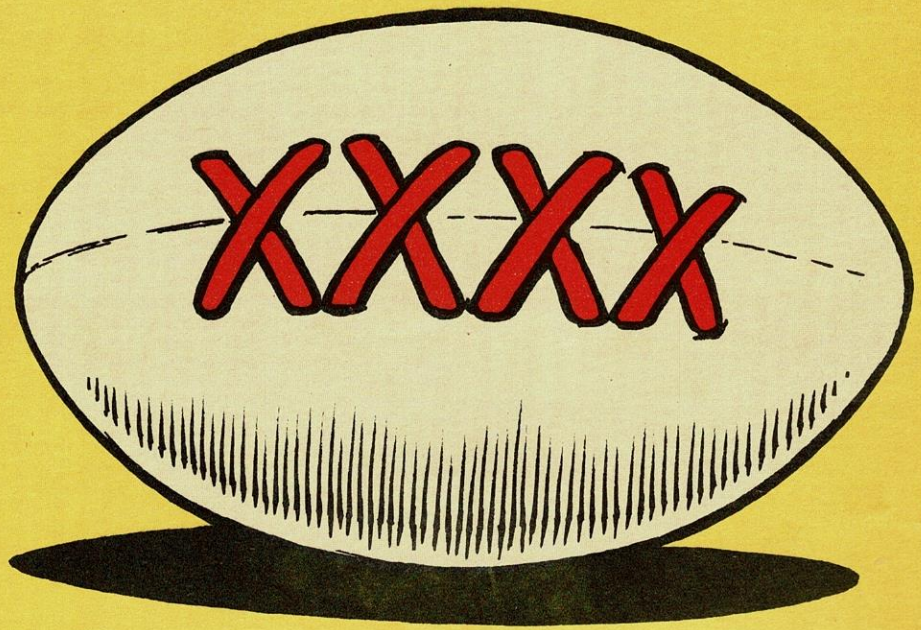


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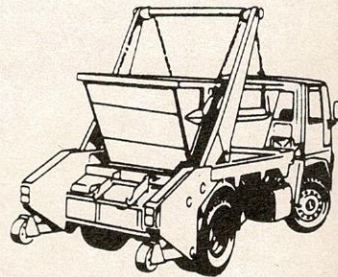
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No. 7 - ALEX GIVVONS

This week we feature the individual who is probably the longest serving person, in various capacities, ever to be associated with Oldham R.L.F.C. . . . ALEX GIVVONS.

Way back on January 17th, 1933, the sports page of the Oldham Chronicle was dominated by two major headlines, the first dealt with the historic telegrams sent by the Australian Cricket Board to the M.C.C. regarding the "Bodyline" tactics used by England captain Douglas Jardine in the Ashes Test Series, accusing England of being "unsportsmanlike". The other and to the local Rugby League folk, far more important news, was the acquisition of a talented young half-back from South Wales, the name of course, Alex Givvons.



Born in Newport on November 2nd, 1911, Alex first came to prominence with the local team Pill Harriers, but so impressive was his form that he was soon wearing the famous black and white colours of the Cross Keys club, where he was tipped for a bright future in the 15-a-side game.

Of course such a rising talent was bound to attract attention from the Northern R.L. clubs and Alex duly signed for Oldham, while still at the tender age of 19.

Tall and agile, fortunately for Oldham, Alex made a natural transition to the loose forward position, in which he graced Oldham's colours for many seasons.

Very alert and fast away from the scrum, Alex was a terror to opposing half-backs, often snuffing out their moves before they could open out the play. This combined with a more than adequate passing and running game led to Alex being capped by Wales (as our picture shows).

Alex left to join Huddersfield in the mid 1940's, but after a short and successful spell with the Fartowners he re-signed for Oldham in January, 1948, before the Challenge Cup deadline, at this time he also took over the coaching duties for the "A" team, a post that he held for many seasons.

For more information on Alex, see also the "Back Pages" feature later in the programme.

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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, 1911-1912, 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, 1989-90

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 Winner.:

1975-76, 1979-80

Colts Premiership Trophy:

1979-80

Second Division Premiership:

1987-88, 1989-90

Wigan Sevens Winners:

1991-92

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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: £37,505.50 v Wigan, 5th October, 1989

Record Transfer Fee Paid: £70,000 to Halifax for Tony Anderson, March 1990

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

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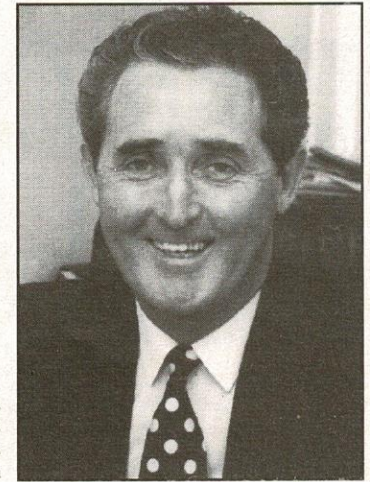
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FROM the BOARDROOM

by

CHAIRMAN JAMES QUINN



It is with the greatest of pleasure that I offer congratulations today, on behalf of the board and the club, to Alex Givvons on completion of 60 years at Watersheddings in virtually every capacity you can think of. Sixty years - just ponder on that for a moment and recall that Alex was only 19 years of age when he travelled north from Newport, South Wales in 1933 to sign on for Oldham. He had played for Cross Keys and for a young man of 19 to "go North" in those days must have been like moving to another world. Sixty years on and Alex is still with us, playing an absolutely vital role behind the scenes in the bowels of the pavilion.

Apart from a spell of about four seasons in the 1940's, when he moved to Huddersfield, Alex has served this club for a lifetime as player, coach, player-coach, assistant coach, "A" team coach, groundsman, kit man, boot man, dressing room overseer, you name it, Alex has done it. He is still doing a fantastic job for the club, in close liaison with his old pal Joe Buckley, and I would like it to be placed on record how much his devotion to duty and his love of this club is appreciated not only by the directors but, above all, by the players with whom he has worked so closely over six decades.

Alex's contribution to this club is unique. He has been part of the furniture and fittings for years. He has been around for such a long time and does his jobs for the club so efficiently and with so much experience that there are times when perhaps we take him for granted. Alex prides himself on making sure that every Oldham team is turned out smartly. He makes sure that boots are in top-class condition, not only for match days but for training too.

When players come here from other clubs, one of the first things they always remark upon is the way their training kit is always laid out for them, clean and laundered, on training nights. It doesn't just happen. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication from a man who has been dedicated to Oldham Rugby for 60 years... a truly loyal servant whom I am sure you will congratulate and recognise in the usual way if we can persuade him to make an appearance on the field today.

Like many of you, Alex has seen Watersheddings full to capacity at various times down the years and he must be disappointed now at the relatively small crowds we get, particularly in mid-winter on mid-week evenings.

