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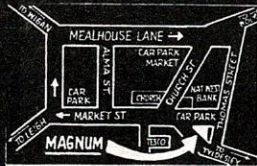
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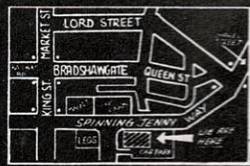
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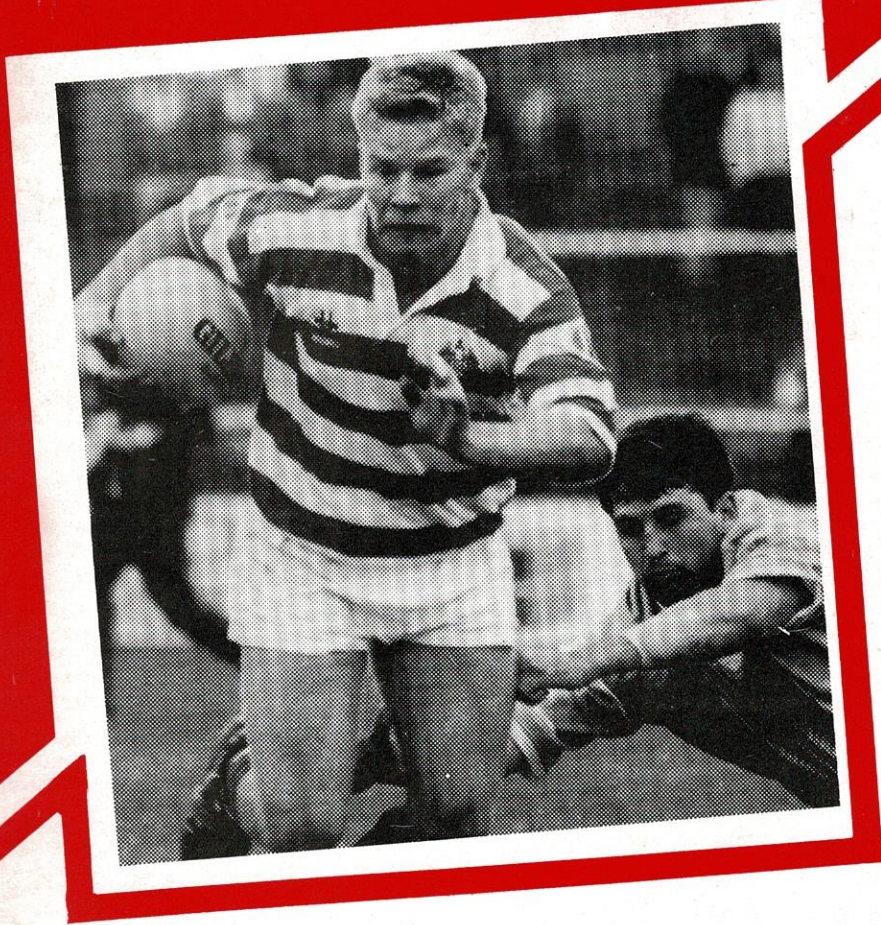
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Management Committee: Mr. J. ATHERTON,  
Mr. J. CASSIDY, Mr. T. COTTRELL, Mr. T.  
MOLONEY, Mr. D. O'HALLORAN, Mr. T. SALE,  
Mr. J. STRINGER,

Secretary/Timekeeper: Mr. TOMMY SALE.

Chief Executive: Mr. JOHN STRINGER.

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Lifeline Manager: Mr. JACK CASSIDY.

Team Manager: Mr. KEVIN ASHCROFT.

Coaches: Mr. DENNIS RAMSDALE.

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Statistics Coach: Mr. S. WALL.

Academy Coach: Mr. K. LATHAM.

Physiotherapist: Mr. MARK ESKOSKI.

Team Doctors: Dr. STUART & Dr. BALDAOE.

Head Groundsman: Mr. W. LEA.

Baggage Men: Mr. BILL JOHNSON

& Mr. BERNARD ROBERTS.

Photographer: Mr. R. GREGORY.

Honorary Club Statistician & Historian:

Mr. MICHAEL LATHAM.

Programme Contributions: Mr. MICHAEL

LATHAM, Mr. JOHN STRINGER,

CHERRY & WHITES.

Honorary Life Members: Mr. J. B. Harding, Mr. T.

Sale, Mr. J. S. Roberts.

### HONOURS

Founder Members of Northern Union, 1895.

### LEAGUE

Championship: Winners 1905-06, 1981-82.

Division Two Championship: Winners 1977-78,

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### CUP

Rugby League Challenge Cup: Winners 1920-  
21, 1970-71.

Lancashire Cup: Winners 1952-53, 1955-56,  
1970-71, 1981-82.

Defeated Finalists: 1905-06, 1909-10, 1920-21,  
1922-23, 1949-50, 1951-52, 1963-64, 1969-70.

BBC2 Floodlit Trophy: Winners 1969-70, 1972-  
73.

Defeated Finalists: 1967-68, 1976-77.

South-West Lancashire & Border Towns Cup:  
Winners 1900-01.

ITA Television Trophy: Defeated Finalists 1955-  
56.

### INDIVIDUAL HONOURS

Leigh players to represent Great Britain (Test and  
World Cup matches):

K. Ashcroft, J. Cartwright, D. Chisnall, J. Darwell,  
S. Donlan, D. L. Drummond, P. Foster, C. Johnson,  
F. Kitchen, J. A. Ledgard, G. H. Lewis, M. Martyn,  
W. Mooney, S. G. Owen, C. H. Pawsey, W. G.  
Robinson, M. J. Walsh, W. Winstanley, J.  
Woods.

