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WIGAN *40* SCORE *18* **OLDHAM**

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----|-------------------------------|
| STEVE HAMPSON | 1 | MICK BURKE |
| HENDERSON GILL <i>T</i> | 2 | 1 KEVIN MEADOWS |
| JOE LYDON <i>6G</i> | 3 | 2 RICHARD IRVING <i>T</i> |
| DEAN BELL <i>3T</i> | 4 | 3 DES FOY |
| TONY IRO | 5 | 4 CHARLIE McALISTER <i>3G</i> |
| GED BYRNE <i>T</i> | 6 | 5 PAUL LORD <i>T</i> |
| ANDY GREGORY <i>Edwards</i> | 7 | 6 MICK FORD |
| ADRIAN SHELFORD | 8 | 7 IAN BATES |
| NICKY KISS | 9 | NEIL CLAWSON |
| BRIAN CASE | 10 | 8 IAN SKERRATT |
| DENIS BETTS <i>T</i> | 11 | 15 LEO CASEY |
| SHAUN WANE | 12 | 9 MARTIN HALL |
| ANDY GOODWAY <i>T</i> | 13 | 13 TERRY FLANAGAN |
| MARK PRESTON | 14 | 10 HUGH WADDELL |
| IAN LUCAS | 15 | 12 COLIN HAWKYARD <i>T</i> |
| | | 11. PAUL ROUND |
| | | 14 STEVE PATTERSON |

REFEREE MR. G.F. TICKLE

HALF TIME

TOUCH JUDGES MR. J. UNSWORTH
MR. D.C. LOWE

PENALTIES

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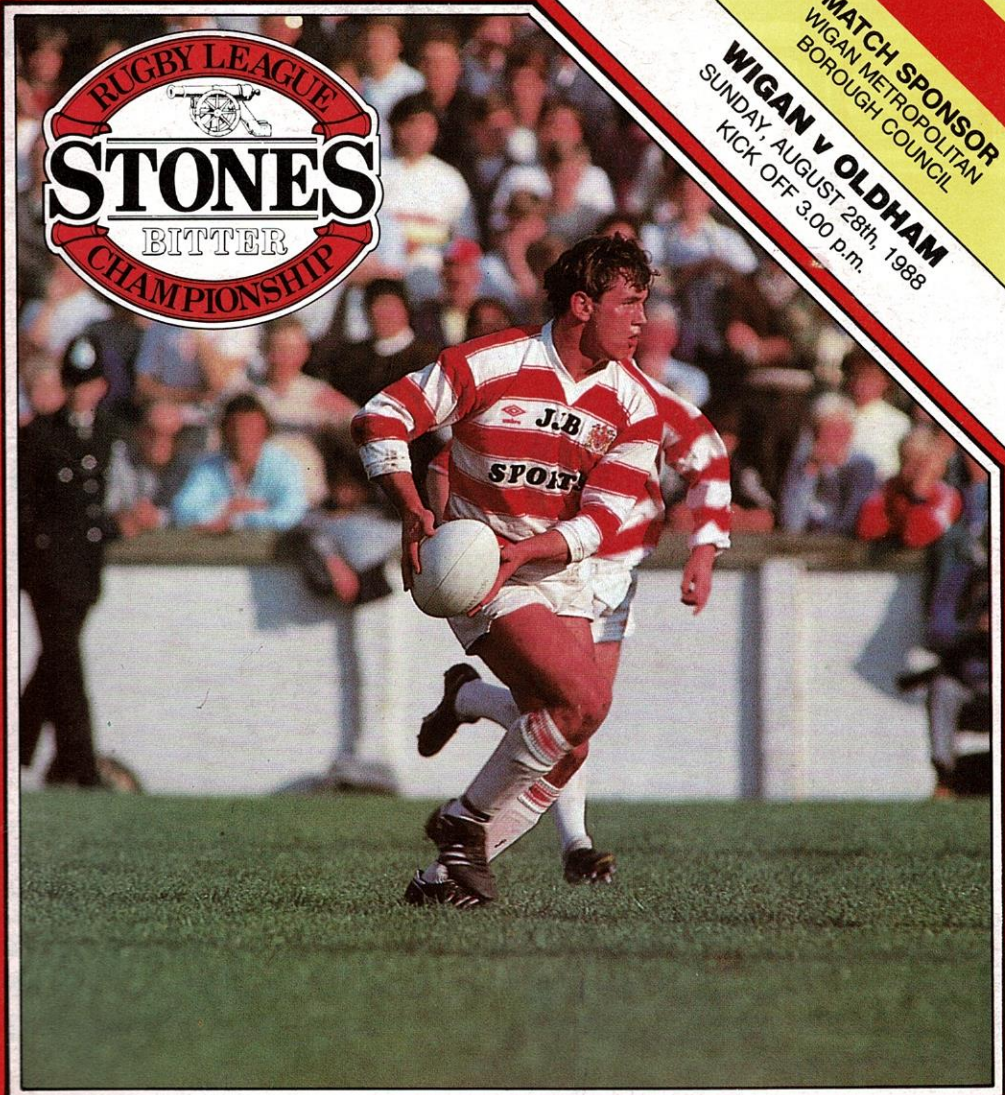
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WIGAN v OLDHAM
SUNDAY, AUGUST 28th, 1988
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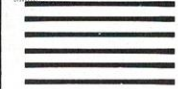
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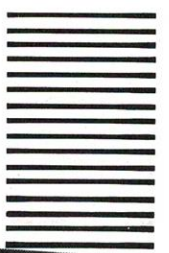
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HONOURS

World Club Championship Winners 1987

Rugby League Championship Winners

1908-09, 1921-22, 1925-26, 1933-34, 1945-46, 1946-47,

1949-50, 1951-52, 1959-60

First Division Championship Winners

1986-87

Challenge Cup Winners 1923-24, 1928-29, 1947-48,

1950-51, 1957-58, 1958-59, 1964-65, 1984-85, 1987-88

Floodlit Cup Winners 1968-69

Division One Premiership Winners 1986-87

Lancashire Cup Winners 1905-06, 1908-09, 1909-1910,

1912-13, 1922-23, 1928-29, 1938-39, 1946-47, 1947-48,

1949-50, 1950-51, 1951-52, 1966-67, 1971-72, 1973-74,

1985-86, 1986-87, 1987-88

League Leaders Trophy Winners 1970-71

John Player Trophy Winners 1982-83, 1985-86, 1986-87

Charity Shield Winners 1985-86, 1986-87

CLUB RECORDS

Year Formed 1872

Limited Company 1921

Colours Home: Jersey - Cherry & White Hoops - Shorts White -

Stockings white with red turnovers.

