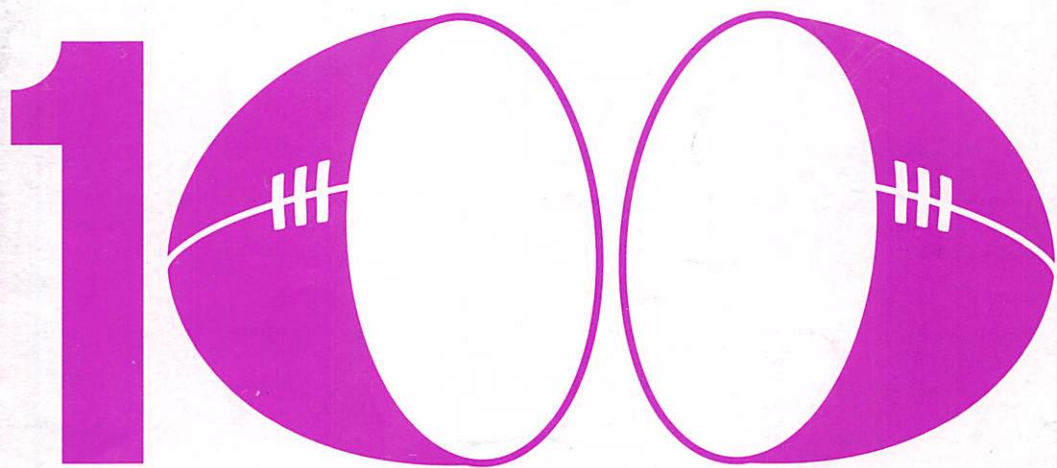




SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP



FIFTH ROUND

WAKEFIELD TRINITY v OLDHAM BEARS

SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY 1997

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME £1

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF THE CHALLENGE CUP.

1997 SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP

1997 SILK CUT PRIZES

This is the first season of Silk Cut's new £2.1 million three year Sponsorship of Rugby League's most famous knockout competition, played under the Silk Cut banner since 1985. The 1997 Wembley victors will receive a record prize cheque for £80,000.

A new competition for non Super League teams knocked out in the fourth round, the Silk Cut Plate, will be introduced this year. The complete 1997 Silk Cut Challenge Cup prize structure is:

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP

Third Round losers (1st & 2nd Div. Clubs).....	£3,500	Quarter-Final losers.....	£10,000
Third Round losers (Amateur Clubs).....	£1,000	Semi-Final losers.....	£15,000
Fourth Round losers.....	£4,000	Runners-up.....	£40,000
Fifth Round losers.....	£6,000	Winners.....	£80,000

SILK CUT PLATE

Runners-up.....	£30,000	Winners.....	£50,000
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PROJECTED PRIZE FUND.....£470,000

PROJECTED CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND...£180,000

GRAND TOTAL.....£650,000

1997 SILK CUT AWARDS

Silk Cut Awards will again be presented to the adjudged Man of the Match in each tie from the first round onwards. In each case the winner will receive a commemorative medallion, plus a cheque for £150 (from the third round through to the quarter-finals). The Man of the Match at both semi-finals receives a cheque for £300 plus an engraved silver plated replica rugby ball. Silk Cut Awards will also be presented at Silk Cut Plate matches.

1997 SILK CUT TICKETS

Tickets for the all-seater 1997 Silk Cut Challenge Cup Final on Saturday 3rd May can be booked now priced £35, £30, £27, £22, £17 and £12 in the stadium, and £50 in the Olympic Gallery.

Please forward order and remittance, made payable to the Rugby Football League, to THE RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE, RED HALL, RED HALL LANE, LEEDS LS17 8NB.

Visa and Access credit card bookings can be made by telephoning on the Ticket Hotline on 0113-232 9444 between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

1997 SILK CUT DRAWS

The draw for the first round will be made live on GMR at 7.10pm on Tuesday 3rd December. The draws for the second and third rounds will be made live on BBC Radio Leeds on Monday 30th December and Monday 13th January respectively. The fourth round draw for the Silk Cut Challenge Cup will be made live on BBC Radio Five Live at approximately 5.15pm on Monday 27th January 1997. The draw ceremonies for the fifth round, quarter-finals and semi-finals will be made live on BBC Look North, North West Tonight and BBC Radio Five Live at 6.55pm on the following dates:

Fifth Round.....	Monday 10th February
Quarter-Finals.....	Monday 24th February
Semi-Finals.....	Monday 10th March

Draws for the Silk Cut Plate will be made at 7.35am on BBC Radio Leeds on the following dates:

First Round.....	Monday 10th February
Second Round.....	Monday 17th February
Semi-Finals.....	Monday 24th February

HEAD - TO - HEAD

WITH ANDY KELLY

Q. Were you pleased with the performance against Swinton?

A. It was the result which mattered and we were obviously delighted to make the next round. However it wasn't really the performance we were looking for and in terms of ball control we didn't do ourselves justice. Still the defence was magnificent and you couldn't ask for any more commitment from the players. I am convinced that last season we would have lost that game but not this year.

