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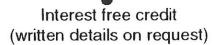


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PRESTONS OF ROCHDALE ARE VALUED SUPPORTERS OF ROCHDALE HORNETS AND EACH SEASON THEY DONATE A ROLEX WATCH TO THE COACH'S PLAYER OF THE SEASON (See Page 15)



STEVE'S VIEW

Coach Steve Linnane Comments

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Directors and supporters of Rochdale Hornets for welcoming myself and my wife Simone, daughter Holly and son Harry into both the Hornets Rugby Club and the Rochdale community.

Today's fixture, the A J Law Cup is a game which both Rochdale and Oldham treat with great professionalism and from what my counterparts at the Hornets have been saying over the past few weeks that it will be a game played with plenty of passion and I am sure the fans of both clubs are in for a great game of Rugby League.

In saying that, passion and professionalism

are two of many things that we, the Rochdale Hornets have been working on over the past eight weeks and if we play with these two attributes, I know we will be heading in the right direction and that will give us a great base for a successful season.

The players and myself can't wait for the kickoff at 3.00pm. They have been working very hard in this, one of the shortest pre-seasons on record and are very focused to get off to a successful start to the 2000 season.

Good Luck to Mike Ford and the Oldham Club.

Enjoy the game. Steve Linnane.

Rochdale Hornets RLFC

REG OFFICE: PO Box 48, Rochdale OL16 1PE Tel: 01706 648004

CHAIRMAN: Mr R Taylor VICE CHAIRMAN: Mr N Haisall

DIRECTORS:

Mr N Halsall, Mr M Lord, Mr K Oldham, Mr T Pratt, Mr P Reynolds Mr R Taylor, Mr M Viney,Mr D Turner CHIEF EXE: Mr P Reynolds CLUB SEC: Mr K Oldham PRESIDENT: LIFE VICE PRESIDENTS:

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BOARDROOM BRIEF

Welcome to you all for today's AJ Law Cup game. There's also a special welcome to Chris Hamilton and Mike Ford and the other officials and players who have made the short journey from Oldham. Games between our two clubs for the A.J. Law Cup have a long tradition and even though the match is billed as a friendly, experience shows that the local rivalry means that we usually get a competitive game. May it continue long into the new millennium.

Both sides will have different Coaches and quite different squads of players from those that contested the game last year. We are delighted that Steve Linnane agreed to leave Australia to take up the post of Coach. The Board agreed that we needed to appoint a full time coach after the experiences of recent years. We wanted someone with a tried and tested track record, a good reputation as a coach and someone who could get the most out of a squad of talented players. Steve's credentials fitted the bill perfectly. He will be ably supported by 'A' Team Coach lan Taylor.

There have also been several changes on the playing front. Unfortunately player turnover is inevitable in the modern game. Results last year were not of the standard we expected so changes had to be made. Whilst we lost a few players we would have wanted to retain we've also brought in several new quality players and overall the balance of the squad looks to be about right. So on one hand we want formally to thank those players who have left for their services to Rochdale Hornets and on

the other hand we want to welcome the new players to the club.

Today will be a good test of the quality of the squad and should provide a benchmark as Steve makes his final preparations for the forthcoming Northern Ford Premiership season.

The other Directors and myself were also pleased when Mark Viney accepted the offer to join the Board. He has been associated with Rochdale Hornets for several years and will provide a valuable source of ideas in promoting the image and commercial side of the club. This is an ever increasingly important side of running a business like ours. We are fortunate in that we have a number of excellent, loyal sponsors. For example British Millerain have yet again continued their support for the Club, a deal which further extends the longest running sponsorship in the RFL.

However we are always on the look-out to develop links with other organisations and individuals who may be interested in other potential sponsorship opportunities. Anyone interested in taking advantage of the many advertising and sponsorship opportunities available should contact our Commercial Manager, Janet Molloy on 01706 648004.

Finally, we must record with sadness the death of the club President Mr John Ashworth. John influenced the club in a great many different ways during his long association with Rochdale Hornets. He will be greatly missed and we send our sincere condolences to his family at this difficult time.

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INTRODUCING

STEVE LIMNANE

"Steve who?". That was the question on many Hornets fans' lips when the announcement was made about the new coach in the Autumn.

