

# ROUGHYED REVIEW

**2021 PROGRAMME NO.4**

**SATURDAY 8TH MAY**

**KICK OFF**

**12:45PM**



**LIAM BENT**

**UNSUNG HERO**

Read Chris Hamilton

on page 3



**OLDHAM  
RLFC**



**WHITEHAVEN**



@roughyeds | enquiries@roughyeds.co.uk | 07904 898177  
Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm

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# BETFRED



## CHAMPIONSHIP



# CDX

## SECURITY



**Hi everybody!  
Welcome back after an  
exciting and correct  
result last Saturday  
against Halifax.**

We worked so hard for that win and in the end the lads got what they fully deserved against a team that was dominated in the second half, but which defended like their lives depended on it and kept us from scoring the winning try until four minutes from the end.

If anybody needed to know how important to the team are Liam Kirk and Martyn Reilly, two of our close-season signings, it was amply demonstrated. Coming back after being missing for two games, they lifted the team, stiffened up the middle and the "Reills" try was a great effort to get us going in the second half. They were brought to the club to be leaders in terms of what they do on the pitch, and they did it in bucketloads last weekend.

It was a real team effort, but several players deserve a mention. Obviously Jack Croft, who showed his class throughout and got the winning try on his latest Oldham debut. It was good to see him back during the week and really enjoying being back at the club.

I thought Liam Bent was

# A CHAT WITH THE CHAIRMAN

## CHRIS HAMILTON

absolutely superb. He tackled everything that moved and he never takes a backward step when taking the ball in. Bentos does a lot of the work that often goes unnoticed, but not by his teammates. He is a real key ingredient in this side.

Callum Green also caught the eye. He was excellent. He is a player who has grown up with a lot of talent and is now starting to produce that as he plays against men for the first time, which is no mean feat. He needs to keep his feet on the ground and continue to work hard.

What last Saturday also demonstrated was that the depth of the squad this year allows us to have players out and still win matches at this level. Previously, we perhaps haven't had that luxury. We had no Phil Joy, Danny Bridge, Tyler Dupree, James Barran, Dan Abram, Shaun Pick, Ben Heaton plus people like John Hutchings, Joe Hartley, Kyran Johnson and Jamie Abram, who are desperate for a start.

That fact alone should give the lads some self-belief that we are a side that can make a mark in this competition this season and that is what we will be striving for.

One thing is for sure we must NOT make the mistake of thinking we are certain

to win the game against Whitehaven. If we turn up with the wrong attitude we will get turned over and then last week counts for nothing which would be both frustrating and annoying to say the least.

'Haven will have earmarked this game as 'must win' and they will bring an attitude to match it too, so it is all about us preparing in the right way. We have had some real battles with them over the years and, like us, they will be viewed very much as underdogs in the Championship this season. We must therefore make sure we are prepared for a real battle.

As always, please keep your support going in whatever ways you can at the present time. It is, as we have said, a very difficult time for the club without gate receipts but we hope that those of you able to watch us on the OuRLeague app continue to do so as this is vital income to us at the moment. Fingers crossed we can again give you as much excitement as we did last Saturday.

***Enjoy the game.***

***Christopher Hamilton  
Chairman***

# DISKIN'S DIARY

## A peep behind the scenes with head coach Matt Diskin

One of the upsides of playing competitive sports is the opportunity to redeem yourself quickly with the next fixture.

Our squad certainly did that with the win against Halifax Panthers last Saturday. It was good to see.

The boys showed great character and resilience in their performance.

These standards are what we need to deliver on a weekly basis.

It was good to see but, believe me, we haven't even scratched the surface yet on what we can fulfil with the ball in hand.

Once we are consistent in transferring our practice to match-day, we will be very entertaining to watch.

The euphoria generated by the performance against Halifax needs to be carried over to today's fixture against Whitehaven. We need to solidify our performance against a rugged and uncompromising Whitehaven team.

As always, we thank you for your support and as we are edging closer to the return of crowds, we look forward to seeing you all.

Enjoy the game,  
**Kind regards,**  
**Matt Diskin**

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# YOUR CAPTAIN CALLING

## Gareth Owen on the ball

Well ! What a buzz we got from beating Halifax last weekend.

The boys really ripped in for each other and I thought we thoroughly deserved the win.

Disco talked a lot about our attitude towards the game and to have the belief in ourselves to go out and win -- and it showed.

Going up the hill first half we had to do a lot of defending and get through a lot of tough sets coming off our line.

Halifax played the hill pretty well and kicked us into corners. We did the hard yards and barring the lapse in concentration in the last five minutes of the half, we did what we needed to do.

