

TEAM CHECK

OLDHAM		WORKINGTON	
DUNCAN PLATT	— 1	— DAVID LOWDEN	
STEVE ROBINSON	— 2	— PAUL PENRICE	
JOHN HENDERSON	— 3	— NEIL ROONEY	
GARY HYDE	— 4	— MARK MAWSON	
PAUL LORD	— 5	— KEITH TUBMAN	
RICHARD RUSSELL	— 6	— GARY SMITH	
MIKE FORD	— 7	— GLEN BURGESS or JOHN NEWELL	
LEO CASEY	— 8	— PAUL VANETT	
ANDY RUANE	— 9	— ANDREW LAW	
JOHN FAIRBANK	— 10	— COLIN FALCON	
JOHN FIELDHOUSE	— 11	— KEITH LAMB	
KEITH NEWTON	— 12	— PETER RILEY	
JOHN COGGER	— 13	— GARY NIXON	
CHARLIE McALISTER	— 14	— GLEN BURGESS or JOHN NEWELL	
PAUL ROUND	— 15	— BRIAN BARKER	

Referee: Mr. C. Morris (Huddersfield) Touch Judges: Mr. M. Punter (Red Flag), Mr. R. M. Moseley (Orange Flag)

PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5
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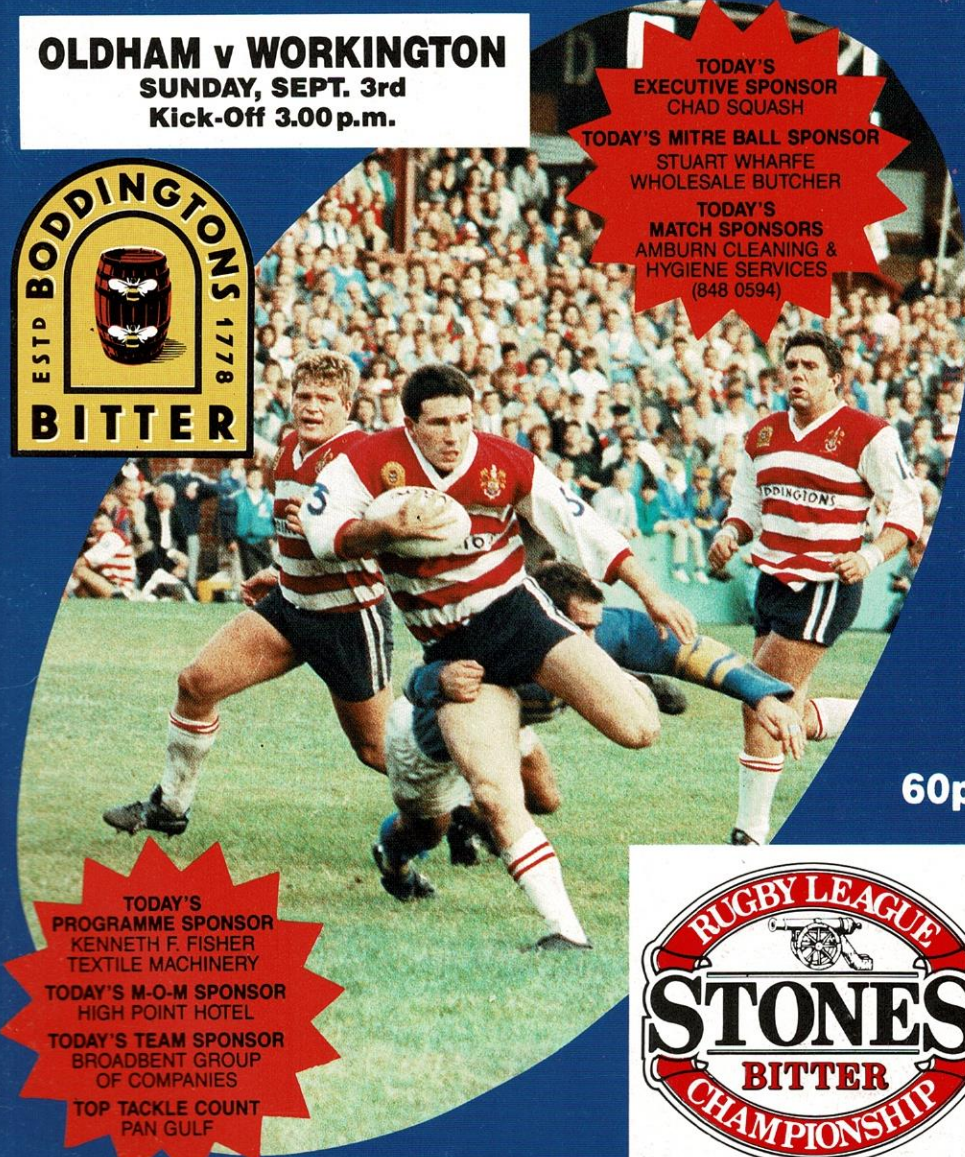
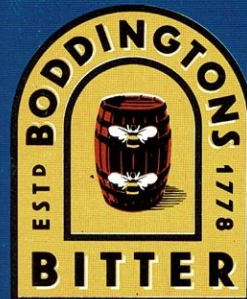


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CLUB RECORDS

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. Helens
for Paul Round August 1987
and £65,000 for Mike Ford January 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,
1987-88

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

Second Division Premiership: 1987-88

Programme Pictures: Oldham Evening Chronicle

Programme Typeset and Printed by Hirst, Kidd & Rennie Ltd., Union Street, Oldham, OL1 1EQ.

