

Swinton

(Blue with White V)

Coach: Ken Halliwell

Full Back:

1. **JOHN GORTON**

Three-Quarters:

2. **STEVE HINDLEY**

3. **JOHN COOKE**

4. **KEVIN O'LOUGHLIN**

5. **DAVE McATEE**

Half Backs:

6. **BOB BRUEN**

7. **ADRIAN FOSTER**

Forwards:

8. **STEVE PHYTHIAN**

9. **BRIAN SUTTON**

10. **BRIAN GOMM**

11. **TOM HIGHTON**

12. **ALAN DORAN**

13. **TONY PETERS**

Substitutes:

14.

15.

SWINTON INSIGHT



OLDHAM

Second Division Championship

Good Friday, 13th April, 1979

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

15p

SWINTON

SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

Oldham

(Red and White Hoops)

Coach: Graham Starkey

Full Back:

1. **M. MURPHY**

Three-Quarters:

2. **M. ELLIOTT**

3. **P. LARDER**

4. **S. LUND**

5. **C. O'BRIEN**

Half Backs:

6. **D. FRICKERS**

7. **J. PATTERSON**

Forwards:

8. **J. FIDDLER**

9. **R. O'MAHONEY**

10. **D. ASHCROFT**

11. **F. HALL**

12. **C. HAWKYARD**

13. **P. JEWITT**

Substitutes:

14.

15.

VISITORS

SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

Referee: Mr. T. M. BEAUMONT of Huddersfield

Touch Judges: Mr. K. L. Gaskell (Red Flag);
Mr. D. Drinkwater (Yellow Flag)

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Oldham

. . . Insight

FOR our traditional Good Friday fixture it is once again a real pleasure to welcome to Station Road the supporters, players and officials of Oldham.

These days the Watersheddings outfit are coached by Graham Starkey who took over from Dave Cox almost immediately after Oldham had beaten Swinton on Boxing Day.

This season Oldham have emerged as one of the big spending clubs of the Rugby League, particularly of late. They have completely rebuilt their pack with the signing of four very experienced and capable players costing a total in excess of £20,000. The first of these four was Bob Blackwood, the back row forward who was signed from Workington Town for a fee in the region of £4,000. Blackwood, a Cumbrian by birth, has also seen service with Widnes, St. Helens and Wigan. Their next sortie into the transfer market was to obtain the signature of Jim Fiddler, who played in Leigh's Cup winning side of 1971, before moving on to Salford and Bramley who received a substantial vee from Oldham.

There then followed some feverish activity on the day of the transfer deadline. At the end of it Oldham emerged with two more experienced packmen. Clive Jones, originally with Warrington, was signed from Leigh where he was transfer listed at £4,000, and of course, Oldham signed Denis Ashcroft from ourselves. Denis had asked for a move four days before the transfer deadline and it was with great reluctance that the Swinton Board placed him on the transfer list. However, it has to be said that to receive a five figure fee for a player who cost £2,000 six months previously is very good business, although we know that Oldham have bought a player of great quality who will prove to be value for money.

With all this activity in the pack Oldham haven't completely forgotten the backs. They paid ourselves £1,000 for Jimmy Arnold. Then we were just pipped in an effort to sign Tony Newall, a centre, who was a Great Britain Colts colleague of Ken Roberts. He signed for Bradrod Northern before going to play in France. On his return we tried to secure his signature but were just beaten to it by Oldham, his home town club. We also understand that "The Roughyeds" are about to sign highly promising junior who again has been interesting ourselves.

Of their established players three in particular are known throughout the Rugby League. Martyn Murphy, a full back of the highest class, who has been to Oldham what Ken Gowers was to Swinton, which is praise indeed. Free-scoring winger Mike Elliott seems to improve with time and no doubt will be causing us problems yet again. Centre Phil Larder has just commenced his benefit year and no doubt he in particular will be hoping for a big improvement in Oldham's fortunes.

In conclusion, we hope for an entertaining game and that Oldham arrive home tonight with "Roughyeds" caused by a defeat and not by celebrating a victory.

