

ROUGHYED REVIEW

Brian McDermott
- he of the steely
eyes and solid,
square jaw. Read
Chris Hamilton
on pages 20
and 21

2021 PROGRAMME NO.9

SUNDAY 1ST AUGUST

KICK OFF

3:00PM

'Image, SWPix'



**OLDHAM
RLFC**

V



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Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm

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Welcome back after a narrow loss up in Whitehaven last week.

A CHAT WITH THE CHAIRMAN

CHRIS HAMILTON

I said before the game that our season did not depend on a win in Cumbria, and it didn't, but that does not take away the disappointment we all had after the game.

Having said that, and having reviewed the game, the playing group are still on a learning curve with Brian Mc and it is some of those little adjustments we need to make which, ultimately cost us the win.

The players realise that, but what they also realise is the difference that two games and three weeks of training under Brian has made.

Anybody who has seen the two matches can see the improvement in the side and some of the improvements from the Bulls game to Sunday were phenomenal.

That lifted the lads even more. If we can continue that upward curve this week, then we are in with a shout.

The video review of the game highlighted significant progress in terms of some of the key statistics we look at and I genuinely think that it was a lot more dramatic than many of the lads had appreciated. That in itself was a further boost to the lads' confidence.

Of course, we are still in a hole but right now we have located a ladder and we are working on climbing it. The lads are working together to get to the top of it as quickly as possible!

We also need a bit of luck with injuries. It seems like, in almost every match this season, we have had disruption causing major reshuffles of the team.

What has been particularly evident this time around has been the number of times it has happened during a match.

Sunday was a prime example of that with Dan Abram getting a knock which meant that Tommy Brierley had to go to full back and Jamie Abram had to go on the wing.

Right now, these challenges are part of what we need to steel ourselves for, but I can assure you everybody is embracing what is in front of us.

Keep the faith, be loud and proud and get behind the lads again today.

Enjoy the game.

Christopher Hamilton
Chairman

EX-PLAYERS' DINNER

Iestyn Harris will be guest speaker at the Past Players' annual dinner, to be held at St Herbert's Parish Centre, Broadway on Friday, October 15 at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £30, which includes three-course meal and cheese and biscuits with tea or coffee. Compere and comedian is John Gillan.

To book ring John Watkins (07974612038) or Joe Warburton (07882848340).

ON THE INSIDE . . .

with Brian McDermott

Hello all,
I will start these programme notes by saying I trust everyone is in good health and in a decent mindset.

You won't need me mentioning what a challenge COVID has been and what an impact it's had ... I'm sure we all know that. Personally, I now want to shake hands and meet people who have a positive energy about them and can find solutions to where we're all at.

That said ... I must also state what a privilege it is to be associated with your team and club. Oldham Rugby League Club was one of the founding teams of Super League and was part of the plan and strategy to grow the game and take it to a wider audience.

Your club has been on a journey these last few seasons and is currently in a position in which wins and survival are top of the list.

Chris Hamilton made contact on the Monday before the recent Bulls game and we met and had a coffee to discuss what advice and help I could offer. I went into the meeting with a certain mindset and left with another. While Chris was speaking to me and telling me of the

challenge, I realised that it wasn't 'help and advice' that was needed... it was a job that needed time and commitment; a job that has little margin for error and hasn't many weeks to achieve the aim of staying up.

So, with that landscape set by Chris, I knew the short and intense journey that lay ahead was one I would accept.

In the last two or three weeks I've been implementing systems and techniques to make the team more resilient and able to stay in the contest longer. Once we have that resilience we can start to compete, break teams down and break their defensive line... something we need to do a lot more if we're to score tries and win games.

Running alongside all that is the fact that we don't have much time and what I get the men to do is crucial, as any group of people can only work on a certain amount of things at any one time.

The men have been outstanding in their willingness to adapt and change. It's been an absolute pleasure to work alongside them and there's a certain amount of humility apparent as I watch them get to training straight from work with little time to prepare

for the intense sessions we've been having. If they're willing to make the same commitments on game day as they do in the week then I'm confident we will be in great shape toward the back end and those crucial last few games.

There's a lot going on in the wider game of Rugby League and too much of it isn't good. There are a few twists and turns to be had even within the Championship, both at the top and at the lower end. Focusing on what matters to us and what will make us a better team is all the team, staff, owner and I are concerned with.

Enjoy the game... thanks for your support and commitment throughout this testing period.

**Regards
Brian**



'Image SWPix'



YOUR CAPTAIN CALLING

Gareth Owen on the ball

I think our defence in midfield let us down a bit though because 'Haven made quite a lot of breaks around the half-way line. We also let them out of yardage way too easily.

We had to quickly dust ourselves off and start our preparations for the Broncos, getting straight back to work on Monday night, starting with a really honest chat and a video review.

We looked at what we did well and also at where we seriously need to improve in order to get the win we need to get us going.

The support at Whitehaven, by the way, was fantastic so a big thank-you for that. I know I've said it before, but it really does make a difference.

Finally, let me assure you that our battle to stay up is still very much on. We've eight matches and 16 points to play for and that's a lot of rugby and a lot of hard work. You can rest assured that, with your superb support, we'll be giving it everything we've got.

Being injured, and on the sidelines, makes the loss at Whitehaven even harder to take.

I wasn't able to contribute on the field up in Cumbria and it really did hurt to watch my team mates give everything, but just fall short.

