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OLDHAM v ST. HELENS Sunday, November 21st, 1993. Kick Off 3.00 p.m.

#### **OLDHAM RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB**

The Pavilion, Watersheddings, Oldham Telephone: 061-652 5244 and 061-624 4865

#### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

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Most Tries: Pre 1900, Jach Hirst, 233

Since 1900, Alan Davies, 182

#### O.R.L.F.C. VICE-PRESIDENTS **SEASON 1993/94**

Ronnie Hardaker, Terry Doyle, Alan Butterworth, Mavis Butterworth. Tommy O'Brien, Major B. Howell, Harry Randall, K. Folks, C. Folks, Ken Waddington, J. L. Perrins, A. Perrins, Irene Turner, Adamsons Crash Repair Centre (2), Nigel Tench, Kevin Geany, R. Langton, Rick Coombs (2).

# FROM the BOARDROOM

by CHAIRMAN JAMES QUINN



You will have read by now of the economy measures that were forced upon us last weekend. After an expensive season in getting out of the Second Division it is imperative that we balance the books this year now that we are in the First Division.

We regret the decisions we had to make but, as I said at the recent club dinner, we hope the town as a whole will recognise the difficulties we are faced with and respond positively to help us to restore this great club to former alories.

I am appealing to the town's business and professional people to back us in this hour of need because a top-class rugby league team would be good for the town, good for the people, good for morale locally and good for all those who work in local industry.

There would be spin-off benefits for captains of industry and the professions, but we can only achieve such billing if we have top-class players. Without them we will not compete and eventually we will drift away into a twilight zone.

We would welcome the recruitment of additional directors with financial clout and we will shortly be launching a new share issue in an attempt to beat the financial difficulties.

The board is worried and concerned at the lack of available grants for ground development and even if the club's application for grant aid to the money to make a valuable contribution.

Foundation for Sport and the Arts is successful there would be a maximum assistance of £150,000.

No-one has tried harder than the present board to make Oldham Rugby successful, but we are finding it almost impossible to get grants with which to reconstruct our stadium.

We are exploring every avenue, but money is hard to find and we must always be mindful of the fact that we have to satisfy certain standards in order to obtain our safety certificate.

Our cash-flow situation, of course, was not helped when we had to go six weeks without a home game and that put us in a very difficult position.

We will work it out because we always do work our way through these and similar problems, but we need an influx of capital and that's why we are planning to re-launch the share issue.

We are looking to attract interest from the people who own industries in the town, and the town's professional people.

We always get support from the man in the street. He will always do his best. but if the town is going to have a great rugby league team we will need local business and professional people to get behind us.

We have only four directors of the club and we would welcome additional directors with the time, interest and

I know I might have painted a picture of hardship and difficulty but, believe me, we have a lot of fun as well when we are off duty, as one might expect in the surroundings of a rugby club and in the company of a fine bunch of young sportsmen.

If we can establish ourselves in the First Division - as I am sure we will - we will build and go forward and try to bring more players to Watersheddings with the class of our Australian skipper, Bob

Bob is a great player and a great ambassador for the club and if we can find the funds I can assure you there are a lot more players out there of a similar calibre to Bob.

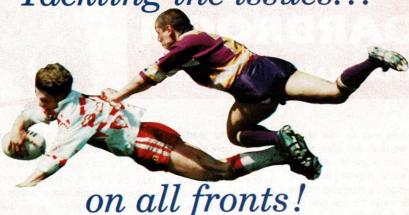
Our coach Peter Tunks is a workaholic. He works on a shoestring budget and is so good at it that I fear if the day comes when we do have some money for him he won't know what to do with it!

Without funds he has managed to bring to our club some fine rugby players and he is doing a top-class job in difficult circumstances.

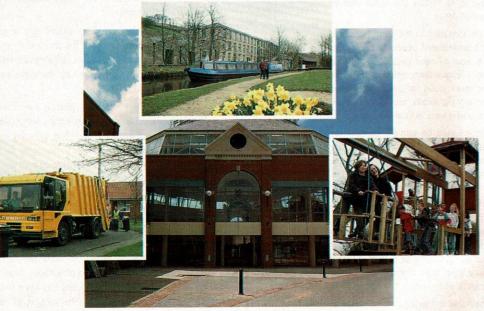
Finally, I would just like to add the board's regret that some people have left the club and others have taken pay cuts, but the board has been greatly encouraged by the support of those who have agreed to stick with us despite pay cuts or a removal from the pay roll altogether.

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# A Watersheddings Welcome to . . .

## ST HELENS

Shane Cooper - Inspirational club captain and one of the "cleverest" footballers in the Big League. Shane joined Saints in 1987 following spells with Mount Albert and Mangere East in his native New Zealand, Capped 10 times by his country, Shane magnificently led Saints to their 1988 John Player Trophy success, their 1991 Lancashire Cup win and last seasons Premiership Trophy triumph and was also a member of Saints 1989 and 1991 Wembley sides and New Zealand 1988 World Cup Final Team. He leads by example and organises most of Saints planned moves and these strengths together with mercurial handling skills and his eve for a gap means that Shane is an essential cog in the Saints wheel and if he is playing well, then so are Saints.

Bernard Dwyer - One of Saints most popular players with the fans, Bernard is the workhorse of the pack. He is seldom noticed on the park as he is a grafter until he misses a game and then and only then is his workrate highlighted. Unlucky not to have gained international recognition, due to untimely injuries. Bernard's "Australian" style defensive game gets him through a phenominal account of tackling. He joined Saints in 1984 from Hare and Hounds ARLFC and has played in seven major finals with Saints, including last seasons Premiership Trophy Final and although he's not a regular goalkicker coped admirably as an emergency goalkicker when Paul Loughlin was out with a broken arm last season and once kicked 12 goals in a Lancashire Cup-tie against Trafford Borough.

Jonathan Griffiths - Came of age in the 1991 Challenge Cup Semi-final where he scored a brace of tries and was instrumental in Saints victory and passage to Wembley for his first major final. Jonathan signed in a blaze of publicity and scored two tries on his debut at Sheffield Eagles. His main attributes are his pace, strong running technique, eye for a gap and his defence and he thoroughly deserved Wales and Great Britain representation. If Jonathan can remain injury-free this season he could be one of the most dynamic players in the Big League and prior to his call up for Wales at RL he had gained national recognition at both Rudby Union and Cricket.