Away: Jersey - White with Blue Chevron - Shorts - White, Stoc-

kings - White

Nickname The Riversiders

Record Attendance 47,747 v. St. Helens 1969

Record Victory 116-0 v. Flimby & Fothergill 1925

Record Defeat 3-58 v. Leeds 1972

Try Scoring Record 62 in 1925-26 by Johnny Ring

Goal Kicking Record 206 in 1933-34 by Jimmy Sullivan

Points Scoring Record 430 in 1933-34 by Jimmy Sullivan

Welcome TO CENTRAL PARK

THIS afternoon, Central Park welcomes the Second Division Champions and Premiership winners, Oldham.

Back in the First Division, Oldham have an unquestionably difficult start to the campaign having to face Wigan today, then Leeds and Castleford in their first four League games.

Coach Eric Fitzsimmons will be experiencing First Division football for the first time and to help him, he has recruited Paul Taylor from Parramatta and Chris O'Sullivan from Canberra. Allied to the talents of tourists Mike Ford and Hugh Waddell as well as those of Paul Round and Charlie McAllister the Watersheddings will not be a dull place this season.

The First Division looks to be quite open this season with several teams in with a chance of the title at the outset. There will be no easy games and Oldham, Featherstone and Wakefield will be looking for early points to secure their First Division future and avoid a quick return to the Second.

Oldham will be hard to beat this season if their form in the Premiership Final is anything to go by. Losing a 22-0 lead to Featherstone to trail 26-22 with five minutes to go before Mike Ford conjured the position from which Kevin Meadows touched down. Charlie McAllister's goal sealed a two-point win.

Oldham's last visit to Central Park in the league saw the Roughyeds crash to a 54pts - 2 defeat at the hands of a rampant Wigan side during a run of six defeats which saw them slide into the lower flight as Leigh and Salford overhauled them.

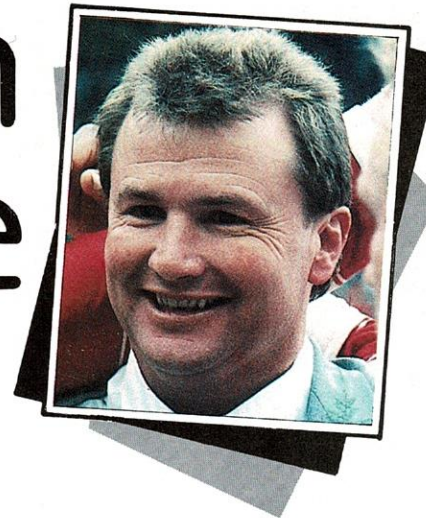
Following last year's success, Oldham will be reasonably confident of staying in the top flight and provided a good start is made, they should do.

This afternoon's fixture will be a good test of their strength against a Wigan side looking to get back to winning ways following the Charity Shield game last weekend. With several exciting, attacking players on show, it should be an entertaining eighty minutes.

The Club would like to thank the fans for staying off the pitch at the end of the Locker Cup match a fortnight ago and would like to say that a repeat of this would be very much appreciated this afternoon.

by Chris M.J. Wilson

Graham Lowe



EVERYBODY at the club was disappointed to lose the Okell's Charity Shield on the Isle of Man last weekend, as I daresay, were the thousands of Wigan fans who turned up to cheer us along.

It was made that much worse because after two year's success we had begun to regard the trophy as our own so it was tough having to hand it over.

But Widnes deserved their victory even though we didn't play too well on the day.

The teamwork didn't dovetail as it should but we will soon put that right.

Actually, it's interesting to note that even though our performance was below par, we still could have won, or at least drawn.

Both sides scored three tries each which meant the only difference in the final scoreline was the goal kicks and unfortunately Joe Lydon had an off-day with his right boot.

These things happen and the lads know what went wrong and have put the game behind them.

Team spirit is absolutely great as we embark on a new season.

The spirit among the fans is great too, as I also discovered on the Isle of Man.

After the Douglas Bowl game all the players and myself went along to this enormous Lido hall to meet the supporters.

The roar that greeted us when we walked onto the stage was deafening — it was worthy of a side that has just won the Challenge Cup, not just lost a friendly.

We were all deeply moved and promise that next time we are in the public limelight, we shall have a cup to show off.

I would like to welcome our friends from Oldham to Central Park today for the opening league encounter of the season.

The Roughyeds traditionally give us a hard game but also like to play fast open rugby which the fans appreciate.

I expect this afternoon to be no exception. Enjoy the game.



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A VIEW FROM THE TERRACES by STAN DOFFISH

JUST when you thought it was safe to watch BBC television, back comes the rugby league season . . . thank God.

I never thought I would miss Alex Murphy and Ray French strangling the English language on the box, but after two months of summer Grandstand, I'm not too sure anymore.

Actually, I think I shall have to revise my views on Auntie Beeb's coverage of our sacred game completely, perhaps it's not that bad after all.

I might even send a letter to the Rugby Leaguer praising their efforts, but they would only tear it up in disbelief.

But what is going on here?

Has Stan gone a bit soft in his old adage?

Will the BBC never feel the lash of his viperish tongue again?

This new mellow attitude has been brought about by spending the summer months trying to find a decent sporting alternative to rugby league.

It's not easy.

First try was television, and I was unlucky enough to stumble across Murray Walker torturing the mother tongue at a motorcycle meeting.

Over the taped screams of some Japanese two-stroke, he described the race leader as an 'ex-farmer'.

The week after it was truck racing, and what a pile of rubbish that is.

What exactly is an 'intercooler' anyway?

I could face no more and tried the radio.

Even the normally reliable bloke on the Radio Four sportsdesk was tongue-tied as RL scores came up from Australia.

"And here's some under night news from down over" he spluttered.

But of course sweet relief came in the form of the third Test from Sydney and this is where the BBC shot up in my estimations.

There we all sat, bleary eyed in our jim-jams, can in hand, watching in disbelief as our wildest dreams came true before our very eyes.

Wigan fans rejoiced on the terraces.

Mal Reilly, operating in what looked like the Sydney football stadium hen pen, nearly smiled.

Jack Gibson loved it because he could slag his fellow Aussies off even more than usual, and back we went to the Manchester studio where Peter Fox shouted a lot. It was great.

We could all look forward to the Test against New Zealand and a World Cup Final against the Kangaroos at Old Trafford.

Well we can dream.

Whoever decided to play a curtain raiser on that Christchurch duck pond wants a good talking to.

And if any opticians are tuned in, there's good business to be done in Sydney, Australia, where Mr. Michael Stone could do with a pair of binoculars.

But griping is going to get us nowhere, and the BBC probably won't have shown the game anyway.

They didn't show the Premiership final live did they?

It was transmitted though, all you had to do was nip over to Holland to see it.

A mate of mine went to Amsterdam that weekend — to look at the tulips, he reckoned — only to get back to his hotel room, switch on the TV and there was St. Helens and Widnes live on cable television.

A four pack of Grolsch out of the intercooler and he was in seventh heaven.



