

Clearly a Winner



NO MYTHS · JUST MAGIC

GRUNHALLE

LAGER

1989 R.L. LANCASHIRE CUP FINAL



OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

80p

OLDHAM v WARRINGTON

KNOWSLEY ROAD, ST HELENS

SATURDAY OCT. 14th KICK OFF 3.00pm

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY LEAGUE

OFFICIALS 1989 — 90

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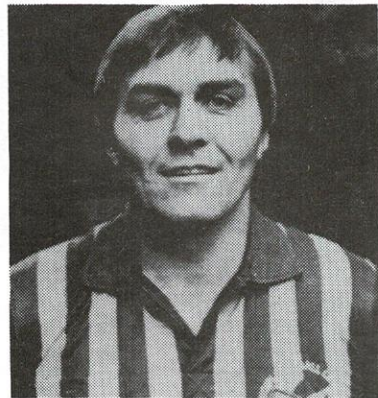
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Man in the Middle



R. TENNANT
(Castleford)

Date of birth: 7-4-49
Grade One: 1985-86

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President's Welcome

WELCOME to Knowsley Road for what promises to be an intriguing Grünhalle Lancashire Cup Final between the two in-form teams of the moment, Oldham and Warrington.

Both were deemed underdogs in their semi-final quests, though I doubt if Warrington would thank me for that remark as they currently sit on top of the league table, being the only unbeaten side in the first division. But I am sure that even their most loyal fan could not have foreseen the total demolition job they did on World Club Champions Widnes as they brushed them aside with ease to score a 28-6 victory. Their other successes in the competition came with a home win against Swinton who fought bravely for a respectable 16-6 scoreline, and against my home team Leigh, Warrington winning 25-10 at Hilton Park.

Oldham in front of a full house beat high-riding Wigan by the narrowest of margins 19-18 thanks to a late penalty by Gary Hyde. Their other two wins were also against first division opposition and Oldham handed out demolition jobs to Barrow 46-2 at Craven Park, and then saw off St Helens 36-6 at Knowsley Road. Oldham look certain to return to the first division next season, after being unluckily relegated, and Tony Barrow is using the time wisely to build up a side capable of holding on to first division status.

As I mentioned earlier my own club Leigh went out at the second hurdle. I would dearly have loved them to reach the final in this my Presidential year, having represented them since 1983 on the Lancashire County Committee, but it was not to be and I must admit that the teams competing in the final have earned the right to be there.

For the fourth season the competition has been sponsored by Grünhalle Lager and I would like to formally welcome their Managing Director Paul Clubb and his guests to St Helens. Paul in fact is no stranger to the occasion having presented the trophy for the past three seasons. This



year Grünhalle have injected record prize monies of £21,500 into the competition of which the winner will receive £5,500 and the runners-up £2,600. No sport can successfully operate these days without sponsorship and the Lancashire County Rugby League is no exception, and indeed we owe a great debt to Grünhalle Lager who have sponsored this competition with such enthusiasm and professionalism.

Included in the sponsorship fee is an incentive of £500 which has been awarded for the "performance of the round" and the Oldham club have won this award in EVERY round, thus collecting a further £1,500 from Grünhalle Lager.

It is seven years since Warrington last lifted this trophy and 31 years since the cup went to Watersheddings, so the Wigan dominance of the Grünhalle Lager Lancashire Cup has at last been broken.

This is the fifth consecutive season we have hosted the final at St Helens and it says something for their organisation and hospitality that we have again requested the use of their excellent facilities.

To all supporters, I trust you enjoy the game and behave with the dignity that Rugby League commands — may the best team on the day win.

BRIAN PRESCOTT
President
Lancashire County Rugby League

Welcome to Knowsley Road



A message from the new Chairman of St Helens

I SHOULD like to take this opportunity of welcoming everybody concerned with the Grünhalle Lager Lancashire Cup final to Knowsley Road this afternoon.

I trust that everybody will enjoy the occasion and that it will be a game worthy of the name of Rugby League.

Grünhalle are one of the game's top sponsors in the professional game and we extend to them both our thanks for their generous backing of the county knockout tournament and a welcome to St Helens.

This is the fifth successive year that the final has been allocated to our ground and we take it as a major honour that we should be selected again.

We have spent a great deal of time and money on the ground in recent years, including the provision of essential executive boxes, and we like to think that we will be seeing more of Rugby League's top matches as a result.

The Grünhalle Lager Lancashire Cup final is a top match and helps vindicate our decision to invest so heavily in Knowsley Road's infrastructure.

On behalf of St Helens I should like to congratulate both Oldham and Warrington on reaching this afternoon's final. It is fair to say that their arrival was contrary to many people's expectations at the start of the season. But they have both proved themselves worthy finalists.

Oldham made sure of their place today by beating our big rivals Wigan, and for a second division team to have added them to the two other first division scalps they've taken in this competition — including ours — means they cannot be taken lightly.

Warrington took their place by beating the World Club Champions Widnes and I don't believe there is anybody in the Rugby League who has not been impressed by the Wire's form this season.

The fact that we have two comparatively fresh faces in the final only demonstrates the growing strength of the Rugby League and will further enhance the Lancashire Cup final's reputation.

A few years ago the county cups looked like going out of business but their popularity has returned and they are proving that the fans do care about their clubs.

So welcome everybody to Knowsley Road. Enjoy the game and may the best team win!

ERIC LATHAM,
Chairman St Helens RLFC.

**CURTAIN
RAISER**

North West Counties Schools Rugby League (Under 15's)

GEORGE LUNN TROPHY FINAL

WARRINGTON v WIGAN

Kick-off 1.15pm

TEAMS

WARRINGTON

(Primrose, Blue and White)

C. DARBYSHIRE

D. LOMAX

J. BANNON

P. FIDDLER

D. MORRIS

P. NORMAN

R. MOSS

L. SAMPSON

P. FOSTER

S. PUCILL

C. DUNNING

C. LARKE

J. DONNO (Capt.)

L. BALL

P. FLANNERY

A. BRINKSMAN

A. CORRIGAN

M. WAINWRIGHT

M. ROBERTS

Coach — K. TAMATI

WIGAN

(Cherry and White)

P. HEAVEY

R. LAWTON

P. STEVENS

M. HOPE

R. MOLYNEUX

A. FAIRHURST

L. ATHERTON

D. RILEY

C. MADDISON

A. McDONALD

A. FARRELL (Capt.)

M. HILTON

B. MOXHAM

S. SNAPE

S. BENTHAM

L. PENNY

S. SPEAKMAN

P. FENTON

Coach — M. JOHNSON

Referee: G. F. LINDOP

The trophy and medals will be presented at the end of the game by
George Lunn



Sponsor's Message

Dear Supporter,

We hope you enjoy this afternoon's final of the Grünhülle Lager Lancashire Cup, the jewel in the crown of Lancashire Rugby League. We have backed the 1989 event to the tune of £21,500. Today's winners will receive £5,500 and the runners-up £2,600.

The competition so far has seen some tremendous clashes and we are sure that this afternoon's match is going to be no exception.

This season, we introduced a new incentive into the competition, the Performance of the Round award. The idea was to provide better entertainment for you the supporter by encouraging competing teams to play even more attractive Rugby League football. In the first two rounds, Oldham ran away with the prize of £500 in each instance and at the time of going to press were on course for completing a hat-trick following their deserved victory over Wigan in the semi-final.

The pride of the North, Grünhülle Lager — brewed in Warrington — and the Lancashire Cup come together for the fourth consecutive year to give Rugby League supporters a truly winning team.

Naturally, our best wishes go in equal measure to today's finalists.



Mr PAUL CLUBB
Managing Director Grünhülle Lager



Mike Gregory . . . Wire dynamo.

Presentations

THE Trophy will be presented to the Captain of the winning team by Mr Paul Clubb, Managing Director of Grünhülle Lager.

Medals to the winning and losing teams will be presented by Mr Brian Prescott, President of the Lancashire County RL.



If it's a draw

THE replay will take place at Knowsley Road, St Helens, on Wednesday, October 18th, kick-off 7.30pm, with the same match officials.



Entertainment

THIS afternoon's musical entertainment at 2.15pm and at half-time will be supplied by The Liverpool Scottish Regimental Association Band.

PAUL SHAW — MINI MARVEL

By DARRELL PLATT

LAST season's Grünhalle Lager Lancashire Cup Man of the Match honour went to Salford stand-off Paul Shaw, the fourth consecutive half-back and third Australian to receive the award.

Although he finished on the losing side, he was a constant thorn in the Wigan ranks, so much so that even full-back Steve Hampson was sent to the sin bin for the first time in his career, when a high tackle put paid to the stand-off's progress in a promising Salford raid.