At half-time, even though we were eight points down, all the lads

in the changing room knew that our time was coming and that we were well in the game.

In the second half we dominated possession and field position and eventually they cracked. We were patient with the ball and ground them down until we got the points we needed to win the game.

Equally as good as scoring the tries we needed was the fact that the boys kept a quality Halifax side to 12 points and if we can defend like that for the rest of the season, we will be in plenty of winning positions.

Now that we've reached that standard we've got to keep it up and that will be the challenge when we play Whitehaven today.

Hope you all enjoy the game on Our League. We can't wait to see you back.

**Gareth**

# Player Focus

## Matty Wilkinson



**Q: What do you do for your day job?**

A: I work for a company called AMCO on the railways.

**Q: What was the worst thing you did at school?**

A: I never got into trouble. I was a nerd.

**Q: If you won the lottery what would you buy first?**

A: I'd invest in property for my little lad; hopefully, set him up for life.

**Q: Which sports star do you most admire, and why?**

A: Marcus Morris-Williams (rugby union). I like how he plays and how he conducts himself on the field.

**Q: How would your team mates describe you?**

A: Character.

**Q: What's your biggest professional achievement to date?**

A: Don't have one - just appreciate every game and hope I don't get injured.

**Q: And your biggest disappointment?**

A: Losing. Always have a good moan/sulk after every loss.

**Q: Outside rugby, and your day job, what do you do most?**

A: Spend time with family, follow Bolton Wanderers, have a pint with mates.

**Q: What's the best thing about being in the Oldham squad?**

A: Having a good laugh with the lads. They're a top set of lads.

**Q: What would be your dream in life?**

A: Seeing my little boy grow up and succeed in whatever he wants to do.



**MY LEYTHER MATES AND ME ON HOLIDAY IN KRAKOW, POLAND. STANDING (LEFT TO RIGHT): MARCUS SAILOR, DANIEL MUNTER, SHAUN MYERS, JIMMY WILKINSON (BROTHER), YOURS TRULY. SITTING: GARY MARSDEN, KIERAN DUFFY, PADDY BARRY, (IN FRONT): DECLAN FLANDERS.**

**THIS BOTTLE'S FOR ME, NOT FOR CHARLIE, OUR BABY BOY.  
MY PARTNER MOLLY (PICTURED) WILL SEE TO THAT !**



**WILKY (24) IS CURRENTLY ON THE LONG-TERM CASUALTY LIST WITH  
A BROKEN LEG. THE BEST WISHES OF FANS AND EVERYONE AT THE CLUB ARE  
WITH HIM AS HE STARTS THE LONG HAUL BACK.**

**07**

# Past players | Andy Procter

## THOSE WERE THE DAYS

**No 7: ANDY PROCTER**, club captain, prop-forward, key member of the pack and team in the early days of the 'new' Roughyeds after the big restructure of 1997.

**Q: What dates did you play for Oldham and in what position?**

A: I first played for Oldham 'A' team around 1991/92 when the club was at Watersheddings. However, I was also part of a very successful Saddleworth Rangers team led by Mick Coates at the time and the rules didn't allow amateurs to sign professionally and then go back if it didn't work out, so I stuck with Saddleworth.

I first played for the first team on loan from Wakefield Trinity in the 1997/98 season under Paddy Kirwan and signed in June for the rest of the season.

At the beginning of the 1998/99 season under Mick Coates I decided to move to Bramley with Mike Ford who I had played alongside at Wakefield the season before. I returned as captain when Fordy took over as coach in Nov 1999.

I played through the Mark Knight, John Harbin era and with Steve Molloy but took on more strength and conditioning and assistant coaching roles before I left to take on a coaching role in the Academy at Huddersfield Giants in 2004.

I played mainly as a prop but had spells in the second row and loose forward.

**Q: What was your most memorable game and why?**

A: The playoff game against the St John Ellis led Doncaster Dragons at the 'House of Pain' on 17th July 2000. We won 24-17 after extra time. It was in the era of the Rugby League Raw programme.

