





# OVER THE BAR



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**Matthew Brown** 

## The Leeds Loiner

**LEEDS FOOTBALL CLUB - 1982-3**

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Programme compiled by: I. Proctor, M. Surr and W. B. Carter

## RESURGENCE AT WATERSHEDDINGS

Oldham are one of Rugby League's 'nearly' clubs, for they have had some desperate luck in the honours chase down the years.

In the 1950's Oldham were one of the most powerful sides in the game, finishing top of the league table on two successive seasons, 1956-57 and 1958. They won the Championship Play-Offs in 1957 defeating Hull, in a cliff-hanging Final, by 15-14. It was the club's first title win in 46 years, and eased the memory of their defeat in the Final two years previously, when Warrington beat them 7-3. There were some of the great names of the Rugby League code wearing Oldham's famous cherry and white jerseys in those days, and the team which won the decider against Hull is part of Watersheddings folklore. It was: Ganley, Cracknell, Davies, Ayres, Etty, Daley, Pitchford, Jackson, Keith, Vines, Winslade, Little, Turner. What a side! What a pack! Bernard Ganley was one of the finest goalkickers this code has ever seen, being the first man to kick over 200 goals in a season in 1957-58. Davies was one of the finest centres of all-time, Turner did not earn his nickname of 'Rocky' for nothing, while Winslade, Vines, Jackson and Little were all internationals. This same team won the Lancashire Cup on three consecutive occasions in 1956, 1957 and 1958.

As is usually the case that team eventually broke up, without achieving the honour of being the first Oldham team to play at Wembley, but that honour very nearly fell to the 'Roughyeds'

team of 1964. There has never been an unluckier team not to get to Wembley than this one. Having battled their way into the Semi-finals they met Hull K.R. at Headingley, and looked to be on the way out of the competition until hooker Len McIntyre dropped a goal to give them a re-play at Swinton's Station Road ground. Another titanic struggle developed, and the game went into extra time, with Oldham eventually taking a 17-14 lead. They looked all set for Wembley until the floodlights failed and the game was abandoned. The match went to a second re-play and, not surprisingly after such a let off, Hull K.R. reached new heights whilst Oldham played like a side knowing that the fates were against them. They lost 12-2. It was another useful side, containing the former Huddersfield marksman Frank Dyson, current assistant coach Peter Smethurst, and internationals Charlie Bott, Len McIntyre and Dave Parker.

Few Oldham sides of the past two decades have remotely rivalled those two sides in terms of achievement. The club did reach, and lose, two Lancashire Cup Finals in 1966 and 1968, and they have produced such outstanding players as Bob Irving, Geoff Fletcher, Kevin Taylor, Mike Elliott and current National Director of Coaching Phil Larder. The present crop of young players are better than any seen at Watersheddings in years, and the hope is that Frank Myler and Peter Smethurst will bring the very best out of these youngsters and help the club rid themselves of this 'nearly' reputation.



# WELCOME OLDHAM

The men from Watersheddings have surprised everyone, possibly themselves too, by their excellent start to their First Division campaign. Returning to the top league as Division Two Champions, Oldham have not lacked confidence, and coaches Frank Myler and Peter Smethurst must be well pleased with their young charges.

Oldham have had their ups and downs since two divisions were re-introduced in 1973, and their troubles began on the first week of the new regime—when they lost their opening Division One fixture, here at Headingley, by 46—2. They were relegated at the end of that season, promoted back into the First Division in 1974-75, held on to their status for a year before being relegated in 1976-77. They came up yet again, in 1979-80, were relegated the following season, and were promoted as Champions last season. If ever there were three divisions in Rugby League, Oldham would be certainties for Division Two.

In fact Oldham showed great consistency last season, losing just two of their 32 matches, and they also had the enjoyment of a run in the John Player Trophy, reaching their first major semi-final in 17 years, going down bravely to Hull, here at Headingley.

Long serving full-back Martin Murphy recently left Oldham, to join neighbours Rochdale Hornets. Young Colin Willis has appeared in the number one shirt on occasions this season. Former free-scoring wingman Geoff Munro is now back at Watersheddings after a loan period at Workington where he scored three tries. Oldham now have former Wigan and Swinton wingman Green Vigo, who needs little introduction to Leeds fans, of course. The South African has not really fulfilled the rich promise he showed five years ago, but he is still a very capable finisher.

