

38

4

OLDHAM Team Check RUNCORN

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|-----------------------------|
| 1 | MICK BURKE | 1 | TOMMY RAWLINSON |
| 2 | KEITH ATKINSON | 2 | IAN SMITH |
| 3 | DES FOY | 3 | CLIVE HUNTER <i>Booth</i> |
| 4 | CHARLIE McALISTER | 4 | JOHN BOOTH <i>Pojunas</i> |
| 5 | KEVIN MEADOWS | 5 | PAUL DURNIN |
| 6 | PAUL LORD | 6 | KERRY GIBSON <i>Astrall</i> |
| 7 | MIKE FORD | 7 | DAVID CROMPTON |
| 8 | NEIL CLAWSON | 8 | GLYN SHAW |
| 9 | IAN SANDERSON | 9 | STEVE MOYLAN <i>Dooley</i> |
| 10 | HUGH WADDELL | 10 | GEOFF DEAN |
| 11 | PAUL ROUND | 11 | DAVID HUNT <i>My lady</i> |
| 12 | MAL GRAHAM | 12 | TERRY ROSE <i>Daley</i> |
| 13 | GARY WARNECKE | 13 | JOHN COGGER |
| 14 | PETER WALSH | 14 | TBA <i>Prescott</i> |
| 15 | COLIN HAWKYARD | 15 | TBA <i>Middlehurst</i> |

Referee: Mr.K.Dockray (Leeds) Touch Judges: Mr.H.Josephson (Red), Mr.D.Muhl (Orange)

GEORGE HILL



Millplan Kitchens

Scottfield, Ashton Road, Oldham

Phone for FREE colour brochure 061-652 7421 * Flatpack * Assembled * Fitted



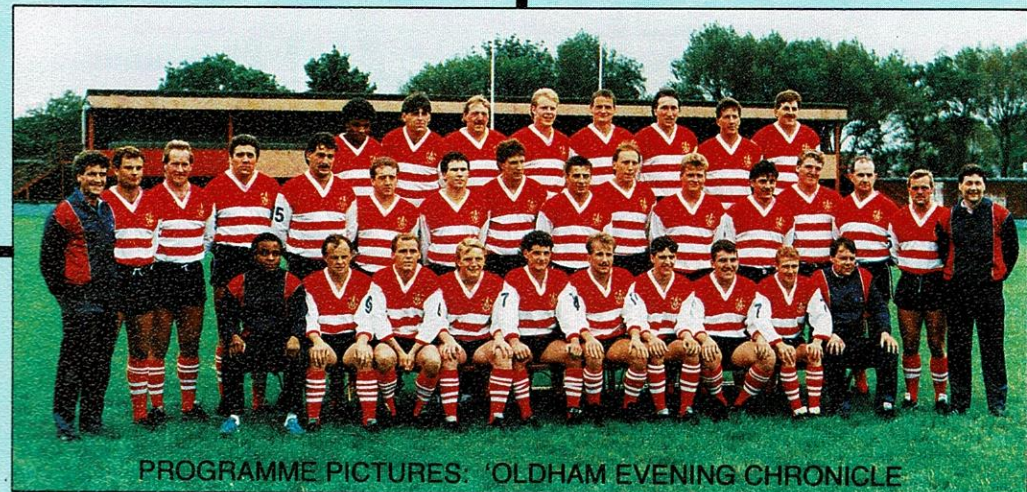
BOLTON Millfield Road, Breightmet, Bolton 384867 SALE Glebelands Road 061-969 7543

OLDHAM

RUGBY · LEAGUE · FOOTBALL · CLUB

TODAY'S MATCH SPONSOR
RIBBLE PACKAGING

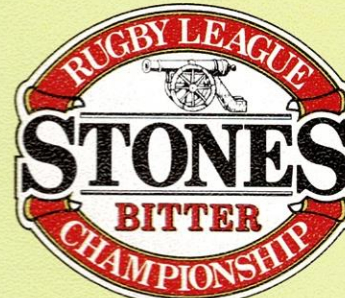
TODAY'S BALL SPONSOR
GODFREY DAVIES RENT-A-UNIT



PROGRAMME PICTURES: 'OLDHAM EVENING CHRONICLE'

TODAY'S PROGRAMME SPONSOR
NORMAN LEISURE

TODAY'S TEAM SPONSOR
WALKER & MARSDEN



OFFICIAL
PROGRAMME 50p

OLDHAM v RUNCORN

STONES BITTER 2ND DIVISION
CHAMPIONSHIP 1987/8
Monday 4th April 1988
KICK-OFF 3.00 P.M.

OUR NEW KIT SUPPLIERS



No.1 MILL
HALLIWELL IND. ESTATE
WAPPING STREET
BOLTON BL1 8DP
ENGLAND

Tel: (0204) 492614

Telex: 946240 C. WEASY G.

Quoting 19016860

**REPLICAS AND KITS SUPPLIED:-
CONTACT RAY HILL, COMMERCIAL DEPT.**

Oldham Rugby League Football Club

THE PAVILION · WATERSHEDDINGS · OLDHAM

Telephone: 061-652 5244 and 061-624 4865

Directors : H. Ashworth, D. Gardner
J. Knox, A.G. Pache

Secretary: Mrs. A. Lees
Administration Manager: E. Bayliss

Coaching Staff : E. Fitzsimons, M. Graham
I. MacCorquodale

Conditioner: O. Rowe

Professional Playing Staff

K. Atkinson, M. Bardsley, I. Bates, L. Casey, C. Chisnall, N. Clawson, J. Edwards,
M. Ford, T. Flanagan, T. Foley, D. Foy, M. Graham, M. Hall, C. Hawkyard,
R. Irving, P. Kirwan, P. Lord, R. Marsden, K. Meadows, A. Morrison, C. Myler,
J. Ogburn, M. Parrish, S. Patterson, S. Peters, P. Round, P. Sherman, I. Sherratt,
P. Walsh, M. Burke, I. Sanderson, H. Waddell, P. Lowndes, T. Naidole.
B. McCarthy, A. Copeland

Hon. Doctor: Dr. Johnson **Dental Surgeon:** Mr N. Gibbison

Hon. Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeons: Mr H. Thompson, Mr D. Walker

Physiotherapist: Mr A. Bonnelle **Asst. Physiotherapist:** Mr J. Watkins

Commercial Manager: R. Hill **Official Timekeeper:** J. Roscoe

Official Sin Bin Man: David Whitehead

Groundsman: R.L. Thomas

CLUB RECORDS

Record Victory: 67-6 v Liverpool City, April, 1959

Record Defeat: 11-67 by Hull K.R., September, 1978

Record Attendance: 28,000 v Huddersfield,
24 February, 1912

Record Receipts: £30,388.70 v Wigan,
4th February, 1987

Record Transfer Fee Paid: £65,000 to
St. Helen's for Paul Round August 1987
and £65,000 for Mike Ford Jan, 1988

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: 21st October, 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, 1956-57

Runners-up: 1906-07, 1907-08, 1908-09, 1921-22,
1954-55

First Division Champions: 1904-05

Second Division Champions: 1963-64, 1981-82

Rugby League Challenge Cup Winners: 1898-99,
1924-25, 1926-27

Runners-up: 1906-07, 1911-12, 1923-24, 1925-26

Lancashire Cup Winners: 1907-08, 1910-11,
1913-14, 1919-20, 1924-25, 1933-34, 1956-57,
1957-58, 1958-59

Runners-up: 1908-09, 1911-12, 1918-19, 1921-22,
1954-55, 1966-67, 1968-69, 1986-87

Lancashire Championship Winners: 1907-08,
1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57, 1957-58

Runners-up: 1908-09, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1919-20,
1923-24, 1954-55

Lancashire Shield Winners: 1975-76, 1979-80

Colts Premiership Trophy: 1979-80

BRIMAUER

CAR SALES

THE TRADE CENTRE
8 BURY ROAD, RADCLIFFE,
TEL 061 723 5309

HARVEY ASHWORTH

MANCHESTER LTD.