We could perhaps have expected 5,000 or so if we had played Hornets on Boxing Day as scheduled, but the winter forced a postponement and we ended up a week last Wednesday night with a crowd of only 2,653. It was disappointing in many ways, but look at the gates at the other matches that night - 2,154 for Widnes v Swinton in the preliminary round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup, 2,401 for Salford v Leigh in the First Division, 1,724 for a Third Division derby between Batley and Dewsbury and 1,298 for Keighley v Doncaster in the Third Division.

YES, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, OUR DERBY CROWD OF 2,653 WAS THE HIGHEST OF THE NIGHT - HIGHER THAN A CUP-TIE INVOLVING WIDNES, A VITAL FIRST DIVISION RELEGATION BATTLE BETWEEN TWO CLOSE FOES AND A THIRD DIVISION GAME INVOLVING NEIGHBOURS.

If there was ever a set of gate figures to support the call for summer rugby that was it. I have been encouraged by the number of people stopping me in the street to agree with me and the number of press men ringing me up to seek my reasons for believing that summer rugby is the way forward for our game. We even had the Sky cameras here last Saturday morning to do a feature on "Boots-n-All". If we keep plugging it often enough, people might start to think seriously about a switch of seasons.

Finally, I can tell you that things are progressing well on the talks we are having with various bodies relative to the redevelopment of the Watersheddings ground. Everything will hinge on the sale of land and the awarding of grants from various sources, but the board is encouraged by the hard work that is going on behind the scenes and the talks that are taking place with people like Oldham Council, Oldham Owls, local MPs and McColl of Manchester, the North West branch of a firm of international architects and design consultants.

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IN TOUCH



TOP TEN TRY SCORERS:

1. Shaun Edwards (Wigan)	27
2. Alan Hunte (St. Helens)	21
3. Paul Newlove (Featherstone R)	20
Ellery Hanley (Leeds)	20
5. Greg Austin (Halifax)	19
6. Phil Ford (Salford)	17
Nick Pinkney (Ryedale-York)	17
8. Andy Mason (Wakefield T)	16
Tony Smith (Castleford)	16
David Plange (Sheffield E)	16
Owen Simpson (Featherstone R)	16

The 1992-93 top try scorer will receive £30 a try from Stones bitter.

TOP TEN GOAL SCORERS (Including drop goals):

1. Dean Marwood (Workington T)	99
2. Frano Botica (Wigan)	93
3. John Wasyliw (Keighley C)	85
4. Gary Pearce (Ryedale-York)	74
5. Lee Crooks (Castleford)	71
6. Paul Eastwood (Hull)	66
Martin Pearson (Featherstone R)	66
8. Steve Gartland (Rochdale H)	61
9. Jonathan Davies (Widnes)	60
10. Steve Maguire (Whitehaven)	54

The 1992-93 top goal scorer will receive £10 a goal from Stones Bitter.

TOP TEN POINT SCORERS:

	Tries	Goals	Drop Goals	Points
1. Dean Marwood (Workington Town)	10	99	0	238
2. Frano Botica (Wigan)	9	91	2	220
3. John Wasyliw (Keighley C)	12	85	0	218
4. Martin Pearson (Featherstone R)	12	66	0	180
5. Steve Gartland (Rochdale H)	12	60	1	169
6. Paul Eastwood (Hull)	7	66	0	160
7. Gary Pearce (Ryedale-York)	2	72	2	154
8. Jonathan Davies (Widnes)	7	60	0	148
9. Lee Crooks (Castleford)	1	71	0	146
10. Mark Simms (Doncaster)	10	50	0	140

TRY SCORING RUN

Ellery Hanley has scored at least one try in Leeds' last six matches, bringing him a total of 10 touchdowns. The loose forward's sequence is as follows:

2 - 3 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 2

POINT SCORING RUN

John Wasyliw of Keighley has the current longest point scoring run. The winger has scored in 29 successive matches, starting with three goals in an 18-16 Stones Bitter Third Division home defeat of Scarborough Pirates on 17th February, 1992.

WINNING RUN

Whitehaven have the current longest winning run of six matches, all in the Third Division.

LOSING RUN

Highfield are the only team without a win this season, after losing all 14 matches - 12 in the Stones Bitter Third Division, one Greenalls Lancashire Cup and one Regal Trophy tie. But Nottingham City have the longest losing run of 15 matches, covering 13 in the Third Division, one Regal Trophy and one Yorkshire Cup tie.

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Instead of Mark himself, how about winning the playing kit he's worn for the past few months. Dirty Shirt, Smelly Shorts and Sweaty Socks can all be yours if you are the Lucky Winner - as Prizes go, it's a belter and Tickets cost just 50p each.

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Pam Sherry was the lucky **£500 Winner** in our Shareholders Draw (Pam lives in Rochdale but we paid her anyway).

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A WATERSHEDDINGS WELCOME TO ROCHDALE

MIKE KUITI: Fresh from two substitute appearances for New Zealand against Great Britain on this year's Lions' Tour, Mike started this season as Assistant Coach and on-field boss. In his second stint at Hornets, Mike has a wealth of experience under his belt after coming over as a young unknown second row forward in 1985. He made his mark with some fierce tackling and devastating running in an all too brief stay. A period at Swinton was followed by International honours and a couple of seasons at Leeds. The last season saw him regain his International place and as such is our only current International player.

BRETT CLARK: Signed last season from near neighbours Oldham, this popular Aussie delighted the Hornets' fans with his style of play. Coach, Stan Gittins sees Brett as the man to make Hornets tick with his vision and passing skills. He has a wealth of experience having played with St. George in the Winfield Cup and with St. Helens before his time at Oldham.

CAVILL HEUGH: Hornets' recent signing from Leeds after a long chase, links up again with his former team mate Mike Kuiti. A powerful, classy second rower or prop who can also slot goals was seen as the ideal man to do a job at Hornets and so the negotiations were allowed to carry on for three months.

DAVID WEBSTER: The signing of the (then) current G.B. Amateur International full back caused a stir when David signed from Wigan St. Maries. Much sought after in his teens, David played for G.B. Students, and England Students in the Student World Cup. David combines strong tackling and a willingness to "hit the ball up" out of defence to make him one of the best young full backs in the Second Division.

MIKE STEWART: Signed from Blackpool Gladiators at the start of the season in a swap deal which also brought his team mate Paul Reynolds to Hornets. Mike is a tall powerfully built centre or winger with a good turn of speed and a strong defence.

PAUL REYNOLDS: Young, nippy centre from Warrington who started his career at top Amateur club Crossfields before moving to Trafford Borough. A good pair of hands and a devastating side step make Paul a good acquisition.

CLIFF ECCLES: Young second rower bought from Trafford at the start of last season. Cliff has played most of his Hornets' career as a prop and has shown an appetite for the hard work associated with that position.

MATT CALLAND: Starting his second season following his signing from Oldham St. Annes, made the step up from A Team player to First Team player at the start of last season after some impressive displays for Kev Lowe's A team. Signed as a centre, Matt turned in some powerful performances on the wing where his no-nonsense approach brought him tries from unlikely situations.

