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Teams

Watersheddings, Sunday 5th. Oct. 1980

OLDHAM

Cherry/White Hoops,
 Blue Shorts.

1. MARTIN MURPHY
2. GEOFF MUNRO
3. MICK PARRISH
4. CLIVE HUNTER
5. CLIVE SULLIVAN
6. BILL FRANCIS
7. KEN GWILLIAM
8. ALEC ALEXANDER
9. RAY MARTLAND
10. BRIAN LOCKWOOD
11. BOB MORDELL
12. GEOFF CLARKSON
13. TERRY FLANAGAN

14. RAY ASHTON
15. STEVE HERBERT

LEIGH

Blue Jersey/
 White Shorts

1. MICK HOGAN
2. DES DRUMMOND
3. TERRY BILSBURY
4. STEVE DONLAN
5. PHIL FOX
6. JOHN WOODS
7. ALAN FAIRHURST
8. TONY COOKE
9. RAY TABERN
10. ALF WILKINSON/EDDIE BOWMAN
11. IAN HOBSON
12. ARTHUR DAILY
13. TOM GITTINS

14. DUNCAN SCOTT

Referee: Mr. Kevin Steele (Auckland, New Zealand)

Touch Judges: Mr. P.M. Oliver (Bolton), Mr. F.J. Tomlinson (Widnes)

NEXT MATCH AT WATERSHEDDINGS

Sunday 26th October, 1980. RL Division 1 v WORKINGTON

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OLDHAM

V

LEIGH

Watersheddings, Sunday 5th Oct. 1980

RUGBY LEAGUE DIVISION 1

20p



Slalom Lager

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Secretary: J. Chadwick

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Bill Francis (Player/Coach), Bob Welding (A Team Coach),
Brian Gartlan (Colts Coach)

Professional Playing Staff

Adrian Alexander - Ray Ashton - Bob Blackwood - Brian Caffrey - Geoff Clarkson -
Barry Conner - Leslie Cook - Michael Coombes - Mike Cowley - Pasquale D'Adamo -
Stephen Dobb - Eric Fitzsimons - Terry Flanagan - Alan Forster - Bill Francis -
Andrew Goodway - Ken Gwilliam - Colin Hawkyard - Steve Herbert - Clive Hunter -
Clive Jones - Paddy Kirwan - Phil Larder - Steve Littler - Brian Lockwood - Paul Lowndes -
Steve Lund - Ray Martland - Bob Mordell - Geoff Munro - Martin Murphy - Gerrard Nolan -
Tony Ogden - Ian Ogden - Roger O'Mahoney - Mike O'Rourke - Gareth Owen - Mike Parrish -
Johnny Paterson - Alan Platt - Gordon Pollard - Warren Ryans - Derrick Seabrook -
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Commercial Manager: Keith Masters **Social Club Manager:** Kevin Wilkinson

Groundsman: J. Walker **Asst. Groundsman:** W. Caine

CLUB RECORDS

Record Victory	67-6 against Liverpool City April 59
Record defeat	11-67 by Hull K.R. Sept. 78
Record attendance	28,000 v Huddersfield Feb 24th 1912
Record receipts	£4,897 v Leeds 3rd March 1968
Record transfer fee paid	£10,650 to Workington for Ike Southward March 1959
Record transfer fee received	£11,002: 10s from Workington for Ike Southward Jan 62
Record try scorer	Reg Farrar 49 tries 1921/22 season
Record goal scorer	Bernard Ganley 224 goals 1957/58 season
Record point scorer	Bernard Ganley 28 pts v Liverpool City April 59
First game	October 21 1876 v Stalybridge
Highest number of Points Scored	Bernard Ganley 2881
Most Appearances	Joe Ferguson 685
Most Tries	Pre 1900 Jack Hirst 233 Since 1900 Alan Davies 182

CLUB HONOURS

Rugby League Championship Play-off winners:	1909-10, 1910-11 and 1956-57
Runners-up:	1906-07, 1907-08, 1908-09, 1921-22 and 1954-55
First Division Champions:	1904-05
Second Division Champions:	1963-64
Rugby League Challenge Cup winners:	1898-99, 1924-25, 1926-27
Runners-up:	1906-07, 1911-12, 1923-24 and 1925-26
Lancashire Cup winners:	1907-08, 1910-11, 1913-14, 1919-20, 1924-25, 1933-24, 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59
Runners-up:	1908-09, 1911-12, 1918-19, 1921-22, 1954-55, 1966-67 and 1968-69
Lancashire Championship winners:	1907-08, 1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57 and 1957-58
Runners-up:	1908-09, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1919-20, 1923-24 and 1954-55
Lancashire Shield winners:	1975-76
Colts Premiership Trophy:	1975-76, 1979-80

WELCOME FOR THE LEIGH LADS

It is always a great pleasure to welcome to Watersheddings the lads from Leigh -- and this is their first visit to Oldham since they won the promotion as Second Division champions at the end of the 1977-78 season.