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ON OLDHAM



PLAYERS PROFILE

DUNCAN PLATT



PLAYER PROFILE

Full Name: *Duncan Platt*
 Nick Name: *Lord Platt*
 Birthdate: *9.7.65*
 Birthplace: *St. Helens*
 Marital Status: *Single*
 Occupation: *Trainee Sales Manager*
 Car: *Sierra 1.6L*
 Fav. TV Show: *Dallas/Coronation Street*
 Fav. Film: *The Sting*
 Fav. Music: *Bananarama/Wham!*
 Fav. Food/Drink: *Steak/Fresh Orange Juice*
 Fav. Reading: *Autobiographies/News-
paper Problem Pages*
 Hobbies: *Backing Horses/Sleeping*
 Fav. other sport: *Horse Racing; Motor
Racing; Golf*
 Likes about game: *Team Spirit, Winning &
Scoring*
 Dislikes about game: *Incompetent Referees,
Team Talks if we lose*
 Superstitions: *Same Winning Routine*
 Fav. position: *Full-Back*
 Fav. ground: *Elland Road, Leeds*
 Best moment: *Winning Championship;
Premiership with Widnes*
 Worst moment: *Losing v Halifax in
Challenge Cup Semi-
Final 86/7 Season*
 Hardest player to
tackle: *Everybody*
 Hardest tackler: *Andy Platt (Honestly!)*
 Fav. all-time player: *Johnny F. Cogger*

CAREER WITH OLDHAM

Date signed on: *December 2, 1988*
 Debut: *v Halifax, (A) Div 1,
4.12.88*
 Appearances: *15*
 Tries: *4*
 Goals: *41*
 Drop goals: *0*
 Total points: *98*

AUTOGRAPH:

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ON THE BARROW BEAT

(A regular feature with Oldham coach Tony Barrow)



WELCOME to a new season of Rugby League football at Watersheddings. I'm sure it is going to be a good one.

In sport, as in life, you have to make the best of what fate throws at you. That means we have to take a positive and forceful attitude into this Second Division campaign.

We have a lot to play for . . . the Second Division title with its first prize of £18,000, the Second Division premiership, with its big day awaiting the finalists at Old Trafford, and that is to say nothing of the Lancashire Cup, sponsored by Grunhale Lager, the Regal Trophy, and the Silk Cut Challenge Cup.

I'm excited at the future prospects for the club, following the launch of the youth policy and the signing of so many talented youngsters, and I think you all know by now that I was rather pleased, to say the least, when we completed the signing of John Fieldhouse last week.

John is a very talented and experienced forward, who has played all his career at the top level.

It wasn't for nothing that he was voted the man of the series when the Kiwis were here in 1985. Nor was it coincidence that the 1986 Aussies spoke of him as the best forward they had come across in the English game.

In signing John, we have made an excellent capture and I am delighted because he is a player I have wanted for a long time.

To this end I must pay tribute to my directors, who have backed me all along the line, not only in signing all the youngsters but also in bringing players like Richard Russell and Fieldhouse to Watersheddings and in bringing back Des Foy from Australia.

We are building up a tidy-looking squad now and we are

already preparing for the big leap this time next year when we will hopefully return to the First Division.

That is not to take anything for granted. But a club with ambition, like Oldham, has to look beyond one season. In our case, we have to build a squad that will do well at the highest level.

You can rest assured that we will be treating EVERY game like a cup-tie. I don't want to scrape into the top three, as the bookmakers would have us believe judging by the fact that they have made Halifax favourites for the title with Hull KR on their heels.

At Oldham we want that title, and the players will have to respond well to every challenge because there is considerable competition for places, and only the best will be good enough.

Looking at the signings we have made, the prospects for the future in the 'A' team, and the battles that lie ahead in the various competitions I have a feeling this could be a season to remember.

It's Halifax away next week — what a cracker that will be — and then it's off to Barrow in the Lancashire Cup. I know I'm sticking out my neck, but I have a hunch we could be the Lancashire Cup surprise packet.

All I ask is that you, the fans, get behind us, as I am sure you will.

TONY BARROW



OLDHAM RLFC
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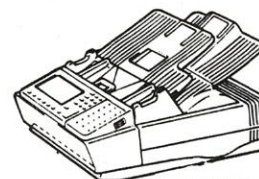


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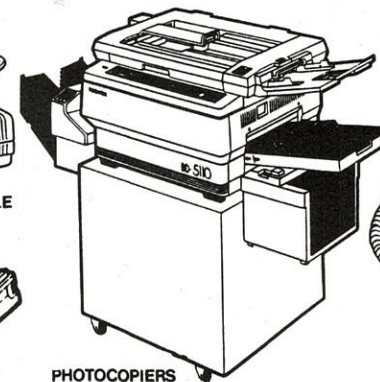
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FIVE MINUTES FROM M62 JUNCTION 21

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Oldham's two latest signings, half-back Richard Russell (left) and former international forward John Fieldhouse, will be hoping for a winning start to their careers with the club. They arrived from Wigan and St. Helens respectively just before the start of the season.