On several occasions the diminutive will o' the wisp part-Aborigine was so quick to see an opening that he left his team-mates in his wake. If the rest of the side had been alert to his every move then the Trophy may have found a place in the Willows Boardroom.

The former Manly-Warringah player was understudy to seasoned professional Cliff Lyons back home in Australia and he came to this country virtually as an unknown, on a six months contract.

Arriving in September, he made his debut as substitute against Whitehaven in the first round of last season's competition.

He quickly settled in and took the game by the scruff of the neck, absolutely mesmerising the Cumbrian visitors. The following week he was in the team for the start of the match against an unbeaten Wakefield Trinity side at Belle Vue. Time after time he left defenders gasping with his pace and sheer artistry and he was instrumental in Salford denting the home side's winning sequence.

By the time that the Lancashire Cup Final came around, Salford had reached the showpiece match with some good entertaining rugby and Paul Shaw was a springboard for many of the Reds moves.

In last season's final he showed bags of character with his penetrating runs and though small in stature he was head and shoulders above everyone else on the pitch.

Cup finals, however, are all about winning but Salford took some degree of

comfort knowing that they had in their side a brilliant player who not only won the Man of the Match award but who also was beginning to take the RL scene by storm.

While he continued to impress for the Reds he began to attract the wrong sort of attention from his opponents. His baptism into the British Rugby League scene could not have been tougher and he became the recipient of several high tackles in his short stay in the country. Consequently, the injuries became more frequent and he suffered concussion on a couple of occasions which ruled him out of contention. Following his enforced lay-off he was never really the same player again, a body blow for the Salford club who were robbed of the services of a truly brilliant player.

He played his last match for Salford against Hull at the Willows in February and departed from these shores after a mere 16 matches for the Reds. Although he only scored two tries for the club he created countless more with his inspirational play.

Man of the Match Award

THIS afternoon's player of the match, selected by members of the press, will receive an inscribed decanter and a cash prize of £250, kindly donated by GRÜNHALLE LAGER.

Previous Man of the Match winners are:

- 1974 Mike Coulman—Salford (v Widnes)
- 1975 Mick George—Widnes (v Salford)
- 1976 David Eckersley—Widnes (v Workington T)
- 1977 Arnold Walker—Workington T (v Wigan)
- 1978 Arnold Walker—Workington T (v Widnes)
- 1979 Mick Adams—Widnes (v Workington T)
- 1980 Tony Waller—Warrington (v Wigan)
- 1981 Ray Tabern—Leigh (v Widnes)
- 1982 Steve Hesford—Warrington (v St Helens)
- 1983 David Cairns—Barrow (v Widnes)
- 1984 Mal Meninga—St Helens (v Wigan)
- 1985 Steve Ella—Wigan (v Warrington)
- 1986 Mick Ford—Wigan (v Oldham)
- 1987 Shaun Edwards—Wigan (v Warrington)
- 1988 Paul Shaw—Salford (v Wigan)



Paul Shaw, Salford's Australian half back who was Man of the Match last year.



OLDHAM R.L.F.C. — 1989

OLDHAM VIEWPOINT

By
ROGER HALSTEAD
(Oldham Evening Chronicle)



OPPONENTS of the three-up, three-down promotion and relegation system need look no further than the exploits of Oldham and Halifax in the county cup competitions this season for further ammunition in the fight to force change.

Halifax, relegated at the end of last season, removed Hull in the Yorkshire Cup and then took Bradford Northern to a replay in the semi-final.

Oldham, who dropped down to the Second Division with them, are in today's Grünhalle Lancashire Cup final after removing First Division teams Barrow, St Helens and Wigan — Barrow and Saints away from home and Wigan in front of a full-house crowd of 8,600 at Watersheddings.

The fact that Barrow, beaten 46-2, were woefully weak merely adds weight to the argument for reducing the number of promoted and relegated teams or introducing a soccer-style play-off system.

Both Saints and Wigan were below strength but Oldham's achievement in reaching the final was nevertheless highly commendable and especially so when considering that they, too, were without long-standing injury victims Paul Round, John Henderson and Des Foy.

Even in that memorable semi-final against Wigan, goalkicker and full-back Duncan Platt had to quit at half-time with a knee injury and skipper John Cogger, an inspirational leader, followed him during the second half with a thigh injury.

In the event Platt's replacement, marksman Gary Hyde, was to prove the Oldham hero with his long-range match-winning goal from near halfway five minutes from the end of a thriller.

Hyde is one of several bargain buys brought to Watersheddings by coach Tony Barrow since his arrival nearly 12 months ago. Indeed, it is revealing to compare the cost to Wigan of back-row men Andy Platt (£140,000) and Andy Goodway (£60,000) with Oldham's total lay-out of £30,000 for their entire back three, Keith Newton, Shaun Allen and skipper Cogger.

To the side that was relegated, he has added Richard Russell from Wigan for the proverbial "song", purchased John Fieldhouse from St Helens for an undisclosed fee — but certainly well below the £65,000 club record buys, Round and Mike Ford — and introduced Aussie stand-off Brett Clark on a 12-month contract.

Says Barrow, the former Warrington boss: "It is gratifying to see so many good things coming from players we have bought in the past few months.

"None of them cost a fortune on today's valuations but they have all settled in well at Watersheddings and our teamwork and dressing room spirit is second to none.

"In this game a lot can be achieved if the spirit and the attitude are right and in assembling my squad of players over the past few months I have tried to ensure that I have bought players whose attitude is totally honest.

"I didn't buy Leo Casey. He was at Oldham when I arrived. But he is coming on in leaps and bounds and that is due to his hard work behind the scenes which the fans know nothing about."

Oldham reacted positively to the bitter blow of relegation. Before a pass was thrown in earnest this season, they announced an intention to win the Second Division, lift the premiership at Old Trafford next May, and do well in the various cup competitions.

No matter what happens today, Barrow's bargain boys are well on target and looking forward to a successful season.

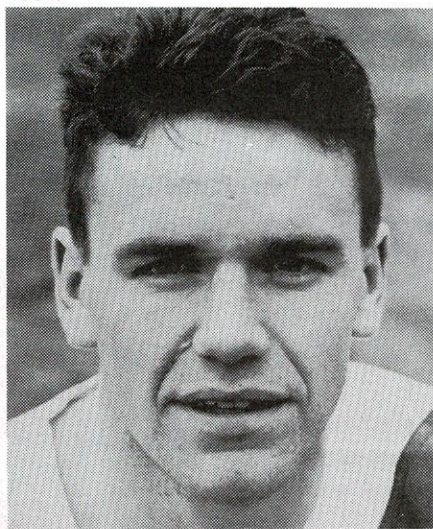
OLDHAM R.L.F.C. PEN PICTURES

RICHARD IRVING. Signed for Oldham in August 1987 from Moldgreen ARLFC and impressed coach Eric Fitzsimmons with his strong-running wing displays, scoring tries against Keighley and Rochdale. Scorer of just two tries — against Wigan and Wakefield — last season.

JOHN HENDERSON. Signed from Leigh club, this prolific try-scoring centre suffered through injury for much of last season and scored eight tries. Scored 31 tries in 1985-86 and another 27 in 1986-87 for Leigh, gaining selection for Lancashire

CHARLIE McALISTER. A sensational capture from Bradford & Bingley RUFC in February 1988, scoring nine tries and 15 goals in 18 appearances in his debut season. Had a summer spell in Australia with the Newcastle Knights in 1988, improving his defensive abilities. Kicked four goals in the 1988 Second Division Premiership Final. New Zealander with great strength and pace.

KEVIN MEADOWS. One of the First Division's most under-rated wingers, having previously played for St Helens and Warrington. Scored 16 tries in 38 appearances in 1987-88. In his second spell at Oldham where he once scored five tries in a First Division match against Salford in 1984.



MIKE FORD

DUNCAN PLATT. Goal-kicking full-back signed in November 1988 from Widnes. Brother of Wigan and Great Britain forward Andy, he was in Widnes' Premiership winning team in 1988 and contributed 80 points from 16 appearances in their championship win. Excelled for Oldham and scored 41 goals and 98 points in his debut season.

RICHARD RUSSELL. Oldham's major off-season signing, coming from Wigan, where he had gained Great Britain Colts and two Under 21 international selections in 1987 and 1988. Played in every back role at Central Park but received very few opportunities last season. Represented Wigan in the 1987 Lancashire Cup and Premiership Finals.