I thought we dominated for long periods and our goal-line defence showed a significant improvement from the Bradford game.

Mac has made our defence, and particularly our goal-line defence, a priority in the sessions that we have been doing on the field and the players are really buying into it.

We've been doing a lot more high-energy and high-pressure stuff, working hard for each other. For much of the game we made that count and we stopped a lot of the Cumbrians' big plays early and before they picked up much momentum.

Gareth

Past players | Lee Doran

THOSE WERE THE DAYS

Lee Doran was a prop with pace in the early days of Oldham RLFC (1997) Ltd. He was an ever-present for the club in seasons 2003 and 2004 and was joint top try scorer in 2003 with Gavin Dodd, each scoring 14 tries. Now aged 39, he played 112 games for Oldham before going on to play for Rochdale, Widnes (twice), Leigh, Whitehaven and Ireland, whom he represented in the 2008 World Cup, held in Australia.

Ireland were in group C with Tonga and Samoa, topping the group on points difference after beating Samoa 34-16 and going down narrowly to Tonga, 20-22. A strong Fiji team knocked them out in the quarter-finals. Lee's elder son, Charlie, plays for Shevington Sharks under-12s ARLFC, while his younger boy Jacob is a footballer in the Blackpool FC academy.

Family group. Lee with his wife Lisa, sons Charlie and Jacob and daughter Isabella.



Taxi for Charlie! Lee at the wheel, taking his elder son to a Shevington Sharks under-12s game. A pie-eater born and bred, Lee and his family still live in Wigan.



Q: When were you here and where are you now?

A: I signed in 1999/2000 under Mike Ford, a fantastic coach, and then Steve Molloy. I started in the Alliance side under Hayden Walker. I got a phone call on a Friday night to say I would be playing at Whitehaven the next morning. I left Oldham 2005-ish and I retired two years back to build my award-winning financial services business, dealing with mortgages and their protection.

Q: What was your most memorable game for Oldham, and why?

A: My senior debut at Leigh. I was a pup packing against Timmy Street. I learned a lot! There was also the 2001 Grand Final against Widnes. I was 18th man and we lost, but in the build-up to the game the buzz around town, the club and the boys was very special.

Q: Which sportsman do you most admire, and why?

A: They roll off the tongue - Muhammad Ali, Mike Tyson, Manny Pacquiao, Mo Farah, but from a rugby perspective I'd go Gordon Tallis, Andy Platt, Kelvin Skerrett for their competitiveness and Ellery Hanley because he had everything.

Q: Your biggest professional achievement?

A: Representing Ireland and testing myself against the best players in the world. I don't count wins and trophies; my biggest achievement was collecting memories and friendships. You can bump into an ex-team mate you haven't seen for years and in no time it will feel like only yesterday that you were last in touch. That's what rugby league gives you.

Q: And your biggest disappointment?

A: I've been involved in two Grand Finals and we lost both.

Q: How would your Oldham team mates have described you?

A: Ask them please, but I'd like to think

a few kind words would be thrown in.

Q: What did you like most about being in the Oldham squad?

A: We were a bunch of lads who enjoyed playing rugby and socialising. We were committed to turning up for mates. That goes a long way in rugby league.

Q: What prompted your decision to leave?

A: The opportunity to play under Bobby Goulding. Growing up, I loved to watch him play and when I got the chance to play for him, I couldn't turn it down.

Q: What would be your dream role in life?

A: That's the million-dollar question isn't it? I'm pretty contented. Everyone's happy and healthy. Australia appeals to us as a family so we'll see what's around the corner.

Q: What's your day job?

A: I run a financial services company (mortgages and protection). That, plus raising three children and taxi-ing them all over the place, keeps me busy.



World Cup 2008 and Ireland are ready to play Samoa. Left to right: Scott Grix, Damian Blanch, Karl Fitzpatrick, Sean Gleeson, Eamonn O'Carroll, Lee Doran, Michael Platt, Simon Finnigan.



Profile of Lee Doran

as featured in a club programme of yesteryear



Former Orrell St. James junior, Swinton Lions and Widnes Viking Academy forward.
When Widnes disbanded their Academy, he was persuaded to join the Roughyeds.

Played for NFP U21 side against Super League U21 October 2001.

The 20 year old established himself as first team regular last season appearing in 38 out of a possible 39 games scoring 13 tries.

Lee has developed into a deep thinking, blockbusting, no nonsense forward with a great future in the game.

PLAYER PROFILE

LEE DORAN

Another programme piece from days gone by

LEE Doran's consistency has been remarkable since he became a regular member of the Oldham side at the start of the 2002 season.

Look at this for a playing record:

2002: possible appearances 39; Doran's appearances 38.

2003: possible appearances 32; Doran's appearances 32.

2004: possible appearances 19; Doran's appearances 19.

In the last two and a half seasons this 22-year-old from Wigan has played in 89 out of a possible 90 Oldham games in all competitions --- a phenomenal record.

But the case for suggesting that Lee's consistency is exceptional doesn't finish there.

What about this one? All appearance figures include those off the bench, but in Lee's case he had only five substitute appearances in 2002, none in 2003 and none up to the present time in 2004.

And if you want still more proof of Doran's value to club and team ask yourself when you last saw him substituted or, to use the modern parlance, rotated or "spelled" ?

