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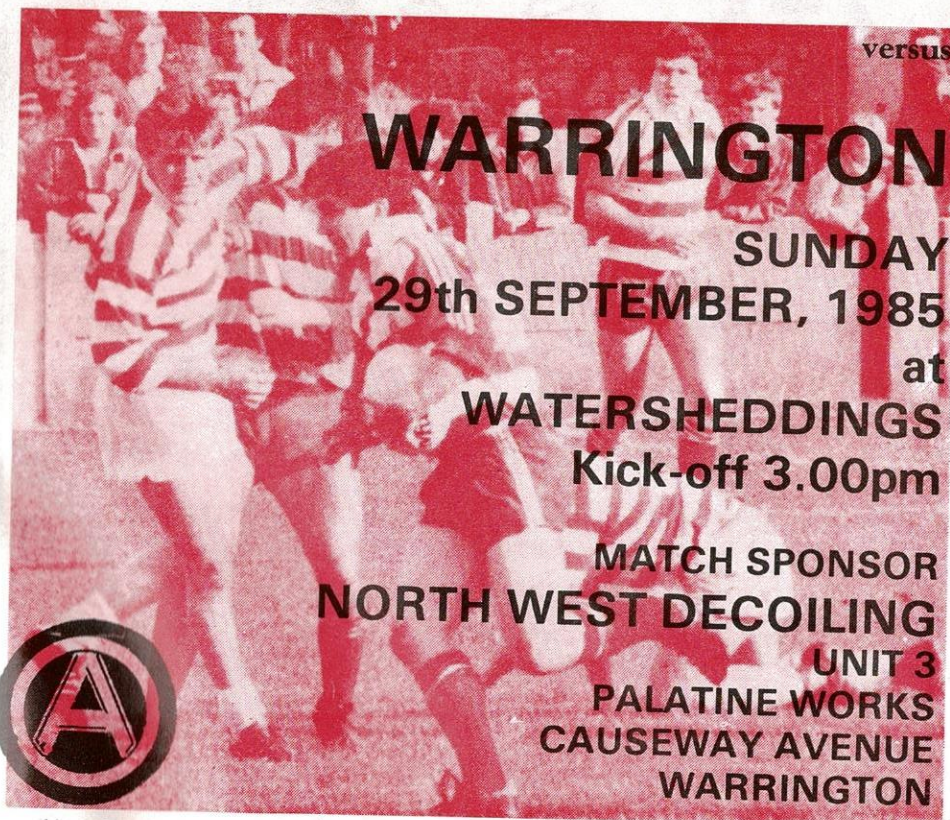
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Kick-off 3.00pm

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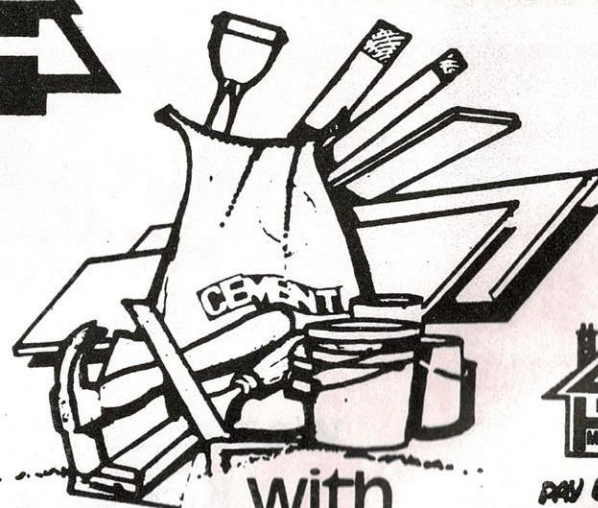


OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 35p



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## OLDHAM RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB OFFICIALS