MIKE FORD. BARLA Young Lions tourist to New Zealand in 1983, signed for Wigan from Oldham St Annes ARLFC in August of that year. Won Challenge Cup (1985), Lancashire Cup (1985 and 1986) and John Player (1986 and 1987) honours before joining Leigh. Gained four Under 21 international caps between 1985 and 1987 and also had a spell with Sydney club Eastern Suburbs. Toured Down Under with the Lions last summer, scoring five tries in seven appearances. Signed for home town Oldham in January 1988 after an unhappy spell at Hilton Park, and was outstanding as Oldham defeated Featherstone in an epic Second Division Premiership Final.

STEVE ROBINSON. Signed from Saddleworth Rangers two seasons ago and has progressed to be a very fine winger.

NEIL CLAWSON. Son of much-travelled former Wakefield Trinity and Great Britain prop forward Terry, Neil is another front-rower with lots of ability. Joined Oldham from Featherstone in May 1986 and scored two tries in 26 appearances in 1988.

JOHN FAIRBANK. Former BARLA international forward signed by Leeds in November 1987 from Elland ARLFC. One of five League-playing brothers and son of former Leeds and Huddersfield forward Jack. Played 19 games in his debut season for Leeds, but was surprisingly allowed to

leave Headingley last August. Strong, forceful 21-year-old whose best is yet to come.

JOHN FIELDHOUSE. Recent signing from St Helens. Great Britain international. Man of the series against the Kiwis. Has settled in and playing the sort of rugby that made him an international.

ANDY RUANE. Former Widnes and Rochdale hooker, signed for Oldham by Eric Fitzsimmons his former coach of the Hornets. A great worker in the loose with goal-kicking skills, he scored 12 tries, 15 goals and two drop-goals for Hornets in 1987-88. Made his presence felt at Watersheddings, claiming the No. 9 jersey and kicking his first goals against Workington Town in the Lancashire Cup tie.

PAUL ROUND. Signed for £65,000 from St Helens in August 1987, instantly repaying Oldham with 16 tries in 26 appearances and gaining inclusion in the Lancashire teams which opposed Yorkshire (scoring a try) and Papua New Guinea in 1987. Originally a back-row forward who has played on the wing and at full-back. Nine tries last season.

LEO CASEY. Recruited from St Annes ARLFC in April 1986, this hard grafting prop forward scored three tries in eight appearances for the club in 1987-88 and seven tries last season.

JOHN COGGER. An outstanding signing from Runcorn Highfield last season. This inspirational Aussie had picked up the Second Division Player of the Year award in 1987, and starred in Oldham's end-of-season matches, scoring a hat-trick against Featherstone and totalling six tries for the club to go alongside seven scored for the league's wooden-spoonists.

SHAUN ALLEN. Appeared for St Helens in 1985 and 1988 Premiership Finals and also in their 1984 Lancashire Cup winning side, gaining an Under 21 international debut for Great Britain against France in 1984. Played centre and in the back-row for the Knowsley Road club, joining Oldham, initially on loan, last season, scoring a try against Widnes.

PAUL LORD. Signed from Stanley Rangers ARLFC as a stand-off but recently playing on the wing. Represented Yorkshire at Under 17's level and Great Britain. Has great pace.

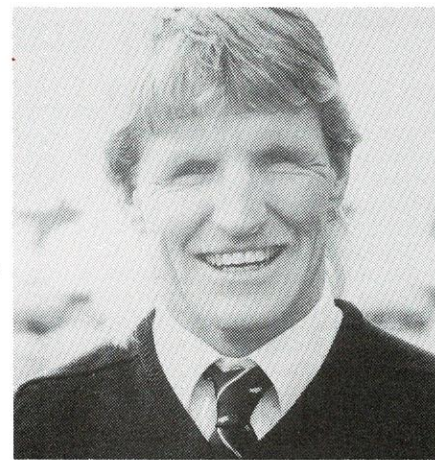
COLIN HAWKYARD. Current beneficiary and an unsung workhorse of the Roughyeds pack, being a frequent scorer and a tireless defensive player. Three tries in 27 appearances in 1987-88, and a further four last term.

KEITH NEWTON. Strong back-row forward signed from champions Widnes last season, opening his try account for Oldham with two in the 40-9 Cup win at Dewsbury in the first round. Added another two in a big defeat of Featherstone at Watersheddings.

GARY HYDE. Another of Tony Barrow's recruits, joining Oldham from Castleford after winning Great Britain Under 24 international honours as a centre in the early 80's. Has played centre and loose-forward for Oldham, scoring the first of four tries in a 23-22 defeat of Salford.

BRETT CLARK. St George half-back who has recently signed a one year contract for Oldham. Will need no introduction to Saints fans, Brett played at Knowsley Road in the 1986-87 season. One of the most popular of Saints recent overseas signings.

Oldham continued to build for the future during the summer, with England Schools skipper **CRAIG MORT** (16) being added to the starlets already at Watersheddings. **NEIL FLANAGAN, TOMMY MARTYN** and **STEVE ENTWISTLE** all starred on the BARLA Youth tour of Australia this summer.



JOHN COGGER

FROM THE RECORD BOOKS

By IAN PROCTER

Highest score:

Wigan 34 Warrington 8 (1985)

Highest attendance:

42,793 — St Helens v Wigan at Swinton (1953)

Highest receipts:

£71,879 — Wigan v Salford at St Helens (1988)

Most tries in final:

4 — Brian Nordgren (Wigan) v Leigh (1949)

Most goals in a final:

7 — Jim Ledgard (Leigh) v Widnes (1955)
7 — Steve Hesford (Warrington) v Wigan (1980)
7 — David Stephenson (Wigan) v Warrington (1985)

Most points in a final:

17 — one try and seven goals — Steve Hesford (Warrington) v Wigan

Most final appearances:

10 — Ken Gee (Wigan) — 1935, 1938, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1953

Most final tries:

9 — Brian Nordgren (Wigan) — 1947, 1949, 1950, 1951

Most final goals:

17 — Jim Sullivan (Wigan) — 1922, 1925, 1927, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1938

Most final points:

34 — Jim Sullivan (Wigan) — 1922, 1925, 1927, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1938

Number of wins:

20—WIGAN
10—ST HELENS
9—OLDHAM
8—WARRINGTON
6—WIDNES
5—SALFORD
4—LEIGH and SWINTON
3—ROCHDALE HORNETS
2—BARROW
1—WORKINGTON TOWN

Most consecutive wins:

6—WIGAN (1946-51)
5—ST HELENS (1960-64)
4—WIGAN (1985-88)
3—OLDHAM (1956-58)
3—SALFORD (1934-36)
3—WIDNES (1974-76)

Most consecutive finals:

7— ST HELENS (1958-64)
7—WIGAN (1945-51)
5—WIGAN (1984-88)
4—SALFORD (1972-75)
4—WORKINGTON TOWN (1976-79)

CLUB BY CLUB FINAL RECORD

	Finals	Wins	Most recent final		Finals	Wins	Most recent final
BARROW.....	3	2	1983	SALFORD.....	11	5	1988
*BELLE VUE RANGERS....	2	—	1947	SWINTON.....	12	4	1972
*BROUGHTON RANGERS	3	2	1920	TRAFFORD BOROUGH.....	—	—	—
*BLACKPOOL BOROUGH	—	—	—	WARRINGTON.....	14	8	1987
CARLISLE.....	—	—	—	WHITEHAVEN.....	—	—	—
CHORLEY.....	—	—	—	WIDNES.....	12	6	1983
FULHAM.....	—	—	—	WIGAN.....	34	20	1988
LEIGH.....	12	4	1981	WORKINGTON TOWN.....	4	1	1979
OLDHAM.....	17	9	1986				
ROCHDALE HORNETS.....	6	3	1965				
RUNCORN.....	—	—	—				
ST HELENS.....	17	10	1984				
*ST HELENS REC.....	5	2	1933				

* Defunct club.
Competition was suspended in war years between 1915-16 to 1917-18 and 1940-41 to 1944-45.

Rugby League Trivia

Oldham's target

OLDHAM are aiming to become only the second Division Two team to win the Lancashire Cup, emulating Barrow who beat Widnes 12-8 in 1983.

The only other Division Two teams to reach the Lancashire Cup final were Leigh, who lost 15-4 to St Helens in 1963 and Wigan who lost 26-10 to Warrington in 1980.

Oldham last won the Trophy in 1958 when they beat St Helens 12-2. Their last appearance in the final was in 1986 when they lost 27-6 to Wigan. This will be their 18th final, having won the Cup nine times.

Shaun's century

SHAUN Edwards of Wigan scored the 100th try of his career with one in the 19-18 Grünhalle Lager Lancashire Cup semi-final defeat at Oldham.

Eagles soar!

SHEFFIELD Eagles have had record crowds for both their "home" games this season, their first in Division One. Their attendance of 8,650 for Eagles' 31-6 defeat of Widnes at Sheffield United's Bramall Lane soccer ground on Sunday beat the previous best of 6,200 at Sheffield Wednesday's Hillsborough ground on 3rd September when the Eagles lost 36-20 to St Helens.