Oldham took Widnes starlet Des Foy on loan earlier in the season, but he is now back at Naughton Park after scoring three tries for the 'Roughyeds'. New Zealander Ashley McEwan can operate in most back roles, but is probably most effective on the wings. Young centre Brian Caffrey is a product of Oldham's thriving youth policy, and looks a really promising three-quarter. Fellow centre Mick Parrish is the most consistent scorer in present-day Rugby League, and one of its most under-rated players. He has played and scored in every Oldham game since April 1981, a run of some 60 matches, and is the only player to play and score in every match in a season for two different

clubs. Former Widnes and Great Britain World Cup off-half Denis O'Neill played in a variety of back roles for Oldham, including wing and centre. At half-back Oldham can call on former Wigan off-half Alan Taylor, and Colts internationals Ray Ashton and Paddy Kirwan, two of the brightest young talents in British Rugby League. The brilliant Ashton was top try scorer for Oldham last season, scoring 26 times in 33 appearances, and has already notched seven in the top sphere. Former Salford man Phil Ward, who also played for Bradford and Colin Hawkyard, who had trials with Huddersfield last season, are other contenders for back berths.

Up front much-travelled ex-international prop Brian Hogan has done Oldham a power of good. Formerly with Wigan, St. Helens, Widnes (twice), Workington and Bradford, he represented England in the 1975 World Championships, and is one of the wildest front-rowers in the game. Big money signing Alan McCurrie is one of the best hookers around, too. A Cumbrian, he began his career at Whitehaven, moving on to Wakefield Trinity where he made a Wembley appearance in 1979. He has many appearances for his native county under his belt, and scores more than his share of tries and drop-goals. Disputes with ex-rugby union star Adrian Alexander have cost Oldham the services of one of the finest front-rowers in the game, but David Nicholson has stepped in to do a good job. Another solid worker is Andy Goodway, a tremendous defensive player who has improved immeasurably this season. Another former union star, Bob Mordell is usually in the second-row, along with Colts international Alan Platts, who was last season transfer-listed at £60,000. One of the youngest captains in the game is brilliant Colts and Under-24 international Terry Flanagan, a player who pipped David Heron to the Under-24 jersey last season. Welsh international Gareth Owen and Mick Worrall are also in the First Team squad, but long-serving hooker Roger O'Mahoney has joined Warrington.

Oldham are seeking their first victory over Leeds at Headingley since November 1965, when they gained a 13—10 win. They did defeat Leeds in our last meeting, in the John Player Quarter-final last season, 14—5. The last League meetings were in 1980-81 when Leeds won 16—14 at Headingley, thanks to a last-gasp Alan Smith try, and lost 19—12 at Watersheddings when four men, two from each side, were dismissed. In August Leeds won 15—8 at Watersheddings, of course.

## CLUB SCENE



**The Directors, Officials and Players are pleased to take this opportunity of wishing all supporters A Happy New Year.**



### REPLICA JERSEYS

Among the many varied and interesting items on sale now at the Promotions Office in the Pavilion Car Park are the exact replica First Team Jerseys which have just arrived. They are available in sizes for small boys, boys and large boys. These are £9.00 each, and also available are adult sizes small, medium, large and extra large, which are £12.00.

### CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRAW

The winning number for this draw, made at the Leeds v York match, was Orange Ticket No. 270. The prize can be collected from the Promotions Office on production of the winning ticket.

### INJURIES

We are pleased to report on the progress being made by two of our long standing injured players, whose presence in the side we have missed in recent months. Steve Pitchford, who sustained a fractured arm at Hull in September, had the plaster removed last week and is back in training, and John Carroll, out of the game since last March after breaking a leg at Whitehaven, has been training again for several weeks and expects to resume playing early in the New Year.