However, for those in the know within the game Steve's name was already well respected. He had made the transition from a successful player with the likes of South Sydney, St George and Newcastle Knights to coaching in the NRL, unquestionably the toughest league in the world. At Newcastle Knights he was number two to the likes of Mal Reiley and Warren Ryan and had been quietly building his reputation as a coach with good organisation and motivating qualities. As well as assisting the first team reach the heights of the Grand Final, he led the Knights second team to a number of successes.

When the opportunity came to travel half way round the world to manage Rochdale Hornets he grasped the challenge with both hands. "It was big decision, not just for me but for the whole family. It's a completely different lifestyle and we are still getting used to the different culture. Everyone has been great in helping me and my family settle in, although I wish someone would turn off the rain!"

"I left Newcastle Knights on really good terms but I was looking for an opportunity to step up to the number one job and the Hornets offer was irresistible. I know big things are expected of me, but to be honest that's the way I would want it. I am on the record as saying that I'm aiming for the Play-offs. Get there, then

anything can happen. If everyone at the club from the directors down to the players all pull in the same direction we can achieve our goals."

"We have a promising young squad with a good number of players with Super League experience. Dane Dorahy and Shayne McMenemy have first grade experience back in Australia and should do really well for us. There are perhaps a couple of positions where we need to have a little bit more experience or quality and I have discussed a few names with the Board. I understand the financial situation but the Board have backed me all the way so far and we are hopeful there might be another signing or two to come."

"Obviously I am on a learning curve in respect of our opponents, but I have been looking at a number of videos and feel I have got a good measure of our own squad. To some extent that's what's more important at this stage. Most teams have changed their personnel anyway. I am focusing on getting Hornets playing to their strengths. From what I've seen we gave the ball away too easily last year. I want to see a big improvement in the number of sets of six we complete which will put our opponents under pressure. A lot of the pre season has been devoted to skill work as well as physical conditioning. Hopefully it will pay dividends."

These are sentiments that Hornets fans everywhere will endorse. If Steve can achieve anything like the turn round of fortunes that fellow countryman Ian Millward achieved at Leigh last year we will be pretty satisfied.

TODAYS VISITORS

OLDHAM RLFC

AIDE MEAD

Product of Oldham Bears Academy this utility back is a handy member of the Roughyeds squad. Has played on the wing and at full back last season and has been very consistent.

MARK SIBSON

Major pre-season signing for the Roughyeds. A lot is expected from this goal kicking full-back. Although he played 2 games for Huddersfield Giants in the Super League last season most of his performances were for Bramley.

JOEY HAYES

The flying winger has signed for Oldham from Salford City Reds. Joey made his name playing for St. Helens where he won a Super League champions medal, played at Wembley and was also capped for Great Britain against Papa new Guinea.

JOE McNICHOLAS

This young winger is one of the most exciting prospects in the new First Division. Having turned down an offer from Bradford Bulls, Joe was unfortunate to miss most of '98 after breaking his leg in the early season. Rochdale born, he is armed with pace and a great side step.

ANTHONY GIBBONS

Signed with his twin brother, David, from Bramley this close season. Anthony can play anywhere in the backs but will be hoping to make the centre spot his own.

CRAIG BARKER

Local halfback or hooker who was not always a first choice in'98 but never lets the side down when selected.

LEO CASEY

Now at the veteran stage, Leo returned to Oldham last season and has resigned for this years campaign. Has represented Ireland at International level. This tough prop forward was delighted to be

named Captain for last seasons campaign and his performances were outstanding. Leads from the front and usually plays 80 minutes, which is a rarity in today's modern game.

JASON CLEGG

Formerly a Bradford Bull this prop had a barnstorming season for the Roughyeds last year. Scored a typical rampaging try in last year's Law Cup against Rochdale. 'Cleggy' is becoming a favourite with the Oldham spectators and is a member of a very consistent front row.

PAT RICH

Signed from Keighley Cougars in the close season. Pat is a promising young centre who played for England in the recent Student's World Cup. He has the drive, ambition and ability to have a really big season.