Wholesale Butchers

STALL No. 25 26
THE ABATTOIR
RIVER BANK ROAD
MANCHESTER M10
Telephone: 061-223 2097

ELITE PRINTS

ALL PICTURE FRAMES

Bespoke Framers,
Personal
Photographs
Framed, Good Quality
and Equally
Good Price!

Unit 7, Acord Centre, Oldham
Phone: 061-626 3670

OSBORNE

MOTOR COMPANY LIMITED



BEST DEALS ANYWHERE ON NEW
& USED CARS

Roch Valley Way, Rochdale. Tel: 0706-32012

Bradbury's OF OLDHAM

WE'VE GOT THE LOT
UNDER ONE ROOF!

- PLUMBING & HEATING
- IRONMONGERY ● ELECTRICAL
- TOOLS ● FASTENINGS
- GLASS ● SHOWROOM
- HEAVYSIDE BUILDING & TIMBER

Bradbury's

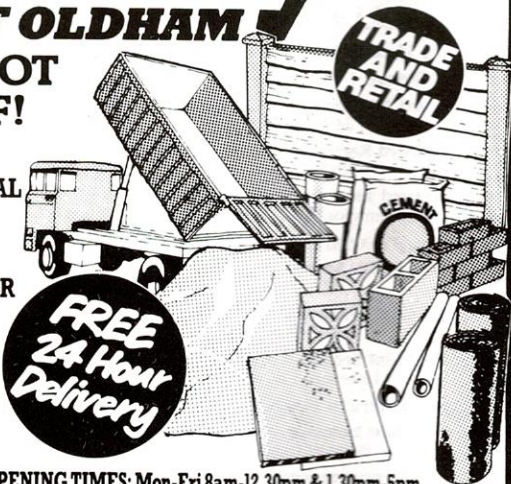
OF OLDHAM
BUILDING MATERIALS SUPPLIES

COLDHURST ST., OLDHAM OL1 2PX

Telephone:

061-624 9481

OPENING TIMES: Mon-Fri 8am-12.30pm & 1.30pm-5pm
Sat 8am-12 noon



FREE
24 Hour
Delivery

TRADE
AND
RETAIL

PLAYERS PROFILE

MIKE FORD



PLAYER PROFILE NO.13

Full Name: Michael Alan Ford
 Nick name: Fordy
 Birthdate: 18.11.65
 Birthplace: Springhead, Oldham
 Marital Status: Single/fiancee Sally Anne
 Occupation: Newsagent
 Car: 1.45 Fiesta
 Fav. TV Show: Minder, Only Fools & Horses, Question of Sport
 Fav. Film: Dirty Dozen
 Fav. Music: Queen, Elton John, Paul McCartney
 Fav. food/drink: Lamb, Vimto
 Fav. reading: Daily Mirror
 Hobbies: Training, golf
 Fav. other sports: Soccer, golf, athletics
 Likes about game: Crown appreciation
 Dislikes: Too many penalties, niggling
 Superstitions: None
 Fav. Ground: Wembley, Sydney Cricket Ground
 Fav. position: scrum-half
 Best Moment: Winning Challenge Cup
 Playing for Eastern
 Being dropped
 Worst Moment:
 Hardest Player to tackle: Phil Ford
 Hardest tackler: Paul Medley
 Fav. all-time player: Brett Kenny

CAREER WITH OLDHAM

Date signed on: 9.1.88
 Debut: v Whitehaven (Div II)
 10.1.88
 Appearances: 12
 Tries: 6
 Goals: 0
 Drop Goals: 1
 Total Points: 25

AUTOGRAPH: —

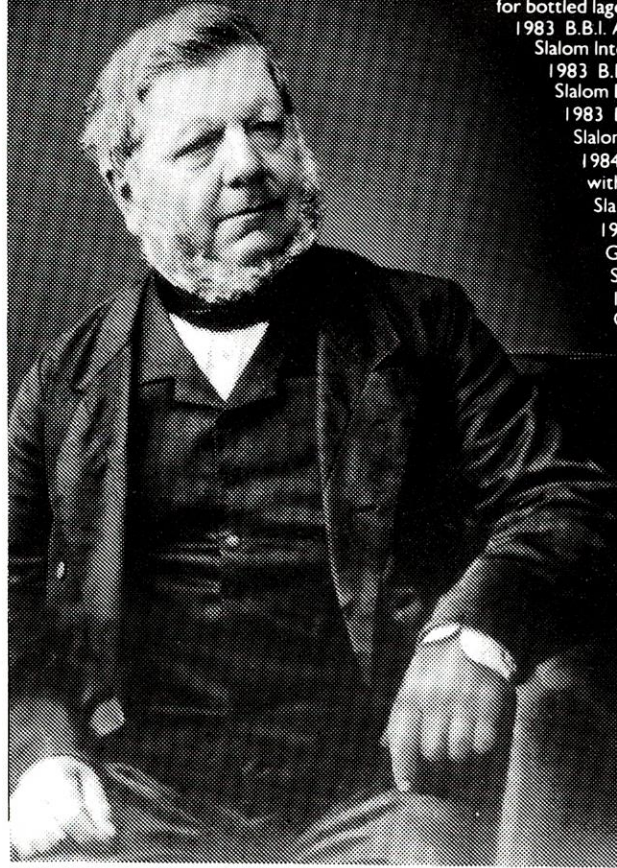
Over 150 years of traditional brewing.

PRODUCES SUCCESS LIKE THIS:

- 1976 BREWEX CHALLENGE CUP. Slalom Lager – voted best overall lager.
- 1976 BREWEX GOLD MEDAL. Slalom Lager – voted best draught lager Class I
- 1978 B.B.I. AWARDS SILVER MEDAL & DIPLOMA. Slalom Lager – for bottled lager.
- 1978 B.B.I. AWARDS GOLD MEDAL & DIPLOMA. Slalom D – voted best bottled lager – Diät Beer Class.
- 1978 B.B.I. AWARDS GOLD MEDAL & DIPLOMA. Slalom D – voted best bottled lager – Extra Strong Class.
- 1980 BREWEX SILVER MEDAL. Slalom Lager – for draught lager.
- 1982 B.B.I. AWARDS SILVER MEDAL & DIPLOMA. Slalom Export Lager.
- 1983 BREWEX BRONZE MEDAL. Slalom D draught lager.
- 1983 BREWEX CHALLENGE CUP WINNERS. Voted best international bottled lager.
- 1983 BREWEX MEDAL AND DIPLOMA. Slalom Lager – Best in Class One for bottled lager.
- 1983 B.B.I. AWARDS GOLD MEDAL. Slalom Lager – First in Class for bottled lager.
- 1983 B.B.I. AWARDS SILVER MEDAL. Slalom D – for bottled lager.
- 1983 B.B.I. AWARDS DIPLOMA OF EXCELLENCE. Slalom International Strong Lager – for bottled lager.
- 1983 B.B.I. AWARDS DIPLOMA OF EXCELLENCE. Slalom D – for bottled lager.
- 1983 B.B.I. AWARDS DIPLOMA OF EXCELLENCE. Slalom Lager – for packaging and bottle dress.
- 1984 MONDE SELECTION MADRID. Gold Medal with Palm Leaves and Certificate. Slalom International – for bottled lager.
- 1984 MONDE SELECTION MADRID. Gold Medal and Certificate. Slalom D – for bottled lager.
- 1984 MONDE SELECTION MADRID. Gold Medal and Certificate. Slalom Lager – for bottled lager.

AND IN THE LATEST B.B.I. EXPORT COMPETITION. FEBRUARY 1986

- 1986 B.B.I. AWARDS GOLD MEDAL – Theakston Best Bitter – for bottled beer.
- 1986 B.B.I. AWARDS SILVER MEDAL – Slalom International – for bottled lager.
- 1986 B.B.I. AWARDS DIPLOMA OF EXCELLENCE – John Peel Export – for bottled beer.
- 1986 B.B.I. AWARDS DIPLOMA OF EXCELLENCE – Theakston Old Peculier – for bottled beer.