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**President:** R. Hatton  
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**Vice-Chairman:** R. Ogden  
**Treasurer:** J. Hall  
**Committee:** E. Bayliss, K. Broadbent, M.R. Greenway, R. Ogden, K. Potter, M.A. Richardson, D.A.D. Walton  
**Hon. Architects:** Hall, Needham Associates  
**Hon. Club Solicitor:** A.J. Adler  
**General Manager:** F. Myler  
**Hon. Secretary:** F. Howarth, B.A.  
**Coaching Staff:** B. Gartland

### Professional Playing Staff

A. Alexander, R. Ashton, K. Atkinson, I. Birkby, A. Bishop, B. Caffery, L. Casey, L. Chadwick, C. Chisnall, L. Cook, S. Dobb, J. Edwards, T. Flanagan, D. Foy, C. Hawkyard, D. Hobbs, C. Jones, W. Jones, P. Kirwan, P. Lord, P. Lowndes, A. McCurrie, R. Marsden, M. Morgan, P. Morris, A. Morrison, G. Munro, T. Nadirole, D. Nicholson, S. Ogburn, T. Ogden, G. Owen, M. Parrish, S. Patterson, I. Sanderson, P. Sherman, A. Taylor, M. Taylor, D. Topliss, G. Walczak, M. Worrall.

**Hon. Medical Advisor to the Club:** Dr. D.A.D. Walton  
**Hon. Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeons:** Mr. H. Thompson, Mr. D. Walker  
**Dental Surgeon:** Mr. N. Gibbison  
**Physiotherapist:** Mr. A. Bonnelle : **Asst. Physiotherapist:** Mr. J. Watkins  
**Commercial Managers:** J.B. Bostock, M. Morgan  
**Social Club Manager:** J. Gallagher : **Groundsman:** J. Walker  
**Asst. Groundsman:** W. Caine : **Official Time Keeper:** J. Roscoe

### CLUB RECORDS

Record victory 67-6 against Liverpool City, April 1959  
Record defeat 11-67 by Hull K.R., September 1978  
Record attendance 28,000 v. Huddersfield, February 24th 1912  
Record receipts £9,100 v. Wakefield, 24th February 1980  
Record transfer fee paid £40,000 to Featherstone for David Hobbs, February 1985  
Record transfer fee received  
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 points v. Liverpool City, April 1959  
First game October 21st, 1876 v. Stalybridge  
Highest number of points scored Bernard Ganley, 2,881  
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 and 1981-82  
Rugby League Challenge Cup Winners: 1898-99, 1924-25 and 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, 1933-34, 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 and 1979-80  
Colts Premiership Trophy: 1979-80



## WATERSHEDDINGS SURVEY

WHAT a traumatic early season it has been here at Watersheddings! A draw at Halifax on the opening day of the season, followed by four consecutive defeats, including a Lancashire Cup first-round knockout at Leigh, has not exactly put everyone in the best of spirits.

It has been a worrying time for everyone associated with the club following a succession of cruel blows which began to bite long before the ball was first kicked in earnest.

We already had Alan McCurrie with a six-match ban hanging over from last season and then Colin Hawkyard (shoulder) and Mick Worrall (knee) were seriously hurt in the pre-season build-up.

David Topliss suffered an injury setback while doing a spot of training on his own, and David Hobb's build-up to the season was badly hit by the groin injury he sustained at Halifax towards the end of last season. That was a nasty injury and it badly impeded his training before the start.

Those early blows seemed to set the pattern. We have had the worst run of early-season injuries that many people close to the club can recall and it all came to a head at Hull last Sunday when we fielded the following team: Caffery, Munro, M'Barki, Sherman, M. Taylor, Edwards, Kirwan, Jones, Sanderson, Morgan, Morrison, Marsden, Chisnall. Subs: Atkinson and Cook.

Among the players who were injured were Alan Taylor, Mick Parrish, David Topliss, Paul Lowndes, David Hobbs, Mick Worrall, Colin Hawkyard, John Ogburn, and Terry Flanagan.

McCurrie was joined by Ray Ashton on the suspension list, while there were several several players unavailable for other reasons.