On target

MARTIN Offiah of Widnes heads this season's try scorers with 14 followed by wing man colleague Brimah Kebbie with 11 and Wigan's Kevin Iro and Mark Preston with 10.

Hull KR's Mike Fletcher has joined Jonathan Davis of Widnes at the top of the goals chart with 38. They are followed by Paul Loughlin (St Helens) 32; David Hobbs (Bradford) 30; Mark Aston (Sheffield Eagles) 29; Mark Knapper (Featherstone) 28 and Robert Turner (Warrington) 28.

Jonathan Davis became the first player to reach a century of points this season when the Welshman's 10 points against Canberra Raiders took his total to 102. He now has 104 points from 38 goals and seven tries.

Offiah grounded

MARTIN Offiah's try scoring run ended at seven matches for Widnes when he failed to score in the 31-6 Stones Bitter Championship defeat at Sheffield Eagles on Sunday.

High — low

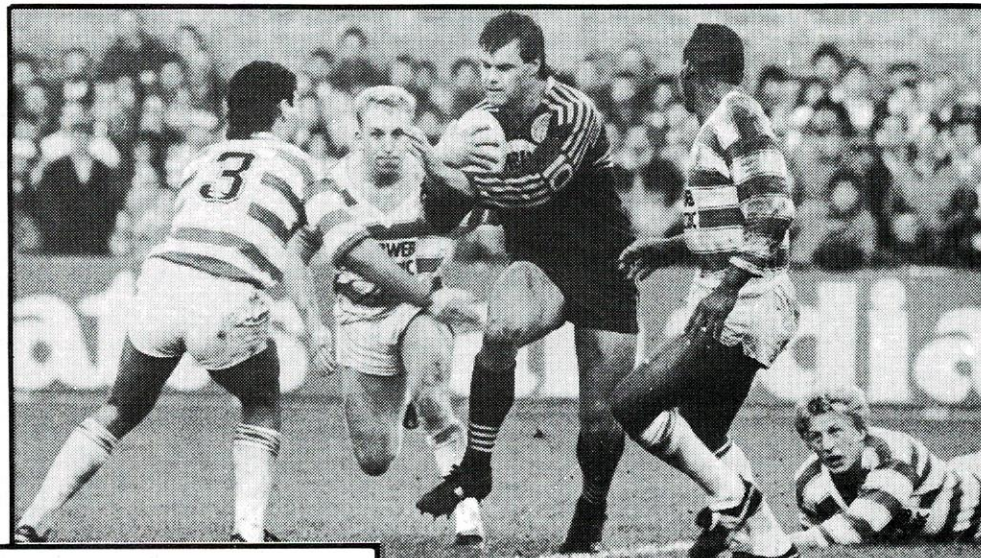
RUNCORN Highfield lost their 17th successive match when they went down 34-6 at home to Oldham on Sunday. Including a draw they have gone 28 matches without a win. Their last success was a 20-12 win at home to Fulham on 30th October, 1988. Nottingham City, formerly Mansfield Marksman, have lost 16 successive matches and gone 21 without a win including one draw.



Warrington goalkicker Steve Hesford with the 1982 Man of the Match Trophy. He is still the joint goal kicking record holder.



Above: Wigan superstar Ellery Hanley collides with Salford centre Ken Jones.



Above: New Zealander Peter Brown comes up against one of his Kiwi countrymen Kevin Iro as Salford stage another attack.

Below: Wigan's costly signing from St Helens, Andy Platt, surges through the Salford cover as Steve Herbert (No. 8) and Ian Gormley hang on.

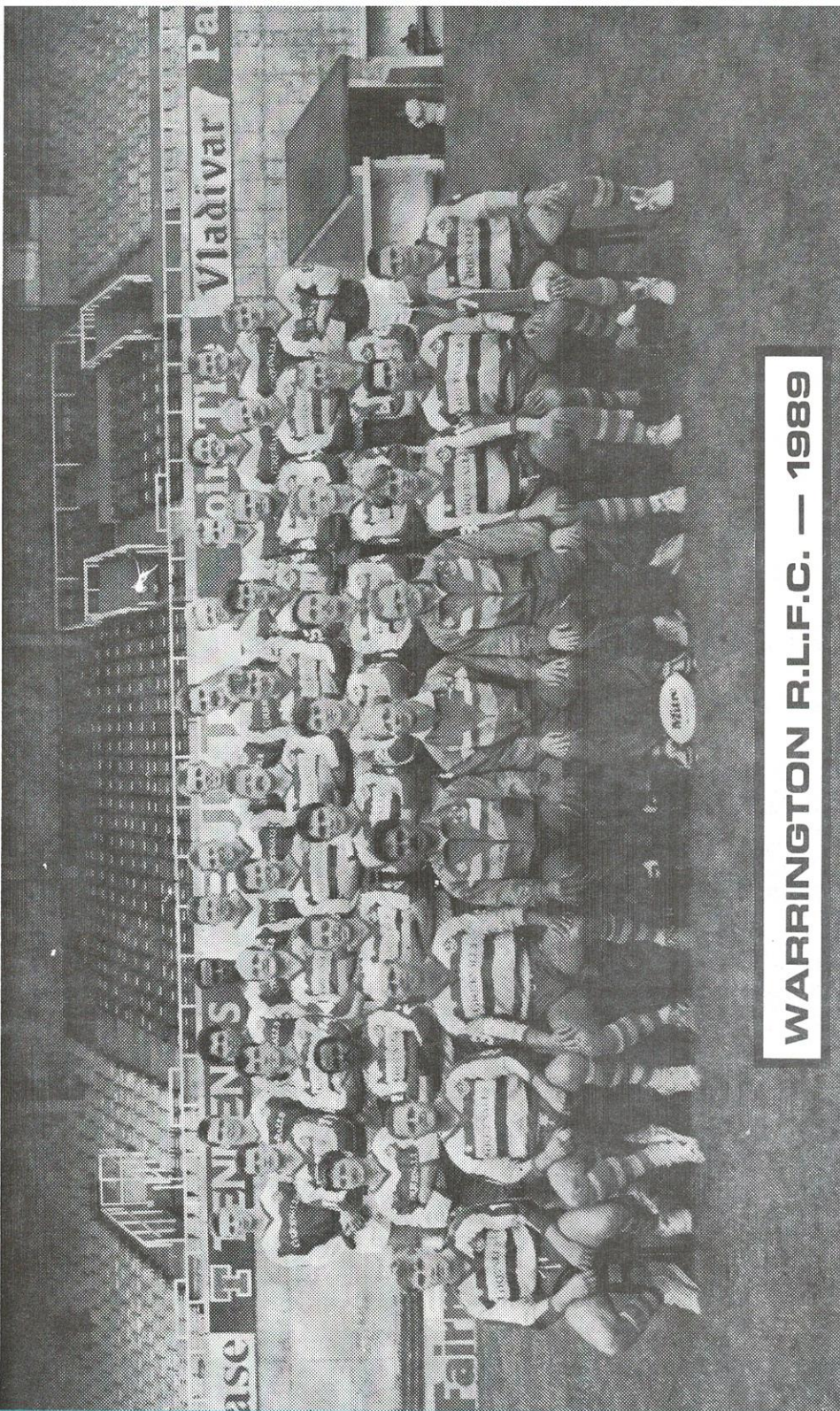
12 months ago

Wigan 22 Salford 17

(Photos by Gerald Webster — Rugby Leaguer)

Below: Great Britain scrum-half Andy Gregory sets up another Wigan raid with a pass to Andy Platt watched by Andy Goodway, Kevin Iro and Ellery Hanley.





WARRINGTON R.L.F.C. — 1989

WARRINGTON VIEWPOINT

By
GARY SLATER
(Warrington Guardian)



WHATEVER the result today, Warrington have already made a lot of people — including some of their own fans — eat their words.

Warrington finished fourth from bottom in last season's Stones Bitter Championship, escaping relegation by just three points, and were expected to struggle this time.

However, one man never doubted that Warrington could be great again — their Australian coach Brian Johnson.

Johnson realised that last season the "Wire" were just not fit enough or fast enough to compete with the game's top sides. So this summer he set to work to improve his players on both counts.

Johnson engaged the services of two sprint/fitness coaches from the world of athletics — Dave Tomkins and Phil Chadwick.

He also demanded that his players train three nights a week — Monday, Wednesday and Friday — throughout July and August.

He also set each player times they had to achieve for the 100 metres and 3,000 metres.

If a player wanted to be in Johnson's team, he had to measure up to Johnson's strict fitness standards.