Chris Joynt - Last season, his first in Saints colours, was a truly magnificent one for Chris following his transfer from Oldham. He immediately gained the respect of the Saints fans with his eye for a gap and strong running

together with his cast iron defensive qualities and he obviously made a mark with his opponents as he was voted the second place in the Players Young Player of the Year awards. Chris who has gained Under 21 and England recognition is one of the most promising players in the game at present, and it's only going to be a matter of time before he adds to his Lancashire Cup Runners-up and Premiership Trophy winners medals he has collected with Saints.

Paul Loughlin - Although enjoying a richly

deserved testimonial season, Paul is still regarded as Britain's best centre. Has in recent times suffered wretched luck with injury as he broke his arm for a second time whilst on the 1992 Lions Tour following the initial break at Swinton in September 1991. His match clinching try in last seasons Premiership Trophy final was his seventh major final since joining Saints in 1984 from UGB ARLFC as a prolific goalkicker. He has now scored over 50 tries and almost 800 goals for Saints in just over 200 appearances. Paul was Man of the Match in Saints 1988 John Player Trophy final, has represented both Lancashire and Great Britain and as well as a 1992 Tourist, "Lockers" also toured down under in 1988. Hopefully in 1993-94, Paul can regain the sort of form that has made him one of the games most respected pro's, and that saw him kick a club record 16 goals and score 40 points in a Lancashire Cup tie in 1987 against Carlisle.

Alan Hunte - Alan, last season, finally established himself as one of the games top wingers. He won a late call up for the 1992 Lions Tour down under following Jonathon Davies's withdrawal and his outstanding performances for the the Lions "midweek" side together with a magnificent start to the 1992-93 season saw Mal Reilly pick Alan on the right wing for the World Cup Final. Alan has now scored over 100 tries for Saints and has finished as top try scorer in each of his four full seasons with the club. Saints held off a host of Yorkshire clubs including hometown Wakefield Trinity, to secure his signature in February 1989 and he scored a brace of tries on his debut. Predominantly a winger, Alan found a new lease of life at the start of last season when he was temporarily moved to full back and in his first game in the No.1 jersey he was awarded the Man of the Match award in the Charity Shield at Gateshead. Alan has now played in five major finals for Saints and marked his full Gt Britain debut against France in 1991-92 by scoring a try, after already being an U'21 international and a BARLA U'19's tourist.

George Mann - George is a strong blockbusting forward who is remarkably mobile for his size. A New Zealand international, he joined Saints in 1989 and soon became a great favourite with the fans who appreciate his style of play. George toured Great Britain with Auckland in 1987 and had a spell at Leigh in 1988 scoring two tries in nine appearances. George has played in five major finals for Saints and in one of them, 1991 Lancashire Cup Final against Rochdale, he was magnificent, scoring two tries.

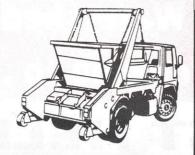
David Lyon - Joined Saints in September 1992 from Warrington for £80,000, but his debut wasn't for another two months due to a niggling hamstring injury. Since then however he has been ever present. His main strengths are his ability to take the "bomb" in pressure situations, his strong running when clearing his lines, his kicking game and his cast iron defence and since his arrival David has added consistency, experience and expertise to the Saints side. An U'21 international David joined Widnes from Wigan ARL in 1983 and in 1987 moved to Warrington where just as he's become at Saints, he was a firm favourite with the fans.

Tea Ropati - Last season, Tea was quite magnificent, earning the award from his fellow pro's as First Division Player of the Year. His form was a major reason why Saints mounted such a magnificent challenge to Wigan's supremacy. Tea's creativity, exceptional rugby brain, speed of thought, eye for a gap and his strong straight running made him either the inspiration or involved him in nearly all Saints moves. He hails from New Zealand and is a full international - playing in this summer's trans Tasman Test series against Australia. If Tea can reproduce last season's form for the 1993-94 campaign, Saints will once again challenge for honours and he will be a thorn in Gt Britain's side when the Kiwis tour. Tea has now played in five major finals for Saints and last season was also Saints Supporters Club Player of the

Sonny Nickle - Sonny, following his £80,000 move to Saints from Sheffield Eagles in 1991 has now firmly established himself as one of the best Second Rowers in the game. Phenominally strong, his blockbusting style and superb defence has made Sonny a firm favourite with the Saints fans. In his inaugural season with the club, in between injuries, he showed some great potential with some barnstorming displays and earned a place in Mal Reilly's 1992 Lions Tour. However on his full test debut in Papua New Guinea he suffered a serious knee injury which forced his early return. When the 1992-93 season started Sonny carried on where he left off and his form was a major reason why Saints had such an outstanding season. His winners medal gained in Saints Premiership Trophy success over Wigan last May was his first for the club in his third major final and in 1993-94 could be one of the best players in the Big League.

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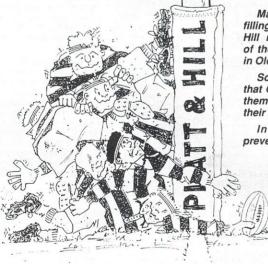
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# Roughy 'eds Recalled

#### No. 8 FRANK STIRRUP



Perhaps he will be best remembered as being a superb ball handler, where his sleight of hand exchanges with his half-back partner Frank Daley, would leave the opposition and quite often his own teammates wondering just who was in possession of the ball. Frank was club captain when

the team won the R.L. Championship in 1957 and played a total of 223 games for the "Roughveds", scoring 49 tries and 7 goals. Capped by the Lancashire County team, the fact that Frank never attained international honours remains a mystery to the Watersheddings faithful.

A native of Leigh, Frank ioined Stirrup "Roughyeds" from Salford in November 1950 and although his main position was scrum-half he played in every back position during his nine year spell with the club.

Many of the Oldham supporters who followed the club in the glory days of the 1950's regard Stirrup as the spark that ignited the dazzling, attacking displays that were the hallmark of that great 1950's side.

As tricky a halfback as ever played for the club, Frank possessed an elusive sidestep quaranteed to send defenders the wrong way. In the event of injury to full back Bernard Ganley, Frank would usually fill in and proved to be a resolute last line of defence and a dangerous attacker when coming forward.

# No. 9 JACK **PYECROFT**

Signed form Leeds in January 1961, Jackie Pyecroft was a clever little scrum-half who was one of the mainstays of the side that won the Second Division Championship in Altogether he played 1964 and so nearly reached Wembley, going out to Hull KR. in the semi-final after 2 replays. In that 1963-



Jackie season played 41 out of a possible 43 matches. scoring 13 tries.

110 first class games for the club before moving on to join Batley in November 1965.