STEVE GARTLAND: To start a first team career playing against two of the finest scrum halves in the world either makes a good player or destroys him. Steve came through this period and in two years has proved to be a competent performer. A good defensive player who can also sniff out a try.

BOB MARSDEN: Player of the Season last year and a very popular choice. Bob played all season in the unfamiliar role of prop forward and turned in some sterling performances. A strong and powerful runner who plays well above his weight. In his third season after joining from Oldham.

DARREN ABRAM: Signed partway through the Division campaign from Trafford Borough. Darren quickly became a popular member of Hornets' team. A pacy player with a breath-taking side-step either foot has seen him beat some of the best full-backs in the game. Hornets' top try scorer for the last two seasons, finishing with 24 last year.

TONY HUMPHRIES: A very popular player with the fans, who has turned in some superb performances. A former Lancashire player in his Warrington days, Tony powers his way through a great deal of work in a match both in attack and defence.

SIMON BAMBER: Has his best ever season in Hornets' colours last term. A strong runner and defender, Simon shows a good turn of pace when in the clear and is very difficult to stop close to the line.

MARTIN KAY: Signed from Oldham St. Annes U-19 team two seasons ago and features mainly in the A team.



Left:
Richard
Russell
scoring
a try



Right:
Mark
Sheals
in
action

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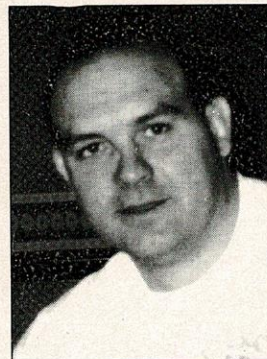
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TUNKS' TALKBACK



It's derby day again as we welcome back Rochdale Hornets, who will still be smarting from their defeat here only a few days ago. But it's another day, the teams start level and we won't be expecting anything other than a hard-fought contest against our neighbours.

January has been a good month so far for Oldham Rugby. A month that has seen us score a heap of points, as we have picked up four good wins. It was very satisfactory to go to Carlisle last Sunday and, despite being without the injured Iva Ropati and Tommy Martyn, to win our fourth game in just 12 days. It's not easy to win at Carlisle, as Rochdale know only too well and in very windy conditions, it was great to see the amount of work put in by our big fellows up front. Our forwards more than matched their opposite numbers and special mention must be made of Tiny Solomona, who had a tremendous game in his first senior outing in a month.

I know, you know, the Players, Directors and all the staff here know that we must have First Division Rugby at Watersheddings next season. A win today against our close rivals wouldn't do our prospects any harm at all.

Enjoy the Game

TUNKS TEASERS

Can you name the country in which the following Oldham players were born?

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Hussein M'Barki | 1985-88 |
| 2. Sean Quinlan | 1959-60 |
| 3. Keith Atkinson | 1984 - Present Day |
| 4. Sam Moore | 1971 |
| 5. Alan Laird | 1942-46 |
| 6. Ben Olsen | 1992 - Present Day |
| 7. John Winton | 1965-66 |
| 8. Bill McCutcheon | 1885-97 |
| 9. Graham Macrae | 1935-38 |
| 10. Bill Jardine | 1908-14 |

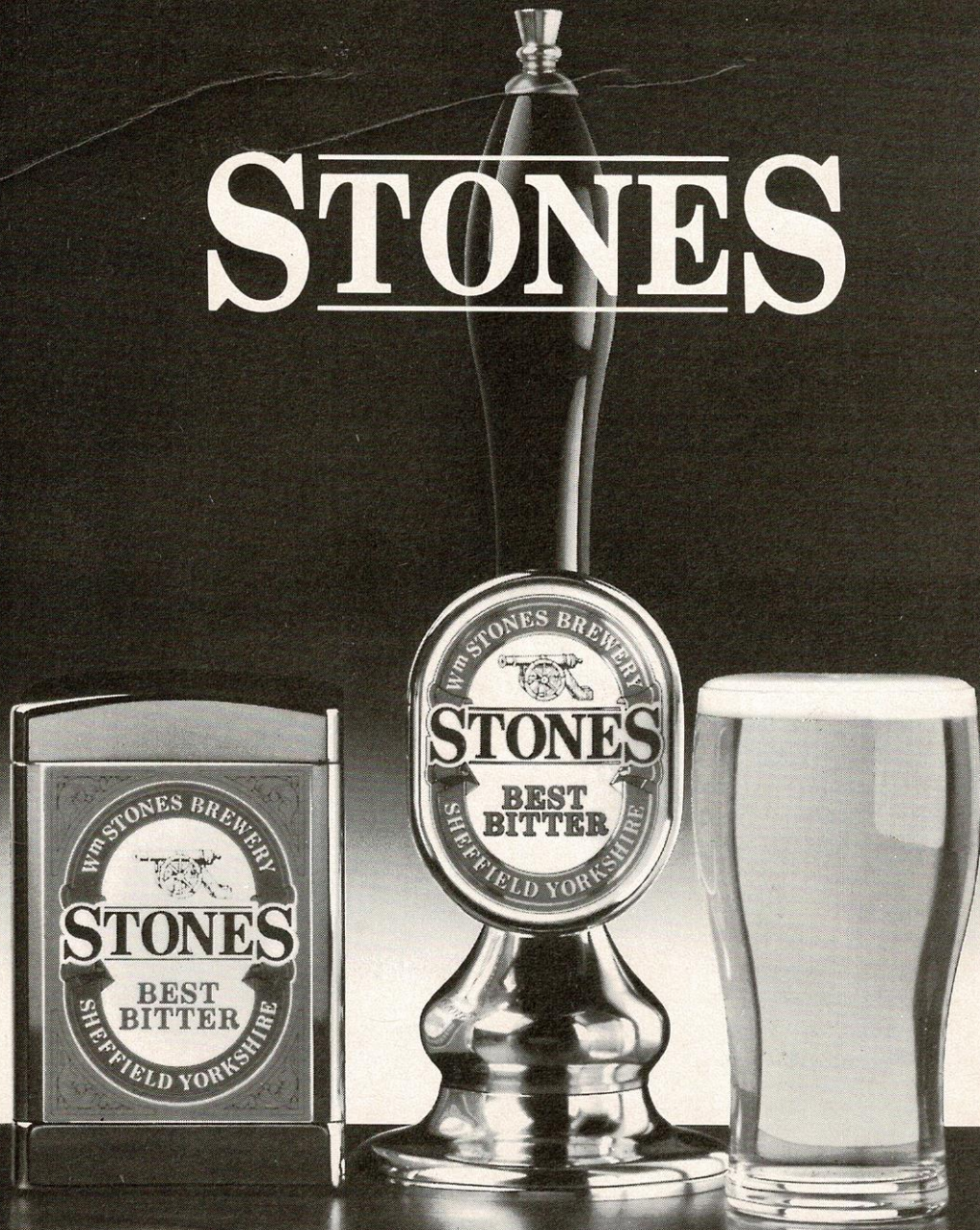
Note: Not an English-born player among them.