These included Les Chadwick, Des Foy, Leo Casey, Tom Nadiola and Ian Birkby — a massive list of absentees whose numbers would have stretched the best and biggest squad in the league.

In the circumstances the team we fielded at the Boulevard did all right and, as our manager Frank Myler commented upon afterwards, some players at least emerged with plenty of credit despite the 54-12 defeat.

Frank also said: "Let's hope we are getting all our problems over at once at the start of the season". No one will argue with that.

On the brighter side, we are in a position to welcome three Australians to the club in young forward Glen O'Leary, who is coming at his own expense on trial, and the more experienced Mal Graham and Gary Warneki, who could well have gone straight into the senior side today, having flown in on Wednesday.

We welcome all the overseas boys and hope they have a successful and enjoyable season here at Watersheddings. David Liddiard, of course, is still to come. He is still playing with Parramatta in the Sydney play-offs, but we expect him here in about a week or ten days' time.

We have also been in negotiation this week for a seasoned and experienced forward and if the talks were successful he, too, could be making his debut today alongside Graham and Warneki.

Ashton and McCurrie, of course, are now free from suspension and we expect several of last week's walking wounded to be ready for action again. All in all, things might be beginning to change more in our favour.

Colin Hawkyard, for instance, has received a very encouraging report from the surgeon who performed the operation on his shoulder and he has now decided to try again, having returned to very light training in the big build-up to full fitness.

It was also gratifying to learn that Ray Ashton wants to have his name removed from the transfer-list.

Alan Platt has been transferred to Fulham for a five-figure fee and we wish Alan well in his new surroundings.

In the meantime, let's all rally round to give the team on the field the support it needs after a difficult period. In the last few seasons we have started off like a house on fire and faded badly around mid-season before coming again later on.

Let's hope this time all the problems are coming at once and that, when things begin to take off, the club can still enjoy a successful season.

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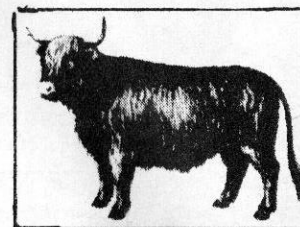
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## FLASHBACK by Sam Shepherd, Senior Referees' Assessor

### Watersheddings problems (1906)

IN the Oldham v Rochdale Hornets game played on October 27th, the touch judge spotted an off-the-ball incident by Oldham and raised his flag. The referee did not notice, and Oldham scored a try. When the touch judge was brought to his attention, he reversed his decision and awarded Rochdale a penalty.

This gave rise to a noisy demonstration by a section of the crowd who threw cinders at the touch judge. The police were called to restore order.

### Referee in trouble (1907)

At the end of the Huddersfield v Broughton Rangers game, there was a demonstration against the referee. He eventually left the ground disguised as a policeman, but as he was not wearing regulation trousers and boots, his disguise was seen through and he was pelted with snowballs.

In the Hunslet v Merthyr Tydfil game, the referee was kicked by a spectator who received a court summons for the offence. In court, after hearing that the man claimed that the kick was accidental and that he had apologised to the referee and shaken hands, the magistrate suggested that the summons be withdrawn. The prosecution agreed.

### Demonstration (1908)

There was trouble at two grounds in September. Widnes were ordered to post warning notices after a demonstration against a referee and were advised to provide a dressing room under the grandstand.

At Huddersfield magistrates court, a youth was fined 10 shillings for throwing stones at the Wigan team's waggonette as they were leaving the ground, injuring a player. The Mayor said that the practice of throwing missiles at football teams or officials must be put a stop to.

### Ground troubles (1911)

On January 21st, after the Runcorn v Oldham game, there was a demonstration against the referee and Oldham players. They were escorted from the field by police and officials.

Runcorn were later fined £30 and advised to erect dressing rooms at the ground.