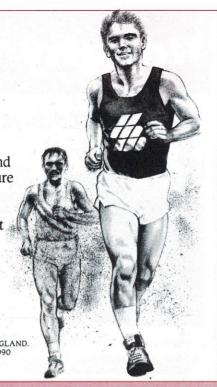
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# **EVENING CHRONICLE**

Oldham born and read

# **ACTION GALLERY**



#### **ACTION GALLERY No. 5 REG FARRAR**

Oldham's record for tries in a season belongs to Yorkshireman Reg Farrar who scored 49 in the 1921-22 season.

The ACTION GALLERY shows Reg in action against Huddersfield on September 14th 1929.

#### Action Gallery

To coincide with their return to the First Division of the Rugby League, Oldham R.L.F.C. are introducing this special new feature into the matchday programme for the the 1993-94 season.

The ACTION GALLERY is a set of excellent water colour paintings, that depict some of the star players and dramatic moments in the club's history on the field of play.

With the centenary of the Rugby League now just two years away the ACTION GALLERY will cover the full time-span of almost 100 years of professional Rugby League in Oldham, from the early days of the "Northern Union" right up to the intense, high pressure atmosphere of the game in the 1990's.

The team that dominated the R.L. Championship in the 1906-1911 era; the cup specialists of the mid 1920's; the "great" entertaining team of the late 50's, all of these are sure to feature in this unique series which is a must for collectors of Oldham and Rugby League memorabillia in general.

**FULL COLOUR** copies (size 11½ "x 8") are to be made available and will come complete with a detailed narrative giving particulars of the player or incident depicted in the painting. The copies will cost £3.20 each (add 80p if requiring the copies to be sent by post) and can be obtained from **Mr M. Turner**, **158 Balfour Street**, **Oldham**, **OL4 1NS**.

Please note that the ACTION GALLERY series are not fabricated images and have all been painted from actual photographs.

A limited number will be available in the club shop for 30 minutes after the match.

### NEIL GIBBISON

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# A-TEAM NEWS

Played 12, won 12, in all competitions that's our proud record to date and the pride which has been shining through as the season has progressed was never more evident than in our last match at London Crusaders. When, owing to first team commitments, we sent a very young side down to do battle in our Second Division Trophy game - and battle the lads did with the help of a few experienced players in Hugh Gumbs (Captain Marvel), Paddy Mitchell, Steve Heaton, Boothy, Nev (Paul Norman) and not forgetting Man of the Match Micky Edwards, around them they played their hearts out on a glue pot of a pitch to record a great 16-6 victory against the strongest 'A' team fielded by London all season.

Since our last programme note the side has progressed impressively through to the Youngers Lancashire Shield final. Having won at Wigan and beating a strong Warrington side in a hard fought semifinal. So it was on to Spotland for the final which took place on Thursday night so as you read these notes I hope our unbeaten record is still very much intact.

I would like to thank all concerned with our excellent start to the season and all the hard work being put in brings with it the ultimate aim of promotion to the Youngers Alliance First Division.

On behalf of all the players and staff I would also like to thank the fantastic hard core of supporters who have been there at every match this season - your encouragement has been much appreciated. And finally a very special thank you from all at the club to Bill and Brenda Rogers for their 'A' team sponsorship.

Yours in sport

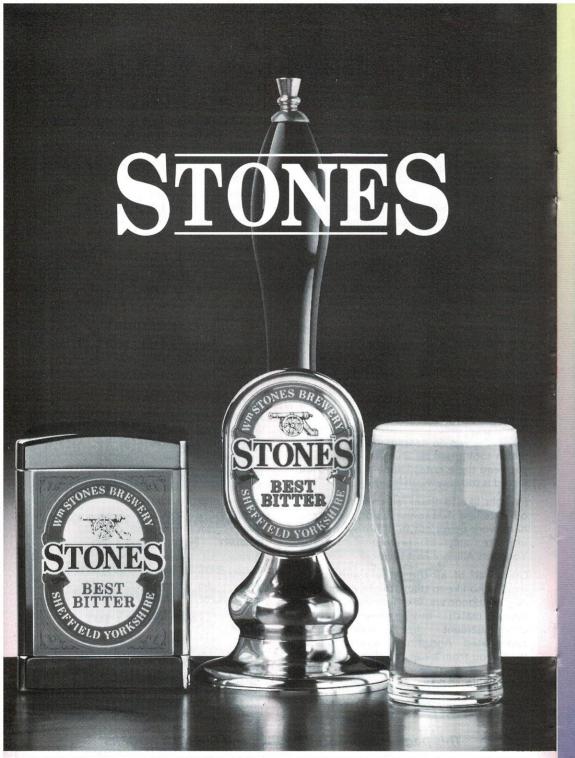
Shane Tupaea

# YOUNGERS

#### YOUNGERS ALLIANCE SECOND DIVISION FIXTURES SEASON 1993/94

AUGUST					
Saturday	28th	Workington	Н	(W)	44-16
SEPTEMBE	R				
Saturday	4th	Rochdale	Α	(W)	30-18
Thursday	9th	Hull K.R.	Н	(W)	32-12
Thursday	16th	Hunslet	Α	(W)	29-18
Saturday	25th	Doncaster	Α	(W)	36-16
OCTOBER					
Saturday	2nd	LCCS - Round 1 Workington	Н	(W)	38-10
Thursday	7th	Leigh	Н	(W)	26-24
Saturday	23rd	LCCS - Round 2 Wigan	Α	(W)	26-22
Saturday	30th	Swinton	Α	(W)	28-2
NOVEMBE	R				
Wednesday	y 3rd	LCCS-Semi Warrington	Н	(W)	12-6
Saturday	6th	London	Н	(W)	64-30
Saturday	13th	Youngers ASDC Round 1 - London	Α	(W)	16-6
Thursday	18th	Huddersfield	Н		
Saturday	27th	Youngers ASE	DC - I	Round 2	
DECEMBE	R				
Saturday	4th	Leigh	Α		
Saturday	11th	Barrow	Н		
Saturday	18th	Bramley	Α		
Wednesday	/ 22nd	Carlisle	Н		
JANUARY					
Friday	7th	Youngers ACC	2 – Ro	ound 1	
Friday	14th	Huddersfield	Α		
Saturday	22nd	Barrow	Α		
Friday	28th	Youngers ACC	2 – Ro	ound 2	
FEBRUARY	1				
Thursday	3rd	Rochdale	Н		
Thursday	10th	Keighley	Н		
Friday	18th	Youngers ACC	2 – Ro	ound 3	
Monday	21st	Sheffield	Α		
Saturday	26th	Carlisle	Α		
MARCH					
Saturday	5th	London	Α		
Thursday	10th	Dewsbury	Н		
Friday	11th	Youngers ACC		mi-final	
Thursday	17th	Swinton	Н		
APRIL					
Thursday	14th	Youngers ACC	- Fi	nal	