NEXT HOME GAME

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1st

v Hull KR

(Kick-Off 3.00 pm)

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TERRACE TALK

... by Jack Dearden

WELL, here we are, once again, at the start of a brand-new Rugby League season. Supporters of all teams will be full of hopes and aspirations. For some, perhaps, their dreams and ambitions will be realised, while for others it will be disappointment.

As the season unfolds before us, the answers to these questions will slowly emerge.

Can Widnes retain the RL championship for a record-breaking third year in succession?

Will Wigan go back to Wembley and return triumphant once again? Perhaps more importantly, how will they cope with the loss of an outstanding coach like Graham Lowe?

Of the teams across the Pennines, Malcolm Reilly's Leeds have flattered to deceive in recent seasons. They are still able to splash out on big-money signings but, as yet, are striving for consistency.

Still in Yorkshire, with Halifax, comes a clear indication of how quickly times can change. Two Wembley appearances and a championship season are now history as they return to division two and have to battle it out with fancied Oldham and Hull KR in the race to return to the top flight.

Of the three teams who went up last season, many people would have expected Oldham to retain first division status, but despite a tremendous effort they, too, must lift themselves as they prepare for a swift return to division one rugby.

Encouragingly for Roughyed supporters, a clear pattern is starting to

emerge from Watersheddings with their signing of quality, young players, blended with experience and players of proven ability.

Good, also, to see better times ahead for our neighbours, Rochdale Hornets. They have money to spend and have struck a deal to share headquarters with the soccer club. Fans of both Rugby clubs will have the added bonus of at least two local derbies which will add spice to any fixture list.

Well, now it's time to enter the dangerous world of predictions. For the major honours it's hard to remove Widnes from the list, whilst Wigan, with quite a number of their players having played all year round, plus a settling-in period for new coach John Monie, might not be quite as successful as in recent years, but without doubt they will be there or thereabouts.

Castleford and Hull could both be more than also-rans this season. For outsiders, Bradford Northern might raise a few eyebrows.

Oldham, Halifax and Hull KR are obvious candidates for division two honours, but Hornets will be out to throw a spanner in the works.

Finally, I will leave you with some of the quotes of the year from last season: "Despite what the Aussies say about their supremacy, the best players in British RL are British players."

"I often think all the things that made a good cowboy in John Wayne make a good rugby player: heroism, honesty, strength, confidence and self-sufficiency."

Enjoy your rugby.

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CUMBERLAND CUP TONIC FOR TOWN

WORKINGTON Town come to Watersheddings today on the opening day of a brand-new Rugby League season in the knowledge that they have already beaten Barrow and Carlisle to lift the Cumberland Cup.

First Division Barrow were beaten 28-14 at Derwent Park and then new-look Carlisle, with Harry Pinner at loose-forward, were knocked over 8-4 in a tough derby clash on the same ground.

As Carlisle had already beaten Whitehaven at the Recreation Ground, Workington can take great comfort from their feat in retaining the county cup.

They won it last year, too, and then had a poor season in the Second Division, finishing fourth off the bottom with only nine wins from 28 games.

"We hope it's not a bad omen to win the county cup again," says long-serving club stalwart John Bell, "but we are sure it's not. The big difference this year is that our home-grown lads have all matured together and we are a much stronger team than a year ago."

This time last year Town were looking to "outsiders" like Ray Tabern and David Ward, both in the twilight of their careers, to do big things for them.

Now the team is entirely homespun — most of the players coming from local Rugby Union clubs or from such well-established amateur League nurseries as Ellenborough, Clifton or Egremont.

Recently appointed club captain — and responding by showing some brilliant early-

season form — is loose-forward Gary Nixon, a former prop who has shed some weight and is now excelling at No. 13.

Nixon has had about six seasons at Derwent Park, but even that is not as long as prop Colin Falcon, who is now in his benefit year and still serving the club admirably.

Town will be fielding a strong and mobile pack with two young second-rowers in teenager Keith Lamb and Peter Riley and a promising prop in 24-year-old Paul Vannet, who has been transfer-listed at £25,000 after a breakdown in contract talks.

Vannet, who is seeking a club in Lancashire or Yorkshire, is expected to be watched by several scouts from other clubs today. Town regard the fee as a snip, Paul having picked up a lot of experience during the summer with Sydney club Cronulla, where he played in the first-grade side on occasions.

Gary Smith, son of a former Town player, will be at stand-off, and choice of his scrum-half partner will rest between Glen Burgess and John Newell, son of Jackie, the former Town and Great Britain star.