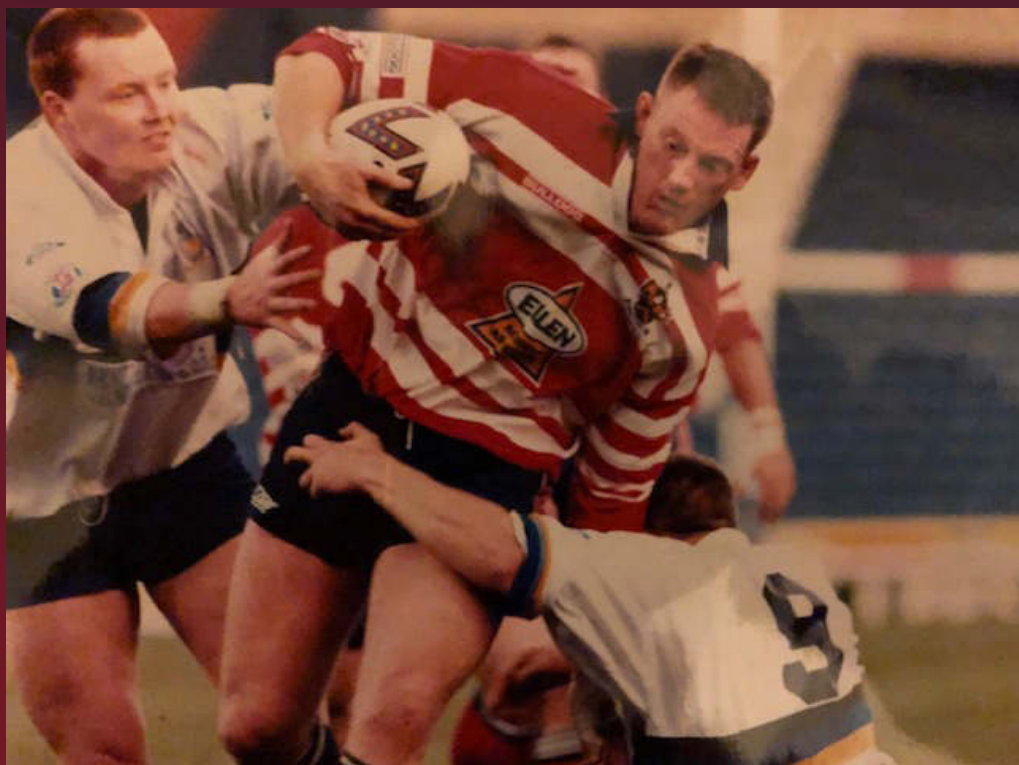
**Q: Which sports person do you most admire and why?**

A: Selfishly and proudly, I admire my daughters the most. They were both International Acrobatic Gymnasts and the dedication, commitment, resilience and persistence they had to training and competing, was far greater than anything I have seen from another sports person.

**Q: What would you consider to be your biggest professional achievement?**

A: As a player, I was awarded Man of Steel by Wakefield Trinity in 1997 and represented the East of Pennines team. As a coach, I was privileged to lead the Serbian National side in a World Cup qualifier against Greece in 2019.





In 2019, Procter was appointed coach of the Serbian national team for a World Cup qualifier against Greece. He is pictured on the front row of this team line-up at the far right.



BELOW: On top of the word, Darwen Top, near Blackburn. Left to right, Ellie, our elder daughter, yours truly, Olivia, our younger daughter with Belle, my cocker spaniel and Philippa, my wife.



**Q: What would you consider to be your biggest professional disappointment?**

A: Missing two Grand Finals. Wakefield Trinity vs Featherstone Rovers when they were promoted to Super League and the Oldham vs Widnes final in 2001 where we lost 24-12.

**Q: How would you think your Oldham teammates would have described you?**

A: Reliable, consistent, hardworking, leader by example.

**Q: What did you most like about being a member of the Oldham squad?**

A: Growing up in Oldham it was a massive privilege to captain the club but also to have other Oldham lads in the team, which made it extra special. Jason Clegg, John Hough, Leo Casey, Steve Molloy, Ian Sinfield, Gareth Barber, Wes Rogers, Kieth Brennan, Joe McNicholas to name a few.

**Q: What prompted your decision to leave the Oldham Rugby Squad?**

A: I was getting fewer first team opportunities and was looking to increase my coaching roles. I was living in Huddersfield with a young family and working at the University of Huddersfield. I was offered a chance to coach the Academy at Huddersfield Giants and so the decision was an easy one despite the good times I had experienced at Oldham.

**Q: What is your current day job?**

A: I am a Senior Lecturer at the University of Central Lancashire in Preston where I lead degrees in Sports Coaching and Performance.

**Q: What would be your dream role in life?**

A: A retired Grandad taking my grandchildren to their activities, which will hopefully include sporting ones.

BELOW: An Oldham line-up from the Procter era. Back: Casey, Campbell, Mannion, Shaw, Rogers, Rich, Holland, McNicholas, A Gibbons. Front: Clegg, Hayes, Hough, Procter, Brennan, Ford, Sibson, D Gibbons.