In that season Leigh went up with Barrow, Rochdale and Huddersfield and the title chase was so close that Leigh, Barrow and Rochdale all finished with 42 points, the championship going to Hilton Park on the narrowest of scoring margins.

Oldham finished in sixth place, missing promotion by three points, and the honours with Leigh were pretty even, Leigh winning 24-3 at Kirkhall Lane and Oldham taking both points with an 11-7 triumph at Watersheddings.

Four goals by John Blair and a try by John Paterson enabled Oldham to inflict one of only five defeats Leigh suffered that season.

Of the Oldham team that day only three players -- full back Martin Murphy, second-row man Steve Herbert and hooker Roger O'Mahoney -- are possibles in today's side which just goes to show what changes have taken place here in little more than two years.

Leigh have some old scores to settle here today because they have not won a league match at Watersheddings since April, 1970, during which time they have been beaten here five times in league competition though they have won two knock-out ties -- a Top Tries tournament match in 1971 and a Player's Trophy tie in 1976.

Leigh have consolidated steadily since winning promotion. Of the four that went up in 1978 they were the only team to escape relegation at the end of their first season in the top flight.

Barrow, Hornets and Huddersfield were relegated along with Featherstone Rovers but Leigh finished sixth off the bottom -- with 27 points from 13 wins and a draw.

Last season Leigh enjoyed their best season for many years. They won 16 and drew one of their 30 games to pick up 33 points for sixth position behind Bradford, Widnes, Hull, Salford and Leeds.

Their pack was a solid, workmanlike outfit, superbly led by our former hooker Kevin Taylor, who had established an Oldham record of 444 post-war appearances before Mike Elliott beat it last year.

But it was Leigh's star-spangled backs who hit the headlines -- men like stand-off John Woods, wing Des Drummond and centre Terry Bilsbury.

Drummond won England under-24 honours while the silky skills of Woods caught the imagination of the public wherever Leigh played.

No one valued Woods higher than big-spending Hull, who had the Rugby League world amazed at their £70,000 offer for the Leigh lad -- far and above anything ever dreamed about before in League.

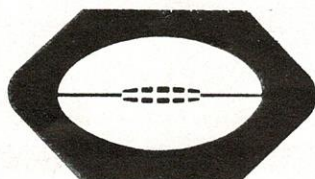
Leigh rejected the bid but Hull showed they meant it last summer when they paid a world record £40,000 for Wakefield prop Trevor Skerrett and then, a fortnight ago, submitted a mouth-watering £100,000 offer for the classy Woods.

Again, Leigh said "no" . . . but to all intents and purposes Leigh will today parade the first Rugby League player in history to be valued at a six-figure fee.

As a matter of fact Leigh have had a very poor start to the season compared with the standards they set themselves last year.

They lost their opening four First Division games against Widnes and Hull at home and Bradford and Wakefield away and these reverses put them firmly at the foot of the table.

It makes today's clash a crucial one for both clubs with Leigh desperate for points and Oldham anxious to pick up points, also, on their return to Watersheddings after consecutive away games at Hull and Leeds.



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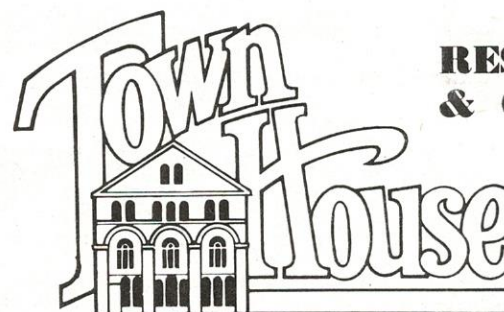
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GIVING YOUTH A FLING

By Roger Halstead
(Oldham Evening Chronicle)

Great Britain's selectors have given youth a fling with their choice of a 20-strong squad for the first Test against New Zealand at Wigan on October 18th.

The squad includes 11 players who have never previously been capped for Great Britain and among those making their first, tentative steps on the Test scene are Widnes winger Keith Bentley, Widnes full back Mick Burke, Barrow's Welsh winger Chris Camilleri, Leeds scrum-half Kevin Dick, and Whitehaven scrum-half Arnie Walker.

If nothing else it does tend to prove that new team manager Colin Hutton and his coach Johnnie Whiteley have kept their promise to use the county championship games as trials.

Cumbria won the county title, scrum-half Walker has won a long-overdue Test squad place, Barrow's Camilleri obviously caught the eye and there are two Cumbrian forwards in the squad -- brothers Les and Peter Gorley.

The immediate international aims, as Hutton says, are to beat the Kiwis and win back some prestige after that three-Test mauling in Australia in the summer of 1979.