Matthew Brown

LEEWAY LTD.

CAR DISCOUNT CENTRE

AMAZING CARS
AMAZING PRICES

Unit 2, Belgrave Mills,
HATHERSHAW,
OLDHAM.
624 – 6827 or
678 – 9537

Simpsons Hotel



122 WITHINGTON ROAD
MANCHESTER, M16 8FB

Telephone:
061-226 2235

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP/DIVISION 2

(Excluding Rochdale Game - Good Friday)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wakefield	24	11	1	1	356	103	8	1	3	230	129	39
Oldham	24	11	0	2	386	170	8	1	2	232	117	39
Featherstone	25	9	1	1	300	121	9	1	4	264	197	38
Sheffield	26	8	1	4	232	179	7	0	6	212	194	31
Springfield	23	8	0	3	195	130	7	0	5	172	183	30
Barrow	25	9	1	2	179	107	4	1	8	138	240	28
York	24	8	0	4	284	188	5	1	6	202	219	27
Mansfield	26	8	1	4	171	163	5	0	8	242	243	27
Keighley	26	9	0	4	270	150	4	0	9	167	244	26
Workington	24	7	0	5	207	173	6	0	6	137	228	26
Runcorn	22	9	0	3	254	186	3	0	7	108	175	24
Carlisle	24	7	1	4	197	156	4	0	8	124	221	23
Doncaster	26	7	1	5	239	223	2	1	10	147	248	20
Rochdale	24	8	0	5	159	128	2	0	9	121	263	20
Bramley	26	6	0	7	189	227	3	1	9	165	309	19
Whitehaven	24	7	0	5	195	121	1	1	10	173	263	17
Huddersfield	25	5	1	7	230	248	2	0	10	111	279	15
Dewsbury	24	5	0	5	151	139	2	0	12	164	316	14
Fulham	24	5	0	7	173	212	2	0	10	136	283	14
Batley	24	3	1	9	156	231	3	0	8	110	172	13

Contracts · Hospitals · Airports · Stations · 7 Seater Mini-Bus

SCHOFIELDS

330 4135/5527/1704/6003

Taxis & Private Hire

WE NEVER CLOSE

22 OLD STREET, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE

DISCO PUBS

Mine Hosts: Archie and Joan

BULLS HEAD

GEORGE STREET, OLDHAM. Tel: 624 7264 – Bed & Breakfast

QUALITY FOIL PRINTING

Selfstyle

Business Cards Stationery
Promotional Gifts

56, ACORN CENTRE, BARRY STREET, OLDHAM, OL1 3NE
061-626 7926 (24 hrs)

MAL'S MESSAGE

(A few words from Oldham's player-coach)

In addition to the 80 minutes on the park on a Sunday afternoon, quite a lot of the Oldham players have been going out with Ray Hill on commercial work on behalf of the club and we have found this not only a success for the club but very rewarding for ourselves.

To those of us from overseas, such as Peter Walsh, Charlie McAlister, Gary Warnecke and myself, it has been particularly interesting to look at local industry and as players who use aircraft a lot in our trips across the world it was fascinating to see the plane-makers at work at British Aerospace.


Our visits have also included calls at Park Cake, Remploy, Slumberland, George Mills, Cobden Chadwick, Weatherseal and the Oldham Chronicle.

The usual format is that we look around the places, meet the people, have a draw for things like a club scarf, tie, rugby ball or mug, tell everyone about Lifeline or Cashline and then go back about a week later to 'sign up' the work force in our money-raising schemes.

I would like to thank the firms involved for opening up their facilities to us and the employees for welcoming us wholeheartedly into their places of work.

A big thank-you to all then, with the reminder that the end of the season is in sight so if you or your firm is thinking of inviting us around please let us know as soon as possible so we can make the necessary arrangements.

MAL GRAHAM



A Slice of Tradition

The Park Cake Bakeries Limited
Ashton Road, Oldham, Lancashire OL8 2ND Telephone 061-633 1181 Telex 668738

TOWNFIELD SERVICE STATION

Huddersfield Road . Oldham . Lancs.

MOT TESTING STATION

TESTS WHILE - U- WAIT

NEW & USED CARS FOR SALE

RESPRAYS

WELDING

ALL TYPES OF MECHANICAL REPAIRS

061-624 9387

FOR AN EARLY MORNING DELIVERY SERVICE OF MILK & DAIRY PRODUCE

We have gotta lotta bottle

COUNTHILL DAIRY The Dairy on your Doorstep

TELEPHONE: 633 3911

REGENT STREET
OLDHAM

The Dairy that's proud of it's Service

TRUECLEAN LTD.

CONTRACT CLEANING SERVICES.

Professional carpet and upholstery cleaning.

Recommended by Top Carpet & Furniture Shops throughout the Northwest.

Flood, Fire, Smoke, Insurance work undertaken.

Tel. 061 370 4095
061 682 9808 Evenings & weekends

For all your chemist sundries, Cosmetics and toiletries

F. YATES

NUMARK
CHEMIST

(Proprietor: Malcolm S. Fagelman)

831 Hollins Road
Hollinwood
Oldham

Telephone: 681 1291

Established over 50 years

FOLLOW THE 'A' TEAM

OUR promotion-seeking Oldham 'A' team picked up two more useful victories in its assault on the championship of the Alliance's second division. We did not play too well at Dewsbury, but we still came away with a 16-10 victory thanks to no small degree to Steve Robinson, who scored two late tries - one from long range - to clinch victory.

WITH Patterson, Kirwan and Hall getting the ball wide, and Casey and Sherratt running well in the pack, Oldham went into an early lead with a try by Patterson, goaled by Hall, and looked capable of establishing total superiority.

BAD handling and poor tackling crept in, however, and Dewsbury hit back to lead 8-6 at half-time and then added a penalty to take a 10-6 lead midway through the second half.

IT needed Robinson's two-try special to get Oldham out of trouble on a day when the club was hard pressed to field a representative team and brought former winger Geoff Munro out of retirement to help out.

GEOFF switched to full back in the second half, replacing a trialist, and made several timely tackles. Kirwan also had a good game, as did Steven Walsh on the left-wing, another player helping us out, and doing very nicely indeed.

THESE two golden-oldies - Munro and Walsh - also played a prominent part in our next win - a much more convincing 38-6 triumph over Bradford Northern at Watersheddings on a cold and windy night.

IT was a similar night to that in early season when Northern handed out our biggest defeat at Odsal, so the win provided us with ample revenge and also produced two hat-trick players in Leo Casey and Steven Walsh.

WE played some terrific football in the difficult conditions to score a total of eight tries - three each for Casey and Walsh and others for Robinson, who later had to quit with an ankle injury, and Munro.

BOTH these teams included a sprinkling of senior players and lined up thus:

Oldham: Patterson; Trialist, Irving, Robinson, Trialist; Walsh, Kirwan; Sherratt, Hall, Casey, Croston, Morrison, Peters. Subs: Trialist, Foley.

Bradford: Potts; Sidebottom, Nahu, Kamis, Simpson; Robinson, Godfrey; Simpson, Duggan, Grayshon, Croft, Moulden, Evans. Subs: Jonesd and Hall.

THE referee was K. Moore of Wakefield, son of the well-known and now retired whistler, Ronnie Moore, while the Bradford No 10 was Paul Grayshon, son of the famous Geoff, and the loose-forward was none other than Steve Evans, remembered in his Featherstone and Hull days as a stand-off or centre of international repute.

TEAMWORK was the essence of an Oldham victory which keeps us plugging away towards the promotion group but there were particularly pleasing individual displays from centre Richard Irving, scrum-half Paddy Kirwan, and forwards Leo Casey and Tony Morrison.

CASEY'S penetrative running was an outstanding feature of the match and in additionn to scoring three tries and having a hand in some of the other scores he could have done even better had he steadied down somewhat when he had made his break and made better use of the ball. Nevertheless, well done Leo - a great performance!