HAPPY days, Law Cup winners. Back row (left to right): Jason Clegg, Mark Campbell, Wes Rogers (hidden), Chris Holland, Mark Sibson, Anthony Gibbons, Graeme Shaw. Front: David Gibbons, Joe McNicholas, Keith Brennan (hidden), John Hough, Andy Procter, Pat Rich, Leo Casey, Joey Hayes, Mike Ford, Kevin Mannion.

# How good was that then?

JACK CROFT



LUKE NELMES



DANNY LANGTREE



KIRK AND NELMES



# OLDHAM RLFC 16 - HALIFAX PANTHERS 12



LEWIS CHARNOCK



TOMMY BRIERLEY



LIAM BENT

# WHITEHAVEN

**Oldham host Whitehaven at Bower Fold this afternoon for the first time since the penultimate game of the 2016 Championship shield.**

The game was a relegation dogfight where Whitehaven needed to pull off an away victory to take the season's finishing places down to the wire. A defeat meant the trapdoor would spring open for the Cumbrians leaving Oldham safe to fight another Championship season.

Oldham denied their visitors the victory by winning 20-18 in a nerve jangling occasion. As the final hooter sounded the 'Haven players slumped to their knees in stark contrast to the jubilant Roughyeds. A large contingent of Whitehaven supporters had made the trip south and they stood crestfallen in the stadium stands.

The 2017 season almost saw an immediate return to the Championship for 'Haven as they finished third overall after 22 games. That meant a play-off semi-final against York City Knights and the history books record that the game was one of the longest ever rugby league ties.

Locked at 20-20 after 80 minutes, the two sides fought out a scoreless 20 minutes of extra time before entering a golden-point period of play. It wasn't until the 105th minute that former Roughyed Steve Roper kicked the winning drop-goal to seal a promotion final play-off against Barrow Raiders.

The fairytale return to the Championship wasn't to be as Barrow took advantage of playing at home to seal a 10-6 victory leaving Whitehaven to face another season of League 1 football.

The 2018 season saw relegated Oldham join Whitehaven in League 1 along with former Super League giants Bradford Bulls. The presence of an ambitious York

City Knights side added to the strength of league opposition that year.

Oldham nilled Haven both home and away in the season, 14-0 at the recreation ground in the season-opener and then 20-0 at The Vestacare Stadium in Oldham. The two sides finished on the same points at the end of the season but a vastly superior points difference meant that Oldham claimed the final play-off spot.

2019 saw promotion for both clubs. Each won their respective home game against each other but the Cumbrians finished the season as Champions with Oldham in second two points behind. Oldham would go on to join the Champions after winning the promotion final against Newcastle Thunder.

Oldham claimed a 16-14 victory up at the Recreation Ground last year before the Covid pandemic led to the cancellation of the season.

Whitehaven arrive in Stalybridge today with one win from four. Their only win came against Newcastle Thunder at home but defeats to Dewsbury, Featherstone and Bradford last week has restricted the club to a win ratio of 25% and they currently sit second-bottom in the league.

The loan signing of Ronan Michael from Huddersfield Giants together with the capture of Aaron Purewal from Scottish RU will bolster the Haven squad and they'll have all guns blazing against an in-form Oldham side. Whitehaven never give up a game as was demonstrated by late tries in defeat last weekend and Oldham will have to stay focussed for the full eighty minutes.

With a recent history of tight games, the two sides should provide great entertainment for the OurLeague television audience this afternoon.

# Three To Watch



## NIKAU WILLIAMS

A young Kiwi playmaker, scrum-half Williams has joined Gary Charlton's Whitehaven on a one-year contract for 2021.

First took up rugby in Auckland before moving with his family to Melbourne where he joined the Victoria State system.

Williams played U20s rugby league for both Canterbury Bulldogs and Melbourne Storm before joining Canterbury Cup side Newtown Jets.



## RONAN MICHAEL

Signed from Huddersfield Giants on a two-week rolling deal as cover for the injured Marc Shackley.

The Irish-born forward has only been playing the game since 2017 but is already setting his sights on a place in Ireland's World Cup squad for 2021

A young and athletic front-rower with big defensive hits, the player is excited at the prospect of gaining first team experience in this year's competitive championship competition.



## GREGG MCNALLY

Whitehaven born Irish International full-back who has rejoined his home-town club after spending time at Huddersfield Giants, Bradford Bulls and Leigh Centurions.

Whilst at Huddersfield, McNally played ten games on-loan for Oldham in the 2010 season in a team that included returning Roughyed Ben Heaton.