But Hutton is also thinking further ahead to next year when the Aussies come to Britain and that is why the selectors have taken the opportunity of blooding some younger players.

Wigan fullback George Fairbairn will captain Britain and his vice-captain and packleader will be Hull KR iron man, Len Casey.

Though Steve Evans, Mike Smith, John Woods, Roy Holdstock, Graham Liptrot and Harry Pinner are already established at international level, albeit at under-24 or England level in the cases of Holdstock, Liptrot and Pinner, they are all young players who can look forward eagerly to the visit of the Kangaroos next year.

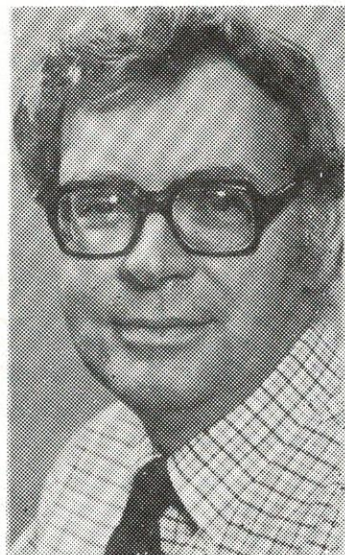
It is interesting to note, too that nine of ten members of the party have grown up with their clubs and have come right through from colts level -- a vindication surely, in the face of increasing BARLA criticism, for the policy of colts football.

For the record the squad is as follows:- Backs -- Bentley (Widnes), Burke (Widnes), Camilleri (Barrow), Dick (Leeds), Evans (Featherstone), Fairbairn (Wigan), Hartley (Hull KR), Joyner (Castleford), Smith (Hull KR), Walker (Whitehaven), Woods (Leigh).

Forwards -- Casey (Hull KR), L. Gorley (Widnes), P. Gorley (St. Helens), Grayshon (Bradford), Holdstock (Hull KR), Liptrot (St. Helens), Pinner (St. Helens), Skerrett (Hull), Watkinson (Hull KR). Oldham spectators today will have the opportunity to look at one member of the squad -- Leigh's £100,000 valued stand-off John Woods.

That was the extent of the offer made recently by Hull and much as I admire Woods and his tremendous attacking skills I cannot help wondering how Hull can offer that sort of money -- and how Leigh can refuse it!

The danger is that offers like that tend to set the market trends. And if Rugby League is not careful it will soon be in the situation that soccer is in now with only a handful of clubs able to pay the sort of transfer fees being asked for top-quality men.



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ALEX RULES O.K.

By Alex Givvons
(RL Grade 1 Referee)

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS, HOW IS PLAY RESTARTED?

1. "A" player attempting to drop kick at goal accidentally catches "B" player on the shoulder with the ball, in flight. The ball goes through the posts and over the dead ball line.
2. At the kick off from the centre line "A" player kicks the ball badly. It is obviously not going to travel 10 yards and "B" player picks up the ball. The referee has not yet blown the whistle "B" player picked up the ball 15 yards from the touch line.
3. Red team stand-off kicks the ball through along the ground for his winger, the referee indicates that the winger was offside, but is watching for advantage. The winger dives on the ball in the goal area and scores.
4. A defending player punts the ball direct into touch on the full from inside his own goal-area.
5. Does a ricochet or rebound cancel the count of tackles?
6. Does a charge down cancel the count of tackles?
7. Is it ever permissible, for the defending team to be less than 5 metres from the play-the-ball?

ANSWERS

1. Drop out, by defending team, from the centre of posts.
2. Penalty kick to "A", centre of half-way line.
3. Tap out from centre of 25 yards line.
4. Drop out from centre of posts.
5. No.
6. Yes.
7. Yes, within 5 metres of goal line.

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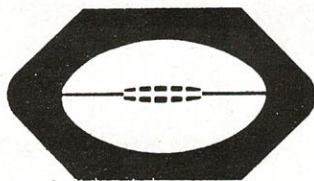
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SUPPORTERS CLUB NOTES

Anyone wishing to become a member of the Supporters Club can do so at any canteen or in the Social Club **Price of membership is £1.00 This includes a Supporters club Diary.**

A coach will be running to WIDNES on Sunday October, 19th. **Prices** Adult member £1.50, Non-member £1.70. Child member £1.00 Non-member £1.20. Will all people please book their seats at the Social Club or at any canteen. **ALL SEATS MUST BE BOOKED** by the Friday prior to the Sunday match. Hoping for your co-operation.

METAL OLDHAM SUPPORTERS CLUB LAPEL BADGES are on sale in the canteen or Social Club **Price 60p. BLAZER BADGES £7.50 each.** Also on sale are our **OLDHAM R.L.F.C. Sweaters**, sizes are 34, 36, 38, 40 in Red and 40" in Blue. These are priced at £10.00 each. Anyone wishing to see these sweaters can do so in the canteens or Social Club.