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# TUNKS' TALKBACK

On behalf of the players and coaching staff, I would like to thank the loval fans who have travelled, giving the team tremendous support over the past few weeks. It is good to return back to base and what better opposition than St. Helens to whet the appetite for the fans who have not seen the team since our victory over Leeds last month. We followed that with a very good win up at Hull, but then lost narrowly at Wakefield and Featherstone the following two weeks. It was disappointing losing to both these clubs and I don't want to dwell

too much on those match-

es, but the lads know we

had only ourselves to blame

and should gave got more

out of these two games than we did. It was then Regal Trophy time with a visit to Highfield and with it a chance to give some of our senior players a breather and give a chance for some of the squad lads. Unfortunately the conditions were appalling so good rugby was at a premium but the important thing is winning in cup competition, and since then we have drawn Wigan at home in the next stage. But back to today's visitors who seem to be getting back to their best and will prove to be a difficult side to overcome. It was good to see Chris Joynt getting established as an international in the recent test series against New Zealand and I am sure our

fans will give Chris and Tommy Martyn a warm welcome back Watersheddings should they be in the Saints team this afternoon. However, our confidence is high as we go into what should be a great game of Rugby League and I hope our supporters get behind the team and create a great Watersheddings atmosphere on our return to a home game at last.

Enjoy the game

PETER TUNKS

# TUNKS TEASERS

- 1. Which two teams contested the 1991 Second Division Premiership Final at Old Trafford?
- 2. Which player kicked eight goals in a Challenge Cup Final?
- 3. Which Australian team are nicknamed "The Tigers"?
- **4.** Who is the only Doncaster player to play and score in every match in a season?
- 5. Who was the first overseas player to win the Lance Todd Trophy?
- 6. Who was captain of the 1950 GB Tour to Australia and New Zealand?
- 7. Who holds the tries in a season record for Salford?
- 8. Which team play at Derwent Park?
- 9. In which season did Whitehaven reach the semi-final of the Challenge Cup?
- 10. Who was Oldham's top try scorer in season 1990-91?

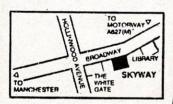
#### ANSWERS ON STATS PAGE

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## commercial corner

## FUND RAISING EVENT ON BEHALF OF OLDHAM R.L.F.C.

The High Point Hotel have once again come up "trumps", organising an excellent value for money evening of entertainment on Sunday, 5th December - 7.30 pm. The compere for the evening is Malcolm Lord who, together with several artistes, raffles, auctions etc., will make for a "great night all round".

Come on lads! Treat your wives and girlfriends.

Tickets are priced at £5.00 and obtainable form the High Point Hotel, Napier Street West, tel no. 624 4130

#### **AWAY WE GO**

If you are driving to Central Park for the game at Wigan here are the directions.

M62 on to the M61 to Junction 5 (A58). Follow signs for Wigan - A58 Hindley turn right onto A577 (signposted Wigan). In 1.5 miles forward into Birket Bank (unclassified). Shortly bear right into Schofield Lane. In 0.2 miles cross river bridge then turn right into Hilton Street for ground.

#### **Matchday Promotional Staff Required**

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AGENTS FREE WEEKLY DRAW FOR £50 Agent No: 150 D. Hartley

WEEK No: 57 **£1000**: 1079 – E. K. Albinson (c/o Eezee-Hire)

£50: 1664 A. Holt (c/o Streetbridge Works)

Special Prize: Nintendo Game Boy Winner: 2297 – I. Floyd (c/o Floyd News)

#### IAN IS THE PLAYER OF THE MONTH



Prop forward lan Sherratt will be aettina the drinks in, as he takes the ultimate prize in Rugby League the Castlemaine

XXXX Player of the Month Award and with it his own supply of the Aussie's favourite brew Castlemaine XXXX.

Roger Halstead of the Oldham Evening Chronicle, who is the resident judge for the competition, gave Ian his vote. Commented Roger: "I have given Ian the award largely because of his outstanding performance in the home win against Leeds on October 10th and the excellent victory at Hull a fortnight later on October 24th."

Unfortunately Ian damaged his ankle ligaments in the early part of the next match at Wakefield on October 30th, in which the final score resulted in a 22-21 defeat.

Despite this disappointing result there was no doubt at all in Roger's opinion that lan's powerful display in the front row "laid the foundation for the months two Stones Bitter Championship victories."





#### **SUNDAY, 21st NOVEMBER, 1993**

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#### **OLDHAM** Team Changes

- 1. Wally Gibson
- 2. **Hugh Gumbs**
- 3. Darren Abram
- Charles McAllister
- Scott Ranson
- **Paul Topping**
- Steve Kerry
- Tiny Solomona
- 9. John Clarke
- 10. Ben Olsen
- 11. Bob Lindner
- Mike Kuiti 12.
- 13. Shane Tupaea
- Fred Richards 14.
- 15. Mark Meadows

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#### **PENALTIES** 2 3 4 5 8 9 10 6 11 12 13 14 15 17 18 19 20

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

Referee: M. R. WHITFIELD

#### ST. HELENS Team Changes

- David Lyon
- Mike Rilev
- Alan Hunte
- Paul Loughlin
- Anthony Sullivan
- Philip Veners/Tea Ropati
- 7. Jonathan Griffiths
- Jon Neill
- Bernard Dwver
- George Mann
- 11. Sonny Nickle
- Chris Joynt
- 13. Shane Cooper
- Gus O'Donnell
- 15. Andy Dannatt

#### **PENALTIES** 1 2 6 7 11 12

16 17

7			CONTONIO						
3	4	.5	1	2	3	4	5		
8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10		
13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15		
18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20		
100				A	- 1 TO 1 TO 1 TO 1	- T			

COLIME

Touch Judges: J. Fallon (Red Flag)

#### CASTLEMAINE GIVES A "4 ACROSS" IN SPOOF B & H POSTER CAMPAIGN

For all you fans out there here's the latest XXXX update!

On 16th November, the Aussie lager Castlemaine XXXX is to launch a national poster campaign, which parodies the successful Benson & Hedges crossword poster series.

The set of three XXXX designs will appear on 1500 poster sites through to December.

Each poster features a simple pack shot and crossword clue above the base line "Australians wouldn't give a 4 Across for anything else" - a subtle play on the beer brand's usual slogan. However, the XXXX clues are far more down to earth than the abstract B & H brainteasers.

