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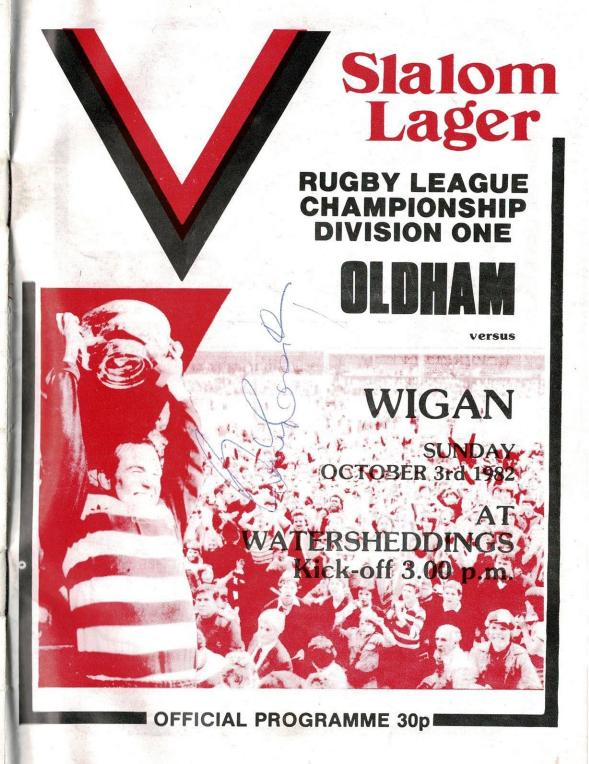
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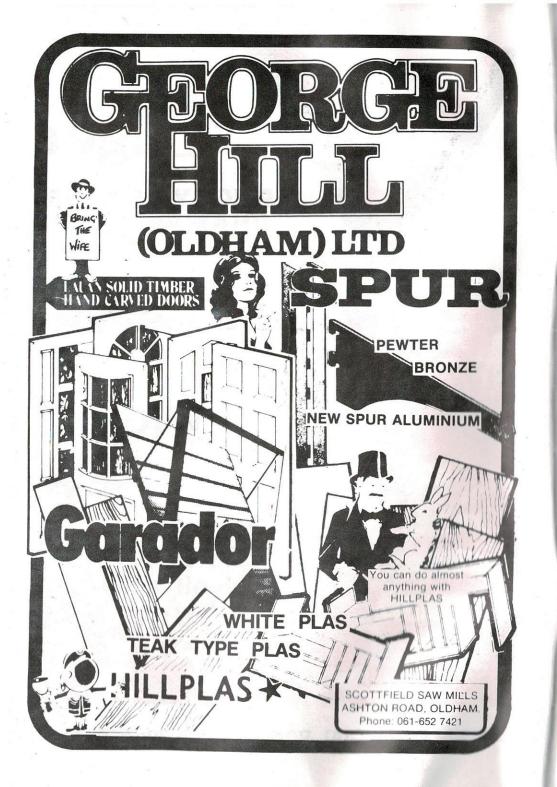
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Oldham 'A' v. Workington 'A' Saturday 9th October at 3.00 pm

Oldham 'A' v. Salford 'A' Friday 15th October at 3.00 pm Oldham v. Carlisle Sunday 31st October at 3.00 pm



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3

WATERSHEDDINGS SURVEY

TODAY we entertain Wigan in a match which should be one of the best of the season - and which should attract one of the top gates to Watersheddings.

Although we are now into October this is only our second First Division home game to be played on a Sunday and our first Watersheddings Sunday date sinse the visit of Widnes on the opening day of the season way back on August 22nd.

We had a total of three First Division games at home, but the Leeds match was fixed for Wednesday, August 25th and the Warrington match, which should have been here on Sunday, September 19th, was rearranged for the previous Wednesday so that we did not have to start at 5.30 in our Forshaw's Lancashire Cup-tie at Warrington.