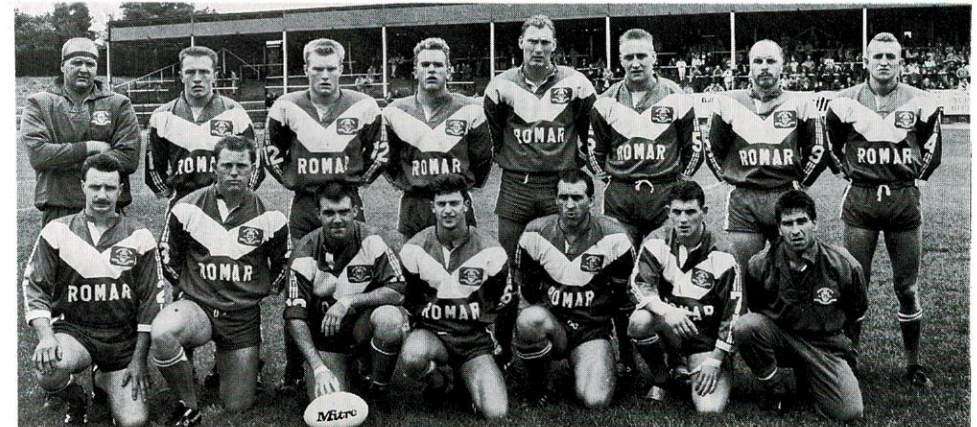
A young back division features Paul Penrice and Keith Tubman on the wings and Neil Rooney and Mark Mawson in the centre, while at full back is a player whom Derwent Park officials rate very highly, namely the £80,000-listed David Lowden, a nephew of the renowned Frank Foster, a prop who made his name with Workington and later became a firm favourite of the Watersheddings crowd.

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FIXTURES 1989/90

FIRST TEAM
(Stones Bitter Championship)
DIVISION TWO

'A' TEAM
(Slalom Lager Alliance League)
DIVISION ONE

SEPTEMBER

3 Workington.....H
10 Halifax.....A
17 County Cup (1)
27 County Cup (2)

OCTOBER

1 Hull K R.....H
8 Runcorn H.....A
15 Halifax.....H
22 Carlisle (2.30).....A
29 Batley.....H

NOVEMBER

5 Doncaster.....A
12 Keighley.....H
19 Fulham (2.30).....A
26 Doncaster.....H

DECEMBER

3 Regal Trophy (1st Round)
10 Regal Trophy (2nd Round)
17 Workington T (2.30).....A
26 Rochdale H.....A

JANUARY

1 Swinton.....H
7 Hunslet.....H
14 Hull KR.....A
21 Chorley.....A
28 Silk Cut Challenge Cup

FEBRUARY

4 Fulham.....H
11 Challenge Cup 2nd round
18 Chorley.....H
25 Keighley (3.15).....A

MARCH

4 Huddersfield.....H
11 Batley (2.30).....A
18 Runcorn H.....H
25 Huddersfield.....A

APRIL

1 Hunslet (3.30).....A
8 Carlisle.....H
13 Swinton.....A
16 Rochdale H.....H

Kick-off 3p.m. unless otherwise stated

SEPTEMBER

1 St. Helens.....A
8 Halifax.....H
15 Castleford.....H
29 Hull KR.....A

OCTOBER

1 Lancashire Shield round 1
13 Halifax.....A
21 Lancashire Shield round 2
27 Hull.....A

NOVEMBER

3 Widnes.....H
10 Wigan.....A
17 Hull.....H
24 Leeds.....A

DECEMBER

1 Warrington W.....H
8 St. Helens.....H
16 Carlisle.....H
22 Featherstone R.....H
29 Swinton C.....A

JANUARY

5 Hunslet.....A
12 Hull KR.....H
19 Warrington W.....A
26 Salford.....H

FEBRUARY

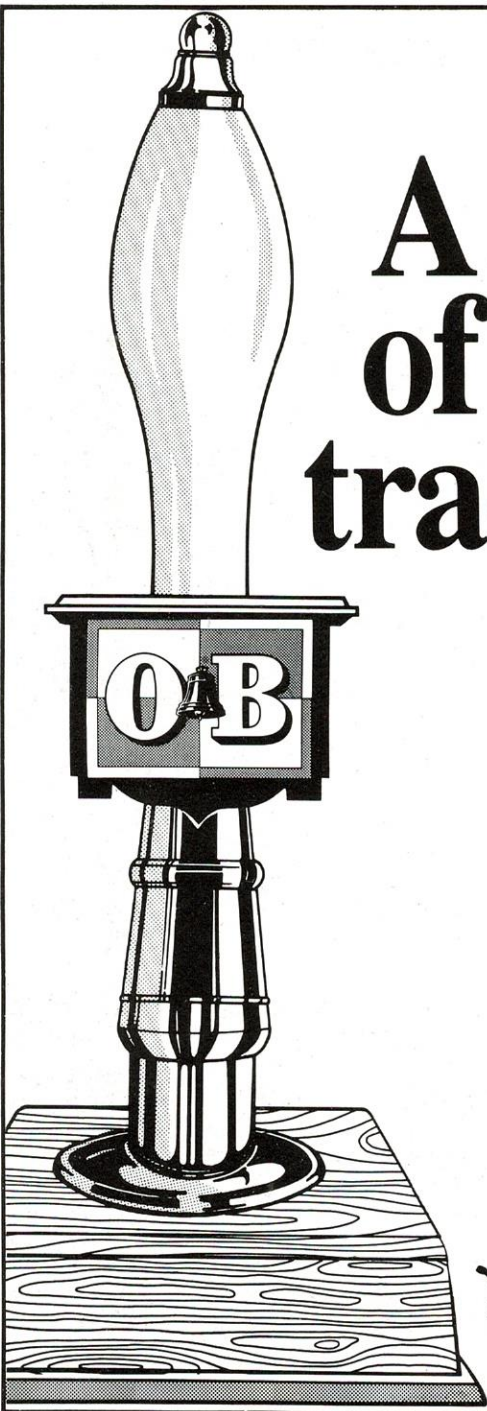
3 Alliance Cup 1st round
9 Castleford.....A
17 Alliance Cup 2nd round
23 Wigan.....H