### Great Britain Tourists:

1910: W. Winstanley; 1920: J. Cartwright; 1924:  
J. Darwell & W. Mooney; 1950: J. A. Ledgard;  
1954: C. H. Pawsey; 1958: M. Martyn; 1970: D.  
Chisnall; 1979: J. Woods; 1984: S. Donlan & D. L.  
Drummond.

### CLUB RECORDS (first-class games only)

#### Career

Most Apps. - 503 A. E. Worrall 1920/38

Most Tries - 189 M. Martyn 1954/67

Most Goals - 1043 J. A. Ledgard 1948/58

Most Points (continuing) - J. Woods 1976/85,  
1990- date

#### Seasonal

Most Apps. - 48 S. Ferguson 1970/71

Most Tries - 49 S. Halliwell 1985/86

Most Goals - 173 C. Johnson 1985/86

Most Points - 400 C. Johnson 1985/86

#### Match

Most Tries - 6 J. Wood v York

(League)(Home) 4 Oct 1947

Most Goals - 15 M. Stacey v Doncaster

(League)(Home) 28 Mar 1976

Most Points - 38 J. Woods v Blackpool B

(League)(Home) 11 Sep 1977

#### Consecutive

Most Apps. - 179 S. Donlan, Feb 1980/Oct 1984

Most Tries - 11 M. Martyn, Jan/March 1959

Most Goals - 53 S. Ferguson, April 1970/ Aug 1971

Most Points - 53 S. Ferguson (as above)

Highest Score for 92-2 v Keighley (League)

(Home) 30 April, 1986

Highest Score Ag. 8-60 v Salford (Summer

Comp)(Away) 25 May, 1940

Highest Home Att., 31,326 v St. Helens (RL Cup) 14

March, 1953

#### Opposition Players' Records

Most Tries in a Match Against Leigh:

7 by B. Bevan for Warrington, 29 March, 1948.

Goals: 10 by J. Sullivan (Wigan) 24 Nov. 1934

10 by D. Marshall (Leeds) 9 September, 1973

10 by S. Day (St. Helens) 3 February, 1985

Points: 26 by C. Maskill (Leeds) 17 January, 1990

# FROM THE DUGOUT

by Kevin Ashcroft

Because of printing deadlines I was asked to write my piece for today's programme by 10 a.m. on Monday, December 23rd.

This means I am unable to reflect on the Boxing Day match against London Crusaders, but I very much hope that we recorded a win to keep up our challenge for promotion.

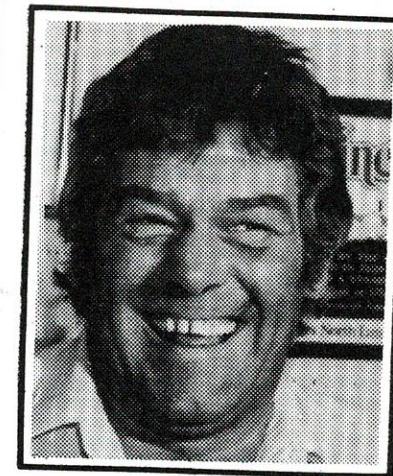
I am still recovering from the excitement of the Rochdale game. It was too close for comfort in the end and I for one was certainly glad to hear the final hooter.

Our discipline late in the game let us down and I will be working on that in the New Year. I will also be establishing why we ran out of steam in the last quarter of the game.

Our performances this season have been very creditable indeed. We have overcome the uncertainty of the club's future and created a marvellous team spirit.

Our fitness is better now than at anytime this season and this is why the poor finish to the Rochdale game surprised me.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my players for the effort they have



put in during the first half of the season. I would also like to thank Allan Rowley and Denis Ramsdale for their support and to our Medical Staff and baggage men who continue to do a thorough job of work.

Last and by no means least, thank you to all our fans who have remained loyal in every respect. We hope we can rely on your support in what I see as being an exciting second half of the season, with the prospect of a good cup run, hopefully a place in the Premiership Final and a promotion to Division One.

Yes those are my New Year ambitions - I am glad you are all behind us as we set out to achieve them.

## LEIGH TRAVEL

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# TODAY'S VISITORS

## Oldham

Our visitors this New Year's Day afternoon are Oldham and we would like to extend the compliments of the season to the players, officials and supporters of the Roughyeds.

Peter Tinks' side were in action on Boxing Day at home to Rochdale when they were hoping to avenge a shock home defeat suffered at the hands of the Hornets earlier in the campaign.

Former Australian test prop-forward Tinks, who last season played for Salford and Sheffield, has had a hard introduction to coaching as he has been forced to rebuild the Oldham side after they were relegated in 1990-91.

A number of experienced players have been shed as Oldham turn to youth and attempt to build for the future. Former Oldham hooker Andy Ruane has certainly proved a fine acquisition for Leigh and has been in outstanding form of late.

Brett Clark moved on to Rochdale, last season's player-coach John Fieldhouse joined Halifax, Mike Ford went to Castleford, Paul Round to Wakefield and Austin Donegan to Salford. At the time of writing Oldham were reportedly on the verge of swapping Kiwi Charlie McAlister for Castleford's Martin Ketteridge and Aussie Graham Bradley while Neil Holding was interesting Trafford.

Newcomers have included the versatile

Vince Nicklin, an Aussie who made his name playing in France, Richard Pachnuik, a prolific try-scoring hooker from Dewsbury who made a fine start to his pro career before sadly being sidelined by appendicitis, and Ged Byrne, the talented former Salford, Wigan and Wakefield back.