### FIRST DIVISION (as at 23rd December, 1982)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leeds ...	14	12	0	2	286	200	24
Hull ...	15	11	1	3	234	138	23
Hull K.R. ...	14	10	0	4	250	145	20
Castleford ...	15	10	0	5	284	248	20
Wigan ...	13	9	1	3	209	100	19
Oldham ...	15	9	1	5	194	159	19
Leigh ...	15	6	3	6	231	204	15
Widnes ...	14	7	1	6	215	191	15
St. Helens ...	13	7	1	5	221	206	15
Barrow ...	14	6	1	7	221	237	13
Warrington ...	13	5	1	7	173	171	11
Featherstone R. ...	15	4	1	10	180	270	9
Bradford N. ...	12	3	1	8	109	139	7
Workington ...	13	2	1	10	141	269	5
Halifax ...	14	2	1	11	110	301	5
Carlisle ...	13	1	0	12	138	218	2

## Season by Season a History of Leeds R.L.F.C.

### SEASON 1937-38

Another marvellous season for the Leeds club sparked off by the close season signing of the great Australian half-back Vic Hey. The Yorkshire Cup was regained when Huddersfield were defeated 14—8 before a crowd of 22,000 and the Yorkshire League title was retained.

In the Challenge Cup we had great wins in the first two rounds over Wigan and Huddersfield at Headingley but tasted bitter defeat at Barrow, 7—5, in the third round.

Our final League placing was second, a point behind our neighbours Hunslet. Swinton were defeated 5—2 in the top four play-off before a crowd of 29,000 but, alas Hunslet were too powerful in the Championship Final at Elland Road, winning 8—2 before a record crowd for a Rugby League match in England to that date of over 54,000.

### RUGBY CAVALCADE

Ken Dalby's marvellous book highlighting well over 40 of the best ever matches at Headingley is proving tremendously popular.

Excellent value at £2.25, this fourth volume of "The Headingley Story" may be purchased on match days from either the Pools Office window, in the Pavilion Car Park, or the Souvenir Shop at the rear of the South Stand; and daily from the Pavilion during normal office hours. It is also available at bookshops in the Leeds and Bradford area, and from the Rugby League Offices. Postal applications, enclosing remittance for £2.65 (including postage), should be addressed to Ken Dalby, 12 Talbot Mount, Leeds LS4 2PF.

### GREAT BRITAIN REPLICA JERSEYS

New from Umbro International, the replica jersey features the new style "V" neck and, for the first time, the official Great Britain badge.

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All plus £1.00 post and packing

SHORTS — All Sizes	£3.95
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### "COACHING RUGBY LEAGUE" by Ray French

The first British coaching book for 34 years is now available. "Coaching Rugby League", compiled by Ray French, and sponsored by Shopacheck, the financial services company, has 95 pages of advice and comment. Ray French draws on his professional experience with St. Helens, Widnes and Great Britain, and the new coaching book is intended to cater for Schools, Junior and University Rugby League, as well as the individual player.

£2.00 plus 30p post and packing (Paperback)  
£5.25 plus 50p post and packing (Hardback)

Please forward orders and remittance to:  
The Public Relations Department  
The Rugby Football League  
180 Chapeltown Road  
Leeds LS7 4HT



# WANTED! WANTED! WANTED!

## AGENTS FOR THE HEADINGLEY 10p POOL

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- ★ Drawn every Tuesday in the Promotions Office in the Pavilion Car Park.
- ★ All agents receive commission.
- ★ All winning cheques sent out automatically.
- ★ Results sheets available each week from the Pools Office.
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### A LIST OF A RECENT WEEK'S WINNERS

1st Prize £100	Agent
8300 — D. Proctor, 73 Beck Hill Approach, Leeds 7	(K. Lockwood)
2nd Prize £50	
2932 — P. N. Smith, 10 Ramshead Close, Leeds 14	(D. G. Fox)
3rd Prize £50	
10482 — Mrs. S. Robinson, 8 Alderton Crescent, Leeds 17	(H. Falkingham)
4th Prize £50	
9489 — Mrs. A. Stephens, 2 Raynell Approach, Leeds 16	(P. G. Glover)
5th Prize £20	
12136 — Mrs. B. Bartlam, 14 Armley Grange Mount, Leeds 12	(W. E. Wright)

Souvenirs available from the Promotions Office in the Pavilion Car Park :

The New Club Sweaters ...	£9.50	Bar Scarves ...	£1.95
Bob Hats ...	£1.90	Crew Bags ...	£5.25
Leeds Rugby Mugs ...	70p	Holdall ...	£6.00
Metal Badges ...	50p	'T' Shirts ...	£2.95
Club Ties ...	£3.50	Club Patch ...	65p
Printed Scarves ...	£2.00	Club Pendant ...	60p
Woven Scarves ...	£3.00	Babies Fun Bibs ...	80p
Club Key Ring ...	50p	Men's Fun Briefs ...	£1.25
Club Pennants ...	£1.00	Ladies' Fun Knickers ...	£1.25
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Plastic Belts ...	50p	Leeds Replica Jersey—Boys	£9.00
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Stones Bitter and Bass Dark Mild

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Lunches available Mon.—Fri., 12 noon to 2 p.m.  
Best wishes to Leeds R.L.F.C.