MARCH

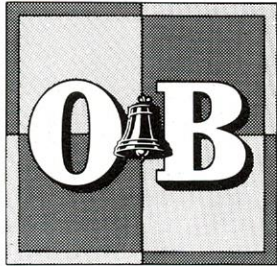
2 Featherstone R.....A
16 Leeds.....H
23 Salford.....A
30 Hunslet.....H

APRIL

7 Carlisle.....A
13 Swinton C.....H
20 Widnes.....A



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Player of the Year



Fans favourite, Chris O'Sullivan, was the runaway winner of the Boddingtons-sponsored 'OB Player of the Year'. Boddingtons flew the OB Trophy to Australia for a presentation before the recent Canberra Raiders home match against St. George.

OB CORNER

HELLO AGAIN!

WELCOME back to OB Corner for what should be an exciting season as Oldham and Boddingtons enter the second year of their three-year sponsorship agreement.

Last season was extremely busy in terms of off-the-field activity at various OB locals throughout Oldham and the surrounding area — and this season promises to be just as hectic.

Throughout the season we'll be keeping you fully in the picture about what's happening with the sponsorship through the regular OB Corner column in future editions of the Oldham Rugby League Football Club match-day programme.



BUSY CLOSE SEASON

OLDHAM players have been out and about throughout the close season making personal appearances at numerous OB locals.

John Henderson and Mike Ford called in at the Friendship Inn to help landlady Joyce Ingoe celebrate 20 years at the pub, which has just been re-opened

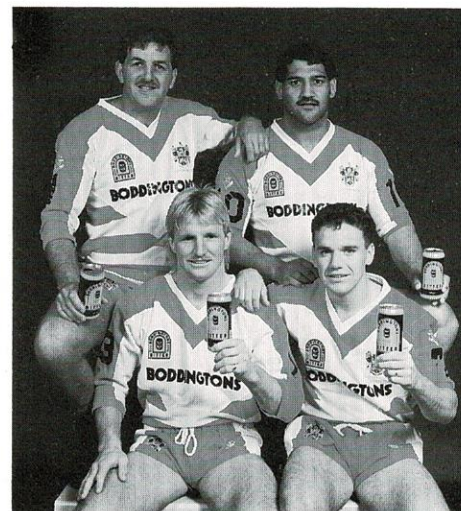
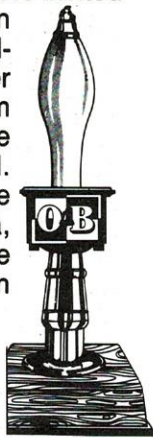
after a £20,000 refurbishment. As you can see, Joyce is keeping a firm grip on the ball while John (left) and Mike concentrate on the OB bitter, naturally.



CLUB captain John Cogger, after a short break back home in Australia, and newly-married Paul Round, have also been busy. Paul and John were invited to present a £2,000 cheque on behalf of Colliers Arms landlady Sheila Willans and her regulars, who 'escaped' from Oldham to raise funds for the Oldham Hospice Appeal. Seen here (from left) are Sheila Willans, Mr. Hira, mastermind behind the Hospice Appeal, and John and Paul.

The duo also visited Rochdale to wish Rick and Maureen McClure, the new managers at another OB local, the Princess Royal, all the best for the future. Judging by the packed pub, the couple can look forward to a successful future in the pub game.

The entire first team squad gave Golden Buck landlord, Derek Heath, the surprise of his life when they called in at his OB local to help him celebrate his re-opening party. The Oldham squad has been visiting Boddingtons Strangeways Brewery for a pre-season reception and joined in the scrum at the bar for last orders to wish Derek and his wife Christine all the best for the future.



YOU'RE OK WITH OB — JUST LIKE CHARLIE, JOHN, MIKE AND PAUL

YOU'RE OK with OB! Who says so? Four thirsty Oldham Rugby League players for a start. And to make sure OB drinkers receive the message loud and clear the foursome are appearing on two special limited-edition T-shirts that state 'You're OK with OB!'

New Zealand centre Charlie McAlister and bustling forward Paul Round appear on one shirt with Aussie skipper John Cogger and GB international Mike Ford gracing the other.

In future issues of your match-day programme we'll be giving you the chance to win one of these special T-shirts. Alternatively, you could call in at an OB local where the players are making a personal appearance as the T-shirts will be raffle prizes together with a case of Boddingtons, the North-West's most popular bitter.

MAN OF THE MONTH

ONE of the most keenly contested awards introduced last season was the Evening Chronicle OB Man of the Month, judged by Rugby League writer Roger Halstead. Last season's winners included Aussies Chris O'Sullivan and John Cogger, with Andy Ruane and Mike Ford also receiving Roger's vote.

This season the award is being continued, with the winner collecting an inscribed medal, a £100 cheque and a case of Boddingtons bitter to celebrate in style. Who will be the first winner this season? Today's game will give you one or two pointers.



CHEERS! HERE'S TO A SUCCESSFUL SEASON

LOOKING forward to a highly successful campaign is the Oldham RLFC first team squad, who visited the Strangeways Brewery for a pre-season reception with the club's official sponsors.

CONGRATULATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS to Roger Halstead, the Evening Chronicle's Rugby League journalist, who celebrated 25 years of covering Oldham RLFC at the end of last season. To commemorate the occasion, the club and sponsors presented Roger with a cut-glass decanter.



Seen here are (from the left): Shaun Bell (Boddingtons), Roger Halstead and Ray Hill (ORLFC Commercial Manager).



MAJOR SPONSOR OF THE RUGBY LEAGUE.

COMMERCIAL CORNER with RAY HILL

LAST season our Oldham Rugby League match day magazine was the envy of most clubs in the Rugby League. The colourful, eye-catching front cover, capturing Des Foy in full flow, was voted the best in the League bar none. At the same time, the programme itself was judged to be the fifth best, a remarkable achievement when you consider that the year before it was placed a lowly 27th.

Having an entertaining and informative programme all adds to the atmosphere on match days and we are proud of the vast improvements we have made with our publication.

However, the costs of publishing the match day programme, like inflation, are rising faster than we would like. The result, unfortunately, is that as from the next home match against Hull KR the magazine will cost 80p.

However, despite the cover price increase, our programme still represents great value for money, especially as we are relaunching the programme for the Hull KR game with a brand new, attention-grabbing front cover and a whole host of exciting new features that will give you a good read before — and after — kick off!

What's more, we are also introducing a system of vouchers in the new-look programme so you can obtain full colour pictures of your favourite players absolutely FREE. All you have to do is collect five vouchers — one appears in each match day programme — and take them to our souvenir shop under the pavilion. A signed photograph of the Oldham player you like best will be yours.

Look out for the new programme when we entertain Hull KR at the Water-sheddings. As I've said already, you'll find the magazine is unbeatable value for money.

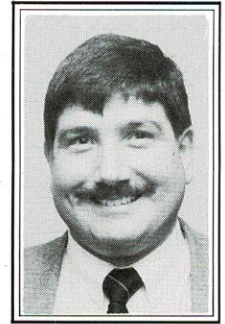
You'll also get your money's worth with our weekly Lifeline and daily Cashline draws where you can win £1,000 and £100 respectively!

Lifeline continues to go from strength to strength, especially since club captain John Cogger has joined John Watkins helping to sign new members. At the moment there are over 3,000 people on our books, one of whom will be driving away a brand new G-reg £6,000 car when we make a special draw on 15th October. That lucky Lifeline member could be you so make sure your subscriptions are fully paid up. And if you're not a member why not join today!

Cashline has a new face, too, with Kevin Platt managing the £100-a-day draw. Kevin's operating from our new prestigious offices — from where I am penning this column — and is keen to sign new members. Both Lifeline and Cashline give you the chance to win loadsamoney and a lot more besides, so if you aren't signed up, you're missing out!

Underneath our offices is the new club shop where the usual souvenirs — including scarves, hats and jumpers — are on sale. The shop's well worth a visit, especially as replica kits of our new strip will soon be available.

Finally, I and everyone else in the commercial department are looking forward to a busy and extremely successful season both on and off the field. We hope too that you have a great season supporting the team and the club.



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STONES BITTER AWARDS

RUGBY League's premier Man of Steel Award scheme is to be sponsored by Stones Bitter in a new three-year £50,000 deal.

The Man of Steel title was launched in 1977 and is awarded to the personality judged to have made the most impact on the season, the 1990 award being doubled by Stones Bitter to £4,000. Prize cheques and silver goblets are also presented to the First and Second Division Players, Young Player, Coach and Referee of the Year, the 1990 title-winners to receive £1,000. The two runners-up for each of these five category awards will be presented with £200 and an inscribed medal.

The Stones Bitter Man of Steel Awards will be presented at a new-style gala dinner at the Holiday Inn, Manchester, on Thursday, 10th May, 1990. Great Britain and Wigan skipper Ellery Hanley lifted the 1989 Man of Steel Awards to extend his record to three titles, the roll of honour being:

- 1977 David Ward (Leeds)
- 1978 George Nicholls (St Helens)
- 1979 Doug Laughton (Widnes)
- 1980 George Fairbairn (Wigan)
- 1981 Ken Kelly (Warrington)
- 1982 Mick Morgan (Carlisle)
- 1983 Allan Agar (Featherstone R)
- 1984 Joe Lydon (Widnes)
- 1985 Ellery Hanley (Bradford N)
- 1986 Gavin Miller (Hull KR)
- 1987 Ellery Hanley (Wigan)
- 1988 Martin Offiah (Widnes)
- 1989 Ellery Hanley (Wigan)

Stones Bitter will also be backing the Top Scorers Awards of £25 a try for the leading try-scorer and £5 a goal for the top goal-scorer.

The Stones Bitter Team of the Month and Year Awards have been increased to £500 for the Stones Bitter Championship Team of the Month and £350 for the Second Division Team of the Month, plus £1,500 for the adjudged Team of the Year, a total prize structure of £8,300.

RECORD PRIZE MONEY

THE 1989-90 Stones Bitter Champions will receive a Rugby League record £40,000 prize cheque ... a 60% annual increase.

The bumper payout marks the launch of a new three-year £750,000 sponsorship of the League Championship and Premiership competitions by Bass North.

Prize money for the three other Stones Bitter titles is also increased by more than 50% with £18,000 for the Second Division Champions, £15,000 for the Stones Bitter Premiership winners and £8,000 for the Second Division Premiership victors.