To their credit, the players responded magnificently and during those gruelling training sessions a tremendous team spirit started to develop.

Warrington's directors also played their part by snapping up St Helens prop forward Tony Burke for £50,000 and re-signing former "Wire" favourites Paul Bishop, Bob Jackson and Joe Ropati.

But still many Warrington fans were unconvinced and were fearing the worst when the "Wire" met Wigan in the annual Locker Cup clash at Wilderspool on August 20.

Warrington were in sensational form and stormed to a 42-16 victory thanks to a second half hat-trick of tries from former Great Britain winger Mark Forster.

Scrum-half Martin Crompton, who had looked particularly sharp and who had scored the first of their seven tries, injured ankle ligaments.

Again, Warrington's directors stepped in and gave Johnson permission to sign the experienced yet under-rated scrum-half Greg Mackey from top Sydney club Canterbury Bankstown.

Mackey made his debut at Central Park on the opening day of the season and scored one of Warrington's three tries in a superb 18-6 win.

League victories against Bradford, Leigh and Castleford and Lancashire Cup wins over Swinton and Salford followed.

The "Wire" fell from grace last Sunday when they could only draw 12-12 with Hull, but they more than made up for that on Tuesday night when they walloped Widnes to reach today's final.

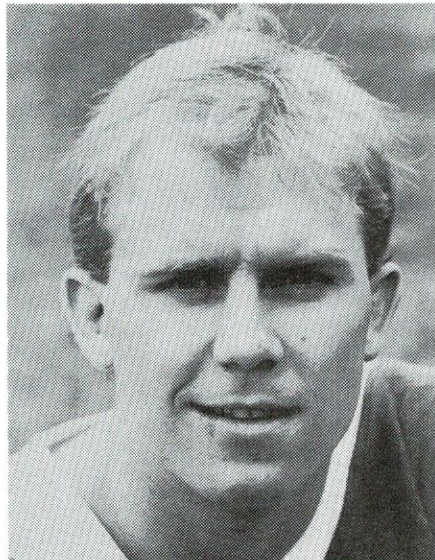
WARRINGTON R.L.F.C. PEN PICTURES

DAVID LYON. Signed by Widnes in 1983, played for Great Britain Under 21's at full-back. Badly injured in Wigan Sevens 1986 and out of game for a season. Signed by Tony Barrow and now in third season at Wilderspool. Ten tries in 51 appearances.

DES DRUMMOND. After many seasons at Leigh, signed for Wire in February 1987. Still rated by top coaches as one of the best Great Britain wingers. 38 tries from 79 games for Warrington. Selected for last Great Britain tour of Australia but withdrawn due to discipline reason (later disproved).

MARK FORSTER. Signed from local RL. Powerfully built winger/centre. Two Great Britain caps, both against France. Generates great pace with spectacular tries — 62 from 149 full games for Wire. Hat-trick in this year's Locker cup against Wigan.

PAUL CULLEN. Hard tackling centre signed from Crosfields ARL. Toured Australia in 1982 with Great Britain Colts and made the Great Britain squad for last Australian tour, missing out on selection. Fitness fanatic whose voice is familiar to RL fans via the Club Call lines.



MIKE GREGORY

RON DUANE. Centre/back-row forward. Another signing who has served Wire well. Three Great Britain caps 1983-84. Great Britain tour to Australia 1984 blighted by severe leg injury. Typically has battled his way back into first team contention. 50 tries from 156 games.

TONY THORNILEY. Signed November 1986 from Woolston Rovers. Well built centre who has shown steady progress despite injuries. 11 tries from 22 games.

PAUL DARBYSHIRE. Signed late last season on amateur forms and turned pro after successful tour with BARLA to Australia as captain. Played five games for Wire before including cup semi-final at Maine Road against Wigan. Centre three-quarter.

ROBERT TURNER. Signed August 1986 from Blackbrook. Half-back or full-back. Prolific goal-kicker with 'A' team who has filled in at top level due to injuries in the club. With John Woods' departure has first claim on the No. 6 jersey and can make it his own.

MARTIN CROMPTON. Scrum-half with tremendous potential signed from Wigan St Pats. Injury to Keith Holden gave him early first team opportunity and he did not waste it. Sadly picked up a leg injury himself and missed last half of the season. His time will come.

KEITH HOLDEN. Inspired signing from Wigan 'A' team two seasons ago. Competition at Wigan had restricted his opportunities but was going great guns at Warrington until a bad leg injury put him out for all last season. Now regaining fitness, he will be looking for his No. 7 jersey again this season.

TONY BURKE. Powerful No. 8 who has been a fixture in the St Helens side since his transfer there from Leeds. Has a big job at Wilderspool filling the gap left by Les Boyd.

MARK ROSKELL. Hooker. Signed from Millom during 1986-87 season and instantly became first team choice. Lively in the loose and rarely out of the action.

BOB JACKSON. Brought from Fulham by Reg Bowden and became a tremendously popular forward at Wilderspool. UK domiciled Aussie and one of the best value for money Aussies around. Returned to Australia last season but now back again at Wilderspool.

NEIL HARMON. Signed from Blackbrook at 17. Has already appeared 37 times on the first team sheet as an under 19 year old at prop. Highly rated with GB Under 24 appearances already.

MARK THOMAS. Signed from Leigh at the end of last season. Local product (Crosfields) who is expected to liven up the pack with his ball handling skills. Second-row/loose-forward.

GARY SANDERSON. Second-row/loose-forward signed December 1985 from Thatto Heath. Quickly made the first team and has gone on to achieve Great Britain Under 21 recognition. Already has 89 first team appearances and has looked good in pre-season games, having missed out at the end of last season with a broken leg.

MARK ROBERTS. Signed August 1987 from Oldham St Annes. A BARLA tourist who has become one of the pro games fastest second-rowers. 51 tries in 118 full games. Has also represented Lancashire.

MIKE GREGORY. Signed from Wigan St Patricks June 1982. Made club skipper last season. Big success on Great Britain tour of Australia. 173 plus 18 appearances for Wire, 39 tries and current Great Britain No. 12. Great enthusiast and motivator on and off the field.

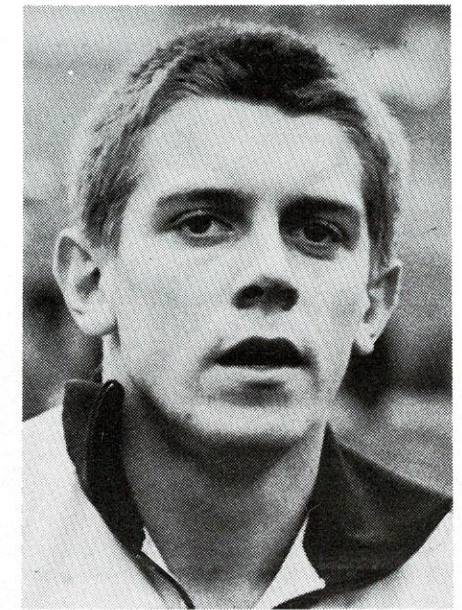
BILLY MCGINTY. Signed 1982 from Widnes Tigers. Worked hard at his fitness before becoming first team regular at second-row/loose-forward. Has also turned out at centre with success.

GREG MACKEY. Came to England at the beginning of the season when Warrington had a scrum-half crisis. Made a sensational debut in Warrington's win at Wigan and has settled in extremely well. Played his rugby down under with Canterbury Bankstown.

STEVE MOLLOY. Joined Warrington in 1987 from Oldham St Annes and is progressing well with 22 first team appearances already under his belt. A strong running forward with a huge heart, much is expected of this player in the forthcoming seasons at Wilderspool.

PAUL BISHOP. Now in his third spell with the Wires, having played down under with Cronulla inbetween. A lively scrum-half with plenty of flair who can play equally well at stand-off.

JOE ROPATI. New Zealand international centre who is in his second spell with Warrington. He played with Cronulla in Australia last season. Has crossed for 30 tries in his 60 Warrington appearances and his strong running game causes many defences problems.



DAVID LYON

ROAD TO THE 1989 FINAL

FIRST ROUND

Sunday, September 17

BARROW.....2 OLDHAM.....46

HT: 2-16 Attendance 2,300

Barrow: G — Maguire.
Oldham: G — Platt (5); T — Platt (2),
Lord (2), Ford, Casey, Allen, Hyde, Cogger.

CARLISLE.....6 WIDNES.....46

HT: 0-18 Attendance 5,800

Carlisle: G — Vickers; T — Pinner.
Widnes: G — Davies (5); T — Kebbie (5),
Davies (2), Offiah, McKenzie, Koloto.