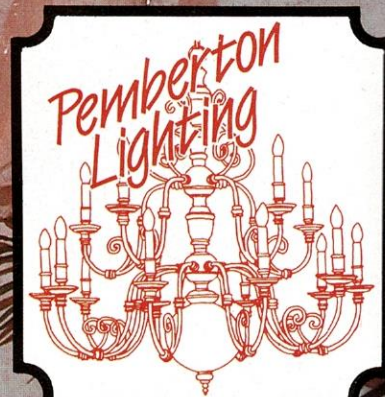
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THE HEINZ JUNIOR RIVERSIDERS

GOOD afternoon and a warm welcome to all supporters especially our friends from Oldham. I hope everybody enjoys today's game which should prove to be an exciting opener to the 1988-89 season.

The Junior Riversiders were given a tremendous boost this week by the announcement from H.J. Heinz & Co. that they have agreed to become the official sponsors of the organisation.

Now to be known as the Heinz Junior Riversiders, we are grateful for the support of such a renowned international company who, of course, are a key local employer. Our special thanks go to Mr. Brian Kelly who was closely involved in the sponsorship negotiations.

Since the official launch the interest shown has been fantastic and applications have been received

not just from local boys and girls but from outside the Wigan area as well. If you haven't already applied, please do so straight away to avoid disappointment.

A special enrolment night is to be held this coming Tuesday, 30th August at the Riverside Club commencing at 7.30 p.m. when those who have already applied can come along and collect their official membership cards and anybody wishing to join can do so.

The organising committee will be there to help with any queries from parents or members regarding the Heinz Junior Riversiders so please come along on Tuesday.

Cheers,
Graham Garswood

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 - Junior Riversiders' Page in the Programme •
 - Junior Riversiders' Column in the Wigan Evening Post •

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ENROLMENT NIGHT - TUESDAY 30th AUGUST 1988 - RIVERSIDE CLUB 6.30 pm

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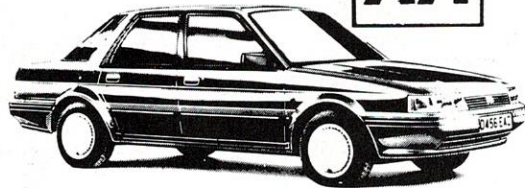
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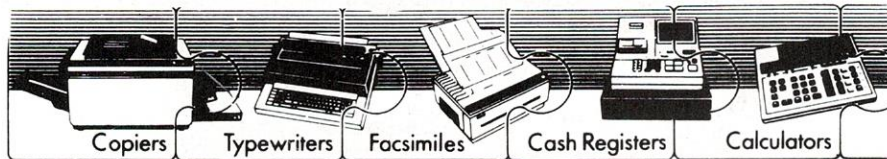
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TODAYS VISITORS

OLDHAM

MICK BURKE (Full back): Needs no introduction to Wigan fans. Won almost every honour in the game with Widnes and joined Oldham in a £40,000 deal in January last year. The only player to have won both the Lance Todd Trophy for the outstanding display at Wembley and the Harry Sunderland Trophy for winning the man of the match award in a championship final.

KEVIN MEADOWS (Wing): Experienced wingman who has seen service with St. Helens and Warrington. Joined Oldham, with team mate Steve Peters, at the start of last season and was an ever-present in Oldham's Second Division championship-winning side. Also scored the vital try that gave Oldham the Second Division premiership trophy in that thrilling final against Featherstone at Old Trafford.

RICHARD IRVING (Wing): Snapped up by Oldham from amateur rugby in Huddersfield. Richard won both Yorkshire and Great Britain amateur honours in youth football and Oldham expect big things of him as he gains in experience.

KEITH ATKINSON (Wing): Local boy made good. Keith won Great Britain international colts honours as a wing, and is also an accomplished goalkicker.

DES FOY (Centre): One of five Oldham players who toured Down Under in 1984 and the younger brother of former Wigan player, Martin Foy. Des won stacks of honours in schoolboy rugby and signed for Widnes before transferring to Oldham in a deal that took Brian Hogan back to Naughton Park. Pacy and penetrative, he played in the first Test against Australia in Sydney on the '84 tour — opposite the Kangaroos superstar Wally Lewis.

CHARLIE McALISTER (Centre): Hit the headlines last season when he turned pro for Oldham after have a 'secret' trial. His name leaked out, the RU banned him, and the former All Blacks trialist took the pro ticket. A big favourite with the Oldham fans, Charlie has spent the summer playing for Newcastle Knights in the Sydney League.

MIKE FORD (Scrum-half): His fans among the Wigan crowd will reserve a special cheer for Mike today. Spent several good seasons at Central Park and played in that magnificent Wembley final against Hull, alongside Brett Kenny. Moved on to Leigh, finally joined Oldham early this

year, and toured Down Under this summer with Great Britain.
IAN BATES (Scrum-half): Small and diminutive, Bates comes from Dewsbury. Heard of the name before? You should have. He is a nephew of that well known Dewsbury duo of yesterday, Alan and John Bates. Like uncle Alan, Ian is a scrum-half who has a good pair of hands and is an excellent defender despite giving away a lot of weight and size.

IAN SHERRATT (Prop): A local lad who joined Oldham via Bradford Northern. Big and strong, Ian has spent the summer playing with Stanthorpe, a club in the country areas of Queensland and he has come back simply raring to go.

HUGH WADDELL (Prop): What an impact Hugh made on the Great Britain tour! Got his big chance in the Third Test at Sydney Sports Ground and had a blinder in Britain's shock victory. A £15,000 buy from the old Blackpool Borough club in January last year, Hugh is currently on the list at £90,000.

NEIL CLAWSON (Prop): Son of former Great Britain ace, Terry. Neil was a £5,000 bargain buy from Featherstone two years ago. Made his name as a regular member of the Oldham pack last season, winning the man of the match award in Oldham's shock John Player victory against Warrington at Wilderspool.

PAUL ROUND (Second row): Joined Oldham at the start of last season. Tribunal fixed a £60,000 fee. Fast and long-striding, Paul is a player of great potential, as he displayed recently by scoring six tries as Oldham reached the final of the Central Park sevens.

COLIN HAWKYARD (Second row): A real stalwart of the Oldham pack, Colin a workhorse from Huddersfield. Due to enjoy a benefit next year, he has given terrific service over the years after joining Oldham from junior rugby in the Huddersfield area.

TERRY FLANAGAN (Loose forward): In his benefit year, Terry has made more than 300 senior appearances for his home-town club. Former club captain, first appointed at the age of 19. County, Test and tour honours, Terry went Down Under with Britain in 1984 after starring as a teenager in the same Saddleworth youth side as Nicky Kiss and Martin Foy.



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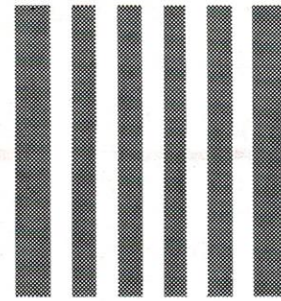
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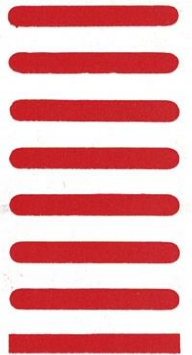
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THE COMMERCIAL SCENE



LET me say here and now, that the title Commercial Scene really doesn't do justice to a department that not only covers commercial activities but promotional and community projects as well.