We are holding our **ANNUAL RUGBY QUEEN DANCE** on Tuesday 28th October in the Social Club, from 8pm - 12am. Price by ticket £1.00. If bought on the night £1.25. **So come along all you pretty girls** (age 16 and upwards) and enter for our Rugby Queen. Give your name and address at our canteen or Social Club.

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CLUB NEWS

WELCOME TO THE NEW MEN

Making their home debuts today -- all being well -- will be our two latest signings, Mick Parrish and Geoff Clarkson.

Both were signed in time to play at Hull a fortnight ago and both played major roles in what was without a doubt our best performance of the season at a time when we were faced with our toughest task.

Though beaten 16-11, the Oldham performance was in a different class to that turned in when we lost our previous game 32-17 at home to Featherstone.

It coincided not only with the debuts of Parrish and Clarkson but also with the return from injury of Adrian Alexander at No. 8.

With Adrian Alexander in the front-row and Clarkson, another big man, in the second-row the pack had a far more formidable look about it.

Indeed, we were unfortunate to trail early in the second half when we could easily have gone in with a lead instead of drawing at 9-9.

Clarkson, whom we bought from Bradford, had an inspired first-half on his debut but unfortunately was forced to quit at half-time because of a leg injury received during one of his constant raids into the heart of the Hull pack.

Parrish, another big lad, also had a most pleasing debut in the centre and justified the faith we have showed in him by laying out a club record transfer fee.

We do not reveal the extent of transfer fees -- club policy -- but it is certainly a record and the Press have already speculated at around £20,000. It is a lot of money but we believe that 22-year-old Mick, who must be one of the biggest centres in the game, will give us invaluable service over many years.

He has already proved his worth as a prolific goal kicker. He kicked 98 goals for Hunslet last season -- his first full season in League after playing a starring role for Morley, the Yorkshire senior RU club.

Before last week's match at Leeds he was second only to Steve Quinn of Featherstone in the goal-scoring charts and there is every indication to believe that he could well score 100 goals for us this season if he is lucky enough to avoid injury.

For the record he played and scored in every Hunslet game last season and was one of only two players in the entire game to do that. The other was Quinn, his great rival in the quest for a place in the Yorkshire county team.

Parrish actually represented his native county last season in a match against Cumbria and he was on the fringe of county selection this time, figuring in the shadow squad as reserve centre to John Joyner of Castleford and the mighty Quinn.

We feel sure Oldham fans will be surprised when he makes his Watersheddings debut today at the size of the boy -- around six feet four tall and tipping the scales at 15½ stone!

Geoff Clarkson is a player of vast experience who can do a great job for us in the short term both as cover for either prop position and as a strong and experienced man in the second-row.

Though Geoff has not hit the headlines at representative level he is held in the utmost regard and respect, by players throughout the game, as a dedicated professional and truly a players' player.



TRY! Bill Francis scores the Oldham try in our narrow 16-14 defeat at Leeds.

Talking of the Castleford match it was bitterly disappointing to end up with a 14-14 draw after we had led by six points near the end.

But we got a point to start us off on our First Division programme - and that was better than nearly half the clubs!

No matter how we fared against the Wires on Wednesday it has to be reiterated that our priority this season is the First Division.

It is a tremendous gulf to cross and, since the reintroduction of two divisions in 1973, few clubs have negotiated it successfully. The two Hull clubs, Leigh and Bradford have firmly established themselves as First Division outfits in a big way. It is no coincidence that the clubs Geoff has served have rarely been away from the honours or the headlines . . . he has played for Leigh at Wembley, he has Yorkshire Cup winners medals with Wakefield and Leeds, he has championship winners medals with Hull KR and Bradford, both earned in each of the last two seasons.

The Oldham club is convinced that a player of Geoff's remarkable experience and consistency will prove invaluable to our pack as we battle for points to retain our First Division status.

It is interesting to note that most clubs who have finished fifth from the bottom in recent years, and thus just escaped relegation, have picked up 25 points or more.

Workington just missed the drop last year with 26 points; Salford the previous year with 24 points; Wakefield the year before that with 25; Workington with 27 the year before that; and finally Oldham just missed the drop in 1976 with 23 points.

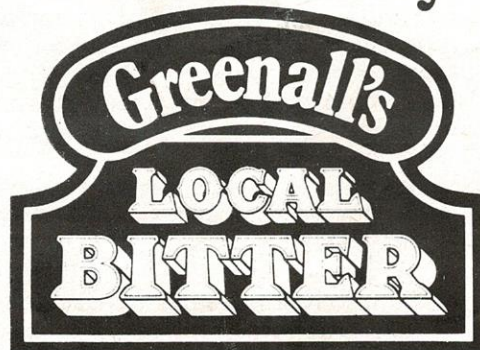
Certainly, 25 points must be the minimum target we have to strive for. We cannot afford slip-ups -- particularly at home -- but it is encouraging to note that we have already played away games at Bradford, Hull and Leeds.