TODAY'S MAN IN THE MIDDLE

Mr. T. M. BEAUMONT of Huddersfield. Born 17.6.40. Hobbies include gardening and all sports, especially rugby league coaching. Employed as a Pattern Weaver, Mr. Beaumont is married with two children. Passed referee's examination in 1969 and was upgraded (Grade 2) in 1972. Has twice refereed the Yorkshire Senior Competition Cup Final.

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Lions Insight

SINCE the last edition of INSIGHT the club have reluctantly transfer listed wing Dave Potts and prop Denis Ashcroft. Both were listed at their own request and have since been transferred to Huddersfield and Oldham, respectively. Both have given excellent service to the Lions and we take this opportunity of wishing Dave and Denis every success with their new clubs. Denis makes an early return to Station Road in today's game and will, no doubt, need close attention.

PROP Alan Doran has been taken off the transfer list following his return to form. In fact Alan has played a key role in the continued challenge by the "A" team for the Combination title.

BAGGAGE MAN George Jones, who has been out of action for several weeks due to illness, is set to resume duties in the near future. George has denied rumours that he will be having a run out with the "A" team to test his fitness!! Standing in for George has been Terry O'Rourke, who has been doing a great job.

OUR two most recent signings are both from the amateur game. Centres Les Tonge from locals Folly Borough and Dave Woods, younger brother of Leigh international John, have both impressed in a series of trials with the reserves.

THIS month's winner of the LIONS TEN CHANCE £1,000 is Mrs. Betty Topping of Hamilton Street, Swinton. Mrs. Topping will be presented with her cheque before today's game.

THE State Express Challenge Cup Semi-Final held at Station Road two weeks ago attracted many great names from past and present including Frank Dyson (Huddersfield) Dick Gemmel (Hull and Leeds), Trevor Foster (Bradford Northern) and Great Britain coach Eric Ashton.

THE FINAL of the John Stopford—Alan Buckley schoolboy seven-a-side competition will be held at half-time today when Moorside take on North Salford. Alan Buckley will present the trophy at the end of the final.

WHEN Stan Gittins played in the recent game at New Hunslet it was his first senior game for the Lions for almost seven years. Stan, aged thirty, has done a great job in bringing on the younger players in the "A" team.

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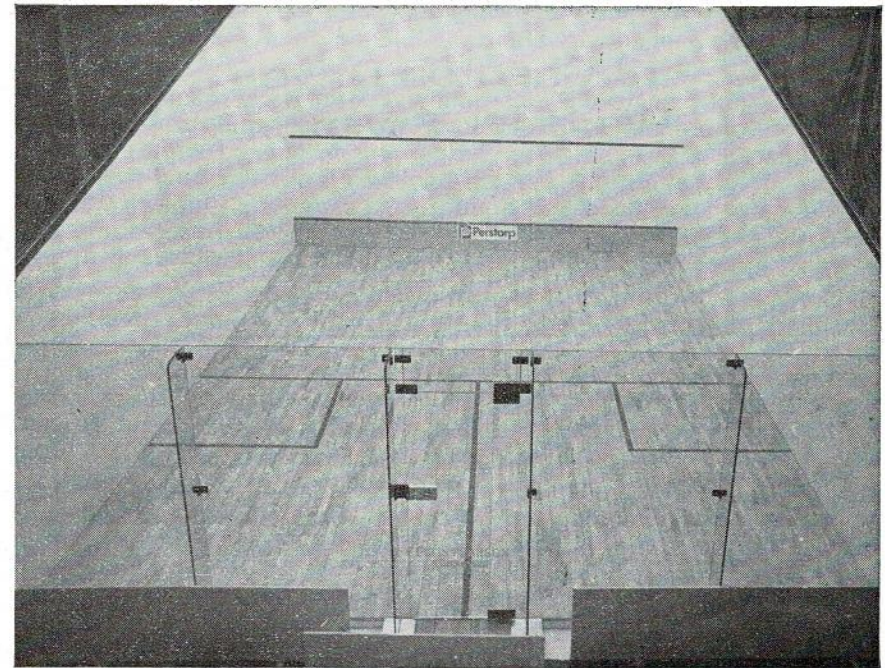
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THE SWINTON SPORTS CLUB recently celebrated the opening of its unique glass backed court.