LEIGH.....26 WHITEHAVEN.....8

HT: 22-0 Attendance 2,200

Leigh: G — C. Johnson (3); T — Jeffrey,
Ruane, Herbert, Ogden, Ledger.
Whitehaven: G — Richardson (2);
T — Howland.

SALFORD.....52 ROCHDALE H.....12

HT: 12-4 Attendance 3,095

Salford: G — Kerry (8); T — Bragger (4),
Kerry (2), Gibson (2), Gormley.
Rochdale: G — Turner (4);
T — McDermott.

ST HELENS.....78 RUNCORN H/F.....10

HT: 38-6 Attendance 5,498

St Helens: G — Loughlin (11); T — Forber,
Veivers (3), Loughlin (2), Hunte (3), Bailey,
Cooper, Frodsham, Griffiths, Cosgrove.
Runcorn: G — O'Garra (3); T — Ashcroft.

WARRINGTON....16 SWINTON.....6

HT: 16-0 Attendance 4,800

Warrington: G — Turner (4); T — Lyon,
Drummond.
Swinton: G — Myler; T — Myler.

WORKINGTON T.24 FULHAM.....30

HT: 12-20 Attendance 702

Workington: G — Lowden (2); T — Penrice
(2), Rooney (2), Law.
Fulham: G — Guyett (5); T — Gillan (2),
Bridge, Sanchez, Guyett.

SECOND ROUND

Wednesday, September 27

FULHAM.....4 WIGAN.....34

HT: 4-12 Attendance 3,200

at Hendon FC

Fulham: G — Guyett (2).
Wigan: G — Tyrer (5); T — Goodway (2),
Bell, Platt, Blake, Gill.

LEIGH.....12 WIDNES.....34

HT: 4-8 Attendance 6,748

Leigh: G — C. Johnson (2); T — Platt,
Ruane.
Widnes: G — Davies (5); T — Offiah (2),
Tait (2), D. Hulme, Davies.

SALFORD.....4 WARRINGTON.....27

HT: 2-11 Attendance 4,994

Salford: G — Kerry (2)
Warrington: G — Turner (5); DG —
Mackey; T — Drummond (2), Ropati,
Duane.

ST HELENS.....6 OLDHAM.....36

HT: 2-14 Attendance 7,834

St Helens: G — Tanner; T — Carrington.
Oldham: G — Platt (6); T — Robinson,
Ford, Platt, Cogger, Allen, Newton.

SEMI-FINALS

Thursday, October 5

OLDHAM.....19 WIGAN.....18

HT: 11-8 Attendance 8,603

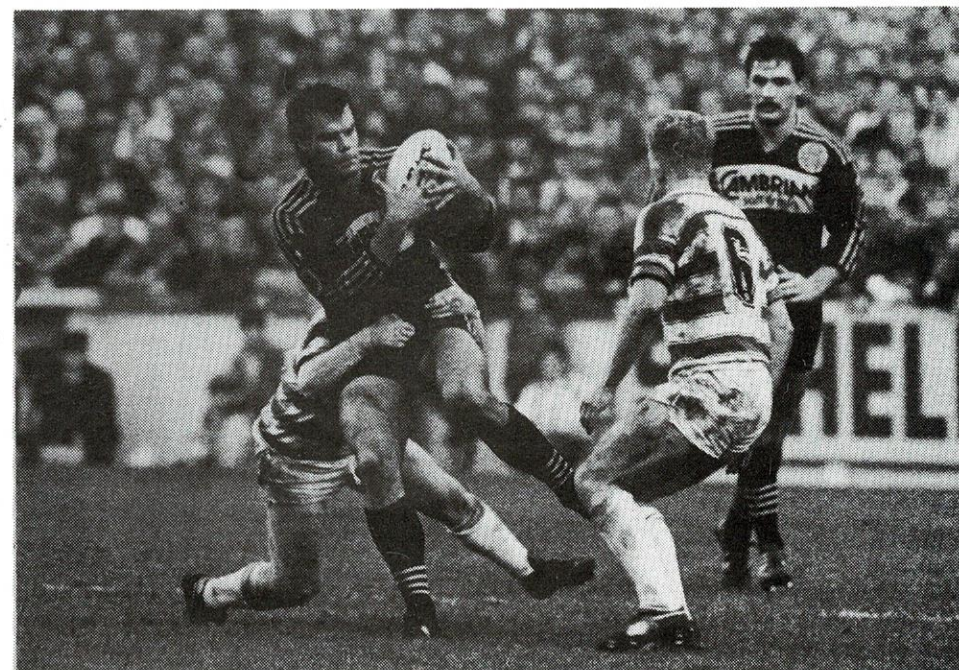
Oldham: G — Platt, Hyde (2); DG — Ford;
T — Fieldhouse, Newton, Ford.
Wigan: G — Edwards (3); T — Blake,
Edwards, Platt.

Tuesday, October 10

WARRINGTON....28 WIDNES.....6

HT: 14-0 Attendance 10,200

Warrington: G — Turner (5);
T — Thorniley (2), Forster,
Ropati.
Widnes: G — Davies; T — Currier



Wigan's Shaun Edwards moves in to help with a tackle on Salford prop Peter Brown.



Salford's Paul Shaw makes a break in the Wigan line.

LANCASHIRE CUP ROLL OF HONOUR

Season	Winners	Runners-up	Venue	Attendance	Receipts
1905-06	Wigan	0	Leigh	0	Broughton 16,000 £400
(replay)	Wigan	8	Leigh	0	Broughton 10,000 £200
1906-07	Broughton R.	15	Warrington	6	Wigan 14,048 £392
1907-08	Oldham	16	Broughton R.	9	Rochdale 14,000 £340
1908-09	Wigan	10	Oldham	9	Broughton 20,000 £600
1909-10	Wigan	22	Leigh	5	Broughton 14,000 £296
1910-11	Oldham	4	Swinton	3	Broughton 14,000 £418
1911-12	Rochdale H.	12	Oldham	5	Broughton 20,000 £630
1912-13	Wigan	21	Rochdale H.	5	Salford 6,000 £200
1913-14	Oldham	5	Wigan	0	Broughton 18,000 £610
1914-15	Rochdale H.	3	Wigan	2	Salford 4,000 £475
1915-16 to 1917-18	Competition suspended				
1918-19	Rochdale H.	22	Oldham	0	Salford 18,617 £1,365
1919-20	Oldham	7	Rochdale H.	0	Salford 19,000 £1,615
1920-21	Broughton R.	6	Leigh	3	Salford 25,000 £1,800
1921-22	Warrington	7	Oldham	5	Broughton 18,000 £1,200
1922-23	Wigan	20	Leigh	2	Salford 15,000 £1,200
1923-24	St. Helens Recs.	17	Swinton	0	Wigan 25,656 £1,450
1924-25	Oldham	10	St. Helens Recs.	0	Salford 15,000 £1,116
1925-26	Swinton	15	Wigan	11	Broughton 17,000 £1,115
1926-27	St. Helens	10	St. Helens Recs.	2	Warrington 19,439 £1,192
1927-28	Swinton	5	Wigan	2	Oldham 22,000 £1,275
1928-29	Wigan	5	Widnes	4	Warrington 19,000 £1,150
1929-30	Warrington	15	Salford	2	Wigan 21,012 £1,250
1930-31	St. Helens Recs.	18	Wigan	3	Swinton 16,710 £1,030
1931-32	Salford	10	Swinton	8	Broughton 26,471 £1,654
1932-33	Warrington	10	St. Helens	9	Wigan 28,500 £1,675
1933-34	Oldham	12	St. Helens Recs.	0	Swinton 9,085 £516
1934-35	Salford	21	Wigan	12	Swinton 33,544 £2,191
1935-36	Salford	15	Wigan	7	Warrington 16,500 £950
1936-37	Salford	5	Wigan	2	Warrington 17,500 £1,160
1937-38	Warrington	8	Barrow	4	Wigan 14,000 £800
1938-39	Wigan	10	Salford	7	Swinton 27,940 £1,708
1939-40*	Swinton	5	Widnes	4	Widnes 5,500 £269
	Swinton	16	Widnes	11	Swinton 9,000 £446
1940-41 to 1944-45	Competition suspended during war-time.				
1945-46	Widnes	7	Wigan	3	Warrington 28,184 £2,600
1946-47	Wigan	9	Belle Vue R.	3	Swinton 21,618 £2,658
1947-48	Wigan	10	Belle Vue R.	7	Warrington 23,110 £3,043
1948-49	Wigan	14	Warrington	8	Swinton 39,015 £5,518
1949-50	Wigan	20	Leigh	7	Warrington 35,000 £4,751
1950-51	Wigan	28	Warrington	5	Swinton 42,541 £6,222
1951-52	Wigan	14	Leigh	6	Swinton 33,230 £5,432
1952-53	Leigh	22	St. Helens	5	Swinton 34,785 £5,793
1953-54	St. Helens	16	Wigan	8	Swinton 42,793 £6,918
1954-55	Barrow	12	Oldham	2	Swinton 25,204 £4,603
1955-56	Leigh	26	Widnes	9	Wigan 26,507 £4,090
1956-57	Oldham	10	St. Helens	3	Wigan 39,544 £6,274
1957-58	Oldham	13	Wigan	8	Swinton 42,497 £6,918
1958-59	Oldham	12	St. Helens	2	Swinton 38,780 £6,933
1959-60	Warrington	5	St. Helens	4	Wigan 39,237 £6,424
1960-61	St. Helens	15	Swinton	9	Wigan 31,755 £5,337
1961-62	St. Helens	25	Swinton	9	Wigan 30,000 £4,850
1962-63	St. Helens	7	Swinton	4	Wigan 23,523 £4,122
1963-64	St. Helens	15	Leigh	4	Swinton 21,231 £3,857
1964-65	St. Helens	12	Swinton	4	Wigan 17,383 £3,393