What I would like to do over the next few games is to give you an insight into the way I see the Commercial Department helping to shape the future of Wigan Rugby League Club, and how you and your family will be able to get involved in that future.

That involvement can either be direct or indirect. This season will see the launch of the 'HEINZ' JUNIOR RIVERSIDERS, THE 'HEINZ' FAMILY LOUNGE with a fantastic new 'HEINZ' sponsored FAMILY ENCLOSURE to follow next season.

The greatest ever FIREWORKS and LASER LIGHT SHOW seen in the North-West will take place here at CENTRAL PARK on Saturday 5th November, and that will be a night that you can't afford to miss, a real night of nights.

And near the end of the season we will be holding the first ever 'FAN APPRECIATION DAY', that's the day when we say thanks to you for being 'THE BEST FANS IN THE WORLD'.

Those are just some of the things that will be happening this season that you can get involved in directly, by joining one or more of

the new and exciting new organisations or coming to the Fireworks and Laser show, you can get involved.

The 'HEINZ JUNIOR RIVERSIDERS' gives your children the opportunity to be involved right at the heart of WIGAN RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB, with the players, because, make no mistake about it, the Juniors will have players at every meeting, and they meet once a month.

The idea of a junior supporters organisation isn't a new one of course, but when it's organised properly, there's no better way to introduce children to the joys of watching sport.

The new programme offers you the chance of a more indirect sort of involvement. Let's say right from the start, we want this season's programme more than ever to be your programme, so, if you have any comments or complaints, let's have them, tell us what you would like to see, more or less photographs, cartoons for the children, more information or whatever way you feel the programme can be improved, tell us. If you don't, we can't do anything about it.

Write to: John Fillingham, Central Park, Wigan, and mark your envelope 'Programme'.

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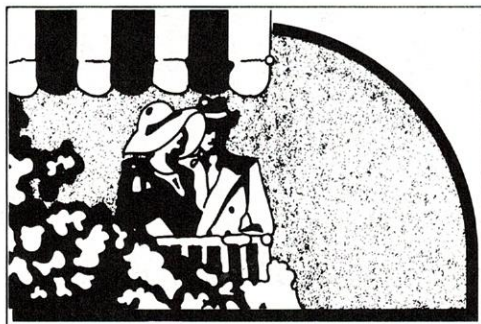
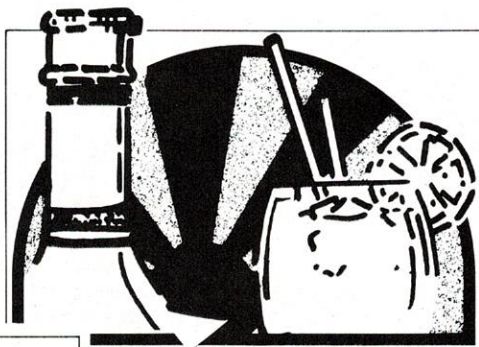


EAT

In the Laureate Restaurant at Kilhey Court you'll enjoy the finest new-style cuisine in delightful surroundings. If your mood is more casual you can dine in the Bistro K or the Inn at the Court — the food is still superb!

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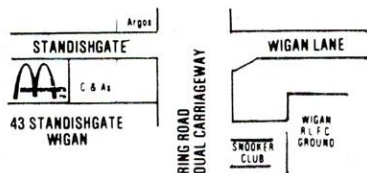
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AWAY TRAVEL

The first trip of the season is next Sunday, 4th September, to Wakefield. Coaches leave Central Park at 1.15 pm. Adults £4, Juniors £3.

The Lancashire Cup 1st Round draw has once again paired us with Barrow, on Sunday 18th September. Coaches leave Central Park at 11.30 am. Adults £5, Juniors £3.75.

Bookings for both of these can be made at the Supporters' Association shops inside the ground this afternoon. Memberships can also be re-newed at the same time — adults £1, juniors 50p. for the full season.

ALLIANCE TRIPS

Several people have asked about the possibility of providing transport to Alliance games, especially for the long journeys. The 'A' team visit Hull K.R. on Friday 9th September, and if there is enough response we will organise a coach. Anyone interested should come to our main shop on the Popular side for details.

* Don't forget the Alliance fixture at home to Whitehaven next Saturday, 3rd September, K.O. 3 pm.

PRESENTATION

Before today's match the Lancashire Federation of Rugby League Supporters' Clubs Player of the Season Trophy Award for 1987-88 will be presented to Steve Hampson. This competition has been sponsored by WHITBREADS for the last three years and has become one of the most prestigious awards in the game.

NICKY KISS TESTIMONIAL

The next event in Nicky's testimonial is a dinner dance at Kilhey Court on Friday, 16th September. Tickets price £15, are now available.

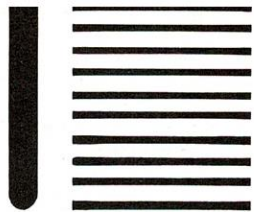
The testimonial match on 10th August was a great success, despite the weather turning nasty. Nicky would like to thank everyone who attended on that evening, including the players from the various clubs and those people who helped by selling brochures and manning the turnstiles. A great many brochures were sold at the game but there are still some on sale at our shops, price £1, as well as other testimonial souvenirs — ties £5, engraved glasses £1.99, T-shirts £4.95 and £3.95.

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CLUB NEWS

THE news that NORWEB are to become the Club's new shirt's sponsor was greeted with great excitement when it was announced on Wednesday.

NORWEB and Wigan will make a team that will be very hard to better in the world of Rugby League.

The sponsorship is for three years and is worth over £200,000.

We will have more details by the next programme, until then, let me tell you about another major scoop for the club —

H.J. Heinz are to become heavily involved at Central Park with our new projects for children and families.

They are to sponsor the Junior Riversiders organisation, which will hold it's enrolment night on Tuesday 30th August from 6.30 p.m. in the Riverside club. Full details of enrolment are available from the Souvenir shop.

Looking more long term, to the construction of a family enclosure, H.J. Heinz have again promised to sponsor this project.

The first phase will commence within the next couple of weeks with the construction of a Family Lounge under 'A' section of the Douglas Stand. The lounge will house a refreshment bar, souvenir shop, priority booking office and a toilet block. There will be hostess service in the lounge, and a live T.V. and video link to enable mothers with small children to watch the match live from the lounge.

Membership will be sold on a seasonal basis, details of which will be published later in the season.

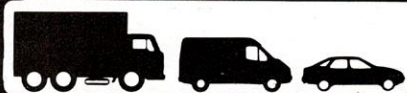
Phase two of this operation will be the designation of seats for the enclosure. Work on this will start at the end of this season, but initial plans are to replace existing seats with bright new red and yellow chairs, suitable for children. We will ensure full viewing of the stadium from all seats in the enclosure, and as well as the matchday facilities, the enclosure will be treated as a members club, with children being able to take part in competitions, games and voting for their Man of the Match.