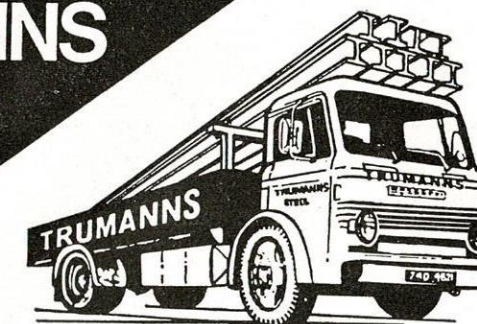
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Lunches available Monday to Friday  
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### Good wishes to the Leeds Rugby League

Team for season

1982/83 from

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37 WATERLOO ROAD  
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Best wishes to Leeds R.L.F.C.

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# THE COMPLETE **A-Z** OF LEEDS R.L.F.C.

## **H** (PART TWENTY-FOUR)

### HIGH SCORING

Leeds biggest victory is easily the one gained on 12th April, 1913, when they scored 24 tries in defeating Coventry 102—0.

Leeds' biggest away wins are 51—0 success at Doncaster in February 1973 — the last occasion the clubs met, incidentally — and the 51—9 triumph at Blackpool in September 1972, in a first round Players Trophy tie.

Below are Leeds' highest scores in all classes of football :

#### LEAGUE (Home)

102—0 v COVENTRY, April 1913

#### LEAGUE (Away)

51—0 v DONCASTER, February 1973

Challenge Cup : LEEDS 49 v OLDHAM 2, 1971

Yorkshire Cup : LEEDS 64 v HUDDERSFIELD 17, 1957

Floodlit Trophy : LEEDS 47 v BRAMLEY 11, 1979

Championship Play-off : LEEDS 47 v HULL K.R. 5, 1970

Premiership : LEEDS 28 v CASTLEFORD 8, 1975

Players Trophy : 51—9 v BLACKPOOL (A), September 1972

Also listed below is every Leeds score of 40 points or more :

1908-09 : LEEDS 56 BARRY 0	1925-26 : LEEDS 61 BRADFORD 3
1909-10 : LEEDS 43 BRAMLEY 0	LEEDS 60 KEIGHLEY 24
1911-12 : LEEDS 41 BRAMLEY 0	1926-27 : LEEDS 44 BRADFORD 3
LEEDS 46 KEIGHLEY 5	1928-29 : LEEDS 49 CASTLEFORD 0
1912-13 : LEEDS 44 YORK 0	BRAMLEY 5 LEEDS 55
LEEDS 102 COVENTRY 0	(At Headingley)
1914-15 : LEEDS 62 KEIGHLEY 5	1929-30 : BRADFORD 13 LEEDS 41
1916-17 : LEEDS 52 HUDDERSFIELD 0	LEEDS 43 WAKEFIELD 3
1917-18 : LEEDS 44 HULL 0	1930-31 : LEEDS 42 BRADFORD 10
LEEDS 52 HALIFAX 3	LEEDS 52 BRAMLEY 5
1918-19 : HALIFAX 6 LEEDS 42	LEEDS 49 BATLEY 8
LEEDS 45 HUNSLET 10	1931-32 : KEIGHLEY 4 LEEDS 40
1919-20 : LEEDS 44 MILLOM 5	LEEDS 75 BRADFORD 18
(Northern Union Cup)	LEEDS 43 BARROW 10
1921-22 : LEEDS 42 FEATHERSTONE 3	1934-35 : LEEDS 51 FEATHERSTONE 12
LEEDS 41 KEIGHLEY 2	1935-36 : ACTON AND WILLESSEN 5
1922-23 : LEEDS 44 BRADFORD 2	LEEDS 54
1923-24 : LEEDS 52 BRADFORD 3	1936-37 : BRAMLEY 10 LEEDS 46
LEEDS 40 BRAMLEY 0	LEEDS 68 BATLEY 5
(Rugby League Cup)	LEEDS 53 NEWCASTLE 5
1924-25 : LEEDS 44 WARRINGTON 5	1937-38 : LEEDS 56 FEATHERSTONE 8
1925-26 : LEEDS 56 BRAMLEY 10	LEEDS 60 BRAMLEY 5