Season	Winners	Runners-up	Venue	Attendance	Receipts
1965-66	Warrington	16	Rochdale H.	5	St. Helens 21,360 £3,800
1966-67	Wigan	16	Oldham	13	Swinton 14,193 £3,558
1967-68	St. Helens	2	Warrington	2	Wigan 16,897 £3,886
(replay)	St. Helens	13	Warrington	10	Swinton 7,577 £2,485
1968-69	St. Helens	30	Oldham	2	Wigan 17,008 £4,644
1969-70	Swinton	11	Leigh	2	Wigan 13,532 £3,651
1970-71	Leigh	7	St. Helens	4	Swinton 10,776 £3,136
1971-72	Wigan	15	Widnes	8	St. Helens 6,970 £2,204
1972-73	Salford	25	Swinton	11	Warrington 6,865 £3,321
1973-74	Wigan	19	Salford	9	Warrington 8,012 £2,750
1974-75	Widnes	6	Salford	2	Wigan 7,403 £2,833
1975-76	Widnes	16	Salford	7	Wigan 7,566 £3,880
1976-77	Widnes	16	Workington T.	11	Wigan 8,498 £6,414
1977-78	Workington T.	16	Wigan	13	Warrington 9,548 £5,038
1978-79	Widnes	15	Workington T.	13	Wigan 10,020 £6,261
1979-80	Widnes	11	Workington T.	0	Salford 6,887 £7,100
1980-81	Warrington	26	Wigan	10	St. Helens 6,442 £8,629
1981-82	Leigh	8	Widnes	3	Wigan 9,011 £14,029
1982-83	Warrington	16	St. Helens	0	Wigan 6,462 £11,732
1983-84	Barrow	12	Widnes	8	Wigan 7,007 £13,160
1984-85	St. Helens	26	Wigan	18	Wigan 26,074 £62,139
1985-86	Wigan	34	Warrington	8	St. Helens 19,202 £56,030
1986-87	Wigan	27	Oldham	6	St. Helens 20,180 £60,329
1987-88	Wigan	28	Warrington	16	St. Helens 20,237 £67,339
1988-89	Wigan	22	Salford	17	St. Helens 19,154 £71,808

* Emergency War-time competition.



Today's match ball has kindly been donated by
THE LANCASHIRE FEDERATION OF RUGBY LEAGUE SUPPORTERS CLUBS
 (Officially formed 8th September, 1976)

Current Member Clubs:

Barrow, Carlisle, Chorley B., Fulham, Oldham,
 Rochdale H., St Helens, Salford, Warrington, Wigan

Federation Player of the Year Awards:

1977 R. Bowden (Widnes)	1984 D. Cairns (Barrow)
1978 J. Woods (Leigh)	1985 P. Gorley (St Helens)
1979 D. Laughton (Widnes)	1986 D. Pyke (Leigh)
1980 G. Fairbairn (Wigan)	1987 B. Case (Wigan)
1981 I. Ball (Barrow)	1988 S. Hampson (Wigan)
1982 L. Gorley (Widnes)	1989 P. Veivers (St Helens)
1983 G. Shaw (Wigan)	

* Meetings held the first Monday in each month.
 Next meeting November 6th, Griffin Pub, Wigan (8.00pm).

FINAL REVIEW

BY PHIL JONES

BRIAN Johnson sat alongside Tony Barrow the last time Warrington triumphed in a major final.

That was three years ago when the Wire lifted the Premiership Trophy after crushing Halifax 38-10 at Elland Road.

Barrow was Warrington boss and Johnson was on the substitute's bench having just returned from injury.

They will practically be side by side again today — but with greatly contrasting roles and in opposite dug-outs.

Barrow left Wilderspool to take charge at Oldham last season, and in one of the strange quirks of fate, this afternoon finds himself up against his successor.

The fact that Warrington have failed to accumulate any silverware since that Premiership win while arch rivals Widnes and Wigan have been guzzling the lot, has been hard to stomach for the Wilderspool faithful.

And that's why Johnson is desperate to put one over on his former boss and give the fans their first Grunhalls Lancashire Cup celebrations since they toppled St Helens 16-0 in 1982.

The popular Aussie coach admitted: "Three years without a major trophy is a long time for a club like Warrington. It's about time we won something.

"But Oldham are in the same boat and that will make them just as desperate to win."

Warrington produced a devastating display to blitz Widnes 28-6 in the semi-final and a similar show would surely be more than Second Division Oldham could handle.

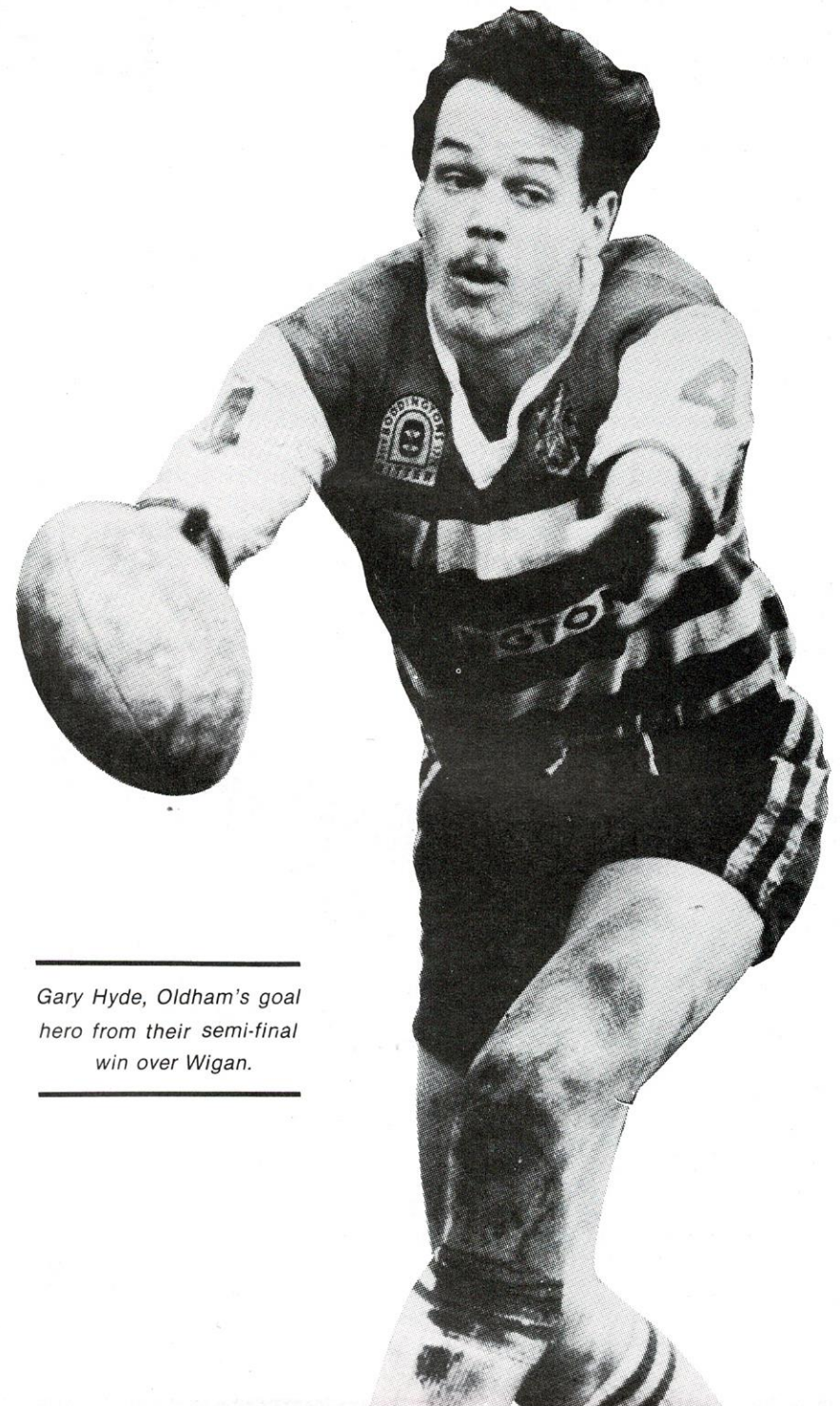
But Johnson warned: "This will be a very hard game for us. Oldham are worthy final opponents after beating three first division sides. That speaks volumes for the effort they are putting into the game.