DAVID GIBBONS

Signed with his twin Anthony from Bramley. Can play anywhere in the backs but will be hoping to impress at stand off. David is very talented and began his career at leeds.

JOHN HOUGH

John will go down in the 'new' clubs history books as the first player to officially sign for the Roughyeds. A bright future is predicted for the ex-Warrington hooker who is renowned for his hard work and sportsmanship. Has been consistently outstanding for the Roughyeds and is one of the divisions form hookers.

ANDY PROCTOR

Andy has returned to the club to play for Mike Ford, who was his coach last season at Bramley. Procky can play at prop or in the back row and with his professional attitude to training will be a valuable addition to this season's team.

MARK CAMPBELL

Back row forward signed from Keighley Cougars. Oldham wanted to sign Mark last season but have finally got their man. Another player for whom big things are expected.

KEVIN MANNON

Will need no introduction to Spotland as he has previously played for the Hornets. Big, tall, loose forward whom coach, Mike Ford said reminds him of Barrie Jon Maher.

NATHAN VARLEY

Started most games from the subs bench last season but was still one of the clubs top tacklers. This ex-Bradford back rower had his season ruined by an ankle injury picked up on New Years Day at Rochdale. returned to his tackling best but was unlucky again when injuring his wrist against Rochdale! Will be hoping a new season brings more luck.

GRAEME SHAW

Hard working back row forward signed from Bradford Bulls. Became the 'new' clubs first international in October 1998 playing for Scotland. Always augranteed 100% commitment from Graeme.

WES ROGERS

Wes signed from Swinton Lions in the close season. Wes is very pleased to have signed for his home team, not least because his family are all fanatics! Can play anywhere in the forwards and is major boost to the Roughyeds pack.

SUPPORTERS BUZZ

Good afternon and a very warm welcome to everyone. It seems a long time since we were last here for a game - how I hate the close season!

Last year was very mixed at Hornets, hopefully this one will be much more exciting. We are certainly in with the chance now that the Board has taken the brave decision to employ a full time coach - the modern game really demands a full time commitment.

The Supporters' Club is keen to help support the parent club and have decided this season to sponsor a player's expenses as our project for the season. Our target is to raise £2000 and with your help and support we are confident that we can reach it. One of our fund raisers is the after match raffle at home games, which proved to be popular and successful last season - don't forget to buy your ticket! We will be publishing a list of planned events in the New Year and we hope

many of you will participate. If you have any money raising ideas, don't keep them secret, let us know.

You can also help by joining the Supporters' Club. It costs a mere £5 and includes a free T-Shirt, membership certificate and handy, wallet sized membership card with fixture list on the back. (These are not yet ready for this season as the League was so late issuing them!) Join at the club shop or by seeing any member of the committee in the bar after the match.

Finally, it only remains for us to offer a warm welcome to Steve Linnane and his family and to wish the team all the best for a cracking season - oh, and a Merry Christmas and Happy New Millennium to one and all. (Drat, I wasn't going to mention the 'M' word!)

Cheers Julie

A TEAM SCENE

A MESSAGE FROM IAN TAYLOR

Can I take this opportunity to welcome you all to this brand new season. I shall be keeping you up to press with all the goings on in the Alliance team news in this regular programme piece.

I see my role with the second string is to make sure the players are ready to step up to the first team with the smallest of jumps. I hope to be judged on how many players are able to make this step when Steve calls upon them. Along the way winning is also an important part of a players make-up so we hope to win a good many games by playing some attractive ruaby.

At this moment in time we haven't got our fixtures, but we should be starting on the

weekend of 7th January. We shall be playing most of our home games on Thursday evenings so please watch the local press for our fixtures and come to get behind our boys. I can assure you that you will get a big value for money evening.

We shall also be hoping to bring some new faces through the Alliance as we spread our net for young talent. If at any time you want to find out about anything concerning the Alliance team please come up and ask me, we shall be glad you're taking the time to get involved.

Hoping to see you at our games and here's to a good season.