It was during his time at Leigh that the player had most success, clocking up 111 tries in 176 games in two spells with the Lancashire club.

# RLWC2021

## MORE OF WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

RLWC2021 kicks off at Newcastle on the afternoon of Saturday, October 23, first with the opening ceremony, then with the first of the men's games, England v Samoa.

There are 16 teams in the men's tournament, split into four groups of four like this:

**Group 'A'**  
**England, Samoa, France, Greece**

**Group 'B'**  
**Australia, Fiji, Scotland, Italy**

**Group 'C'**  
**Jamaica, Ireland, New Zealand, Lebanon**

**Group 'D'**  
**Tonga, Papua New Guinea, Wales, Cook Islands**

After kicking everything off against Samoa, Shaun Wane's England play France at the University of Bolton Stadium on Saturday, October 30 (5pm) and Greece at Bramall Lane, Sheffield on Saturday, November 6 (2.30pm).

The top two in each group go through to the quarter finals, which will be played at Huddersfield, Liverpool (Anfield), Hull (KCom Stadium) and Bolton over the weekend of November 12, 13 and 14.

The semi-finals take place at Elland Road, Leeds and the Emirates Stadium, London (Arsenal's home) on November 19 and 20 and the final is at Old Trafford on November 27 (5pm).

England boss Wane has named a provisional 35-man squad to start his World Cup build-up, but he says players will come and go as the season unfolds

although his early selection reflects his current thinking.

His 'early' 35 are:

Morgan Knowles, Jonny Lomax, Tommy Makinson, Mark Percival, James Roby, Alex Walmsley (all St Helens), Daryl Clark, Mike Cooper, Ben Currie, Toby King, Joe Philbin, Stefan Ratchford (all Warrington Wolves), John Bateman, Liam Farrell, Oliver Gildart, Zak Hardaker, Dom Manfredi (all Wigan Warriors), Josh Hodgson, Ryan Sutton, Elliott Whitehead, George Williams (all Canberra Raiders), Luke Gale, Ash Handley, Harry Newman (all Leeds Rhinos), Niall Evalds, Paul McShane (Castleford Tigers), Dan Sarginson, Kallum Watkins (Salford Red Devils), Tom Burgess (South Sydney), Herbie Farnworth (Brisbane Broncos), Josh Griffin (Hull FC), Tom Johnstone (Wakefield Trinity), Jermaine McGillvary (Huddersfield Giants), Luke Thompson (Canterbury Bulldogs), Sam Tomkins (Catalans Dragons).

England play Combined Nations All Stars at Warrington on Friday, June 25 at 8pm following England Women v Wales at 6pm.

They will have a second World Cup warm-up game against Fiji at Rochdale a few days before the opener, which will also help Hornets to celebrate the club's 150th anniversary.

Hornets have had links with Fiji going back to the early 1960s when first started to bring over players from the South Pacific island state .



Frank Myler, a devastating stand-off or centre, is pictured here scoring against New Zealand at Odsal in the 1960 World Cup. Frank later became player-coach of Rochdale Hornets; coach of Oldham, manager of Oldham; and manager of Great Britain.

It was in the last role that he named five Oldham players to go on tour Down Under in 1984 --- Ray Ashton, Terry Flanagan, Des Foy, Andy Goodway and Mick Worrall.



**GREAT BRITAIN World Cup Squad - Australia 1957**

Back Row: Tommy Harris, Mick Sullivan, Alan Davies, Glyn Moses, Austin Rhodes, Ray Price.  
Middle Row: Derek Turner, Sid Little, Jack Grundy, Geoff Gunney, Eric Ashton, Johnny Whiteley, Billy Boston.  
Front Row: Tom McKinney, Phil Jackson, Mr W. Fallowfield, Alan Prescott (capt.), Mr H. Rawson, Jeff Stevenson, Lewis Jones.

The GB squad for the 1957 tournament, held in Australia, included three Oldham players in centre Alan Davies, second-row forward Sid Little and loose-forward Derek Turner.

We beat France, but lost to Australia and New Zealand. The Aussies won the World Cup because they topped the table. Little and Turner played in all three games, but Davies missed the clash with the Kiwis, who beat us 29-21. Little scored a try in this one.



Warrington scrum-half Gerry Helme, later to become Oldham coach, celebrating with the 1954 World Cup squad after beating France in the first-ever final.

GB won 16-12 in Paris, with Gerry scoring one of four tries. He's on the extreme right of the picture which shows captain Dave Valentine (Huddersfield) pouring champagne into the cup.

# Media coverage of rugby league is a hot topic



By IAN WILSON, a life-long Oldham fan, who gives a balanced view of how our sport is presented by the written media and by TV.