Q. How have the preparations for this game gone?

A. Very well. The players are really buzzing and we are looking forward to the challenge. It will be a tough test but we should be at full strength and will give it our best go.

Q. In the last magazine Mitch Brennan said the players were around two weeks behind schedule. Do you think they will be ready for Oldham this afternoon?

A. We won't really know the answer to that until the action gets underway, but as I say, preparations have gone well. Oldham will be a very stern test for us and the pace which they play the game will be faster than we are used to. I have seen several videos of them and they play a very economic and efficient style of rugby which doesn't lend to them making many mistakes. It will be very much a question of patience as far as we are concerned and we will have to probe for weaknesses and find out where we can open them up.

Q. How important is the Challenge Cup to Wakefield Trinity?

A. It is as important as it has always been. With the Plate competition in the background this year, several people have suggested it would have been better for us to have gone out in the last round and had a crack at going to Wembley through that avenue. However to everyone at Wakefield Trinity, the committee, players and coaching staff, that is a competition for losers. Indeed the defeats of Huddersfield and Swinton last Sunday prove that success isn't guaranteed for First Division clubs either.

Q. The First Division clubs have all had a run-out now, do you remain confident that Trinity can be a promotion force in the division this season?

A. We are always confident of the ability within our squad, whether we have seen the rest of the sides in the competition or not. We are very happy with how the team strengthening has gone and we have won our first two matches of the season which can't be bad. A place in Super League next season is our only real aim and I don't believe we should be setting our sights any lower.

On the subject of team strengthening can I say how pleased I am that Freddie Banquet is returning to the club this summer. I worked with him during the Centenary campaign and he was outstanding for us, settling into the set-up very well. I am sure he will be a big hit with the supporters and players alike.

WAKEFIELD TRINITY R.L.F.C. LTD SEASON 1997

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CLUB HONOURS

DEBUT SEASON

1895-96

CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS

1966-67, 1967-68

DIVISION TWO CHAMPIONSHIP

1903-04

CHALLENGE CUP WINNERS

1908-09, 1945-46, 1959-60,

1961-62, 1962-63

RUNNERS UP

1919-14, 1967-68, 1978-79

YORKSHIRE LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS

1909-10, 1910-11, 1945-46, 1958-59,

1959-60, 1961-62, 1965-66

YORKSHIRE CUP WINNERS

1910-11, 1924-25, 1946-47, 1947-48,

1951-52, 1956-57, 1960-61, 1961-62,

1964-65, 1992-93

RECORD ATTENDANCE

28,254 -v- Wigan 1962

BIGGEST VICTORY

90-12 -v- Highfield 1992-93

MOST TRIES IN A SEASON

38 by F. Smith 1959-60

D. Smith 1973-74

MOST POINTS IN A SEASON

407 N. Fox 1961-2

MOST GOALS IN A SEASON

163 N. Fox 1961-2

MOST TRIES IN A MATCH

7 by F. Smith v Kelghley 1959

K. Slater v Hunslet 1971

MOST GOALS IN A MATCH

13 by M. Conway v Highfield

1992-3

MOST POINTS IN A MATCH

34 by M. Conway v Highfield

1992-3

VISITORS ON PARADE...OLDHAM

NATHAN TURNER: Goal kicking centre or full-back who joined Oldham last November from Queensland Crushers. A former Queensland and Australian under-21 Rugby Union International

DARREN ABRAM: Prolific try scoring centre. A former Thatto Heath junior (St. Helens) who won BARLA International honours before turning professional with Warrington in 1985. He made only one senior appearance whilst with Warrington and that was here at Belle Vue during March 1987 when his senior debut ended in a Warrington victory by 38-22. Had a spell on loan with Swinton before moving to Chorley Borough and then Rochdale Hornets. Oldham signed him in February 1993

PAUL ATCHESON: Outstanding attacking full-back and Oldham's top try scorer last season. A former Blackbrook junior (St. Helens) who turned professional with Widnes in 1990. Moved to Wigan and then joined Oldham in June 1995 for £50,000. Has represented Great Britain at academy and under-21 level and has been a member of the Welsh team in the various international competitions during the past three years.

DAVID BRADBURY: Utility forward who gives 100% in every match. Oldham signed him from Leigh Miners juniors in August 1991. Has toured down under with both the BARLA and the senior British Lions

JOHN CLARKE: Hooker. A former East Leeds junior who turned professional with Oldham in May 1993. Clarke toured Australia with the BARLA under-18s in 1993 and further honours came his way when he represented Great Britain under-21s against the 1994 Kangaroos.

MARTIN CROMPTON: Scrum-half, captain and the orchestrator of most of Oldham's attacking play. A former Wigan St. Patricks junior who began his professional career with Warrington in 1986. Moved back to Wigan in 1992 when he joined the senior Central Park outfit. Oldham snapped him up for a bargain £35,000 fee in September 1993. A brilliant tactical kicker who has been a regular in the Irish team during the past couple of years and who played for Great Britain in the World Nines earlier this year.

PAUL DAVIDSON: Hard working prop or second-row forward. A product of the Hensingham junior club (Whitehaven) who turned professional with Widnes in 1990. Joined Oldham in July 1994 for £17,000. Has a fine turn of speed which he uses to good effect.