Cheers, Ian Taylor

ALLIANCE TEAM - RESULTS 1999

FEB				10	Oldham	Н	44-16
11	Dewsbury	Α	22-38	17	Featherstone	Н	22-43
20	Barrow	Α	24-26	26	Barrow	Н	46-16
24	Hunslet	Α	30-42	JULY			
MARCH	MACRON CONTROL ITAL AT			8	Swinton	Н	78-18
6	West Cumbria	Α	18-32	18	Batley	Н	32-18
25	Keighley	Α	16-44	22	Keighley	Н	16-16
APRIL	D II	٨	10.04	31	Barrow (ACC10)	Н	45-34
10 15	Batley Swinton	A A	10-34 12-29	AUGUST	Statement and the statement of the state		
MAY	Swinion	А	12-29	5	Dewsbury	Н	22-26
5	Leigh	Α	2-15	14	Wigan	Α	16-50
20	Featherstone	Α	16-46	18	Oldham	Α	16-32
JUNE				25	Hunslet	Н	32-28
5	West Cumbria	Н	32-18	28	LEIGH	Н	33-20

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Executive	£210	£105
If brought before the	е	
first home game	£150	£75
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If brought before the	е	
first home game	£75	£37.50
Ground (Standin	ig) £90	£45
If brought before the	е	
first home game	£65	£32.50

DID YOU TAKE YOUR SHIRT WITH YOU?

Now that the summer of 1999 is well and truly over this is your last chance to send in your holiday photographs of you wearing your Hornets shirt in a distant or unusual place.

lan Nield is currently in the lead for the prize for the farthest flung place having been pictured with the Grand Canyon, Arizona as his back-drop. We are still waiting for a really unusual place or situation!

Photos can be sent to the Club Office and if you leave your name and address we will return them.

HAVE YOUR SAY

You can send any letters or articles you wish to have considered for inclusion in the matchday programme to the Club Office.

For example you might want to write about your favourite player or match from the past or tell us about your experiences in supporting Hornets.

CAPTION COMPETITION

If you have any suggestions as to a witty, printable caption for this picture send them into the Club Offices or leave them on the Media Officer's answerphone (01706) 601771. The best will be included in a future matchday magazine.



THE A J LAW CUP

The A J Law Cup has had a somewhat checkered history. Originally presented by Mr A J Law, the member of Parliment for Rochdale on Easter Sunday 26th March 1921, the Cup was to be awarded each year to the winners of a friendly match between Hornets and Oldham.

The players who competed in the match gave their services free and the proceeds



were to go to the respective infirmaries of the two towns.

The Trophy was first displayed in the window of Hardmans Jewellers (now Butterworths) on Drake Street. The original medals presented to the winners were solid gold with the Rochdale Coat of Arms on one side and Oldham's on the other side.

The first match took place on 7th May 1921 at the Athletic Ground and finished in an

inauspicious nil-nil draw. Oldham ran out 12-2 winners in the replay at the Watersheddings on 'Friday the 13th' May.

Rochdale Hornets' biggest win came last year when they won 48-10. Oldham's biggest win was 53-13 in 1961.

Oldham have won the Trophy 39 times to Harnets 16 times.

Hornets recent win ended Oldhams sequence of 7 consecutive wins, which was the longest in the Cup's history.

THE LAW CUP

Results of Previous Encounters (winners in capitals)