RICHARD IRVING also ran strongly and, like Casey, did enough to earn a sub's call-up in the first team game at Sheffield where Ian Sherratt and Kirwan made up the squad.

THE 'A' team was due to have played Barrow at home last Tuesday and the programme for remaining games, starting this Wednesday, is as follows:

BLACKPOOL (h) Wednesday, April 6; Workington (h) Saturday, April 9 (2.30); Wakefield (a), Wednesday, April 13; Whitehaven (a), Saturday, April 16 (2.30); Batley (h) on Monday, April 18.

AT the time of writing the outstanding game at Workington had still to be arranged.

WITH THE SUPPORTERS CLUB

It's here already...our last league game at home before we start the premiership play-off. We are hoping for a good, clean game in the true spirit of Rugby League and we welcome today's visitors, Runcorn, to Watersheddings and invite home and away spectators to use our canteens situated around the ground.

We would like to thank the following juniors for their efforts in the sponsored walk around the car park prior to the Huddersfield game - David Kivlin, Anne Marie Kivlin, Peter Collinge, Ashley Baxter, Darren Newton, Gary Rafferty and Christine Gallagher. We hope to have raised about £210. Brilliant, kids!

The seniors walk to Rochdale was due to have taken place last Friday, and we will report on its success, or otherwise, in the next programme.

Special thanks go to Mr. Ken Leyland, signwriter, for the supporters boards used on the coaches.

The second set of tickets for the Wakefield match will be raffled off at today's game. The player of the year dance tickets are now on sale. Inquire with any Supporters' Club official or at the canteens. Tickets are limited, so hurry!

By now, you should all have received your voting slips so please return them as quickly as possible. We still have two away games left - at Wakefield and Carlisle - as we approach the season's end, and bookings are building up on the coaches so please book early (especially for Wakefield) by phoning Joe Gallagher on 627-0235 or Donald Pilkington on 665-1832.

Videos are still available, to hire at £1.50 a night or to buy at £10 each.

Many thanks to the club directors for the concessions to juniors in the season now ending. Hopefully, we will be able to offer the same next season. Watch the press. We are hoping to get all the juniors together at the end of the season to organise some events during the summer, while you are starved of rugby. Letters will be sent out to all members.

PROGRAMME NEWS

Programme collector Michael Turner is trying to complete a post-war set of Oldham programmes, home and away. He requires many such programmes for the period 1945 to 1956 and would love to hear from anyone who can help him on 061-620-6005

BEST FROM DOWN UNDER

The end of the season will soon be upon us. But that doesn't mean an end to Rugby League at Watersheddings. We are planning to show the best of the video action from Australia each Tuesday and Wednesday evening throughout the summer in the social club. Interested? Mention it to Jack Roscoe in the social club and he will give you all details.

FACE IN THE CROWD

THERE is something I've just got to get off my chest and it concerns Mr. Addy's comments regarding our team as "bully boys". This season we have seen Oldham perform in a peculiar Jekyll and Hyde manner occasionally driving the supporters wild with delight, and sometimes to the depths of despair, but never, ever, have I seen any one of our players use "bullying" tactics on any of our opponents.



JACK DEARDEN

- our man on
the terraces.

He went on to say: "I haven't seen a First Division performance today from Oldham". Well, Jack, I don't think we even saw a Second Division performance from your team, which brings me on to the subject of Second Division rugby in general.

I would like to see the authorities considering the possibilities of promoting some of our better amateur teams, assuming of course that the amateur clubs concerned feel they have the resources and finances to supplement their playing qualities.

It would certainly be an incentive to amateurs and I don't think we would lose much by giving it a go, judging by some of the poor attendances in several Second Division fixtures.

Soccer has recently implemented a similar system and, while still in the early days, at least some teams cannot say that they have been denied an opportunity to make progress. Just look at Wimbledon - ten years ago in the Southern League and now a well-established First Division club and only 90 minutes away from the FA Cup Final.

However, back to today's game. Earlier in the season we achieved an excellent win at Runcorn in a mudbath and I hope today's encounter will see an improvement in both playing and weather conditions. It certainly won't be a pushover, however, against opponents who were in contention for promotion themselves until several weeks ago.

If we did well at Sheffield and Rochdale Hornets it could be a full house at Wakefield Trinity next Sunday and if winning the title comes down to support and encouragement from the fans I know we won't be lacking as the season builds up to a thrilling climax.

So let's keep our tremendous support going right to the end of the season and on into the Premiership. The Belle Vue clash should certainly be a cracker.

JACK DEARDEN

**NEXT HOME
MATCH**

**Second Div. Premiership Play-off.
See Press for Date, Time of Kick-Off and
Opponents**

GET THE UP-TO-DATE NEWS

**Not just about Oldham but about
the teams they are competing
against.**

**In fact, the fullest coverage of
the Rugby League Scene
in the area.**

**Read
Jack MacNamara
and
Alex Murphy**

IN THE

Manchester Evening News

COMMERCIAL CORNER

(Development Office Topics with Ray Hill)

AS this is our final home Second Division game - with only the play-offs to come - it would be remiss of me not to place on record the club's gratitude and appreciation to all those firms and individuals who have sponsored us this season.

Team sponsors, match sponsors, programme sponsors, and ball sponsors deserve our unqualified thanks and I will certainly be taking the opportunity in the not too distant future of contacting them again and offering them first chance of similar support next season when we have the added benefits of First Division football to offer.

Our support this season, in all its aspects, has been a revelation and if we can do so well in the Second Division it makes one wonder how well we can do in the First when there is so much more to be gained, from the sponsors' point of view, in terms of media attention, bigger crowds, and the presence of the TV cameras and journalists from the national papers.

By and large, the daily-paper coverage of Second Division matches is not very good and we have come to rely, as ever, on our trusty friends from the Oldham Chronicle, the local radio stations, the Advertiser, Radio Cavell, who do such a great job in taking our club into the local hospitals, and the local press agency.

It isn't very often that we get other media present at Second Division matches, but it be oh so different in the First Division. The national dailies will want match reports from Watersheddings (even if they don't send their own representative) and we can expect a much bigger national projection, both on Monday mornings with match reports and on a day-to-day basis with news and club gossip.

The potential sponsor will also enjoy the potential benefits of business and custom from out of town. Unlike Second Division clubs, those in the top flight bring a lot of travelling fans - an untapped source of business from the local firm that wants to project its image in a Rugby League environment.

Exciting days ahead, therefore, and I hope you will all want to be part of it in some shape or form.

In the meantime, we have to keep working hard at increasing revenue from our fund-raising activities and I can tell you that Lifeline membership has now topped 1,600 - more than 250 up on previous record figures. Our next target is 2,000 and we hope to reach it by early summer, so that we can look forward to offering a jackpot prize of a brand-new car later in the year.

I am happy to report that the Development Office is rapidly becoming a great hive of activity as our schemes take off and our expansion is such that we are always interested to hear from anybody who would like to help as agent or collector on 620-4870.

Finally, a reminder to all those Lifeline members who won a Grand National horse in our draw. It's the big day on Saturday, and we are looking forward to welcoming all those "owners" to the Watersheddings Grand National.

RAY HILL

We would like to thank all today's sponsors:-

TODAYS MATCH SPONSOR
RIBBLE PACKAGING

TODAYS PROGRAMME SPONSOR
NORMAN LEISURE

TODAYS BALL SPONSOR
GODFREY DAVIES RENT-A-UNIT

TODAYS TEAM SPONSOR
WALKER & MARSDEN

MAN OF THE MATCH
RAY LEIGH TRANSPORT

*Anyone interested in sponsoring, please contact Ray Hill,
Commercial Dept. Tel: 061 620 4870*

GOODBYE TO PETERS

In what was a swiftly negotiated deal, Steve Peters left us to join Leigh last week and just in time to beat the league match deadline.

