye

3. Jimmy Beckett

4. Chris Bingham

5. Zach Burke

6. Dan Dixon

7. Joe Fox

8. Dean Gamble

9. Davi Garahan

10. Brendon Gibbins

11. Daniel Gilbert

12. Daniel Glassell

13. Ian Jackson

14. Liam Jackson

15. Andy Kain

16. Ben Mawson

17. Harry McAllister

18. George Nuttall

19. Jake Perkins

20. Keiran Redfearn

21. Tom Wandless

22. Gaz Williamson

23. Sam Wilson

24. Scott Wilson

25. Anthony Yates

**Head Coach: Paul Dooley**

**Assistant Coach: Andy Kain**

## MATCH OFFICIALS

**Ref:** L Staveley

**TJ:** J Woodman

**TJ:** T Jones

**Res ref:** T Arnold