Half of the 1989-90 sponsorship fee of £225,000 is to be distributed in prizes, including runners-up awards, the remaining £112,500 being invested in the League's Capital Development Fund.

Rugby League Chairman Bob Ashby said: "The lifting of the Stones Bitter Championship Trophy has been traditionally recognised as the greatest team achievement in the 13-a-side code. This massive increase in the top prize in the Stones Bitter showcase fully reflects the honour of finishing at the top of the table after a demanding eight months campaign."

"Rugby League reached new invigorating heights last season marked by a 25% increase in attendances in the streamlined Stones Bitter Championship, the League title not being decided until the last match of the season, and a record-breaking gate of 40,000-plus for the Stones Bitter Premiership double-header at Old Trafford."

Paul Hughes, Marketing Director of Bass North, said: "We are convinced that the increased prize money further lifts the prestige of the Stones Bitter Championship and Premiership and consolidates the happy partnership that exists between Bass and the Rugby League."

"We believe the marketing programme we have developed with the Rugby League has contributed to the growth in popularity of the game and the increased crowd attendances, and we look forward to the future with confidence."

The 1989-90 prize structure will be as follows:

	1989-90	(1988-89)
Stones Bitter Championship	40,000	(25,000)
Runners-up	15,000	(10,000)
Second Division Championship	18,000	(12,000)
Runners-up	7,500	(5,000)
Stones Bitter Premiership	15,000	(10,000)
Runners-up	6,000	(4,000)
Second Division Premiership	8,000	(5,000)
Runners-up	3,000	(2,000)
TOTAL PRIZE MONEY	112,500	
CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND	112,500	
GRAND TOTAL	£ 225,000	

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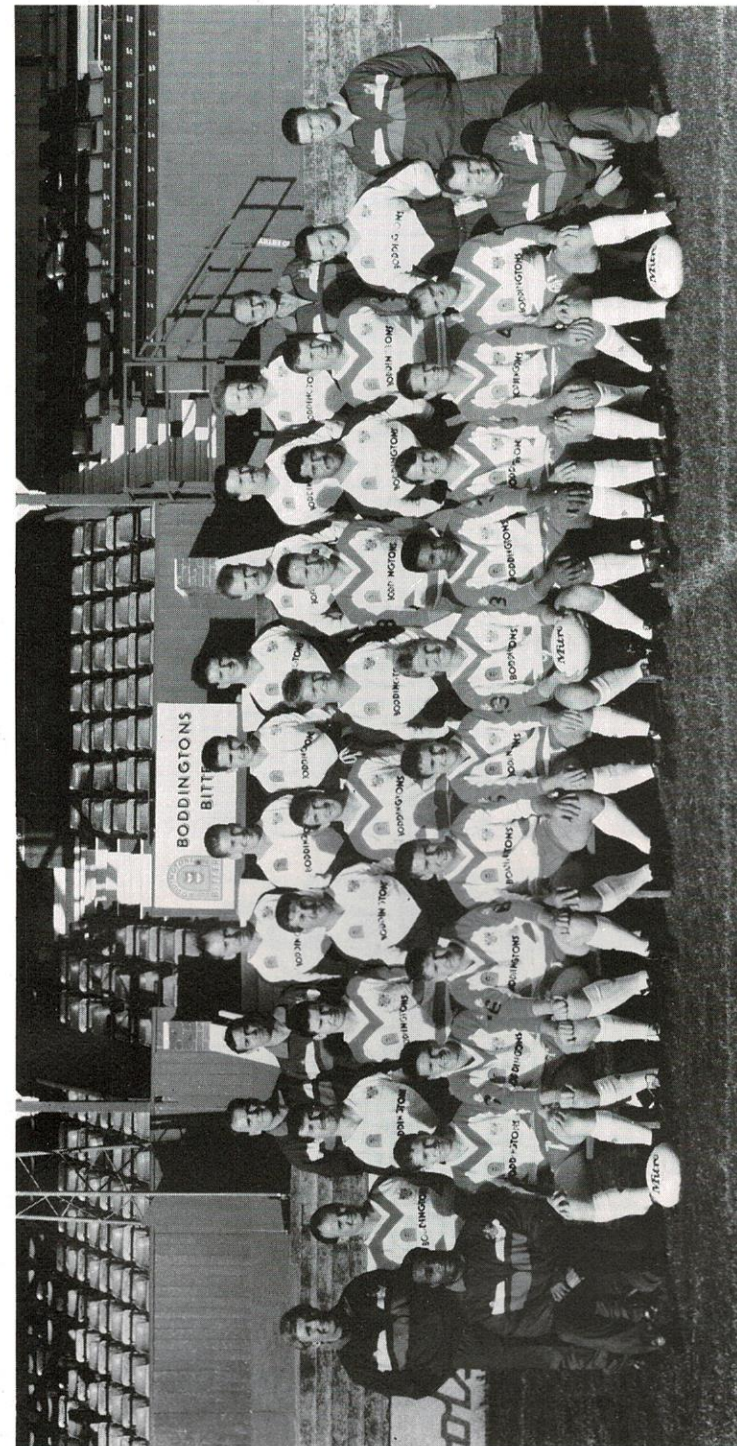
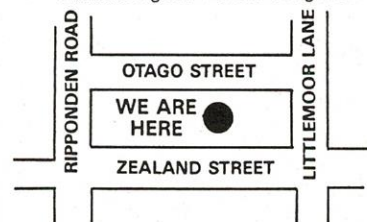
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READY for action in the club's new strip. The players and coaching staff assembled for the first team picture of the new season at Watersheddings recently. Back row (left to right): Ian Taylor, Derek Whitehead, Mick Bardsley, Tony Barrow jnr., Chris Joynt, Duncan Platt, Trevor Croston, Andy Ruane, John Fieldhouse, Bill Kindon. Middle row: Tony Barrow, Paddy Kirwan, Shaun Allen, Craig Mort, Paul Round, John Henderson, Leo Casey, Colin Hawkyard, Charlie McAlister, John Fairbank, Keith Newton, Keith Openshaw (medical). Front: Ossie Rowe, Steve Entwistle, Mick Ford, Richard Russell, Keith Atkinson, Neil Flanagan, John Cogger, Richard Irving, Steve Robinson, Tony Leech, Kevin Meadows, John Watkins.