1. Morocco 2. Ireland 3. West Germany 4. U.S.A. 5. New Zealand 6. Denmark 7. South Africa 8. Wales 9. Australia 10. Scotland

ANSWERS

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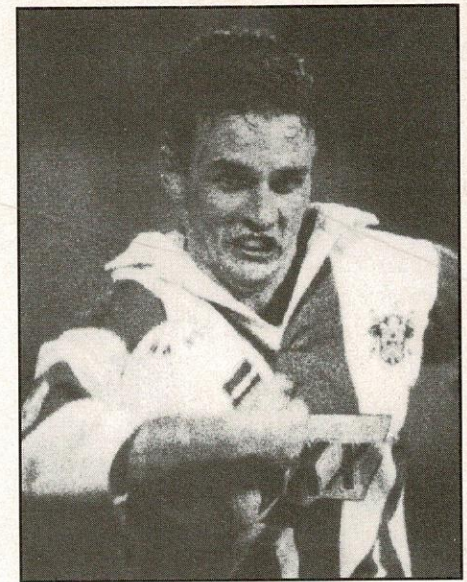
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PLAYER PROFILE

STEVE KERRY



Full Name: Steven Edward Kerry.

Date of Birth: 10th March, 1966.

Birthplace: Prescott, St. Helens.

Height: 5 ft. 9½ in.

Weight: 11½ stone, but I'll be 12 next season.

Favourite Drink: Apart from mineral water, a glass of Chianti or a pint of Murphys is quite nice.

Favourite Food: Bacon and eggs on Saturday after training.

Favourite T.V. Show: Those on after 9.00 o'clock at night.

Favourite Music: Mark 'Tiger' Sheals singing after we've won again.

Hobbies: Listening to Peter Tunks.

Previous Clubs: Preston Grasshoppers R.U.F.C. and Salford R.L.

Biggest Influence on Career so far: Mick Hill and Malcolm Alden (coaches at Preston).

Favourite Player: Mark 'Tiger' Sheals.

Favourite Ground: Old Trafford.

Most Difficult Opponent: The Poll Tax and the Salford Chairman.

Most Memorable Match seen: Wigan v. Manly World Club Final.

Biggest Thrill: Taking the M.O.M. at Premiership Final and coming second in Man of Steel awards.

Biggest Disappointment: Not being allowed free transfer to join Oldham last season.

Personal Ambition: To be remembered as a 'good-un' when I finish playing.

Person you would most like to meet: Tunksey, when he gives me the keys to my club car eventually.

Have you ever been mistaken for anyone famous: Tom Cruise, and I was once called a close friend of Kevin Tamati.

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IS THERE A STING IN THE TAIL?

As Oldham RLFC prepares to play the Rochdale Hornets, many of their supporters will be looking out for the effect of Rochdale's new Australian coach, Peter Regan, will have on the opposition. This will be the first game played since Regan came on board and so promises to add an extra.XXXX-citement to the game.

The last meeting of the two teams resulted in an Oldham victory - 47-22 - the biggest win against the Hornets for some time. This will also be the first game Rochdale will have played since then. But will there be a sting in its tail with this new addition?

So XXXX-pect a great game from our "canny" lads!

IT'S XXXX DAY!!!

Remember I told you to look out for 26th January - the official Castlemaine XXXX Day? Well it is fast approaching and promises to be a day to remember!

The ad. called "Float" will be the "longest XXXX you've ever had on the screen" - what an offer! For Castlemaine XXXX is going for star "billing" when it shows a one-off showing of their newest and longest-ever TV ad. at 8.15 p.m., on Tuesday, 26th January, during the commercial break for "The Bill" on ITV. Watch it - you won't believe

CASTLEMAINE

XXXXX

CASTLEMAINE



XXXXX



TEAM CHECK

SUNDAY, 24th JANUARY, 1993

OLDHAM

TEAM CHANGES

1. WALLY GIBSON
2. SCOTT RANSON
3. GARY CHRISTIE
4. IVA ROPATI
5. JAMIE BLOEM
6. TOMMY MARTYN
7. STEVE KERRY
8. TINY SOLOMONA
9. RICHARD RUSSELL
10. MARK SHEALS
11. IAN SHERRATT
12. SHANE TUPAEA
13. BEN OLSEN
14. STEVE WARBURTON
15. RICHARD PACHNIUK

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

Referee: S. CROSS

ROCHDALE

TEAM CHANGES

1. D. WEBSTER
2. P. O'KEEFE
3. M. CALLAND
4. C. WHITFIELD
5. A. BELL
6. S. GARTLAND
7. B. CLARK
8. C. ECCLES
9. M. KAY
10. R. MARSDEN
11. T. HUMPHRIES
12. C. HEUGH
13. S. BAMBER
14. K. MARRIOTT
15. D. ABRAM

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

Touch Judges: Mr. R. G. WILLIS (Red Flag)
Mr. M. SPARROW (Yellow)

your eyes! Shorter 50 and 60 second versions will then be screened on ITV, Sky and Channel 4 from 27th January onwards.

Tom Hings, XXXX senior brand manager sums up the campaign: "Australia Day is dedicated to recognising those values and traditions that make Australia great - no wonder it's better-known as XXXX-day!"

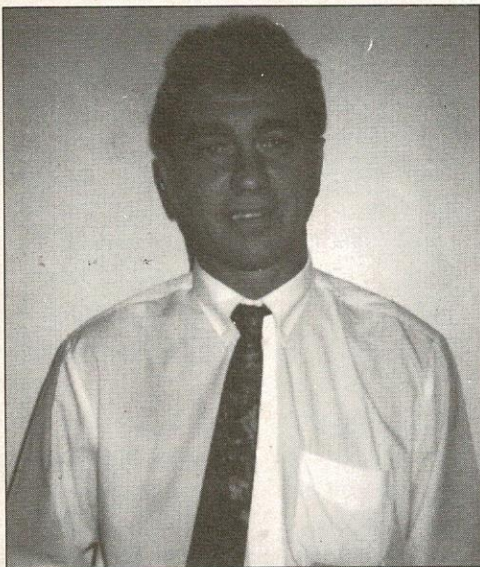
With only three days to go, there's no time to lose - so get prepared. Dusty and Merve, our Aussie's XXXX-perts, are at hand to help you get into the spirit for XXXX day with the following words of wisdom:

1. Order plenty of pints of y'er Aussie classic - it's thirsty work enjoying XXXX-day!
2. You've seen the ads, now wear the clobber - bush hats 'n' corks (with XXXX in hand) are a must!
3. Get into the lingo - call y'er mates "Sport" and y'er beer "XXXX".
4. Make a spectacle of y'erself - dress up as Dame Edna and encourage your mates to join in!
5. And, don't forget the Sheilas! Lay on a couple of bottles of sweet sherry . . . no, make that just one!

So enjoy your day the XXXX way! And don't forget to dress for the occasion!