Prop Tim Street came to his hometown club from Swinton while Ian Sherratt, so impressive against Leigh in the Lancashire Cup last season, returned to the Watersheddings from Salford. Sean Tyrer is a recent addition, joining Oldham from Wigan where his first-team opportunities were limited. Versatile Logan Edwards, formerly with Rochdale and Swinton, was recruited after an outstanding New Zealand season in Christchurch.

Duncan Platt, a fine goal-kicking full back, and Leigh-born Tommy Martyn are two of the best backs outside the first division while ex-BARLA international Steve Warburton, signed from Woolston, and winger Gary Christie have made a good start to their pro careers.

Wigan-born Chris Joynt, still only 19, looks a fine forward prospect and has been joined in the pack by other BARLA youth products Barrie McDermott and Leigh-born Dave Bradbury. Another youngster signed from local amateur rugby, Paddy Mitchell, has also been given his chance.

Former Leigh star John Henderson, fine servant to the Hilton Park club and a prolific try-scorer, now finds himself one of the longest-serving players at the club, such has been the turnover in personnel in recent months. It said much for the introduction of new players that 21-year-old scrum-half Neil Flanagan, a former amateur youth international, has been appointed club captain.

### OLDHAM FACT FILE

Season	Div.	Pos'n	L Cup	JP/RT	C C	Top Tries	Top Goals
1986-87	1	13th	F	1	2	Foy 16	Hobbs 49
1987-88	2	1st	1	SF	1	Foy 21	Atkinson 62
							Walsh 62
1988-89	1	12th	2	1	3	Lord 9 Russell 9	Platt 41
1989-90	2	3rd	F	3	SF	Lord 29	Platt 126
1990-91	1	12th	1	2	SF	Round 10	Platt 84



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# MATCH REPORTS

## LEIGH 24 ROCHDALE HORNETS 22

After the famine came the feast. Leigh, without a game at Hilton Park for over 6 weeks, began a run of 3 home matches in the space of 11 days with a thrilling victory to go within one point of leaders Sheffield.

But Kevin Ashcroft's injury-hit side were hanging on desperately at the end as enterprising Hornets staged a dramatic recovery. The visitors looked well out of contention as they trailed 6-24 with only six minutes to go, yet almost snatched a share of the spoils deep in injury time.

Livewire scrum-half Steve Gartland began the revival with a 74th minute try after a length-of-the-field movement involving the impressive Brett Clark and Matt Calland. Tony Humphries siezed on a loose ball to score a six-pointer under the posts and then Gartland raced in again for another converted try after Paul Okesene's bursting run.

In the fourth minute of injury time Andrew Collier was penalised at the ruck but Bob Eccles' touchline penalty attempt drifted wide of the posts to leave Leigh the victors and secure them a league double over the Hornets.

"We got out of jail" was Leigh scrum-half Jason Donohue's honest assessment while coach Ashcroft was also a relieved man. "We had so many players carrying injuries that it was desperation stakes at the end, but overall it was a pleasing display." Full back Paul Topping, with a suspected broken hand, was the worst of Leigh's lengthy casualty list.

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The dramatic finale overshadowed a confident home performance which, for 70 minutes at least, established a firm hold on the game. Once again Leigh were indebted to the brilliant John Woods, who gave an outstanding display against his former club. He was involved in both Leigh's first-half tries as they established a 12-0 lead.

Leigh stretched their lead to 18-0 when Donohue ducked under an attempted tackle, broke away and sent Ian Jeffrey over. Though Hornets replied with a Calland try created by the irrepressible Clark, David Ruane and Topping combined to send Tongan Lee Hansen diving in for his first Leigh try. Woods converted all four scores and his faultless kicking proved decisive in the final analysis.

Leigh's revival is such that, only four months or so after nearly going out of existence, they have their sights set on a championship and premiership double in the New Year.

**Teams:** LEIGH- Topping; Booth, D. Ruane, Jeffrey, Hill; Woods, Donohue; Barrett (Ake), A. Ruane, Costello, Dunn, Collier, Bridge (Hansen).

ROCHDALE- Webster; Fox, Abram, Calland, Belle; Clark, Gartland; Humphries, Hall, Marsden, Okesene (B. Eccles), C. Eccles (Bamber), Kuiti.

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# CHERRY & WHITES

## £5000 CHEQUE PRESENTED TO CLUB

The Cherry & White Supporters Club presented cheques for £5,000 to the Leigh Club earlier this week. £2,625 of the money was raised from fund raising events organised by the Cherry & Whites Committee. Thanks are extended to all those supporters and friends who have backed the Club in the various fund raising events throughout the season and to the Pools Agents who have put a great deal of effort into the selling of the Christmas Draw Tickets.

Special thanks are extended to Derek Sumner, Edith Hope, Brian Ward and Derek Disley, of the Cherry & Whites Supporters Club Committee, who have worked tremendously hard to ensure that the Christmas Draw has been a resounding success!

A copy of the Christmas Draw results can be obtained from the Commercial Office and prizes can also be claimed at the office during normal office hours, on production of the winning ticket(s).

## FRED PILLING RETIRES

Fred Pilling, a former Chairman of the Supporters Club of Leigh RLFC has retired from his Hospital Broadcasting duties after many years of loyal service. The Cherry & Whites would like to take this opportunity to thank Fred for the hard work and tremendous effort that he has put into the Club over the years. Fred, who has worked with the Hospital Broadcast Network since its inception, is also a former Director at the Leigh Club, and is lifelong Leigh supporter, who currently holds a Stand Season Ticket.

