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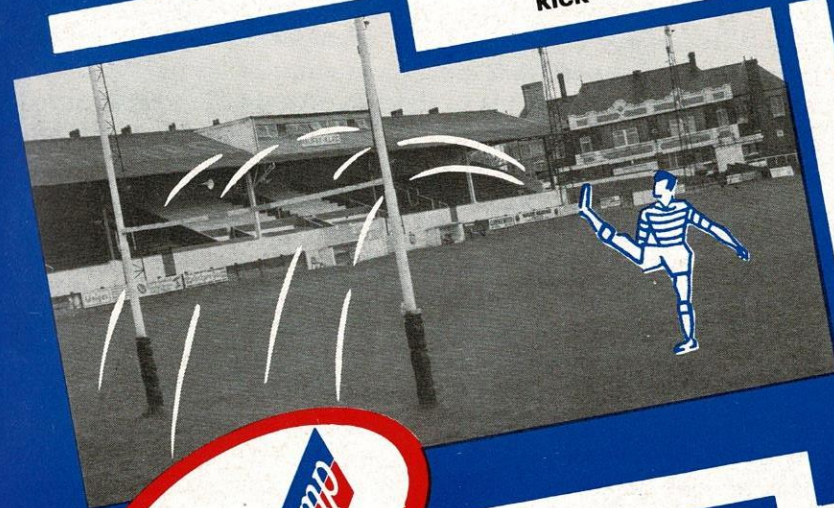
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# HALIFAX



## OLDHAM

Sunday 1st September 1985  
KICK OFF 3.00 p.m.



**Slalom Lager**  
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CHAMPIONSHIP

OFFICIAL  
PROGRAMME **40p**



# HALIFAX

## Rugby League Football Club Ltd

Reg. Office: The Pavilion, Thrum Hall, Halifax HX1 4TL  
Telephone Halifax 61026

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Club colours — Blue & white hooped jerseys, white shorts

## Today's Opponents OLDHAM

It is just five months since today's opponents, Oldham, were last at Thrum Hall in a Division One encounter. That match on April 5th ended in dramatic fashion. With the score standing at 6-6, Oldham winger Pat Mitchell, on loan at the time from Leeds, had raced clear and seemed a certain scorer, only for Halifax's scrum-half Bob Hudson to catch him inches short and bring off a brilliant cover tackle. Then, with seconds of the match remaining, Hudson and Keith Neller combined to put South African winger Cliff Brown away. Brown sensationally skipped through the remaining Oldham defence to give Halifax the victory.