CASTLEMAINE

XXXXX



'A' TEAM ROUND UP

with COACH JOHN PRINCE

OLDHAM "A" 50 HUNSLET "A" 10

After seven weeks without a game we finally got started again with one of our best team performances of the season, on a very windy night, to record our fourth successive league victory. That continues our fight to get up among the league leaders.

Boosted by the return of Barrie McDermott and Captain Ian Bates, we dominated the first half, but due to over-eagerness, lack of match practice and gale-force conditions, we made a lot of basic mistakes, but still did enough to build a 16-6 half-time lead, with tries from Mark Hudspith, John Maxwell and Mark Meadows, and two goals from Martin Strett.

In the second half we got it right, with good controlled rugby, scoring some brilliant team tries from Richard Yeomans, Ian Bates, John Maxwell, John Higgins, Mark Hudspith and Martin Strett, with five very good goals from Martin Strett, who is quickly settling into Rugby League.

Barrie McDermott took the M.O.M. award, closely followed by Ian (Blaster) Bates and with 18 year-olds Stephen Heaton, Michael Edwards and 19

year-olds Nathan Clark and Richard Yeomans, all gaining in confidence playing alongside experienced players like Ian Bates and Ged Byrne, whose professionalism is second to none, all augers well for a continued improved team performance in our quest for valuable league points.

By the time you read these notes, we will have played a very important away game against second placed Leigh on Thursday, 21st January. Hopefully we will have gained a good victory, for we really need to win every game to have a chance of promotion and gained revenge for an early season 19-16 defeat when we fielded a very weak side.

Finally, one for the diary, Friday, 29th January, 1993, Alliance Challenge Cup, 2nd Round, OLDHAM 'A' v. WIGAN 'A', k.o. 7.30 pm.

Make a date for this one when we entertain the Alliance Cup holders in a match the lads and I will be going all out to win. I am sure if you turn up in numbers on the night, and get behind the lads we can spring the surprise of the season.

YOUNGERS ALLIANCE FIXTURES SECOND DIVISION 1992/93



Saturday, 29.8.92	Sheffield Eagles	H 20-33 (L)	1.00 p.m.
Saturday, 5.9.92	Carlisle	A 28-18 (W)	12.00 p.m.
Saturday, 12.9.92	Keighley	A 28-24 (W)	2.30 p.m.
Saturday, 19.9.92	Salford	H 10-31 (L)	1.00 p.m.
Friday, 25.9.92	Ryedale York	A 14-22 (L)	7.30 p.m.
Saturday 3.10.92	Carlisle (Lancs C.C. Shield)	H 26-20 (W)	1.00 p.m.
Friday 9.10.92	Leigh	H 16-19 (L)	7.30 p.m.
Friday 16.10.92	Wigan (LS 2)	H 4-34 (L)	7.30 p.m.
Friday, 29.10.92	Salford	A 6-42 (L)	7.30 p.m.
Friday, 6.11.92	Doncaster (Cup)	H 64-8 (W)	7.30 p.m.
Saturday, 14.11.92	Carlisle	H 40-12 (W)	1.00 p.m.
Friday, 20.11.92	Huddersfield	A 28-18(W)	7.30 p.m.
Saturday, 28.11.92	Workington (Cup2)	A 16-26(L)	
Saturday, 5.12.92	Hemel Hempstead	H 58-10(W)	1.00 p.m.
Saturday, 12.12.92	Swinton	H	1.00 p.m.
Friday, 18.12.92	Bramley	A	7.30 p.m.
Saturday, 2.1.92	Swinton	H	1.30 p.m.
Saturday, 15.1.93	Hunslet	H 50-10(W)	1.00 p.m.
Thursday, 23.1.93	Leigh	A	7.30 p.m.
Saturday, 6.2.93	Dewsbury	A	2.00 p.m.
Saturday, 13.2.93	Workington	H	1.00 p.m.
Saturday, 20.2.93	Hemel Hempstead	A	2.30 p.m.
Saturday, 27.2.93	Doncaster	H	1.00 p.m.
Saturday, 6.3.93	London Crusaders	H	1.00 p.m.
Saturday, 20.3.93	Workington	A	2.30 p.m.
Saturday, 27.3.93	Huddersfield	H	1.00 p.m.

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SKIPPERS' SPOT

with OLDHAM CAPTAIN
RICHARD RUSSELL

After a period without playing, due to the bad weather, it comes as a shock to the system to be playing our fifth game in less than three weeks, as we continue our League programme and catch up on our postponed games.

(Remember we visit Bury F.C. on Wednesday night for our rearranged fixture with Swinton.)

You can't beat playing, especially if you're winning and we are lucky enough to be enjoying a very good run at present.

We followed up our two convincing performances against Bramley with a terrific win against today's opponents, Rochdale, when we recorded a 47-22 victory. Few and far between are Oldham - Hornets games, when one team betters the other by 25 points.

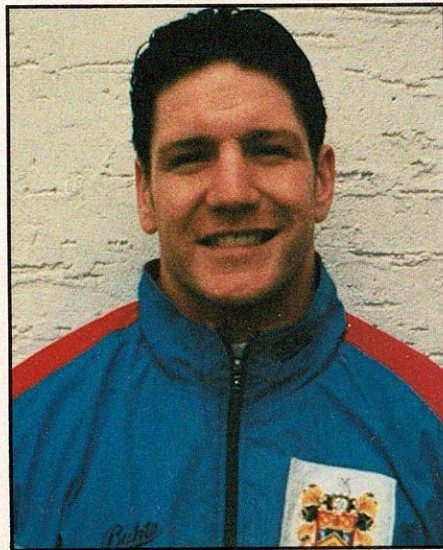
Then we made the trip up to Gilford Park for a match against Carlisle, played in conditions made difficult by a vicious swirling wind. Again we came out on top against a big powerful Carlisle side which relished these conditions.

For the fourth match in a row we put more than 30 points on the scoreboard. All the players would like me to say a big Thank You to all our supporters who made the long trip North. It helps tremendously to hear the home supporters being out-shouted by our travelling army of fans.

Now to this afternoon's fixture and let's hope for another cracking game. Hornets will be looking for revenge and we will be hoping to continue our points spree. If we can produce anything like the form we showed in the first 40 minutes of our last encounter with Rochdale, then I think they will have to be at their very best to hold us.

Enjoy the game,

RICHARD RUSSELL



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RUGBY LEAGUE ROADSHOW

on
THURSDAY, 28th JANUARY, 1993
at 8.00 p.m.

at
THE SHEDDINGS CLUB
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EVERYONE WELCOME

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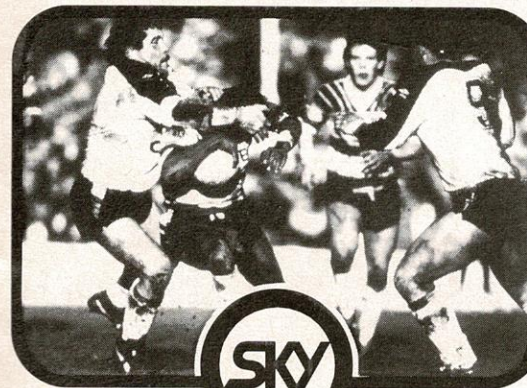
"The ones who have never knocked on"

Best wishes to Oldham for the season.