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... Insight

THE 75th Anniversary of the most prestigious local-league competition came to a climax this morning when Mayfield of Rochdale took on Oldham St. Anne's in the Final of the Oldham Standard Challenge Cup at Watersheddings.

THIS magnificent silver trophy, which stands over 3 ft high—and which the winners can fill with 14 pints of beer—was presented to the Oldham Amateur Rugby League at the beginning of the 1903-04 season by the "Oldham Standard News", which was the forerunner to the present "Oldham Evening Chronicle". Although the trophy was originally purchased for a mere 30 guineas, it is now valued at well over £1,000, and is without doubt the finest in the Amateur Rugby League world.

THIS season celebrates threequarters of a century of Standard Cup competitions, and the Oldham League are hopeful of boosting the records of both the Cup Final attendance and receipts. The largest crowd ever to attend a Standard Cup Final was in 1949 when over 6,000 spectators were present, while the biggest "gate" was in 1977 with £731.25p being taken at the turnstiles. This season, hopes are high of topping the £1,000 mark.

MAYFIELD and St. Anne's, this season's finalists, are two of the most renowned cup-fighting sides in the amateur game, with both teams also currently challenging strongly for the Pennine League 1st Division Championship. Mayfield's passage through to the Final began with a bye and then victories over Saddleworth Rangers (15—9) and Ferranti (12—2). St. Anne's, who have won the trophy for the past two seasons and who are hoping to become only the third ever side to win the cup on three consecutive occasions in its 75-year history, had to play three games on their Cup Final passage. Round 1 saw a victory over North-West Counties League side Langworthy Juniors (16—7), before they received two fairly comfortable matches against teams from lower divisions Salem Hornets were beaten 27—0 in Round 2, and then Shaw, a new team in the Pennine League's 5th Division, went down 25—2 in the semi-finals.

ONE of the main attractions of the Standard Cup Final is the excellent preparation which is organised by the Oldham League officials, and especially their hard-working secretary John Burke. Several weeks before the Final, which every year takes place at Watersheddings on Good Friday morning, the League sell "Timed-Try" competition tickets, with £60 being awarded in prizes and with teams in the Oldham League benefiting to almost £50 each,



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Blast From The Past 1971/72

IN the past ten years Swinton have had eight coaches, only one of them had never played for Swinton. He was Dave Mortimer and he was appointed prior to the commencement of the 1971/72 season.

Although only coach for a season and a quarter, Mortimer was extremely successful. He took over a side which had finished 23rd in the league, and who had lost players of the calibre of Dave Robinson, Derek Clarke and Bob Fleet. In addition he lost the services for the entire season of Bill Holliday, Kevin Whittle and Mick Philbin through injury and other reasons. To cap it all he also lost the services halfway through the season of Billy "Daz" Davies who, along with Terry Cramant, was transferred to Wigan.

Despite all of this Swinton finished a very creditable sixth in the league table. They were beaten 12—2 by Wigan in the semi-final of the Lancashire Cup and lost by the narrowest possible margin(8—9) to Halifax in the third round of the Rugby League Cup at Thrum Hall. A match that stands out in the memory of all true Swinton supporters. Also they scored over 250 points more than the previous season, and scored more points in a season than any Swinton side since the late 50's including the double Championship winning team.

One of Mortimer's best decisions as coach was to switch Ken Gowers back to scrum half, his original position. Not only did Gowers have an excellent season with his skilful play, he also had his second best-ever season as a goalkicker, kicking 119 goals. The third occasion he had reached his century.

In 1971/72 Swinton signed Stan Gittins from Batley giving Cliff Williams in exchange plus a cash adjustment. Gittins, a player of immense promise, had his career tragically cut short by serious injury. Although this season after seven seasons out of top class rugby he has rejoined the Lions and played for the first team at New Hunslet a few weeks ago.