Steve came to Oldham with Kevin Meadows at the start of the season from Warrington, but two suspensions- one of six matches and one of eight- robbed us of his services for long periods. Leigh, battling against relegation, were keen to link up Peters with his former St Helens mates Billy Benyon and Harry Pinner and we feel we a very good deal in the circumstances. The fee plus VAT was in the region of £18,000 -to £20,000.

THE BOSS TALKING...

(A personal view by Oldham coach Eric Fitzsimons)

WELCOME today to all our visitors from Runcorn as we play our last home league fixture of the season. I'm sure it will be a tough game. Bill Ashurst will be keen to see his lads redress the balance from our visit to Canal Street. On that day we settled in quickly and never let the Runcorn players gain a toe-hold. They were unlucky that we were in a hungry mood.



Sunday, January 17, is a day that will remain in the mind of Charlie McAlister as his life. Not only did he charm the Oldham supporters with his play, but he was also forced to make a decision he didn't want to do at the time. We are all aware that it was a comparatively unknown freelance journalist from West Lancashire who gave Charlie's name to the Daily Mirror when he was playing as A N Other. The Mirror printed it and virtually blew his chances of ever playing Rugby Union again.

Charlie is now delighted at how things have turned out. So are we all at Oldham. We would like to give thanks, therefore, to our mystery mole from the St Helens area but he should remember please that not all RU trialists are successful, so their anonymity should be preserved at all times - and their future in Union - by keeping their names out of the Press in future.

Back to our game at Canal Street, John Cogger was once again prominent. He's a lively lad, who loves to dart from acting half-back. He has a very aggressive style and is capable of capitalising on any slack defensive work. I can appreciate why Runcorn have worked hard to keep hold of him again this year. He has also been a key player all season.

It is now obvious that we will play in the premiership play-offs at the end of the season. Our final position will determine the draw, of course. For the team finishing top, home advantage is guaranteed in both first and second rounds.

Add to that the prospect of £10,000 for finishing as champions and there is every incentive for us all to blaze to the bitter end. There is much more than financial incentive at stake, though. There is a certain amount of pride involved as well.

Four failures weigh heavily on our minds - Doncaster, Barrow, Wakefield and Featherstone. No one will convince me that any of these teams should have beaten us. The remaining games are a simple test of the team's 'desire'. Success or failure hinges around the team's ability to play as a team that wants to prove beyond doubt that it is the best team in the Second Division.

Runcorn is the immediate hurdle. We will negotiate them all one at a time!

ERIC FITZSIMONS

RADIO 1 CARS

**24 HOUR SERVICE
5, 6, & 7 SEATER**

633 2277

P.D. Bradbury

Your Local
Video Recording Service
Sports, Weddings,
Parties, etc.
In Full Colour and Sound
Tel. 061-665 2903

BUTTERWORTHS Fish & Chips Cafe & Take Away

104/106 Union St.
For the very best in traditional foods.

Open Mon-Sat Lunch 11.30 am-2pm
Thurs-Fri-Sat Teas 4pm-6.30 pm.

**TILE in
STYLE**

CERAMIC WALL AND FLOOR TILING SPECIALISTS
TEL (MOSSLEY) 04575 4142

PROPRIETORS: ROGER MATTHEWS, DAVID FIELDHOUSE
143 STOCKPORT ROAD, MOSSLEY, OLS ORD.
telephone: 04575 4142

FOLLOW YOUR TEAM, HIRE . . . THE PENNINE LOUNGE

For all Occasions

Hot & Cold Menus - Competitive Rates

MUMPS BRIDGE, OLDHAM
Contact Secretary Mr. Charlton or tel: 633 0614

ADAMSONS CRASH REPAIR CENTRE

THE MOTOR BODY ACCIDENT REPAIR
SPECIALISTS
APPROVED REPAIRERS FOR MOST
INSURANCE COMPANIES
GUARANTEED WORKMANSHIP



CASTLE MILL STREET
BOTTOM O' THE MOOR
OLDHAM



THE
MOTOR
AGENTS
ASSOCIATION

061-620 5982 / 624 1904

APPEARANCES & SCORERS

SEASON 1987-88
(to date - 31 possible)
(Excluding Rochdale Game - Good Friday)

	APPTS (inc.Subs)	T	G	DG	PTS
Atkinson K.	11	4	46	-	108
Irving R.	10	1	-	-	4
Hawkyard C.	25	3	-	-	12
Meadows K.	31	12	-	-	48
Edwards J.	6	-	1	-	2
Peters S.	13	-	-	-	-
Kirwan P.	9	2	-	-	8
Sherratt I.	7	1	-	-	4
Sanderson I.	22	4	-	-	16
Waddell H.	29	7	-	-	28
Worrall M.	6	2	2	-	12
Graham M.	31	10	-	-	40
Flanagan T.	29	5	-	-	20
Round P.	29	16	-	-	64
Sherman P.	3	-	-	-	-
Copeland T.	3	-	-	-	-
Morrison T.	5	-	-	-	-
Bardsley M.	9	-	-	-	-
Marsden R.	1	-	-	-	-
Burke M.	24	6	4	1	33
Walsh P.	25	11	61	-	166
Bates I.	3	1	-	-	4
Clawson N.	26	2	-	-	8
McCarthy B.	17	10	-	-	40
Foy D.	20	10	-	-	40
Robinson S.	8	1	-	-	4
Nadiola T.	3	-	-	-	-
Warnecke G.	20	7	-	-	28
Myler C.	3	-	-	-	-
Hall M.	3	2	-	-	8
Ford M.	13	6	-	1	25
McAlister C.	11	6	1	-	26
Lord P.	7	2	-	-	8
Casey L.	4	-	-	-	-

SILK CUT SWEATERS

A limited supply of top quality Silk Cut Challenge Cup sweaters are available. The grey lambswool sweater features the official full colour Silk Cut Challenge Cup symbol with the words "Silk Cut Challenge Cup". Priced £14.95 plus £1.00 packing and postage, this collector's item is available in chest sizes 34" - 46" from:

The Public Relations Department
The Rugby Football League
180 Chapeltown Road
LEEDS LS7 4HT

When applying please write your name and address on a plain piece of paper and sign it to confirm that you are aged 18 or over.

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP FINAL TICKETS

All sold apart from those at £7 for standing. Please forward order and remittance - plus a stamped addressed envelope to :-