The concept of the Family Enclosure, as well as offering security and comfort for families, is to make membership of the Junior Riversiders a natural progression for members when they reach the age of 7 years.

Rent a friend

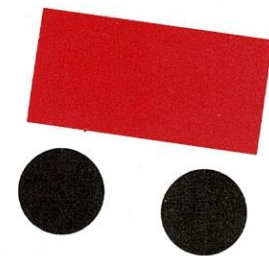


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The first trip of the season is next Sunday, 4th Sept., to Wakefield. Coaches leave Central Park at 1.15pm. Adults £4, Juniors £3.

The Lancashire Cup 1st Round draw has once again paired us with Barrow, on Sunday 18th September. Coaches leave Central Park at 11.30 am. Adults £5, Juniors £3.75.

Bookings for both of these can be made at the Supporters' Association shops inside the ground this afternoon.

Autographed Action Photos

In association with this club, individually autographed action pictures of your favourite players can now be obtained at £1.99 each (subject to availability).

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Your Name _____

Address _____

Player(s) _____

Total enclosed £

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PROFILE ON

SHAUN EDWARDS



Wigan skipper Shaun Edwards was born to Rugby League. Encouraged by his ex-professional father Jackie, the 21 year old Great Britain international has excelled at every level. He captained representative youth teams in both codes.

Signed by Alex Murphy the minute he turned 17, Shaun has played for Wigan all his professional career. It's no secret the

Saints' boss would dearly love to have again the signature of Central Park's star number six . . . who wouldn't?

But it's also no secret that Shaun is very happy playing for his hometown club. This week, Shaun is under the spotlight as we find out a little more about the young captain.

Full name: Shaun Edwards, but I'm usually referred to by my nickname . . . Gizmo!
Born: On October 17, 1966 in Wigan.
Marital status: Single.
Occupation: I'm a caretaker at Robin Park Sports Complex in Newtown. It's handy having all the sporting facilities around because I can do a bit of training when I have a break.
Type of car: I drive a Ford Escort, kindly sponsored by Rodstock, but recently I've been "on me" bike" to help strengthen my injured knee.
Favourite TV show: It's got to be Rising Damp, starring Leonard Rossiter. I can watch it again and again and still find it funny.
Favourite film: Monty Python and the Holy Grail. It's something else that really makes me laugh.
Favourite type of music: Funk, Soul and House music.
Favourite food: Well, they call us Wiganers pie eaters, so instead of saying I like English or Chinese food, let's just say I like Wigan food . . .
Favourite drink: A glass of Guinness goes down nicely, thank you!
Favourite reading: When I pick up a book I like to get stuck into a famous sportsmen's autobiography. Boxers are the best.
Favourite relaxation: I think the best way to unwind is just to have a laugh with your mates, or listen to some good soul or funk music.
Favourite sport: I like athletics in general, running, jumping or throwing, I don't mind.
Likes: It might look like I'm a glutton for punishment, but I really enjoy training hard, testing and trying to improve myself.
Dislikes: I'm not keen on work (who is?) or losing pay!

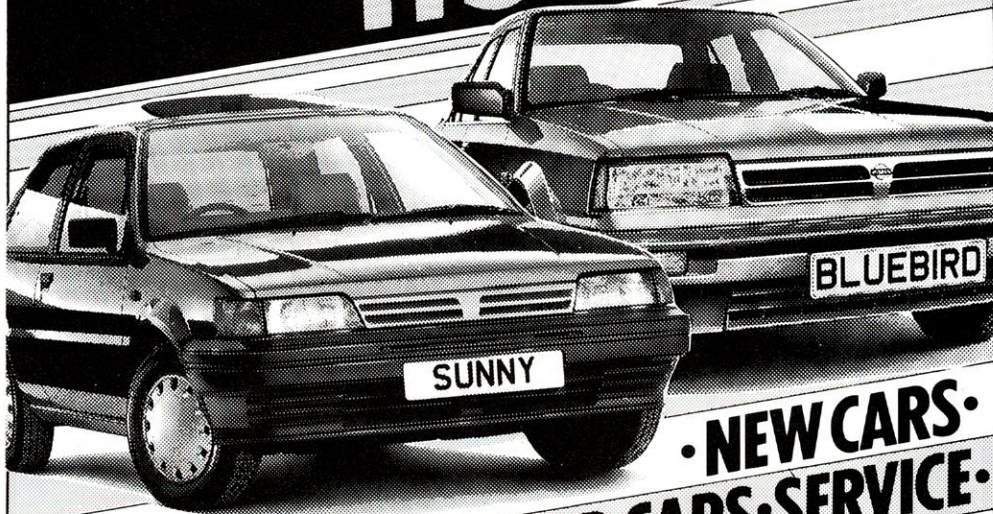
Superstitions: I don't believe in them . . . touchwood! No, honestly I haven't got any.
Favourite position: Winger . . . it's the easiest!
Favourite ground: Headingley and Wembley, they are where most players like to be most, apart from Central Park. I'm not too fond of that place in Papua New Guinea though.
Favourite player: Nobody.
People who influenced your career: I think my own commitment to training and to the game has been the best influence. Bad influences are Andy Gregory, Shaun Wane and Ged Byrne . . .!
Greatest moment: There have been many happy moments in my career, but the greatest moment of my life was when my five year old brother was born.
Worst moment: When I was injured on Tour. It wasn't just a bad moment, it was a bad period. All the waiting, coupled with the disappointment of missing the rest of the Tour was a nightmare. I was glad to get home, I can tell you.
Hardest player to tackle: Mark Dobson of Rochdale Hornets when it is his turn to get a round in at the bar.
Heroes: Anyone who tries to tackle Mark Dobson when it's his round!
Ambitions: The one thing I most want to do in life is to help win the Ashes for Great Britain. Beating the Aussies is the ultimate. The only other ambition I have is to be happy.
What would you like to be doing in ten years? Breathing!
Three wishes: 1, That Shaun Wane would give me a close game at golf. 2, That Andy Gregory wouldn't drink so fast. 3, That Ged Byrne would stop blowing smoke in my face!