1938-39 : FEATHERSTONE 4 LEEDS 43	1968-69 : LEEDS 43 BRADFORD 9
(Yorkshire Cup)	LEEDS 63 BATLEY 11
1942-43 : LEEDS 40 HULL 0	1969-70 : LEEDS 44 HALIFAX 6
1946-47 : LEEDS 43 KEIGHLEY 10	(Yorkshire Cup)
1947-48 : LEEDS 40 KEIGHLEY 10	LEEDS 45 HUDDERSFIELD 3
LEEDS 46 YORK 2	LEEDS 40 DEWSBURY 7
1948-49 : LEEDS 41 YORK 8	LEEDS 45 WHITEHAVEN 10
1949-50 : LEEDS 63 YORK 3	(Play-off)
LEEDS 40 FEATHERSTONE 2	LEEDS 47 HULL K.R. 5
1950-51 : LEEDS 46 WAKEFIELD 12	(Play-off)
1951-52 : LEEDS 43 BRAMLEY 2	1970-71 : BRADFORD 10 LEEDS 49
LEEDS 44 HULL K.R. 14	LEEDS 50 FEATHERSTONE 13
(Challenge Cup)	LEEDS 48 WARRINGTON 8
1952-53 : LEEDS 56 KEIGHLEY 7	LEEDS 49 OLDHAM 2
LEEDS 42 DONCASTER 11	(Challenge Cup)
1953-54 : LEEDS 45 DONCASTER 10	SALFORD 4 LEEDS 42
LEEDS 43 WARRINGTON 14	LEEDS 44 WHITEHAVEN 5
LEEDS 56 HULL K.R. 5	1971-72 : LEEDS 49 OLDHAM 12
WAKEFIELD 5 LEEDS 46	LEEDS 44 KEIGHLEY 3
LEEDS 48 CASTLEFORD 14	LEEDS 59 WORKINGTON 5
LEEDS 44 BATLEY 5	LEEDS 40 LEIGH 2
1954-55 : LEEDS 50 BATLEY 6	(Play-off)
LEEDS 48 WAKEFIELD 14	1972-73 : LEEDS 51 DONCASTER 5
LEEDS 57 HULL K.R. 13	BLACKPOOL 9 LEEDS 51
1955-56 : LEEDS 46 DONCASTER 10	(Players Trophy)
1956-57 : BRADFORD 14 LEEDS 40	LEEDS 58 WIGAN 3
WARRINGTON 7 LEEDS 42	DONCASTER 0 LEEDS 51
LEEDS 51 HULL K.R. 5	LEEDS 45 BRAMLEY 8
1957-58 : LEEDS 68 BLACKPOOL 6	(Play-off)
LEEDS 52 BARROW 12	1973-74 : LEEDS 46 OLDHAM 2
LEEDS 55 BRAMLEY 10	LEEDS 48 LEIGH 5
(Yorkshire Cup)	1974-75 : LEEDS 49 NEW HUNSLET 10
1958-59 : LEEDS 64 HUDDERSFIELD 17	(Players Trophy)
LEEDS 59 LIVERPOOL 20	LEEDS 52 HALIFAX 2
1959-60 : YORK 9 LEEDS 44	HALIFAX 2 LEEDS 45
1960-61 : LEEDS 53 DONCASTER 6	1976-77 : LEEDS 40 BATLEY 6
1961-62 : LEEDS 46 HULL K.R. 13	(Challenge Cup)
(Yorkshire Cup)	LEEDS 56 OLDHAM 10
DONCASTER 10 LEEDS 46	1977-78 : LEEDS 40 DEWSBURY 11
1962-63 : LEEDS 55 DEWSBURY 2	1978-79 : LEEDS 47 BRAMLEY 11
1965-66 : LEEDS 40 BRAMLEY 4	(Floodlit Trophy)
(Yorkshire Cup)	LEEDS 49 LEIGH 6
1966-67 : HUNSLET 12 LEEDS 42	1980-81 : LEEDS 47 YORK 8
1967-68 : DONCASTER 5 LEEDS 45	(Yorkshire Cup)
LEEDS 50 DONCASTER 0	1981-82 : YORK 13 LEEDS 44

30 different clubs have suffered such a heavy defeat against Leeds, including now defunct clubs Barry, Coventry, Acton and Willesden and Newcastle, plus Liverpool City (now Huyton) and amateurs Millom. Bramley have conceded 40 points, or more, to Leeds on 12 occasions.