1921	Rochdale	0	Oldham	0	1954	ROCHDALE	17	OLDHAM	17
Replay	OLDHAM	12	Rochdale	2	1955	OLDHAM	23	Rochdale	17
1922	OLDHAM	12	Rochdale	8	1956	ROCHDALE	34	Oldham	5
1923	ROCHDALE	13	Oldham	5	1957	Oldham	5	ROCHDALE	31
1924	OLDHAM	15	Rochdale	4	1958	ROCHDALE	25	Oldham	10
1925	ROCHDALE	27	Oldham	15	1959	OLDHAM	28	Rochdale	11
1926	OLDHAM	34	Rochdale	0	1960	Rochdale	11	OLDHAM	35
1927	ROCHDALE	11	Oldham	0	1961	OLDHAM	53	Rochdale	13
1928	OLDHAM	18	Rochdale	0	1962	Rochdale	2	OLDHAM	24
1929	Rochdale	2	OLDHAM	15	1963	OLDHAM	29	Rochdale	13
1930	OLDHAM	14	Rochdale	7	1964	Rochdale	7	OLDHAM	39
1931	Rochdale	11	OLDHAM	29	1965	Oldham	14	ROCHDALE	19
1932	OLDHAM	24	Rochdale	3	1966	ROCHDALE	13	Oldham	5
1933	ROCHDALE	28	Oldham	8	1972	OLDHAM	18	Rochdale	16
1934	OLDHAM	20	Rochdale	7	1973	ROCHDALE	30	Oldham	14
1935	Rochdale	14	OLDHAM	15	1974	OLDHAM	27	Rochdale	15
1936	OLDHAM	12	Rochdale	4	1975	Rochdale	2	OLDHAM	29
1937	Rochdale	4	OLDHAM	9	1976	OLDHAM	21	ROCHDALE	21
1938	OLDHAM	18	Rochdale	8	1977	ROCHDALE	14	Oldham	5
1946	Rochdale	8	OLDHAM	14	1978	OLDHAM	26	Rochdale	8
1947	Oldham	17	ROCHDAL	E 18	1979	Rochdale	9	OLDHAM	14
1948	ROCHDALE	9	Oldham	2	1990	OLDHAM	32	Rochdale	15
1949	Oldham	2	ROCHDAL	E 35	1991	Rochdale	15	OLDHAM	31
1950	ROCHDALE	10	Oldham	9	1993	OLDHAM	28	Rochdale	26
1951	Oldham	7	ROCHDAL	E 18	1994	Rochdale	24	OLDHAM	52
1952	ROCHDALE	25	Oldham	8	1998	Oldham	16	ROCHDAL	E 36
1953	OLDHAM	31	Rochdale	19	1999	ROCHDALE	48	Oldham	10

ROLL CALL

FIRST TEAM STATS 1999

				70 70
	Apps	Tries	Gls	Pts
Jon Aston	28	3	013	12
David Best	1(1)	J		12
Jason Best	3(1)			
Gary Bradbury	3(2)	1		4
Martin Bunce	18(10)	6		24
Andy Burgess	6(8)	1		4
Steve Cameron	6(5)	2		8
Sean Cooper	22	10		40
Phil Coussons	25			32
Mick Coult	16(14)	8 5 7		20
Andy Eyres	21	7		28
Peter Fitzgerald	23(1)	13	42 + 2	142
Mike Francis	2(5)	10	72 12	1 12
Deryck Fox	15(2)	2	38+2	86
Rob Hall	1(8)	2	0012	8
Ian Hayes	1	2		0
Brad Hepi	7	4		16
Chris Hilton	7(2)	3		12
Chris Holland	3(3)	0		12
Chris Hough	3(2)	1		4
Lee Hudson	20(6)	8		32
Chris Kelly	12(4)	4		12
Matt Knowles	28	7		28
Steve Marsh	1(8)	2		8
Chris McKinney	17(8)	-		
Marlon Miller	1			
Chris Newall	13	1		4
Mark Powell	1			
Darren Robinson	4(3)	1		4
Robert Rose	2(1)	1	3	10
Danny Sculthorpe	6(17)			
Mick Shaw	10(2)	1		4
lan Sherratt	(1)			
David Stephenson		3		12
Willie Swann	18(5)	8	2	36
Steve Wilde	21	3		12
Jamie Winrow	1		4	8
Above statistics do	not inc	lude A	Y LAW	Cup

'A' TEAM STATS 1999

	Apps	Tries	Gls	Pts
Paul Ashton	3(1)	2	(2)	10
David Best	9(7)			