PAUL DEACON: Talented young half-back who joined Oldham from Hindley juniors (Wigan) in July 1995.

JOE FAIMALO: Hard working second-row forward who was an ever present during the 1996 Super League season. A product of the Eastern Suburbs club in New Zealand, Faimalo had brief spells with Workington Town, Oldham and then Swinton during the 1991-92 season without impressing. He returned home and enjoyed success with Hawkes Bay which prompted him to return to Oldham in September 1994. His determination and stamina since then have made him one of the mainstays of the Roughyed pack.

IAN GILDART: Hard working forward. A former Wigan colt who turned professional at Central Park in 1986. After eight years with Wigan, Gildart moved here to Belle Vue where Trinity signed him in August 1994. Later that month he made his debut in a home First Division match against Salford which the Dreadnoughts won 13-0. Gildart made 25 appearances for Trinity before moving back over the Pennines to Oldham for £45,000 in

August 1995. Gildart represented Great Britain at under-21 level during his Central Park days.

BRETT GOLDSPINK: Giant prop who joined Oldham last November from Perth Western Reds. Goldspink previously played for South Sydney, Illawarra and Canberra.

VINCE FAWCETT: Big powerful three-quarter who played for Middleton juniors (Leeds) before turning professional with Leeds. Then had spells with Workington Town and Parramatta before joining Oldham last December for £28,000

HOWARD HILL: Talented young back-row forward who has also turned out in the centre position. Joined Oldham in July 1994 from the Hensingham junior club of Whitehaven after securing BARLA international honours. Hill was included in the Great Britain under-21 squad for the match against France in January 1996 which was unfortunately cancelled. Should eventually gain senior representative recognition.

GARY LORD: Experienced professional. A former Stanley Rangers junior who joined Castleford in 1984. He appeared at full-back for Castleford at Wembley in 1986 but has since developed into a hard working second-row forward. Lord was transferred to Leeds in September 1988 and he made his debut later that month on the wing in a Yorkshire Cup quarter-final tie against Trinity at Headingley when the Lioners scraped through 15-10. He moved onto Halifax in 1991 before joining Oldham in July 1994 for £35,000.

FRANCIS MALONEY: Powerful stand-off and accurate positional kicker. A product of the St. John Fisher junior club (Dewsbury) who turned professional with Leeds in 1990. Moved to Featherstone Rovers in 1992 and won Great Britain under-21 recognition whilst at Post Office Road. Transferred to Warrington in 1994 but did not settle at Wilderspool and so he moved on to Oldham in July 1995 for £50,000. Took over the goal kicking duties at Oldham and has been the Roughyeds' top point scorer during the past two seasons.

SCOTT RANSON: Fast and elusive winger. A former Thatto Heath junior (St. Helens) who turned professional with Swinton in 1987. Developed into a dangerous attacker whilst with the Lions. Joined Oldham in February 1992 and has continued his prolific try scoring feats with the Bears.

PAUL TOPPING: Utility player who is equally effective whether at centre, stand-off or loose-forward. Terrific defender. Topping is a former Wigan St. Patricks junior who turned professional with Swinton in 1985. He had a spell on loan with Mansfield before joining Leigh in 1990 and then transferring to Oldham in September 1993. Prior to turning professional, Topping toured Australia with the British Schoolboy squad in 1984 but his only representative honour since then has been one appearance for Lancashire in 1991.

ROB MYLER: Versatile back equally at home whether at full-back or on the wing. A former Widnes St. Maries junior who turned professional with Warrington in 1989. Had a spell on loan at Salford in 1995 but returned to Warrington before transferring to Oldham in July 1995 for £50,000

JASON TEMU: Hard running and tough tackling prop who first came to notice with the Marist club in New Zealand. He joined the Counties-Manukau outfit for the New Zealand Lion Red Cup competition of 1994 and it was after that successful campaign that Temu joined Oldham. He has represented New Zealand Residents during their 1994 tour of Australia and was a member of the Cook Island team which lifted the 1995 Emerging Nations Championship. Also represented Cook Islands in the 1996 World Nines in Fiji.

MATT MUNRO: Short but mobile second-row forward with a terrific workrate. Has also turned out at hooker. An Australian who joined Oldham at the beginning of the 1996 campaign from Sydney Tigers.

WAKEFIELD TRINITY 9 - 4 SWINTON

This was far from a classic clash between two sides with aspirations of challenging for promotion this season but at least Trinity fans can take consolation from the fact that their side had under performed but still prevailed. Credit for that has to go down to two factors, an outstanding team effort in defence and a superb performance from a full-back who at this time last year, wasn't even playing Alliance rugby. There can be no doubt that the emergence of Martyn Holland as one of the best last lines of defence in the First Division has been one of the real success stories at Trinity during Mitch Brennan's reign. The Australian was understandably thrilled with his young star's performance.