Our fourth home game - against Featherstone - was staged last Wednesday, and as Sunday matches invariably attract better crowds than do mid-week games we are certainly banking on a good crowd for today's match against an attractive Wigan side, bossed by Alex Murphy.

We were unable to field a fully represented side when we played the touring French XIII on Wednesday evening of last week because of a pile-up of injuries which we did not foresee and which you cannot possibly legislate for.

Happily, Terry Flanagan used the match to ease himself back into the game after being out since the Leeds game on August 25th, and he came through well before he was pulled off after about an hour.

During the French game Brian Caffery was concussed and thus became virtually our first casualty of the season among the backs where we have so far been unfortunate to sidestep injury problems.

All our worries have involved forwards and, when we met the Frenchmen, we had a full pack of forwards on the sidelines, including Gareth Owen (knee), Les Cook (hand), Tony Ogden (neck), Alan Platt (ribs), Dave Nicholson (shoulder) and Adrian Alexander (back).

In addition, Andy Goodway was under treatment for a nasty kick on the shin in the county cup-tie at Wilderspool on the previous Sunday.

However, the players who turned out against the French put up a splendid performance to lose 15-11 against a strong side packed with full internationals and including ten of the players who took part in their victory over Great Britain in Venice at the end of July.

The French scored three tries to Oldham's one - by Paddy Kirwan - but one of their tries followed a blatant forward pass and on the other two were the direct result of uncertain defence following kicks by the French stand-off half Laville.

Brian Caffery kicked Oldham into the lead with an early penalty goal and the other six points came from the boot of 19-year-old stand-off Chris Willis, who was pitched in at the deep end for his debut in senior football and came through with distinction.

The fact that we had postponed our 'A' team match at Warrington the previous Saturday because of the injury situation meant that Chris's first game as a pro was against a full international side. Not many youngsters will have had that sort of experience!

After today's game we do not play at home again for a month, and that is another reason why we are looking for a bumper crowd today.

Next Sunday we go to Workington, the Sunday after we have a blank date, the Sunday after that we go to Castleford and then we are at home again - to Carlisle - on October 31st.

By that time we should certainly have a good idea of how we are shaping up in the efforts to at least hold our own in the First Division. These notes had to be written before the Halifax and Featherstone games, but if we have managed to pick up maximum points from those encounters it won't be looking too bad at this stage.

By a strange twist of fate, we met Featherstone in midweek only five days ago after they had played the French and now we take on Wigan just seven days after their match against the men from across the Channel.

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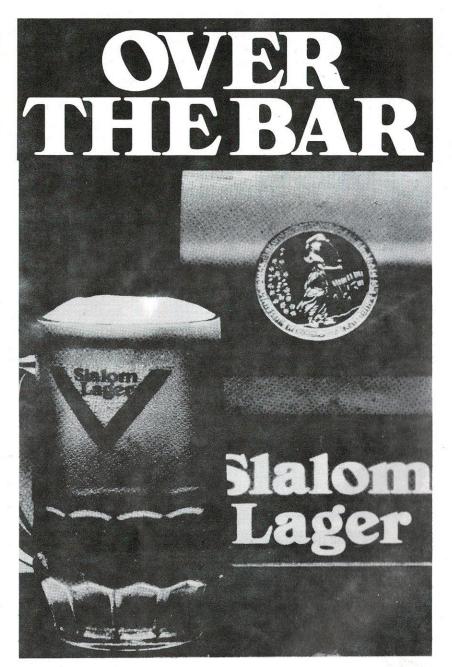
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HISTORICAL NOTES ON WIGAN By Tom Webb

There is some doubt as to the actual formation of the Wigan club and indeed there was a break in continuity in the early days. After a spell in Rugby Union football the club was suspended in November 1894 by the Rugby Union for a breach of the proffessional rules. Leigh and Salford had already been suspended so the depleted Lancashire Senior Competition consisted of seven clubs only. Wigan were well into the running for the championship having won all four games by an aggregate of 42 points to nil.