Jason Best	5(3)			
Gary Bradbury	18	15		60
Mick Bradwell	2(2)	3		12
Gareth Brown Martin Bunce	7(8) 2(1)	1		4
Andy Burgess	6(2)			
Steve Cameron	13(2)	4		16
Mick Coult	3	4		16
Craig Diggle	12	7		28
Lee Durrant	1(1)			
Paul Fairhurst Andrew Fisher	4(6) 2			
Peter Fitzgerald	2(4)	2	14	36
Damien Fletcher	(1)	-		00
Mike Francis	1			
Jason Green	4	1		4
Rob Hall	15(3)	2		8
Sheldon Hannon	(1)	0		0
lan Hayes	2(1)	2 7		8 28
Phil Harrison Chris Hilton	14(6) 12(I)	2		8
Tony Hilton	5(6)	1		4
Chris Holland	18	5		20
Chris Hough	15(1)			24
Simeon Hoyle	2	6		8
Lee Hudson	3			
Gavin Kearsley	8(5)	1		4
Chris Kelly	3			
Lee Lomax	(1)			
Steve Marsh Chris McKinney	9(1)			
Marlon Miller	12(1)	8		32
Gareth Morton	4(3)	1		4
John Pickford	(1)			
Mark Powell	18(1)	5		20
Mark Reynolds	(1)	0		0.1
Darren Robinson	16	9		36
Robert Rose Mick Shaw	3	2		- 8
Ian Sherratt	3			
Carl Towle	2	1		4
Steve Turner	(3)			
Danny Sculthorpe	3(1)	1		4
Glen Warburton	2(5)	1		4
Steve Wilde	5	3	10	12
Jamie Winrow	21	1	69	142
Robert Whitemoss	(2)			

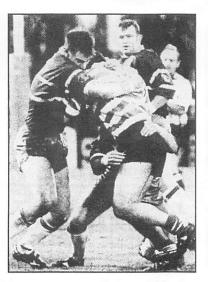
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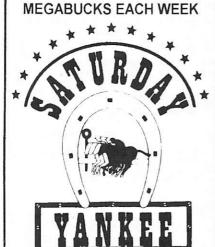
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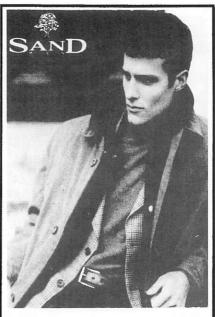
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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

SEAN (C(0)(0) PER

NICKNAME:

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BIRTH DATE: BIRTHPLACE: 29.12.69

OCCUPATION:

Oldham

GIRLFRIEND:

Builder Tracev

PREVIOUS CLUBS: Oldham,

HONOURS

Bradford Bulls Captain of Lancashire

Open Age Group

Barla in 1994

MOST MEMORABLE

MOMENT

IN THE GAME:

Signing for Bradford Bulls

WORST MOMENT

IN THE GAME:

Having to pull out of tour to South Africa with Barla due to personal circumstances

BIGGEST INFLUENCE

ON CAREER:

Mick Coates

HARDEST PLAYER TO

PLAY AGAINST:

Fata Sini

MATCHDAY

SUPERSTITIONS:

None

YOUNG PLAYER

TO WATCH AT

HORNETS:

Paul Ashton

INTERESTS/HOBBIES:

Training (I've no time

for anything else)

FAV TV PROG: FAV MUSIC:

Only Fools and Horses

Easy Listening

WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A "ONE TO ONE" WITH AND WHAT WOULD YOU ASK THEM?

I'd like to ask Frank Sinatra what it was like being part of the Brat Pack





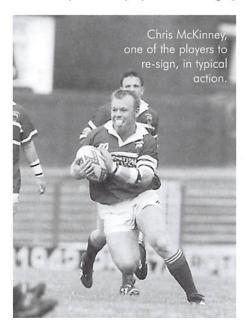
Sean Cooper crashing over for two of his hat trick of tries against Swinton Last year.

SQUAD CHANGES FOR

22000

Following in the trend of recent years there has been a significant turn-over of playing staff in the close season. Not surprisingly new Coach Steve Linnane has brought in some new faces, players he has seen playing in his native Australia and others whose playing reputations are well known to followers of NFP and Super League.

Amongst the former group are Half Back Dane Dorahy and Forward Shayne McMenemy. Both players come highly



regarded and Steve is confident will be big hits with the Hornets fans. Whilst the club had to sweat over getting a work permit for Dorahy, McMenemy has an Irish mother and therefore didn't need one.

The first of the new signings was Full Back Lee Maher who signed for Hornets in October. He was one of the bright spots in the Dragons' disappointing season last year where a string of classy performances earned him their supporters player of the season award and a place in the APC All Stars Team.