These are the three XXXX "4 across" clues which are to be featured: A Great Can of Beer (4), Beer (4), and The Australian Classic (4). There's no prize for guessing the right answer however!





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#### TODAY'S MAN IN THE MIDDLE



#### M. R. WHITFIELD

Born Widnes on 26th November, 1943.

Grade Two referee: 1979-80.

Grade One referee: 1980-81

Refereed several international matches

involving Australia, New Zealand,

France and Wales.

# IN TOUCH with H.Q.

Youngers Alliance Second Division Cup - Second Round Draw - To be played on the weekend of 27th November: Barrow v Rochdale, Hunslet v Oldham, Leigh v Doncaster, Bramley v Sheffield or Dewsbury.

	Top Ten Try Score	s	
1.	Greg Austin (Keighly C)	18	
2.	St John Ellis (Castleford)	15	
	Mark Johnson (London C)	15	
4.	Ian Thomas (Huddersfield)	14	
5.	Mark Riley (London C.)	13	
6.	Nick Pinkney (Keighley C)	12	
7.	Leigh Deakin (Ryedale-York)	10	
	Jason Green (Rochdale H)	10	
	Mark Conway (Dewsbury)	10	
10.	John Wasyliw (Keighley C)	9	
	Paul Newlove (Bradford N)	9	
	Carl Hall (Doncaster)	9	
	Stuart Cocker (Workington T)	9	
	Jonathan Davies (Warrington)	9	
	Brimah Kebbie (Bradford N)	9	
	Dave Watson (Bradford N)	9	
	Glen Tomlinson (Batley)	9	

Jonathon Davies of Warrington needs three tries for a career century of touchdowns since the former Welsh Rugby Union international switched codes in 1989.

His total is made up of 80 for Widnes, eight for Warrington and nine in representative matches including three in Tests for Great Britain.

He has played a total of 164 first class matches. including ten as a substitute.

The former Llanelli RU fly-half signed for Widnes on 5th January, 1989 on a four-year contract officially reported at £150,000.

He made his debut as a substitute in a 50-8 Division One home defeat of Salford on 15th January, 1989.

One other substitute appearance followed before he started at stand-off and scored a try plus five goals in a 38-14 home League defeat of Óldham on 5th February. Warrington took over his new contract for the start of this season with no transfer fee involved.

He made his debut for Warrington at centre in the 32-14 Division One home defeat of Wakefield Trinity on 29th August, 1993.

Davies has finished in the top ten tryscorers once, when he was fifth with 30 in 1990-91, playing in a variety of positions. They helped him to a Widnes record of 342 points in a season.

He has scored four tries in a match twice plus two other hat-tricks, all for Widnes. He added nine goals to his four tries against Whitehaven on 26th August, 1990 for a club record-equalling 34 points.

At Widnes, Davies began 47 matches in the centre, 42 stand-off, 23 full-back and 14 wing plus eight as a substitute. All nine of his appearances for Warrington have been at centre.

He is one of the few players to have begun a Test match in four different positions for Great Britain; full back, wing, centre and stand-off plus a substitute

Davies, who was born on 24th October, 1962, has also scored 1499 points from 560 goals including nine drop

T	op Ten Goal Scorers (Includin	g drop goals)
1.	Frano Botica (Wigan)	54
2.	Jonathan Davies (Warrinton)	53
3.	Mark Conway (Dewsbury)	51
4.	Deryck Fox (Bradford N)	50
	John Gallagher (London C)	50
6.	Wayne Kitchin (Workington T)	45
	Graham Sullivan (Rydale-York)	45
8.	Robert Turner (Doncaster)	42
	John Wasyliw (Keighley C)	42
10.	Paul Bishop (Halifax)	39

#### **Leading Point Scorer**

Mark Conway of Dewsbury is the leading point scorer with 142 from 51 goals and 10 tries.

His season-by-season try goals are as follows:

Widnes	App	Tries
1988-89	12 + 4	7
1989-90	29 + 1	16
1990-91	32 + 2	30
1991-92	24	13 + 2t for Wales
1992-93	20 + 1	14
Warrington		
1993-94	9	8 + 1t for GB
Totals		
Widnes	126 + 8	80
Warrington	9	8
GB	11 + 1	3
Wales	3	2
1990 Tour	5+1	4 Not inc 2t in 5 Tests
<b>Grand Totals</b>	154 + 10	97

#### **Try Scoring Sequence**

Mark Johnson of London Crusaders has touched down in seven successive matches as follows:

2-1-1-2-2-2-1

#### **Scoring Sequence**

Paul Bishop of Halifax has the longest scoring sequence having scored in every match since joining them from St Helens for the start of last season. The scrum half's scoring run covers 44 matches.

#### Winning Run

London Crusaders have the current longest winning run of six matches made up of four in the Stones Bitter Second Division and two Regal Trophy ties. Huddersfield became the last club to lose their unbeaten record for this season when they lost 20-12 at Leigh in the Regal Trophy Second Round after winning their first ten matches.

#### Milestones

Daryl Powell of Sheffield Eagle needs one try to become the first player to total a career century of touchdowns for the club.

Les Quirk of St Helens need two tries for a career century of touchdowns for the club.

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# Last Time Out . . .

#### with ROGER HALSTEAD

An extract from Roger Halstead's match report in the Oldham Evening Chronicle of Monday, November 25th, 1991.

#### **OLDHAM 18 ST. HELENS 24**

At last, the jeers turned to cheers on the Watersheddings terraces as Oldham gave St. Helens the fright of their lives in a thrilling second-round Regal Trophy clash yesterday.

This was "real" Rugby League and although Oldham lost 18-24 to the First Division Championship pacesetters, they finally won over the doubters with a gutsy performance which should be a springboard for better shows in the Second Division

With Saints only 16-10 ahead as the game moved into its final quarter of an hour it took a brilliant, sweeping move by the First Division leaders to produce a try for winger Les Quirk which took off the pressure.

It was a try fit to win any game and it perhaps underlined the one big difference between the sides - the quality of finishing.

Saints took most of their chances with centres Allan Hunte and Tea Ropati each scoring twice and substitute Quirk supplying the finishing touches to that classical eight-man move in the second half.

Oldham, brave to the last, crossed the Saints line four times through Charlie McAlister, Vince Nicklin, Chris Joynt and Richard Irving, but several left-flank chances were fluffed in the second half after impressive approach play.

With more clinical finishing on the Irving wing, more accurate goalkicking by Duncan Platt, playing only his second senior game of the season, and more assured ball control by McAlister in the second half, Oldham might have pulled off a major upset.

Three times in the second half Irving put down the final pass. Two of them he should have swallowed and at least one of them should have produced a try.