On January 31st, the N.R.L. considered disturbances after the Barrow v Wigan game. The referee wrote to the committee saying that newspaper reports of trouble after the game were grossly exaggerated. His late departure from the ground was due to the cab hired by the club breaking a spring.



## WELCOME TO WARRINGTON

### BRING ON THE WIRES!

THE famous Warrington club, which played Workington Town on Wednesday in the quarter-final of the Burtonwood Brewery Lancashire Cup, have set out their stall to enjoy a good season this year, and they have done it mainly by strengthening their pack.

Any pack that can include Alan Rathbone, Kevin Tamati, and Les Boyd will take some holding, and with that trio in action there should be no room for faint hearts down Wilderspool way this season.

If they are singing "Waltzing Matilda" in the Warrington dressing room soon it would be no surprise, for the Wires now have their full complement of overseas signings plus a sixth in Kiwi test ace Tamati, whose long-term contract with Widnes, before the Aussie transfer limitation was introduced, provided a loophole for clubs such as Warrington, Wigan, Hull and Hull KR to have six overseas men for this season only.

The Warrington quota of six was reached last week with the arrival at Wilderspool of Australians Bryan Johnson and Mike Lewis.

They join their Aussie countrymen Bob Jackson, Les Boyd, and Phil Blake, plus the fiery Tamati, who signed for Warrington after his successful spell at Widnes.

Jackson is already well known at Wilderspool, of course, because he was there last season, but it won't be long before the other overseas men are just as well known.

Lewis is a 20-year-old utility back, who comes on the recommendation of his Cootamundra coach and former Aussie test prop Les Boyd, who was due to fly in this week and could make his debut today.

Blake, the Manly stand-off, could have played his first game for Warrington in mid-week in the county cup-tie but, if not, he will also be in line for a Watersheddings debut.

Blake is highly rated in Sydney and the Wires believe they will have one of the best half-back partnerships in the league in the Aussie and Andy Gregory, who should not have any complaints that he is playing behind an ordinary pack!

What can one say that has not already been said of Boyd. One of the world's top players, and a forward to be feared, the Aussie is just returning from a hefty suspension and he should prove a great capture for Warrington, both in terms of his strength and ability on the field and his crowd-pulling potential.

Johnson, said to have plenty of pace, comes from the Sydney St. George club. He was a player of the year last season, but he is not returning to Sydney RL and he will be available for Warrington for the entire season with an option for next year thrown in.

Tamati, of course, made his name with Widnes. Like Boyd, he is one of the world's top prop-forwards as he will undoubtedly prove once more in the forthcoming test series against Great Britain.

Rathbone joined Warrington in the summer for a fee reported to be in the region of £40,000, and as Gregory arrived on the Wilderspool scene from Widnes last season, the Wires are putting together a formidable outfit.

Not all their danger men are overseas players, of course. The evergreen Ken Kelly seems to go on and on, while Wires possess two of the best up-and-coming young backs in the game in Forster and Carbert, who are both in the running for Great Britain under-21 honours this season.