## 50/50 DRAW

Winners of the 50/50 Draw for the Rochdale match (22/12/91), the London Crusaders match (26/12/91) and today's game versus Oldham, will be confirmed in the Ryedale York home match programme on 12/1/92.

Today's winner will be announced as usual at half time.

## GOLDEN WEDDING

Pools Agent Jack Barlow and his wife Ethel celebrate their Golden Wedding on the 3rd January and the Management Committee, the Commercial and the Lifeline Staff would like to send their 'Congratulations' and I am sure all the supporters would do the same.

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# CHERRY & WHITES

## SUPPORTERS CLUB FREE PRIZE DRAWS

Today's Supporters Club free prize draw is for a signed Rugby Ball, the winner will be announced at half time and confirmed in the next home match programme against Ryedale-York on 12th Jan. 1992.

Confirmation of the winner of the Boxing Day Free Prize Draw for two bottles of wine will also be given in the Ryedale-York programme.

Winner of the Cherry & Whites Supporters Club free prize draw, for the Rochdale home fixture, which was drawn on Monday 9th December, prior to the cancellation of the game, was 10-years-old Rebecca Jones of Harrogate, North Yorkshire, whose father Jim, a headmaster at a local school for the blind, is an avid Leigh supporter, but living in Harrogate is unable to travel to many of the Club's home fixtures.

Rebecca holds membership number 630 and she was very excited to receive the prize of a Christmas Hamper of food from Membership Secretary Don Boyle, earlier in the week.

## SUPPORTERS CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Cherry & White Supporters Club has now reached 703 ordinary members and 29 Vice Presidents. The latest recruits were the Malone family of Dronfield, Sheffield, who enrolled after the Sheffield match at the Don Valley Stadium on Sunday 15/12/91.

The Malones became friends of the Membership Secretary Don Boyle on holiday in Cyprus in June of last year and Don duly used his powers of persuasion to register the Malones as members of the Cherry & White Supporters Club. Don has now invited the Malones to travel to Leigh for the return fixture at Hilton Park.

If you are not yet a member of the Cherry & Whites Supporters Club, why not join? For only £1 membership and £10 Vice President membership you could help to put the club back on the road to success!

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- Half page advertisement in the Match Programme.
- Full escort service throughout the day by Club Officials.

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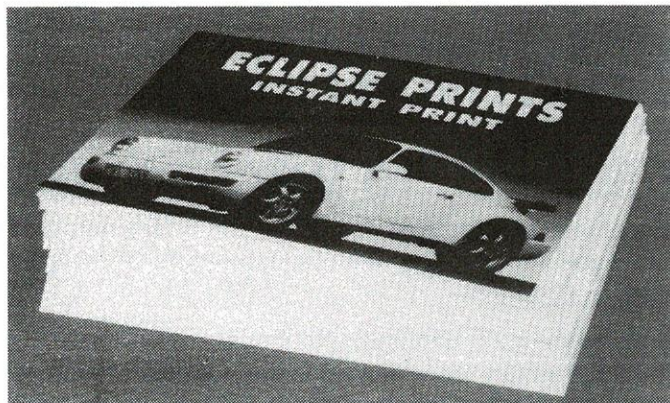
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- Full escort service throughout the day by Club Officials.

**Additional requirements can also be accommodated at Sponsors request.**

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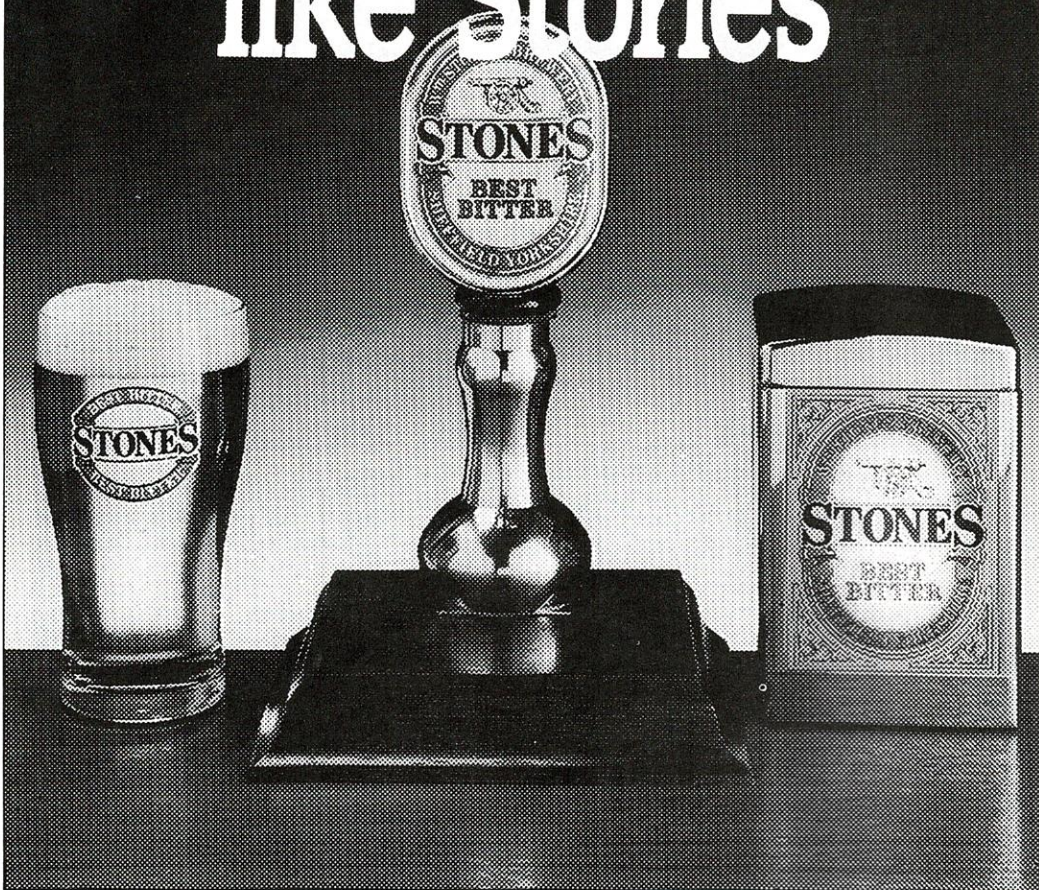
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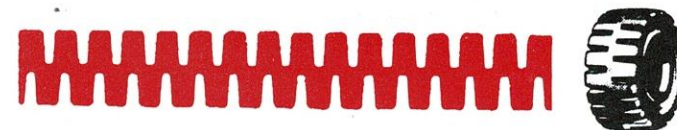
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			6	Ged Byrne			
			7	Neil Flanagan			
			8	Ian Sherratt			
			9	Ian Bates			
			10	Tim Street			
			11	Logan Edwards			
			12	Chris Joynt			
			13	Dave Bradbury			
			14	to be named			
			15	to be named			
			TOTAL				