As it was, Oldham ran Saints close and they were the better team in a terrific first half.

They were unfortunate to turn round at 10-10 and even in the second half, when they began to tire from the pounding handed out by Ward, Mann, Harrison and Forber, they produced enough chances to rattle the aristocrats of the

This was by far Oldham's best performance of the season and they owed it, in the main, to great teamwork, a desire to match Saints for football, a refusal to be overawed and a commitment on defence that augurs well for the remainder of the Second Division campaign.

Woven into the teamwork tapestry, however, were numerous individual contributions which were worthy of special mention and merit.

One had to pull out, for special recognition, the performances of Ged Byrne, Neil Flanagan, Ian Bates, Tim Street and, last but by no means least, Chris Joynt.

Byrne, the veteran of the side at the age of 29, had an excellent game in the key stand-off position, adding a midfield maturity which has been missing hitherto.

He was the backs' top tackler, but it was his constructive play with the ball which made the biggest difference to a young side that capitalised on his experience and ability to read the game.

Flanagan, his 21 year old skipper, was all over the field in his constant search for openings and he had plenty of running scope in the first half when Street proved himself a top prop-forward in top company.

They don't come any bigger, in size or reputation than Ward and Mann but there was only one prop causing all the damage in the first half and that was Oldham's Street.

What a mighty 40 minutes he had! It was perhaps asking too much of Street to keep up that sort of performance for the entire game and, as luck would have it, his fellow front-row man lan Sherratt took a nasty knock which forced him to stay in the dressing room at half time.

Though not reaching Street's heights, Sherratt also did well until he was hurt but Ward and Mann finally began to get on top after half-time and once they started to drive the Oldham forwards back, Bishop and Cooper came into their own as they whizzed the ball around to create openings on the outside.

It was in the second half, with Oldham under the cosh, that the big defenders came into their own and it was the smallest man on the field, Bates, who emerged the "biggest" in the grafting department

With Shane Tupaea not far behind him, Bates pulled off an incredible 53 tackles around the play-the-ball area in his first senior game of the

He only got into the side because Richard Pachniuk was rushed to hospital on Thursday with appendicitis, but Bates set out his stall to do a lot of what he does best - tackling.

"I set myself a target of 60 and got 53, so I can't complain," he said.

If Bates was justifiably proud of his performance, what of the "baby" of the side, the 19 year old Joynt?

Coach Peter Tunks, who was prepared to swop Paul Round to make room for the young Wiganer, wrote in the programme: "At 19, Chris is living proof that good enough is old enough."

Thus inspired, Joynt went out and had the proverbial "blinder" against some of the biggest, hardest and meanest forwards in Rugby League. His ability to bust the tackle and slip into top gear

His ability to bust the tackle and slip into top gear in an incredibly short distance for a big man caught the Saints defence napping time and again.



In this company, he looked an outstanding prospect as a running forward with strength and pace, his speed over distance augmented by a speed into full stride that many a threequarter could be proud of.

It was Joynt who tore the Saints defence to shreds and then turned the ball cleverly inside to Vince Nicklin to score the second Oldham try midway through the first half.

It was Joynt who made several defence-splitting second half breaks up the left which could have produced points with better finishing.

It was Joynt who then took matters into his own hands late in the game when he chipped the ball through a packed defence to follow up and score the try he richly deserved.

It was Joynt who perhaps should have had the man of the match award which went to two-try Hunte, the Saints centre.

Ward did for St. Helens in the second half what Street did for Oldham in the first and it tipped the balance of power the visitors' way.

In the centres, Warburton and Nicklin had their work cut out trying to contain Hunte and Ropati.

Both proved tricky, elusive runners when they could take time out from defensive work, but both had a tendency to try and take on one man too many when a pass could have put colleagues into snare.

Oldhams's handling was faultless in the first half hour or so when they scored excellent tries by McAlister and Nicklin, this goaled by Platt, to go in at half-time at 10-10.

Though Ropati scored early in the second half, there were only six points in it until Quirk finished off that brilliant, long-range handling effort.

Mann sent in Ropati to push Saints out to 24-10, but the home side never gave in and back they came with late tries by Joynt and Irving, the latter being scored after the hooter had gone in a dramatic finale to an absorbing cup-tie.





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## APPEARANCES & SCORERS

WALLY GIBSON			TRIES	GOALS	DROP GOALS	POINTS
WALLY GIBSON	10		2	_		8
NIGEL HESLOP	7	Landon SECTION	2			8
MARTIN HOLDEN	1	1	Unadelin Tillian	_		
PAUL TOPPING	9	2	1 000	32	-	68
SCOTT RANSON	7		3		罗斯特特 医二氏	12
DARREN ABRAM	8		4			16
STEVE KERRY	7	215 g/d 4/6	2	2	3	15
"TINY" SOLOMONA	7	3	Amor A September			4
PAUL GROVES	6		2		_	8
IAN SHERRATT	9		_	-		
IYAN GREEN	2	2	-			-
DAVID BRADBURY	2	3	-		TO THE STATE OF TH	
MIKE KUITI	11		2			8
DAVID JONES	8	2			_	contained =
ANDY GOODWAY	9	1	1			4
CHARLIE McALISTER	4	1	1		THE RESERVE AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF THE	4
MARTIN STRETT	4	1	1	6	_	16
SHANE TUPAEA	2		Electrical Particular		-	-
CRAIG RICHARDS	area 11e and	5	2	seto : -		8
SHAUN IRWIN	8		4			16
MARTIN CROMPTON	3		2	_	1	9
BOB LINDNER	8		3		_	12
JOHN CLARKE	4		2			8
DAVID STEPHENSON	1					
MARK MEADOWS	2	-				
BARRIE McDERMOTT	1		_			
ALF GOULDBOURNE	1					
BEN OLSEN	1					-
CHRIS PARR		1	-	_	-	_

### **LEAGUE TABLE 1993/94**

The Later of the Control of the Cont	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
BRADFORD N.	10	8	0	2	284	214	16
WARRINGTON	10	8	0	2	204	139	16
CASTLEFORD	10	7	1	2	283	126	15
WIGAN	9	7	0	2	235	161	14
HALIFAX	10	6	1	3	230	189	13
ST HELENS	9	6	0	3	250	129	12
FEATHERSTONE	10	5	1	4	213	240	11
SHEFFIELD	9	4	1	4	180	206	9
HULL	10	3	2	5	145	172	8
WIDNES	9	4	0	5	147	188	8
HULL K.R.	10	4	0	6	174	269	8
LEEDS	8	3	1	4	168	157	7
OLDHAM	10	3	0	7	198	184	6
WAKEFIELD	10	3	0	7	142	226	6
SALFORD	11	2	0	9	146	261	4
LEIGH	10	0	1	9	134	272	1

# THE ACADEMY

#### with Manager JACK BUCKLEY

Our Second Division campaign got off to a poor start at Featherstone where we suffered a a second half collapse and ended up at the wrong end of fifty odd points. However, the coaches addressed the problems and we went on to record three wins on the run over Batley, Rydale York and Sheffield. The York result was particularly pleasing since it marked our first away win and was full of good foothall

The present run of success owed much to the solid form of Alan Walsh at prop forward and Justin Bradbury at scrum half. Walsh has twice topped the tackle count since he came in at No. 10 and Bradbury's sharpness in midfield has kept our backs more busy. The return from injury of Mike Prescott and Lee Bradbury has been obviously important, and recent squad

strengthening has added competition for places in the side.