The Ticket Office
The Rugby Football League
180 Chapeltown Road
LEEDS LS7 4HT

OLDHAM RLFC FIXTURES & RESULTS 1987-88

Opponents	Att.	F	A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Aug 30	Whitehaven	3,122	20	-6	Atkinson 3G	Irving	Hawkyard	Meadows	Edwards	Peters	Kirwan	Sherratt	Sanderson	Waddell	Worrall	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt
Sep 2	Kelkley	3,724	32	-11	Atkinson 8G	Irving	Hawkyard	Meadows	Edwards	Peters	Kirwan	Sherratt	Sanderson	Waddell	Worrall	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt
Sep 6	Bramley	2,851	46	-8	Atkinson 7G	Irving	Hawkyard	Meadows	Edwards	Peters	Kirwan	Sherratt	Sanderson	Waddell	Worrall	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt
Sep 20	Warrington	3,554	2	-42	Atkinson 2G	Irving	Hawkyard	Meadows	Edwards	Peters	Kirwan	Sherratt	Sanderson	Waddell	Worrall	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt
Sep 27	Dorchester	2,060	18	-20	Burke	Irving	Hawkyard	Meadows	Edwards	Peters	Kirwan	Sherratt	Sanderson	Waddell	Worrall	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt
Oct 4	Huddersfield	1,729	26	-4	Burke	Irving	Hawkyard	Meadows	Edwards	Peters	Kirwan	Sherratt	Sanderson	Waddell	Worrall	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt
Oct 11	Sheffield	3,774	44	-20	Burke 2T	Irving	Hawkyard	Meadows	Edwards	Peters	Kirwan	Sherratt	Sanderson	Waddell	Worrall	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt
Oct 18	Sheffield	3,774	44	-20	Burke 2T	Irving	Hawkyard	Meadows	Edwards	Peters	Kirwan	Sherratt	Sanderson	Waddell	Worrall	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt
Nov 1	Kelkley	1,729	26	-4	Burke	Irving	Hawkyard	Meadows	Edwards	Peters	Kirwan	Sherratt	Sanderson	Waddell	Worrall	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt
Nov 8	Fulham	3,197	13	-8	Burke	Irving	Hawkyard	Meadows	Edwards	Peters	Kirwan	Sherratt	Sanderson	Waddell	Worrall	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt
Nov 15	Bradford	4,888	22	-6	Burke	Irving	Hawkyard	Meadows	Edwards	Peters	Kirwan	Sherratt	Sanderson	Waddell	Worrall	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt
Nov 23	Battery	2,888	44	-0	Burke 3G	Irving	Hawkyard	Meadows	Edwards	Peters	Kirwan	Sherratt	Sanderson	Waddell	Worrall	Graham	Flanagan	Sherratt
Nov 29	Warrington	5,084	14	-10	Burke	Robinson	Warnecke	McCarthy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Peters	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda
Dec 6	Dorchester	3,551	17	-16	Burke 1DG	Robinson	Warnecke	McCarthy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Peters	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda
Dec 13	Barrow	1,800	14	-18	Burke	Robinson	Warnecke	McCarthy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Peters	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda
Dec 19	Barrow	8,318	8	-18	Burke	Nadola	Warnecke	McCarthy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Peters	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda
Dec 26	Rochdale	4,866	24	-12	Burke	Robinson	Warnecke	McCarthy	Meadows	Walsh 4G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda
Jan 3	Springfield	2,507	20	-4	Burke	McCarthy	Foy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda	
Jan 10	Whitehaven	3,007	20	-20	Burke	McCarthy	Foy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda	
Jan 17	Nunston	2,231	34	-0	Burke	McCarthy	Foy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda	
Jan 24	Sheffield	3,240	10	-0	Burke	McCarthy	Foy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda	
Jan 31	Warrington	2,540	7	-17	Meadows	McCarthy	Foy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda	
Feb 7	Workington	1,257	17	-0	Meadows	McCarthy	Foy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda	
Feb 14	Carlisle	3,357	27	-4	Burke	McCarthy	Foy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda	
Feb 21	Featherstone	3,500	8	-8	Burke	McCarthy	Foy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda	
Feb 28	Featherstone	3,500	15	-18	Burke	McCarthy	Foy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda	
Mar 6	Workington	2,866	36	-10	Burke	McCarthy	Foy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda	
Mar 13	Bramley	1,839	36	-16	Burke	McCarthy	Foy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda	
Mar 20	Huddersfield	1,358	48	-15	Burke	McCarthy	Foy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda	
Mar 27	Rochdale	2,390	28	-0	Burke	McCarthy	Foy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda	
Apr 4	Runcorn					McCarthy	Foy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda	
Apr 10	Wakerfield					McCarthy	Foy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda	
Apr 17	Carlisle					McCarthy	Foy	Meadows	Walsh 3G	Warnecke	Sanderson	Waddell	Round	Graham	Flanagan	Worrall	Nielda	

North West Decoiling Ltd.

Steel Stockholders
Decoilers and Shearers

Telephone: **0925 415111**
Telex: **627135**

Prince George Hotel & Restaurant

193 RIPPONDEN ROAD, OLDHAM
Telephone: 061-633 1328

PERFECT CHOICE

- Good Morning Breakfasts
- Super Value Lunches
- Welcome Bar Food
- Excellent Dinner Choice

Delicious Anytime : Always Good Value

For that special treat we are hard to beat

Try our "Friday Fivers" Night

And Traditional Sunday Lunch



MODERN MOTIFS LIMITED

THE PRINTED BADGE PEOPLE

Specialists in
Sponsorship Garment
Printing

10 Shaw Road, Oldham, OL1 3LQ.
Tel: 061-624 0341

- Printed Badges
- Printed Ties
- T Shirts
- Tea Towels
- Heat Seal Badges
- Printed Scarves
- Pennants
- Armbands
- Safety Helmet Stickers
- Window Stickers

SIMPSONS ESTATE AGENTS

113 Union Street., Oldham 652 3311
Late Night Thurs. Open till 7 pm

Also at:-

14 Lees Rd., Mossley. Tel. Mossley 31111
63 High St., Uppermill. Tel. Saddleworth 4188
37 Market St., Shaw. Tel. 652 3311
8 Middleton Rd., Royton. Tel. 652 3311

Telephone 061-834 0057

Frank Nicholson
NICHOLLS

the SHIRTMAKERS

64 BRIDGE STREET, MANCHESTER M3 3BN

J. W. MINTON & CO.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

95 HIGH STREET, LEES, OLDHAM OL4 4LY
59 MARKET STREET, SHAW, OLDHAM OL2 8NP
Telephones: 061-626 4297/061-626 4274

SAXON STORAGE EQUIPMENT LTD

For the supply of:

Clothes Lockers, Cupboards,
Filing Systems, Office Furniture,
B.S. Shelving, Pallet Racking,
Partitioning & Suspended Ceilings

— Competitive prices for
Office Stationery.

Goyt Mill, Upper Hibbert Lane, Marple, Stockport SK6 7HX.
Tel: 061-427 2143

PAUL STUART & Co.

(PENNINE HYDRAULICS)

HOSE DISTRIBUTORS—RUBBER
P.V.C. TUBING COUPLINGS

Rubber Sheet, Sponge Rubber
Mouldings.

20 Commercial Rd.,
(off Greaves Street)
Oldham. OL1 1DD.
Tel. 620 4129

SCOTTS OF OLDHAM

Mona Mill, Fields New Road,
Chadderton, Oldham OL9 8NY
Telephone: 061-624 9221/2/3 -
061-624 5291/2 Telex: 667357
FOR YOUR LOCAL & LONG
DISTANCE HAULAGE
CONTACT H. LUCAS

EDWARDS VEEDER CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

Full Accountancy service to small businesses,
self employed & Limited Companies

*Taxation * VAT
*Inland Revenue * Investments
Enquiries *Company Accounts

*Book-Keeping
*PAYE Computerised
061 620 2133

Brunswick Square,
Union St., Oldham.

Alfred Taylor

YOUR LOCAL BUILDING MATERIAL CENTRES
JACKSON STREET LEES 061-652 4137
HIGGINSHAW LANE ROYTON 061-652 2318

MATCH REPORTS

Oldham v Huddersfield

A nine-try spectacular blitzed Huddersfield and enabled Oldham to run up a season's best 48 points, while at the same time "nilling" the Yorkshiremen, in a game that made big inroads into title rivals Wakefield's superior points difference.

Mick Burke had an outstanding game, cashing in on the service provided by half-backs Mike Ford and Paul Lord to join the line effectively and play a major role in the build-up to most of the tries.

The first half was a little "iffy", but Huddersfield were totally swamped afterwards when the home side added six tries to the three they scored before the interval.

Charlie McAlister, who also had an outstanding game, scored two, Ford grabbed another two, and Burke, Paul Round, Gary Warnecke, Mal Graham and Peter Walsh also scored as Oldham stepped up their challenge for the title.

Sheffield v Oldham

After a dreadful first half, in which the Eagles were arguably the better side, Oldham finally got their act together to pick up two useful points on a day when title rivals Wakefield and Featherstone both slumped to shock defeats.

We won 28-15 on our first visit to Owlerton Stadium and there was a novel touch after the match when hundreds of Oldham fans, waiting to leave the car park, heard of the Wakefield and Featherstone defeats on their car radios - and went wild with delight.

Scarves were waved and horns were blown, but despite the improved second-half performance and a terrific individual display from man-of-the-match Mal Graham we will have to shape better than this to go on and take the title.