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P L A Y E R S

Opponents	Date	Ven.	Res.	F-A	Aft.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
LONDON C.	30.9.92	H	W	27-12	2,928	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Ropati	Maxwell	Maryn 5G+10G	Deane T	Sheals	Bates	McDermott	Meadows	Tupaea	Russell	Olser*	Solomona*
CARLISLE	6.9.92	H	W	38-14	2,292	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Ropati	Gumbis	Russell	Ferry	Sheals	Pachnik	McDermott	Meadows	Tupaea	Russell	Olser*	Solomona*
WARRINGTON	13.9.92	H	W	33-20	4,041	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Ropati	Gumbis	Maryn 5G	Deane	Sheals	Pachnik	McDermott	Meadows	Tupaea	Russell	Olser*	Solomona*
HUDDERSFIELD	20.9.92	A	W	28-24	2,896	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Ropati	Gumbis	Maryn T-G	Deane	Sheals	Bradbury	Solomona	Meadows	Tupaea	Russell	Bradbury*	Jones*
LEIGH	23.9.92	A	W	25-14	3,140	Maryn 4G, 20G	Ranson	Cocker	Ropati	Tyrer	Russell	Deane	Sheals	Pachnik	McDermott	Meadows	Tupaea	Russell	Bradbury*	Jones*
LEIGH Lancs Cup 2	27.9.92	H	W	16-8	3,246	Gibson	Ranson	Cocker	Ropati	Bradbury	Maryn	Deane	Sheals	Bradbury	McDermott	Meadows	Tupaea	Russell	Bradbury*	Jones*
SWINTON	27.9.92	H	W	4-24	3,352	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Gibson	Bradbury	Maryn	Ferry	Sheals	Stephenson	Solomona	Meadows	Tupaea	Russell	Olser*	McDermott*
FEATHERSTONE R.	2.10.92	H	L	4-24	3,352	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Gibson	Bradbury	Maryn	Ferry	Sheals	Stephenson	Solomona	Meadows	Tupaea	Russell	Olser*	McDermott*
WALSLEY Lancs Cup S.F.	6.10.92	A	L	8-48	3,020	Tyrer	Bradbury	Gibson	Cocker	Gumbis	Maryn	Ferry	Sheals	Stephenson	Solomona	Meadows	Tupaea	Russell	Fachnik	Jones*
ROCHDALE HORNETS	11.10.92	A	W	21-20	2,740	Tyrer	Cocker	Gibson	Ropati	Gumbis	Russell	Ferry	Sheals	Stephenson	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
BRAMLEY	18.10.92	A	W	23-16	1,560	Tyrer	Cocker	Gibson	Ropati	Gumbis	Russell	Ferry	Sheals	Stephenson	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
HUDDERSFIELD	1.11.92	H	W	56-6	2,721	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Ropati	Gumbis	Gibson	Ferry	Sheals	Stephenson	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
SWINTON	1.11.92	H	W	56-6	2,721	Tyrer	Ranson	Cocker	Ropati	Gumbis	Gibson	Ferry	Sheals	Stephenson	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
REGAL TROPHY RD. 1	8.11.92	H	L	22-40	4,393	Gibson	Higgins	Tyrer	Ropati	Gumbis	Warburton	Ferry	Sheals	Stephenson	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
CARLISLE	15.11.92	A	W	25-20	1,300	Tyrer	Bradbury	Gumbis	Ropati	Ranson	Gibson	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
HUDDERSFIELD	22.11.92	H	L	6-17	3,183	Tyrer	Ranson	Byrne	Ropati	Gumbis	Gibson	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
SWINTON	29.11.92	A	W	18-12	1,650	Gibson	Ranson	Tyrer	Ropati	Cocker	Maryn	Ferry	Sheals	Stephenson	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
FEATHERSTONE R.	5.12.92	H	L	20-24	3,298	Gibson	Ranson	Christie	Ropati	Cocker	Maryn G	Ferry	Sheals	Stephenson	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
BRAMLEY	13.12.92	H	L	20-24	3,298	Gibson	Ranson	Christie	Ropati	Cocker	Maryn G	Ferry	Sheals	Stephenson	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
ROCHDALE HORNETS	26.12.92	H	L	20-24	3,298	Gibson	Ranson	Christie	Ropati	Cocker	Maryn G	Ferry	Sheals	Stephenson	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
SWINTON	1.1.93	A	L	20-24	3,298	Gibson	Ranson	Christie	Ropati	Cocker	Maryn G	Ferry	Sheals	Stephenson	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
BRAMLEY	6.1.93	H	W	36-0	2,223	Gibson	Blen	Christie	Ropati	Ranson	Maryn G	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
BRAMLEY	10.1.93	H	W	40-2	2,295	Gibson	Blen	Christie	Ropati	Ranson	Maryn G	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
ROCHDALE HORNETS	13.1.93	H	W	47-22	2,653	Gibson	Blen	Christie	Ropati	Ranson	Maryn T-G+10G	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
CARLISLE	17.1.93	A	W	32-21	750	Blen	Ranson	Christie	Gibson	Gumbis	Warburton	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
ROCHDALE HORNETS	24.1.93	A	W	32-21	750	Blen	Ranson	Christie	Gibson	Gumbis	Warburton	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
SILK CUT CHALL. CUP RD. 1	30.1.93	A	L	20-24	3,298	Gibson	Ranson	Christie	Ropati	Cocker	Maryn G	Ferry	Sheals	Stephenson	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
FEATHERSTONE R.	7.2.93	A	L	20-24	3,298	Gibson	Ranson	Christie	Ropati	Cocker	Maryn G	Ferry	Sheals	Stephenson	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
SILK CUT CHALL. CUP RD. 2	27.2.93	H	W	36-0	2,223	Gibson	Blen	Christie	Ropati	Ranson	Maryn G	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
CARLISLE	21.2.93	H	W	36-0	2,223	Gibson	Blen	Christie	Ropati	Ranson	Maryn G	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
SILK CUT CHALL. CUP RD. 3	27.2.93	H	W	36-0	2,223	Gibson	Blen	Christie	Ropati	Ranson	Maryn G	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
LONDON C.	28.2.93	A	W	40-2	2,295	Gibson	Blen	Christie	Ropati	Ranson	Maryn G	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
HUDDERSFIELD	7.3.93	A	W	47-22	2,653	Gibson	Blen	Christie	Ropati	Ranson	Maryn T-G+10G	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
FEATHERSTONE R.	14.3.93	H	W	32-21	750	Blen	Ranson	Christie	Gibson	Gumbis	Warburton	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
LONDON C.	21.3.93	H	W	32-21	750	Blen	Ranson	Christie	Gibson	Gumbis	Warburton	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
BRAMLEY	4.4.93	A	W	32-21	750	Blen	Ranson	Christie	Gibson	Gumbis	Warburton	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
ROCHDALE HORNETS	9.4.93	A	W	32-21	750	Blen	Ranson	Christie	Gibson	Gumbis	Warburton	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
HUDDERSFIELD	12.4.93	H	W	32-21	750	Blen	Ranson	Christie	Gibson	Gumbis	Warburton	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*
LONDON C.	18.4.93	A	W	32-21	750	Blen	Ranson	Christie	Gibson	Gumbis	Warburton	Ferry	Sheals	Russell	Sheals	McDermott	Tupaea	Olser	Bradbury*	Meadows*

NEXT HOME GAME
Sunday, 31.1.93
Silk Cut Challenge Cup, Round One
OLDHAM v. LONDON CRUSADERS
K.O. 3.00 p.m.