Academy supporters were pleased with the debut of St. Helens based Neil McLaughlin at loose forward against Sheffield and by the contribution from local lad Neil Breslin.

We look forward to introducing more new faces in the coming weeks as we continue our building programme.

Last weekend eight academy players played for the A team in the Alliance Second Division Cup match at London Crusaders. All the lads did the club proud and the team came away with a solid 16-6 victory. The players concerned were Damian Munro, Simon Silcock, Justin Bradbury, Jodie Moran, Mike Prescott, Martin Breslin, Martin Halkyard and Lee Bradbury. Congratulations are in order to all of them.

Next week we take on Widnes at Watersheddings on Tuesday, November 23rd (KO 7.30 p.m.). Widnes currently top the Academy Second Division, so we should be in for a good game.

Results: 20.10.93 v Featherstone (a), lost 8-53, T: Smart, Hunt.
28.10.93 v Batley (h), won 48-0, T: Prescott 4, Bradbury L,
Swift, Munro, Smart, Halkyard, Cooper, G: Munro 4.
06.11.93 v Ryedale York (a), won 28-8, T: Hunt 2, Munro 2,
Prescott, G: Munro 4.

**09.11.93** v Sheffield Eagles (h), won 32-12, T: Bradbury, Hunt, Prescott, Moran, Halkyard, Munro, G: Munro 4.

Fixtures: 20.11.93 v Whitehaven (a) 01.12.93 v Huddersfield (a) 18.12.93 v Hunslet (a)

23.11.93 v Widnes (h) 07.12.93 v Keighley (h)

21.12.93 v Dewsbury (h)

Leading Scorers - (9.11.93 inc)

Tries: Munro (11), Prescott (9), Hunt (7), Riding (6), Moran (5). Goals: Munro (21), Badby (11).

# DEVELOPING SCENE

with
Development
Officer
NIEL WOOD

It seems such a long time since I last wrote programme notes and so much has happened.

Schools Festivals have continued to flourish with so far 25 junior schools taking part. Senior School festivals have been held at all age groups including sixth form.

Oldham College Rugby League team has made its debut in Student Rugby League having won two and lost one. Any players at College who wish to play can contact me at this office for details.

The women's team have continued to train and are now preparing to play their first game at St. Annes on Sunday, December 5th at 2.00 p.m.

Thanks to the co-operation of almost everyone involved in Rugby League in Oldham, there will be a

full colour poster in next month's OPEN RUGBY magazine featuring Rugby League in Oldham, reserve your copy now.

Today we welcome an extra curtain raiser as Saddleworth Rangers under 9's entertain Wrexham Under 9's and our four guest schools today are Diggle, Friezeland, Christ Church and Buckstones.

Finally, at half time there will be a presentation of BFL/Cub Awards to pupils from Diggle, Buckstones, Friezeland, St. Georges and Littlemoor.

Oldham Rugby League Development is sponsored by P. CASEY & COMPANY

## QUOTE - UNQUOTE

"I'm sure the club are very happy with the Regal Trophy draw, but I think most players would want to avoid Wigan until the later rounds, but if you are going to win something you have to beat the top teams and if we can beat Wigan it will lift the players, club and supporters for the next rounds." - (Mike Kuiti on the Regal Trophy Draw)

"St Helens can run hot and cold, they are an exciting team if you let them, they throw the ball around like crazy and that's what happened against Bradford two weeks ago but previous to that they were beaten at home by Sheffield." - (Mike Kuiti on today's game).

"We did all right considering some of the shocks suffered by First Division sides on Second Division Grounds. The conditions were awful. They were a great leveller as they got worse in the second half." - (Peter Tunks, after last weekends win at Highfield).

"My form, like the teams, has been in and out over the first part of the season, I'm looking for more consistency in my game, it always takes time to settle into a new team and I think over the next few weeks you will see a better Oldham side." - (Shaun Irwin had this to say on Clubcall a couple of weeks ago).





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# **ACTION PHOTOS**

**Courtesy of the OLDHAM EVENING CHRONICLE** 

IAN SHERRATT GETS TO GRIPS WITH LEEDS



## **BACK PAGES**

#### by Michael Turner

Like Oldham, today's visitors St. Helens, were founder members of the "Northern Union" way back in 1895 and since those earliest days of Rugby League, there has been many a mighty struggle between the two teams.

Today we reflect on the three occasions the sides have met in the Lancashire Cup Final.

#### October 20th, 1956. Oldham 10 St. Helens 3 at Wigan.

This was the first trophy to come to Watersheddings for 23 years. Oldham coming out on top on a mud heap of a pitch at Central Park, courtesy of tries from John Etty and Derek Turner and two goals from Bernard Ganley. Winger Frank Carlton touching down for the Saints. Attendance 39,554.

#### October 25th, 1958. Oldham 12 St. Helens 2 at Swinton

Two years on and a rematch this time at Station Road. Once again two tries was enough to ensure

Oldham claimed the Cup, these coming from the two Alans (Davies & Kellett) with Kellett also kicking a goal to go with two from Bernard Ganley. A Peter Fearis penalty being the only Saints reply. Attendance 38,780.

#### October 25th 1968. St. Helens 30 Oldham 2 at Wigan.

Ten years to the day since material connected the Oldham triumph in 1958 and the sides met again, this time on a Friday evening under the Central Park floodlights. Oldham had battled well and held a 2-0 interval lead thanks to a material connected the club (phonometric phonometric) in the club (phonometric) in the club (phonomet

Wilf Briggs Drop goal. The game changed dramatically in the second half after Oldham props Wilson and Fletcher were both injured and Saints ran out

winners with tries from Frank Wilson (2), Bishop, Rees, Chisnall and Williams, along with six goals from Kel Coslett, giving the men from Knowsley Road revenge for the two earlier Oldham victories. Attendance 17,008.