**Ian, secretary of the Rugby Oldham Supporters' Trust, has joined 'Rugby League Uncovered' to lobby people of influence to fight for World Cup coverage. YOU can join too !**

One of the regular and very long-standing cries of rugby league aficionados is that the game gets too little coverage in the national press.

How often have we seen paragraphs devoted to little-watched rugby union games, whilst Wigan v Saints or Leeds v Hull KR gets a mini-paragraph coverage at best?

Last weekend gave a good example - no coverage at all of Warrington v Hull KR in several national Sunday 'papers, even with Greg Inglis' UK debut!

What with the significant long-term decline of local

newspapers too, it would appear that RL supporters do indeed get a poor deal in terms of press coverage.

An organisation called RUGBY LEAGUE UNCOVERED [RLU] has recently been formed, with the primary objective of lobbying whoever and wherever might be relevant for improved media coverage of our game.

Of course, things are by no means all black, and it is important that this should be recognised. It was precisely because of awful coverage of weekend matches that League Express was started by Martyn Sadler way back in 1990.

Ever since, the 'paper has provided a match report on every professional rugby league game played in the country - not to mention its coverage of games in both France and Australasia,

and its other news and features.

Just think how much better we are now served as a result than was the case before 1990.

And then there is Sky, of course. It must be acknowledged that the coverage of the game it provides - admittedly behind a paywall, of course - is the best that there has ever been.

I would argue, too, that, perhaps partly as a result, the coverage given by the BBC, both on TV and on radio, is now of enhanced quality compared to how it used to be. So let's not be too pessimistic!

And the other pertinent question is just how much coverage does the game merit. We RL fanatics, of course, are always inclined to complain that we do not get enough.

But are there any relevant objective criteria?

We are admittedly the fifth-best supported game in the country in terms of paying attendances, so that may argue that we tend in general to receive less than our fair share.

But we are way outside the top ten sports in terms of participant numbers - so by this measure, I am afraid that we have to admit to greater coverage than what we deserve!

What RLU is focused on is to improve both quantity and quality of media coverage, when either is felt to be lacking. At the same time, it is keen to congratulate when the situation merits it.

The organisation is very new, but already has been involved in congratulating Sky on its excellent 'retro games' service to rugby league supporters during the period when attendance at games has not been possible.

It has also been monitoring the way professional RL clubs have been advertising 2021 world cup ticket availability through their facebook and twitter feeds, prior to attempting to 'encourage' some of them to do much better in this regard.

If you support the aim, and feel like getting involved, I am sure that RLU will give you a genuine welcome. You can contact the organisation at : [uncoveredrugby@gmail.com](mailto:uncoveredrugby@gmail.com).



**JACK BIBBY**

## **LOAN LADS DID WELL IN THE DEFEAT OF HALIFAX**



**JACK CROFT**

On-loan youngsters Jack Bibby and Jack Croft did themselves proud with their performances against Halifax.

Centre Jack (20) and prop Jack (19) proved the old adage that if you're good enough you're old enough.

We are building good relationships with Croft's parent club, Wakefield Trinity, and with Bibby's club Wigan Warriors.

In recent seasons, we've had a few lads from Trinity on loan or dual reg, including winger Lee Kershaw, full-back Luke Hooley (now at Batley Bulldogs), prop Titus Gwaze (now London

Broncos) and Croft, who was with us as a teenager in 2020.

As for Wigan, and their head of youth Darrell Goulding, you only need to look at our team sheet last week to look at the number of lads, now signed here permanently, who came through the Wigan system.

Bibby was on loan with us, but Max Roberts and Ben Holcroft are "ours"; injured James Barran is contracted to us; and even Callum Green, who came to us from Warrington, spent years at Wigan being reared in the Wigan way.

# Jamie, Kris take to the mic to bridge the gap between fans and players



We are pleased to report that our social media activity is increasing rapidly and for that we are indebted to Dan Bamber, who is working hard to increase content, to bridge the gap between fans and players and to ensure, via our various platforms, that Roughyeds are kept in the public eye on a daily basis.

Dan (28) is a Wigan lad, who is a member of Matt Diskin's backroom staff as match and performance analyst.

He works closely with Matt and Shez (that's assistant coach Brendan Sheridan) -- a position he landed after ringing the club and having two interviews with the chairman, Chris Hamilton.

He had previously done a similar job at both Warrington Wolves and at Wigan St Pat's, his local club.

He quickly felt at home at Oldham and as well as doing the job he came to do he quickly realised there was scope to get involved on the social media side of things, which is another passion of his.