Th following season, 1895-96 saw the establishment of the Northern Rugby Football Union and 22 leading clubs broke away to compete in the Northern Rugby Union Football League, Wigan and Oldham being two of the pioneers.

After playing at Frog Lane, the club eventually settled in Greenough Street and Central Park came into being. Batley were first opponents on September 6th, 1902 and Wigan won the inaugral match by 14-8 when the crowd was in the region of 8,000. J. Barr scored the first try and Richard 'Safety Pin' Rothwell kicked the first goal.

Fifty years later on September 6th 1952 all the surviving players from the first match were invited to be guests of the club for the Golden Jubilee celebrations. Jack Wood the Wigan secretary who organised the jubilee Hailed from Batley, although he joined Wigan after serving as secretary of the Huddersfield club. In due course he became the secretary of the Lancashire County Cricket Club.

In 1902 the players stripped at the Princess of Wales Hotel, some 150 yards ground and did not have facilities at the ground until about 1909. This was a common practice early days of our game.

It was recorded in 1961 that the Spion Kop had 77 terraces for the two shillings spectator, all under cover. I didn't count them but a fellow journalist of the 'Rugby Leaguer' did.

John Counsell, a long serving administator of both the Wigan club and the Rugby League kept a diary of events which throws plenty of light on the club's activities.

In 1906 he recorded that he 'went with George Taylor and J. Walkden and signed Harry Price of Runcorn. £132 and £20 for himself.' That year he went with George Taylor and Jim Henderson to Morecambe and signed James Leytham and Jacky Mason. Leytham was with Lancaster and Mason with Morecambe. Sammy Lees, junior, a star of the Oldham team had persuaded Jim Leytham to play for Oldham and he appeared in our colours at South Shields in a friendley game. However his signing for Wigan cost the Oldham club a future tourist.

In 1907 Mr. Counsell went with H. Bouchier and G. Taylor to sign Leytham and Mason. It would appear that players were free to sign each season, unless there had been some dispute about terms. Still dealing with terms, on December 12th 'Our forwards were informed of 2s. 6d. advance per match.'

Although John Counsell attended the wedding of Lance Todd, he recorded in 1910 that 'L. B. Todd complained, on behalf of the players, about sandwiches for match with Hunslet next Saturday. Committee would not give way.'

July 2nd 1910 was the occasion of a wrestling match at Central Park. Irstlinger gained one fall over Bob Berry for Middle-weight championship. Gate about £75, he recorded and added tersely, 'To wrestle again.'

In 1912 Wigan defeated Coventry by 70 points to pil. Lance Todd, Lou Bradley, R. Curwen and Richard Ramsdale earned an overcoat each and one for a friend by scoring three tries each. A couple of weeks later George Formby (senior) kicked-off at the Wigan v. Hunslet game.

A year later James Leytham and James Shorrock had a benefit match when Wigan defeated Broughton Rangers. There was a good gate and the players received £165 each. It would have taken three and a half years for a skilled fitter to have earned that amount of money in the days before the first world war. Lance Todd was transfered to Dewsbury in 1914. Supporters were angry and called a special club meeting. It was a disorderly meeting from beginning to end, the committee leaving the platform.'

WIGAN ON THE UP - and UP

WIGAN come to Watersheddings today for what should be a cracking all - Lancashire affair between two sides which have had some wonderful matches over the years.

The famous Central Park outfit shocked the Rugby League world shortly after the end of last season when, after the departure of coach Maurice Bamford, they announced the capture from Leigh of the mercurial Alex Murphy.

Murphy took over at Central Park after steering Leigh to last season's championship and things began to buzz again at Wigan soon after his arrival, with season-ticket soaring and the general beleif in the town that he could restore the club to it's former glories.