# M'EWAN-YOUNGER LIMITED

## Festive Holiday Prize Quiz

Today's posers will help to clear your head from the aftermath of Christmas cheer and the New Year. Here are the questions :

1. When Britain beat France at Wigan in November 1957, there were five Oldham players in the team. Name any three ?
2. For which player did Oldham break the transfer record in 1958-59 season ?
3. Four Oldham players represented British Colts last season, Name any two ?
4. Identify this player: He began his career with Whitehaven and went on the 1958 tour, joining St. Helens in 1959. He helped Saints to a Cup win in 1961, winning the Lance Todd Trophy. He played in Australia for a spell, returning to Whitehaven in 1970. His son is currently on Whitehaven's transfer list ?
5. Which Workington Town players topped the try and goal scoring charts in 1981-82?
6. Which former Leeds player was among the top five drop-goal kickers last season ?

Answers to : **MIKE LANCASTER, McEWAN-YOUNGER LTD  
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The first ten all correct answers opened on Friday, 7th January, 1983 will receive a McEwan-Younger Calendar for 1983 with the sponsor's compliments.

### ANSWERS TO PRIZE QUIZ No. 9

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Tony Cooke (Leigh 1981, Warrington 1982) | 4. Terry Day, Ron Wileman, Kevin Harkin      |
| 2. Danny Sheehan                            | 5. Jeff Stevenson, Neil Fox, Carl Dooler,    |
| 3. Terry Morgan                             | Bill Kirkbride, Tommy Harris (Coach/Manager) |
|   | 6. Keith Rayne and Neil Hague (39)           |

Prior to today's kick-off Mr. John Campbell, Director McEwan-Younger Ltd, will present Neil Hague with the "Younger's Kestrel Lager Man of the Match award" for the Leeds v York match.

Today's "Younger's Kestrel Lager Man of the Match" will be announced shortly before the final hooter.



McEwan-Younger Ltd wish the Directors, Staff, Players and Supporters of Leeds

R.L.F.C. a Very Happy New Year, with every success during 1983.



Garry Riley, Area Sales Manager, McEwan-Younger Ltd, presents David Heron with the "Younger's Kestrel Lager Man of the Match award" for the Leeds v Bramley game. Looking on is Mr. Jack Myerscough, the Leeds Football Chairman.



## OLDHAM'S RECORD UNDER TWO DIVISIONS

	Division	P	W	D	L	For	Agst	Position
1973-74	... First	30	12	1	17	341	494	13th (Relegated)
1974-75	... Second	26	19	0	7	406	223	3rd (Promoted)
1975-76	... First	30	11	1	18	380	490	12th
1976-77	... First	30	7	0	23	322	666	16th (Relegated)
1977-78	... Second	26	17	0	9	419	325	6th
1978-79	... Second	26	10	1	15	297	435	9th
1979-80	... Second	26	19	3	4	513	276	3rd (Promoted)
1980-81	... First	30	7	2	21	362	563	16th (Relegated)
1981-82	... Second	32	30	0	2	734	276	1st (Promoted)

## OLDHAM'S ATTENDANCE AVERAGE

1976-77	...	2,051	1978-79	...	1,207	1980-81	...	3,220
1977-78	...	1,785	1979-80	...	2,367	1981-82	...	2,395

## A NEW RULING

by BRIAN BATTY, *Daily Mail*

It is no surprise to me that there has been a mixed reception to the decision to introduce the sin bin system on 1st January.

So far all we've had to judge this type of punishment for players is during the recent Test series between Great Britain and Australia. A total of six players — two in the First and four in the Third Test — have had a taste of the cooler. They can be sent there by the referee for a period of either five or ten minutes but a lot of people are quite right in asking whether we've taken the right step.