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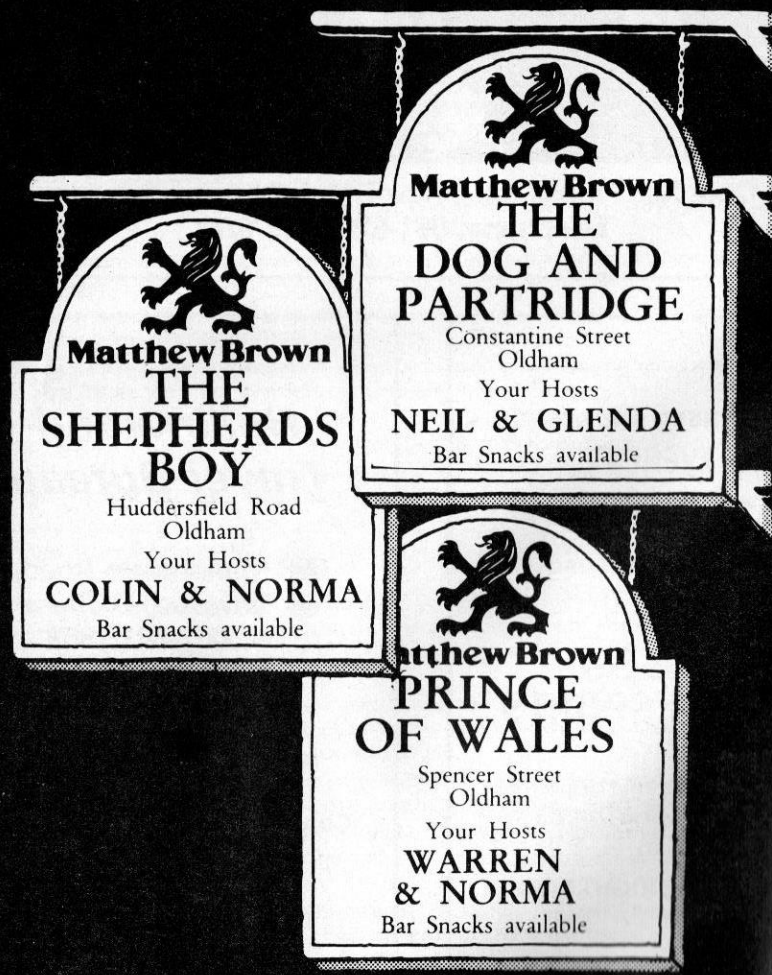
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## BRIAN BATTY Daily Mail

If we needed any reminding that the season is now fully in swing then it comes with the arrival of the game's bible ... Rothman's Rugby League Yearbook 1985-86.

This fine, superbly detailed and documented publication is invaluable for so many people within the game and a great, established favourite with fans in this and other countries.

The fifth edition of the book highlights two major landmarks in League history — the 50th Wembley and the new War of the Roses.

There is a comprehensive review of the Golden Jubilee of Challenge Cup Finals under the famous twin towers, including results of every Wembley campaign and the finalists' teams and scorers.

The inaugural Rodstock War of the Roses encounter is marked by a 20-year survey of Lancashire and Yorkshire teams, together with a register of current players who have gained county honours and details of all previous inter-county meetings.

A statistical analysis of the 1984 Great Britain tour to Australia and New Zealand is another major feature of the 416 page Yearbook, now firmly established as the games' top reference book.

Among the most readable pieces is a review of the coming 11th tour of this country by New Zealand, who first came over in 1907.

If statistics are to your taste then you can feast on a most comprehensive and accurate compilation from the previous domestic season.

The memorable 1984-85 campaign is fully recorded in facts and photographs.

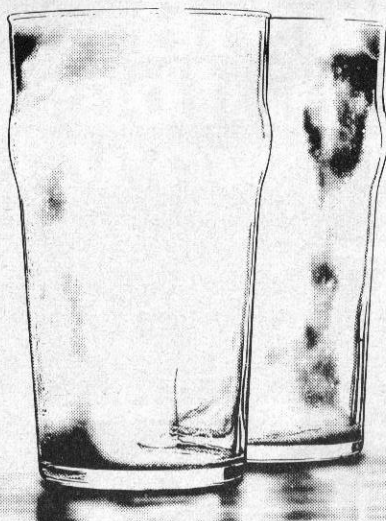
There are altogether 125 photographs while the impact on the game in this country by the overseas imports makes interesting reading in the coverage of the season's major cup tournaments.

And there are more facts and records to delve into thanks to the painstaking efforts of the League's PRO David Howes and Raymond Fletcher of the Yorkshire Post.

The book can be purchased, price £9.95, from leading bookshops or by post, plus £1 for package, from the Rugby Football League, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds LS7 4HT.