Referee: Mr. Ian Ollerton (Wigan)

Touch Judges: Mr. J. Clare and Mr. J. E. Lloyd

SCRUMS	PENALTIES	SCRUMS	PENALTIES

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3rd Prize - £50, Bacardi, Gin, Rum, Sherry and Port	F4598	Wilson
4th Prize - £25, Whisky, Port, Sherry, Brandy	G4561	Chadwick
5th Prize - Gin & Whisky	D2747	Williams
6th Prize - Gin & Whisky	E3646	Smith
7th Prize - Gin & Whisky	C0516	Oakley
8th Prize - Gin & Whisky	D2426	Keast
9th Prize - Gin & Whisky	G1076	Bessie Blake
10th Prize - 2 Doz. Bitter	D2531	F. Fleming
11th Prize - 2 Doz. Bitter	D0679	K. Ward
12th Prize - 2 Doz. Bitter	G1010	D. Lloyd
13th Prize - 2 Doz. Bitter	F2358	J. Douglas
14th Prize - 2 Doz. Bitter	D2571	Mrs. Hough
15th Prize - 2 Doz. Bitter	G0689	Mrs. Pilkington
16th Prize - Gin	B2659	Mrs. Jordan
17th Prize - Gin	A0325	Niki (Bill)
18th Prize - Gin	A2991	
19th Prize - Gin	B4308	Mrs. Boardman
20th Prize - Gin	B0822	M. Maloney
21st Prize - Vodka	B3586	L. Hilton
22nd Prize - Vodka	D3789	Aspinall
23rd Prize - Vodka	D2600	Mr. Thornley
24th Prize - Vodka	A1391	T. Pennington
25th Prize - Vodka	E0705	Helen Cope
26th Prize - 1 Doz. Lager	G0289	Mrs. Traynor
27th Prize - 1 Doz. Lager	D2520	Davies
28th Prize - 1 Doz. Lager	F2486	Naughton
29th Prize - 1 Doz. Lager	C4812	Alison Dutton
30th Prize - 1 Doz. Lager	F0281	Josef
31st Prize - Christmas Cake	G0379	K. Draper
32nd Prize - Christmas Cake	B2511	H. Calland
33rd Prize - Christmas Cake	C4113	Bob
34th Prize - Christmas Cake	G1121	Welding
35th Prize - Christmas Cake	E0607	L. Hall
36th Prize - Port and Sherry	F4455	A. E. Smith
37th Prize - Port and Sherry	F4201	E. Davies
38th Prize - Port and Sherry	F1532	Galloway
39th Prize - Port and Sherry	C2661	J. Nood
40th Prize - Port and Sherry	B0200	L. Barlow
41st Prize - Wine	B4635	Marion Clayton
42nd Prize - Wine	C4267	Morris's
43rd Prize - Wine	B4927	Mrs. Jones
44th Prize - Wine	B2226	Gill Leamon
45th Prize - Wine	C0711	Mrs. Crowe
46th Prize - Whisky	B0154	T. Farrelly
47th Prize - Whisky	D2366	R. Finney
48th Prize - Whisky	B0422	Sam
49th Prize - Food Hamper	D0427	Geoff
50th Prize - £25 Voucher for a night out for TWO at Atherton Steak House	B0153	Farrilly

# Seasons Greetings

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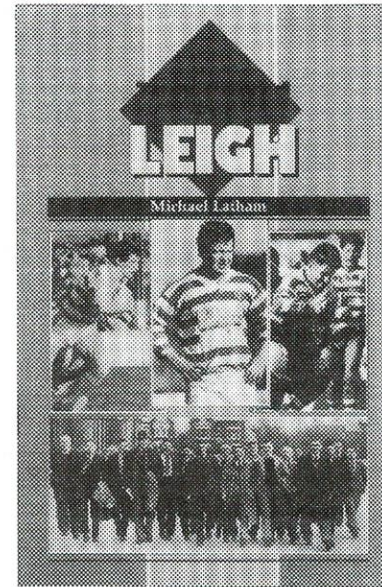
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# FROM THE BOARDROOM