The system might go down well in Australia, New Zealand and France but I have my doubts at the moment and I know some of the Sydney pressmen on tour were not happy about the method. We have to consider whether we will get more feuds and brawling between players if they feel the referee is going to send them off for a short spell rather than the rest of the game. I think the referees are being put on the spot by having to decide between the different

degrees of trouble caused by the players.

The prospect of going off for the remainder of the game meant that players knew they were probably going to cost their team the points and winning money if they offended. Now they may feel it worth taking the chance of cracking an opponent and trying to escape serious punishment, whereas before the risk involved was too great.

I think perhaps Peter Smethurst, Oldham's experienced assistant coach and a former player with Oldham, Swinton, Salford, Leigh and Wigan, summed up the situation perfectly. "The rule will be abused and it is a thin line between the vicious and the not-so-vicious foul", he said.

There is no question that with the sin bin we will have shorter queues at the League's disciplinary committee meetings every month. But I hope this is not at the expense of the games which a lot of people fear may become ruined with the wrong sort of action.

## THE TEAM TO BEAT THE AUSSIES?

Looking through the most welcome fourth volume of Ken Dalby's "Headingley Story", those of us too young to remember the really old days will be thinking just how good were those great stars of the 1930's, Eric Harris, Vic Hey, Stanley Brogden, Jim Brough and the others? Coming closer to our own time, we consider the legend of Arthur Clues — was he really better than the great Australians who have recently devastated our club and representative sides?

It is impossible to imagine that any selection of present day British players could have beaten the 1982 Kangaroos. To go further, for all of the greatness of the 1958, 1962 and 1970 British Lions which were victorious in Australia, it is doubtful if any of those teams would have done the trick either. Surely we have just been privileged to watch the greatest Rugby team of all time.

However, by stretching the imagination a little, it is possible that a composite team of Great Britain players of the last 25 years or so could be found which might give the present World Champions quite a game. This selection may not find universal approval but it would give the Aussies quite a game.

1. Paul Charlton (Workington and Salford)
2. Billy Boston (Wigan)
3. Eric Ashton (Wigan)
4. Neil Fox (Wakefield)
5. John Atkinson (Leeds)
6. Roger Millward (Hull K.R.)

7. Alex Murphy (St. Helens/Leigh/Warrington)
8. Alan Prescott (St. Helens)
9. Mike Stephenson (Dewsbury)
10. Brian McTigue (Wigan)
11. Dick Huddart (St. Helens)
12. Mal Reilly (Castleford)
13. Derek Turner (Oldham and Wakefield)

Looking at that side one wonders if anyone could beat them, assuming, that is, they were all at the peak of their form which, of course, several weren't for very long or consistently. We must remember that many of the successful 1962 Tour Party were in that list, yet were part of the side thrashed by the 1963 Australians. Equally, the victorious 1970 Lions were to fall from grace in the World Cup in this country that same autumn.

The secret of the present Australians is, surely, consistency and teamwork; it was impossible to pick out the stars. Or were they all stars? If one had to pick an eclectic Australian team of the same period, how many of the present Australian side would get in? They had no players like Gasnier, Eadie, Fulton or Beetson — or maybe they were all of that standard.

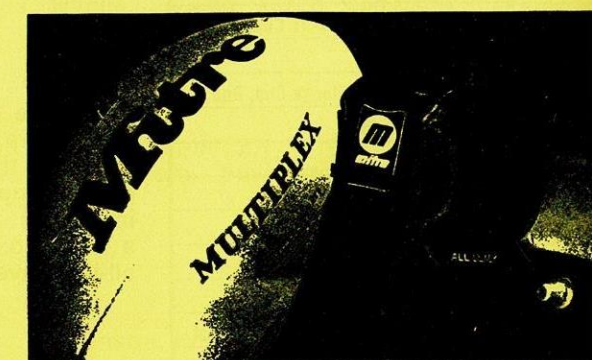
Anyway if they could meet that Great Britain side of mine, we'd know just how good they really were! Alas, we can only play that match in the imagination.

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LEEDS 25—10 HULL KINGSTON ROVERS

## 10 YEARS AGO

WIGAN 11—8 LEEDS  
T—Dyl, Parker. G—Clawson.