Alex's first task was to build his backroom team and he did it by accuiring former Wigan stalwart Bill Ashurst from Wakefield, installing Geoff Lyon to look after the younger players and enlisting Alan McInnes from Salford to take responsibility for physical fitness.

And didn't Wigan make a marvellous start! Consecutive wins at Carlisle and then against Leigh and Hull at Central Park, in front of bumper crowds topping 10,000, indicated that Wigan were again on the up and up.

There was a dissapointing defeat at Warrington to follow and perhaps an even bigger letdown for Wigan when they were beaten at Central Park by Second Division pacer-setters Fulham in the second round of the Forshaw's Lancashire Cup.

But Murphy's magic worked again in the next match when a side desperately decimated by injuries went to Hull K.R. facing a seemingly impossible task - and won.

Wigan are certainly making huge forward stridesand that must be good for the League game as a whole, particularly here in Lancashire.

The Central Park injury list meant that there were still several first-choice men absent from the line-up last week-end when they played the French XIII, including Brian Juliffe, Glyn Shaw, Gary Stephens, David Stephenson, Danny Campbell, Steve Nicholson, Henderson Gill and Alan Hodkinson.

Nicholson (hand injury) and Hodkinson (shoulder) are not expected to be ready to resume in time for today's game, but there are hopes that centre Stephenson, New Zealander Campbell, Test flier Gill, talented scrum-half Stephens and Welsh international Juliffe and Shaw could be back in the running for places.

Threre will be three Oldham-area lads also hoping to get a game today on a pitch and against a side they know so well - Martin Foy, Nicky Kiss and Mick Nanyn, the Central Park club's trio of players signed four years ago from Saddleworth Rangers.

It would be quite something for the Foy family if Martin were to play today and, by a strange twist of fate, were to be pitted against his younger brother, Des, who is now here at Oldham on loan from Widnes.

By the way, congratulations are extended by the Oldham club to Nicky Kiss on his call-up to the Great Britain-squad, currently preparing for the forthcoming Test series against the Aussies. Well done Nicky!

Other well-known players in the Wigan squad are Jimmy Hornby, Dennis Ramsdale, Colin Whitfield, Jimmy Fairhurst, Mick Scott and John Pendlebury.

Certainly, when all players are fit, Alkex Murphy has a sound squad from which to choose any many of them can boast under-24, England or full Great Britain Test honours, including Colin Whitfield, David Stephenson, Henderson Gill, Gary Sptephens and Nicky Kiss, to say nothing of the two Welsh internationals, Shaw and Juliffe, a recent signing from Wakefield.

Finally, the Oldham club's best wishes go with Mr. Phil Worthington, the Wigan secretary, who is leaving his post to into industry after many years served as a full-time club official with Warrington and, for the past 14 months, with Wigan.



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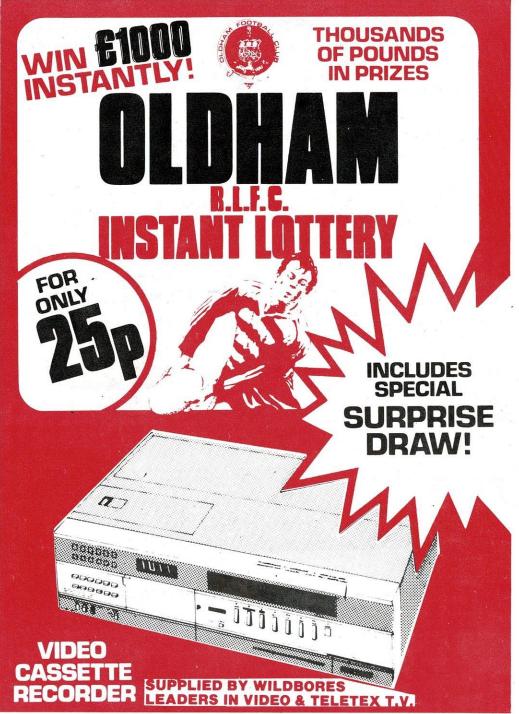
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Coaches to the following matches will all leave from the Social Club.