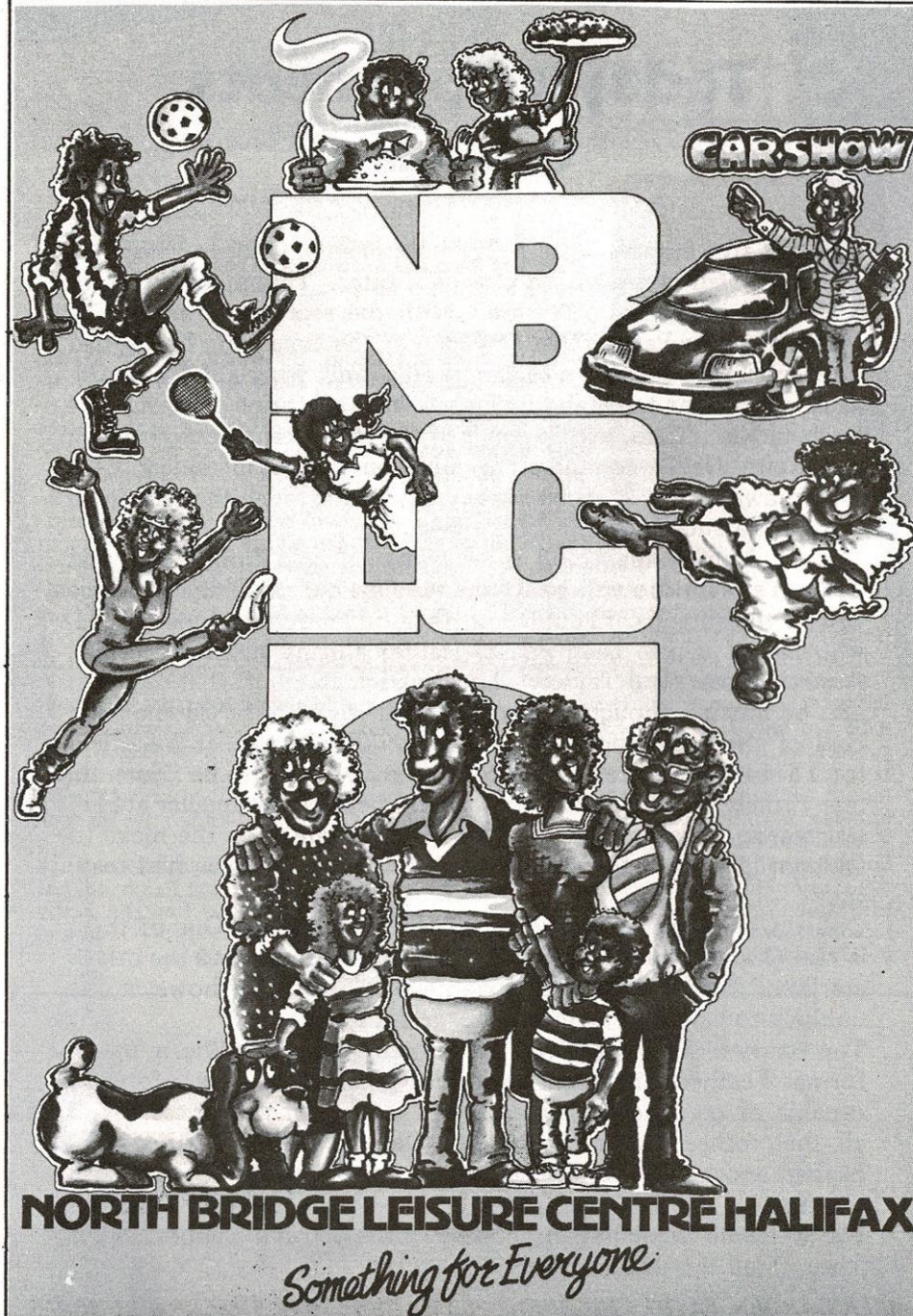
Today's Halifax team will show many changes from April, and Oldham's team too will be different. One certain Oldham change will be the absence of Paul Dixon, then on loan from Huddersfield, who has of course been one of Halifax's many summer recruits. Australian star Paul Taylor, who played at stand-off that day, will also be missing, though he has been replaced with the signing from Hull of the experienced David Topliss. Topliss was at Wakefield for 13 seasons before moving to Hull in 1980, where he figured in many finals. His first team appearances became less regular at Hull last season — he was not in the Wembley team — so the move to Oldham gives him the chance to re-establish a regular first team spot.

Oldham have also recruited three new Australians. One of them is Mal Graham who starred with Hunslet last season, and the others are David Liddiard and Garry Warneke. These three, however, are unlikely to have arrived in time for today's game.

Top forward Andy Goodway has now moved on to Wigan, but in former Featherstone hero David Hobbs, Oldham have a forward capable of creating similar problems to opposing defences. With all their other stars still available, Oldham will be confident of having another good season after finishing 1984-85 in fifth position.

We welcome the Oldham players, officials and supporters to Thrum Hall this afternoon.