It does happen, but only very, very occasionally. When Doran goes on he usually stops on and of, all the forwards the Roughyeds have used since the start of the 2002 season you would be hard pushed to find anyone with more game time than Doran.

Here is a young man who has learned all he knows with the Roughyeds and has graduated with honours to become a multi-skilled back-row forward who can look forward to a long and rewarding career in the sport.

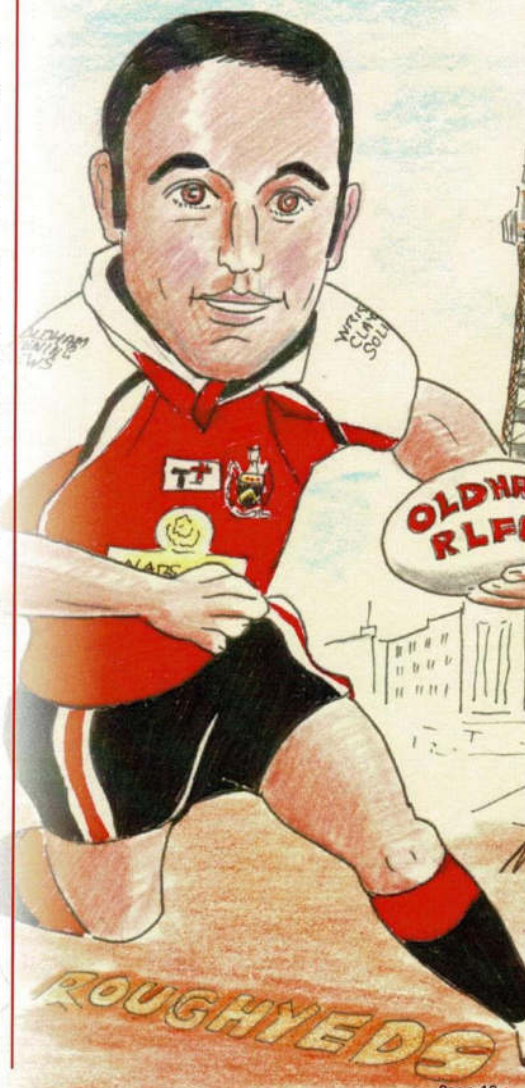
Though still only 22, he did an excellent job as team captain in the absence earlier in the season of club skipper Phil Farrell and vice-captain John Hough.

It is not insignificant that the man chosen to be leader by player-coach Steve Molloy when the big two were out through injury had a similar record of consistency to the pair for whom he was deputising.

You don't achieve such records unless you work hard; unless you are dedicated; unless you stretch every sinew in training; unless you set personal goals; unless you are strong in mind, as well as body.

Somebody once said --- don't ask me who --- "The secret of success is consistency of purpose."

Doran's purpose in his sporting life is to be the best he can be at rugby league, and who can



LEE DORAN CONT...

question his consistency in striving to reach those dizzy heights for the benefit of himself, his team and his club.

You know, there's a fishy tale going the rounds that Lee got his dressing room nickname, "Tuna", because he appears to have a diet that's heavily loaded with just that! Bearing in mind that you don't catch tuna in the River Douglas or from the banks of other fisheries in and around his home town, it can be safely assumed that the weekly Doran family shopping basket is overflowing with the tinned and imported variety.

It's a subject of much hilarity in the dressing room, but if I were a gambling man I would chance a few bob on the notion that, far from being a laughing matter, the Doran diet is a very serious issue on the home front and that, more specifically, tuna has played its part in building and developing a rookie forward who is close to becoming the finished article.

He joined the club at the back end of 1999 --- is it really as long as that? -- as a 17-year-old who had played for the academy teams at Widnes and Swinton.

In the next two seasons he worked his way through the academy and alliance teams, first under Haydn Walker and then under Mark Knight, while making fleeting appearances in the first team, under Mike Ford.

He had six sub appearances in the Spring of 2000 and another seven in 2001 --- all part of his steady progress

towards regular first-team football, which he achieved at the beginning of the 2002 campaign.

Since then, there has been no holding him. He has played most of his rugby for Oldham in the second-row but Molloy had no hesitation in using him in the centre whenever there was a need.