## SOME HOPES FOR 1992

- That the Leigh R.L. Club consolidates its home at Hilton Park and that people with no interest in the Club leave us alone to get on with the job.
- That the Disciplinary Committee show consistency in decisions and be allowed to deal with all aspects of "on field" players discipline.
- That the Rugby League supporter gets a better deal with regular Sunday rugby.
- That referees are more consistent in their decisions and to stop the influence by partisan fans and frustrated players.
- That Clubs stop the 'back door' approach to star players who are under contract and that the Rugby League take the strongest possible action against the offending clubs.
- That the next Chairman of the Rugby League remembers that there are 36 Clubs in the Rugby League Professional game - not just one.
- That Kevin Ashcroft find out where the bar is so he can buy the lads a pint.
- That Police and Council officials stop hounding Clubs and accept that in the main Clubs have done their utmost to get grounds to a reasonable standard of safety as required by the Taylor Report.
- That the Rugby League and B.A.R.L.A. resolve their disagreement concerning the introduction of the Academy League so that the Amateur Clubs and Professionals can work together for the good of the game.
- That all players who start 1992 with injuries can soon be back on the field of play and continue in the New Year without interruption.
- ... and finally that more fans come along to enjoy this great game of ours which will be even greater if our hopes for 1992 are realised.

JOHN STRINGER



Following the success of 'Leigh RLFC - An Illustrated History', published last year and now a complete sell-out, co-author Michael Latham has compiled a second volume.

'They Played for Leigh' details the playing records of over a thousand players to have represented the club from the first season of the Northern Union in 1895-96 until the end of the 1990-91 season.

## THEY PLAYED FOR LEIGH

Illustrated with many rare and interesting photographs, the book also contains other previously unpublished achievements and records.

The book is available from the pools office, Chamleys book-sellers and stationers, Union Street, and KJ Newsagents, Lord Street, at the price of £4.95.

The book is also available by post from the author, Michael Latham, at 28 Windermere Drive, Adlington PR6 9PD, at £4.95 plus 55p p+p.

Subscribers who took out an advance order to the book before the end of September are listed in the back. They qualified for a discount rate of £4 per copy. Michael would like to thank all the supporters who subscribed as without their encouragement the book would never have seen the light of day.

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# ALLIANCE UPDATE

As we promised in the London Crusaders match programme on Boxing Day, we are including today the new 2nd Division Alliance Cup Draw which will commence on the 22nd February, 1992.

the Draw for the five rounds of this Competition has been made and has resulted in the following groups:-

GROUP 1	GROUP 2	GROUP 3	GROUP 4
A Sheffield E	Carlisle	Hemel Hempstead	Whitehaven
B Bramley	Swinton C	Leigh	Batley
C Rochdale H	Chorley B	Ryedale Y	Barrow
D Salford	Keighley C	London C	Huddersfield
E Doncaster	Dewsbury	Hunslet	Scarborough P

The Leigh fixtures will be as follows:-

Saturday, 22nd February - Hemel Hempstead v Leigh

Saturday, 29th February - Leigh v Ryedale York

Saturday, 14th March - OPEN

Saturday, 21st March - Hunslet v Leigh

Saturday, 28th March - Leigh v London Crusaders

The semi finals and final will be played on 4th April and 11th April.  
More information as we receive it.

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# CLUB NEWS

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## Next 1st Team Match:

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### LEIGH R.L.F.C.

#### FIRST TEAM FIXTURES 1991/92

	F	A
<b>1991 September</b>		
1-Ryedale-York .....	H	26-10
8-Oldham .....	A	19-46
15-Chorley (LC-1) .....	H	59-12
22-Carlisle .....	H	32-22
26-Wigan (LC-2) .....	A	12-42
29-London .....	A	18-20
<b>October</b>		
7-Rochdale .....	A	19-10
13-Sheffield .....	H	13-14
20-Workington .....	H	10-5
28-Ryedale-York .....	A	22-7
31-Hull (RT-1) .....	A	7-22
<b>November</b>		
6-Oldham .....	H	20-14
10-Carlisle .....	A	16-12
24-London C .....	A	4-14
<b>December</b>		
15-Sheffield .....	A	18-10
22-Rochdale .....	H	24-22
26-London .....	H	
<b>1992 January</b>		
1-Oldham .....	H	
5-Workington .....	A	
12-Ryedale-York .....	H	
26-SCCC 1 Dewsbury .....	A	
<b>February</b>		
1-Carlisle .....	H	
9-SCCC 2 .....		
16-Rochdale .....	A	
23-Sheffield .....	H	
<b>March</b>		
1-Ryedale-York .....	A	
8-Workington .....	H	
15-Carlisle .....	A	
22-Sheffield .....	A	
29-London .....	H	
<b>April</b>		
5-Rochdale .....	H	
12-Workington .....	A	
20-Oldham .....	A	

#### ALLIANCE FIXTURES 1991-92

	F	A
<b>1991 September</b>		
5-Salford .....	H	40-6
14-Barrow .....	H	38-12
21-Carlisle .....	A	12-22
27-Huddersfield .....	H	26-28
<b>October</b>		
5-Barrow (LS 1) .....	A	10-9
12-Swinton .....	A	30-32
18-Swinton (LS 2) .....	H	22-9
26-Whitehaven .....	H	14-9
31-Keighley .....	A	Post
<b>November</b>		
2-Whitehaven (LS-SF) .....	A	2-23
9-Carlisle .....	H	36-8
16-Barrow .....	A	
22-Rochdale .....	A	19-14
28-Chorley .....	H	
<b>December</b>		
6-Huddersfield .....	A	2-24
12-Swinton .....	H	24-20
19-Keighley .....	H	
28-Chorley .....	A	
<b>1992 January</b>		
4-Whitehaven .....	A	
11-Rochdale .....	A	
17-Salford .....	A	
<b>February</b>		
1-Challenge Cup 1 .....		
15-Challenge Cup 2 .....		
22-SD Cup 1 .....		
29-SD Cup 2 .....		
<b>March</b>		
14-SD Cup 3 .....		
21-SD Cup 4 .....		
28-SD Cup 5 .....		
<b>April</b>		
4-SC Cup S.F. ....		
11-SD Cup F. ....		