## 15 YEARS AGO

LEEDS 28—4 HULL  
T—Atkinson (2), Shoebottom (2). G—Risman (6), Seabourne (2).

## 25 YEARS AGO

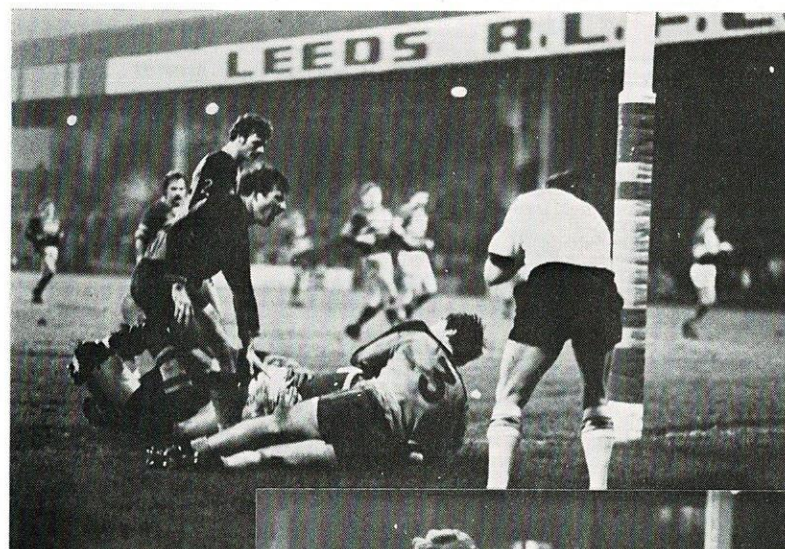
OLDHAM 17-10 LEEDS  
T—Hemingway, Garside. G—Jones (2).

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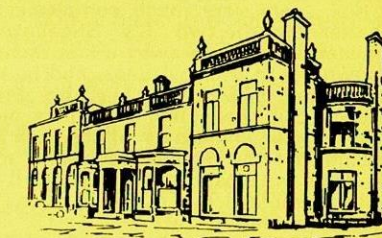
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## Leeds Greats of the Recent Past

### No. 19 — KEITH HEPWORTH

Leeds made a poor start to season 1971-72, going down to heavy away defeats at Wigan and Salford and losing the Yorkshire Cup by forfeit. Things changed however when Keith Hepworth joined the club in October to resume his famous partnership with Alan Hardisty who had joined Leeds in the close season. Leeds went from strength to strength, finishing as Champions and rather unlucky losers at Wembley for the second year running.

Hardisty and Hepworth were a great combination still, though both were reaching the veteran stage. At Castleford they had piloted their club to three successive victories in the B.B.C.2 Floodlit Competition and to two successive Wembley wins. In the second of these matches, when Wigan were the losers, Hepworth was considered by many to be the outstanding player on the field but was not awarded the Lance Todd Trophy. But then mistakes are sometimes made, never more so than when Bev Risman was denied that honour two years earlier against Wakefield.

Keith Hepworth was an outstanding member of the touring party to Australia in 1970 making the scrum-half spot his own for the Test Series ahead of Barry Seabourne. His tremendous workrate both on attack and defence ideally complemented the more delicate skills of Alan Hardisty and Roger Millward at both club and international level. Passing was not Hepworth's strong suit, most unusual, this, for such a fine scrum-half, nor was he a great kicker of the ball, but few passed him. The two "H's" were very much complementary in skill and great arguments ranged as to whether they were better than the two "S's" Shobottom and Seabourne who they replaced at Leeds. Hepworth had the misfortune to give away a first minute try in the 1972 Wembley final, his clearing kick being charged down by St. Helens' Rees, and he missed Leeds' revenge win in the Championship Final of the following week. However, he was to continue for some years to play a leading part in the fortunes of the Leeds club, collecting a winners medal in the 1973 John Player Final and the White Rose Trophy as the outstanding player of the match in the 1973 Yorkshire Cup Final. He seemed to reserve his best games for the biggest occasions and always shone against his old club, as so many players do.

Keith was badly missed in April 1975 when Leeds lost at Wigan to Warrington in the Challenge Cup Semi-final but returned to the Premiership triumph over St. Helens in the next month on the same ground.

In 165 games with Leeds he scored 34 tries and after leaving the club went on to provide great service to both Hull and Bramley.



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