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Wigan R.F.L.C. Records of current players

| | App | Sub App | 3 pt Tries | 4 pt Tries | Total Tries | Goals | Drop Goals | Points |
|--------------------|-----|---------|------------|------------|-------------|-------|------------|--------|
| 1. N. Kiss | 225 | 3 | 10 | 24 | 34 | - | - | 126 |
| 2. H. Gill | 211 | 4 | 30 | 112 | 142 | 105 | - | 748 |
| 3. G. West | 182 | 17 | 7 | 41 | 48 | - | - | 185 |
| 4. B. Case | 173 | 8 | 2 | 11 | 13 | - | - | 50 |
| 5. S. Edwards | 164 | 5 | - | 72 | 72 | 8 | - | 304 |
| 6. I. Potter | 162 | 7 | - | 12 | 12 | - | - | 48 |
| 7. S. Hampson | 144 | 5 | - | 34 | 34 | 13 | - | 162 |
| 8. A. Goodway | 120 | 3 | - | 42 | 42 | - | - | 168 |
| 9. E. Hanley | 112 | 1 | - | 125 | 125 | 9 | - | 518 |
| 10. S. Wane | 91 | 36 | 1 | 9 | 10 | - | - | 39 |
| 11. J. Lydon | 72 | 2 | - | 32 | 32 | 79 | 4 | 290 |
| 12. D. Bell | 60 | 2 | - | 32 | 32 | - | - | 128 |
| 13. A. Gregory | 56 | - | - | 7 | 7 | 12 | 1 | 53 |
| 14. J. Fairhurst | 50 | 15 | 7 | 5 | 12 | - | - | 41 |
| 15. M. Dermott | 42 | 4 | - | 3 | 3 | - | - | 12 |
| 16. R. Russell | 38 | 20 | - | 11 | 11 | 26 | - | 96 |
| 17. G. Byrne | 29 | 5 | - | 7 | 7 | - | - | 28 |
| 18. I. Lucas | 25 | 22 | - | 2 | 2 | - | - | 8 |
| 19. K. Iro | 22 | - | - | 8 | 8 | 7 | - | 46 |
| 20. J. Clare | 20 | 9 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 13 | - | 47 |
| 21. A. Shelford | 20 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 22. R. Braithwaite | 15 | 2 | - | 2 | 2 | - | - | 8 |
| 23. I. Gildart | 15 | 9 | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 4 |
| 24. T. Iro | 11 | - | - | 8 | 8 | - | - | 32 |
| 25. P. O'Neill | 9 | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 4 |
| 26. D. Marshall | 8 | 5 | - | 4 | 4 | - | - | 16 |
| 27. M. Preston | 6 | - | - | 8 | 8 | - | - | 32 |
| 28. C. Berry | 3 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 29. C. Rodgers | 3 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 6 |
| 30. D. Betts | 1 | 3 | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 4 |
| 31. D. Beswick | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 32. D. Ingram | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 33. G. Staziker | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |

(Only first class games included) (Correct up to but not including 21.8.88.)

Charlie Seeling — In the last home programme I asked if anyone knew the date of birth of former All Black Forward Charlie Seeling who played for Wigan before and after the First World War, as Ray French the B.B.C. R.L. commentator needed it for a book he is currently working on. Well, on the Thursday before the Locker Cup game Ray 'phoned me to say that top R.L. historian Robert Gate had already supplied him with the information. For anyone who is interested, Charlie Seeling was born on May 14th, 1883.

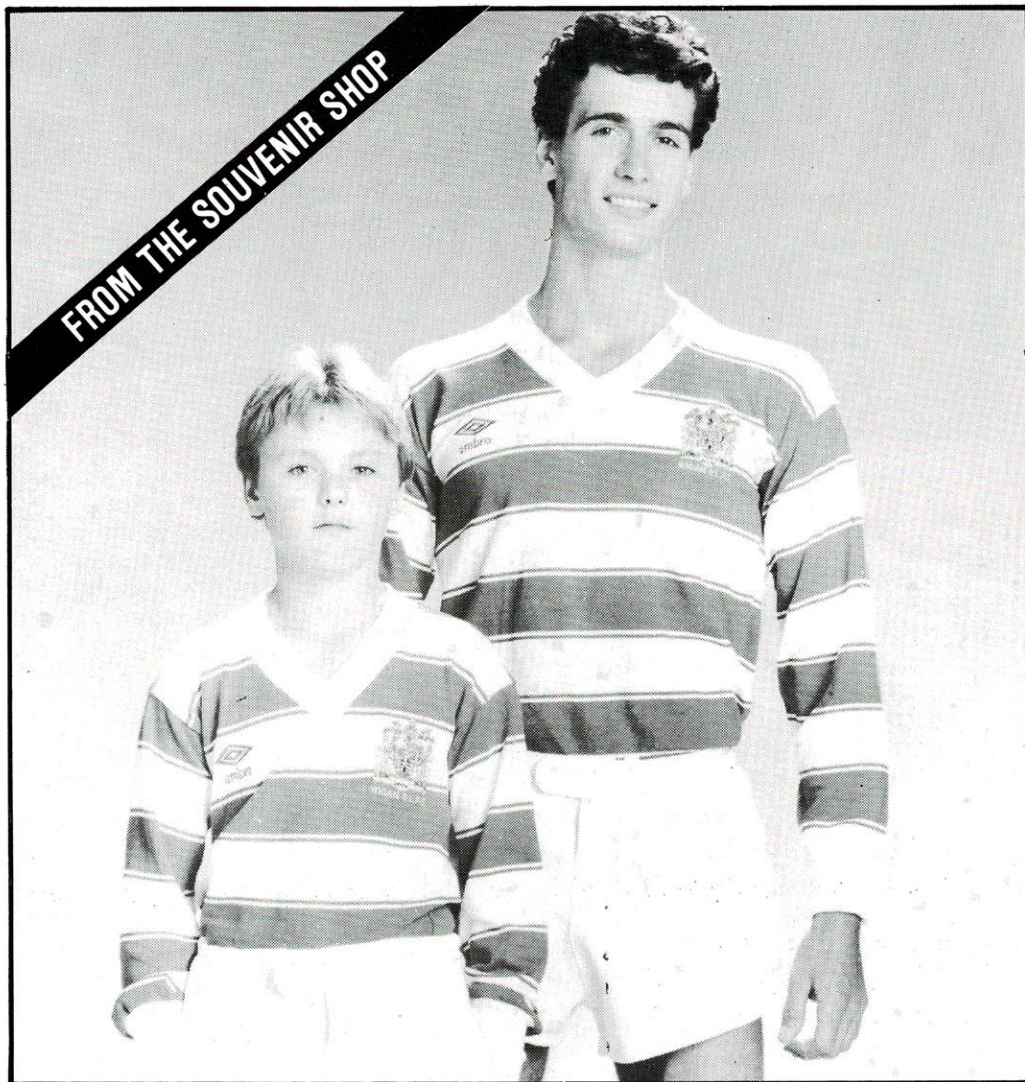
And Finally — If there are any Facts and Figures that you would like to see on this page or if there are any queries you want answering, please get in touch with me, via the club, and I'll see what I can do.



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BACK CHAT



Dear Sir,

I write on behalf of the committee and members of Merseyside police Headquarters Club to thank you for your invaluable assistance with our recent Charity Day. You will recall that the charities which we are supporting this year are concerned with local handicapped children and I am delighted to say that we anticipate having raised something in the region of £2,000.00 for such a worthy cause. Despite the unpleasant weather early in the day and with your generous help, we had an enjoyable and profitable event. Just as importantly, the handicapped children whom we invited on the day had a tremendous time.