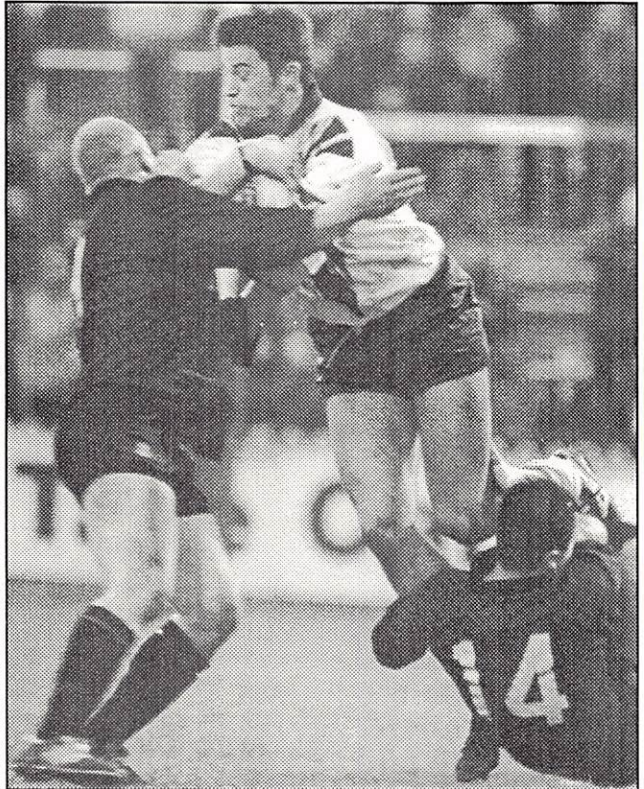
"Martyn was outstanding last season and this year we were looking for him to make the next step and prove to be a match winner for us. He was against Swinton," admitted Brennan.

Holland was relatively untroubled in the opening exchanges during which a Greg Pearce penalty goal gave the visitors the lead but they weren't to hold it for long. It seemed inconceivable at the time but Dennis Beecraft's try in the 16th minute was to be the only touchdown of the game. Captain Mike Ford is at the heart of most of Trinity's attacking moves and it was the skipper who charged down Pearce's attempted kick. A scramble followed and after consulting with both linesmen, referee Ian McGregor confirmed that it was Beecraft who had got to the loose ball first. Brad Davis goaled.

Swinton dominated the remainder of the half and a Pearce penalty reduced the arrears before Brad Davis was sin-binned in the 39th minute. The Trinity playmaker was given his marching orders for lying on at the tackle. Thankfully his absence wasn't to be crucial.

Trinity completed their scoring early in the second period with a well struck Craig Rika penalty goal but for the majority of the period it was a case of wondering if they could preserve their 9-4 advantage. They did so, with Holland magnificent, although there was an almighty scare 11 minutes from time. Martin Birkett had livened up Swinton's attack following his introduction as a substitute and he set up the field position for Gareth Adams to send Sean Casey over for a try. However an eagle-eyed touch judge pulled play back for a forward pass and Trinity had escaped.

Wayne McDonald, Mike Ford and Ian Hughes made half breaks in the closing stages but there was no escaping the sense of relief at the final hooter. This was not a vintage display but at least it is Wakefield who meet Super League Oldham in this afternoon's fifth round. While an improved performance is required no-one could doubt the player's commitment against Swinton and such battling qualities will hold them in good stead during the summer ahead.



Craig Rika in action *Photo Courtesy of Wakefield Express*

SINCE WE LAST MET.....

More talk has surfaced of Wakefield Trinity leaving Belle Vue for a new purpose built stadium. This time the site in question is at Durkar, alongside the new Yorkshire Cricket Ground development. The council are looking into the possibility of providing a 25,000 all-seater stadium for the cities' rugby league and union sides to share. However the proposals are at a very early stage.

On the field of play it has been revealed that Freddie Banquet has put pen to paper on a two-year deal. The French international three-quarter is scheduled to join his new team-mates in mid March as he nears the completion of his National Service back home.

At the time of writing there are no developments with three players who are currently out of favour at Trinity. Carl Grigg, Kieran Allen and Lee Child. However the former went into print in the Rugby Leaguer saying that he wants to stay at the club so developments could be imminent.

Away from Belle Vue and undoubtedly the biggest news on the rugby league front is Graham West's dismissal at Wigan. It seems as though the New Zealander was asked to become the new football manager at Central Park, a position which has remained vacant since Joe Lydon left the club at the turn of the year.

West wanted to remain as coach and as a consequence now finds himself looking for a new job. His replacement is Eric Hughes, Shaun McRae's predecessor at St. Helens. Staying with Wigan, it seems unlikely that they will be able to hang on to Va'aiga Tuigamala. The former All Black is the subject of a monster bid from Newcastle Falcons Rugby Union Club and his future now seems to lie in the 15-a-side code. However the Warriors hope to use some of the money raised from the deal to finance a new contract for Great Britain winger Jason Robinson.

Two of the clubs who look set to be in contention for the First Division title this season, Hull and Huddersfield, fought out a fantastic Challenge Cup tie.

Following a 16-16 draw at the McAlpine Stadium, the Airlie Birds proved too strong for the Giants in the Boulevard replay, prevailing 24-14. Hull led 18-0 early on but despite the absence of Gary Schofield, the visitors hit back and it took a late try to seal the spoils for the Humber side outfit.