Another player of great promise whose career at senior level barely got started was Billy "Rufus" Hill who played only a handful of first team games before injury put him on the sidelines for a lengthy period. However, we are pleased to say that "Rufus" is alive and well and these days is still turning it on for crack amateur outfit Pilkington's Recs. who of course are coached by former Swinton favourite Kevin Whittle. One of the most astute signings Swinton had made for a long time was made in 1971 when Gordon Lewis was signed for a nominal fee from Leigh. Although his stay at Station Road was to last a mere 20 matches he played a large part in the early development of Bob Fleay.

Whatever happened to Bill Holliday

BILL began his career with renowned Cumbrian amateurs Wath Brow Hornets before joining his home town club Whitehaven. He later transferred to Hull K.R. and in 1965 he became Swinton's most costly signing

when the Lions paid Rovers £6,000 to bring one of the great post-war forwards to Station Road. Today Bill still lives in Pendlebury and is employed as an electrician at Salford Docks. He is coach of local amateurs Folly Borough and guided them to the final of the Manchester Championship which they won for the third successive year. On the odd occasion that Folly have faced an injury crisis Bill has turned out and still produced those amazing 50 yard touch finders. In one such game Bill dropped a goal from a similar distance and rumour would have it that the ball has not been seen since!

The Jack Bateman Trophy

The 5th year Sevens held at Station Road on Monday, April 2nd, 1979 was won by Buile Hill. Results in full are:—

First Round: Irlam 8 Moorside 6; St. Ambrose 0 Irwell Valley 8; N. Salford 15 Pendlebury 3; and Clarendon 8 Buile Hill 18.

Semi-finals: Irlam 3 Irwell Valley 0; N. Salford 0 Buile Hill 6.

Final: Irlam 5 Buile Hill 13.

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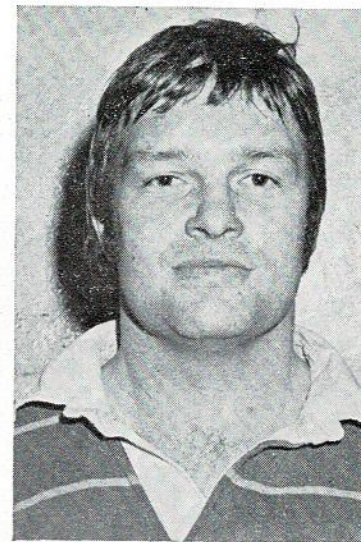
SWINTON R.L.F.C. APPEARANCES AND SCORERS

(Not including Friendlies) (up to and including 8.4.79)

Player	Date of debut for Swinton	1978/79			CAREER AT SWINTON		
		Played	Tries	Goals	Played	Tries	Goals
1. JOHN COOKE	20.8.72	20	9	1	181	50	79
2. JOHN DAVIES	8.1.78	10	1	—	19	5	—
3. ALAN DORAN	2.4.78	14	2	—	14	2	—
4. KEL EARL	21.9.75	11	1	—	73	14	—
5. GRAEME JOHNS	2.11.75	15	5	27	63	10	2
6. BOB JOLLY	14.12.75	15	3	—	49	4	—
7. KEVIN O'LOUGHLIN	21.8.77	24	6	—	53	12	2
8. TONY PETERS	5.2.78	20	9	—	30	11	—
9. DENIS ASHCROFT	20.8.78	18	1	—	18	1	—
10. GLEN CREHAN	24.3.78	15	5	—	22	7	—
11. DAVE POTTS	5.9.76	19	4	—	75	31	—
12. LES ATKINSON	29.11.68	14	2	—	143	21	—
13. LES BOLTON	9.4.72	12	2	—	110	12	—
14. TOM YOUNG	1.1.70	13	—	—	129	8	—
15. TERRY CASSIDY	8.9.77	11	1	—	33	7	—
16. TOMMY HIGHTON	14.3.75	9	1	—	30	2	—
17. JOHN GORTON	23.1.77	13	4	25	36	6	—
18. STEVE PHYTHIAN	1.10.74	18	1	—	45	1	—
19. DOUG DAVIES	27.11.77	6	—	—	20	—	—
20. JOHN HOUGHTON	14.1.73	1	—	—	46	—	—
21. VIC LAWTON	22.9.74	6	—	—	55	—	—
22. JOHN DERBYSHIRE	3.9.78	1	—	—	1	—	—
23. LOL LOWE	17.1.70	—	—	—	89	—	—
24. TOMMY DAVIES	31.8.75	1	—	—	10	—	—
25. BOB BRUEN	25.11.73	5	—	—	49	8	—
26. KEITH ASHCROFT	21.8.77	—	—	—	33	1	—
27. PAUL ARMITAGE	18.3.73	—	—	—	27	—	—
28. ALAN DERBYSHIRE	23.1.77	7	—	—	21	—	—
29. JOHN SWANN	20.2.77	—	—	—	22	—	—
30. STEVE HINDLEY	26.12.78	10	—	—	10	—	—
31. BRIAN SUTTON	6.3.77	8	1	—	15	—	—
32. ALVA DRUMMOND	21.8.77	4	—	—	8	—	—
33. JOHN HARRISON	21.8.77	—	—	—	4	—	—
34. STEVE WARDLE	26.12.75	1	—	—	4	—	—
35. BRIAN GOMM	8.10.78	3	—	—	8	—	—
36. ADRIAN FOSTER	21.1.79	9	—	—	6	—	—
37. KEN ROBERTS	21.1.79	6	1	—	9	—	—
38. STAN GITTINS	8.4.79	1	—	—	6	—	—