# PLAYER PROFILE

## JASON DONOHUE

If 1991 was a good year for Jason Donohue, 1992 promises to be even better. Established as one of the game's most outstanding young prospects and a great favourite with the Hilton Park crowd, it is easy to forget that Jason is only 19, such is his maturity and deportment on and off the field.

The selection of the GB Under 21's side for the games against France will be eagerly awaited by Leigh supporters to see if their scrum half's performances have come to the attention of those who matter.

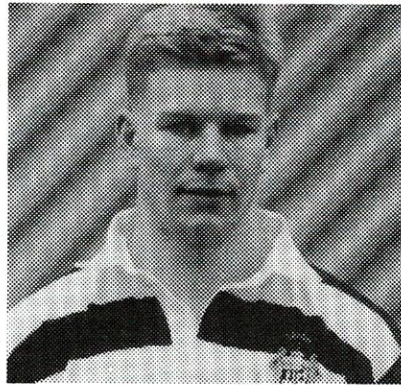
New Year's Day is also memorable for Jason in another sense, not only for the prospect of an exciting game against Oldham and an interesting duel with another fine young prospect, Neil Flanagan, but because this evening Jason and his girlfriend Zoe, daughter of former Leigh coach Billy Benyon, get engaged.

Jason came up through the local school's sides but at one time was nearly lost to the game. His elder brother Nigel won a bronze medal at wrestling in the Commonwealth Games and is now concentrating on Judo with the next Olympics in mind. Jason could have followed in his footsteps:

"I spent a lot of my youth involved in both sports," recall Jason, "but rugby was always my first love. I've always watched Leigh and it was my ambition to play for the club right from being at junior school.

"Judo and wrestling are both tough contact sports and many of the skills and training techniques are similar to those you need at rugby, in particular the tackling side of the game." Jason's outstanding ability to wrap up the man and the ball in a tackle can thus be traced back to his schooldays.

"I was very fortunate to get plenty of good



coaching as a junior from the likes of Leigh school teacher David Jones and then John Prince at the Golborne club. My father John, who was a professional with Leigh in his younger days, has also been a big influence. Sadly his career was ended early by a knee injury and he never quite made the first team."

After playing as an amateur, Jason signed pro. forms in the spring of 1989 and served two years apprenticeship under Bob Beardmore. "Bob was a really big help to me and was always passing on advice and the benefit of his experience."

It was towards the end of that season that Jason emerged as a regular first-teamer and, in a short space of time, quickly bridged the gap between Alliance and first-team football.

"Having a lot of local lads has certainly boosted team spirit - they are all playing for this club from the heart. After all the summer's trauma we have done well to get to this position and will be looking to maintain our improvement in the New Year.

Up and coming youngsters now want to play for their home town club and the formation of the Academy side will also be a good thing in that it will hopefully provide Leigh with many of their future players.

With the help of our marvellous fans, 1992 should be a good year - certainly everyone at Hilton Park is very optimistic."



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Season 1991-2

Career for Leigh

	A+S	T	G+D	P	A+S	T	G+D	P
Basil Ake	5+2	4	-	16	7	4	-	16
David Barratt	1+1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Simon Booth	14	5	-	20	22	9	-	36
Russ Bridge	6+2	1	-	4	18	2	-	8
Andrew Collier	13	2	-	8	13	2	-	8
Andy Collier	8	4	-	16	143	23	-	92
John Costello	5+2	-	-	-	7	-	-	-
Tony Cottrell	3+1	-	-	-	211	22	-	88
Mark Dainty	1+2	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Jason Donohue	16	5	7	34	38	10	8	56
Brian Dunn	3+1	-	-	-	70	19	-	76
Adrian Earner	3+1	-	-	-	19	-	-	-
Lee Hansen	1+5	1	-	4	6	1	-	4
Tommy Hayes	5	1	-	4	5	1	-	4
David Hill	10+2	3	-	12	49	11	-	44
Ian Jeffrey	15+1	6	-	24	160	69	2	280
Kevin Johnson	1+2	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
Phil Johnson	0+1	-	-	-	160	28	135	375
Barry Ledger	2	1	-	4	76	56	-	224
Neil McCulloch	7	4	-	16	95	35	-	140
Terry Mellor	0+1	-	-	-	6	-	-	-
Jim Moore	6+1	-	-	-	7	-	-	-
Gary Pendlebury	4+3	-	-	-	7	-	-	-
Ian Potter	10	-	-	-	152	16	-	51
Craig Rodgers	1+1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Mick Round	3	1	-	4	48	22	-	88
Andy Ruane	16	1	2+5	13	16	1	7	13
David Ruane	15	6	-	24	114	64	1	257
Mark Sheals	12	1	-	4	42	8	-	32
Wayne Standish	2	1	-	4	37	11	-	44
Paul Topping	12	8	17+1	67	46	26	93	281
Peter Valentine	1+1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
John Woods	7+1	2	15+1	39	324	145	920	2311
33 Players	208+31	57	41+7	317				

Captain 1991-2: Topping 10, A. Ruane 5, Woods 1.