However the Giants failed to take this impressive form into the Plate competition as they were one of the First Division sides to be shocked by lower league opposition. They crashed to defeat at coach Steve Ferres' former club Hunslet while the form of Trinity's success over Swinton took a jolt when the Lancashire outfit were beaten at Leigh. Widnes were lucky to escape too, eventually beating York 18-16 at Naughton Park but requiring extra time to do so. One thing is for certain, when the league action gets underway on 2nd March, predicting the outcome of matches won't be easy.

Finally if you fancy wagering a few quid on Trinity winning the First Division, bookmakers William Hill are prepared to offer you 16/1. Hull are the favourites at 5/2 with Huddersfield 11/4, Keighley 7/2, Featherstone 5/1, Workington 6/1 and Widnes 7/1 are also strongly fancied.

As for the Challenge Cup, St. Helens head the list at 4/6. Oldham are 50/1 chances with Wakefield 250/1.

WELCOME TO BELLE VUE - JAMES MCLAREN

Most of the players at Wakefield Trinity this season have something to prove, motivation for succeeding, but few can have a bigger incentive than recent signing James McLaren. The powerful Australian centre has scored two tries in his opening two games for the club and is looking to continue that form throughout the summer ahead. He has to.

"I went straight from University to the Canberra Raiders where I had a two-year deal. I spent the first 12 months learning about the game and was looking to break into the first grade last year. However I injured my back and never had the chance to make an impact. My agent, who is a friend and deals with most of the Canberra players, contacted Mitch Brennan during the off-season and I met up with him during a holiday in Britain. He convinced me to have a go at Wakefield and I am delighted he did.

"I have settled in very well both on and off the field but I am 24 now and realise that I am in the Last Chance Saloon. If things don't work out for me here I will have to return to Australia and take up a job in a laboratory. You can see why I am determined to succeed," explains McLaren.

The Australian was lacking in fitness when he first arrived but feels he is getting there now.

"I was playing a bit of rugby union with Stirling in Scotland recently but the difference between that and my spell with the Canberra Raiders was incredible. I am much happier in league although it is more demanding. I missed the pre-season work which didn't help and I must admit that the early training sessions didn't go too well. However things are improving and the only time I really suffer now is after a session on the weights!" he declares.

"Training isn't vastly different to what I experienced back at Canberra but of course Mitch has his own ideas. The plyometric work in the gym for example is something I have never done before but you really feel the benefits. We have concentrated on getting the fitness levels right first but we are now stepping up our ball work and things are coming together nicely," revealed McLaren.

So what was the players' reaction to the narrow success over Swinton in the last round?

"We dropped too much ball and gave away too many penalties but still kept our line intact which has to be encouraging. The performances can only improve as the season goes on and in our two matches this year we haven't conceded a try which gives us a solid foundation.

"It would be very easy to dwell on the negative aspects of the performance against Swinton but we need to take some positive things from the game and build on them, especially as Oldham will provide us with a much stiffer test.

"They are a Super League outfit and are ideal opposition really as we continue our preparations for the league season. We have had amateur, First Division and top flight opposition now in the Cup and all at home which is always a big help. I had a glance down the Oldham team-sheet from their last game and saw Vince Fawcett's name there. He is a player I know a little about from his spell in Australia and they will be very difficult to beat. But the Cup isn't our priority this year. To be at the top of the First Division after 20 rounds is our only goal at this stage."

McLaren has settled in well to his new surroundings.

"The players all get on very well together and there are no personalities who cause any friction. There is a very positive mood in the camp and it is nice to be involved. We still have Ronnie Troutman, Freddie Banquet and Roger Kenworthy to come into the squad. I played alongside Roger for two years at Canberra and our styles complement each other well. I am a bigger player but he is much quicker, especially over the first ten metres, while it takes me a good while longer to hit top gear!"

That may be the case but James McLaren has already hinted that he will make the grade during the summer ahead. In a three-quarter line which contains the likes of Martyn Holland, Jon Wray, Craig Rika, Freddie Banquet and Roger Kenworthy, he may just get an extension to his rugby league career.

The Last Chance Saloon could be about to lose one of its guests.

ALLIANCE ACTION WITH ANDY KELLY

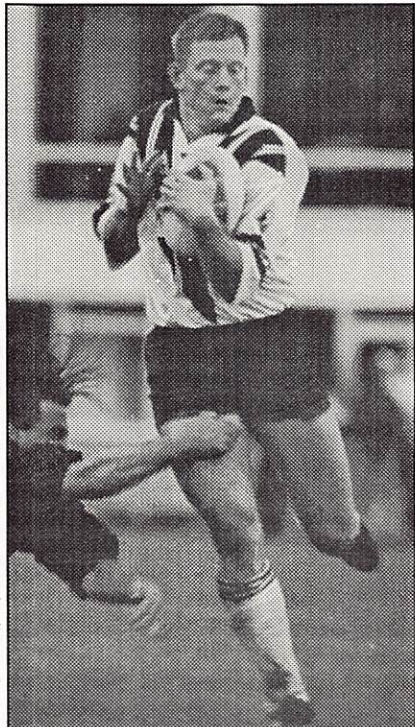
In our first game of the season, the Challenge Cup victory over York, we met with the anticipated problems associated with an opening match. We didn't play any team friendlies beforehand and after 20 minutes the players began to struggle a little and York took immediate advantage and ran in 12 unanswered points. I was delighted with our reaction to this as the lads quickly re-established themselves and took control of proceedings. Indeed York failed to score again.