Brian Gomm Insight

BRIAN joined Swinton as recently as the start of the 1977/78 season, but his rugby career began in the hot bed of schools rugby union where he represented Manchester, Lancashire, North of England and also made the final England trial. Despite playing schools rugby twice a week he was simultaneously having successful trials with Rochdale Hornets at weekends!

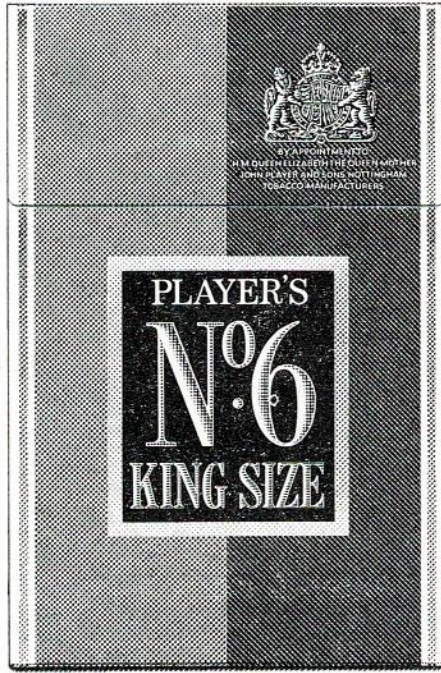


Hornets invited Brian to sign on, but as their games were played on Saturdays at that time it would have clashed with his job as a journalist. A couple of years ago Brian travelled to Featherstone to cover their match with Leigh for the local paper. Arriving at the ground just ten minutes before the kick-off, he was met by Leigh officials who promptly selected him for the front row as they were desperately short of players due to an injury crisis! Although the game ended in defeat for the visitors Brian's opposite number—a certain Jimmy Thompson—is unlikely to forget clashing with the "phantom journalist". Or put another way, Jimmy is unlikely to REMEMBER clashing with Brian Gomm!

After playing for both Leigh "B" and Leigh Colts Brian signed for Huyton where he teamed up with Terry Gorman. He later turned down the opportunity of joining Blackpool and followed Terry to Station Road.

Brian is without doubt one of the characters of the modern game, and space does not allow us to relate the story of the night he reported for sprint training wearing a pair of "wellies"!