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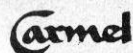
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## SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS

**President:** Mr D. Blackburn. **Chairman:** Mr D. Pilkington. **Vice-Chairman:** Miss A. Collinge. **Treasurer:** Mr T. Heywood. **Secretary:** Mrs J. Pilkington. **Committee Members:** Mrs L. Chadderton, Mrs S. Collinge, Mrs E. Crowther, Mr S. Doran, Mr J. Gallagher, Mrs H. Heywood, Mrs M. Morgan, Mr I. Pilkington, Mr M. Pilkington, Mrs D. Pilkington, Mrs L. Wolstencroft.

The Supporters Club and Committee would like to welcome all the players and the committees and our visitors from Warrington, hoping we have a good, clean and entertaining game. We invite the supporters to visit our Souvenir shop, canteens, and Programme shop, situated at different parts of the ground.

The Souvenir Shop at the Pavilion end of the ground has sweaters, sweatshirts, ties, badges and pens, etc.

The Supporters Club will be running coaches to Featherstone on Sunday 6th October to leave at 2pm. Prices £2.25 adults, £1.60 juniors.

To Salford on Sunday 13th October to leave at 2pm. Prices £2.00 adults, £1.40 juniors. Please ask for details at Canteens or phone the Social Club.

The Supporters Club will be holding a Car Boot Sale on Sunday from 11 am to 2pm on the Social Club car park. Please phone your reservation to 061-624 0368. If booked before the day £3.00, on the day £5.00.

A Jumble Sale will be held in the Social Club on Tuesday 8th October, admission 5p.

Our Rugby Queen Contest will be held on Friday 25th October to commence at 8pm. So any young ladies wishing to enter for the Rugby Queen, will they please contact any Committee member or Canteens at today's match or in the Social Club for entry forms.

The Supporters Club subscriptions are now due. Come and join the Supporters Club membership £1.00 (including diary). Please pay at any canteen. Also to all our Junior Reds, their membership to Mr J. Gallagher in the Social Club.



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11. Kevin Tamati
12. Mike Gregory
13. Alan Rathbone

Subs to be named.



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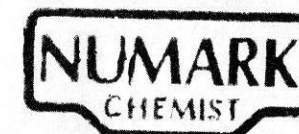
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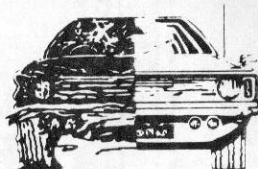
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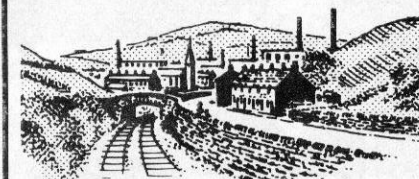
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## OLDHAM R.L.F.C. FIXTURES 1985-6

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES (Kick-off 3.00pm unless otherwise shown)

### 1985

#### SEPTEMBER

1—Halifax	D 12-12	A
4—Swinton (7.30)		H
8—Leeds		H
15—County Cup (1)		
22—Hull		A
29—Warrington		H

#### OCTOBER

6—Featherstone (3.30)		A
13—Salford		A
20—Castleford		H

#### NOVEMBER

3—Bradford (3.30)		A
10—Hull		H
17—Dewsbury (3.30)		A
24—John Player Special (1)		

#### DECEMBER

1—John Player Special (2)		
8—Salford		H
15—Dewsbury		H
22—Hull K.R.		A
26—Widnes		H

### 1986

#### JANUARY

1—Leeds	A
5—Featherstone	H
12—York	H
19—Castleford (3.30)	A
26—St. Helens	H

#### FEBRUARY

2—Warrington	A
9—Silk Cut Challenge Cup (1)	
16—Halifax	H
23—Silk Cut Challenge Cup (2)	

#### MARCH

2—Hull K.R.	H
16—Widnes	A
23—Wigan	H
28—Swinton	A
31—Wigan	A

#### APRIL

6—Bradford	H
13—York (3.30)	A
20—St. Helens	A

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