When we have been to Widnes in our next away game we will already have rid of tough away matches on the grounds of the champions, the beaten Wembley finalists, the Yorkshire Cup holders and the Premiership winners.

Few clubs can say they have got over that little lot with the season still in its infancy.



**It's Local Time
in Greenall Whitley Land**



TOM WEBB's HISTORY OF LEIGH RLFC

The Leigh club was formed in 1877 when Mr. Fred Ulph, a surveyor was the leading light in the formation. A field was secured at Buck's Farm, Pennington. Two seasons later the club moved to a ground behind the Three Crowns, in the Bedford area of the town.

After a difficult period the club amalgamated with the Firs Lane, Bedford and Albion Foundry clubs and this saved the club from extinction and at the same time strengthened it considerably.

About 1887 Tom Coop of Tottington joined the club and he became a legend in Lancashire. He represented England against Scotland under Rugby Union rules in 1892 while a member of the Leigh club. In 1890-91 he had played in Lancashire's ten county games. Alongside him were Jim Valentine of Swinton the Lancashire captain, Dai Gwynne who had joined Oldham from Swansea and Bill McCutcheon another player from South Wales who became Oldham's captain, the top referee in the Northern Union and in due course president of Oldham Football Club.

Leigh were suspended by the Rugby Union for professionalism along with Wigan and Salford in 1894-95 and this led to the formation of the Northern Union, now Rugby League, game a season later.

Jack Hirst was signed by Oldham from Leigh just before we played the Maoris in 1888-89. He played with the club for 10 seasons and still holds the try scoring record for the Oldham club. Like Geoff Munro he once recorded three hat tricks in successive games.

When the leading clubs formed the Northern Rugby League in 1901-02 the Leigh club was included. When the league was reorganised a few years later, Leigh finished at the top and so became champions, the season before the top four play-off was commenced.

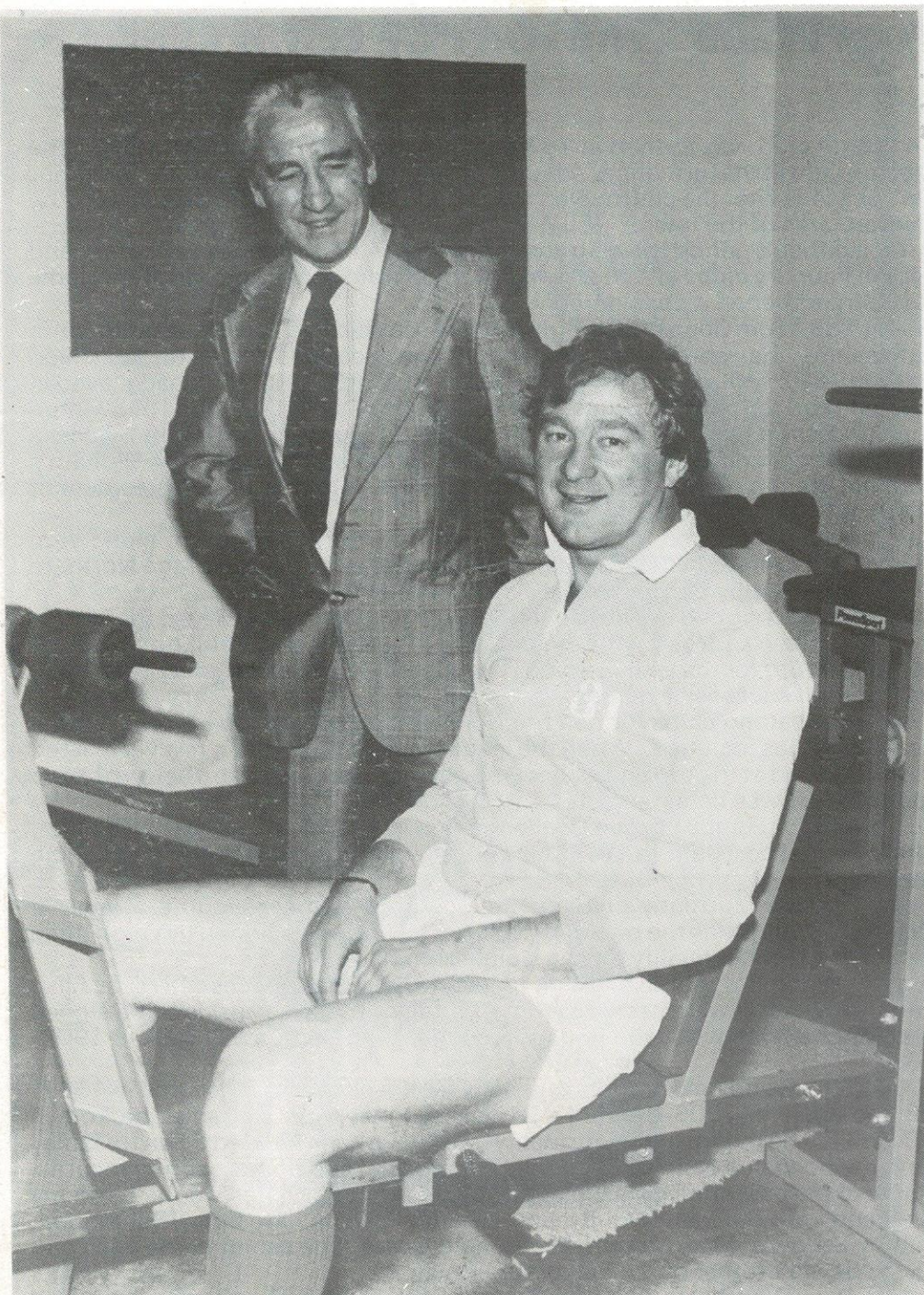
Leigh won the Rugby League Challenge Cup in 1921 and again a half century later. On that occasion, in 1971, Alex Murphy was the guiding star of the Leigh fortunes.