Micky Clarkson led the fightback with a well taken first-half try and just before the interval there was a first Alliance score for Stuart Godfrey. At the break we felt we had control of the game and as long as we were patient and worked hard in defence, the victory was there for the taking. We were boosted by an early score in the second period, Dean Rutter going over in the corner, and with 20 minutes remaining Ian Hughes crossed for the winning score. Ian was in the Alliance side to gain match fitness and he did look a game ahead of the other players and was more balanced in his running. However as he admits himself, he still has work to do before reaching full capacity. The reserve grade has a number of functions within a club but clearly getting first team players fit and ready for action is one of the more important.

This year we have a much bigger squad of signed on players available to us compared to Johnny Thompson's successful side of last season and this benefits the club in general. For example we will be able to keep the Academy players in their own grade until they are ready to progress. We don't want them to have their first steps in senior rugby in a struggling side, it is much better to have experienced players around who can help them to adjust to the faster game. This season I would like the younger players to have a selective and limited involvement in the reserve grade. We have to be sure that they are ready for the physical challenges it provides and that they can cope with the physical demands of the open-age game. If the lads prove they can handle it then they will retain their place in the side, if not they will return to the Academy before being given another run out later in the season.

I came through the youth structure at Belle Vue, starting with Colts football, but feel the new system is more beneficial. There are a greater number of opportunities for young players in the first team nowadays and it is up to them to prove they are worth their place. They have to stick to the training programme we have put in front of them this season. It is designed to make them fitter, stronger and faster players and I am sure they will reap the reward for their efforts.

Alliance rugby now has a much higher profile and it is a real opportunity for players to make a name for themselves and force their way into the senior squad. Here at Belle Vue we play an attractive style of rugby and have a number of well known faces in the side as well as a host of outstanding prospects. I would urge supporters to come down to Belle Vue and see for themselves what we are trying to achieve and I am sure they won't be disappointed.



Andy Proctor Photo Courtesy of Wakefield Express

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN.....?

WAKEFIELD TRINITY 22 - 23 OLDHAM *Belle Vue 10th April 1988*

T:	M. Conway 2	K Meadows
	G. Price	M. Ford
	S. Halliwell	D. Foy
		K. Atkinson
G:	K. Harcombe 3	K. Atkinson 3
DG:		T. Flanagan

End of season games between two sides who are already guaranteed promotion are often disappointing affairs but not this clash. At a sun drenched Belle Vue, Oldham showed just why they had raced to the Second Division Championship with a thrilling success over a Trinity side who arguably produced their finest 80 minutes of the season on home territory.

A crowd of 6,522 flocked to see the encounter and Trinity's player-coach David Topliss recalled himself to the side to face his former club. It was to prove a master stroke as he created a try for half-back partner Mark Conway as Trinity took the game to the visitors.

However Oldham had a star half-back of their own in the shape of a certain Mike Ford. His outstanding form was to earn him a place on the Great Britain tour at the end of the season and grabbed a try and had a hand in several others as the visitors opened up a 23-18 lead going into the dying seconds.

Enter Steve Halliwell, a big-money capture from St. Helens whose Wakefield career was in its final days. The Australian-born centre had grabbed 49 tries in a season for Leigh before moving on to Knowsley Road and while he never quite reached the anticipated heights at Belle Vue, he remained a frequent scorer. Halliwell's impact on this game had been limited but with seconds left on the clock he wriggled free of a would-be tackler and flamboyantly dived over for a try in the corner. The pressure was now on Kevin Harcombe but the former Great Britain Under 21 star saw his potential match-winning conversion drift to the wrong side of the posts. The hooter immediately followed.

This defeat meant that Trinity had to travel to Featherstone in the semi-finals of the Premiership and despite a brave showing they were defeated 20-16. In contrast Oldham coasted into the Old Trafford showpiece with an 18-10 defeat of Springfield Borough. What was to follow was one of THE great finals.

There was little evidence of the drama to follow with the Lancashire side racing into a 22-0 lead. Tries from Terry Flanagan, two spectacular Des Foy efforts and a Peter Walsh touchdown seemed to have won the match inside the first 32 minutes. Featherstone had other ideas though and a Graham Steadman try, two minutes before the interval reduced the deficit somewhat and in a 30 minute spell Rovers seemed to have turned the tide and produced the most remarkable success in their history.

Steadman added his second touchdown after 51 minutes, and a 40-yard try from Andy Bannister, a four pointer from David Sykes plus three Steve Quinn goals gave Featherstone a 24-22 lead.