To Workington: Sunday 10th October at 11.00 a.m. Members £4.20, Non-Members £4.40, Juniors £3.00. **To Castleford:** Sunday 24th October at 2.00 p.m., Non-Members £2.25, Juniors £1.60.

PLEASE BOOK FOR THESE MATCHES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE-IN THE CANTEENS OR IN THE SOCIAL CLUB. TELEPHONE BOOKINGS: 624 0368

Forthcoming Events: We are holding our Rugby Queen Dance in the Social Club on Sat. 23rd October 1982. Any young ladies aged 16 or over wishing to enter the Rugby Queen Contest please ask for an entry form from the canteens or in the Social Club. The contest will also incorporate our Halloween Dance, when Eddie & Joe will be our Disco Hosts.

Admission is £1.00 per person - 8.00 p.m. until 12.30 a.m. Bar snacks will be available.

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Ray Ashton sets off for the line to score Oldham's third try in our 20-5 win at Halifax.



So near - yet so far. Terry Flanagan is held in a two-man tackle just short of the Halifax line.

BRIAN BATTY Daily Mail

Now that the boot is on the other foot, does anyone seriously beleive that Rugby Union will severely punish those players involved in the 'cash' scandal.

I am convinced that once again Union officials will find a way to spare those players who have been handsomely paid for wearing sponsors' boots.

Last season in this coloumn I discussed then the growing evidence that many top Union players appear to be receiving generous and differing amounts for the 'boots' situation.

At that time it was stressed that goalkickers, who find the television cameras lingering on them a lot longer than their teammates, were reputed to be receiving the larger amounts.

But all last season Rugby Union allowed the stories to circulate and grow in strength without lifting a finger to, I would imagine, the delight of their players.

I doubt whether anything would have been done this season but for the revelations which have followed the Inland Revenue investigation.

But almost straight away we have talk from within the code of an amnesty so the game - never mind the players - will not be allowed to suffer.

Some people reckon that the only honest step now would be to declare. Union a professional sport.

They feel that it is not just the money from sponsors for boots and generous expenses that many players receive but the fact that those involved, particularly in Wales, benefit by being given jobs normally way beyond their qualifications.

I am not against a player with talent cashing in and leaving behind an ordinary job to join management of a firm.

A lot of Union players would be on the dole but for the fact that they are national heroes in their sport so they gain employment which in the end leaves them better off than many League pros.

Just as some of those reported amounts of £3,500 a season for wearing sponsor's boots, puts Union players in a bracket far beyond that of many First and Second Division players.

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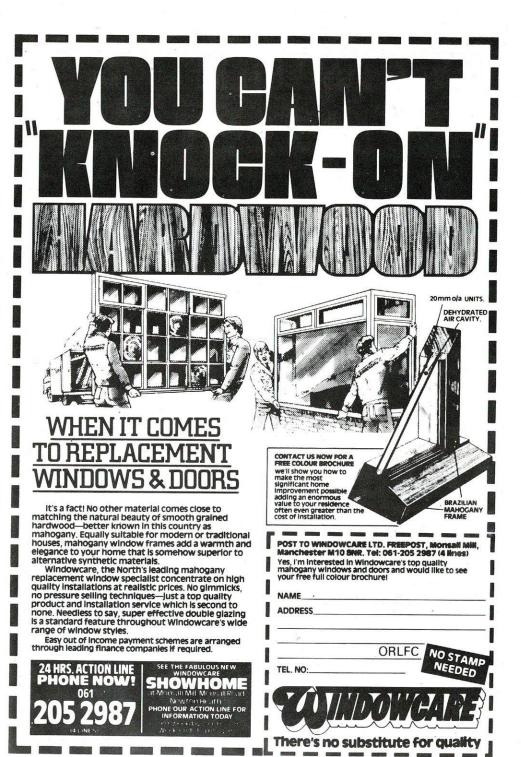
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FLASHBACK by Tom Webb

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FIVE YEARS AGO

Doncaster 7 Oldham 18

Donaster: Denton, Miles Fortis (try), Noble (2 goals), Arrand, Irwin, Hanley, Lowe, Lockwood, Banham, Stenton, Cooper, Wilmot. Substitutes: Tomlinson and Walker for Fortis and Wilmot.