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



Courtesy of the Oldham Evening Chronicle

Action from the Division 1 encounter between Oldham and Saints on November 21st, 1976. Oldham scrum half John Patterson goes down on a loose ball watched by team mates Bob Welding and Terry Ramshaw.



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# The Kit Choice of Champions . . .



# SKIPPER'S SPOT

With Oldham Captain
BOBBY LINDNER

I seems like eternity since we last played here at Watersheddings and hopefully some the narrow defeats we have suffered on our travels will be reversed now we are back at home.

opponents Our are the todays mighty St. Helens side, who came so close to snatching the Championship from Wigan last vear. I've seen quite a lot of them since my arrival and any team with players like Nickle, Cooper, Loughlin, Lyon and Co., look to me as if

they can again this year push for the biggest prize in the game.

Two players who I believe have long and distinguished careers ahead of them are the former Oldham pair, Chris Joynt and Tommy Martyn. Chris has already made his mark on the Great Britain side and Tommy has the potential to one day appear in the red, white and blue strip himself.

Congratulations to the team that played at Highfield last Sunday. It was a



game
that we were
expected to win,
however you can
never allow yourself
to take any team
lightly and there
were quite a few
shocks suffered by
First Division teams
on the weekend to
prove that point.

The conditions that we had to play in were awful but the boys professionally did their job and now we are looking forward to a great event with champions Wigan, here at Watersheddings.

This page is sponsored by IRENE and HELEN CALOW

# SUPPORTERS CLUB

- At last our first home game in six weeks has arrived and we welcome our seasoned First opponents St Helens to Watershedding hoping we have a good clean enjoyable game this afternoon, we wish all their directors, players and supporters a very warm welcome.
- Membership of the Supporters Club can still be taken out, so join us and take advantage of your discount on away travel and 5% discount in the Club Shop. For information call in at the Club Shop to get your forms. Membership £2.00.
- Junior Red forms may also be obtained from the Club Shop or phone Sue Collinge on 061-681 3397. It's quite worth your while joining the Junior Reds for this discount you get on your admission price at all home first team matches and discount in the Club Shop.
- Our next away game is at Wigan on the 28th November 1993. Coach seats can be booked in the Club Shop or in the canteen at today's match or phone 665-1832 for details of price

and times. Also we have a coach now running from our Mossley branch to all away matches so all you Mossley and Staylebridge fans please note phone number above for details.

- Videos of all home and away matches may be hired from the Club Shop at £2.00 per night or purchased for £10 each or can be posted for an extra £2.00 for package and post.
- In our Club Shop we have for sale,a "Maxim Energy Drink" at £16.95 per tin and bottles to mix it in at £2.50 each we put this in the programme for all amateur clubs in the Oldham area. Any club wanting to know more about this can get the information form the club shop on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday between 10am and 4pm.
- The Club Shop's opening hours are as follows: Mon 10am to 4pm; Wednesday 10am to 4pm; Friday 10am to 4pm and Sunday before and after home matches only.
- If you have any other enquiries phone 633 6780 or 665 1832.

# **CLUB SHOP PRICES**

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POLO SHIRTS	£16.99	HEADBANDS/WRISTBANDS		£0.75
-SHRTS	£13.99	GLOVES		£1.75
OFT COLLAR SWEATSHIRTS	£17.50	PEN/KEYRING SET		£1.75
DUARTERED SWEATSHIRTS	£17.50	PEN/NOTEBOOK SET		£1.75
REW NECK SWEATSHIRTS (Long Sleeve)	£19.50	AUTOGRAPH BOOK		£1.50
REW NECK SWEATSHIRTS (Short Sleeve)	£18.50	RIRS		£0.50
HOODED SWEATSHIRTS (ADULT)	£18.50	BABIES DUNGAREES 6/12, 12/18, 18/24		£3.50
HOODED SWEATSHIRTS (ADULT)	£14.50	BABIES SWEATSHIRTS 6/12, 12/18, 18/24		£3.50
	£4.00	BABIES HATS		£3.75
ON-TOUR T-SHIRTS	£12.50	BABIES POTTY		£3.50
WHITE DRESS SHIRTS (Short Sleeve)	£12.30	BABIES DRINKING CUPS		£1.0
SINGLE DUVET SETS	£3.50	PUMP BAGS		£2.00
BERMUDA SHORTS	f9.95	BABIES ALL-IN-ONE SUIT		£4.50
CLUB TIE	15.99	COTTON DRILL-TOPS		£12.50
SPORTS BAG	£5.00	COTTON DRILL TROUSERS		£7.50
BEDROOM BINS	£2.25	CLOCKS		£9.95
DESK TIDIES	£0.50	PENS		£0.25
SOAP/TOOTHBRUSH HOLDERS		PENCIL CASE		£1.50
SOAP BOX	£0.50 £3.99	TRACKSUIT (ADULT)		£55.99
SCARVES (JACQUARD)	13.99	TRACKSUIT (CHILDRENS)		£37.99
MATCHDAY JACKET		MANICURE SET		£2.2
FLAT CAPS	£2.00	BOXER SHORTS		£3.50
CIGARETTE LIGHTERS	[2.00			£0.7
BASEBALL CAPS	[3.49	BOOKMARK KEYRING		£1.50
BEANY HATS	£2.00			£0.7
CAR KIT HANGER	£1.99	CAR STICKERS COMB IN CASE		£1.20
SUN VISORS	£2.95			£1.0
BOB HAT (JACQUARD)	£2.99	CHILDRENS PURSE PENSION BOOK HOLDER		£1.7
MUGS	£1.50			£1.9
METAL BADGES	£1.50	TIDY SET		12.5
MONZA JACKETS (ADULT)	£57.99	HANDYMAN SET		£1.5
MONZA JACKETS (CHILDREN)	(49.99	KEY CASE		L1.3
MONACO JACKETS (ADULTS)	£61.99			
MONACO JACKETS (CHILDREN)	£51.99			
TORINO TOP	137.99	TALLES CTOCKE TALENALING	TOCK+	
*NEW IN	STOCK * *NE	W IN STOCK* *NEW IN ST	IOCK,	
		NS T-SHIRTS	£1 QQ	
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MAINTENANCE INSULATION LTD.

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DHAM V LEIGI DECEMEBER SUNDAY,

**NEXT HOME** 

# - ANSWERS TUNK'S TEASERS

- Kellett for Featherstone in 1973
- of Wigan in 1951
- Bradford Northern 46 in 1973-74 of

Round (19)

p.m.

3.00

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