There was to be a final twist in the tale though with Des Foy again making the initial break, linking with Gary Warnecke and sending Kevin Meadows in for an equalising score. Charlie McAllister's goal sealed the triumph. Both sides were given a standing ovation from a bumper Old Trafford crowd. They thoroughly deserved it for serving up a true Rugby League classic.

FORUM GROUP

"ANOTHER SEASON AND ANOTHER.....?"

Yes, a week to go and the Forum Group launch their annual pre-season get together, this year in the Precinct opposite Burger King on Saturday March 1st, 10.00 am onwards. It promises to be a fun packed day with competitions galore, ball passing and the Trinity Truck competition to name a few. The Trinity Ball Boys will be in attendance along with the Trinity Cheerleaders. The Players will be along in the afternoon.

Season tickets for the Young Dreadnoughts will be on sale, still priced at £25 including free membership, (normally £5). It should be a fun packed day so in the words of Leslie Crowther "Come on Down" and join in the fun.

To more mundane matters. All the major work continues, we have fitted new locks on various doors, we have repaired a section of the roof in the gymnasium and we have had a monumental effort in refurbishing the Sponsors Boxes. Well done to all concerned!

If you want to get soaking wet, and freeze the proverbials off, why not pop down and join us!



WAKEFIELD TRINITY RLFC SATURDAY YANKEE LOTTERY



Wakefield Trinity are looking to recruit collectors for their Saturday Yankee Lottery in the Lupset and Flanshaw areas. (Other areas are available.) Excellent commission and bonus's paid. Large and small rounds available now.

Contact Frank Slater on 211611

Results for Week 7 (15th February 1997)

Race	Winner	Number
1	Flat Top f.p.t.p.	4
2	Jazzman	6
3	Lets Be Frank	4
4	Cyborgo	1
WINNING YANKEE	4641	This code unissued

7 Winning Trebles receive £92.86 each =

- 4141 N.B. Dowson, Briar Grove, Sandal, Wakefield
- 4241 Mr D. Gill, Flanshaw Park, Wakefield
- 4643 J. Wray, Major Street, Thornes, Wakefield
- 4649 D. Lowe, Windermere Road Flanshaw.
- 4661 D. Gummerscales, Copeworth Drive, Hall Green.
- 6641 P. Hickman, Wombwell Lane, Stairfoot, Barnsley
- 8641 T. Long, Esther Grove, Lupset.

AGENT
£650

- N. Everett
- G. Walker
- S. Kirbyson
- Warburtons
- Kettlethorpe
- J. Fleming
- Lupset 2

SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS.....

Welcome to Belle Vue from The Wakefield Trinity Supporters Club,

VISITORS: Today we welcome the players, staff and supporters of Oldham for the 5th round of the Challenge Cup. Oldham with their second season in the Super League fast approaching will be revelling in the fact they have been picked to play a 1st Division side, let's hope the lads are up for the task and can give a Super League side a run for their money.

MEMBERSHIP: There has been a problem with the printing of the membership cards this season, but fingers crossed they should be on sale soon. Prices are VPs £3.50, Adults £3.00, O.A.P's and Juniors £2.50 Special benefits this season are 10% in the club shop, reductions on away travel, free monthly draws, chance to vote for the Player of the Year and make the presentation. If you are interested in joining please visit the tea bar, or see a member of the Committee

EASTER DRAW: First prize is a trip for two on Concorde. Tickets are now on sale priced at £1.

MURDER MYSTERY NIGHT, WAKEFIELD TOWN HALL on SATURDAY 5th APRIL
Price for this great night out is £14.50 which also includes a sit down meal. The Supporters Club advise anyone who wishes to book to do so now as there are only a few tickets left.

FUN NIGHT - MR BOONS (Formerly The Woolpack) This night will hopefully take place just after the first game of the season. Watch this space.

AWAY TRAVEL: Booking is as in previous seasons. Contact Neil on 01226 723845. Challenge Cup Final. - 3rd May, there are no tickets left. However, due to a number of supporters requiring travel for the day we have booked a larger bus, therefore some seats are remaining. To book please visit the tearoom or ring Neil on the above number.

FORTHCOMING EVENT Saturday 1st March: The Supporters Club will be in the Ridings on this day, situated on Bishopgate Walk (near Primark). We will be selling tickets for our Easter Draw and taking down names of anyone wishing to become members. Helping us on the day will be some of the players. So why not come on down, have a chat, get a few autographs, photos and maybe win a trip for two on Concorde.

Finally, the Supporters Club will be presenting Billy Conway with a cheque for his testimonial. The money, £225 was donated by you the supporters through raffles etc., Many Thanks are sent to all on behalf of Billy. The presentation will take place in The Coach House after today's match.

Enjoy the game
Colleen



YOUNG DREADNOUGHTS



Welcome to all our new Young Dreadnoughts members. We hope to arrange our new membership pack in a week or two, so please be patient, it will be worth waiting for. Good luck to all the players from all the Young Dreadnoughts.

Happy Birthday to: Karen Else, 27 on Feb 20th Love from Dale and Daniel Joe.