Oldham: Murphy, Larder, Barton, O'Brien, Stondin (3 goals), Knight (try), Paterson, Hughes, O'Mahoney, Frodsham (try), Jewett, Hall, Peters (2 tries). Elliot and Bates substituted for O'Brien and Larder.

Referee: V. Moss, Manchester. Attendance 1,321. Half-time score 5-2.

TEN YEARS AGO

Oldham 12 Salford 8 (Floodlit Trophy first round)

Oldham: Murphy, Elliott, Larder (3 goals), Wainwright, Hodkinson (try), Hill, McCone (try), Wilson, K. Taylor, Ashcroft, Irving, Daley, Reynolds. The substitutes Davies and Munro did not play.

Salford: Charlton, Colloby, Watkins (4 goals), Hesketh, Richards, Gill, Banner, Ramshaw, Walker, Ward, Kirkbride, Davies, Dixon. Prosser and Whitehead for Banner and Davies.

Referee: J. Wharton, Mirfield. Attendance 4,507. Half-time score 7-4.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

Oldham 7 Hull Kingston Rovers 9

Oldham: Curry (2 goals), Elliot, Donovan, McCormack, Murphy (try), Broomhead, Canning, Ogden, Smith, Wilson, Irving, Hill, Madders. Wood Substituted for Ogden.

Hull K.R.: Kellett (3 goals), Coupland, Moore, Lowe, Burwell, Elliot (try), Cooper, Holliday, Flanagan, Taylor, Hickson, Mennell, Young. Brook went on for Young.

Referee: E.Clay, Leeds. Attendance 1,672. Half-time score 7-0. The writer would welcome details of the non-playing substitutes.



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SERVICE MOULDINGS

PRECISION INJECTION **MOULDERS**

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	Aug. Ro	Aug. St.	Aug. Sal	Aug. 30 Hunslett	Sept. 6 Blackpool	Sept. 13 Dewsbury	Sept. 20 Hu	Sept. 23 Sw	Sept. 27 Do	Oct. 4 Halifax	Oct. 11 Keighley	Oct. 18 Do	Oct 25 De	Nov. 1 Hu	Nov. 8 Ca	Nov. 15 Leeds JPT(3)	Nov. 22 Halifax	Nov. 28 Hull JPT(SF)	Dec. 6 Hu	Jan. 3 Sal	Jan. 10 Batley	Jan. 24 Huddersfield	- 1	Feb. 7 Ca		Feb. 21 Kel		1.2	Mar. 21 Batley	Mar. 28 Bla	Apr. 4 Sw	Apr. 9 Ro			Apr. 18 Hu				- 1	May 9 Wo
	Rochdale (Law Cup)	St. Helens (Friendly)	Salford (Lancs Cup)	nslett	sckpool	wsbury	Sept. 20 Huddersfield 3.30 p.m.	Sept. 23 Swinton 7.30 p.m.	ncaster	difax	ighley	Oct. 18 Doncaster JPT(1)	wsbury 3.30 p.m.	Nov. 1 Huddersfield JPT(2)	rlisle	eds JPT(3)	lifax	III JPT(SF)	Huyton	Salford	tley	ddersfield	Cardiff City	Cardiff City	Swinton · SECC(1)	Reigniey	Wakelield - SECC(2)	mlev	tley	Mar. 28 Blackpool Borough *	Swinton	Rochdale Hornets	ford	Rochdale Hornets	Huyton	Carlisle	Bramley	Doncaster 2.30 p.m.	Hunslett	Workington Town
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OLDHAM R.L.F.C. FIXTURES 1982-83