"We will be going into the match with confidence, but then we do with all our matches. It's important though that we are not overconfident. We know victory is not cut and dried.

"It was a tremendous performance on Tuesday against Widnes. I was proud of our players and hope I can be just as proud come 4.30pm today."

One of the Warrington stars to emerge in their barn-storming start to the season has been little Aussie scrum half Greg Mackie. He has been a revelation as the team have climbed to the top of the table and delighted his fans this week by agreeing to stay at Wilderspool until the end of the season.

Mackie admitted: "I was worried about my career when Canterbury released me six weeks ago. But things could not be better for me over here. I think it's great."



Gary Hyde, Oldham's goal hero from their semi-final win over Wigan.

A DECADE

By John Huxley — Editor of Rugby Leaguer

WITHIN the next three months we will be saying goodbye to yet another year and the turn of the year will have a little more significance than usual because it will be the end of a decade.

Like all the other major Rugby League competitions the Grunhale Lager Lancashire Cup final has emerged stronger than ever and more popular than for a generation.

First county cup winners of the 1980s were Warrington who beat Wigan 26-10 at St Helens in 1980-81. The Warrington team that day was Finnegan; Thackray (1 try), I. Duane, Bevan (1 try), Hesford (1 try, 7 goals); Kelly, Gilliam; Courtney, Waller, Close, Martyn (1 try), Eccles (Potter), Hunter.

While the Wigan team was: Fairbairn (1 try, 2 goals); Ramsdale (1 try), Willicombe, Davies, Hornby; Foy, Bolton (Coyle); Breheny, Pendlebury (Smith), O'Neill, Melling, Clough, Hollingsworth. How times have changed for both clubs.

The following year Leigh beat Widnes 8-3 at Central Park, Wigan. Terry Bilsbury scored Leigh's only try while Steve Donlan added a drop goal and John Woods two goals. The Chemics only points was a try by Keith Bentley. Remember the days of the three-point try?

Warrington returned for 1982-83 beating St Helens 16-0 at Wigan while Barrow achieved a rare

trophy victory with a shock 12-8 win over Widnes in 1983-84.

Ian Ball was the Furness hero in those days with a goal and a drop goal. Ralph McConnell scored their only try.

The teams that day were:

Barrow: Tickle (1dg); Moore, Whittle, Ball (1dg, 3g), Milby; McConnell, Cairns; Hodgkinson, Wall, McJennett, Herbert, Szymala, Mossop.

Widnes: Burke; Lydon (1t, 2g), Hughes, Kieron O'Loughlin, Basnett; A. Myler, Gregory; S. O'Neill, Elwell, K. Tamati, Whitfield, E. Prescott, Adams.

Points were the order of the day in 1984-85 when St Helens bettered Wigan 26-18 in an amazing game at Central Park. Mighty Mal Meninga collected two tries for the Saints while Sean Day landed five goals and a try.

Wigan were back in 1985-86 in a winning mood when they beat Warrington 34-8. David Stephenson equalled Jimmy Ledgard and Steve Hesford's seven goals in a final record while great Australian half-back Steve Ella took two tries.

Now Wigan were back in the groove. In 1986-87 they accounted for Oldham 27-6 with Henderson Gill top scorer with five goals and then 12 months later they completed the hat-trick when they beat Warrington 26-16. This time it was Joe Lydon who was the five-goal hero.

Last season Wigan clocked their

fourth successive win when they beat gallant Salford 22-17.

Now it's all a question of memories. My personal favourites include the day Barrow beat Widnes in 1983. Not that I don't like the Chemics but it was one of those occasions when the under-dog sat up and barked for itself.

I shall never forget the joy of veteran prop Alan Hodgkinson who had played for so long and, until that day at Central Park, he had nothing to show but the scars on his body.

And the amazing day at Central Park the following year when the old rivals St Helens and Wigan did battle with the Saints coming out on top.

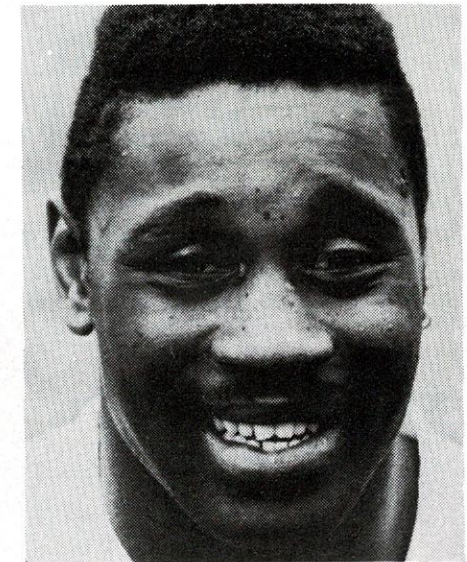
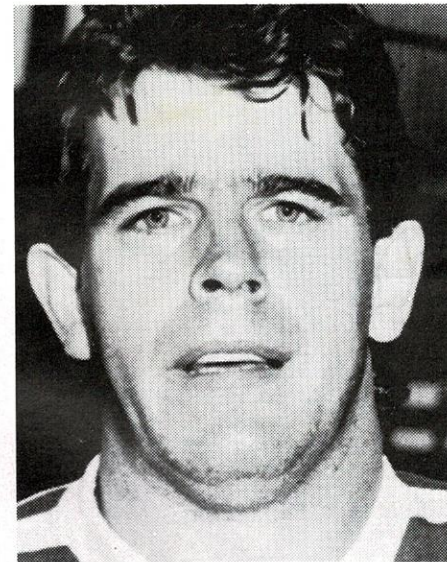
So many good players have enjoyed the day out in the Grunhale Lager Lancashire Cup final with some like Mal Meninga, Steve Ella, Phil Veivers, Kevin Tamati and a host of others

crossing the world to experience what is, after all, a very special day to the people who play and watch their Rugby League in the fair county of Lancashire.

Those people who believe the best has long gone in the game then should consider the fact that two modern players, Steve Hesford and David Stephenson, share the distinction of having kicked seven goals in a final with Jim Ledgard, proving that today's guys do have something to offer.

But when the historians come to look back at the 1980's only one name will spring out and hit them between the eyes . . . Wigan.

So the 1980s finished dominated like so many other competitions by the cherry and whites, Wigan. Today they are missing after being beaten by Oldham in a classic semi-final at Watersheddings. But they have left a stamp on the competition that can never be removed.



David Stephenson (left), now playing with Leigh, who shares the goal-kicking record with Jimmy Ledgard and Steve Hesford, and Henderson Gill, just back in the Wigan side after a long lay-off through injury.

GRUNHALLE LAGER



GRUNHALLE
LAGER

NO MYTHS · JUST MAGIC

GRÜNHALLE LAGER 1989 R.L. Lancashire Cup Final

LINE UP

OLDHAM

Colours:
Red and White hooped Jerseys
Red Shorts

DUNCAN PLATT 1

STEVE ROBINSON 2

GARY HYDE 3

RICHARD IRVING 4

PAUL LORD 5

BRETT CLARK 6

MIKE FORD 7

LEO CASEY 8

ANDY RUANE 9

JOHN FIELDHOUSE 10

SHAUN ALLEN 11

KEITH NEWTON 12

JOHN COGGER 13

RICHARD RUSSELL 14

JOHN FAIRBANK 15

WARRINGTON

Colours:
Primrose and Blue hooped Jerseys
Blue Shorts

PAUL DARBYSHIRE

DES DRUMMOND

JOE ROPATI

TONY THORNILEY

MARK FORSTER

ROBERT TURNER

GREG MACKEY

TONY BURKE

MARK ROSKELL

STEVE MOLLOY

BOB JACKSON

GARY SANDERSON

MIKE GREGORY

RONNIE DUANE

PHIL SUMNER

Scrum

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

Referee:

Mr. R. TENNANT
(Castleford)

Touch Judges:

Mr. W. BROWN
(Tyldesley)

Mr. D. J. BARRETT
(Salford)

Scrum

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
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17 18 19 20

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