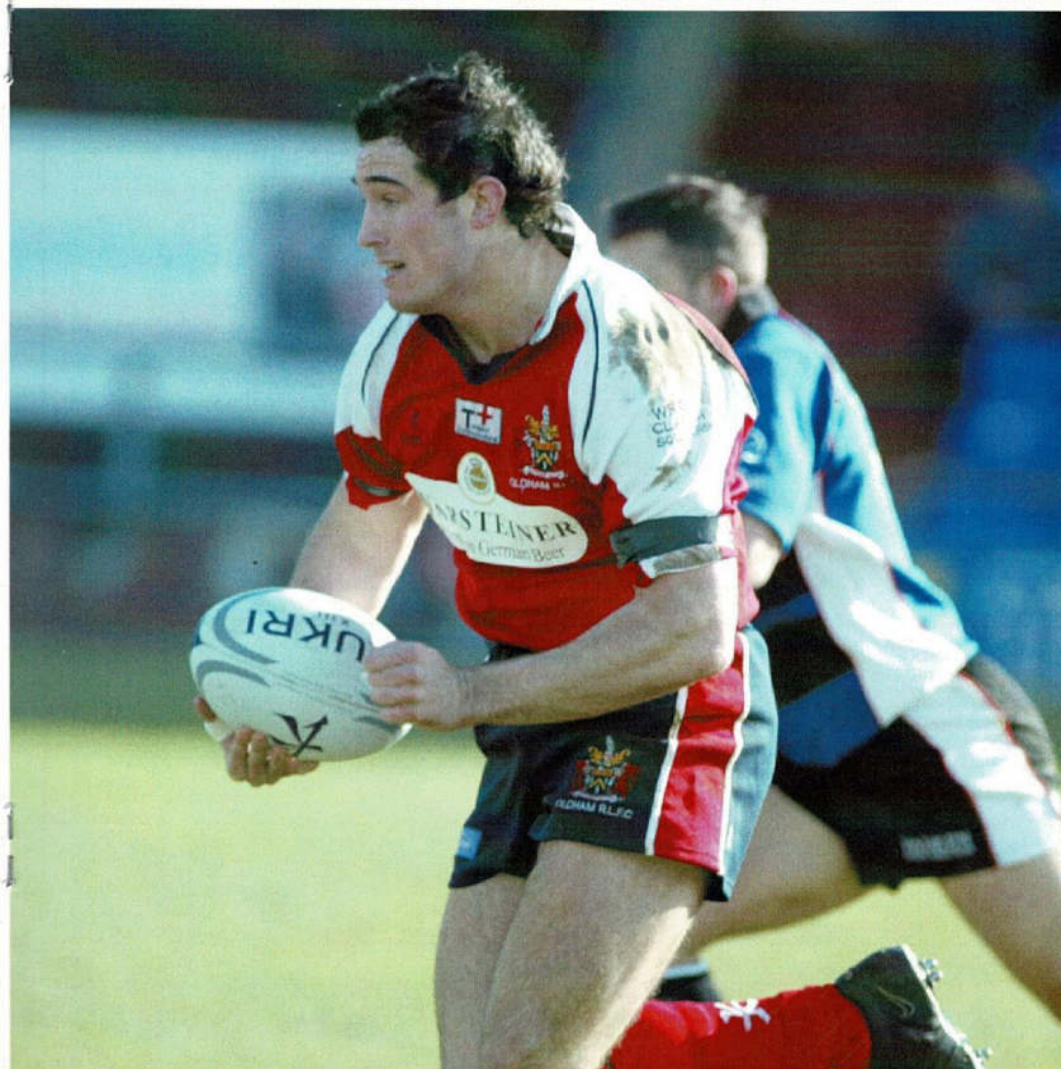
He can play football, he's no slouch and he has good hands, all the qualities Molloy was looking for when he had to find a makeshift centre from within the players at his disposal.

The player himself prefers the back-row and it was his consistently sound performances in that department that earned him recognition at representative level on several fronts.

He has played for Ireland, for the National League Select squad and for the old Northern Ford Premiership under-21 rep side against their Super League counterparts.

Along the way Huddersfield, Castleford and Widnes have all been linked with him, but Doran just keeps on turning out for Oldham and playing well . . . consistently, of course.

ROGER HALSTEAD



Reilly, Dupree lead four-try fightback

OUR LAST HOME GAME IN PICTURES BY DAVE NAYLOR

OLDHAM 22, BRADFORD BULLS 54



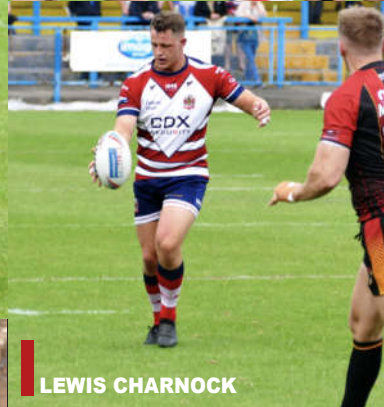
RYAN INCE



CHARNOCK, BARRAN
AND JAMIE ABRAM



MARTYN REILLY



LUKE NELMES



LEWIS CHARNOCK



LIAM BENT



Player Focus

Luke Nelmes



Q: What do you do for your day job?

A: I recently started a new job, working for the Gas Board on the roads. Before that, I was a student at Manchester Met, studying sports coaching.

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

A: Ha, ha, ha. That's a laugh. My teachers would describe me as a delight to teach... although I once got kicked out of Science for not switching off the gas for the Bunsen Burner!

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

A: I'd go straight to Vegas and party hard, then I'd come home and do the sensible stuff, like buying all my family nice homes and cars. Then I'd go back to Vegas.

Q: What's your biggest achievement in rugby to date?

A: Honestly, it's just getting back into it. I had some real issues off the field the last time I was at Oldham and I ended up by jacking in rugby, the worst decision I could have made.

I spent six or seven months in a really bad place, but my good mate Martyn Reilly helped me out big time and got me back on the right path, back doing what I love.

Q: And your biggest disappointment?

A: Leaving Yeds early on in their promotion season was my biggest opportunity missed and, ultimately, my biggest disappointment. I would have loved to have experienced promotion with the boys.

Q: How would your team mates describe you?

A: Funny, loving, caring and an all-round amazing team mate. Ha, ha, well most of them anyway!

Q: Away from rugby and your day job, what do you do most?

A: Like most rugby lads, I enjoy a few beers with my pals when I get the chance. Other than that, I have a gorgeous missus, with whom I spend a lot of time. The same applies to my Mum and Dad, who never miss a game, and to my beautiful nieces. Between them, they take up all of my spare time.