Non-playing substitutes 1991-92: Rodgers 1.

Playing Record 199-92: Played 16. Won 10. Lost 6. Drawn 0. Lost 6. For 317. Against 272.

### Teams & Scorers Update

22.12.91 v Rochdale (W) won 24-22: Team: Topping (1t); Booth, D. Ruane, Jeffrey (1t), Hill, Woods (1t), 4g), Donohue; Barrett (Ake), A. Ruane, Costello, Dunn, Collier, Bridge (Hansen 1t).



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**PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS**

By Michael Latham

Oldham return to Hilton Park this New Year's Day afternoon looking to avenge their defeat here a couple of months ago. Tommy Martyn was the Roughyeds' try scorer in a 4-20 reversal. This season is the first time the sides have met in league football since 1986-87 and, since two divisions were reintroduced in 1973, there have been only two other second division encounters between Leigh and Oldham on this ground.

On 16th February, 1975, Oldham won 18-4 at Hilton Park in front of a crowd of 1867. The visitors had two men sent off but had few problems overcoming a pathetic Leigh effort. Mick Stacey kicked two penalties for Leigh with Oldham's scorers being Phil Larder and David Treasure (tries) with goals from John Blair (4) and Larder. Blair also kicked 2 drop goals.

On 13 November 1977 Leigh recorded a 24-3 victory with John Woods continuing his prolific points scoring, adding a try and 6 goals to his tally. He had now kicked 70 goals and scored 9 tries in the opening 14

games of the season. John McAttee, Dave Macko and Clive Jones also scored tries with Oldham's sole reply coming from Eddie Barton. The crowd was a more healthy 3801.

The sides on duty that Sunday afternoon more than 14 years ago were:

**Leigh:** Hogan; Prescott, Stacey, Woods, Walsh; J. Taylor, McAttee; Mantle, K. Taylor, Wilkinson, Macko, Grimes, Rathbone. Subs: Grimshaw and Jones.

**Oldham:** Murphy; Radcliffe, Barton, Larder, Standin; McCone, Patterson; Hughes, O'Mahoney, Frodsham, Starbuck, Herbert, Jewitt. Sub: Flanagan.

Leigh and Oldham have met on New Year's Day on only one previous occasion, in 1929, when Leigh recorded a 5-3 victory at Mather Lane.

It was a former Leigh player, Abe Johnson, who opened the scoring with a try for the Roughyeds but Leigh responded strenuously and Dick Higson's try, converted by Tommy Clarkson, decided a hard-fought game played in front of 4,000 spectators.

Leigh's league record against Oldham in recent seasons has been as follows:

P	W	D	L	F	A
183	63	10	107	1659	2246

Season	Div.	Home	Att	Away	Att
1980-81	1	W 25-24	4578	L 13-15	3749
1982-83	1	L 5-15	4917	L 7-10	3903
1983-84	1	L 15-21	3261	L 10-13	3918
1984-85	1	L 12-16	2701	L 8-12	4964
1986-87	1	W 40-12	4291	W 54-12	3531
1991-92	2	W 20-4	3100	L 19-46	3785



# STATISTICS... STATISTICS... STATISTICS

## DIVISION TWO TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sheffield Eagles	12	9	1	2	299	172	19
Leigh	13	9	0	4	239	196	18
Oldham	13	6	2	5	263	224	14
London Crusaders	13	7	0	6	194	212	14
Carlisle	12	6	1	5	221	173	13
Rochdale Hornets	12	5	2	5	316	222	12
Workington Town	13	4	1	8	161	291	9
Ryedale-York	12	0	1	11	159	362	1

## RESULTS

	Carlisle	Leigh	London C	Oldham	Rochdale	Ryedale	Sheffield	Workington
Carlisle	X	12-16	12-4	10-30			28-10	39-10
Leigh	32-22	X		20-4	24-22	26-10	13-14	10-5
London C	12-8	20-18/14-4	X	20-23	14-22	20-10	22-44/12-29	
Oldham		46-19	0-10	X	18-26	52-18	12-38	14-15
Rochdale	18-18	10-19	26-28	10-20	X	66-14		42-8
Ryedale Y	6-26	7-22		16-22	12-12	X	22-26	18-42
Sheffield E	12-6	10-16		16-16	35-14		X	28-14
Workington	11-17		12-8/4-10	6-6	12-48	20-16	2-35	X

## AVERAGE HOME ATTENDANCES 91-92

3,331	Oldham
2,924	Leigh
2,685	Sheffield
2,276	Workington
1,645	Rochdale
1,250	Ryedale-York
966	Carlisle
693	London C

(All statistics relate to League games only)

## TOP TRIES

9	Fox (Rochdale)
	Ropati (Sheffield)
8	Buckley (London)
	Topping (Leigh)
7	Abram (Rochdale)
	Gartland (Rochdale)
	Pinkney (Ryedale)
	Plange (Sheffield)
6	Christie (Oldham)
	Clark (Rochdale)
	Friend (Carlisle)
	Garrity (Rochdale)
	Pachniuk (Oldham)

## TOP GOALS

35	Vickers (Carlisle)
25	Sullivan (Ryedale)
24	Smith (London C)
	Wear (W/ton)
20	Martyn (Oldham)
	Whitfield (Rochdale)

## TOP POINTS

74	Vickers (Carlisle)
66	Sullivan (R-York)
55	Martyn (Oldham)

(All statistics relate to League games only - up to and including 22nd Dec. 1991)

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