Keith Atkinson kicked four goals and our five tries were scored by Graham (2), Peter Walsh (2) and Atkinson on a day when Graham killed off the Eagles with a try on the stroke of half-time and a determined run to capitalize on a Mike Ford try to put in Walsh for another try just after the turn-round.

NORMAN LEISURE

GRAINS ROAD SHAW TEL: 0706 841460

TOTAL SPORTS FACILITIES

SNOOKER

BADMINTON

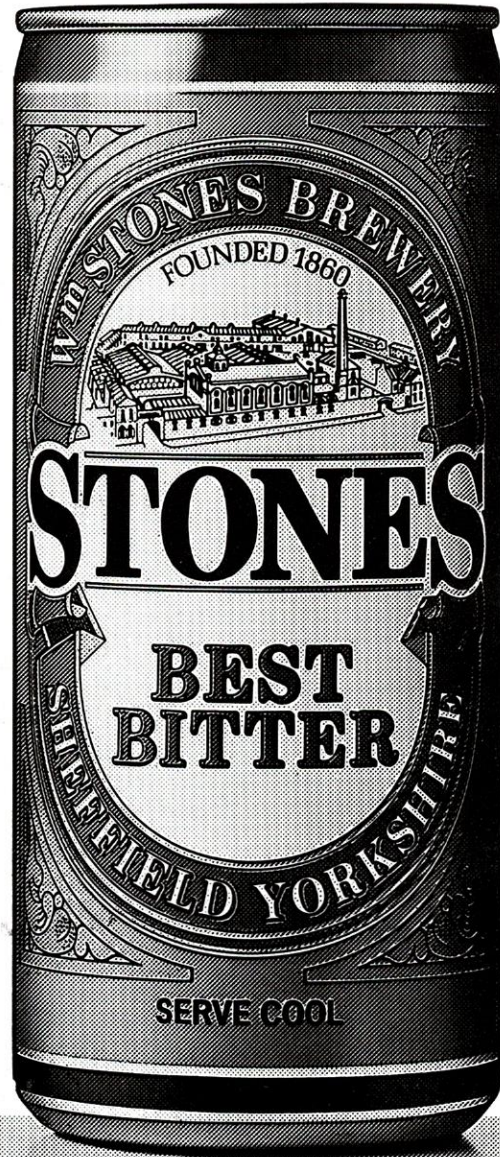
GYM

THE
BOATYARD

RESTAURANT
GRAINS ROAD
SHAW

TEL:0706 841-460

**N
L**



Stones. The major sponsor of The Rugby League.

DIRECT FROM THE BOARD

(A regular feature in which
a member of the board takes you
behind the scenes)



THIS WEEK - JIM KNOX

As the season draws to a close there is a lot of speculation in the media about clubs chasing players for next year and my attention was drawn to a letter in the Oldham Chronicle in which an Oldham fan was wondering what we were doing on the team strengthening front in readiness for our anticipated return to the First Division.

Well, the answer is that we are out to strengthen our squad with players of the highest quality and calibre. We take the view that, at this stage, there is nothing to be gained by showing our hand in the press.

You can take it from me, though, that we are not going up to the First Division just to make up the numbers. We are going up with the intention of making our mark, and to that end, we fully appreciate what we have to do in recruitment.

We are very active on the home scene, but we are also spreading our nets far and wide. We also have our contacts in Australia and we have been making inquiries in several directions in a bid to bring to Watersheddings some of the best players available.

It would be foolish to make rash promises and it would be unwise to name names.

But I promise you this: we will leave no stone unturned in our ambitions to build for next season a side of which we will all be proud to call our own.

JIM KNOX

St. James Service Station

Huddersfield Road, Oldham.
Tel: 061-652 0268



Quality Petrol, Oil and
Accessories

Guaranteed Used Cars,
Servicing and Repairs.

BROCKBANK of ALTRINCHAM WE'RE ONLY HALF-AN-HOUR FROM WHEREVER YOU ARE!

- GREAT SERVICE ●
- GREAT DEALS ●



AUTHORISED MOBILITY
SCHEME DEALER

NISSAN

**Brockbank
OF
ALTRINCHAM**

South Manchester's Nissan Centre
16 STOCKPORT ROAD, ALTRINCHAM, CHESHIRE. ☎061-928 7899
Open: 9am-8pm Weekdays, 9am-5pm Saturdays, 11am-5pm Sundays

CORKY'S COMMENTS...

(Iain Mac Corquodale on the local scene)

The Federation of Oldham Schools' Sporting Associations is sponsoring a coaching course led by Mal Graham and including Oldham's other foreign stars at Hathershaw Sports Centre on April 14, 21 and 28 for all boys in junior schools. Just turn up for 4.0 pm with your kit and trainers and report to under-11 town team coach Paul Scott. The sessions finish at 5.30.

It was hard lines for both the town's under-11 and under-15 sides who went out of their cup competitions at the final hurdle. The under-11s, despite a magnificent game by Stephen Crowther, lost 4-0 at West Cumbria and the under-15s went out 8-2 against Wigan. The under-13s play their semi at Wigan on April 21 at Robin Park where they lost the rehearsal 18-14 despite three splendid tries from Cheetham, Birch and Eckersley.

Congratulations to Ray Hicks the Saddleworth Rangers coach, on taking Rangers to the 1st 16 of the National Cup and, like St Anne's, qualifying for what was expected to be a cracking Standard Cup final on Good Friday.

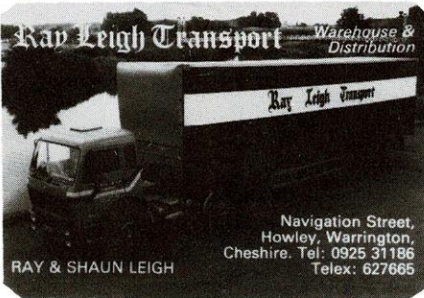
Thanks to John Rogers, the Higginshaw under-15s coach who, with special help from other Higginshaw members and Mick Slicker, raised £500 for the schoolboys' Aussie tour with a race night at Greenacres Squash Club.

On Thursday of this week, the town's under-13 side will be filming for the first-ever promotional Rugby League video. They will be starring with Great Britain stars Ellery Manley, Sean Edwards, Steve Hampson and David Stephenson at Headingley. They have been chosen by National Director of Coaching, Phil Larder, for their exceptional talent and the video will be used to promote the game both in Great Britain and overseas.

There are a few big functions in the pipeline as the funds for Australia move towards the £20,000 target. On Sunday, April 10, at lunch time, the Fytton Arms, long recognised as one of the best supporters of charity in the town, is holding a concert and our young prop Tommy Foley's father, also called Tom, will certainly have organised something special to raise funds for the youngsters.

On April 19, Muriel Kirwan's dance, including more than 50 of the boys who have sign as professionals from local schools or amateur clubs, will be held at Uppermill Civic Centre. There are still a few tickets available for a special event at which one of the highlights of the evening will be a group photograph of all those professionals born locally, some of them before 1920. Congratulations to Muriel on her detective work.

(continued on page 28)



Ray Leigh Transport Warehouse & Distribution

Navigation Street,
Howley, Warrington,
Cheshire. Tel: 0925 31186
Telex: 627065

RAY & SHAUN LEIGH

NEW CROSS MOTORS

NEW CROSS
OLDHAM ROAD
MANCHESTER
Tel. 832-5194

FAIRFIELD MOTORS

BEECHES SERVICE STATION
793 ASHTON ROAD
OLDHAM
CARS TO SUIT ALL POCKETS
Tel. 624 1167

A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
TO THE PROPERTY OWNER



ESTATE AGENTS
VALUERS SURVEYORS

11/15 UNION STREET
OLDHAM OL1 1HA
TELEPHONE : 061-652 1231

FAIRWAY AND GRUNDY (INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES) LTD.

HOPE ST.,
SALFORD.