Q: What do you like most about being in the Oldham squad?

A: The lads are class, the fans even better. The team spirit is also first rate. Even though things have been going against us, we train hard with a smile on our faces, believing in ourselves that we can, and will, turn this season around.

Q: What would be your dream role in life?

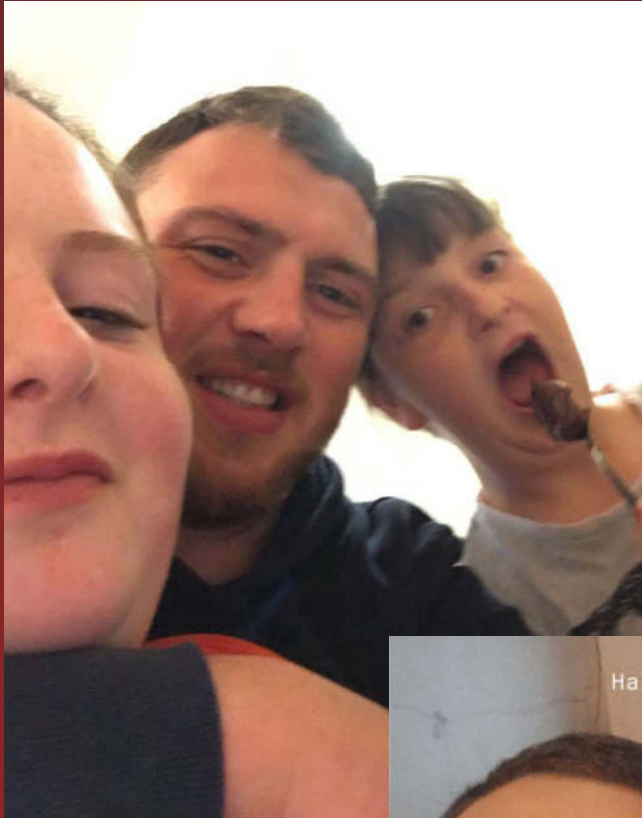
A: I would love to be a very wealthy man so I could look after all my mates and my family, then move to Vegas and live at the top of Caesars Palace!

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

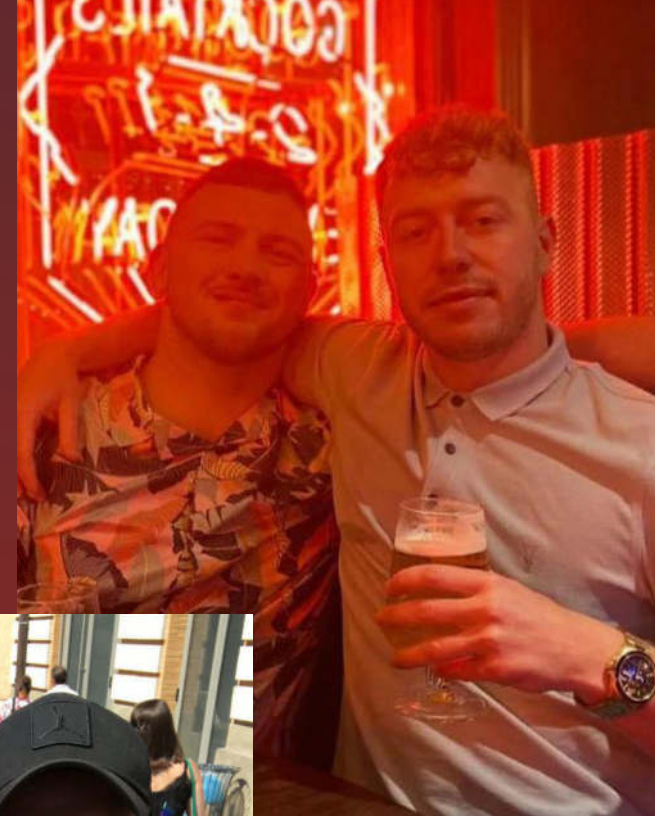
A: Tyson Fury. He's had his ups and downs, as I have, but his rise from rock bottom to heavyweight champion of the world is massively inspirational. That apart, I love his antics. And his trash talk makes me laugh.