Geoff Fletcher, currently guiding Huyton and a former favourite of ours at Watersheddings has the rare distinction of having been signed by Leigh three times which could qualify for the Guinness Book of Records.

A great scoop brought distinction to Leigh when the services of Trevor Allan and Rex Mossop were secured from Australia. The first Aussie to be signed was Mitchell Bolewski who had toured with Australians away back in 1908-09.

Harry Dunbavand held the points record for the club with 88 scored in 1897-98 and again in 1905-06 until a 21 year old player, W.H. Ganley broke it in 1910-11. The record breaking quality must have been handed down to Ganley junior, who in due course set up the Oldham goal and points scoring records. Some of the past stars have included Joe Cartwright, Walter Mooney, Tommy Clarkson, Joe Darwell, Cyril Braund, Charlie Pawson, Joe Egan, Bill Kindon, Jimmy Ledgard, Mick Martyn, Macdonald Bailey (one senior game only) and Owen Bevan brother of the celebrated Bryan.

Lately John Wood, John Mantle, Kevin Taylor - who had a benefit while with Oldham - and numerous others have taken the club into the first division. John Stringer, the secretary, of course had a period of useful service at Oldham.



Geoff Clarkson, our new forward, seen with club official Bob Ogden on his first training night at Watersheddings.

COLTS CORNER

Our colts have made a great start to the season in their efforts to emulate the feats of last year's team which won the title and the premiership trophy. After five games they have the record of four wins and only one defeat. That was at Hull when a depleted side was beaten 17-6.

In beating Bradford and Wakefield away and St. Helens and Bramley at home they have amassed a total of 139 points and have conceded only 39.

Half-backs Derek Seabrook and Chris Willis were the brains behind the 34-13 home defeat of Bramley and this was followed up last week-end with an impressive 30-14 win at Wakefield.

It was impressive not merely because of the score but because the side was again depleted and played with Seabrook at loose-forward, wing Steven Dobb in the centre, and Les Chadwick and Jimmy Swain out of position at prop. Nevertheless, the side showed great courage and character in coming back from an early two-try deficit to finish handsome winners against a much bigger set of forwards.

The whole side played well with outstanding displays from second-row man Mick O'Rourke, stand-off Willis and loose-forward Seabrook.

O'Rourke sustained a terrible mouth wound which ultimately required six stitches but he stayed on to play a major role in the victory.

Tries were scored by Joe Warburton, Mick O'Rourke, Steven Dobb, David Taylor (2), Stuart Collinge and Mick Worrall (2), with Worrall landing three goals.



Geoff Munro on the move at Hull.

The cup winner.



Slalom Lager

Brewed by Matthew Brown



VIOLENCE DOES NOT PAY!

By Brian Batty
Daily Mail

Rugby League players and officials are certain to be highly interested in a development that took place in the Soccer world when you relate it to our stormy start to the season.

It was pure coincidence that in the week following the official kick off in Rugby League when we had 13 players sent off there came a warning to all in sport that violence does not pay.

I am not suggesting for one moment that every player sent off in Rugby League is guilty of such an offence for we know that there are so many reasons a referee may have to hand out marching orders.

But without doubt players in all sports are going to have to watch their step in future.

I make this warning following the decision of Manchester city magistrates to give a three month suspended jail sentence to a footballer alleged to have punched another player in the face in a minor League match.