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FACTS, FIGURES AND FORTHCOMING FIXTURES 1978/79

Date	Day	Opponents	Venue	Competition	Kick-off	Score	Scorers
Aug 8	Tues	SALFORD	The Willows	Charity Match	7.30 p.m.	2-21	Goal Johns
" 20	Sun	WARRINGTON	Wilderspool	Lancs. Cup (1)	3.00 p.m.	4-18	Goals Johns 2
" 27	"	WIGAN	Central Park	Floodlit Trophy	3.00 p.m.	10-27	Goals Johns 2, Tries Cassidy, Bolton
Sept 3	"	BLACKPOOL BOR.	Borough Park	Prelim. Rd.	3.00 p.m.	33-7	Goals Johns 6, Tries Cooke 3, Johns, Atkinson, Ashcroft, Potts
" 10	"	YORK	Station Road	League	3.00 p.m.	20-11	O'Loughlin, Doran
" 17	Fri	HUYTON	"	"	3.00 p.m.	16-16	Goals Johns 2, Tries Cooke 2, Potts, Jolly
" 22	Sun	CASTLEFORD	Wheidon Road	John Player (1)	7.30 p.m.	10-18	Goals Johns 2, Tries O'Loughlin, Crehan
Oct 1	Sun	DONCASTER	Tattersfield	League	3.00 p.m.	7-11	Goals Johns 2, Try Crehan
" 8	"	HULL	Station Road	"	3.00 p.m.	7-34	Goals Johns 2, Try O'Loughlin
" 15	"	BRAMLEY	McLaren Field	"	3.30 p.m.	8-29	Goal Gorton, Tries Jolly, J. Davies
" 22	"	BLACKPOOL B.	Station Road	"	3.00 p.m.	16-18	Goals Johns 2, Tries Crehan 2, Johns, Peters
Nov 12	"	WHITEHAVEN	"	"	3.00 p.m.	11-13	Goal Johns, Tries Cooke, Phythian, Earl
" 19	"	DEWSBURY	Crown Flatt	"	3.30 p.m.	13-20	Goals John 2, Tries Cooke, Atkinson, Bolton
" 26	"	DONCASTER	Station Road	"	3.00 p.m.	43-9	Goals Gorton 8, Tries Peters 3, Johns 2, O'Loughlin, Potts, Jolly, Gorton
Dec 17	Tues	BRAMLEY	"	"	3.00 p.m.	9-13	Tries Peters 2, Gorton
" 26	Tues	OLDHAM	Watersheddings	"	11.00 a.m.	8-11	Goal Cooke, Tries Sutton, Peters
Jan 21	"	WHITEHAVEN	Recreation Grnd	"	3.00 p.m.	10-15	Goals: Gorton 2, Tries: Roberts, Potts
Feb 4	"	HULL	The Boulevard	"	3.00 p.m.	6-22	Goals: Gorton 3
" 20	Tue	BRADFORD N.	CHALLENGE CUP, FIRST ROUND	"	3.00 p.m.	2-8	Goal Gorton
" 25	Sun	NEW HUNSLET	Station Road	"	3.00 p.m.	8-47	Goal Gorton, Tries Crehan, Cooke
Mar 6	Tue	HALIFAX	Thrum Hall	League	3.00 p.m.	7-7	Goals: Gorton, 2 Try Peters
" 11	Sun	KEIGHLEY	Station Road	"	3.00 p.m.	5-16	Goal Gorton, Try Gorton
" 21	Wed	DEWSBURY	Station Road	League	7.30 p.m.	12-14	Goals Gorton 3, Tries Highton, Doran
April 1	Sun	NEW HUNSLET	Leeds Stadium	League	3.30 p.m.	9-26	Goal Gorton, Try Gorton
" 8	"	HUYTON	Ait Park	"	2.30 p.m.	10-27	Goal Gorton 2, Tries O'Loughlin 2
" 8	Gd Fri	YORK	Wigginton Road	"	3.00 p.m.		
" 13	"	OLDHAM	Station Road	"	3.00 p.m.		
" 15	Sun	HALIFAX	Station Road	"	3.00 p.m.		
" 22	"	KEIGHLEY	Lawkholme Lane	"	3.15 p.m.		
" 25	Wed	BATLEY	Station Road	"	7.30 p.m.		
May 1	Tue	BATLEY	Mount Pleasant	"	3.00 p.m.		