DEFENDER'S HEAD-ON VIEW OF NELMSEY ON THE CHARGE



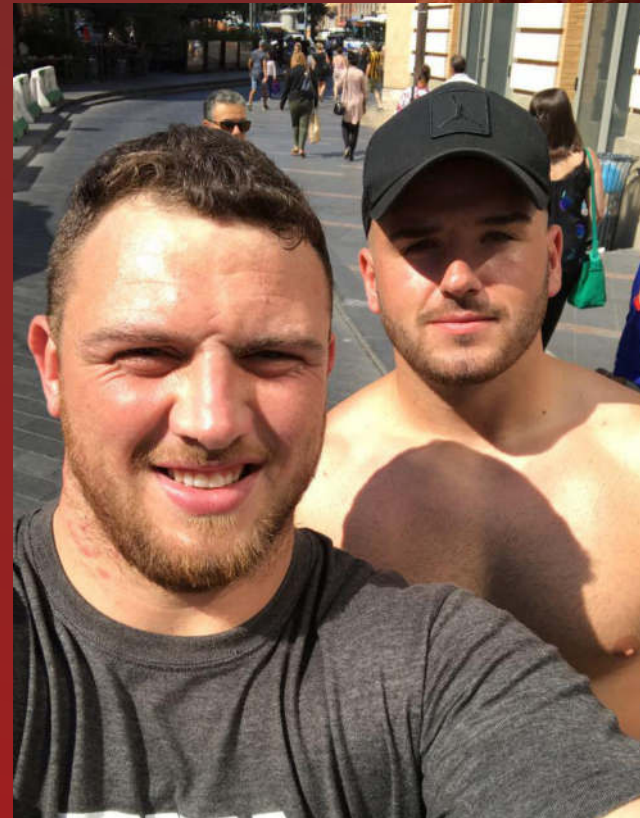
**ME AND MY NIECES,
AMBER AND SAVANNA**



**OUT WITH MY GOOD
MATE MACAULEY**



**THE TWO OF US . . . ME AND MY
GORGEOUS GIRLFRIEND, AMY**



**ME AND MARTYN - WHAT
A GUY ! PROPS-IN-ARMS
AND VERY CLOSE.**

LONDON BRONCOS

Tom Tsang and his London Broncos side arrive at Bower Fold this afternoon for their first fixture since thumping York City Knights 50-22 on July 11. Two tries apiece from Will Lovell and Chris Hankinson were supplemented by four-pointers from Josh Hodson, Oliver Leyland, Abbas Miski and Jacob Jones which was enough to put paid to the ambitious York side.

The Broncos had a free weekend on July 18 due to the Challenge Cup Final at Wembley and should have faced Widnes Vikings last Sunday. The Vikings game was cancelled since more than seven of the London squad from their top 25 players were required to isolate either following positive Covid-19 tests or as close contacts.

The Broncos season started poorly with an opening day defeat at Halifax Panthers in round one followed by a conceded game in round two. Broncos declined to travel to promotion chasing Toulouse Olympique due to concerns over Covid and the game was awarded as a 24-0 win for the French side.

The Broncos have subsequently been deducted two league points for failing to fulfil a fixture.

A first win of the season came in round three as the

Broncos opened their home campaign against our very own Roughyeds. Leading 18-6 at half time the home side pushed on to hold a 30-6 advantage before the last twenty minutes of the game produced five tries — three to Oldham and two to Broncos. At 34-24 the Roughyeds started to believe the momentum was in their favour but a blind pass from Oldham in the last four minutes sealed the tie for Broncos who ran out 38-24 winners.

After defeating Oldham, the Broncos went on to draw 20-20 against Sheffield at the Keepmoat Stadium. Since then subsequent games have gone according to the formbook with the London side only falling to defeats against Featherstone Rovers (63-14) and Bradford Bulls (8-33).

The current league table shows the Broncos with eight wins and a one draw from twelve completed games with a Win% of 56.69%, thus putting them in a healthy sixth place overall. Promotion this year may be a stretch too far but having experienced a return to Super League status in the 2019 season Tom Tsang's side will want to conclude the current season on a high note to enhance their future reputation and promotion credentials.

It's worth noting that in that one season back in the big time, Broncos handed St Helens two of their only three losses for the year and were only relegated on the season's final weekend with a defeat against Wakefield. Looking to the future, London have recently entered into a groundshare partnership with AFC Wimbledon and will use the League One side's Plough Lane ground for home fixtures.

Broncos chief executive Jason Loubser, said: "From our first meetings with AFC Wimbledon, and seeing the early stages of the stadium build, it became obvious to us how special the Plough Lane project was.

"Over the course of the last 12 months we have learnt just how important the stadium is to the club, the supporters and the community of Wimbledon and the London Broncos are excited to be able to soon call Plough Lane home"

Today's visitors could include in their number: Tuoyo Egodo, Sid Adebisi and Titus Gwaze — all three have worn Roughyeds colours in the past. It's certain each will receive a warm Roughyeds welcome.

Three To Watch



CORY ASTON

Son of Mark Aston, the Sheffield Eagles coach and former player.

Aston junior is a stand-off or scrum-half who began his career at Sheffield in 2013. He spent four seasons in South Yorkshire before signing for Leeds Rhinos as cover to Danny McGuire.

Cory was loaned out to both Featherstone Rovers and Bradford Bulls during his time at Leeds and left Headingley without playing a single game for the Rhinos.

Moved on to Castleford Tigers in 2018 before signing for the Broncos in 2020.



JARROD SAMMUT

34yr old Sammut is an Australian born Maltese international half-back who started his professional career with Penrith Panthers back in 2007.

Came over to the UK in 2010 to play for Crusaders RL and made a try-scoring debut at the Magic Weekend.

The player has seen periods of time playing for Bradford Bulls, Wakefield, Featherstone Rovers, Workington Town, Wigan Warriors and Leigh Centurions.

Arrived back at Broncos for the third time in his career in 2021.



RHYS CURRAN

A French international second-row forward who signed for the Broncos at the start of the 2020 season.

Born in New South Wales, Australia, Curran only started playing rugby league as a 16yr old but went through the youth system at West Tigers.

Moved to France in 2012 where he played for Villeneuve before moving to Toulouse Olympique in 2015. Scored 67 tries in over a hundred games for Olympique.