Next to sign was Paul Ashton. He is a young player who impressed during a brief spell with Hornets last year with a number of livewire performances at Scrum Half. Son of Ray Ashton, Paul will be looking to make a big impact this season.

Darryl Derose signed from Doncaster Dragons where his consistent performances in 1999 earned him the club player of the year award. He is a good, strong, wholehearted no nonsense player who everyone hopes will have a successful stay at Hornets.

Two other players with Super League experience, Scott Martin and Adrian Moore, have also been snapped up. Scott Martin's signing from Salford Reds was a major coup. Scott has a wealth of top flight experience

and uses his power and speed to good effect to score more than his fair share of tries from Centre or the Second Row. Adrian Moore signed from Huddersfield Giants where he had a growing reputation as a skilful ball handling player who can also kick goals when called upon.

Of course there are a number of players who have left the club. Jon Aston has signed for his local club Hull K.R., Phil Coussons and Matty Knowles have signed for Swinton. Aussie Peter Fitzgerald has accepted a coaching job "down-under" and Willie Swann

and Mike Francis have returned to New Zealand and Australia respectively. Mick Coult has signed for Doncaster Dragons and Chris Kelly has retired from the game on medical advice. Steve would have wanted to have kept some of these players on the books but for various reasons this has not been possible.

Finally, there are always those high profile quality players who the club tried to attract to Hornets only to find that their financial demands were prohibitive. But that's another story!

OBITUARY

JOHN ASHWORTH

It is with deep regret and sadness that we must report the death of Rochdale Hornets President, Mr John Ashworth.

Mr Ashworth has been associated with Rochdale Hornets in various capacities for over 40 years. Along with his former business partner Albert Yorke, John Ashworth was originally the auditor for the Supporters Club.

In the difficult years during the 1980's he

played an important role behind the scenes in negotiating the deal between Hornets, Rochdale Football Club and the Council which saw Hornets move to Spotland.

He fully deserved the prestigious title of Club President and he will be greatly missed by everyone associated with the club.

The club also extends its deepest sympathy to John Ashworth's family for their sad loss.

ROCHDALE HORNETS RLFC

Wish to thank the following companies for their generosity in supporting the club and Steve Linnane on his arrival from Australia

Henleys Ford of Rochdale Arien Refridgeration Sartex Quilts, Rochdale Comet Electrical Stores Home Imports, Castleton Howard Bros (MICA), Rochdale David Vining, Littleborough Ken Taylor, TV & Video Jordans Poultry, Rochdale Harry Yearsley Frozen Foods Lancashire Appliances, Rochdale Tesco Supermarkets Morrisons Supermarkets Home Zone, Rochdale Halfords, Rochdale Mike Marsland (Littons Auctions) Lindsays Allsorts, Huddersfield Ian Michales Auctioneers, M/c Lee Mill Furnishings, Bacup

CLUB HONOURS

Challenge Cup Winners, 1921-22 Lancashire League Winners, 1918-1919

Lancashire Cup Winners, 1911-12, 1914-15, 1918-19 Beaten Finalists, 1912-13, 1919-20, 1965-66

Regal Trophy Beaten Finalists, 1973-74

BBC2 Floodlight Trophy

Beaten Finalists, 1971-72

CLUB RECORDS

Debut Season, 1895-96

Biggest Victory, 92-0 v Runcorn Highfield 1989-90

Heaviest Defeat, 2-79 v Hull 1920-21

Most Tries: In a Career - 103, J. Williams 1931-37

In a Season - 30, J. Williams 1934-35

In a Match - 5, J. Corsi, J. Williams, N. Brelsford 1921& '22, 1933, 1972

Most Goals: In a Career - 733, W. Gowers 1922-36

In a Season - 150, M. Strett 1994-95

In a Match - 14, S. Turner 1989

Most Points: In a Career - 1481, W. Gowers 1922-36

In a Season - 346, M. Strett 1994-95

In a Match - 325, Turner 1988-89

Most Appearances: 455, W. Gowers 1922-36

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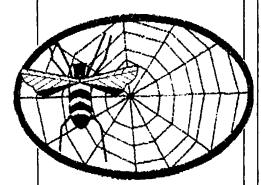
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LOOKING BACK

For this first in a new series of articles we have chosen to go back a little under 12 months to last year's A J Law Cup game held on Friday, 1st January 1999.