Suppliers of Industrial Hose, Rubber Products



Contractor Tools
Protective Clothing
Lubricants
Gas Equipment
Janitorial Supplies
Hazard Warning
Equipment

061-745-7474

GREYHOUND GARAGE

CROSS STREET
SALE.
CHESHIRE

Top Car Deals To Top
Rugby League Supporters

WOODLANDS GARAGES (H.M.) LTD.,
602 DIDSBURY ROAD
HEATON MERSEY
061-432-4927
AND

BARTON LANE ECCLES
061-789-6571

Free Radio and Road Tax On
Production Of This Advert
When You Buy From Us
QUALITY CARS UNDER £3999

HOME SECURITY CENTRE

92 BRIDGE ST.
WARRINGTON
CHESHIRE
WA1 2RF

For Complete Security
Home or Business
Contact Ivor Jensen
WARRINGTON 571550
DISTANCE NO OBJECT

RUNCORN'S SPECIAL RECRUIT

Since Oldham last played Runcorn on a wet day at Canal Street, the men who are working desperately hard to establish League just across the Mersey from Widnes have recruited Kerry Gibson, a remarkable man from Australia, who plays the game despite the handicap of having lost his left arm below the elbow.

After a short stay with Springfield Borough, Kerry joined Runcorn and did more than enough as substitute against Workington two or three weeks ago to earn a full first-team call-up as stand-off against Whitehaven last Sunday.

"He took his chance well," says matter-of-fact boss Bill Ashurst, the former Wigan, Wakefield and Great Britain star, "and certainly deserved his call-up against Whitehaven."

The 29-year-old from Sydney was born with one arm, but the handicap never stopped him leading the full life of a young Sydneysider and he says: "One of my first memories is of throwing a rugby ball around in the garden.

"I could always run fast and I also like cricket and swimming. I have always had to prove myself all through my life, but there are times when the disability has helped. Opponents facing me for the first time wonder what I am going to do next and those split-seconds can be vital."

Gibson has already won the admiration of the Canal Street coaching staff. Arthur Daley, surely remembered here as the young Widnes lad who turned pro for Oldham around the same time as Ray Hicks, and now Ashurst's assistant, says of Kerry: 'He is a very skilful player and a great extrovert. It's a joy to see such a man on the park."

The Aussie brothers Cogger - John and Jamie - were prominent members of the Runcorn side when Oldham won there a few weeks ago, but scrum-half Jamie is now back home Down Under and with Kevin Blythin injured, the No 7 shirt may well go to the long-serving David Crompton.

(continued on page 27)

Pullen Pumps Service Division

Offers the best, cost effective service in the maintenance and repair of pumps and control equipment.

Call us on 092-575-6000 or 5201

Northern Service Centre
11 Eagle Brow, Lymm, Cheshire. Telex: 627956



RUNCORN'S SPECIAL RECRUIT

(continued)

Clive Hunter, another former Oldham man, figures in the centre, while we could well see today the appearance of a well respected veteran of the front-row, who missed our game at Runcorn because of 'flu Glyn Shaw.

The Welshman is still going strongly and he forms a strong and experienced front-row with Steve Moylan, the hooker, and Geoff Dean or another evergreen player, Eric Prescott.

With the all-systems-go John Cogger at loose-forward - he won last season's Second Division Man-of-Steel award - Runcorn must not be treated too lightly if Oldham are going to score the comprehensive victory they need to keep chipping away at that Wakefield points difference.

Says Ashurst - well remembered as a classy centre and then a clever back-row forward - "We have been struggling a bit of late and a big factor has been the waterlogged state of pitches. We are not a big side and the heavy going has been to our detriment.

"In all my years in the game I have never known such a wet winter and there is no doubt in my mind that the conditions have handicapped us.

"But Runcorn can always be relied upon to give their best shots. We will never show the white flag, that's for sure."



TELEPHONE (061) 624 5329/ (061) 652 0204
THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW MONEY MATTERS SHOPACHECK
FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED
DIVISIONAL OFFICE
17 UNION STREET
OLDHAM, GREATER MANCHESTER OL1 1HA
BRANCHES: HYDE, ROCHDALE, BURY, BOLTON, STOCKPORT.

GOOD TASTES delicatessen

£5.95 Special.....12" Pizza
2 Jacket Potatoes, Tub of Coleslaw
Bottle of Wine
Open 10 am - 10 pm Monday - Saturday Sunday 12 noon
- 7 pm
Home Deliveries - Charge 50p
PHONE OR CALL AFTER THE GAME
93 HIGH STREET, LEES, OLDHAM
ORDERS TAKEN BY PHONE, PLEASE RING
061-626 1279

Oldham Water Sports

ALL SEASONS HOUSE,
PARK ROAD, OLDHAM.
TEL: 061-626 0574

Specialists in :-
100% WATERPROOF CLOTHING
THERMAL SOCKS & CLOTHING
WINTER WARM JACKETS
Also equipment for :-
WALKERS, SKIERS, WATERSKIERS
SAILORS, DIVERS, WINDSURFERS,
CANOEISTS
10% DISCOUNT ON PRODUCTION OF
THIS AD.

PRESS BOX CHATTER

(Roger Halstead, Oldham Evening Chronicle)



You could almost have thought Oldham had won the Second Division title judging by the excited reaction of fans when they heard after the Sheffield game at Owlerton that both Wakefield and Featherstone had slipped to surprise defeats.

Word of the double boost to Oldham's championship hopes spread like wildfire as fans huddled around car radios before leaving for home.

When it was confirmed that Wakefield had gone down 12-10 in a game kicking off at Bramley at 3.30, the Oldham supporters danced and cheered in the car park and many of them ran back into the ground to pass on the good news to the Oldham players, who were still in the dressing room.

Coach Eric Fitzsimons was understandably delighted, but he kept his feet firmly on the ground. "The pressure is still on," he said, "because we have three tricky away games at Rochdale, Wakefield and Carlisle."

It's all building up now to a real title showdown at Wakefield on Sunday and Oldham will have to go into that big test with the commitment and fortitude that enabled them to beat Bradford and Warrington and give St Helens a might scare in the semi-final of the John Player Trophy last autumn.

Wakefield won't live with Oldham in that mood. Having said that, Trinity will gain confidence from the knowledge that they won at Watersheddings on a day when Oldham failed abysmally to match them for commitment - an error which surely will not be repeated again.

ROGER HALSTEAD

CORKY'S COMMENTS...

(continued)

On Sunday April 24, Dave Graham, a talented sportsman who played for Fitton Hill when I worked with Kevin O'Rourke there a few years ago, has planned a rugby match with Cobden Chadwicks Sports and Social Club, followed by a concert at the Phoenix Bowling Club.

Fay Bowden and Jack Roscoe have planned a Fiesta party, with lots of reasonably priced high quality produce in the social club at Watersheddings on Friday, April 8.

On Friday, April 22 there will be a great night at the Pennine Lounge with group, disco and food. It's organised by Bernard Exton and members of St Augustine's PTA. Bernard's son, Steve, helped out the 'A' team at Blackpool earlier in the season.

Many thanks to all these organisers and to those who support the events. I know how much the youngsters appreciate these efforts and I'm sure their rugby skills will delight us all for years to come.

UNIQUE OFFER !!!

**A BOARD AROUND THE GROUND THIS
SEASON AND NEXT - THE SAME PRICE!
PROMOTE YOUR COMPANY. ACT NOW!**

Phone: Commercial Dept.
RAY HILL on: 620 - 4870

*PROGRAMME DESIGNED
AND PRODUCED BY
CHEADLE PUBLISHING
EDITED BY ROGER HALSTEAD
PRINTED BY SANDYPRESS*

*All Enquiries to:
Cheadle Publishing
31 Park Lodge Close
Cheadle
Cheshire
061-428-3566*

AUSTINS FOR TIMBER

NEW TIMBER LOWEST PRICES



Head Office: Medlock Sawmills, Shaw Road, Oldham. Tel: 061-652 5421. Telex: 666505
Depots at: Manchester 061-834 8505 • Rochdale 47208 • Ashton 061-308 3746
Oldham 061-620 2128 • Bury 061-761 6416 • Sale 061-973 9578