The player was also ordered to pay £400 compensation to the man whose jaw was broken in the alleged incident. The court found the player guilty of causing grievous bodily harm in the match.

So it is obvious that yet another case of this kind illustrates the dangers players are leaving themselves open to in all sports when they start swinging punches, use the head illegally or bring the boot into action against an opponent.

Soccer has its share of problems in this respect but Rugby League, being so much more a physical contest, is full of situations when players tend to lose their tempers quickly.

It is the easiest thing in the world to let fly in the heat of the moment but it could prove an expensive action. The magistrate's verdict in the case I have described left no doubt about the court's attitude.

'To strike a man during a match is quite inexcusable. Violence of this kind must be met by severe punishment,' declared the magistrates.



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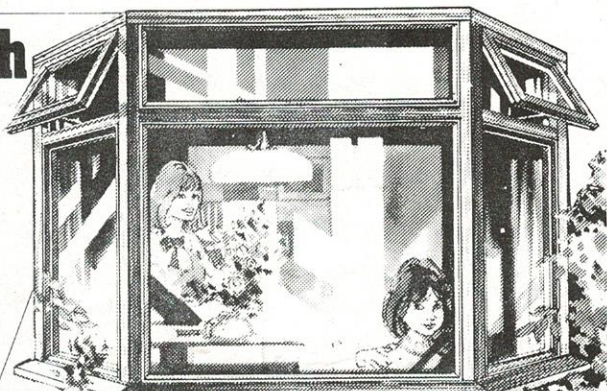
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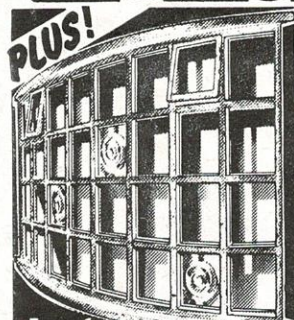
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FIRST TEAM FIXTURES 1980/81

	Date	Opponent	F. A.
H	Aug. 3 Sun.	Rochdale (Charity Match)	32 - 15
A	Aug. 10 Sun.	St. Helens (Friendly)	12 - 30
A	Aug. 17 Sun.	Swinton (County Cup)	11 - 5
A	Aug. 24 Sun.	County Cup 2nd Round	15 - 13
H	Aug. 31 Sun.	Castleford	14 - 14
A	Sept. 7 Sun.	Bradford	10 - 21
H	Sept. 14 Sun.	Featherstone	17 - 32
A	Sept. 21 Sun.	Hull	11 - 16
H	Sept. 28 Sun.	Leeds	14 - 16
A	Oct. 5 Sun.	Leigh	
A	Oct. 12 Sun.	Widnes	
A	Oct. 19 Sun.	Workington	
H	Oct. 26 Sun.		
A	Nov. 2 Sun.		
A	Nov. 9 Sun.	Featherstone	
A	Nov. 16 Sun.	Bradford	
A	Nov. 19 Wed.	Salford	
A	Nov. 23 Sun.	John Player 1st Round	
A	Nov. 30 Sun.	Wakefield	
H	Dec. 7 Sun.	John Player 2nd Round	
H	Dec. 14 Sun.	Widnes	
H	Dec. 21 Sun.	Hull K.R.	
A	Dec. 28 Fri.	St. Helens	
H	Boxing Day		
A	Dec. 28 Sun.	Hull	
A	Jan. 1 Thurs.	Warrington	
A	New Years Day		
A	Jan. 4 Sun.	Barrow	
H	Jan. 11 Sun.	Leeds	
A	Jan. 18 Sun.	Castleford	
A	Jan. 25 Sun.		
A	Feb. 1 Sun.	Barrow	
A	Feb. 8 Sun.	Halifax	
A	Feb. 15 Sun.	Challenge Cup 1st Round	
A	Feb. 22 Sun.	Hull K.R.	
H	Mar. 1 Sun.	Challenge Cup 2nd Round	
A	Mar. 8 Sun.	Warrington	
A	Mar. 15 Sun.	Workington	
A	Mar. 22 Sun.	Halifax	
A	Mar. 29 Sun.	Leigh	
H	Apr. 5 Sun.	Wakefield	
H	Apr. 12		
H	Apr. 17 Fri.	St. Helens	
H	Good Friday		
H	Apr. 20 Mon.	Salford	
	Easter Monday.		