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NEW FORMULA FOR DIVISION TWO

THERE'S a new-look second division this season — thanks to Chorley joining the League for the first time — with 21 clubs now competing in the division during the 1989/90 campaign.

As a result, a new fixture structure has been agreed by the Rugby League with the 21 clubs being divided into three groups of seven, each group being of mixed ability and

compiled using last season's final League tables.

Oldham, along with the other two relegated clubs, Halifax and Hull KR, occupy the positions of the three promoted clubs with newcomers Chorley joining as team number 21.

Oldham are in Group A and will play all the teams in Groups B and C but will not play teams in their group.

FOR THE RECORD, THE GROUPS ARE:

Group A

Oldham
Ryedale-York
Whitehaven
Bramley
Dewsbury
Trafford B
Nottingham

Group B

Halifax
Swinton
Keighley
Fulham
Hunslet
Workington
Runcorn H

Group C

Hull KR
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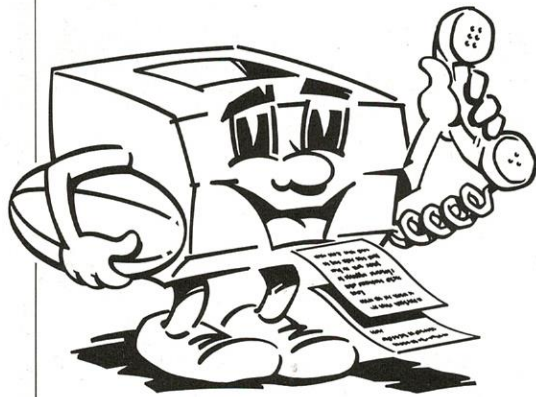
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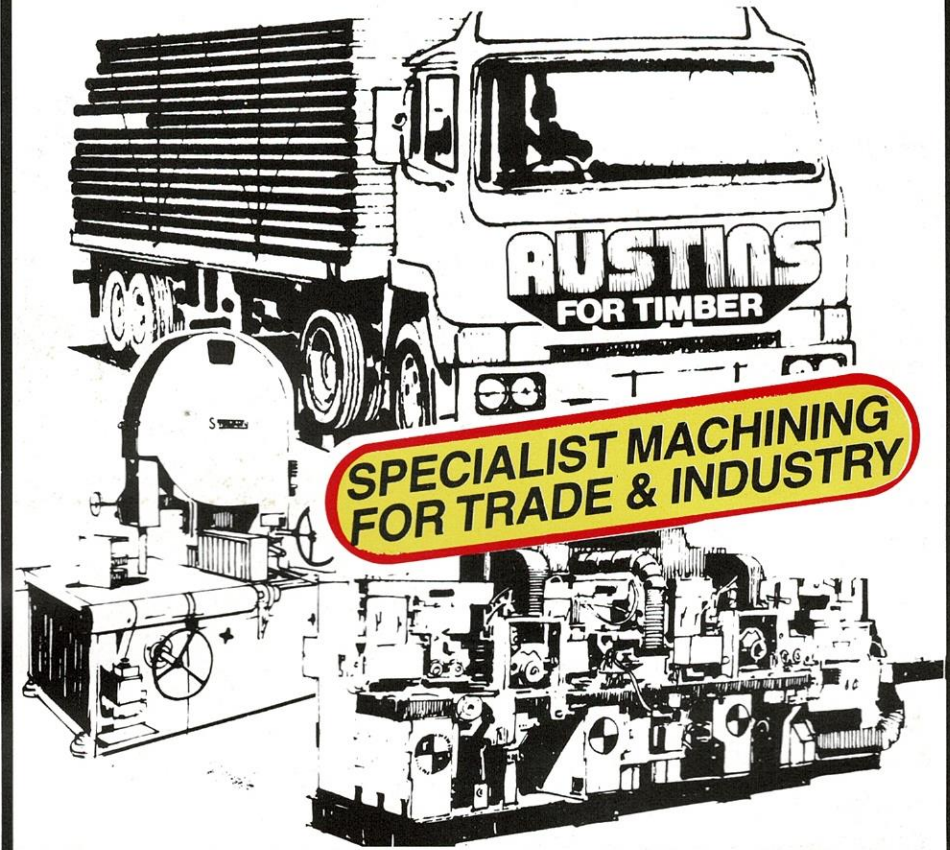
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