HAMILTON ON MCDERMOTT, THE MAN WHO CAN TURN THINGS AROUND

As many of you will know, our club chairman Chris Hamilton writes a column every Friday in The Oldham Times, a Newsquest paper that began life as a weekly in 2017, shortly after the Oldham Evening Chronicle disappeared from the town's news stands, and now publishes six days a week. The Oldham Times is our media partner and we are proud to carry the paper's title on our playing and replica jerseys and to share a commercial agreement that includes our leader's weekly column.

Shortly after Brian McDermott's appointment as coaching consultant, Chris gave Oldham Times readers the exclusive 'inside' story of how he identified McDermott as the man he wanted -- and how he then went out and got him.

We have the paper's approval to recycle this particular article. so this is what Chris had to say . . .

The Oldham Times

Well, it has certainly been a quiet week in the life of Oldham RL Club !

The last piece I did was about how I had to make the difficult decision to change the head coach and how that decision had begun.

I suppose by now most of you will know the outcome. It's also fair to say I could have won a fair few quid at the bookies had I been able to put on a bet about who the next incumbent was going to be.

'Little old Oldham' have only gone and pulled off a major coup by engaging the services of the most successful head coach in Super League history - yes, you read that right. That man is Brian McDermott, who has a pedigree second to none and whose remit is simple -- to keep us in the Championship.

Now, nobody is naive enough to think that by having a new coach the players just turn up and become world beaters, but I do know, 100 per cent, that the squad is so much better than it has been showing for the past few months.

So, we started a process and in stage one

it was to get in somebody who could get the best out of the players. Job done in that regard.

I racked my brains to think who could come in and make a difference and I challenge anybody to come up with anybody better.

I'm confident Brian will turn things around. In some ways, of course, his appointment is the easy bit. The next stage is for Brian to start to embed his ethos and to get the players to understand their capabilities.

We have ten matches in which we can turn this season around.

It is important for people to understand that Mr Mac is not going to work miracles in one week -- he needs two !

Seriously, though, even after the sessions so far this week you can see a change in the players' mindsets and that is the biggest hurdle to overcome.

I have been inundated by questions about how I managed to pull it off. Nobody saw it coming. Put simply, I decided I had nothing to lose by aiming as high as possible.

We have known each other a long time; ever since I was England manager and Brian was an England player.

I have always had the utmost respect for him, both as a player and a coach. He is the first to admit he is not your run-of-the-mill character, but he gets results and whatever happens, his courage in accepting this role underlines everything about him as a man.

It would have been too easy for him not to risk anything in terms of his reputation by taking on this job.

Conversely, as I was driving to the meeting with him, and going through things in my head, this was the one thing I suspected might be an attraction to him. He's a winner and he loves to prove people wrong.

From an Oldham perspective, nothing would give me greater pleasure than to see him add The Great Escape to his impressive list of achievements, not only from a selfish point of view but because he absolutely deserves it for taking on this job.

Buckle yourself in. Its going to be some ride!

Since that was published, Roughyeds have played two games and have lost them both, but they produced a much-improved second-half performance against Bradford Bulls and followed that up with a rousing performance at Whitehaven, where they were beaten 28-24 in a superb game which could have gone either way.



IN THIS WORLD CUP YEAR, WHICH PROMISED TO BE THE BEST AND BIGGEST YET BEFORE AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND PULLED OUT, WE HAVE TEAMED UP WITH THE OLDHAM RL HERITAGE TRUST TO BRING YOU A WORLD CUP SERIES OF NEWS, VIEWS AND HISTORICAL FACTS, COURTESY OF MICHAEL TURNER, THE HERITAGE TRUST'S WELL-KNOWN HISTORIAN AND RUGBY LEAGUE FANATIC.

WORLD CUP SNUB: CHRIS HITS BACK AS AUSSIES, KIWIS REFUSE TO COME

Oldham chairman Chris Hamilton has put his support firmly behind RFL chairman Simon Johnson's criticism of Australia and New Zealand's withdrawal from the forthcoming World Cup, due to Covid concerns.

Johnson has described the snub as 'selfish, parochial and cowardly' - and our club chairman agrees.

He said:

"This is a massive blow. Officials here were given only a few minutes notice after they had done a fantastic job in maintaining the profile of the competition during the pandemic.

"I echo Simon Johnson's criticism because, for me, this demonstrates Down Under thoughts on international rugby league.