The death of player/Assistant Coach Roy Powell, in training on the preceding Sunday, had meant there was some doubt about whether the game would go ahead. Following meetings between the players and Roy's family it was agreed that the match should go ahead as a tribute to Roy and Karl Marriott the long serving Hornets player who had died three months earlier.

The scene was set for an emotional day with the players being led out by Karl Marriott's three young children in front of a near 3000 crowd. An immaculately observed minutes silence was only broken by the poignant sound of a bell tolling at a nearby church.

In the circumstances it was almost inevitable that Hornets would win. Despite going down to an early penalty goal, scored by ex-Hornet Mick Farrell, Hornets swarmed back to register an impressive 48-10 winning margin. Several players were making their debuts and it looked as if Derrick Fox's charges could be a force to reckon with in the forthcoming Northern Ford Premiership season.

It was Hornets first win in the competition since 1977.

Mick Shaw scored two tries and was justifiably voted man of the match to become the first

winner of the Karl Marriott Memorial Trophy.

MATCH DETAILS:

Rochdale Hornets 48 - Oldham 10 (HT 28-6)

Attendance: 2879

HORNETS:

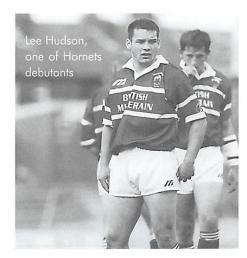
Wilde, Hudson, Hilton, Coult, Coussons, Swann (Capt.), Fox, Knowles, Shaw, Hall, McKinney, Bunce, Stephenson. Subs: Winrow, Aston, Holland, Sculthorpe.

Tries: Shaw (2), Swann (2), Wilde, Hilton, Coussons, Coult. Goals: Fox (8)

OLDHAM:

Meade, Farrell, Quinlan, Jackman, McNicholas, Crook, Baker, Casey (Capt.), Hough, Clegg, Shaw, Varley, Martindale. Subs: Coulter, Leuila, Prescott, Round.

Tries: Clegg, Leuila. Goals: Farrell.



COMMERCIAL

CORNER

Welcome to the A J Law Cup game against Oldham. Come and get your new replica kit from the Club Shop and be one of the first in Rochdale to wear it and show your support for Hornets.

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Janet Molloy

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Jogging Suits (Sweatshirt and Jogging Trousers - Children)	£25.00
Polo Shirts (Children)	£12.00
Scarves	£3.00

OTHERS

Millennium Pack	£12.00	Glass lankards	£3.50	
Enamel Badges	£3.00	Teddy Bears	£10.00	
Window Mini Kits	£2.50	Centenary Plates	£32.99	
Car Stickers	£1.95	Mini Rugby Balls	£4.50	
Hornets Logo Car Sticker	£8.50	Large Rugby Balls	£10.00	
Match Videos	£10.00	Crystal Rugby Balls	£30.00	
First Season in the Northern Union (Book)	£5.00	Pens	£0.50	
Mugs (Standard)	£2.50	Pencils	£0.30	
Mugs (Large)	£3.50	Rubbers	£0.50	

THE TEAMS

ROCHDALE

OLDHAM

Lee MAHER	1	Mark SIBSON
Lee HUDSON	2	Joey HAYES
Scott MARTIN	3	Anthony GIBBONS
Sean COOPER	4	Pat RICH
Marlon MILLER	5	Joe MCNICHOLAS
Dane DORAHY	6	David GIBBONS
Paul ASHTON	7	Mike FORD
Shayne MCMENEMY	8	Leo CASEY
David STEPHENSON	9	John HOUGH
Danny SCULTHORPE	10	Andy PROCTOR
Chris MCKINNEY	11	Mark CAMPBELL
Darrel DEROSE	12	Graeme SHAW
Chris NEWALL	13	Kevin MANNION
Adrian MOORE	14	Keith BRENNAN
Darren ROBINSON	15	Jason CLEGG
Steve WILDE	16	Nathan VARLEY
Martin BUNCE	17	Wes ROGERS

MATCH OFFICIALS

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