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES

		FIRST TEAM FIXTURES			COLTS FIXTURES
1982			1982		
Aug.	22	Widnes (3.00)	Aug.	· 14	Wakefield
	25	Leeds (7.30)	rug.	18	Huddersfield
	29	Bradford Northern (3.30)		21	Hull K.R. H11-11
Sept.	5	Blackpool Lancs Cup		24	Leigh
	12	St. Helens (3.00)		28	St. Helens
	15	Warrington (7.30)	Sept.	4	Castleford
	19	Warrington Lancs Cup (3.00) A14-16		11	Rochdale
	22	FRANCE XIII (7.30)		18	Leeds
	26	Halifax (3.00)		25	Halifax A11-14
0-4	29	Featherstone R. (7.30)	Oct.	2	WakefieldH
Oct.	3 10	Wigan (3.00)		9	SalfordH
	24	Workington T. (3.30)		16	HullA
	31	Castleford (3.30)		23	HuddersfieldH
Nov.	7	Carlisle (3.00)	NI	30	BarrowA
1101.	14	Barrow (2.30)	Nov.	6	HullH
	21	Workington T. (3.00)		13 20	Featherstone
Dec.	5	JOHN PLAYER TROPHY (1)		27	St. Helens
	12	JOHN PLAYER TROPHY (2)	Dec.	4	Hunslet
	19		Dec.	11	SalfordA
	27	Hull (3.00)		18	FeatherstoneH
1983				28	LeighA
Jan.	3	Leeds (3.00)A	1983		20gnA
	9	Featherstone R. (2.30)	Jan.	1	BradfordH
	16	Bradford Northern (3.00)		. 8	Bramley A
	23	Warrington (3.00)		15	HalifaxH
	30	Halifax (3.00)H		22	Hull K.R
Feb.	6	St. Helens (3.00)		29	RochdaleH
	13	STATE EXPRESS	Feb.	5	YorkH
		CHALLENGE CUP (1)		12	Cup (1st round)
	20	Carlisle (3.00)A		19	LeedsA
	27	STATE EXPRESS	M	26	Cup (2nd round)
3.6	-	CHALLENGE CUP (2)	Mar.	5	HunsletH
Mar.	6	Leigh (3.00)		12 19	YorkA
	13	Widnes (3.00)		26	Bramley
Δ	20	Hull K.R. (3.00)	Apr.	9	Bradford
Apr.	4	Leigh (3.30)	Apr.	,	CastlelordA
	10	Barrow (3.00)			
	17	Wigan (3.00)			
	.,	Castlelord (5.00)			
		'A' TEAM	FIXTUE	RES	
1000					
1982	20	W. 1 (7.20)		11	Barrow (2.30)
Aug. Sept.	20	Widnes (7.30)		17	Rochdale (7.30)
Зері.	10	Wigan (7.30)	1000		
	18	Warrington (2.30)	1983	14	C W 1 (= 00)
	25	Whitehaven (3.00)	Jan.	14	Salford (7.30)
Oct.	1	Wigan (7.30)	Feb.	21	Warrington (7.30)
_ •••	9	Workington (3.00)	reo.	11	St. Helens (7.30)
	15	Salford (7.30)H		17	Leigh (7.30)
	30	Whitehaven (2.30)		25	Rochdale (7.30)
Nov.	13	Barrow (3.00)	Mar.	3	Leigh (7.30)
	20	Workington (2.30)		11	Widnes (7.30)
Dec.	2	Swinton (7.30)			

Kick off at 12 o'clock at the:-

DOG & PARTRIDGE

Constantine Street, Greenacres.

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KEVIN & CHRISTINE

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Matthew Brown 🛠

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THE SHEPHERDS BOY

Huddersfield Road, Oldham

Your Hosts
COLIN & NORMA

All the best from

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Bar Snacks available

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Matthew Brown 35