Today's Mascots

Name:	Adam Brummitt	Gary Brummitt
Age:	4 years	7 years
From:	Ossett	Ossett
Hobbies:	Eating	Sports
Ambitions:	To play for Trinity	To play for Trinity

Today's Visiting Mascot:

Jennifer Turner, Age 11, School: St. Annes in Greenacres.
Favourite Player: Scott Ranson



WAKEFIELD TRINITY FACTFILE '97

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

Jan
25th Ovenden W 52-0 Holland Ramsey 1T Rika 1T McLaren 2T Wray 2T Davis 2T6G Ford 1T McKell S'Wood Stephenson Beecraft Hughes Martindale1T Ramsden McDonald Lister Proctor

Feb
8th Swinton W 9-4 Holland Ramsey McLaren Rika 1G Wray Davis 1G.1DG Ford McKell S'Wood Stephenson Beecraft 1T McDonald Martindale Ramsden Proctor Judge Hughes

23rd Oldham
March
2nd Dewsbury
9th Challenge Cup Quarter Finals
Hull K. R.

16th Whitehaven
22nd Challenge Cup Semi Finals
28th Featherstone
29th Challenge Cup Semi Finals
31st Huddersfield

April
6th Hull
13th Workington
20th Widnes
27th Keighley

May
3rd Challenge Cup Final
11th Swinton
18th Whitehaven
23rd Hull K. R.
26th Dewsbury

June
8th Featherstone
15th Huddersfield
22nd Hull
29th Workington

July
6th Widnes
13th Keighley
20th Swinton

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: LYNNE, LOVE THE GANG, XX 21 + V.A.T.

SEASON TICKET PRICES FOR 1997

	Adult	Child	O.A.P	FAMILY TICKET	
CENTRE STAND				SOUTH WING OF STAND ONLY	
(Blocks D,E&F)	115.00	85.00	85.00	2 Adults & 2 children	170.00
MIDDLE WING BLOCK				1 Adult & 2 children	130.00
(Blocks B,C,G & H)	100.00	65.00	65.00	2 Adults & 1 child	150.00
END WING BLOCK				1 Adult & 1 child	115.00
(Blocks A & H)	95.00	58.00	58.00	£15.00 REDUCTION FOR YOUNG DREADNOUGHTS	
GROUND	86.00	35.00	42.00		

The price increase in this year's season tickets is due to the fact that Wakefield Trinity will be guaranteed to play an extra four home games after the regular season has ended, in the end of season play off's. The dates for these fixtures will not become available until the final divisional standings become known.

ALL HOME FIXTURES ARE IN BOLD TYPE,

Apologies to Roy Southernwood for the abbreviation of his surname

The Rugby Football League
SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP
1997 Final
Wembley Stadium, Saturday 3rd May

OLYMPIC GALLERY _____ @ £50.00
 SEATS _____ ~~SOLD OUT @ £39.00~~
 _____ @ £35.00
 _____ @ £30.00
 _____ @ £27.00
 _____ @ £22.00
 _____ @ £17.00
 _____ @ £12.00

- ★ All tickets are sold on a first come first served basis.
 - ★ Cheques or postal orders made payable to the Rugby Football League.
 - ★ Enclose £1 to cover postage and packing of tickets.
 - ★ Cheques and correspondence should relate **only** to the Silk Cut Challenge Cup.
 - ★ Additional tickets to existing orders cannot be accepted after 31st December, 1996.
 - ★ Cancellations cannot be accepted after 31st December, 1996.
- Amount enclosed £ _____

Visa/Access Number _____

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Name _____

Address _____

Expiry Date _____

Signature _____

Date _____

_____ Postcode _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY GROUP ORGANISER
 The tickets ordered are for the sole use of a party from _____

 Signed _____

Send to:
THE WEMBLEY TICKET OFFICE
THE RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE
RED HALL
RED HALL LANE
LEEDS
LS17 8NB

TICKET HOTLINE
 (Visa/Access bookings only)
0113-232 9444
 Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.





SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP FIFTH ROUND



WAKEFIELD TRINITY V OLDHAM BEARS

MARTYN HOLLAND	1	ROB MYLER
JON WRAY	2	SCOTT RANSON
JIM McLAREN	3	PAUL TOPPING
CRAIG RIKA	4	DARREN ABRAM
JULIAN RAMSEY	5	DAVID JONES
BRAD DAVIS	6	FRANCIS MALONEY
MIKE FORD	7	PAUL DEACON
RICHARD McKELL	8	PAUL NORMAN
ROY SOUTHERNWOOD	9	JOHN CLARKE
FRANCIS STEPHENSON	10	IAN GILDART
DENNIS BEECRAFT	11	JOE FAIMALO
WAYNE McDONALD	12	MATT MUNRO
MICHAEL MARTINDALE	13	DAVID BRADBURY
MICK RAMSDEN	14	T.B.A.
ANDREW PROCTOR	15	T.B.A.
T.B.A.	16	T.B.A.
T.B.A.	17	T.B.A.

REFEREE: R.A. SMITH

TOUCH JUDGES: D.F. REDFEARN, S.WRIGHT IN GOAL JUDGES: K. TINSDALE, E. ARNOLD



100