## Club Honours

Championship Play-off winners: 1906-07, 1964-65

Runners up: 1952-53, 1953-54, 1955-56, 1965-66

Challenge Cup winners: 1902-03, 1903-04,  
1930-31, 1938-39

Runners up: 1920-21, 1940-41, 1941-42, 1948-49,  
1953-54, 1955-56

Yorkshire Cup Winners: 1908-09, 1944-45, 1954-55,  
1955-56, 1963-64

Runners up: 1905-06, 1907-08, 1941-42, 1979-80

John Player Trophy winners: 1971-72

## Club Records

Attendance: 29,153 v Wigan, March 1959

Record Victory: 78-8 v Hunslet (away) 1972-73

Record Defeat: 64-0 v Wigan (away) 1921-22

Most goals in a season: 147 Tuss Griffiths 1955-56

Most tries in a season: 48 John Freeman 1956-57

Most points in a season: 297 Tuss Griffiths 1955-56

Most goals in a match: 14 Bruce Burton v Hunslet 1972-73

Most tries in a match: 8 Keith Williams v Dewsbury 1957-58

Most points in a match: 31 Bruce Burton v Hunslet 1972-73

Most goals in a career: 1,028 Ronnie James

Most tries in a career: 290 John Freeman

Most points in a career: 2,191 Ronnie James

Most career appearances: 482 Stan Keilty

Life members

A. BROWN, J. P. FEATHER, J. R. HARGREAVES, K. HARGREAVES,  
E. LINGARD, S. WHITE, D. PILLING



# Chairman's Chat



At last, rugby time again. I should like to welcome you all back to Thrum Hall for yet another exciting 1st Division season, and look forward again to seeing the superb rugby we were all treated to last year. Remember the games against St Helens, Wigan, Bradford Northern and many more? Will we ever forget the magic of Ron Ryan and Mike Hagan, indeed the excellent displays by the whole squad (Aussie & English) that brought us to our feet time and again throughout the season. This quality of rugby had not been seen at Thrum Hall for many a year but I am sure that with our new squad we can carry on where we left off and provide you all with the very best entertainment in the game.

Today it is my pleasure to receive visitors Oldham and extend a true Halifax welcome to their fans, players and directors, especially my old pal Frank Myler. Since Franks appointment as General Manager last year, Oldham have again become one of the games leading clubs and I am sure todays game will be yet another "humdinger" in the great tradition of games between our two sides.

The close season has been hectic to say the least as those of you who have been following the reports in the press will know. While President David Brook was in Australia signing the very best players available, the directors brought about some excellent English signings, blending experience with youth. Mick Scott from Wigan, Gary Stephens from Leigh, Brenden White from York, exciting newcomer Paul Dixon from Huddersfield and amateurs Dobeck, Moore and Clayforth from Redhill Castleford. When you add these to our existing squad and Aussies Heugh, Robinson and Kilroy, who David will be telling you all about, I think that we will have one of the strongest teams in Division One.

A short time ago I launched the "500" Club, details of which are printed elsewhere in this programme, and the response has been fantastic. As membership is limited strictly to 500, I do urge those who intend to join to do so today, it is not just a very good lottery with over £26,000 in prizes but will provide the club with much needed cash to enable us to carry out our plan to make Halifax the greatest team in the land.

Up the Blue and Whites  
Yours in sport,  
STAN ACKROYD  
Chairman

## Odds and Ends

**CALLING OLDHAM FANS.** The Halifax Past Players Association are keen to make contact with former players from the Oldham area. If there are any Oldham fans here today who know the whereabouts of any former players who appeared for Halifax, the Association would be most grateful to be put in touch with them.

Meanwhile an attempt is being made to compile records of all players who have ever played for the Halifax club. Information needed includes the player's birthplace, birthdate, playing weight and height. Such information is needed for players like Steve Whitmore (1977-78), Brian Lord (1967-68), Welshman Malcolm Price (1968-69), Jack Keith (1959-60), Alan Jarman (1957-61), Peter Fearis (1954-55) and Tom Greenwood (1945-46), all of whom had connections with Oldham, plus Anthony Mundy (1947-48) who came from Oldham St Mary's, Billy Webb (1949-50) from Higginshaw, and Bernard Mitchell (1945-48), also from Oldham A.R.L.

Halifax fans can help too if they can remember a player called R. Marsden, a trialist who appeared as a centre in a home match with Doncaster in October 1958. Enquiries to date have failed even to reveal his first name.

**OPEN RUGBY.** In addition to the September edition of this glossy Rugby League magazine, which is now available from the Souvenir Shop, there have been two other editions since the end of last season. Copies for both May and June are still available (80p) from the Souvenir Shop. The June issue was a review of the 1984-85 season.

**COACH TRAVEL** to Halifax's away matches will again be supplied by the Supporters' Club this season. Compare their prices before you travel by other means, and bear in mind that any profits made go towards the purchase of new players for Halifax R.L.F.C. For coach bookings, phone Halifax 69692.