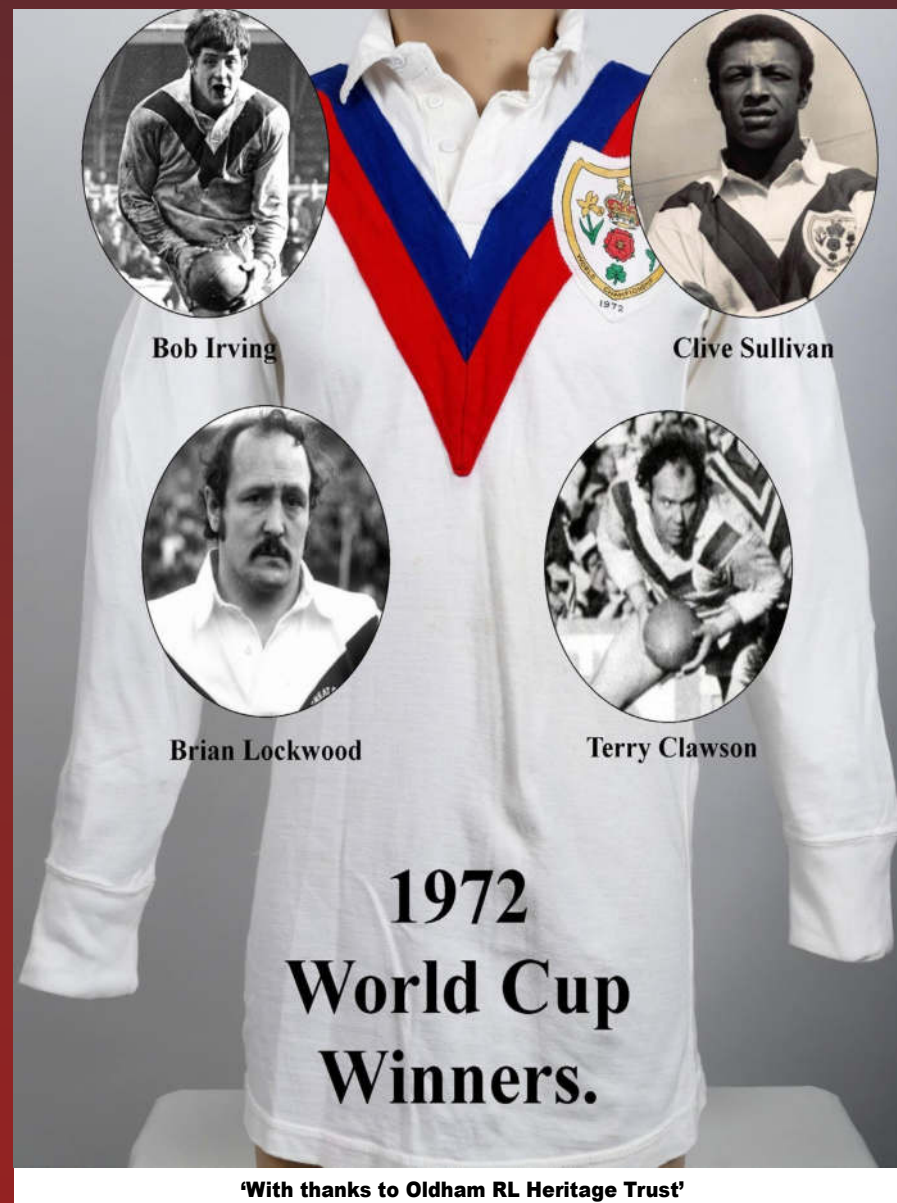
"Particularly galling is the fact that New Zealand are here to play cricket; the Aussies will be here for rugby union internationals in October - the same time as our World Cup - and both countries have athletes in Tokyo for the Olympic Games where clearly there is an issue with positive Covid cases.

"By all accounts, NRL clubs are not happy with players having to quarantine when they get home, and thus missing club training. It seems to me they are using their power here to get what they want ahead of their new season.

"Is it a problem that can be fixed ? I'm not sure. If the tournament goes ahead without them, it will be less of an occasion, given that they are first and second favourites to win it. If it is delayed until next year, there will still be no certainty that it will go ahead and it will have all kinds of implications, particularly financial ones which could cause massive issues.

"It seems also that players have not been particularly well consulted. maybe because they would have wanted to come !

"For me, I would be going ahead and showing them they don't control everything in world rugby league. We could then sicken them even more by winning it ourselves. Sadly, though, I know only too well it is not a straightforward decision."



THIS IS THE GREAT BRITAIN SHIRT WORN BY BOB IRVING IN THE 1972 WORLD CUP WHEN BRITAIN BEAT AUSTRALIA IN THE FINAL IN PARIS.

EVERYONE REMEMBERS THE MUCH-TELEVISED 'WONDER' TRY BY CLIVE SULLIVAN AND MOST ROUGHYEDS FANS ARE AWARE THAT BOB IRVING GOT ON AS A SUBSTITUTE.

ALSO IN THE TEAM THAT DAY WERE TERRY CLAWSON AND BRIAN LOCKWOOD WHO BOTH HAD SPELLS AT WATERSHEDDINGS LATER IN THEIR CAREERS.



OLDHAM RLFC



LONDON BRONCOS



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 Nelves	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
30	Dec Gregory	John and Lynda McAndrew
31	John Hutchings	Available - Ring 07904 898177
33	Jamie Abram	Available - Ring 07904 898177
	Brian McDermott	Property Buying Company
	Brendan Sheridan	Property Buying Company
	Jode Sheriffe	Property Buying Company

01	James Meadows
02	Tuoyo Egodo
03	Chris Hankinson
04	Will Lovell
05	Ed Chamberlain
06	Cory Aston
07	Jarrod Sammut
08	Olsi Krasniqi
09	Matt Fozard
10	Greg Richards
11	Sid Adebisi
12	Rhys Curran
13	Joshua Walters
14	Sam Davis
15	Romain Navarrete
16	Daniel Hindmarsh
17	Abbas Miski
18	Jordan Williams
19	Jacob Ogden
20	Gideon Boafu
21	Rian Horsman
22	Oli Leyland
23	Josh Hodson
24	Will Blakemore
25	Jacob Jones
26	Rob Oakley
27	Jonah Varela
28	Titus Gwaze
29	Jamie Slater
Head coach: Tom Tsang	

Referee: C. Smith

Touch Judge 2: T. Jones

Reserve Referee: C. Charnock

Time Keeper: P. Smith

Touch Judge 1: A. Johnson