'A' TEAM FIXTURES 1980/81

	Date	Opponent	F. A.
H	Aug. 7 Thurs.	Higginshaw (Friendly)	26 - 2
A	Aug. 14 Thurs.	Saddleworth Rangers	P
A	Sept. 3 Wed.	Salford	6 - 13
A	Sept. 9 Fri.	Warrington L.C.C.S.	7 - 8
H	Sept. 18 Thurs.	Swinton	27 - 23
A	Sept. 25 Thurs.	St. Helens	6 - 15
A	Oct. 2 Thurs.	Leigh	
H	Oct. 9 Thurs.	Rochdale Hornets	
H	Oct. 16 Thurs.	Widnes	
A	Oct. 18 Sat.	Whitehaven	
A	Oct. 25 Sat.	Workington	
H	Oct. 30 Thurs.	Wigan	
A	Nov. 8 Sat.	Blackpool	
A	Nov. 14 Fri.	Wigan	
H	Nov. 20 Thurs.	Salford	
A	Nov. 27 Thurs.	Swinton	
A	Dec. 11 Thurs.	Widnes	
H	Jan. 3 Sat.	Barrow	
A	Jan. 9 Fri.	St. Helens	
H	Jan. 17 Sat.	Whitehaven	
A	Jan. 31 Sat.	Barrow	
H	Feb. 5 Thurs.	Warrington	
H	Feb. 19 Thurs.	Blackpool	
A	Mar. 6 Fri.	Warrington	
H	Mar. 14 Sat.	Workington	
A	Mar. 19 Thurs.	Rochdale	
H	Mar. 26 Thurs.	Leigh	

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CUP LUCK DESERTS LOCAL AMATEURS

By Alan Burke
Public Relations Officer.
Oldham Amateur Rugby League.

The local amateur sides remaining in this season's BARLA Forshaw's Lancashire-Cumbria Cup competition have all been drawn away in the next rounds which take place next weekend. Following last Saturday's 2nd Round games in the open-age event, Waterhead and Saint Anne's remain to represent the Oldham area while Higginshaw lost away to Leigh Miners. Waterhead's Under-19s are our sole survivors in the youth tournament, with Saddleworth Rangers, Saint Anne's and Higginshaw having all gone down in their opening round ties.

Waterhead, having qualified for a place in Round 3 of the main competition with an excellent 6-4 win at home to Wigan Saint Patrick's, now face a trip to Cumbria to play Maryport, who themselves were rejoicing last Saturday following their 16-7 home victory over the current holders of the trophy, Millom. Saint Anne's came through to the last sixteen by virtue of a closely-fought 18-15 success at home to Widnes Stanley, and now have to visit Warrington to take on Latchford Albion. The Waterhead youth team disposed of Wath Brow Hornets to earn their place in the quarter-finals of the Under-19s' event, in which they have been given a difficult away fixture against Woolston Rovers, with the Warrington side having been the runners-up in last season's competition and having had an impressive 33-2 victory over Higginshaw in this year's First Round.

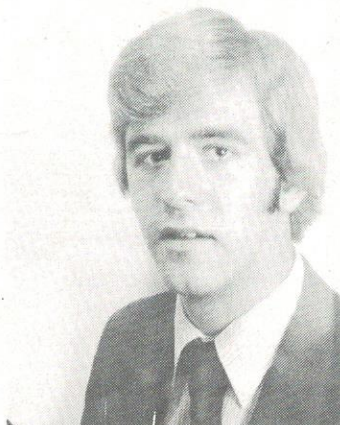
The 1980-81 BARLA Handbook is now on sale, priced £1.50 each plus 50p postage, from BARLA Headquarters, Britannic Building, 3 Upperhead Row, Huddersfield. The handbook contains 388 pages, including a list of all last season's cup winners, the laws of the game, and articles written by amateur rugby league enthusiasts throughout the country.

BARLA have also recently announced that they are intending to send their Under-19s International side on a tour of Papua New Guinea, Australia, and New Zealand, in 1983. To prepare for this, the Association have also decided to introduce an amateur County Championship for Under-17 players, similar to those already organised at open-age and Under-19 levels. This is so that the youngsters who will most probably be included in the tour party will receive as much high level practice as possible before leaving Britain. The BARLA Under-19s team have yet to achieve a victory against a team from the Southern Hemisphere following their visit to Australia and New Zealand in 1977 and the Australians brief trip to Britain last January.

Tudor Lodge, members of the Pennine League's 6th Division, won their second league match of the season last Saturday thus giving them four points from four games played and equalling their total of points for the whole of last season. New signings Harry Hambleton and Denis O'Grady have brought some experience to the Tudor Lodge outfit, while Salem Hornets' new player-coach Tony Newall have revitalised his side, with Salem having defeated Huddersfield Polytechnic 41-8 last Saturday to record their highest ever away win.

FOR ALL THE LOCAL AMATEUR RUGBY LEAGUE NEWS:
B.B.C. Radio Manchester (206 medium wave; 95.1 v.h.f.)

BARLA REPORTS Every Friday 6.30 pm - 6.45 pm
RUGBY LEAGUE SPECIAL Every Sunday 3.30 pm - 6 pm (Amateur news - 5.35 pm)



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