**VIDEO TAPES** of Halifax's home matches for last season are now available for sale, in both V.H.S. and Beta formats, for just £10. Take this once-only opportunity to have a perfect record of some of those brilliant players who represented the Thrum Hallers last season. Most matches were still available from the Souvenir Shop at the time of writing.

**THE 1985-86 HALIFAX R.L.F.C. DIARY** is now available. Complete with photographs and records of last season's players, it cost just 50p.

**SUPPORTERS' CLUB MEMBERSHIP** can be renewed today for the same price as the last two seasons, £1. This includes a free diary (value 50p) in addition to the opportunity to travel to away matches at reduced rates and the opportunity to borrow video-tapes of Halifax matches. Try to support Supporters' Club ventures whenever possible - last season profits helped pay for the services of the three new Halifax R.L.F.C. signings from Redhill, Castleford.



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3. TONY ANDERSON\*
4. GRAHAM GARROD
5. EDDIE RIDDLESSEN

**Half Backs**

6. CHRIS ANDERSON\*
7. GARY STEPHENS

**Forwards**

8. GRAHAM BEEVERS
9. SEAMUS McCALLION
10. BRENDAN WHITE
11. MICK SCOTT
12. PAUL DIXON
13. STEVE BOND

**Substitutes**

14. MALCOLM AGAR
15. NEIL JAMES

*Red & White Hooped Shirts  
Blue Shorts*

**Full Back**

1. ALAN TAYLOR

**Threequarters**

2. IAN BIRKBY
3. DES FOY
4. MICK PARRISH
5. TOM NADIONE

**Half Backs**

6. DAVID TOPLISS
7. PADDY KIRWIAN

**Forwards**

8. WALLY JONES
9. PAUL LOWNDES
10. MICK MORGAN
11. DAVID HOBBS
12. TONY MORRISON
13. TERRY FLANAGAN

**Substitutes**

- 14.
- 15.

**Referee:**

P. VOLANTE (Batley)

**Touch Judges:**

D. BOOTH — Gold flag  
(Huddersfield)

W.J. HARGREAVES  
(Huddersfield) —  
Cerise flag

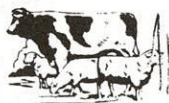
\*denotes Australian



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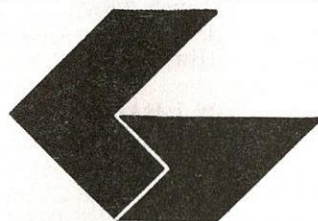
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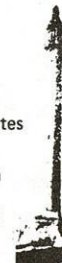
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## The New Faces

No. 1 – MICK SCOTT

<i>Full name:</i>	Michael Scott
<i>Birthplace:</i>	Halifax
<i>Birthdate:</i>	23.9.55
<i>Height:</i>	6' 0"
<i>Weight:</i>	14½ st.
<i>Previous Clubs:</i>	Halifax, Wigan (retired)
<i>Married:</i>	Yes
<i>Occupation:</i>	Landlord
<i>Favourite Other Team:</i>	Wigan
<i>Favourite Player(s):</i>	Kevin Tamiti, Knocker Norton
<i>Rugby Hero of Childhood:</i>	Colin Dixon, Johnny Freeman
<i>Favourite Position:</i>	Second Row
<i>Favourite Other Sports:</i>	Football, Drinking
<i>Car:</i>	Datsun Prairie and Fiat Panda
<i>Most Memorable Match:</i>	Beating York, Semi Final Challenge Cup, 1984
<i>Biggest Disappointment:</i>	Being left out at Wembley 1985.
<i>Hardest Tackler faced:</i>	Trevor Skerrett
<i>Hardest Player to Tackle:</i>	All Backs
<i>Favourite Ground:</i>	Central Park, Wigan
<i>Favourite Food:</i>	Steak
<i>Favourite Drink:</i>	Bitter
<i>Favourite Music:</i>	Motown
<i>Favourite TV Show:</i>	Hill Street Blues
<i>Miscellaneous Likes:</i>	Robbing Directors Pockets
<i>Miscellaneous Dislikes:</i>	Losing
<i>Biggest Influence on Career:</i>	Father
<i>Ambition:</i>	To retire next year a rich man.