When we have finished our accounts for the day, we shall be presenting cheques to several local charities and I am sure they, too, would like to add their appreciation to ours.

**Yours W.R. Sergeant,
Detective Chief Superintendent,
Secretary Headquarters Club**

Dear Sir,

I am just writing to ask if anybody has noticed a remarkable similarity between Andy Gregory and the U.S. star Michael Jackson?

No, neither have I.

**Yours, Lee Heaton
Standish, Wigan.**

Dear Secretary,

We have been requested by the local police to ask for co-operation in respect of Wigan supporters travelling to Wakefield by road using private cars next weekend.

Supporters should travel along the M62 past Wakefield to Junction 31. After leaving the motorway travel through Normanton on the A655 towards Wakefield. On approaching Wakefield adequate parking space is available near the ground on Heath Common and Special Constables will be on duty to assist parking and remain with the vehicles during the game as a security measure.

Coaches should leave the M62 via the M1 and then to the A650 through Wakefield to the A638 where, near the ground they will either be able to park at the ground or the Police will request passengers to alight and the coaches will be parked on the Common with the cars.

May we thank you for your co-operation in this matter which will be of assistance to us, but more particularly, to your own supporters.

**Yours, G.H. Gledhill
Wakefield Trinity R.L. Club**

Dear Sir,

There has been a lot written in the newspapers recently about which Rugby League club is signing which Australian 'star' and how much money they are prepared to pay.

Frankly I don't see what all the fuss is about.

A lot of these Australian so-called 'world-beaters' are over-paid and over-rated and I am really pleased that Wigan stuck to their guns and returned the loyalty showed to them by their Kiwi overseas players.

I hear that a lot of Australians wanted to play for Wigan in their close season but we turned them down and well done Wigan, I say.

I think a lot of these Aussies come over here for a holiday, thinking they can get away with mediocre performances each week because the standard of the English game is supposedly not as high.

There are of course some notable exceptions to this such as Brett Kenny and John Ferguson who came to Wigan, Mal Meninga at St. Helens and Trevor Cogger at Runcorn.

But we did the right thing putting our faith in the Iro brothers, Dean Bell and Adrian Shelford who I am sure will serve us well for many years to come.

**Yours, 'A Tony Iro Fan'
Whelly, Wigan.**

Dear Sir,

I read about the hundreds of Wigan fans at Heysham port waiting for the Isle of Man ferry.

I would like to point out they were not the only ones who could not get there. There were a lot of other Wigan supporters at pick up points waiting to go and watch the Charity Shield game.

I was one of them, so can you imagine how many Wigan supporters were left bitterly disappointed in Wigan and at Heysham port?

Let's hope the supporters can get there next year.

**Yours, K. Jones,
Garswood, Nr. Wigan.**



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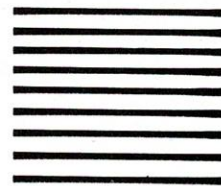
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Silly hat time — Graham Lowe and Jeff Hurst dress up after Wigan's Wembley victory. (Picture Peter Hill, Wigan Evening Post).



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RL NEWS

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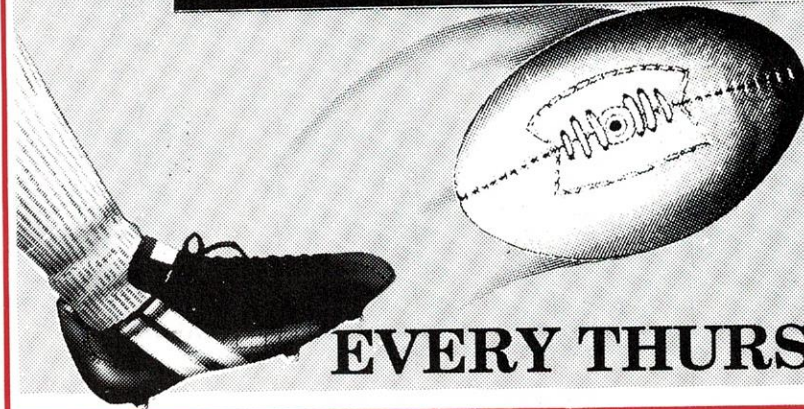
The publications will include Okells Charity Shield, semi-finals and final of the John Player Special Trophy, semi-finals of the Silk Cut Challenge cup, plus Wembley programme, the Stones Bitter Premiership Finals plus Great Britain v. the Rest of the World and France.

This collectors service guarantees the delivery of each of the above Big Match programmes in mint condition where possible on the day of the match being played. Please note that there are occasions when the programme is delivered straight to the host's ground due to printing deadlines and the Big Match delivery service comes into operation on the following Monday.

To subscribe to the 1988-89 series please forward a cheque/postal order for £14 made payable to the Rugby Football League to:- The Public Relations Department, The Rugby Football League, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds LS7 4HT.

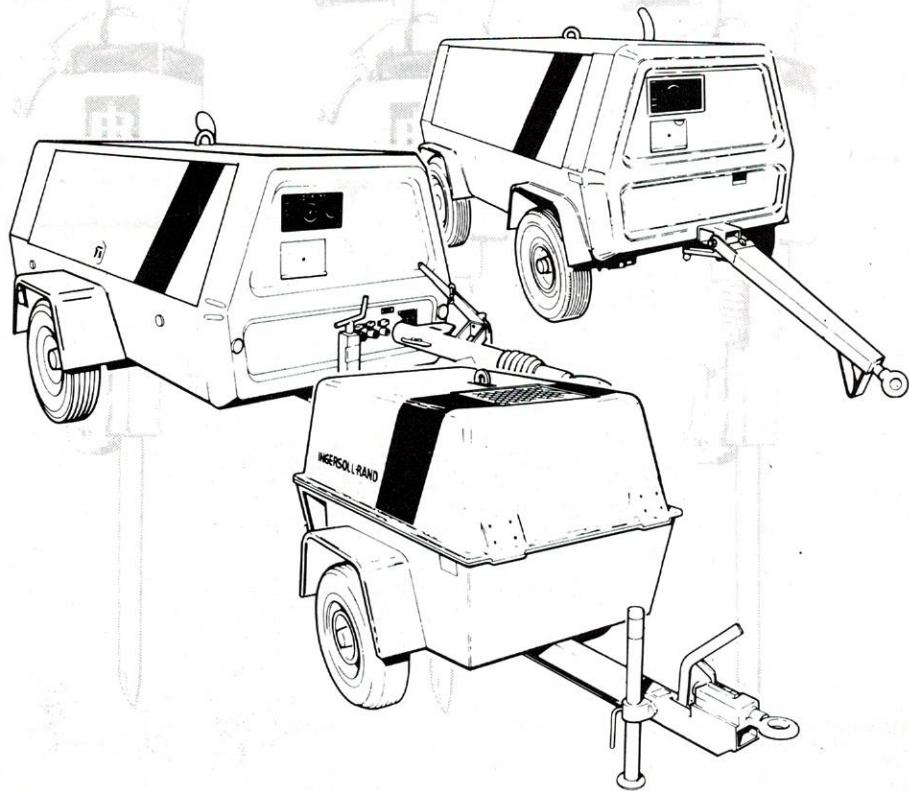
TEAM UP WITH JOHN BENN IN THE

WIGAN Observer



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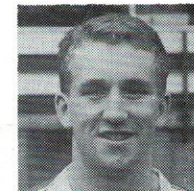
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Ellery Hanley



Shaun Edwards

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If you own a local business, you may like to sponsor a complete kit at a cost of £150.00. This will entitle you to a scoreboard message at one match during the season. You could say for example 'ANDY GREGORY's KIT IS SPONSORED BY "DAWSONS"' or simply 'DAWSONS FOR BETTER BEDS'.