Said Dan: **"My main role is that of match analyst for Matt, but I just like helping out wherever and whenever I can. I'm very much involved with social media anyway, so by getting involved with the club's social media activity, I'm linking two of my passions together -- rugby league and social media."**

**"I'm a committed Roughyeds fan now and, working closely with Matt and Shez I know at first hand how much hard work goes into getting a good team on the field week in and week out."**

Wigan born and bred -- **"You'll know that anyway from my accent,"** -- Dan has been a rugby league nut all his young life and he is thrilled to know that Roughyeds' social media is on the up and up.

**"He added: "Social media these days is massive. There is no end to what we can do and the plan is to build it up gradually, as I'm sure we will."**

The latest venture is the introduction of a weekly podcast, which is in the hands of brothers and keen Roughyeds fans Jamie and Kris Hollingworth.

Jamie (25) and Kris (19) were keen to get involved and help the club, so they spoke to Dan, told him what their strengths were and in what area they would like to operate -- and the podcast was launched.

At the time of writing, they had interviewed club captain Gareth Owen, 100-game Jack Spencer and assistant coach Shez and they were lining up Martyn Reilly for the latest podcast.

Said Jamie: **"We absolutely love doing this. Both Kris and I have been fans since we were boys. We got it from our dad, Darren."**

“At first, we thought it would be a casual sort of thing, but Dan is very keen for us to build on what we have done so far. We’ll be doing a weekly interview and eventually we hope to be doing pre and post-match stuff.

“It’s all down to Dan really. We couldn’t have done it without him. He’s enthusiastic, really positive and he has a passion for the club and for social media, which can only be good for the club.

“It’s now an OFFICIAL Oldham podcast -- Dan saw to that -- and we hope to go from strength to strength.

“We were a bit nervous when we did the first one with Gaz Owen, but we are growing in confidence as we go on.

“We might even be able to do two a week as get more used to it and get ourselves better organised.

“At the moment we are doing it from our front room with a mic connected up to Kris’s laptop, but we feel it’s going really well and we’d just like to ask supporters to listen in and see what the lads have to say.”

Last word goes to Dan.

He concluded: “The lads are doing a great job. Fans will love their interviews. I wanted something informal --- a bit like a few blokes chatting over a pint in a pub -- and that’s exactly how they come across. They are just what we wanted.

“We can’t do everything all at once, but there’s no end of things we can do eventually.

“The main thing now is to spread the word so that as many fans as possible look out for the podcasts and then listen to what’s said.”



Jamie Hollingworth (left) and his brother Kris, keen fans who are now conducting interviews on our official Podcast under the watchful eye of our social media expert Dan Bamber.

GREAT WIN ! Our players celebrate after Jack Croft's late try gave us the points against Halifax and kept intact our unbeaten home record.



## Match details for the merry month of May

Following the alteration of some fixtures, our Betfred Championship programme for the rest of this month currently looks like this:

**Monday, May 17 - 8:00pm**  
**Featherstone (A)**

**Sunday, May 23 - 3:00pm**  
**York City Knights (A)**

**3 00pm**  
**Sunday, May 30 - 3:00pm**  
**Widnes Vikings (H)**

The Featherstone game was put back from Sunday, May 16 to Monday,

May 17 (8.00pm) because that's the date when fans are due to be allowed to return to sport.

Our new date for the Featherstone game is one of three Championship matches that weekend to be moved to the Monday night, but Our League streaming passes will not be available that night.

Furthermore, Government guidelines insist that visiting fans must NOT travel. If this restriction is lifted we will be delighted to inform you right away.

As and when we have available full and final details about fans coming back into grounds we'll let you know. Watch the website and/or our social media platforms for information.

# HOW TO GET 'LINKED UP' WITH OUR WEBSITE

Now you've enjoyed our match-day online programme, why not stay in the mood for all the action at Bower Fold by following the links to the many features on our Roughyeds website.

They range from squad info, statistics, fixtures, latest news, ORSA, and league table to what we have available in the club shop.

We've got the best range of club merchandise for many a year so its well worth checking it out online.

The links in question are these:

Squad: <https://roughyeds.co.uk/players>

Stats: <https://roughyeds.co.uk/player-statistics>

Fixtures: <https://roughyeds.co.uk/fixtures-and-results/oldham-fixtures>

League Table: <https://roughyeds.co.uk/fixtures-and-results/league-table>

ORSA: <https://roughyeds.co.uk/orsa/orsa-information>

Shop: <https://payments.roughyeds.co.uk>

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## DARREN'S SUMMARY

DARREN Abram, the former Roughyeds centre and father of our current players Dan and Jamie Abram, will be doing the Our League summarising at the Whitehaven game.