1992/3 APPEARANCES & SCORERS
AS AT 18th JANUARY, 1993

	APP	SUB	TRIES	GOALS	DROP GOALS	POINTS
SEAN TYRER	15	1	6	3	-	30
SCOTT RANSON	14	-	7	-	-	28
STUART COCKER	13	-	8	-	-	32
IVA ROPATI	16	-	11	-	-	44
JOHN MAXWELL	2	1	-	-	-	-
TOMMY MARTYN	12	-	4	28	4	76
SEAN DEVINE	6	-	4	3	1	23
MARK SHEALS	17	-	2	-	-	8
IAN BATES	1	-	-	-	-	-
BARRIE McDERMOTT	6	2	2	-	-	8
MARK MEADOWS	7	5	2	-	-	8
SHANE TUPEAE	13	2	-	-	-	-
RICHARD RUSSELL	18	-	4	-	-	16
BEN OLSEN	11	5	2	-	-	8
"TINY" SOLOMONA	12	5	3	-	-	12
HUGH GUMBS	13	-	6	-	-	24
RICHARD PACHNIUK	6	2	3	-	-	12
DAVID BRADBURY	11	3	2	-	-	8
PAUL JONES	3	4	-	-	-	-
WALLY GIBSON	15	-	7	-	-	28
STEVE WARBURTON	4	3	2	-	-	8
IAN SHERRATT	12	2	1	-	-	4
STEVE KERRY	14	-	4	51	3	121
DAVID STEPHENSON	6	-	-	-	-	-
GED BYRNE	1	1	-	-	-	-
JOHN HIGGINS	1	-	-	-	-	-
GARY CHRISTIE	5	1	5	-	-	20
JOE GRAZIANO	2	3	1	-	-	4
JAMIE BLOEM	4	-	1	-	-	4

LEAGUE TABLE

STONES BITTER 2ND DIVISION 1992/93

	P	W	L	D	F	A	PTS	PTS DIFF
FEATHERSTONE R.	16	14	2	0	480	198	28	+282
OLDHAM	16	13	3	0	437	242	26	+195
ROCHDALE H.	16	9	7	0	342	318	18	+24
HUDDERSFIELD	15	7	8	0	279	342	14	-63
LONDON C.	16	6	9	1	286	290	13	-4
BRAMLEY	16	5	10	1	231	354	11	-123
CARLISLE	14	4	8	2	253	345	10	-92
SWINTON	15	2	13	0	146	365	4	-219

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BACK PAGES

by MICHAEL TURNER

Continuing from the "Simply the Best" article earlier in the programme, today's "Back Pages" is also looking back over the 60 year association with Oldham R.L.F.C. of ALEX GIVVONS.

In all Alex played in 6 full Internationals for Wales, making his debut against England on 7th November, 1936. He also twice toured France with the British R.L. XIII. On the first occasion in November 1938 he was accompanied by his Oldham team-mate and fellow Welshman, Norman Pugh.

Between them Givvons and Pugh played for over 25 seasons for Oldham R.L.F.C., will we ever see their like again?

In these modern times of contract payments the loyal clubman is rapidly becoming a thing of the past, so it was refreshing to see Alex up at Carlisle last Sunday, exactly 60 years to the day that he signed for Oldham, still taking an active part in the affairs of the club in his current capacity of "Kit-man".

To appreciate the longevity of Alex's involvement with the club it is worth noting that when he first played in the first team other members of the side were the pack stars from the great 1920's era namely, Jack Read and Fred Ashworth and Alex played scrum-half against the 1933 Australian touring team on 9th September of that year. It is well acknowledged that whether it was on the field of play, coaching, or part of the backroom staff, Alex has always given of his best for Oldham R.L.F.C. and also it speaks well of the man that he is still held with high regard down in the valleys at Cross Keys and over the pennines at Huddersfield. Finally I'm sure I speak for everyone connected with the club in wishing Alex all the best for the future.

Another one bites the dust! In this rare action shot from the 1930's. Alex can be seen smothering another Hornets attack as Oldham won a tight Lancashire Cup tie 7-5 against today's visitors, on 14th September, 1935 at the Athletic Grounds, Rochdale.



I am currently researching for a book covering the complete playing records and history of OLDHAM RLFC. If anyone has any old material connected with the club (photos, programmes etc) I would be very interested in viewing such items. Please contact: Michael Turner, 158 Balfour Street, Oldham OL4 1NS. Tel: 061-620 6005

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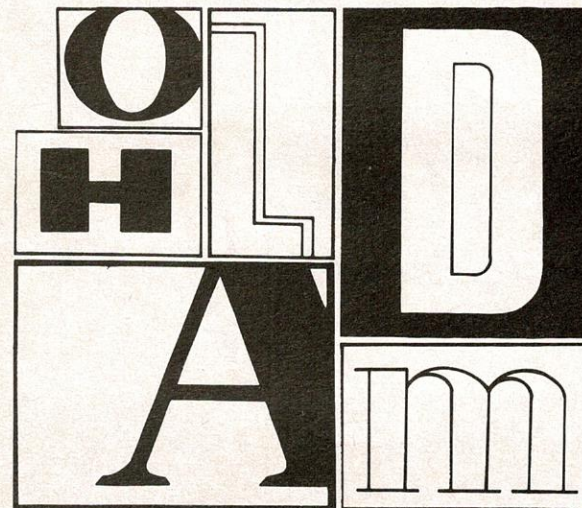
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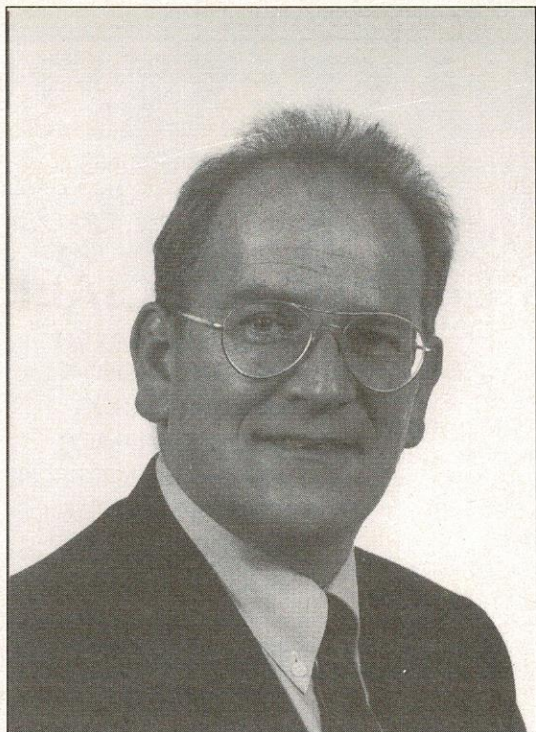