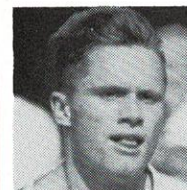
Either way, whether you choose to sponsor part of a players kit, or all of it, you will have the satisfaction of being able to say that you played your part in WIGAN's success.



Andy Gregory



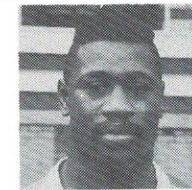
Andy Goodway



Mark Preston



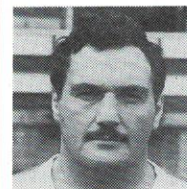
Steve Hampson



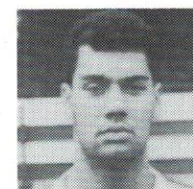
Henderson Gill



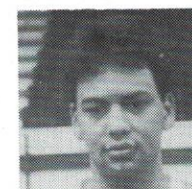
Joe Lydon



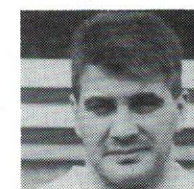
Brian Case



Kevin Iro



Tony Iro



Shaun Wane



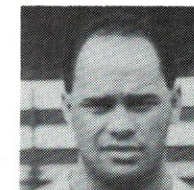
Nicky Kiss



Ged Byrne



Dean Bell



Adrian Shelford

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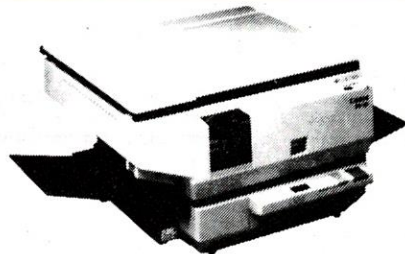
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IN RESERVE

We kicked off the season last Thursday with a very good performance at Leigh, winning 42-14 in a well contested friendly.

The first half was a pleasure to watch, with some excellent defence and good all round ball skills tearing Leigh apart, putting us in front 30-4 at half time with Marshall 2, Dermott, Staziker and a local trialist winger, plus 5 goals by Shaun Tyrer.

In the second half he changed the team around allowing us to have a look at all the players, this seemed to unsettle us for a while and Leigh hit back with two very good tries both converted.

We soon settled back down to the basics and scored further tries by Ingram, Goulding and the trialist winger. This was an excellent game for us to have a good look at this young playing staff, the future looks very good for the club. The aim of the 'A' team is after all to push the 1st teamers for their places.

The next 'A' team game is at Warrington on Friday 26th August and with this in mind we trained on Saturday afternoon at Blackpool. The session was truly brilliant, it gave the lads a chance to get away from the club surroundings and have fun as well as training hard. If you are free on Friday, why not come down to Warrington and give the lads some support.

Terry Cassidy

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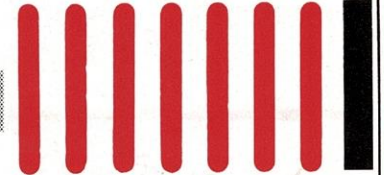
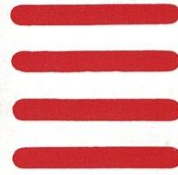
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Facts & Figures

Focus



| | Result F - A | Att. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|------|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| AUGUST | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 21 | Widnes (Charity Shield) I.O.M. | L | 14-20 | 5,044 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 28 | Oldham | H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SEPTEMBER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 4 | Wakefield Trinity | A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 11 | Hull K.R. | H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 18 | Lancs. Cup 1st Rd. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 25 | Bradford N. | A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wed. 28 | Lancs. Cup 2nd Rd. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| OCTOBER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 2 | Castleford | H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wed. 5 | Lancs. Cup S/F | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 9 | Leeds | A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 16 | Wakefield Trinity | H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 23 | Hull (Lancs Cup Final) | A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wed. 26 | British Coal Nines | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NOVEMBER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 6 | Widnes | H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 13 | JPS Trophy - 1st Rd. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 20 | Salford | A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 27 | JPS Trophy - 2nd Rd. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DECEMBER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 4 | Hull (JPS 3rd Rd.) | H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat. 10 | JPS Semi (1) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 11 | Halifax | A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat. 17 | JPS Semi (2) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mon. 26 | St. Helens | A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| JANUARY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 1 | Warrington | H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat. 7 | JPS Trophy Final | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 8 | Featherstone Rovers | A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 15 | Halifax | H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 22 | Warrington | A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 29 | Challenge Cup - 1st Rd. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FEBRUARY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 12 | Challenge Cup - 2nd Rd. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 19 | Leeds | H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 26 | Featherstone R. (OC 3rd Rd.) | H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MARCH | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 5 | Hull K.R. | A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat. 11 | Challenge Cup Semi (1) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 12 | Bradford Northern | H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fri. 24 | St. Helens | H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat. 25 | Challenge Cup - Semi (2) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mon. 27 | Oldham | A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| APRIL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 2 | Castleford | A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 9 | Salford | H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 16 | Widnes | A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 23 | Premiership 1st Rd. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat. 29 | Challenge Cup Final, Wembley | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MAY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 7 | Premiership Semi's | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun. 14 | Premiership Final, Old Trafford | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |



NEW RUGBY LEAGUE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In the biggest constitutional move in the history of the game, a new six-man Board of Directors has been appointed to manage the Rugby Football League affairs. Replacing the previous nine-man Management Committee, the Board is responsible for the day-to-day affairs and policy planning of the 13-a-side code, with the Rugby League Council now meeting once every two months.

Each Director has been allocated specific responsibilities with David Oxley, formerly the Secretary-General of the League, assuming the new title of Chief Executive with voting powers for the first time. Pictured at the first historic meeting are the six-man Board of Directors, from the left: David Oxley, Harry Jepson (Leeds), Bob Ashby (Featherstone Rovers), Maurice Lindsay (Wigan), Rodney Walker (Wakefield Trinity) and Joe Seddon (St. Helens).

Mr. Ashby, who has just completed his year's service as Chairman of the Rugby Football League, has been appointed Chairman of the Board for three years.