If you are a season-ticket holder you can watch the game free. Others can watch on their various digital devices, even on television if you have the right equipment, and the cost is only £4.95 if you buy before the day of the game.

Furthermore, the home club takes 90 per cent of the money generated, after costs, and its that money that is helping to keep us going when there is no money coming through the turnstiles.

Abram snr, meanwhile, will no doubt be reflecting on his own time in the Oldham jersey -- 127 appearances, 64 tries. He arrived from Rochdale, for a fee of £60,000, during the Peter Tonks swop=shop days of 1992/93 and stayed until the club was liquidated in 1997.



# OLDHAM RLFC



# WHITEHAVEN



|    |                  |                               |
|----|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 01 | Dan Abram        | Rugby Oldham                  |
| 02 | Tommy Brierley   | David and Val Webster         |
| 03 | Ben Heaton       | Stephen Butterfield           |
| 05 | Ryan Ince        | Oldham RL Heritage Trust      |
| 06 | Lewis Charnock   | Anne Kearns                   |
| 07 | Dave Hewitt      | Gordon Sedgwick               |
| 08 | Phil Joy         | Past Players Association      |
| 09 | Gareth Owen      | CDX Security                  |
| 10 | Jack Spencer     | Graeme Lee                    |
| 11 | Danny Langtree   | David and Val Webster         |
| 12 | Liam Bent        | Pam Taylor/ LTS               |
| 13 | Martyn Reilly    | Dynasty Denture Solutions     |
| 14 | Matty Wilkinson  | John & Lynda McAndrew         |
| 15 | Luke Nelmes      | Gareth Hughes                 |
| 16 | Tyler Dupree     | Gerry Jones & Caroline Hughes |
| 17 | Liam Kirk        | Fab-tek Installations Limited |
| 19 | Matthew Fletcher | Waterhead under 13s           |
| 20 | Jode Sheriffe    | The Property Buying Co        |
| 21 | Shaun Pick       | Available - Ring 07904 898177 |
| 22 | Kyran Johnson    | Mick Harrop                   |
| 23 | Callum Green     | Available - Ring 07904 898177 |
| 24 | Max Roberts      | Available - Ring 07904 898177 |
| 25 | Danny Bridge     | Gerald Brierley               |
| 26 | James Barran     | Available - Ring 07904 898177 |
| 27 | Ben Holcroft     | Available - Ring 07904 898177 |
| 28 | Joe Hartley      | Available - Ring 07904 898177 |
| 29 | Jack Croft       | Available - Ring 07904 898177 |
| 30 | Dec Gregory      | John and Lynda McAndrew       |
| 31 | John Hutchings   | Available - Ring 07904 898177 |
| 33 | Jamie Abram      | Available - Ring 07904 898177 |
| 34 | Jack Bibby       | Available - Ring 07904 898177 |
|    | Matt Diskin      | Property Buying Company       |
|    | Brendan Sheridan | Property Buying Company       |
|    | Jode Sheriffe    | Property Buying Company       |

|    |                   |
|----|-------------------|
| 01 | Greg McNally      |
| 02 | Lachlan Walmsley  |
| 03 | Chris Taylor      |
| 04 | Jessie Joe Parker |
| 05 | Andrew Bullman    |
| 06 | Karl Dixon        |
| 07 | Nikau Williams    |
| 08 | Marc Shackley     |
| 09 | Callum Phillips   |
| 10 | Kris Coward       |
| 11 | Brett Phillips    |
| 12 | Liam Cooper       |
| 13 | Dion Aiye         |
| 14 | Sam Dowsett       |
| 15 | Connor Holliday   |
| 16 | Tom Wilkinson     |
| 17 | Tom Walker        |
| 18 | James Newton      |
| 19 | Ellis Gillam      |
| 20 | Jake Bradley      |
| 21 | Glenn Riley       |
| 22 | Brett Carter      |
| 23 | Jason Mossop      |
| 24 | Ethan Kelly       |
| 26 | Ryan King         |
| 27 | Andrew Davidson   |
| 28 | Karl Olstrom      |
| 29 | Dean Zammit       |
| 30 | Sean Croston      |
| 31 | Oscar Thomas      |
| 33 | Andy Thornley     |

Coach: Gary Charlton

Asst Coach: Jonty Gorley

Referee: S Mikalauskas

Touch Judge 2: M Smail

Timekeeper: P Taberner

Touch Judge 1: N Bennett

Res ref: W Turley