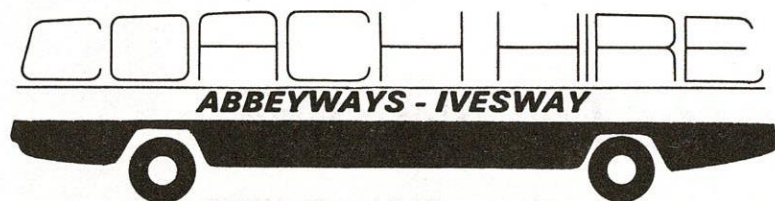
## The New Faces

No. 2 – GARY STEPHENS

<i>Full Name:</i>	Gary Stephens
<i>Birthplace:</i>	Castleford
<i>Height:</i>	5' 5"
<i>Weight:</i>	11 st.
<i>Previous Clubs:</i>	Cas, Wigan, Leigh, Manly
<i>Married:</i>	Yes
<i>Occupation:</i>	Industrial & Domestic Cleaning
<i>Rugby Hero of Childhood:</i>	Alan Hardisty
<i>Favourite Position:</i>	Scrum Half
<i>Favourite Other Sport:</i>	Any
<i>Car:</i>	Granada
<i>Most Memorable Match:</i>	Sydney Grand Final 1976
<i>Biggest Disappointment:</i>	Wembley '84
<i>Most Respected Rival:</i>	All
<i>Hardest Tackler Faced:</i>	Wife
<i>Favourite Ground:</i>	Headingley
<i>Favourite Drink:</i>	Lager
<i>Favourite Music:</i>	Styx, Bruce Springsteen

Welcome also to the other new faces at Thrum Hall – Paul Dixon from Huddersfield, Brendan White from York and the three promising youngsters from Redhill, Castleford – loose forward Sean Clayforth and half-backs Darren Moore and David Dobek. All will be featured on this page in the coming weeks.





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# 1st TEAM FIXTURES 1985/86

## SEPTEMBER

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WED. 4th	WIDNES	(A)	7.30
SUN. 8th	SALFORD	(A)	3.00
SUN. 15th	HUDDERSFIELD (1st Round County Cup)	(H)	3.00

SUN. 22nd	DEWSBURY	(H)	3.00
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SUN. 29th	YORK	(A)	3.30
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## OCTOBER

SUN. 6th	CASTLEFORD	(H)	3.00
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SUN. 13th	HULL	(H)	3.00
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SUN. 20th	FEATHERSTONE R.	(A)	3.30
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SUN. 27th	SALFORD	(H)	3.00
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## NOVEMBER

SUN. 10th	LEEDS	(H)	3.00
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SUN. 17th	WARRINGTON	(A)	3.00
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## DECEMBER

SUN. 8th	WIDNES	(H)	3.00
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SUN. 15th	LEEDS	(A)	3.00
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SUN. 22nd	WIGAN	(H)	3.00
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THU. 26th	BRADFORD N.	(A)	3.30
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SUN. 29th	BRADFORD N.	(H)	3.00
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## JANUARY

WED. 1st	SWINTON	(A)	3.00
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SUN. 5th	ST. HELENS	(H)	3.00
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SUN. 12th	DEWSBURY	(A)	3.30
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SUN. 19th	HULL	(A)	3.00
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SUN. 26th	YORK	(H)	3.00
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## FEBRUARY

SUN. 2nd	HULL K.R.	(H)	3.00
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SUN. 16th	OLDHAM	(A)	3.00
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## MARCH

SUN. 2nd	ST. HELENS	(A)	3.00
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SUN. 9th	SWINTON	(H)	3.00
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SUN. 16th	HULL K.R.	(A)	3.00
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FRI. 28th	CASTLEFORD	(A)	7.30
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MON. 31st	WARRINGTON	(H)	3.00
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## APRIL

SUN. 6th	WIGAN	(A)	3.00
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SUN. 20th	FEATHERSTONE R.	(H)	3.00
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# THE HOME TEAM

## Slalom Lager

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