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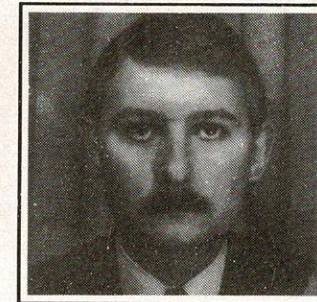
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QUOTE - UNQUOTE



with CLUBCALLS GED MASON

Since the last home game, some 11 days ago - also against Hornets, on Clubcall we've been speaking to Martin Strett, Gary Christie, Tunksy, Mark Sheals and Tiny Solomona.

We also brought "LIVE" coverage from last weekend's game at Gilford Park from the kick-off, indeed, at 2 o'clock until half-time, it was the only place you could find out how Oldham were fairing - unless you were one of the faithful who travelled to the game.

After last Sunday's win against Carlisle, I spoke to Tiny Solomona. "Scoring two tries is very nice but the result is the most important thing, all the hard training Tunksy put us through during the Christmas period, when the frost was with us, is now paying off."

Last Sunday Mark Sheals was again in fine form, both on and off the field. "There aren't many teams come up here and score over 30 points, the forwards and backs seem to have a very good understanding now".

I then asked him about today's game. "The aim is to put up the same kind of performance we did when we played them the other week. That was a very good display, in particular the first half".

Gary Christie was a try scorer when today's two sides last met. "Now I'm in the side I just want to enjoy every game. I've had problems with injuries and hopefully, that's behind me. Things have gone well in the Great Britain U21 training camps and hopefully, I'll be involved against France."

Martin Strett, Oldham's recent Rugby Union convert, has been performing well in the Alliance team but Martin said: "I didn't sign to play in the 'A' team, the big test will come when Peter plays me in the first team. After a couple of cracks and knocks I'm sure then I will know I have arrived in Rugby League."

Final word goes to the man in charge. I asked Tunksy about the season so far. "Things have gone quite well, the two defeats by Featherstone could be costly but we have two games still to play against them and they could decide the Championship."

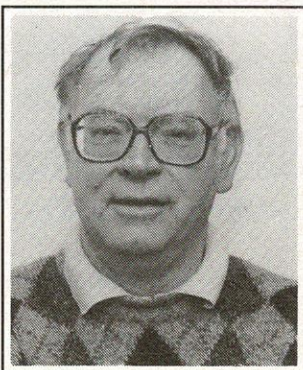
Finally a reminder. It's back here next Sunday for the start of the Road to Wembley. We'll be looking ahead to the game on Clubcall during the next few days - why not give us a call?

Yours in Sport,

GED MASON

0898 12 15 80

ROGER HALSTEAD looks at PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS



For the second time in a week-and-a-half Oldham and Rochdale Hornets come face to face at Watersheddings today in a Second Division derby clash and Hornets will be hoping for a much closer contest than the 47-22 triumph for the Roughyeds last time out.

Oldham's win a week last Wednesday represented this club's third points-spree victory in eight days following two comprehensive results in home matches against Bramley.

Peter Tunk's men inflicted on Hornets their third consecutive defeat in a match watched by their new Aussie coach Peter Regan, who immediately promised "a different story" in today's clash.

A brilliant spell of rugby in the 20 minutes before half-time set up Oldham for their biggest derby-day total in nearly five years. There was a "silly" spell by the home side in the second half, during which time Hornets scored tries by Karl Marriott, Martin Kay and Colin Whitfield, all improved by Steve Gartland, to restore some pride in the red, white and blue jersey.

Oldham were never in danger of losing. They were inspired by half-backs Steve Kerry and Tommy Martyn, who capitalised on an outstanding display from Ian Sherratt, Richard Russell and Mark Sheals in the front row and continued by Tiny Solomona when he came on as Sherratt's replacement.

The "SS" men were certainly in determined mood for Oldham. They laid down the foundation for victory and halves Kerry and Martyn did the rest, aided and abetted by a tremendous display of attacking rugby from full-back Wally Gibson.

Martyn, Kerry and Gibson were involved crucially in most of the moves that led to Oldham's eight tries, scored by Hugh Gumbs (2), Iva Ropati, Martyn, Russell, Kerry, Gibson and Gary Christie. Kerry landed six goals, while Martyn kicked one goal and one dropped goal, this a magnificent effort from all of 40 yards shortly before he retired with a shoulder injury in the second half.

Rochdale opened their account in the first half with a try by Matt Calland and the others came from Marriott, Kay and Whitfield with Gartland kicking the goals.

Hornets played without Stewart, Reynolds and Webster in the backs and key-man Mike Kuiti in the pack and there will be high hopes that at least some of these players will be back on duty today.

Kuiti, the assistant player-coach, has been missing for several weeks with a knee injury, but he had tentatively pencilled in today's game for the start of his senior comeback and Hornets will be anxious to get this influential player back into action as quickly as possible.

Oldham went to Carlisle last Sunday without Iva Ropati and Tommy Martyn and they, too, will be hoping that these two key backs - one a play-maker, the other a lethal finisher - will also be back on the field today.



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PHOTOS

ACTION



Big games from Big Men - Oldham's forwards on top at Carlisle.

Photo: Courtesy of Oldham Evening Chronicle

SUPPORTERS CLUB

Today we extend a warm welcome to all our friends and supporters from Rochdale.

MEMBERSHIP

Supporters Club Membership is still open at just £2.00 for the season. All members enjoy a 5% discount in the Club Shop plus discounted travel on all Supporters Club Coaches to away games. Further information from the Club Shop or on **665 1832**.

CLUB SHOP

A supply of new Replica Shirts at £29.99 (adult sizes) are now in stock, together with new style Track Suits at £53.99 and Match Day jackets £44.99. There is also a limited supply of the old style shirts at only £16.00.

Full details of these and other items can be obtained from the Club Shop.

AWAY MATCHES

Seats or the coaches to Swinton on 27th January can be booked at the Club Shop during the day or by telephone on **665 1832**.

CAR PARK

Wanted!! Anyone willing to help on matchdays to organise the parking of cars between 2.00 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. Anyone willing to volunteer, could they please contact Donald Pilkington on **665 1832** or in the Club Shop after today's match.

JUNIOR REDS

Junior Reds are hoping to run a behind-the-scenes trip to Wembley at Easter. Anyone interested please ring Sue on **681 3397**. Watch this space for news of an Open Day at Oldham just for Junior Red members.

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